

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
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BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS  
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# Monthly Labor Review

6743

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AUG 4 - 1936

Volume 43, Number 1  
July 1936

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UNITED STATES  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
WASHINGTON : 1936

For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. - - Price 30 cents a copy  
Subscription price per year: United States, Canada, Mexico \$3.50; other countries, \$4.75

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Published under authority of Public Resolution No. 57, approved May 11, 1922 (42 Stat. 541), as amended by section 307, Public Act 212, 72d Congress, approved June 30, 1932. This publication approved by the Director, Bureau of the Budget.

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## This Issue in Brief

*Court costs and fees are formidable obstacles in the wage earner's quest for justice.* The law's delay in the case of clients with substantial incomes is annoying, but for the man of small means or without financial resources this delay is a calamity. The unfavorable position of the wage earner before the law is discussed in the first article in this number of the Review by two authorities on legal-aid work.

*An analysis of the diets of the families of a selected group of wage earners* from the standpoint of their adequacy for health shows that a very considerable proportion failed to meet the minimum requirements set by standards of nutrition. Within the limits of the income levels studied, the higher-income groups in general enjoy more adequate diets. A better balance of the different nutritive factors could be obtained, however, even by the lower-income groups, by applying present-day knowledge of foods and nutrition in the selection of foods, and the level of nutrition and health of these groups could undoubtedly be raised without necessarily increasing their food expense. Page 14.

*Regulation of the jobber-contractor relationship and provision of machinery for enforcement of agreements* are important features of the collective agreements concluded in the women's clothing industry of the New York industrial area in 1936. This market is estimated to produce 90 percent of all dresses made in this country. It is highly organized and both employers and employees negotiate through elected representatives of their respective associations. Although agreements are negotiated separately in the several branches of the industry, the labor conditions established are kept uniform by using identical provisions in the several contracts. Page 24.

*Average weekly earnings in bar, puddling, sheet-bar, rod, wire, and sheet mills in 1935 ranged from \$19.62 in puddling mills to \$26.72 in sheet mills*, according to a recent survey made by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in the iron and steel industry. In 1933 the averages in those two departments were \$14.46 and \$11.22, respectively. Rod, wire, and sheet-bar mills were not covered in 1933. Average working time per week among the 6 departments in 1935 ranged from 31.5 hours in bar mills to 38.1 hours in sheet mills. The article beginning on page 113 gives further details concerning the survey in these departments.

*Direct labor costs represented slightly over one-fourth of the total costs of production in the manufacture of women's neckwear and scarfs under*

*conditions established by the N. R. A. code.* A study covering about one-third of the manufacturing units in the industry also showed that average hours ranged from 34.3 to 40.4 per week and that wages of women ranged from \$13.79 to \$21.12 per week as compared with \$25.89 to \$33.74 for men, according to region. Page 149.

*Fifteen percent of the creditors accounted for 67 percent of the 2,500 wage executions against the employees of 174 industrial establishments during the 3 months ended April 30, 1934.* Over a fourth of the executions were brought by eight of the creditors. These are a few of the facts brought to light by the third of a series of articles summarizing the results of a survey of levies by creditors against the wages of employees in typical industrial establishments (see p. 51). The present article also gives the costs of wage executions and the policies of the employers with regard to these collection devices.

*A general decrease in wage rates occurred in France during the 5 years ending in October 1935,* according to an annual wage study covering occupations represented in practically all localities. The decreases ranged from a minimum of 3.3 percent for bookbinders, as compared with October 1930 or 1931, to a maximum of 13 percent for brick-makers, the reductions ranging from 6 to 10 percent in the majority of the occupations. The industries most seriously affected by the wage reductions were the textile and building industries. Page 155.

*More than the usual seasonal decrease in unemployment is reflected in the latest available statistics for most of the foreign countries for which reports are available.* In Germany and Great Britain the number of registered unemployed has fallen to the level of 1930 and in Austria conditions as reflected by the number of unemployed in receipt of benefit are more favorable than at any time in the past 4 years. Unemployed in receipt of benefit in France were less numerous in each month from January to May of this year than in the same period of 1935. Page 199.

# Monthly Labor Review

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+ *Published by the*  
UNITED STATES BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

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Vol. 43, No. 1

WASHINGTON

July 1936

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## Legal-Aid Work in the United States <sup>1</sup>

### I. The Wage Earner and the Law

By REGINALD HEBER SMITH, of the BOSTON BAR, and JOHN S. BRADWAY, of the PHILADELPHIA BAR

TO UNDERSTAND the obstacles which confront a wage earner when he seeks redress for a legal wrong or protection for a legal right through an appeal to the administration of justice, and to appreciate the difficulties which handicap our courts in their efforts to grant certain and speedy relief to the wage earner in common with all other citizens, it is first of all necessary to recall to mind the profound social and economic changes that have occurred in the conditions of American life. No other method of approach can define and explain our existing problems and set us on the road that may lead to their solution, because no other method strikes deep enough to lay bare the fundamental causes.

The census figures indicate that whereas in 1800 there were 6.1 persons per square mile, by 1930 the density of population had increased to 41.3. In 1920 slightly over one-half—51.4 of the population—was urban; in 1930, 56.2 percent. The number of persons 10 years of age and over usually engaged in gainful occupations in 1920 was 41,600,000 and in 1930, 48,800,000.<sup>2</sup> At the same time the economic upheaval of 1929 had repercussions throughout the social order. The highly organized and industrialized society of 1929 struggled to provide employment for mounting millions of potential

<sup>1</sup> First of two articles—Abstracts from U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Bulletin No. 607: Growth of Legal-Aid Work in the United States. Washington, 1936.

<sup>2</sup> U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, Population, vol. 1: Number and Distribution of the Population, Washington, 1931, pp. 6, 8; and vol. 5: Occupations, General Report, Washington, 1933, p. 10.

wage earners. The resources of industry and private philanthropy being insufficient for the purpose, the Government by a far-reaching legislative and administrative program endeavored to deal with the problem. The wage earner is the focus of much of this effort.

In recent years much has been written concerning the law and its effect on the collective interests of wage earners. There is voluminous literature on the law of labor unions, collective bargaining, strikes, picketing, the closed shop, and injunctions, but little space and attention have been devoted to the law as it affects the individual claims and the individual rights of the wage earner and of his family in their everyday life. It is the purpose of the compilers of this report to exclude all consideration of the collective disputes of labor and to confine it to the legal problems of the individual laboring man or woman. However vital and important the larger topics may be, there have been moments in the lives of thousands of men when the collection of their overdue wages was the most important thing in the world, because it meant the difference between food and hunger. There have been similar moments in the lives of countless women when the collection of compensation for a husband's injury or death meant the difference between independence and destitution. At times our legal system has failed these plain, honest, humble folk in the hour of their need. This system will continue to function imperfectly until more people are awakened to an accurate understanding of the situation and are prepared to give their support to definite remedial measures that have been devised in the last 20 years, and that are already in successful operation in various parts of the country.

The outstanding characteristic of our American law is the spirit of fairness that pervades and permeates it. Its ideal is to render exact justice to every person, whether citizen or alien, who lives within the jurisdiction of the United States. Insofar as the goal can be attained by stating clearly the ends to be sought through our legal system, that has already been done in our Federal and State constitutions in language which cannot be improved upon. In its conception it is sublime: Justice is a matter of right, not of grace. No man shall be deprived of his life, liberty, or property without due process of law. Every man is entitled to the equal protection of the laws.

When a Massachusetts statute attempted to grant relief in the court of equity to certain persons and deny it to others, the supreme court of the Commonwealth declared that the act was unconstitutional, saying: "It is one thing to affect the scope of equity by extending or restricting it; it is a quite different matter to enact that some citizens may resort to it while others may not. Absolute equality before the law is a fundamental principle of our constitution."



It is clear that the theory of American law is altogether sound and admirable and inquiry may now be made as to how far this theory has been translated into action. How far has actual equality before the law been secured? There is excellent reason to believe that in the earlier stages of our national development the administration of justice did secure actual equality to a very satisfactory extent. It is unnecessary to idealize the past, but it is true that the courts faced a far simpler task. The people of the United States were vigorous, self-reliant, and homogeneous; shrewd common sense had been inculcated into them by the very conditions of life, for they lived in small towns and in agricultural communities. Comparatively speaking, there was little litigation and little need of it. In the lower courts the litigant could, and often did, plead his own case. When a lawyer was needed, one could be secured at small expense or even for no fee, because nearly every man knew and was known by some lawyer in his community.

This much of past history is stressed only because it helps us to realize that whatever the shortcomings of our present administration of justice may be they are not inevitable nor are they inextricably interwoven into the texture of our legal institutions, but are rather the result of the tremendous forces that, beginning with the last quarter of the nineteenth century, have irrevocably altered the complexion and the conditions of American life. Those forces were immigration, the rapid rise of the wage-earning class, and the ever-increasing growth of urban population, all differing aspects of the central fact that our civilization was rapidly evolving from an agricultural to an industrial type.

"Our State systems of justice", writes Clarence N. Goodwin in the *Journal of the American Judicature Society* for 1932, "have been for more than half a century generally unsuited to modern conditions, and while we have in recent years made some progress toward improvement, justifying the hope that we shall ultimately succeed, we are yet far from completion of a rational program, and progress is unnecessarily and shamefully slow."

No one realized quickly enough that our rigid court organization with its too mechanical rules of procedure would be unable to cope with these new conditions and would, in fact, be swamped by the enormous mass of litigation inevitably engendered by those conditions. For the break-down that followed, it is idle to blame any individual, group, or class. It has taken a large number of legal scholars many years of study and research to acquire a clear perception of the causes and the possible cures. In fact, it has been necessary to evolve a new conception of the duty of the administration of justice in a modern democratic urban community.

The problem of making justice readily accessible to all, including the great army of our wage earners, is far more than an abstract legalistic controversy. It is a matter of life and death for a democracy, because, in the words of Harlan F. Stone, formerly Attorney General of the United States and now a justice of the Supreme Court, a democracy "cannot survive if it cannot find a way to make its administration of justice competent." In similar vein Mr. Chief Justice Hughes says: "It is idle to speak of the blessings of liberty unless the poor enjoy the equal protection of the laws."

#### Inadequacies in the Machinery of Justice

OUR administration of justice often fails to secure actual justice in the case of the plain everyday citizen. This is not because we have too few courts or too few judges, or because the judges fail to work diligently and faithfully in the endeavor to decide fairly and honestly every case that comes before them. On the contrary, when a case actually gets before the judge we may be reasonably sure that justice will be done. The difficulty is that innumerable cases never come before the judge because the persons who need judicial aid find themselves unable to get their cases into court. This again is not due to the fact that we have too few laws. The consensus is that the fundamental difficulty lies in our failure to make our laws actively effective.

The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 1920, 1926, 1929, and 1933, made inquiry of the various State labor officials as to their experience and activities in the handling of wage claims of workers who considered themselves defrauded and who appealed to these officials for help. Among the findings were the following:

There is in the United States very great loss to labor through the nonpayment of wages. Moreover, there are unquestionably many legitimate wage claims which are never pressed.<sup>3</sup>

Although the amount of the average wage claims, about \$50, may seem small, the record of hardship and destitution following the workers' failure to collect their earnings include such tragedies as dispossession of lodgings, recourse to charity organizations, and even death.<sup>3</sup>

There are comparatively few States having laws giving specific and adequate wage collection power to some State agency. Some form of regulating the payment of wages is fairly general throughout the United States, and some of these acts are so phrased as to allow the collection of wages by State officials. In several cases the officials report that they have assumed an authority not specifically covered by law or granted only by implication.<sup>4</sup>

It is reasonable to infer that when an official bureau composed of skilled, intelligent men failed to collect a wage claim, the wage earner, if left to himself, would find the task impossible.

<sup>3</sup> U. S. Department of Labor. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Monthly Labor Review, Washington, June 1927, p. 19.

<sup>4</sup> *Idem*, October 1933, p. 776.

The American Bar Association's committee on legal-aid work reported in 1927 to the association:

Among the cases with which poor persons are concerned, wage claims are preminent. The ordinary civil processes for collecting wages are often inadequate.

The Monthly Labor Review for June 1927, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor, states: "The defrauding of wage earners through the failure of employers to pay the promised wages continues to be a widespread and serious evil."

In the field of personal injuries—a matter of vital interest to wage earners—it must be admitted that the old master and servant law, even if it had been properly enforced, was utterly inadequate.

The Pittsburgh survey (1907–8) revealed that out of 355 cases of married men killed in accidents 89 dependent families received nothing, 113 received \$100 or less, and 61 received between \$100 and \$500. Since that time workmen's compensation legislation has been enacted in 46 States, and the antiquated theory of liability for fault has given way to the modern and more humane principle of insurance for all work accidents. The lasting success of the compensation acts, however, lies in the fact that they provided new methods of making the law actively effective by tearing down those procedural obstacles that prevent an efficient administration of justice.

The huge majority of our citizens do not become involved with the criminal law. Throughout their lives it is the civil law on which they must rely for the protection of their rights and the enforcement of their claims. The title to a man's home, the rights and obligations under a lease, the power to withdraw money deposited in a savings bank, the collection of wages, claims for industrial accidents, the enforcement of insurance contracts, divorce and judicial separation, the custody of children, the right to have property pass on a man's death to his heirs or according to his will—all these are matters governed by the civil as distinguished from the criminal law.

To make these laws actively effective the State quite naturally and properly relies on the self-interest and initiative of the individual.

What if a citizen for any reason cannot bring his wrong to the attention of the courts? Unless the law can be enforced through the court, it fails to work and is of no help whatsoever. That is why the machinery of justice is of such vital concern.

It is the machinery of justice that gives life to the law. It is the administration of justice that makes the laws actively effective. Consequently, if the laws are to afford their equal protection to all persons in a modern community the machinery of justice must be readily accessible to all, must be easily workable by all, and must be swift in its operation.

Our present difficulty arises because we have not yet refitted our whole system to meet the new demands of our urban populations.

Of the three factors which impede the even course of justice when its protection is sought by a wage earner or by any person of small means, the first is delay. In H. D. Mims' article, *Law Courts for the Forgotten Man*, which appeared in the June 1934 issue of the *Forum*, he makes the following statement:

To the man without means justice is a luxury, the entrance fees of the courts prohibitive. \* \* \* The delay complicates his problem. With \* \* \* small claims time is of the essence. \* \* \* If the owner of such a claim must wait a year or even a month for the court to reach his case and then longer still to collect his judgment, the law is of little value to him.

Similarly, the late President Woodrow Wilson stated: "The speediness of justice, the inexpensiveness of justice, the ready access of justice is the greater part of justice itself."

The second factor is the expense involved in the payment of court costs and fees. The third factor is the necessity of employing lawyers in most cases if the suitor is to have any chance whatsoever to succeed.

#### Delays in Legal Procedure

IN ALL discussions of legal reform the evil of delay is emphasized. It has become an axiom that justice delayed is justice denied. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, speaking in 1932, has given it clear expression:

So long as years of delay are assured by the condition of the calendars of the courts, this delay itself will be used to threaten those who have rightful claims. Such delays constitute actual denials of justice. On the other hand, those defendants who have legitimate defenses are threatened with long and irritating legal processes.

Public attention has been focused on this factor in our problem, and excellent studies into its nature, extent, and results have been made. Robert H. Jackson, addressing the New York State Bar Association in 1933, said, among other things:

It is a general observation of press and laymen that our courts are from 1 to 4 years behind in their work and that justice is denied by unreasonable delays. The door of the court is always legally open, but the doorway is impassable because jammed with long-suffering suitors.

The tragic result is that persons of small means, knowing that they cannot afford the delay, simply do not bring their cases to the courts at all. They have to accept the injustice done them and suffer in silence.

Much can be done, much has already been done, to eliminate the factor of delay. The system of having a case tried before an inferior or justice's court and then permitting either side to appeal to a higher court, in which the case is tried all over again, has long been a curse in American court organization and is a prolific source of delay. Double

trials on the facts were abolished throughout Massachusetts for the reason stated by the Massachusetts Judicature Commission in its 1921 report:

Trying small cases twice, maintaining courts for the conduct of ineffective trials, is merely consuming all time and money of parties and witnesses, many of whom can ill afford the loss and delay involved in two trials.

A special committee of the National Economic League on Efficiency in the Administration of Justice, writing in 1928, reports: "Our procedure at law involves too many trials and too much retrial. So far as possible, all questions of fact should be disposed of finally upon one trial."

If the decision of the lower court is to be final, then the character of that court must command public respect. The modern type of municipal court—for example, those now established in Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Minneapolis, New York, and Philadelphia—marks a tremendous advance over anything that preceded it. It is the consensus that delays in the higher courts can best be lessened by a centralized or unified form of court organization and by vesting in the courts the power to control their own machinery through their own rules.

Because the factor of delay is in the foreground of public discussion there is good reason to hope that reforms aimed to rid the administration of justice of undue delay will make steady progress.

#### Court Costs and Fees

FROM the earliest times the payment of money in the form of court fees has been a condition precedent to the right to bring a case into court. And, throughout the history of English-American law, court costs and fees when applied to the cases of poor persons have constituted formidable legalized obstacles in the path of justice. Too often they have proved insurmountable.

In all cases, unless exempted by statute, the litigant must pay court fees. Ordinarily the losing party pays the court costs. In some States the statute, by requiring that the plaintiff post a bond to cover the possible costs of the suit in advance of starting the proceeding, adds much to the obstacle where the litigant has only limited means.

On page 174 of the eleventh volume of the *Encyclopedia of Law and Procedure* it is stated that under the statutes of certain States if a plaintiff is apparently too poor to be able to pay any costs that may be assessed against him he may be required to furnish security for costs. If, being poor, he cannot furnish security, what then? Such was the position of one Campbell, and his case was accordingly dismissed. He appealed and learned from the decision, which is reported in volume 23 of the *Wisconsin Reports* at page 490, that "We

have no statute which permits a person to sue in forma pauperis. It seems almost like a hardship that a poor person should not be allowed to litigate. But this is a matter for the legislature to regulate, and not the justice."

Why American legislatures have paid so little attention to court costs it is difficult to understand, unless the answer be that the matter has never been adequately presented to them. Certainly our record is as bad as that of any civilized nation in the world. Various countries of Europe, including Scotland, England, and Poland have for years had a definite procedure whereby poor persons could bring their claims into court. Japan also has made similar provision.

Our failure to grasp and to deal adequately with this problem has undoubtedly caused innumerable cases of hardship and various cases of downright injustice.

Since 1923 the legal-aid organizations in the United States have kept a record of those cases in which the applicant was unable to proceed with his case because of lack of funds to defray the expenses of litigation. The following table represents a minimum statement for the years indicated:

	<i>Number of cases</i>		<i>Number of cases</i>
1924 .....	54	1929 .....	56
1925 .....	53	1930 .....	72
1926 .....	72	1931 .....	166
1927 .....	37	1932 .....	247
1928 .....	43	1933 .....	715

So serious has this situation appeared that the National Association of Legal Aid Organizations, in setting up a series of standards by which to determine the effectiveness of a legal-aid organization, adopted the following in 1933:

Every legal-aid organization should maintain a fund or provide a means whereby legal expenses may be available when necessary.

Every legal-aid organization should take appeals to right palpable miscarriages of justice or to establish useful principles when the costs can be obtained.

Kenneth Dayton, writing in *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* in May 1933, speaking of the New York situation, says:

The poor man, suing to recover \$50 in wages, pays three-quarters of the expense of the court maintained for his benefit; the wealthier litigant in the higher courts pays roughly a tenth. But of course the discrepancy is much greater than this, because the poor man pays precisely the same fees in the municipal court for a \$50 claim as a corporation for a \$1,000 claim, and with no distinction whether the claim is disposed of in 15 minutes or 2 days. Hence, proportionately, the poorest litigant probably pays substantially over 100 percent of the cost of handling his case, though he is least able to bear the expense.

It is impossible to present any statement of our present system of court costs, because there is no system. They vary from State to

State; within a State they are utterly different in different courts, and in the same court the fees in an equity case are not the same as in a law case.

Poverty today does stand in the way of complete justice, and it will continue to do so until public opinion forces a radical overhauling of our archaic system of court costs and fees. However great the muddle we are in, the way out is reasonably clear.

First of all it would be well to abolish those costs which are purely fictitious, which are imposed by the State but bear no real relation to any service rendered by the State, and which when collected do not even go to the State but belong to the party that prevailed in the litigation.

Expenses can be substantially reduced. The modern municipal courts have succeeded in reducing fees very markedly. Instead of serving process by constables or by sheriffs at a cost of \$1 to \$5, the defendant can be summoned by mail, a method that has been successfully employed in Cleveland for nearly two decades.

The State is perfectly justified in asking litigants to contribute something toward the expense of the administration of justice. No one, however, has contended that the full burden of maintaining the courts should be thrust on the litigants.

As a last resort there is only one method that can guarantee to every man, irrespective of his poverty, his day in court, and that is by the enactment in every State of a comprehensive *in forma pauperis* procedure. By this is meant a law, applicable to every case in every court, under which the court may, in suitable instances and for cause shown, permit a man to file his case and have his trial without any requirement for the prepayment of any costs. The legal-aid committee of the American Bar Association in 1924 prepared a draft of such an act. There was widespread discussion of the subject and in 1925 a second draft appeared.<sup>5</sup>

The factor of court costs can undoubtedly be overcome through a proper *in forma pauperis* proceeding, but to enable such proceeding fully to accomplish its purpose three difficulties must be overcome:

(1) This special grant of assistance by the State is designed only for the benefit of honest persons with honest claims. It must not become the tool of unscrupulous persons with dubious claims.

(2) There are certain expenses attendant on litigation which cannot be eliminated. As long as legal process is served by sheriffs who depend for their livelihood on their fees, those fees must be paid by the litigants or else the State must assume the burden, as has been done in some jurisdictions by placing the sheriff on a definite salary basis. The witness who is summoned to court to testify loses his day's work and it is only right that he should be recompensed. No progress is made by helping a poor litigant at the expense of a witness

<sup>5</sup> For this draft see U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Bul. No. 607.

who may be equally poor or poorer. Once it can be made clear that the actual expense to the State would be small, progress may become possible. The average annual cost of our State administration of justice is less than 18 cents for each inhabitant. State aid as above outlined would not increase this cost by the hundredth part of a cent.

When we remember that the fundamental purpose for which the administration of justice exists is to guarantee the equal protection of the laws to all persons, not merely to those who can pay the price, it would seem worth while for the State to incur a moderate expense in order to achieve its own ideal.

The preceding discussion of *in forma pauperis* procedure is largely on the theory that justice will be done if the litigant can get his case into the trial court. We should not deceive ourselves on this subject. The principle of equal justice to all requires that the same opportunities for appeal be open to rich and poor alike. A law review comment appearing in the *Southern California Law Review* for April 1931, in addition to containing a very full statement of the authorities, reads as follows:

However general the right may be to sue in the first instance *in forma pauperis*, the right to appeal in such form is limited to those jurisdictions where it is authorized expressly by statutory provision, and statutes granting such right have been construed very strictly. The Federal statute of 1892 allowed proceedings *in forma pauperis* in general terms, but the Supreme Court would not apply it to appeals. Doubtless as a result of this construction, the statute was amended in 1910 so that it now covers appeals. Several other jurisdictions have similar definite statutes, while some have indefinite statutory provisions, and many have none. In jurisdictions where there are no statutory provisions, the denial of the right to appeal *in forma pauperis* is predicated upon the reasoning that all appeals are statutory and, since the right to appeal was not adopted with the common law, the right to appeal *in forma pauperis* could not have been derived from that source.

The study made in 1927 by the League of Nations entitled "Legal Aid for the Poor" shows that the United States is about the only nation which has not given adequate consideration to this problem.

The problem of finding a remedy for the expense of court procedure is difficult because the problem is ordinarily not a dramatic one. There is a widespread apathy on the part of the public concerning the troubles ordinary men may have in asserting their legal rights.

(3) The third and last requirement for the successful operation of any adequate *in forma pauperis* proceeding is that somehow provision must be made so that, whenever necessary, the impecunious litigant may secure the services of an attorney to advise him and to conduct his case. Indeed, without such provision, everything else is in vain. To enable a man to get into court and then to expect him to conduct his own case without help and without representation would be no more sensible than to put a boy in the cab of a locomotive and to expect him to drive the train safely to its destination.



## Necessity for Employing Attorneys

IN DISCUSSING the need for improvements in the administration of justice, W. F. Willoughby, in his book *Principles of Judicial Administration* (1929), says:

A third category of expense involved in the conduct of litigation is that of the payment for services of counsel. Four methods have been developed for meeting this expense: (1) Elimination, as far as possible, of the need for counsel; (2) assignment by a court of counsel to act without compensation or for such compensation as the litigant may voluntarily offer; (3) provision by the Government of counsel to care for the interests of those unable to meet the expense of employing private counsel; and (4) provision of counsel by private organizations specially created to render this service.

When it is said that the expense of engaging lawyers places a serious handicap on the less well-to-do members of the community the unthinking reply is apt to be, "then let's abolish the lawyers." The abolition of lawyers, however, would paralyze our administration of justice as completely as the abolition of all judges. The reason for this is simple enough. It is like attempting to abolish doctors, engineers, and architects. Human life daily becomes more intricate; day by day man finds himself involved in closer relationships with, and more dependent upon, the fellow members of his community. The law which seeks to regulate this life and its relationships steadily becomes greater in its scope and more complicated in its provisions.

Even for the legal profession the difficulty of understanding the law became so great that some 13 years ago a group of eminent lawyers and judges formed the American Law Institute for the sole purpose of restating and simplifying the substantive rules. This organization meets annually in Washington to discuss the labors of a large staff of experts who are engaged in coping with the technical details.

Nothing would be gained by any attempt to fix with mathematical certainty the number of persons debarred from justice because of their inability to retain counsel, but a rough approximation does help in realizing the magnitude of the problem. The population of the United States, exclusive of its outlying possessions, was nearly 123,000,000 according to the 1930 census.<sup>6</sup> This population consists of men, women, and children, many of whom obviously are not engaged in work and have no income whatsoever. According to the United States Bureau of the Census, in 1930 the number gainfully employed was above 48,000,000.<sup>7</sup> In 1935 the Committee on Economic Security in its report to the President helped to fill out the picture as follows:

The need of the people of this country for "some safeguard against misfortunes which cannot be wholly eliminated in this man-made world of ours" is tragically

<sup>6</sup> U. S. Department of Commerce. Bureau of the Census. *Fifteenth Census of the United States; 1930, Abstract*, Washington, 1933, p. 9.

<sup>7</sup> *Idem*, 1930, vol. 5, *Occupations, General Report*, Washington, 1933, p. 10.

apparent at this time, when 18,000,000 people, including children and aged, are dependent upon emergency relief for their subsistence and approximately 10,000,000 workers have no employment other than relief work. Many millions more have lost their entire savings, and there has occurred a very great decrease in earnings. \* \* \* In 1929, at the peak of the stock-market boom, the average per-capita income of all salaried employees at work was only \$1,475. Eighteen million gainfully employed persons, constituting 44 percent of all those gainfully occupied, exclusive of farmers, had annual earnings of less than \$1,000; 28,000,000, or nearly 70 percent, earning less than \$1,500. Many people lived in straitened circumstances at the height of prosperity; a considerable number live in chronic want. Throughout the twenties the number of people dependent upon private and public charity steadily increased.

With the depression, the scant margin of safety of many others has disappeared. The average earnings of all wage earners at work dropped from \$1,475 in 1929 to \$1,199 in 1932. \* \* \*

A publication by the Brookings Institution, Washington, D. C., entitled "America's Capacity to Consume" (1934), states that even in 1929 there were 2,102,000 families with an annual income of less than \$500, and 3,797,000 families with an annual income of \$500 or over, but less than \$1,000 (p. 54).

Yet these millions of persons, and especially the larger proportion who live in cities, may at any moment and through no fault of their own find that they need legal advice or legal assistance in the enforcement or defense of their personal and property rights guaranteed them by the law of the land. This is the great dilemma; this is the core of our problem. The present study is devoted to the solution of the difficulty, showing that in certain kinds of cases it may be partially solved through new types of courts or administrative tribunals, but that in most instances a permanent solution can be had only by facing the issue squarely and by supporting those new agencies which have come into being for the avowed purpose of supplying the services of lawyers to all persons who need legal aid and are unable to pay for it. But before taking up a consideration of these new plans which seem so full of promise if they can be wisely developed, it is well to review briefly what has been done or attempted in this direction by the administration of justice itself.

Poverty is perennial, and impecunious suitors have besought aid from the courts throughout our legal history. The Supreme Court of Wisconsin summed up this very issue by asking:

Would it not be a little like mockery to secure to a pauper these solemn constitutional guaranties for a fair and full trial, and yet say to him when on trial that he must employ his own counsel, who could alone render these guaranties of any real permanent value to him?

and then answered the question by stating: "It would be a reproach upon the administration of justice if a person thus upon trial could not have the assistance of legal counsel because he was too poor to secure it."

The most usual method evolved by our administration of justice for meeting this difficulty has been the system of assigning counsel. The

theory is that a lawyer is an officer of the court and is bound by his professional oath to render gratuitous service to poor persons. This same conception may be found in the legal systems of nearly all civilized countries. In practice it has never worked satisfactorily. W. F. Willoughby, in his book, *Principles of Judicial Administration* (1929), states:

It will be noted, furthermore, that the effort to provide counsel for those unable to employ counsel for themselves has been made only in the case of criminal cases. No attempt is made in this way to aid the poor litigant in civil cases.

In civil cases statutes authorizing the assignment of counsel exist in only 12 States. None of these statutes provides any compensation to the lawyer. Judge Levy, of the New York municipal court, in speaking of the statute authorizing the court to assign counsel without compensation, stated to the New York State Bar Association in 1920: "The power of the court has frequently been invoked in that direction." How frequently it has been invoked, we do not know, but subject to this exception, the general rule throughout the United States is not to assign counsel in civil cases at all. As civil cases constitute the majority of the cases in which wage earners, as well as other litigants, are interested, the statement is warranted that the assignment system has failed. It has failed because it is based on an economic fallacy. We may be reasonably confident that this is the true reason, because the same economic considerations in various countries have produced precisely the same break-down in the assignment-of-counsel plan.

The assignment plan in America has been an altogether inadequate solution, but it should not be abandoned. Potentially it has great usefulness, and if reasonable compensation were allowed to assigned attorneys the weakness of the plan as it now exists would be removed.

The most notable step has been taken by the Legislature of New York at its 1935 session, when at the instance of the New York Legal Aid Society it amended sections 196, 199, 558, 1493, and 1522 of the Civil Practice Act and section 174 of the Municipal Court Code.

Any thorough plan for adapting the machinery of justice to modern conditions should include some provision for assignment of counsel so that the courts would have power to act to prevent injustice as occasion might arise. The wise exercise of the power would probably serve as a complete solution of the difficulty in smaller communities and in the sparsely settled districts. For the great urban communities, where the need is far more extensive, it could serve as a last resource, but in actual practice it would need to be invoked only rarely, for our American experience indicates another more efficient, more economical, means whereby the desired result can be accomplished. This will be discussed in another article.

## Nutritive Value of Diets of Families of Wage Earners and Clerical Workers in North Atlantic Cities, 1934-35

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THE nutrition of the workers is a matter of world-wide concern today. The International Labor Office and the League of Nations, as well as several individual governments, are giving thoughtful attention to the problem, recognizing that nutrition, especially in early life, may profoundly affect the well-being and social value of an individual. A study of this subject will concern itself with the available income as related to food costs and with the relative efficiency of different patterns of expenditure for food. This latter aspect, which places emphasis on the nutritional as contrasted with the economic considerations, is dealt with in this article.

One of the earliest scientific reports on food consumption in this country (1)<sup>1</sup> gave considerable attention to dietaries of working people. Atwater, in his appraisal of their diets 50 years ago, wrote: "It is undeniably true that much money is wasted in the purchase of food which is lacking in the elements of nutrition, and that the income of the working classes might be made far more effective if it were expended in accordance with the results of scientific research." The advance in our knowledge during the last half century serves to emphasize this position, and to extend its implications. McLester pointed out in his presidential address before the American Medical Association that whereas in the past science has conferred on those peoples who availed themselves of the newer knowledge of infectious diseases better health and a greater average length of life, in the future science promises to those races who will take advantage of the newer knowledge of nutrition a larger stature, greater vigor, increased longevity, and a higher level of cultural attainment (4).

As part of the 1934-35 study of disbursements of families of wage earners and low-salaried workers,<sup>2</sup> the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics has secured about 3,000 weekly records of food consumption from urban families in different parts of the country at different seasons of the year. Analysis of these data from the nutritional view-

<sup>1</sup> Italic numerals in parentheses refer to Literature Cited (p. 23).

<sup>2</sup> For previous articles on various phases of this study, see *Monthly Labor Review*, 1936, issues of March (p. 554), April (p. 889), May (p. 1457), and June (p. 1744).

point has been undertaken by the United States Bureau of Home Economics at the request of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. This article presents an interim report on the content and nutritive value of winter diets of families living in eight North Atlantic cities. Dietary records were secured from 209 white families<sup>3</sup> living in these eight cities.

From these 209 records, 73 were selected for special analysis, on the basis of the level of the expense for food. To accomplish this classification, the number of equivalent adult food-cost units<sup>4</sup> in each of the 209 families was determined by the use of figures on the cost of feeding individuals in different age and activity groups relative to the cost of feeding a moderately active man. These were derived by applying average retail food prices for 1934 to food budgets for individuals, developed from earlier studies of the food-consumption habits of urban and village families spending moderate amounts for food. In a population distributed as to age, sex, and probable activity as was the population of this country in 1930, it appears to cost as much to feed each 100 persons as it would cost to feed 92 to 93 moderately active men.

On the basis of their expense for food per food-cost unit, the 209 families were classified into 10 groups. One hundred and ninety-two of the families fell into 5 groups, 3 to 7, inclusive, with too few at lower or higher levels to permit satisfactory averages. Since funds were insufficient to analyze in detail the data referring to each of the 5 important groups, group 3, consisting of families spending for food \$1.20 to \$1.80 per food-cost unit weekly; group 5, those spending \$2.38 to \$3.00; and group 7, those spending \$3.57 to \$4.17 weekly for food, have been chosen to represent the larger random sample. The sample selected for special analysis is made up of records from 23 families in group 3, 36 in group 5, and 14 in group 7. Since earlier studies have shown that values for expenditure groups 4 and 6 may be interpolated from those for groups 3, 5, and 7, the significance of the present report should not be measured by the comparatively small number of 73. The selected sample is really representative of the larger random sample of 209 families.

For 70 of the 73 families, figures are also available showing the level of expenditures for all goods and services per "consumption unit"<sup>5</sup> during 1933-34, the year covered by the schedule inquiry. In general, with increasing economic well-being, families spend more money for food. That this is not always true for individual families,

<sup>3</sup> Records were secured from 21 families living in Berlin, N. H.; 26 from Dover; 24 from Keene, N. H.; 35 from Manchester, N. H.; and 6 from Portsmouth, N. H. Nineteen were from New York City, and 20 from Rochester, N. Y. Twelve were from Philadelphia, Pa., and 46 from Pittsburgh, Pa.

<sup>4</sup> This "food-cost unit" is the same as the "food-consumption unit" employed in other articles of this series. In either case the emphasis is not on changes of price as affecting the cost of food, but on differences in consumption with varying age, sex, etc., as measured, however, by money expenditure.

<sup>5</sup> For definition see Monthly Labor Review, March 1936 (pp. 558-559).

however, may be seen from table 1, which presents the distribution of the families classified both by level of expenditures for all goods and services, and by level of expenditure for food. There is a very wide range in expenditures for food at any given economic level (measured by total expenditures per consumption unit), and also a wide range in the economic level of families spending similar amounts for food. Since the use to be made of the data determines which of the two classifications just discussed is preferable, certain data are presented both ways in this report.

**Table 1.**—Number of Families in North Atlantic Cities in Different Economic Groups, 1933–34, Spending Specified Amounts for Food, Winter, 1934–35

Economic group, indicated by yearly total expenditures per consumption unit for all items	Number of families whose food expenditure per food-cost unit was—			Total number of families
	\$1.20–\$1.80 weekly	\$2.38–\$3.00 weekly	\$3.57–\$4.17 weekly	
Under \$300 (average, \$244).....	15	6	0	21
\$300 to \$499 (average, \$400).....	6	20	6	32
\$500 and over (average, \$606).....	0	9	8	17
Total.....	21	35	14	70

#### Quantities of Food Consumed

THE average quantities of food consumed per capita per week by the selected families in North Atlantic cities are shown in table 2. Classification by level of *expenditure for food* brings into sharp relief the differences in consumer choices as more money is allocated to the purchase of food. In the case of the family groups studied, increasing expenditures for food meant some increase in the quantities purchased of each group of foods. Thus in particular, between two or three times as much of eggs, milk, meats, and of fruits and vegetables (other than potatoes and dried legumes) were available for families spending \$3.57 to \$4.17 weekly per food-cost unit (group 7) as for families spending \$1.20 to \$1.80 per food-cost unit (group 3). Families spending the larger amounts for food paid about the same average price per unit for milk, eggs, potatoes, and dried legumes, but they bought more expensive forms as well as larger quantities of other vegetables, fruits, meats, fats, sweets, and grain products.

Exactly the same trends, but less pronounced, may be observed when the data are classified by the level of *expenditure for all goods and services*. Between one-half and twice as much of eggs, milk, meats, and of fruits and vegetables were available to families spending annually \$500 and over per consumption unit for all goods and services as to families spending under \$300.

Table 2.—Per Capita Consumption of Foods by Families of White Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried Clerical Workers in 8 North Atlantic Cities, Winter, 1934-35

Food group	Average weekly per capita consumption in families with—					
	Weekly food expenditure per food-cost unit of—			Annual total expenditure per consumption unit of—		
	\$1.20 to \$1.80 (23 families—group 3)	\$2.38 to \$3.00 (36 families—group 5)	\$3.57 to \$4.17 (14 families—group 7)	Under \$300 (21 families)	\$300 to \$499 (32 families)	\$500 and over (17 families)
<i>Lb.</i>	<i>Lb.</i>	<i>Lb.</i>	<i>Lb.</i>	<i>Lb.</i>	<i>Lb.</i>	
Eggs.....	0.31	0.56	1.05	0.34	0.61	0.79
Milk, fluid: whole, skim, buttermilk.....	3.35	5.12	5.74	3.62	4.78	5.27
Milk, evaporated and condensed.....	.37	.19	.28	.37	.27	.13
Cheese.....	.07	.13	.36	.05	.22	.12
Cream and ice cream.....	.04	.13	.07	.03	.08	.11
Milk equivalent.....	4.56	6.50	8.85	4.71	6.84	6.45
Butter.....	.34	.50	.64	.42	.47	.53
Other table fats.....	.05	.03	.00	.02	.06	.03
Salad oils, dressings, mayonnaise.....	.04	.06	.09	.04	.07	.05
Lard and other cooking fats.....	.14	.21	.14	.16	.17	.16
Bacon, salt pork, suet.....	.10	.12	.19	.11	.15	.13
Fat, oils, fatty foods.....	.67	.92	1.05	.75	.92	.90
Beef and veal.....	.95	1.23	1.27	1.10	1.31	1.46
Mutton and lamb.....	.03	.08	.55	.06	.08	.40
Pork.....	.43	.64	1.49	.65	.75	1.03
Miscellaneous meat products.....	.26	.40	.36	.20	.22	.10
Poultry.....	.00	.26	.23	.04	.17	.25
Fish and other sea food.....	.16	.33	.49	.21	.29	.51
Meats, poultry, fish.....	1.83	2.92	4.38	2.26	2.82	3.75
Sugars.....	.94	1.14	1.33	1.05	1.08	1.19
Sirups, jellies, candy, etc.....	.14	.27	.26	.15	.24	.31
Bread and rolls.....	1.60	2.04	2.69	1.91	1.84	2.14
Crackers and other baked goods.....	.45	.83	.76	.67	.59	.98
Ready-to-eat cereals.....	.07	.08	.05	.11	.10	.08
Other cereals.....	.41	.43	.46	.29	.52	.33
Flours.....	.86	.75	.67	.87	.81	.68
Flour equivalent.....	2.70	3.19	3.49	2.99	3.06	3.18
Potatoes, sweetpotatoes.....	2.73	3.47	4.03	2.86	3.45	3.74
Dried legumes, nuts.....	.29	.40	.44	.31	.36	.48
Dried fruits.....	.09	.12	.27	.09	.14	.19
Tomatoes.....	.42	.43	.94	.41	.54	.60
Citrus fruits.....	.33	1.32	2.44	.58	1.28	1.64
Leafy, green, yellow vegetables.....	.86	1.27	2.41	.75	1.44	2.01
Other vegetables:						
Fresh.....	.43	.65	1.72	.43	.65	1.02
Canned.....	.33	.16	.31	.35	.19	.12
Other fruits:						
Fresh.....	.93	1.19	1.68	.91	1.45	1.23
Canned.....	.12	.36	.85	.08	.32	.45
Fruits and vegetables <sup>1</sup> .....	3.42	5.37	10.35	3.51	5.87	7.07

<sup>1</sup> Exclusive of potatoes and dried products.

These conclusions are also supported by the figures presented by Williams (10) on spring diets of families living in New England urban communities. Any seeming discrepancy between the two sets of data may be explained on the basis of relatively small intervals and few cases in a classification which introduces variables other than

level of food expense. The seasonal differences observed between winter and spring diets in the same general region seem to consist of a slightly higher consumption of vegetables, fruits, and meats, and a lower consumption of eggs and milk in winter (December–February) than in spring (March–May). These differences are in accord with the general food-supply situation at these seasons. Both the trend and the general order of magnitude of the figures shown in table 2 are also in accord with previous studies of food consumption (8).

#### Nutritive Value of Diets

IN ORDER to estimate the nutritive value of diets, there must be at hand information on the composition of the food as eaten. Since, in the usual dietary study, time and funds are seldom available to determine the nutritive value of the food by direct laboratory methods, average figures on food composition are usually applied to the data on consumption. This method involves error to the extent that the products consumed may differ from the average. Such variations may be due to differences in variety, conditions of culture, or the treatment products receive between the points of production and consumption.

Insofar as the necessary data are available, dietary analyses commonly include estimates of the quantities of the several nutrients present which are significant in appraising quality in diet. In studies here presented, the energy value of the diets, and their content of protein, calcium, phosphorus, iron, and vitamins A, B, C, and G (flavin) have been computed. The figures on food composition used in the calculations have been compiled from several published sources (2, 3, 5, 6, 7) and from unpublished data.<sup>6</sup> In the main, the available data on food composition refer to the raw, untreated food materials. The nutritive content of foods, especially so far as the fat, mineral, and vitamin values are concerned, may be greatly reduced by the treatment to which food is subjected in preparation and service. This point should be kept in mind in interpreting the figures.

As yet, much more is known about the kind of nutrients that should be included in the diet than about the exact amount required of each essential substance. This is particularly true since it is recognized that there are different planes of nutrition within the range commonly considered "normal." Diets that are good enough to keep families in average health may not be good enough to promote the best health or the best possible physical development. Much research will be needed before all of the nutritional requirements of human beings can be defined with any high degree of precision. It

<sup>6</sup>Munsell, H. E., and Daniel, E. P.: Vitamin Content of Foods—A Digest of Available Data. (U. S. Bureau of Home Economics, Mimeo. 622, 1935.)



is instructive, however, to compare and appraise every-day diets with reference to some of the more significant factors for which some information is available regarding human requirements. As a working basis for such comparison and appraisal, dietary allowances for the several nutrients based on the experimental work of many scientists were compiled by Stiebelling and Ward (9). The figures are shown on an adult unit basis in table 3, along with the nutritive value of the diets described in table 2.

Table 3.—Nutritive Value Per Nutrition Unit<sup>1</sup> Per Day of Food Available to Families of Workers in 8 North Atlantic Cities, Winter, 1934-35, Compared with Suggested Allowances

Item	Weekly food expenditure per food-cost unit <sup>2</sup>			Annual total expenditure per consumption unit <sup>3</sup>			Suggested dietary allowances <sup>4</sup>
	\$1.20 to \$1.80 (23 families—group 3)	\$2.38 to \$3.00 (36 families—group 5)	\$3.57 to \$4.17 (14 families—group 7)	Under \$300 (21 families)	\$300 to \$499 (32 families)	\$500 and over (17 families)	
Energy value.....calories.....	2, 680	3, 480	4, 000	2, 835	3, 425	3, 840	3, 000
International scale <sup>5</sup> .....do.....	2, 780	3, 410	4, 030	2, 930	3, 390	3, 675	3, 000
Protein.....grams.....	65	88	120	72	89	100	70
Calcium.....do.....	0.43	0.62	0.88	0.46	0.64	0.69	0.68
Phosphorus.....do.....	1.10	1.46	1.93	1.14	1.50	1.59	1.32
Iron.....do.....	0.0122	0.0163	0.0214	0.0128	0.0163	0.0190	0.015
Vitamin A..... Sherman units <sup>6</sup> .....	4, 480	5, 450	10, 450	4, 990	5, 490	8, 140	3, 000-4, 000
Vitamin B.....do.....	470	710	970	460	600	700	500-750
Vitamin C.....do.....	90	160	250	90	130	160	75-100
Vitamin G.....do.....	470	680	980	540	700	830	500-750

<sup>1</sup> Bureau of Home Economics scales of relative nutritional requirements of persons of different physical activity, age, and sex. Based on table 10, p. 26, Circular No. 296, U. S. Department of Agriculture, 1933 (9).

<sup>2</sup> See footnote 4 on p. 15.

<sup>3</sup> For definition, see Monthly Labor Review, March 1936 (pp. 558, 559).

<sup>4</sup> For discussion, see Sherman (8), Rose (5), and Stiebelling and Ward (9).

<sup>5</sup> Quarterly Bulletin of Health Organization, League of Nations, vol. 1 (no. 3), 1932, (pp. 477-483).

<sup>6</sup> For definition, see Sherman (8).

The suggested energy allowances are set fairly close to probable average requirement because the consumption of a surplus of energy-yielding food results in the storage of fat, and an excess of body fat is burdensome. Of other dietary factors, a margin of safety over probable average minimum requirement is indicated. How wide this margin should be for different nutrients is not yet known. But in determining the margin of safety which the diet might well carry, possible losses due to methods of preparation and to incomplete utilization by the body should be considered, as well as the variations in human requirement and in food composition.

The figures given in the table provide a 50-percent margin of safety over average minimum requirements in the case of protein and minerals, and probably a margin of 100 percent or more in the case of the several vitamins. While many people subsist on diets which fail to meet these nutritional levels, without suffering from hunger or a degree of ill health recognized as obvious "disease",

it seems desirable to set dietary standards high enough to maintain the fullest degree of health which a perfectly adequate diet would make possible. The nutritive value of family diets tends to increase as more money is spent for food, as table 3 shows. This is due largely to greater quantity, but the more expensive diets are also somewhat richer in protein, minerals, and vitamins, when compared on an isocaloric basis.

Upon comparing the average per capita nutritive values of diets at the three food expenditure levels with these suggested allowances, one can see that the average food supply of the lowest expenditure groups falls short of these goals in several respects. In general the average food supply of the middle group meets the allowances except possibly for calcium, while the average supply of the highest expenditure group appears to include ample quantities of all nutrients. How satisfactory the actual diet at the highest level is, then, depends upon the extent to which the foods are completely consumed, particularly the foods that are important sources of minerals and vitamins.

In evaluating diets it is important of course, to consider not only average figures, but also the distribution within averages. The generous food supply of some families can raise averages without conferring any benefits upon the less fortunate. Of the 73 families whose dietary records of the winter of 1934-35 were analyzed, 19 met or exceeded in every respect dietary allowances which include a generous margin of safety for each nutrient. Thirty-two others met what seem to be average minimum requirements in every respect, but afforded little or no margin for safety. The other 22 diets failed to meet "minimum requirements" in one or more respects; 10 of these were somewhat short in calories, in calcium, or in both, 7 were short in calcium and two other factors, and 5 were deficient in several nutrients. All of the diets in group 7, and over 80 percent of the diets in group 5, met or exceeded average "minimum" requirements; less than one-fourth of the diets in group 3 were so satisfactory from the nutritional standpoint.

The frequency distribution of diets at each level of expenditure for food, with respect to each of nine nutritive factors, is shown in table 4. The percentage of diets that fall in the higher classes increases with increasing expenditures for food. Of the nutrients considered, protein appears to be the one most abundantly furnished with reference to need, and calcium, iron, and vitamin B the least.

Table 4.—Distribution of Food Records, by Nutritive Content Per Nutrition Unit<sup>1</sup> Per Day, Winter Diets, 1934-35, in North Atlantic Region

Item	Number of records from families whose weekly per capita food expenditures were—			Total
	\$1.20-\$1.80 (group 3)	\$2.38-\$3.00 (group 5)	\$3.57-\$4.17 (group 7)	
Energy value:				
Under 2,400 calories.....	9	0	0	9
2,400-2,699 calories.....	7	1	0	8
2,700-3,299 calories.....	2	10	1	13
3,300-3,599 calories.....	3	6	3	12
3,600 calories and over.....	2	19	10	31
Protein:				
Under 45 grams.....	2	0	0	2
45-69 grams.....	13	2	0	15
70-99 grams.....	8	26	1	35
100-119 grams.....	0	8	4	12
120 grams and over.....	0	0	9	9
Calcium:				
Under 0.30 gram.....	3	0	0	3
0.30-0.44 gram.....	13	5	0	18
0.45-0.69 gram.....	7	15	3	25
0.70-0.99 gram.....	0	15	7	22
1.00 gram and over.....	0	1	4	5
Phosphorus:				
Under 0.88 gram.....	6	0	0	6
0.88-1.31 grams.....	14	10	6	24
1.32-2.00 grams.....	3	24	8	35
2.00 grams and over.....	0	2	6	8
Iron:				
Under 0.0100 gram.....	5	0	0	5
0.0100-0.0149 gram.....	14	14	0	28
0.0150-0.0199 gram.....	4	15	4	23
0.0200 gram and over.....	0	7	10	17
Vitamin A:				
Under 2,000 Sherman units.....	5	0	0	5
2,000-3,999 Sherman units.....	8	15	0	23
4,000-7,999 Sherman units.....	7	17	8	32
8,000 Sherman units and over.....	3	4	6	13
Vitamin B:				
Under 300 Sherman units.....	2	0	0	2
300-499 Sherman units.....	15	6	0	21
500-749 Sherman units.....	3	17	1	21
750-999 Sherman units.....	3	11	4	18
1,000 Sherman units and over.....	0	2	9	11
Vitamin C:				
Under 50 Sherman units.....	2	0	0	2
50-74 Sherman units.....	6	1	0	7
75-99 Sherman units.....	9	4	0	13
100-149 Sherman units.....	5	15	2	22
150 Sherman units and over.....	1	16	12	29
Vitamin G:				
Under 300 Sherman units.....	1	0	0	1
300-499 Sherman units.....	12	4	0	16
500-749 Sherman units.....	10	22	1	33
750-999 Sherman units.....	0	8	9	17
1,000 Sherman units and over.....	0	2	4	6

<sup>1</sup> Bureau of Home Economics scales of relative nutritional requirements (9).

### Economy in Diet Selection

WITHIN the limits of the income levels studied, the higher-income groups, in general, enjoy better diets. But by applying present-day knowledge of foods and nutrition to problems of food selection, low-income groups also could secure better diets, and undoubtedly raise the level of their nutrition and health, without necessarily increasing their food expense.

A food or food group may be considered a cheap source of any nutrient if it demands no larger share of the food money than the

proportion it contributes to the total supply of that nutrient. Table 5 shows for one level of expenditure the nutritive returns that families of wage earners living in North Atlantic cities received for money spent for 17 groups of food.

Table 5.—Average Distribution of Expenditures Among, and Percentage of Nutritive Values Secured from, Specified Groups of Food

[Families spending \$2.38 to \$3.00 weekly per food-cost unit]

Food group	Per- cent of food money allo- cated	Percent furnished of—								
		Calo- ries	Pro- tein	Cal- cium	Phos- phorus	Iron	Vita- min A	Vita- min B	Vita- min C	Vita- min G
Eggs-----	4.96	1.69	4.88	2.73	4.07	6.33	6.04	2.83	0	5.33
Milk, cheese, ice cream-----	12.14	9.79	15.96	60.67	26.40	6.06	13.90	12.42	5.28	34.23
Butter, cream-----	7.57	9.32	.42	1.44	.77	.52	16.00	.16	0	.43
Other fats-----	2.96	7.82	.51	.10	.68	.73	.84	.01	0	1.06
Meats, poultry, fish-----	25.51	12.91	36.17	2.73	24.58	31.83	7.14	37.42	.67	32.22
Sugar and sweets-----	4.21	12.37	.15	2.09	.34	2.59	0	0	0	0
Bread and other baked goods-----	13.80	19.93	16.90	9.32	11.70	11.28	2.83	4.67	.52	5.11
Ready-to-eat cereals-----	.53	.69	.74	.44	2.43	1.53	.02	1.04	0	.46
Flour and other cereals-----	3.28	9.63	9.62	2.27	7.00	6.31	.64	2.40	.11	.12
Potatoes, sweetpotatoes-----	1.47	5.82	4.37	3.38	7.80	11.41	2.60	13.41	22.83	7.18
Dried legumes, nuts-----	1.82	2.90	5.26	3.41	6.75	8.70	.22	8.67	0	.80
Tomatoes-----	1.49	.34	.88	.47	.61	.64	9.52	1.99	7.82	.60
Citrus fruit-----	3.15	1.05	.51	3.00	.88	1.84	.56	5.27	29.56	3.30
Leafy, green, yellow vege- tables-----	3.89	.82	1.42	3.38	2.26	3.72	33.70	4.16	12.76	3.69
Other vegetables-----	3.43	1.04	1.00	2.79	1.73	2.08	1.28	1.57	8.12	1.23
Other fruits-----	3.88	2.77	.69	1.42	1.54	4.14	4.63	3.75	12.33	3.86
Miscellaneous items-----	5.91	1.11	1.02	.35	.46	.29	.07	.23	(1)	.38
Total-----	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

<sup>1</sup> Less than 1/100 of 1 percent.

With the prices prevailing in the winter of 1934-35 and the selection customarily made within the several food groups, potatoes and sweetpotatoes, dried legumes, the leafy, green, and yellow vegetables, and milk were outstanding, because they furnished cheaply five or more of the nine nutrients. Cheap and important sources of calories were grain products, potatoes, sugars, and fats; and of protein were milk, meats, grain products, and the dried legumes. The outstanding source of calcium and phosphorus was milk and cheese, both from the standpoints of quantity and economy. More of the iron came from meats than from any other of the food groups listed, but cheap sources of iron were eggs, meats, the less highly refined cereals, potatoes, and the dried legumes. The conspicuously rich sources of vitamin A were butterfat and the leafy, green, and yellow vegetables. Of vitamin B, milk, meats, and potatoes furnished the major portions; of vitamin C, the fresh vegetables and fruits; and of vitamin G, the major portions were furnished by milk and meats.

Greater dietary prominence might well be given by low-income families to the foods which are inexpensive for several factors, and particularly to those rich in factors in which diets tend to be least well fortified. Since diets are frequently found to be low in calcium,

iron, and vitamins B and G, it would seem wise if more emphasis were put on milk and cheese and on the leafy, green, and yellow vegetables. Low-income families would do well, if at the expense of some of the foods which give rather small returns in nutritive value for the expenditure, they would increase their consumption of milk, potatoes, dried legumes, and the whole grain breads and cereals. These foods yield excellent returns for expenditures in the nutrients needed to supplement present low-cost diets in an effective way.

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## Union-Management Relations in the Women's Clothing Industry, New York Industrial Area, 1936<sup>1</sup>

THE manufacture of women's clothing is a highly centralized industry. It has been estimated that 90 percent of all dresses produced in this country are made within 50 miles of Manhattan. The cloak, suit, and skirt branch of the industry is similarly centered in the New York industrial area.

The women's clothing market in Greater New York is a strongly organized market. Both workers and employers are represented in their dealings with each other by elected representatives of their respective associations. The workers are organized under the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union into local unions, separated on a craft or language basis in the city proper and on an industry basis in the outlying districts. To secure unified action in collective bargaining the local unions of dress workers and the cloak, suit, and skirt locals are each affiliated with joint boards. Other locals covering workers in special branches of the trade (underwear, bathrobes, pattern-making, etc.) are not affiliated with joint boards but bargain separately with their employers. The majority of the women's clothing workers in the New York market, however, bargain collectively through the two joint boards.

Most of the dress and cloak manufacturers are organized into associations, on the basis of their position in the industry. Thus there are separate organizations for the inside manufacturers, the jobbers, and the contractors. The inside manufacturers carry on all of the processes of garment manufacture on their own premises. The jobbers do only the styling and sometimes the cutting of garments, which are turned over to contract shops for completion; the finished garments are returned to the jobbers who handle the selling. Numerically the contractors are by far the most important employing group, but since their orders are received only from the jobbers, this latter group occupies a unique position of control in the industry. No small part of the instability in women's clothing manufacture, an industry traditionally disturbed by pronounced seasonal fluctuations, has been due to this jobber-contractor relationship under which there has been severe competitive bidding among the numerous contractors. The elimination of this cause of instability has been the chief problem

<sup>1</sup> Prepared by Helen S. Hoerber of the Bureau's Industrial Relations Division.

confronting workers and employers in their efforts toward union-management regulation of the industry.

The current agreements are signed by the New York joint boards and the employers' associations, for the entire metropolitan area. Although these associations independently negotiate and sign agreements with the union, uniformity is maintained through almost identical provisions in the various contracts in each branch of the industry. The dress agreements, covering 105,000 workers, are for a 3-year term expiring January 31, 1939. Nearly 50,000 cloak, suit, and skirt workers are covered by 2-year agreements expiring June 1, 1937. Notice of proposed changes must be given at least 3 months before expiration and negotiations begun within 10 days of the notice. In the absence of such notice the agreements are automatically continued for another year. The current contracts for both branches of the industry were secured after threatened strikes and outside intervention (in the cloak industry by Governor Lehman and in the dress industry by Mayor La Guardia).

#### Dress Industry

FOUR associations represent the dress manufacturers in Greater New York. The inside manufacturers are organized as the Affiliated Dress Manufacturers, Inc. The jobbers are represented by the National Dress Manufacturers Association, Inc., and by the Popular Priced Dress Manufacturers Group, Inc., the latter covering only those handling dresses which wholesale for \$4.75 or less. These 3 associations cover about 950 shops employing nearly 25,000 workers. More than 80,000 workers, however, are employed in the 2,200 contract shops, the owners of which are organized as the United Association of Dress Manufacturers, Inc. About four-fifths of these workers are women. At the time the new agreements were negotiated, another contractors' group, the Interstate Dress Manufacturers, Inc., existed as a result of a recent split from the United Association. This association signed an agreement separately, but soon afterward rejoined the parent group.

Although previous agreements provided machinery for enforcement, as well as regulation of the jobber-contractor relationship, the current agreements provide for these matters in much greater detail. These and other major provisions are described below.

#### Enforcement Machinery

Final authority to enforce the agreements is given to the administrator, head of an administrative board which interprets the industrial laws established through collective bargaining. The position of impartial chairman was also created in the agreements, with a stipulation that the administrator might fill both posts if so agreed by the

four associations and the unions. The combination was subsequently made, and Harry Uviller, for 18 years manager of the Cloak and Suit Contractors' Association, was jointly appointed by the parties concerned. According to the agreements, if the parties had been unable to agree by a specified date, Mayor La Guardia was given power to make the appointment.

The union and each association name a representative to serve on the administrative board, but only the representatives of associations whose members are involved may participate in cases coming before the board. If the board cannot agree the impartial chairman makes the final decision. Cases must be considered on their own merits, and no case is to establish a precedent for a subsequent case.

If for any reason the administrator does not act, a new appointment must be made within 5 days by the parties, or by Mayor La Guardia if there is disagreement. All agreements made with independent manufacturers must be subject to regulation by this administrator, and such manufacturers must provide cash security as a guaranty of good faith, the amount depending on the size of the shop and its volume of business.

In addition to establishing the position of administrator, the agreements give various policing duties to the associations and the union. The associations must impose a fine on members they find dealing with nonunion or nondesignated contractors or violating the hours and workday rules. The amount of such fine must be sufficient to offset advantage gained by the employer through such transaction, together with an appropriate penalty. For a second offense the offender is to be expelled from his association unless the union agrees to another penalty. All fines are to be applied to the expense of maintaining the administrator.

Once a month representatives of the union and the association are to examine the books and records of all members in order to determine compliance. If the union at any time suspects a jobber of dealing with nonunion or nondesignated contractors, its representatives may examine the books and records, upon filing a request with the association. If such a member refuses to cooperate, delays, or falsifies his records, he forfeits his rights and privileges under the agreement; in other words, a strike against his firm is then permissible.

At any time the union may send its representatives to a shop before or after working hours or on any holiday to determine compliance with the hour provisions of the agreements. Twice during each peak season union representatives may visit shops to ascertain the union standing of all workers. Notice of such proposed visits to members must be given the associations and, if they wish, an association representative may be designated to accompany the union men.



## Jobber-Contractor Relationship

Regulation of this matter involves both the number of contractors permitted for each jobber and the method of price settlement for contract work. Two principles are the basis for the detailed provisions: (1) No jobber may deal with a nonunion contractor, and (2) a jobber must use only the number of contractors actually required to manufacture his garments. The second principle is an innovation designed to alleviate the cutthroat competition among contractors.

To effectuate these principles the union must furnish the associations a list of union shops, making revisions at least once a week. The jobber in turn must designate, as of January 31, 1936, the names of contractors necessary to his business, these contractors to be considered as on permanent status as long as they maintain union shops. Unless otherwise allowed by the administrative board, contractors may be designated by only one jobber and jobbers may use only designated contractors. Additions to or changes in the list of contractors may be made only with the approval of the board, which must render a decision within 2 days, except in the low-priced jobbers' agreement where the limit is 5 days. Increased volume of business and a change in the jobber's product are the only grounds for adding to or changing his designated contractors. Temporary additions may be made, to care for seasonal expansion, when necessary, but not more than one addition at a time unless otherwise ordered by the board.

Contractors may be discharged only for general poor workmanship or late deliveries. On appeal by the union or the contractors' association, the administrative board is to review the case and make a decision within 2 days. No new contractor may be taken on pending the decision and, if the discharge is held to be unfair, sufficient work must be given to recompense the contractor and his workers for losses sustained. If a jobber is twice held to have unfairly discharged a contractor, he must thereafter secure advance permission for discharge from the board. The jobbers handling lower-priced garments, however, must always secure advance permission for discharge. The indirect but actual responsibility of the jobbers for conditions in contract shops is recognized in the agreements. A jobber must now guarantee that union standards are observed in the shops of his designated contractors, and he is liable to the workers for 7 working days' wage in case of default by one of his contractors.

In slack times the jobber must divide the available work equally on the basis of the number of machine operators employed in his permanent contract shops and in his inside shop, if he maintains one. Expansion by employing more machine operators can be made in any shop only with the approval of the administrative board.

## Hours and Wage Rates

Because the piece rates vary with each style of garment, price lists in this industry cannot be set up in advance. Minima are established by the agreements, but rates for each lot of work must be determined as the orders are received. Prices, however, are no longer to be settled by unrestrained competition between contractors. Under the new system representatives of the jobber, the union, and the workers involved meet on the jobbers' or on neutral premises. Uniform piece rates are then determined for the jobber and his contractors by direct settlement between the jobber and the workers concerned. The jobber is to settle with his contractors for a reasonable additional amount to be paid them for overhead and profits.

Rates must be set without delay, and must be determined in time to prevent any delay in the weekly payment of wages. On request of either party, the administrative board or the administrator shall set the rates within 48 hours. The same system is to be followed for inside shops. The agreements provide that the new method of price settlement shall not increase piece rates in shops where earnings were above the minimum when the agreements were signed.

The administrative board is assigned the task of working out, before July 1, 1936 (as soon as possible for jobbers of lower-priced garments), a system or guide for computing prices in order to bring about uniform labor costs for similar work.

The agreements set a 5-day, 35-hour week, with a 7-hour daily maximum. There can be only one shift a day and all overtime is prohibited, except for sample makers. They may work 1 additional hour a day, receiving time and a half therefor, during the height of a season, such period to be determined by the administrator and to be uniform for the industry.

The minimum wage rates established are given in table 1. Each department in a shop must be either on a week or piece basis. Wages are to be paid each Tuesday and must cover all work done through the week ending the preceding Friday. Six holidays and half of election day, with pay, are provided in the agreements, but two additional holidays may be taken by the workers without pay. During the dull season at least one-half day's pay must be given if workers are required to report and no work is available.

Table 1.—Minimum Wage Rates Set by Agreement in New York Dress Industry, 1936 to 1939

Occupation	Garments selling for more than \$3.75		Garments selling for \$3.75 or less	
	New York City	Outlying districts	New York City	Outlying districts
Rates per week				
Cutters and graders.....	\$45.00	\$40.50	\$45.00	\$45.00
Machine cutters.....			37.00	37.00
Sample makers.....	30.00	27.00	30.00	30.00
Stretchers.....			27.00	27.00
Examiners.....	21.00	18.90	20.00	17.00
Drapers.....	27.00	24.30		
Cleaners and pinkers.....	16.00	14.40	16.00	16.00
Rates per hour				
Operators.....	\$0.90	\$0.81	\$0.75	\$0.63
Pressers.....	1.00	.90	.85	.70
Finishers.....	.63	.567 <sup>10</sup>	(1)	(1)

<sup>1</sup> Same rate as examiners.

#### Regulation of the Labor Market

The agreements provide for a closed union shop. The inside manufacturers' agreement stipulates in addition that—

The parties hereto recognize the necessity of unionizing the entire industry in the metropolitan district. In order to bring about such unionization, the union will make every effort to organize all employees and shops in the industry and (the association) will cooperate with it in such efforts.

No one may be employed unless he has a union card and is at least 18 years of age. Workers may not be secured from private employment agencies or in any way requiring them to pay a fee for their jobs. Contracting and subcontracting with a shop are forbidden. Shops may not be moved beyond the 5-cent-fare zone on public carriers.

No pressing machine may be installed where less than six hand pressers are working and unless they are fully supplied with work. In all the agreements except that for jobbers of lower-priced dresses the use of such machines already installed is forbidden unless these requirements are met. Further, the administrative board or the administrator shall adopt rules regulating the introduction of new machinery in order that workers shall not suffer any undue hardships.

Discharge in inside shops is permissible only for incompetence, misconduct, insubordination in performance of work, breach of reasonable and jointly established working rules, or restriction of output. In the rest of the industry misbehavior justifies discharge. The administrative board may reinstate any discharged worker, with back pay.

## Disputes and Grievances

Under the agreements, all stoppages are prohibited. When wages are not paid on time or when the new system of price settlement is not followed, however, shop strikes are "legal." In all other cases the union agrees to return the strikers to work within 24 hours after notice is given by the association. If either the union or the associations violate this rule, all but the contractors' agreement may be terminated if a trial board (consisting of one representative from each party concerned and the impartial chairman) finds the violation is "substantial."

Notice in writing must be given to the other party in cases of complaints or grievances. The managers of the union and the association involved, or their deputies, shall attempt to settle the matter, and if they agree their decision is binding. Otherwise the trial board hears the case. If compliance is not made within 24 hours, the employer forfeits his rights and privileges under the agreement.

## Cloak, Suit, and Skirt Industry

LESS than half of the shops in the cloak, suit, and skirt industry are contract shops and these employ a considerably smaller proportion of the workers than is the case in the dress branch of the industry. Nearly 1,000 contract shops, employing 20,000 workers, are represented in the American Cloak & Suit Manufacturers' Association, Inc. The jobbers, with 700 shops and about 18,000 employees, are in the Merchants' Ladies' Garment Association, Inc. The Industrial Council of Cloak, Suit, & Skirt Manufacturers, Inc., includes 580 inside manufacturers employing 9,000 workers.

The enforcement machinery in this branch of the garment industry is similar to, though not identical with, that provided in the dress-industry agreements. Although regulation of the jobber-contractor relationship is not so comprehensive as in the dress branch of the industry, the following analysis of important provisions shows that the problems and the attempts at solution are very similar.

## Enforcement Machinery

The cloak, suit, and skirt agreements are subject to interpretation by the impartial chairman, Sol A. Rosenblatt. His duties and authority are similar to those given the Administrator under the dress agreements. In case of his failure to act for any reason, the Governor of New York State is to appoint a substitute within 5 days unless the parties agree before that time. All agreements signed with independent manufacturers must bring them under the jurisdiction of this chairman and such manufacturers must provide cash security as in the dress industry. All cases coming before the impartial chair-

man are to be decided on their merits, in the light of the current agreements, and not on the basis of precedent.

The associations' policing duties involve imposition of fines and expulsion for a second offense when a nonunion or nondesignated contractor is dealt with or when the rules as to working hours are violated. Fines for other violations may be agreed upon by the parties or imposed by the chairman.

If the union suspects an association member of dealing with nonunion contractors, its representative and a representative of the association may examine the books and records of the association member within 48 hours after the request is made by the union. The impartial chairman may examine books and records at any time on his own motion or at the request of the union. To facilitate such investigations the impartial chairman is to prescribe a uniform method of bookkeeping which shall be followed throughout the industry.

Once each season union representatives may visit all shops to determine the union standing of employees. Notice must be given the association before such visits are made and an association representative may be designated to accompany the union representative.

#### Jobber-Contractor Relationship

The National Coat and Suit Industry Recovery Board, originally established under the N. I. R. A., is continued "for the purpose of eliminating substandard and sweatshop conditions in, and to aid in the stabilization of, the cloak and suit industry." On June 19 of this year the Board appointed the union president and the manager of the cloak joint board as union members of a committee to enforce fair trade practices and to develop business. The Recovery Board's label is to be attached to each garment. The agreements provide for dealings only with union contractors and for limitation to the "necessary number" of contractors per jobber. As in the agreements for the dress industry, provision is made for the submission of lists of union shops and the designation of the required contractors by each jobber. Additions and changes in the list of designated contractors are subject to approval by the impartial chairman, such approval to be given within 2 days of the application. Contractors must work for only one jobber unless otherwise approved by the parties to the agreement or by the impartial chairman. Jobbers are held liable, as in the dress agreements, for 7 working days' pay in case of contractor default.

In slack times work is to be divided equitably between the designated contract shops and the inside shop, if one is maintained, "with due regard to the ability of the contractor \* \* \* to produce and perform."

## Hours and Wage Rates

Price-settlement procedure is not thoroughly outlined in the agreements. A labor bureau under supervision of a labor director is to be established jointly by all parties. The bureau must as soon as possible ascertain and announce a comprehensive classification of standard types of garments to serve as a basis for the setting of piece rates. All necessary regulations not made in the agreements are to be worked out within 3 weeks of signing, or referred to the impartial chairman for determination. The section concerning prices provides for joint settlement by representatives of the contractors, the employing jobber, the workers involved, the union, and the labor bureau. Other details are left for subsequent agreement. Jobbers, however, must pay contractors an amount sufficient to cover the wages of their employees and a "reasonable" additional amount for overhead and profits. Workers need not start work on garments before the piece rates have been set.

The workweek consists of 35 hours and the workday of 7 hours, as in the dress industry. There can be no overtime and no more than one shift a day.

Minimum weekly wage rates for occupations which must be paid on a time-rate basis are shown below:

	<i>Per week</i>
Coat and suit cutters.....	\$47
Sample makers.....	40
Examiners.....	36
Drapers.....	29
Begraders on skirts.....	32
Bushelmen who also do pinning, marking, and general work on garments.....	36

The occupations listed in table 2 are usually paid on a piece-work basis, but the equivalent weekly rates may be paid, with the consent of the workers and the union. If the equivalent weekly rates are paid in these occupations, this system of payment must prevail not only in the jobber's inside shop, if he has one, but also in all of his contract shops. Piece rates set in the shops must be computed so as to yield the worker of average skill the average weekly rate.

Wages must be paid on Tuesday for the preceding week's work. The paid holidays are the same as those specified for dress workers, but only one additional holiday is permitted without pay.

Table 2.—Minimum Rates for Piece-Work Occupations in New York Cloak, Suit, and Skirt Industry, 1935 to 1937

Occupation	Minimum piece rate	Average piece rate <sup>1</sup>	Equivalent minimum weekly rate
Jacket, coat, reefer, and dress operators.....		\$1.50	\$50.00
Male.....	\$1.00		
Female.....	.90		
Skirt operators.....		1.40	48.00
Male.....	.90		
Female.....	.80		
Piece tailors.....	.90	1.30	43.00
Jacket, coat, and reefer finishers.....	.85	1.25	41.00
Finishers' helpers.....	.63	1.00	33.00
Jacket, coat, reefer, and dress upper pressers.....	1.00	1.50	45.00
Jacket, coat, reefer, and dress under pressers.....	.90	1.25	41.00
Skirt upper pressers.....	.80	1.25	41.00
Skirt under pressers.....	.85	1.25	41.00
Skirt busters.....	.60	.80	27.00
Skirt finishers.....	.60	.70	23.50
Machine pressers.....	1.30	1.65	57.00

<sup>1</sup> These rates are those which the worker of average skill is considered able to earn for each hour of continuous work.

#### Regulation of the Labor Market

The closed union shop is provided in the agreements, all new employees to be secured through an employment bureau established by the agreements and operated under impartial direction. In the agreement with contractors, however, both the union and the association undertake to make every effort to organize completely the coat, suit, and skirt contractors and their employees. To this end the union agrees to negotiate only with contractors who are members of the association.

Contracting and subcontracting within a shop are prohibited. During the dull season, work is to be distributed equally and, if necessary, temporary leaves of absence may be granted. In addition to joint regulation of the use of labor-saving machinery, contract shops may not increase the number of machines without the consent of the union.

Permissible reasons for discharge are similar to those in the dress industry.

#### Disputes and Grievances

All stoppages of work in the cloak, suit, and skirt industry are prohibited. The association agrees to cause its member to reemploy the workers within 24 hours of a lockout and the union will return the strikers within the same period. Before the agreements can be terminated, the impartial chairman must decide whether the violation of this provision is "substantial."

The procedure for settling grievances is identical with that under the dress agreements, except that an employer is granted one additional day for compliance before his rights and privileges under the agreement are forfeited. Discharge cases referred to the impartial chairman are given precedence, and decision rendered within 48 hours unless extended by mutual written consent. Should decision be delayed beyond such time, a worker unjustly discharged shall be compensated for lost time.

## SOCIAL SECURITY

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### Special Pensions for Voluntary Retirement of French Miners <sup>1</sup>

IN ORDER to relieve the unemployment situation in the French coal-mining industry, an act of April 7, 1936, provides for the payment of a temporary allowance to miners who retire voluntarily before reaching the normal retirement age of 55. The provisional annual allowance of 5,500 francs will be paid up to the age of 55 years to all workers and employees of the mines applying for it, who have reached the age of 50 and have been employed 30 years in the mines, 20 years of which have been in underground work. Workers receiving this allowance must agree not to engage in work of any kind for which pay is received. The law becomes fully effective January 1, 1940. In 1936 the age limit at which the temporary allowance will be granted is fixed at 54, and each year thereafter is reduced by 1 year until the limit of 50 years is reached in the year 1940. When the age of 55 is attained the normal pension provided for by the law of February 25, 1914, and subsequent amendments will be substituted for the provisional pension.

Funds for the payment of the provisional pension are to be provided by increasing the coal tax 0.25 percent. The law, which is to apply to miners in Alsace and Lorraine, the Upper and Lower Rhine and Moselle, as well as the rest of France, will become effective 1 month after the publication of administrative regulations for its application.

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### Operation of Social Insurance System in Spain in 1934 <sup>2</sup>

AT THE end of 1934 nearly 6,000,000 persons were covered by various forms of social insurance administered by the National Welfare Institute of Spain (*Instituto Nacional de Previsión*).

The first step toward the establishment of a social insurance in Spain was taken in 1908 when a law of February 27 created a voluntary old-age pension and insurance system. Children's insurance was authorized July 7, 1911; old-age insurance was made compulsory

<sup>1</sup> Data are from Comité Central des Houillères de France, Circulaire No. 6017, Retraites, minières, Paris, April 1936.

<sup>2</sup> Data are from Anales del Instituto Nacional de Previsión (Madrid), issues of July 1935 (pp. 772-773), August 1935 (pp. 880-881), and October 1935 (pp. 1074-1076); and Le Assicurazioni Sociali (Rome), January-February 1936 (pp. 78-79). For background, see International Survey of Social Services, International Labor Office, Geneva, 1933, Studies and Reports, Series M (Social Insurance), No. 11 (pp. 566-577); Industrial and Labor Information (Geneva), issues of June 18, 1934 (pp. 414-416), and Aug. 20, 1934 (pp. 248-251); Monthly Labor Review, September 1934 (pp. 592-594), and U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Bul. No. 561 (pp. 332-336).



March 11, 1919; the present system of voluntary unemployment insurance was promulgated May 25, 1931; and the scheme of workmen's compensation now operative was established on October 8, 1932. Amendments and regulations have clarified and extended the operation of these legislative measures.

Old-age, maternity, supplementary-pension, and children's insurance are under the direction of the National Welfare Institute and its regional funds. Insurance against industrial accidents is administered by the National Insurance Fund for Labor Accidents (*Caja Nacional de Seguro de Accidentes del Trabajo*). Voluntary unemployment insurance is under the direction of the National Fund against Involuntary Unemployment (*Caja Nacional contra el Paro Forzoso*).

The National Welfare Institute and its associated funds had 5,896,147 members at the end of 1934; since their inception they had had income amounting to 544,369,009 pesetas,<sup>3</sup> and expenditures of 90,178,440 pesetas, as shown in the following table. As persons who have maternity insurance and supplementary-pension insurance are also protected by the compulsory old-age insurance, no separate figures for number of members are shown in the table for those two items.

Status of National Welfare Institute of Spain and Associated Funds, as of Dec. 31, 1934

[Average exchange rate for peseta in 1934=13.6 cents]

System of insurance	Type of insurance	Number of members (accounts opened and not liquidated)	Contributions received from date of inception through Dec. 31, 1934	Benefits paid
			<i>Pesetas</i>	<i>Pesetas</i>
All systems of insurance.....		5, 896, 147	544, 369, 009	90, 178, 440
Old-age insurance.....	Compulsory..	5, 156, 495	465, 069, 398	47, 524, 684
Maternity insurance.....	do.....		14, 847, 299	20, 721, 282
Supplementary-pension insurance.....	Voluntary.....	185, 846	1, 891, 368	75, 682
Assisted-individual insurance.....	do.....		34, 811, 973	13, 095, 741
Children's insurance.....	do.....	552, 098	20, 822, 574	8, 355, 667
Mutual aid (for employees of National Welfare Institute and the regional funds).....	Compulsory..	1, 708	6, 926, 398	405, 384

At the end of 1934 the capital of the National Welfare Institute amounted to 935,156,687 pesetas, of which 660,655,002 pesetas (70.6 percent of the total) were invested in Government securities, industrial bonds, local government securities, mortgages, loans, and real estate. The social purposes for which the funds of the Institute have been utilized are shown below:

	<i>Pesetas</i>
Educational organizations.....	66, 390, 316
Low-cost houses.....	61, 935, 196
Health organizations.....	50, 036, 501
Public works.....	40, 044, 010
Miscellaneous social organizations.....	28, 577, 185
Agricultural development.....	27, 518, 468

<sup>3</sup> Average exchange rate for peseta in 1934=13.6 cents.

The National Insurance Fund for Labor Accidents at the end of 1934 had in force 18,031 policies (insuring pay rolls aggregating 454,057,798 pesetas), premiums for which amounted to 12,006,095 pesetas. Since April 1, 1933, when the revised law went into effect, 1,848 claims have been allowed, to a value of 26,712,856 pesetas, benefiting 3,329 insured persons and their dependents.

In 1934 the National Fund against Involuntary Unemployment paid in benefits 2,866,186 pesetas. At the maximum of 80 days per year allowed each insured person and at the legal rate of 4 pesetas per day, 8,956 persons received benefits.

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### Old-Age Pension System for Public and Private Employees in Uruguay <sup>1</sup>

THE old-age pension system of Uruguay, which is compulsory and covers certain classes of workers, was liberalized by an act of August 5, 1935. In 1934 (by act of Jan. 11), a reorganization of the social-insurance system had been effected. Prior to that time there had been separate systems for noncontributory old-age and invalidity pensions and for pensions for various classes of employees.<sup>2</sup> Because of financial difficulties in the administration of these funds, a decree issued in April 1933 had provided temporary financial aid, reduced pensions temporarily from 5 to 20 percent, fixed a maximum limit for pensions, and provided for partial suspension of the right to benefits when the insured person's income exceeded certain amounts, varying according to source of income and family responsibilities.

The act of January 11, 1934, reorganized the system of insurance for persons employed in commerce, industry, and public-utility enterprises, but left in existence the insurance systems for public servants, teachers, and bank employees. Certain provisions of the 1934 act relating to financial rehabilitation, however, applied to all pension funds. The administration of the old-age insurance systems has been centralized by the establishment of the Invalidity and Old-Age Pensions Institute of Uruguay, to which are attached the Pension Fund for Industry, Commerce, and Public Utility Services; the Public Officials' Invalidity and Old-Age Pensions Fund; the National Old-Age Pensions Institute; and the School Teachers' Invalidity and Old-Age Pensions Fund.

In the latter part of 1935 about 150,000 persons were insured under the insurance system covering workers in commerce, industry, and public-utility enterprises, and about 2,200 persons under the special system for bank and commercial-exchange employees.

<sup>1</sup> Data are from International Labor Office, Geneva: *Industrial and Labor Information*, Sept 24, 1934, and Dec. 2, 1935; *International Labor Review*, November 1935 (pp. 629, 633).

<sup>2</sup> See U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Bul. No. 561 (pp. 349-358).

The principal provisions of the January 11, 1934, act (as amended by the act of Aug. 5, 1935), which relate to the old-age and invalidity insurance system for employees in industry, commerce, and public enterprises, are here summarized.

*Coverage.*—Four groups of workers are covered by the old-age and invalidity insurance system administered by the insurance fund for industry, commerce, and public-utility enterprises, and each of these groups has its special fund. Insurance is compulsory, without regard to age, conditions of service, or wages. Voluntary insurance is permitted to employers who participate by their own labor and in a permanent manner in the management of their business. The four funds and the workers included therein are as follows:

*Transport fund.*—Motor drivers, and salaried employees and wage earners in transport and similar enterprises.

*Fund for public-utility enterprises.*—Workers in telegraph, telephone, gas, and water services, in private electrical enterprises, and in nonprofit hospitals, permanent employees of political parties, and employees of mutual-aid societies for medical treatment, and of incorporated athletic or cultural societies.

*Fund for industry and commerce.*—Workers in commercial or industrial enterprises not belonging to another fund established in accordance with the act of January 11, 1934. Workers in agricultural and stock-raising establishments, employees of the racecourse-betting system, members of the liberal professions and of theatrical companies, and venders of newspapers and periodicals are exempt from compulsory insurance.

*Fund for printing industry.*—All salaried employees and workers of the editorial or administrative staff or of the printing offices of newspapers, periodicals, etc., workers in the general printing trades, employees of the Press Club of Uruguay, etc., and workers in the book-selling trade.

*Contributions.*—Employers are required to contribute 6 percent of their total pay roll (which may be increased up to 9 percent if necessary). The contribution is increased an additional 3 percent if the business utilizes concessions or patents or enjoys customs protection in the manufacture and sale of goods, while chambers of commerce, industry, or agriculture are required to contribute 12 percent of the wages of their insured employees. A compulsory deduction of 5 percent from the earnings of insured persons is prescribed.

Other sources of funds are the proceeds of a sales tax of 0.3 percent or, in occupations where a sales tax would be impractical, the proceeds of a tax of 2 percent on wages or salaries, and in transport enterprises the proceeds of a tax of 3 percent on "takings"; the proceeds of a tax on property passing at death to a surviving spouse; certain customs duties, etc.

*Benefits.*—To be eligible for a pension the insured person must have had at least 10 years' service. The normal pension is payable to workers who have attained the age of 50 and have had 30 years' service; to workers of any age who have completed 30 years' actual contributions from the effective date of the act; to all workers physi-

cally or mentally incapacitated for their employment; and to all workers on reaching the age of 60, whether or not they are in the service of an enterprise covered by the act at the time. The benefits payable after 30 years' service are fixed according to the following scale, subject to a maximum of 300 pesos a month and a minimum of 120 pesos a year. Thus, a worker whose earnings were 55 pesos per month would receive a pension of 50 pesos plus 95 percent of 5 pesos, or 54.75 pesos.

Service previous to the passage of the act may be included if extra contributions therefor have been made.

Benefits Payable Under Old-Age Pension System of Uruguay After 30 Years' Service

Classified monthly earnings	Amount of benefits	
	Basic amount	Supplement (percent of earnings in excess of minimum in earnings group)
	<i>Pesos</i>	
	(1)	
Up to 50 pesos.....	50.00	95
50 to 60 pesos.....	59.50	90
60 to 80 pesos.....	77.50	85
80 to 100 pesos.....	94.50	80
100 to 125 pesos.....	114.50	75
125 to 150 pesos.....	135.25	70
150 to 175 pesos.....	150.75	65
175 to 200 pesos.....	167.00	60
200 to 225 pesos.....	182.00	55
225 to 250 pesos.....	195.75	50
250 to 275 pesos.....	208.25	45
275 to 300 pesos.....	219.50	40
300 to 325 pesos.....	229.50	35
325 to 350 pesos.....	238.25	30
350 to 375 pesos.....	245.75	25
375 to 400 pesos.....	252.00	20
400 to 425 pesos.....	257.00	15
425 to 450 pesos.....	260.75	10
Over 450 pesos.....	260.75	10

Full earnings.

The average wage during the last 15 years is the basis used in calculation of the amount of the pension, and in pensions for invalidity or on reaching age 60, one-thirtieth of the normal pension is allowed for each year of service.

Survivors' pensions are paid in the event of the death of the insured, the total aggregate pension being fixed at 50 percent of the old-age or invalidity pension received by the deceased or to which he would have been entitled at his death. The widow, or widower if incapacitated for work, and the minor children (sons under 18 years and daughters under 24, unless married), or if there are no children, the dependent parents and unmarried sisters of the deceased, are entitled to survivors' pensions.

In case of dismissal of insured workers for any reason other than misdemeanor or serious dereliction of duty, proportionate pensions are to be paid as follows: Workers 55 years of age or over, one-thirtieth of the normal pension for each year's service; workers 40 years or over, with more than 20 years' service, 3 percent of the normal pension, for the first year's service, and 2½ percent for each succeeding year; workers 40 years or over, with 20 years' service or less, 2½ percent of the normal pension and 2 percent for each succeeding year. Workers under 40 years are to be paid a dismissal allowance.

*Administration.*—Administration of the fund is by a managing committee of nine members, three representing the employers, three the insured persons, and three the Government.

# INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION

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## Sessions of Governing Body of International Labor Office

April 1936 Session

THREE and a half months after the conference held by the International Labor Office for all American nations in Santiago, Chile, the Governing Body had to determine how best to give effect to its deliberations. The American Regional Labor Conference passed a number of resolutions defining what it considered to be desirable labor standards. The Governing Body decided that those addressed to governments should be sent to each member of the International Labor Office, with the explanation that these were the views of this regional conference. They did not commit the entire Organization and in communicating these resolutions to governments, the Governing Body considered it was merely calling attention to the wishes of the American conference.

The proposal was made at Santiago that an agency existing only for the American continents might be desirable. But the conference, by adopting a resolution for strengthening the ties between the International Labor Office and the Americas, indicated that it preferred the universal appeal of the International Labor Office to attempting to create an independent regional agency.

Other resolutions of the conference dealt with the specific means for improving the connections between the International Labor Office and the American continents, particularly Latin America, which has problems quite different from those of the United States, Canada, Asia, or Europe. These resolutions recommended the increased translation of International Labor Office documents into the South American languages, the increased consultation of the Office with experts familiar with the problems and conditions prevailing in those countries, and emphasized the particular labor problems upon which it was hoped the International Labor Office would act. The Governing Body accordingly voted an increased appropriation to permit the publication in Spanish and Portuguese of more studies and reports, and the development of the contacts of the Office with countries of Central and South America.

*Budget of the International Labor Office.*—Each April session of the Governing Body examines in detail the budget of the entire organization for the following year. The total budget is necessarily large, for the organization employs a staff of about 450 experts, publishes a great mass of authoritative statistical and descriptive material, and holds conferences of its 61 member States for the adoption of international labor treaties and the study of their observance by States which ratify them. The budget is not finally voted, however, till autumn.

The funds needed are raised by the contributions of the 61 member nations. They are assessed varying amounts in rough approximation of their relative industrial importance. Since most of the members are members also of the League of Nations, the League transfers a fixed portion of every payment to the use of the International Labor Office. In the case of states—United States, Japan, and Brazil—not members of the League, payment is made direct to the International Labor Office. The contributions of these states for 1937 was fixed at the April meeting, with the understanding that if the League assembly should make a change in the proportionate contributions of League states, a new agreement might be entered into between the International Labor Office and each of these three non-League states. The United States contribution, like that of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, at present amounts to 105 of the 1,125 units of contribution that constitute the income of the International Labor Office.

*Forty-hour week conventions.*—The agenda of the conference to meet in June 1937 was largely determined by the February session of the Governing Body.<sup>1</sup> Two items concern the 40-hour week, one as it might be applied in the chemical industry and the other in the printing industry.

In order to prepare the draft of conventions about these two industries for discussion in 1937, the Office was anxious to secure the counsel of those thoroughly familiar with these industries. It therefore suggested that the Governing Body approve of one of two methods—either the convocation of experts chosen by the Office (as was done in preparation of the proposed convention limiting working time in textile mills<sup>2</sup>) or the calling of a larger preparatory meeting of technically qualified persons selected in each country by the three parties concerned (i. e., the employers in the industry, the workers in the industry, and the Government) like the Tripartite Maritime Meeting of last November.<sup>3</sup>

The representative of the United States Government urged the convocation of tripartite meetings for each of the industries, and

<sup>1</sup> See Monthly Labor Review, April 1936 (p. 969).

<sup>2</sup> Idem, April 1936 (p. 973).

<sup>3</sup> Idem, May 1936 (pp. 1182, 1192).

these were voted, by 18 to 6 in the case of chemicals, and by 16 to 6 in the case of printing. The Governing Body apparently felt that this preparation would make it possible for the June 1937 session of the conference to take final action, for, by a vote of 17 to 7, it directed the Office to prepare gray-blue reports<sup>4</sup> for each of these industries for that session.

*Economic summary of 1935.*—On the basis of the studies of a section of the Labor Office headed by Dr. Lewis L. Lorwin, the Director presented to the Governing Body a summary of the economic developments of 1935. The report dealt with world production; international trade, unemployment; wage rates; real hourly earnings; changes in capital and consumption goods; the relation between monetary policies, the general price level, and the cost of living; changes in the relative prices of raw materials and manufactured goods; credit conditions and the security market; foreign exchange; and consumption.

*Other studies.*—The Governing Body authorized two new committees, but postponed the selection of their members till a later session. One of these is the Tripartite Agricultural Committee, which will be a large group drawn partly from the Governing Body, partly from the International Institute of Agriculture,<sup>5</sup> and largely from national and international organizations and groups interested in agricultural labor in general, or in the problems of special groups of land workers.

A Committee on Workers' Spare Time was also constituted, to consist of six members of the Governing Body as an executive committee and a large number of "correspondents", probably well over 100 persons, who may be called to meetings from time to time but will generally serve as channels of information. This committee will enable the Office to serve as a center for the exchange of information between existing agencies, and will stimulate development of interest in countries where changes are creating opportunity and need for planning the use of workers' spare time.

The Governing Body considered a preliminary study of the Office on the situation of persons engaged in road motor transport. It concluded that this question of truck drivers and helpers not only was pressing because of the great increase of transportation by road, but involved so much international movement that it was one for which there was particular need for international labor regulation. It therefore directed that further study and precise proposals should be made by the Office.

A committee report proposing that freedom of association be considered as a suitable subject for a labor convention—a sort of inter-

<sup>4</sup> So named because of their cover. They contain the material on which the conference may hold either a preliminary exploratory discussion or a conclusive debate and a final vote, as it pleases. (See Monthly Labor Review, December 1935, p. 1474, notes 7 and 9.)

<sup>5</sup> The United States is a member of this body. Its headquarters are in Rome.



national N.I. R. A. section 7a—was distributed to the Governing Body, but debate on it was postponed to the succeeding session.

Representatives of the United States sitting in the April session were William Gorham Rice, Jr., United States Labor Commissioner at Geneva, Robert J. Watt, secretary-treasurer, Massachusetts State Federation of Labor, and Howe Volkmann, managing director, Ideal Radiatoren Gesellschaft.

#### June 1936 Session

As is the usual custom in the International Labor Organization, the Governing Body met for a single day on June 2, just preceding the annual conference. It took up but did not complete its consideration of new rules governing the election of officers and of the report of its Agricultural Work Committee, concerning revision of the minimum age (agriculture) convention. The session was suspended till June 22.

*Freedom of association.*—The Governing Body's committee on freedom of association presented a unanimous report recommending that the individual worker's liberty to organize be added to the list of items from which the agenda of future conferences might be drawn. The constitution of the International Labor Office recognizes "the principle of freedom of association" for workers, but this does not make the safeguarding of freedom of association obligatory upon nations that are members of the organization.

The conference had been unable to agree on a guaranty to workers that the state would not interfere with freely established trade-unions. The present report of the Governing Body's committee noted that this was a thorny problem and proposed that it be avoided for the present, particularly in view of a resolution passed by the June 1935 session of the conference which called for action on another branch of freedom of organization. The Governing Body accepted the committee report, and freedom of association is thus added to the list of subjects from which the Governing Body usually draws in fixing the agenda of the conference.

*Scientific management.*—In adopting the report of its new advisory committee on management, the Governing Body instructed the Office to prepare reports upon the following subjects: (1) Concerted action to deal with "surplus" factories and machinery; (2) vocational guidance and retraining of unemployed; (3) the relation of technical progress to unemployment; and (4) fatigue and monotony as affected by the development of scientific management. This committee and the International Labor Office are expecting to work on several management problems in collaboration with the International Institute of Intellectual Cooperation and the International Committee on Scientific Management.

*Rules for election of chairman.*—The Governing Body adopted the report of its standing orders committee abolishing the rotation rule for the chairmanship. When the new text of article 1 of the standing orders becomes effective, the chairmanship is no longer restricted to government members, and there are vice chairmen elected only from the two groups from which the chairman does not come. The only restriction on election is that a member who has served as chairman cannot again be elected to that post until 3 years after he goes out of office.

When the Governing Body assembled again on June 22, though Italy was absent, the membership of the International Labor Office had increased to 62, Egypt having joined the I. L. O. on June 20.

The principal matter before the sitting was whether and when there should be revision of the four general child labor conventions that were adopted between 1920 and 1933. It was decided to lay revision of the maritime child labor convention before the maritime session of the conference next October. The points of revision are limited to raising the age to 15, and rewriting the "formal" articles (regarding taking effect, termination, etc.). The Governing Body also determined to put the industrial and commercial conventions on the calendar of the June 1937 session. The scope of the possible revision will be settled at the next meeting of the Governing Body as well as the whole question of revision of the agricultural child labor convention. All these decisions were made without a dissenting vote.

The Governing Body approved the report of its finance committee regarding the disposition of a surplus of receipts over expenditures (owing chiefly to payment of arrears of contributions) in the year 1935. Most of this surplus will go into the enlargement of the plant, which the Office has outgrown. The new rule relating to election of officers was made effective immediately.

William G. Rice, Jr., Labor Commissioner at Geneva, represented the United States Government. In the employer group, Marion B. Folsom, treasurer of the Eastman Kodak Co., occupied the place of Henry S. Dennison. Emil Rieve, president of the Full-Fashioned Hosiery Workers, was a member of the worker group instead of William Green.

# EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS AND UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF

## Youth on Relief<sup>1</sup>

OF APPROXIMATELY 18,067,000 persons on relief in the United States in May 1935, 2,876,800 or 15.9 percent were 16 to 24 years of age. Of these young people, 60 percent were classified as urban and 40 percent as rural. Approximately two-thirds of the 1,726,800 urban relief youth, both white and colored, were working or seeking employment in May 1935; 675,200 or nearly 80 percent of the males and 467,500 or 53.0 percent of the females fell in this class.

### Urban Young People on Relief

FROM the following table it will be noted that of 1,142,700 urban young persons working or seeking employment in May 1935, more than three-quarters (876,000) had work experience. Of those who had such experience, 40.9 percent of the females and 38.4 percent of the males were unskilled workers. While 84.4 percent of the colored youth working or looking for jobs had worked before, the percentage of colored youth whose work experience was of the unskilled type was 68.0 as compared to 32.0 percent of the white youth in that class.

Estimated Urban Relief Youth, 16 to 24 Years of Age, Classified According to Employment Status, Work Experience, Occupational Group, Sex, and Race, May 1935<sup>1</sup>

Employment status and work experience	Total	Sex		Race	
		Male	Female	White	Negro and other
All young people covered.....	1,726,800	845,100	881,700	1,413,700	313,100
Not working and not seeking work.....	584,100	169,900	414,200	480,700	103,400
Working or seeking work.....	1,142,700	675,200	467,500	933,000	209,700
Never worked.....	266,700	133,700	133,000	234,000	32,700
With usual occupation.....	876,000	541,500	334,500	699,000	177,000
Professional, proprietary, and clerical and kindred workers.....	197,800	112,300	85,500	184,500	13,300
Skilled workers.....	54,900	53,600	1,300	50,500	4,400
Farm operators.....	1,200	1,200	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,100	100
Semiskilled workers.....	277,700	166,700	111,000	238,900	38,800
Unskilled workers.....	344,400	207,700	136,700	224,000	120,400

<sup>1</sup> The figures in this table are estimated from sample studies; therefore the numbers of less than 10,000, since they constitute only a fraction of 1 percent of the total, are subject to large margins of error.

<sup>2</sup> Fewer than 50 persons.

<sup>3</sup> Data are from Works Progress Administration, Research Bulletin, Series I, No. 16: Statistics of Youth on Relief, Washington, 1936. (Mimeographed.)

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One-half of the 584,100 urban youth on general relief who were not at work or seeking employment were attending full-time school; the other half were not at work, nor looking for employment nor attending school full time. In the nonworking group, 89.7 percent of the males but only one-third of the females were reported as attending school at the date under review. The remainder of the girls and young women were for the most part in the age groups 18-24 and were living at home, often caring for dependent children.

The urban people on relief in the age group 16-24 who were not working nor looking for work and were physically handicapped numbered 40,700, of whom seven-tenths were females.

Of the 1,726,800 urban youth on the relief rolls, 27.3 percent were married and approximately 31.4 percent of those who were married were heads of families. The percentage of unmarried young persons in the urban relief group who were family heads was very small but nearly all married male urban relief youths were family heads. Of 152,800 urban youth who were family heads, 97 percent were married, and an estimated 84 percent of this married group were employable.

Because of the difficulties in defining "unemployable," female heads of families were not tabulated separately as "employable" or "unemployable." It is probable that a great majority of the female family heads were not able to work, since a considerable number of them had the care of dependent children, or other family responsibilities.

It is also estimated that of all urban relief youth, slightly over 45 percent had more than an eighth-grade education. Estimates for corresponding educational attainment by the following groups of the urban youth relief population are: White youth, 48.6 percent; colored youth, 30.2 percent; female youth, 48.7 percent; male youth, 41.6 percent.

#### Rural Relief Youth

IN May 1935, a very large proportion (72 percent) of the 1,150,000 rural youth on general relief were residents of the open country. Females constituted a slightly larger percentage of the young people on rural relief than males. Approximately 10 percent of the total relief youth were household heads and 21 percent were attending full-time school. More than half (627,000) of the rural relief youth were working or seeking work, but 13 percent of the males in this group and 36 percent of the females had never been employed as long as 4 consecutive weeks in any occupation.

Unskilled labor was predominant in the occupational experience of the rural relief young people who had been employed. Of the total rural male relief youth who had work experience, 11 percent had been farm operators. The work experience of 18 percent of rural female youth on relief was in domestic and personal service.

### Transient Youth Under Care

APPROXIMATELY 20 percent of 273,820 persons who were receiving assistance as transients in May 1935 were 16–24 years of age, while the percentage of youth in the relief population at that date was estimated as 15.9. Nearly nine-tenths of the 54,480 transient young persons under care were white and nearly three-fourths were males.

Almost all (94.4 percent) of the unattached transients in the 16–24 age group were single, and practically all the male heads of young transient family groups were married and living with their wives.

Since the absence of a male head is implied in the classification of family groups with female heads, it is not surprising that three-fourths (74 percent) of these female heads are either single, divorced, widowed, or permanently separated.

One of the numerically small but particularly serious problems of relief youth shows up in the female transient youth population. Of the unattached, as many as 15 percent are married, while 20.3 percent are widowed, divorced, or separated. And of the female family heads only 26.0 percent are married and living with their husbands; 20.8 percent are single; and the remainder, 53.2 percent, are widowed, divorced, or separated.

Only 61.3 percent of the youths receiving transient care reported a usual occupation and 76.7 percent of those thus reporting were semi-skilled or unskilled workers.

A majority of the persons 16–24 years of age registering at the transient agencies had been wandering for less than 6 months but 17 percent of them had been on the road for 15 months or longer. The unattached youth and the youth in family groups had been transients for approximately the same length of time.

Slightly over one-half of the unattached transient youth had more than a grammar-school education but only 3 percent had progressed beyond the high-school level. Only 31 percent of the Negroes as against 54 percent of the whites had gone beyond grammar school.

### Youth in Civilian Conservation Corps Camp

AT THE time of the survey (May 1935) over a quarter of a million (270,500) male youth were in C. C. C. camps, of whom 92.7 percent were white.

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### The Transient Unemployed

THE only solution of the problem of depression transients is through an adjustment of this mobile labor supply to the requirements of those sections which need workers. Resettlement and stability, however, depend upon economic opportunity. Consequently "it seems highly probable that the dissolution of the transient population will proceed only as rapidly as business and industry can provide

the employment essential to stability. To whatever extent this provision falls short, the transient problem will remain unsolved." These are the conclusions reached in an analysis of the characteristics of jobless transients on relief, recently issued by the Federal Works Progress Administration.<sup>1</sup>

Under the Federal Emergency Relief Act of May 1933 special provision was made for transients, defined as unattached persons or family groups that had not resided for one continuous year or longer in the boundaries of the State at the time of application for relief. It was this group that formed the subject of this special study. The analysis covers the movements of these wanderers, their reasons for migration, and the problems connected with their reabsorption into private industry.

In the fall and winter of 1930 reports from municipal lodgings, missions, and shelters in metropolitan districts indicated that as compared with preceding years the number of homeless men seeking aid was increasing at a rapid rate. At approximately the same period States in the South and West became anxious concerning the inflow of needy persons from other parts of the country.

As these migrants of the depression were almost constantly in motion it was not possible to determine their number. According to estimates presented at Congressional hearings on relief legislation there were between 1½ and 5 million. It was found, however, that such estimates greatly exceeded the number of persons cared for under the transient relief program. These overestimates resulted largely from the inclusion in the term "transient" of all homeless individuals whether or not they had a legal residence, and also from estimating the total number of transients from observations in localities in which the number of transients was greatest.

Based on careful examination of registrations, the maximum of the transient relief population during the period in which the transient relief program was in operation is estimated as 200,000 unattached persons and 50,000 family groups. Because of the ever-changing membership of this population it is considered likely, however, that the number of individuals and family groups aided by transient bureaus at some period was double or triple these estimates.

The personal and occupational characteristics of these depression migrants were ascertained by studying the monthly registrations in 13 representative cities. Among the significant findings in this connection are:

(1) About two-thirds of the unattached individuals and one-half of the family group heads were between the ages of 16 and 35 years.

<sup>1</sup> Works Progress Administration. Division of Social Research. Research Monograph III: The Transient Unemployed: A description and analysis of the transient relief population, by John N. Webb. Washington, 1935.

(2) The unattached women did not exceed 3 percent of the transients in any month, but about 15 percent of the heads of family groups were women.

(3) Native white persons constituted the great majority of transients, Negroes representing only about one-tenth of the monthly registrations and foreign-born whites only about one-twentieth. In the transient relief population the percentage of native white persons was greater, the percentage of foreign-born whites less, and the percentage of Negroes approximately the same as in the general population.

(4) Only 2 percent of the unattached transients and 3 percent of the heads of transient families had had no formal education. About two-thirds of both groups had a grade school education or more.

(5) Approximately 95 percent of the unattached transients were reported as employable and as expressing willingness to work. A similar report was made for 90 percent of the heads of families.

(6) Broad classifications of ordinary occupations disclose that the percentage of unskilled and semiskilled workers in the transient relief population was greater than the percentage of such workers in the general population or in the resident relief population.

(7) The most common reason for the wandering of these depression migrants was unemployment. Other important reasons were ill health, the desire for adventure, domestic difficulties, and insufficient relief.

(8) The unattached transients in the relief population of the United States as a whole came for the most part from States to the east of the Mississippi River and transient families from States to the west of that river.

(9) According to registrations in 13 representative cities, about 80 percent of the unattached transients and 70 percent of transient family groups came from urban centers with a population of 2,500 or more. Transients from rural sections came more frequently from towns of less than 2,500 population than from the open country and farms.

(10) The heaviest and most constant net gains in population as a result of the migration of transients were reported by States in the western and southwestern parts of the country, while the heaviest and most constant net losses were reported by States in the Eastern, Southeastern, and West Central regions.

The findings of the report indicate that transiency was due in large part to two circumstances, i. e., extensive unemployment and the mobility of the population. The problem of relief presented by transients was the outcome of another factor—legal settlement or residence as a prerequisite for public or private relief in any community.

Except for the fact that they were nonresidents, there seems little reason for considering transients as a distinct and separate group in the total relief popula-

tion. Although they could be distinguished from the resident unemployed, it was principally because they were younger, and included a greater proportion of unattached persons. Actually the transient population represented the more active and restless element among the great number of unemployed created by the depression. Migration offered an escape from inactivity; and in addition, there was the possibility that all communities were not equally affected by unemployment.

The movement of a substantial part of this transient relief population seems to have been wasted effort. Much of this migration was away from urban centers, which from the viewpoint of economic progress were probably more able to provide employment than were the localities to which the transients were attracted. Upon the recovery of business and industry "it may be expected that many of the depression migrants will return to areas similar to the ones they left."



### Increase in Employment Among Librarians in 1935

IN 1935 the number of unemployed librarians was less than in any year since 1931, according to a report in part I of the January 1936 issue of the Bulletin of the American Library Association. In November 1935, 34 library schools reported that 685 unemployed graduates who had had at least a full year of library science education were seeking positions. This number was about 33 percent below that reported in 1934 by 31 library schools and about 40 percent less than that reported in 1933 by 31 library schools. "In addition, a number equivalent to those graduating from library schools in the years 1934 and 1935, approximately 2,000, have also been placed."

Almost all of the library schools stated that the placement of 1935 graduates was more rapid than that of any classes since 1930.

Approximately one-third of the librarians who were not employed and were looking for positions at the time of the report completed their library course in 1932 or 1933 when there were almost no opportunities for employment in libraries.



# WAGE EXECUTIONS

## Wage Executions for Debt <sup>1</sup>

### Part 3.—Most Frequent Creditors, Costs of Executions, and Employers' Policies

By ROLF NUGENT, JOHN E. HAMM, and FRANCES M. JONES <sup>2</sup>

PART 1 of this study presented an analysis of the frequency of wage executions for debts. Part 2 described the characteristics of debts and debtors involved in wage executions.<sup>3</sup> This, the third and final section, deals with the extent to which individual creditors used pay-roll levies to collect their claims, the costs of such levies to the debtor and to the employer, and the policies of employers with regard to these collection devices.

The material for this study was supplied by 176 employers. For the 12-month period from May 1, 1933, to April 30, 1934, the total number of executions against all employees was reported, but for the last 3 months of this period detailed information concerning each execution was furnished. As in parts 1 and 2, a segregation is here made of the executions against employees of the New York City administration and a large railroad company,<sup>4</sup> because of the overwhelming size and the differences in occupational characteristics of these employment groups as compared with the 174 other groups, which were generally engaged in industrial enterprise.

#### Frequency of Executions by Individual Creditors

THE 2,500 wage executions against the employees of 174 reporting industrial establishments during the 3-month period from February 1 to April 30, 1934, were brought by 868 creditors. Seventy-five percent of these creditors brought only a single execution, and an additional 10 percent brought but two executions each. The remaining 15 percent, however, accounted for 67 percent of the total number of executions. The eight creditors who brought more than 50 execu-

<sup>1</sup> This study, parts 1 and 2 of which were published in the February and March issues of the Monthly Labor Review, comprises a part of a larger study of consumer debt initiated by the Consumers' Advisory Board, and later continued and expanded by the Russell Sage Foundation. For a description of the area of this study and for reference to completed sections, see the Monthly Labor Review for February 1936 (p. 285).

<sup>2</sup> Miss Jones is a member of the staff of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Mr. Nugent is the director, and Mr. Hamm the assistant director, of the Department of Remedial Loans of the Russell Sage Foundation.

<sup>3</sup> The term "wage executions" is used to refer both to garnishment orders and to executions of wage assignments.

<sup>4</sup> One railroad supplied data concerning executions against all of its employees in New York State.

tions—only 1 percent of the total number of creditors—accounted for 26 percent of the total number of executions.

Table 1 shows the number of executions brought by individual creditors and the kind of business in which these creditors were engaged. Although this table accurately presents the number of executions brought by individual creditors for the sample as a whole, differences in the size of local samples limit its usefulness to demonstrate the relative frequency of executions by individual creditors. In those localities where the employment sample was small or where the use of pay-roll levies was infrequent, five executions by a single creditor might indicate greater relative use of these collection devices than 50 executions by a single creditor where the employment sample was large or executions were more frequent. In order to determine the types of business which generally produced the most frequent creditors, it is necessary to examine local samples.

Table 1.—Executions Against Industrial Employees by Individual Creditors in Specified Businesses, Feb. 1 to Apr. 30, 1934

Business of creditor	Number of creditors bringing—				Total number of creditors	Total number of executions	Average number of executions per creditor
	1 execution only	2 to 5 executions	6 to 25 executions	More than 25 executions			
Clothing.....	76	34	26	11	147	1, 139	7.8
Furniture.....	49	20	8	-----	77	178	2.3
Loans.....	46	20	10	-----	76	186	2.5
Groceries.....	82	15	2	1	100	171	1.7
Board and housing.....	67	13	1	-----	81	127	1.6
Medical.....	37	8	1	-----	46	78	1.7
Jewelry.....	24	11	3	-----	38	66	1.7
Auto sales and service.....	25	9	2	-----	36	66	1.8
Miscellaneous <sup>1</sup> .....	29	10	1	1	41	256	6.2
Unidentified.....	222	4	-----	-----	226	233	1.0
All creditors.....	657	144	54	13	868	2, 500	2.9

<sup>1</sup> The two miscellaneous creditors who brought more than 5 executions were a Federal bankruptcy court and a lawyer presumably functioning as a collection agency. Although the executions in behalf of the bankruptcy court were brought in the names of 4 court officers, these executions were considered to have been brought by a single creditor.

Table 2 shows the creditors who brought the largest number of executions in nine cities in which the largest number of executions were reported by industrial establishments during the 3-month period for which detailed information was given. In the three cities furnishing the largest samples, the 15 creditors bringing the largest number of executions are indicated. Where the sample was smaller, only those creditors who brought three or more executions, are listed. Obviously, the samples for these latter cities are too small to be conclusive concerning the true rank of creditors with regard to the frequency of executions, but it seems probable that most creditors who rank high in these small samples would be among the more frequent creditors if the sample were expanded.

Table 2.—Kind of Business of Most Frequent Creditors and Number of Executions Brought by Them in Specified Cities, Feb. 1 to Apr. 30, 1934

Birmingham, Ala.				Chicago, Ill.					Memphis, Tenn.			
Kind of business	Executions		Creditors	Kind of business	Executions		Creditors	Kind of business	Executions		Creditors	
	Number	Cumulative percent			Number	Cumulative percent			Number	Cumulative percent		
Clothing-----	111	12.8	0.4	Clothing-----	54	11.1	0.9	Clothing-----	56	14.4	0.6	
Do-----	79	21.9	.9	do-----	52	21.8	1.9	do-----	25	20.8	1.3	
Do-----	74	30.5	1.3	do-----	29	27.7	2.8	do-----	24	27.0	1.9	
Do-----	60	37.4	1.7	do-----	25	32.9	3.7	do-----	18	31.6	2.5	
Do-----	49	43.1	2.2	do-----	24	37.8	4.7	do-----	14	35.2	3.1	
Do-----	44	48.2	2.6	Collection agency.	16	41.1	5.6	do-----	13	38.6	3.8	
Groceries-----	36	52.3	3.0	Licensed lender.	16	44.4	6.5	Furniture-----	11	41.4	4.4	
Doctor-----	22	54.8	3.5	Furniture-----	14	47.2	7.5	Clothing-----	10	44.0	5.0	
Clothing-----	15	56.6	3.9	Clothing-----	13	49.9	8.4	do-----	10	46.5	5.7	
Do-----	14	58.2	4.3	Unlicensed lender.	13	52.6	9.3	do-----	8	48.6	6.3	
Lawyer-----	12	59.6	4.8	Furniture-----	11	54.8	10.3	do-----	7	50.4	6.9	
Furniture-----	9	60.6	5.2	Clothing-----	10	56.9	11.2	do-----	7	52.2	7.5	
Unlicensed lender.	9	61.7	5.6	do-----	9	58.7	12.1	do-----	7	54.0	8.2	
Clothing-----	8	62.6	6.1	Licensed lender.	8	60.4	13.1	do-----	6	55.5	8.8	
Groceries-----	8	63.5	6.5	do-----	8	62.0	14.0	Jewelry-----	6	57.1	9.4	
Total:				Total:				Total:				
15 leading creditors.	550	63.5	6.5	15 leading creditors.	302	62.0	14.0	15 leading creditors.	222	57.1	9.4	
216 other creditors.	316	36.5	93.5	92 other creditors.	185	38.0	86.0	144 other creditors.	167	42.9	90.6	
All creditors.	866	100.0	100.0	All creditors.	487	100.0	100.0	All creditors.	389	100.0	100.0	
Richmond, Va.				Norfolk, Va.					New York City—Westchester County			
Clothing-----	36	32.1	2.8	Unlicensed lender	8	10.0	1.8	Jewelry-----	6	10.2	2.3	
Do-----	16	46.4	5.6	Landlord	4	15.0	3.6	do-----	4	16.9	4.7	
Do-----	13	58.0	8.3	Department store.	4	20.0	5.5	Furniture-----	3	22.0	7.0	
Do-----	4	61.6	11.1	Furniture-----	3	23.8	7.3	Industrial bank.	3	27.1	9.3	
Do-----	4	65.2	13.9	House repairs.	3	27.5	9.1	Total:				
Do-----	3	67.9	16.7	Total:				4 leading creditors.	16	27.1	9.3	
Total:				5 leading creditors.	22	27.5	9.1	39 other creditors.	43	72.9	90.7	
6 leading creditors.	76	67.9	16.7	50 other creditors.	58	72.5	90.9	All creditors.	59	100.0	100.0	
30 other creditors.	36	32.1	83.3	All creditors.	80	100.0	100.0					
All creditors.	112	100.0	100.0									
Kansas City, Kans.				Atlanta, Ga.					Cincinnati, Ohio			
Clothing-----	6	11.1	2.5	Clothing-----	4	8.7	3.6	Clothing-----	8	26.7	6.7	
Do-----	5	20.4	5.0	do-----	3	15.2	7.1	do-----	5	43.3	13.3	
Collection agency.	3	25.9	7.5	do-----	3	21.7	10.7	do-----	3	53.3	20.0	
				do-----	3	28.3	14.3	do-----	2	60.0	26.7	
				Groceries-----	3	34.8	17.9	Jewelry-----	2	66.7	33.3	
				Unlicensed lender.	3	41.3	21.4	Total:				
Total:				Total:				5 leading creditors.	20	66.7	33.3	
3 leading creditors.	14	25.9	7.5	6 leading creditors.	19	41.3	21.4	10 other creditors.	10	33.3	66.7	
37 other creditors.	40	74.1	92.5	22 other creditors.	27	58.7	78.6	All creditors.	30	100.0	100.0	
All creditors.	54	100.0	100.0	All creditors.	46	100.0	100.0					

1 Excluding 191 executions brought by the Federal bankruptcy court.

The largest homogeneous sample of wage executions is that supplied by the New York City administration, and a more detailed examination of the most frequent creditors in this sample has therefore been made. Table 3 shows the kind of business of the 25 creditors who brought the largest number of executions against New York City employees and indicates the extent to which these creditors brought similar actions against employees of the railroad and of the industrial establishments in the metropolitan area. While these 25 creditors represented less than 4 percent of the creditors bringing executions against employees of the city of New York, they accounted collectively for more than half of the total number of executions brought against these employees.

Table 3.—Number of Executions Brought by 25 Creditors Against Employees of New York City, a Railroad Company, and Reporting Industrial Establishments, Feb. 1 to Apr. 30, 1934

Kind of business	Number of executions brought against employees of—			Kind of business	Number of executions brought against employees of—		
	New York City administration	A large railroad company	Reporting industrial establishments in New York City and Westchester County		New York City administration	A large railroad company	Reporting industrial establishments in New York City and Westchester County
Industrial bank	173	5	2	Jewelry	28		1
Personal loan department	115	1		Do	26	5	
Credit union <sup>1</sup>	100			Clothing	25		
Industrial bank	95	4	3	Jewelry (loan) <sup>2</sup>	24		
Clothing	62	2	1	Industrial bank	22		
Industrial bank	61			Collection agency	20	7	
Do	52		1	Furniture	19		1
Do	50	4		Personal loan department	19		
Do	46	3	1	Industrial bank	15		
Furniture	39	1		Clothing <sup>2</sup>	15		
Clothing <sup>2</sup>	35			Do <sup>2</sup>	15	4	
Jewelry (loan) <sup>2</sup>	33						
Installment department store	31	1		Total, 25 creditors	1,149	39	13
Furniture	29	2	3	All creditors	2,162	372	59

<sup>1</sup> Deals only with New York City employees.

<sup>2</sup> Policemen's, firemen's, and street-cleaners' uniforms.

<sup>3</sup> Jewelry sold by the creditor is immediately pawned and judgment is usually taken promptly after the sale. Several other creditors do a similar business with New York City employees.

Clothing debts, it has been previously shown, accounted for 46 percent of the executions against employees of reporting industrial establishments.<sup>5</sup> Table 2 indicates further that those individual creditors who brought the largest number of executions were predominantly clothing merchants. In each of the four cities for which the largest numbers of executions were reported, the five most frequent creditors were clothing companies.

<sup>5</sup> For an analysis of the kind of debt represented by executions against employees of reporting industrial establishments, see Monthly Labor Review for March 1936 (p. 579, table 1).

Among the 74 creditors listed in table 2, 46 were clothing merchants,<sup>6</sup> 6 were furniture stores, 4 were unlicensed lenders, 4 were jewelry merchants,<sup>6</sup> 3 were licensed loan companies, 3 were grocers, and 2 were collection agents. The list also includes one doctor, one lawyer (probably acting as a collection agency), one landlord, one department store, one industrial bank, and one company engaged in house repairing.

Only in Norfolk and in New York City did businesses other than clothing produce the two most frequent creditors. In Norfolk this departure from the usual pattern is probably due to the nature of the sample. All but two of the wage executions reported in this area were brought against employees of a single shipbuilding company. It seems likely that special characteristics of this group account for the difference in the business of the most frequent creditors, and that among other occupational groups in this community certain clothing merchants would be found to be responsible for large numbers of executions.

In New York City also, the difference in the business of the most frequent individual creditors may be explained in part by occupational characteristics of the employment groups represented. Employees of the city of New York, as a group, have a higher wage scale, higher educational standards, and more stable employment than any other employment group covered by this study. These factors naturally influence the kind of credit which is available. It will be noted that among city employees, industrial banks rather than clothing merchants appear as the creditors bringing the largest numbers of executions. Only five clothing merchants appear among the 25 most frequent creditors and two of these dealt in uniforms. On the other hand, the list of creditors includes eight industrial banks, two personal loan departments of commercial banks, and a credit union, all of which do a similar type of business, and four jewelry merchants. The prominence of certain jewelers is understated, because garnishment actions were brought in several names and it was impossible to identify all actions by the same company. There were 10 jewelers among the 50 most frequent creditors of New York City employees.

While steady employment at relatively high wages probably accounts for the preponderance of industrial banks and other institutions lending on endorsed notes among the principal creditors of city employees, it is clear, nevertheless, that the business of creditors who make most frequent use of pay-roll levies differs materially between New York City and other areas covered by this study. Among the

<sup>6</sup>The word "store" is avoided designedly since many of these merchants operate through agents who sell at factory gates.

creditors of the reporting industrial establishments in New York City and Westchester County, the two creditors who brought the largest number of executions were jewelers; and the next most frequent creditors were a furniture company and an industrial bank. Among railroad employees, who were scattered throughout New York State, the most frequent creditors in New York City were, in order, a furniture store, a clothing merchant, three jewelry merchants, and a collection agency. The most frequent creditors in up-State cities were, in order, a clothing store, an industrial bank, a furniture store, and a jewelry merchant.

Differences in the proportion of all executions brought by the most frequent creditors in various cities are probably not significant. They are caused, among other things, by differences in the size of local samples, by differences in the size of cities, and by the locations of reporting establishments with respect to each other and to the center of trade. Where several reporting establishments were situated in the center of the city, their employees tended to have common creditors. Where establishments were situated in diverse outlying neighborhoods, their employees tended to have different creditors. For instance, none of the four clothing merchants listed among the most frequent creditors in Atlanta brought executions against the employees of more than one of the three reporting establishments. A larger sample would probably have shown these merchants to have dealt with the employees of other firms in their respective neighborhoods. On the other hand, some creditors who brought considerable numbers of executions were probably important only with regard to a single establishment. For example, 7 of the 28 wage executions reported for Washington, D. C., were brought by a woman who operated a lunch wagon near the gate of an isolated industrial plant. This woman lent small sums at high rates of interest to employees of the plant, and the executions brought by her were to enforce payment of these loans. She would probably have been an unimportant creditor if the sample had included all executions in the District of Columbia.

In table 4 is shown the relationship between the average number of wage executions per creditor, the frequency of wage executions, and the severity of wage-execution laws. In spite of the peculiarities of local samples, which limit their value for purposes of comparison, this relationship appears to be sufficiently marked to be significant. It seems safe to conclude that devices which facilitate levies against pay rolls tend to encourage the development of credit businesses which rely heavily upon these devices for collection.

For the sample as a whole and for those cities where the largest numbers of executions were brought, it has been seen that a small number of creditors accounts for a large part of the total number of executions. Could the sample be increased for those areas where

wage executions are severe, the most frequent creditors would probably account for an even greater proportion of the total number of executions. On the other hand, it seems unlikely that a larger sample for those areas where wage executions are generally ineffective would result in a consistent change in the proportion of the total number of executions that were brought by certain individual creditors.

Table 4.—Frequency of Wage Executions, Average Number of Executions Per Creditor, and Severity of Executions in Specified Cities <sup>1</sup>

Community	Rate of wage executions per 1,000 employees, May 1, 1933, to Apr. 30, 1934	Average number of executions per creditor, Feb. 1 to Apr. 30, 1934	Relative severity of wage execution statutes and practice
Memphis.....	523	2.5	Severe.
Birmingham.....	343	4.6	Do.
Chicago.....	159	4.6	Do.
Kansas City, Kans.....	154	1.4	Do.
Richmond.....	104	3.1	Do.
Atlanta.....	103	1.6	Do.
New York.....	84	1.5	Do.
Washington, D. C.....	48	1.5	Generally ineffective.
Cincinnati.....	25	2.0	Limited.
Cleveland.....	22	1.0	Do.
Buffalo.....	21	1.0	Do.
Detroit.....	21	1.6	Severe.
New York City and Westchester County <sup>2</sup> .....	20	1.4	Limited.
Los Angeles.....	15	1.2	Generally ineffective.
All reporting industrial establishments.....	80	2.9	

<sup>1</sup> Excludes cities for which less than 15 executions were reported during the 3-month period.

<sup>2</sup> Reporting industrial establishments only.

### Costs of Wage Executions

IN EXAMINING the cost of wage executions for debt, it is necessary to distinguish between those costs which are borne by the debtor, the creditor, the employer, and the general public. Costs which are borne by the creditor have been excluded from consideration. In every jurisdiction a creditor is entitled to collect the costs of court process in addition to the proved amount of his claim. Although court costs do not, of course, cover all the creditor's expenses of collection, it is assumed that these expenses have been anticipated by the creditor and included in his mark-up or credit charges. There has also been excluded from consideration that part of the cost of court process which is borne by the public. Court process is expensive. The cost must be borne either by the debtor or by the taxpayer, and in some jurisdictions a considerable part of the cost is probably saddled upon the latter. It would be impossible, however, to measure the extent to which the public subsidizes collections of debt through court process without an elaborate cost-accounting study in each jurisdiction.

There are no additional collection costs put upon the debtor in the enforcement of wage assignments. Consequently, the comments which

follow apply only to garnishment process. For information concerning the costs of garnishment, the notes made by field agents following conversations with officials of reporting establishments have been relied upon. Since costs vary between the several courts in the same area and since there is a frequent overlapping of jurisdiction, the testimony of officers in charge of pay rolls is considered to be more adequate as a measure of the average costs of garnishment than an estimate based upon official schedules of court fees.

There is a considerable variation in the court costs among the cities represented in the sample. The highest fees were for two southern cities, where the cost of an initial garnishment action was \$7, and of subsequent regarnishments \$2.50 and \$1, respectively. In two other cities, one in the South and one in the North, the cost of judgment was \$2, the cost of the original garnishment order \$3.50, and subsequent regarnishments \$1. In another southern city, a pay-roll clerk reported that the average cost of garnishments was \$4 a month. In several jurisdictions, particularly in justice of the peace courts, there was a graduated scale of charges, depending upon amount of the debt. The lowest charge was reported for a west-coast city, where court costs totaled \$1.50 for each garnishment action.

The expense which wage assignments and garnishments put upon employers is fugitive, but nevertheless real. In the smaller establishments, executions are usually handled by the pay-roll clerk in the normal course of his duties. Larger establishments, on the other hand, frequently maintain special departments for handling wage executions, which employ clerks and occasionally an attorney. The motive for organizing a special department presumably is to reduce the cost of handling executions, and yet in two of the largest of these departments the cost was estimated at \$5 per execution.<sup>7</sup> In smaller establishments, where the handling of pay-roll levies interrupts the established routine, the expense may be even greater.

The costs of handling wage executions vary with the number of pay-roll deductions which have to be made to satisfy each claim. The number of these deductions depends upon the amount of the debt and the amount of wages subject to levy. Court costs, on the other hand, seldom bear any relation to the size of the creditor's claim. The total cost of pay-roll levies, including court costs paid by the debtor or the public and clerical expense put upon the employer, probably represents a considerable fraction of the amount actually collected, particularly in those areas where the average amount of debt is small. For garnishments involving sums of less than \$10,

<sup>7</sup> One of these estimates was made by the employer. In the other instance we arrived at a similar figure by estimating the salaries of those engaged in handling garnishment actions and wage assignments and dividing by the number of executions handled.



which comprised 27 percent of all garnishments in the sample, the expense of collection certainly approximated the amount collected.

#### Employers' Policies

EMPLOYERS have sought in a variety of ways to avoid the expense and annoyance of handling wage executions. In some instances, creditors notify employers of defaults by their employees before undertaking formal collection proceedings and the employer instructs the employee to settle his account immediately to the satisfaction of the creditor. In other instances, employees against whom notices of assignment of wages or garnishment orders have been received are sent to settle with the creditor and to secure a release from him. Such practices put the debtor at the mercy of the creditor by compelling settlement on the latter's terms. Unscrupulous creditors frequently encourage this practice by employers in order to demand larger payments than could be collected under the exemption provisions of the law.

Twenty-eight employers in the sample had provided funds from which deserving employees might borrow in emergencies. Six employers had assisted their employees in establishing credit unions. The effect of these credit-granting devices upon the number of executions cannot be measured with any degree of conclusiveness, due to the impossibility of isolating the variety of other factors which influence the rate of executions. Without exception the individual employers reported that the existence of these credit-granting facilities had been a factor in limiting executions. The frequency of wage executions in certain plants which had loan funds makes it clear, however, that such facilities do not eliminate wage executions for debt.

Twenty-eight of the one hundred and seventy-four reporting establishments maintained a policy of discharging employees whose wages were attached; 11 discharged for the first execution, 10 for the second execution, and 7 for the third execution. Most of these employers, however, pointed out that exceptions were sometimes made in applying the policy. Although the remaining 146 establishments had no definite policy of discharging employees for wage attachment, 44 establishments indicated that, under certain circumstances, an execution against wages might lead to discharge. Six establishments which invariably discharged for a single execution recorded no executions against their employees during the period studied. There were, however, 46 other establishments in the sample which, despite a more lenient policy, also had no wage executions.

In view of the expense incurred by employers as the result of wage executions, it is noteworthy that so few employers in the sample maintained a policy of discharging employees for one, two, or three execu-

tions. One reasonable explanation is that, in many instances, the savings which would accrue as the result of a drastic discharge policy would be more than offset by the increased costs of labor turn-over. It is probable that humanitarian considerations also influence these policies. An effort was made to determine whether the severity of garnishment laws, the size of plant, the average weekly wages of employees, etc., had any effect on the discharge policy. Variations in policy appeared to be entirely accidental. With the possible exception of differences arising from variations in cost of labor turn-over, the policies of particular establishments seemed to reflect the personality of their executives to a far greater extent than more objective characteristics of the plant.

## UTILIZATION OF LEISURE TIME

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### Leisure-Time Activities of C. C. C. Enrollees

GREATER interest in the profitable use of their leisure time and in many cases the discovery of personal aptitudes for certain vocations have resulted from the inclusion of avocational and hobby activities in the educational program of the Civilian Conservation Corps. During 1 month there were over 19,000 enrollees in the dramatic groups, 47,759 in the music clubs and classes, and 29,355 in the 2,947 arts and crafts groups. This is shown in a recent report<sup>1</sup> from which the following data were taken.

Leather and bead work, weaving, modeling, metal work, wood carving, plaster masks, block printing, furniture making, sketching, wood inlay, chip carving, and pottery have been among the most popular work undertaken by the arts and crafts groups. Native products have been utilized in many cases, such as the diamond willow of Minnesota in the making of canes, hat racks, lamp stands, ash stands, etc.; the clays of Kansas, Colorado, North Carolina, and Nebraska in pottery making; the hickory, ash, and oak of the Central West and Middle Atlantic States in constructing furniture; and the black walnut of the South and Mississippi Valley States in fashioning jewel boxes, humidors, glove cases, and small pieces of furniture.

Special groups or clubs have fostered interest in photography, amateur radio, camp newspapers, drama, music, forums, and discussions. Over half of the companies in the Sixth Corps Area have forum and discussion groups, which at their regular sessions seek to promote good citizenship, interest in public issues, and comprehension of current social trends. Camp newspapers, about 1,600 of which are being published, have appealed especially to those members who desire special training in writing and newspaper work.

In January 1936 there were 978 dramatic groups or classes and 2,410 music groups. Special buildings for musical and theatrical purposes had been erected in some camps. Photography clubs have been maintained in several hundred camps, and in one camp an entire picture story of the camp activities has been undertaken.

<sup>1</sup> U. S. Department of the Interior, Office of Education, *School Life*, Washington, May 1936, p. 258: C. C. C. Camp Leisure-Time Program, by Howard W. Oxley.

Amateur radio work has proved of great interest as a leisure-time activity and incidentally as the means of learning radio and mechanical construction and wireless telegraphy. The C. C. C. amateur radio operators have also rendered valuable service, as for instance, during the recent flood disasters.

Educational indoor and outdoor activities also form part of the leisure-time programs. Over 7,000 films of an instructive nature and covering many and varied subjects have been shown each month, and over 405,000 books have been circulated in the camps. Field trips and hiking parties have been regular features of the outdoor clubs, opportunity thus being given for nature study, including zoology, botany, geology, tree identification, astronomy, etc.

## HEALTH AND INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE

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### Occupational Diseases in Ohio, 1929 to 1935

A SMALLER number of occupational diseases was reported in Ohio in 1935 than in the preceding year, although the figure—1,400 cases—was the second highest for any year since the reporting law became effective in 1913. The report of the Bureau of Occupational Diseases<sup>1</sup> shows there were 156 fewer cases than in 1934. The Ohio law requires every physician attending a patient whom he believes to be suffering from any disease or disability contracted as a result of the person's employment to report the case to the State director of health. Of the 1,400 cases reported, 284 or 20.3 percent were females, and 1,294 were compensable.

The leading cause of disability was dermatitis, which with 875 cases constituted 61.2 percent of the total reported. The principal causative agents were oils, greases, and cutting compounds; cleaning compounds; paints, lacquers, varnishes, enamels, thinners, and turpentine; petroleum products; stains, dyes, and dyed goods; plating and cyanide solutions; various chemicals and acids; rubber products; various dusts; bakelite and synthetic rosins; plants and grains; chromium compounds; inks, blue prints, etc.; soap; bakery and confectionery goods; leather; glue, hair, and wool, etc. Other principal causes of disability were lead poisoning with 102 cases; chromium poisoning, 49 cases; arsenic, 3; benzol and derivatives, 7; brass and zinc, 3; petroleum and its derivatives, 7, including 3 cases caused by carbon tetrachloride; and a miscellaneous group with 1 case each. Tenosynovitis of the hand was reported in 218 cases and prepatellar bursitis ("housemaid's knee") in 25 instances.

The following table gives a summary of the compensable occupational diseases reported in the 7-year period, 1929 to 1935. Manganese dioxide poisoning and radium poisoning were added to the compensable list in 1929, but no cases have been reported, nor have any cases of anthrax, glanders, or mercury poisoning, which are also compensable.

<sup>1</sup> Ohio Health News, Columbus, February 1936.

## Compensable Occupational Diseases Reported in Ohio, 1929 to 1935

Disease	Number of cases							Total
	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	
Lead poisoning.....	183	134	114	148	134	162	102	977
Phosphorus poisoning.....					1			1
Arsenic poisoning.....	2	1	2	3	1	3	3	15
Benzol poisoning (and nitro- or amido-derivatives).....	11	3	6	9	3	10	7	49
Volatile petroleum products poisoning (gasoline, benzine, naphtha, etc.).....	4	2	6	5	9	10	7	43
Carbon bisulphide poisoning.....	1		18	2	1	1		23
Wood alcohol poisoning.....			1				1	2
Dermatitis <sup>1</sup> .....	985	884	833	621	726	913	875	5,837
Epithelioma (skin or eyes) due to carbon, pitch, tar, or tarry compounds.....	2	1	5	1	1			10
Compressed-air illness.....	62	59	5	20	3	2	1	152
Carbon dioxide poisoning.....					1	1	1	3
Brass or zinc poisoning.....	5	2	10	2	12	8	3	42
Tenosynovitis (hand).....	37	130	166	149	191	228	218	1,119
Prepatellar bursitis.....	13	23	29	23	19	27	25	159
Chrome ulceration (nasal and skin).....	10	20	16	79	20	43	49	237
Potassium cyanide poisoning.....	2		1	3	5		1	12
Sulphur dioxide poisoning.....			5	4	2	7	1	19
Total.....	1,317	1,259	1,217	1,069	1,129	1,415	1,294	8,700

<sup>1</sup> Specified as "Infection or inflammation of the skin on contact surfaces due to oils, cutting compounds or lubricants, dust, liquids, fumes, gases, or vapors."

There were 106 noncompensable cases reported, in 17 instances the causative agents not being reported. In the 89 cases in which the harmful agent was specified, the disability was due to dust (pneumoconiosis) in 52 cases; tenosynovitis (other than the hand) 6 cases; chronic or repeated carbon-monoxide poisoning, 4; cyanide poisoning (other than potassium cyanide which is compensable), 4; and miscellaneous causes in the remaining cases.

### Mortality Statistics of American and English Printers, 1901 to 1935

**A** MARKED improvement since 1901 in the life span of members of the International Typographical Union of the United States and Canada and the Typographical Association of England is shown in a report<sup>1</sup> giving the membership, number of deaths, death rate per 1,000, and average age at death of members of the two unions. The jurisdiction of the Typographical Association includes England, Wales, and Ireland; Scotland and the city of London have separate associations. The jurisdiction of the International Typographical Union covers the United States and some Canadian Provinces.

The figures for the two unions show the effect upon membership of the World War, the depression, and various strike periods, while the death rates reflect the effects of the war. In both organizations membership generally increased steadily, with comparatively slight

<sup>1</sup> The Bulletin (organ of International Typographical Union), Indianapolis, February 1936.

regressions during these unfavorable periods. Since 1901 a drop in membership as compared with that of the previous year has occurred in the International Typographical Union only six times. In 1907, 1922, and 1923 there was a loss in membership as a result of the 48-hour and 44-hour strikes, respectively, and in 1932, 1933, and 1934 there was a slight loss in membership due to the depression. In England decreases in membership occurred in only 6 years: 1915 and 1916 (World War years); 1921, 1922, 1923 (post-war depression); and 1927.

With the exception of the 4 war years, 1915 to 1918, the death rate per 1,000 members up to 1921 was appreciably higher in the International Typographical Union than in the English association. During the war the English rate increased from the previous normal figure of approximately 10 per 1,000 to 12.23 in 1915, 18.93 in 1916, 23.70 in 1917, and 22.17 in 1918. A similar but smaller increase in the death rate occurred during the years 1917 to 1919 among the union members in this country.

Although the average age at death increased each year for each group up to 1914, with the exception of the year 1911, the age at death was approximately 5 years higher each year in the English union than in the International Typographical Union, the average ages being, respectively, 53.43 and 48.70 in 1914. As a result of the first year of war, however, the average age at death in the English union dropped to 50.72 in 1915 while the American figure was 50.84, and during the 3 following years the English rate reflected the war conditions, dropping to 43.71 in 1916, 39.85 in 1917, and 42.73 in 1918. In 1920 and from 1922 to 1924 the difference in the age at death was approximately 3 years, while from 1925 to 1934 the average age at death increased steadily among the members of the American union to a point where the variation is very slight between the two memberships. In 1934 the average age at death in the International Typographical Union was 61.85, as compared with 61.40 in the Typographical Association.

The following table shows the membership, number of deaths, rate per 1,000, and average age at death in the English and American typographical associations.

Membership, Number of Deaths, Rate per 1,000 and Average Age of Printers at Death, 1901 and 1910 to 1935

Year	International Typographical Union				Typographical Association of England			
	Member-ship	Number of deaths	Rate per 1,000	Average age at death	Member-ship	Number of deaths	Rate per 1,000	Average age at death
1901.....	34,948	406	11.60	41.94	16,600	144	8.78	46.53
1910.....	47,848	574	12.00	46.07	21,436	227	10.65	51.15
1911.....	51,095	639	12.50	49.12	21,768	214	9.88	50.93
1912.....	53,807	655	12.50	48.09	22,078	197	8.97	53.27
1913.....	55,614	687	12.30	49.24	22,925	224	9.89	54.63
1914.....	58,537	713	12.18	48.70	23,783	241	10.24	53.43
1915.....	59,571	696	11.70	50.84	23,617	289	12.23	50.72
1916.....	60,231	755	12.50	51.73	23,236	440	18.93	43.71
1917.....	61,350	825	13.44	51.42	23,583	559	23.70	39.85
1918.....	62,661	849	13.54	50.82	24,762	549	22.17	42.73
1919.....	65,203	1,142	17.50	45.12	29,567	356	12.04	51.12
1920.....	70,945	783	11.00	53.17	31,234	281	8.99	55.53
1921.....	74,355	730	9.80	54.32	31,099	269	8.65	53.79
1922.....	68,746	818	11.90	54.40	30,716	337	10.97	57.32
1923.....	68,144	804	11.80	54.40	30,378	316	10.40	57.63
1924.....	68,944	831	12.00	54.40	30,906	305	9.87	56.44
1925.....	70,372	856	12.16	57.68	31,918	333	10.43	57.97
1926.....	72,704	895	12.30	58.05	32,190	364	11.31	60.09
1927.....	74,829	952	12.70	57.94	31,953	373	11.67	59.29
1928.....	75,738	947	12.50	58.62	32,557	366	11.24	59.23
1929.....	76,015	1,099	13.80	58.71	33,499	433	12.92	59.41
1930.....	77,507	1,056	13.62	59.22	34,098	328	9.62	60.25
1931.....	77,757	1,143	14.68	59.60	34,495	404	11.71	60.45
1932.....	76,389	1,137	14.88	61.10	34,598	415	12.02	61.48
1933.....	74,062	1,065	14.38	60.77	34,778	434	12.48	62.64
1934.....	73,050	1,211	16.58	61.85	35,163	418	11.09	61.40
1935.....	73,586	1,197	16.26	62.28				



## INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

### Accidents at Metal and Nonmetal Mines (Other Than Coal Mines) in the United States, 1934

PRELIMINARY figures on employment and accidents at metal and nonmetal mines (other than coal mines) in the United States in 1934<sup>1</sup> show that accidents resulted in 116 fatal and 7,892 nonfatal injuries, an accident-frequency rate of 69 per million man-hours. This is an increase over the 1933 record for these mines, which showed 95 fatalities and 5,925 nonfatal accidents or a rate of 64.

Further analysis shows that accident rates decreased in copper, iron, and nonmetallic mineral mines, and increased in gold and silver mines, the miscellaneous metal group, and in the Mississippi Valley lead and zinc group.

The leading cause of both fatal and nonfatal accidents was falling rock at the working face. Other important causes of injuries were handling and loading rock at the face, handling other objects, haulage, drilling, and hand tools.

The following table shows the number of workers employed, man-hours, the number of killed or injured, and fatal and nonfatal rates in the different divisions of metal and nonmetal mining industry in 1934.<sup>2</sup>

Employment and Accidents at Metal and Nonmetal Mines (Other Than Coal Mines) During 1934, by Kinds of Mines

Type of mine	Men employed		Men killed		Men injured	
	Actual number	Man-hours worked	Number	Rate per 1,000,000 hours' exposure	Number	Rate per 1,000,000 hours' exposure
Copper.....	8,084	14,726,617	12	0.81	669	45.43
Gold, silver, and miscellaneous metals.....	29,781	54,278,418	77	1.42	5,307	97.77
Iron.....	15,477	24,106,943	16	.66	485	20.12
Lead and zinc (Mississippi Valley).....	5,069	7,847,361	3	.38	644	82.07
Nonmetallic mineral.....	8,234	15,187,061	8	.53	787	51.86
Total.....	66,645	116,146,400	116	1.00	7,892	67.95

<sup>1</sup> U. S. Bureau of Mines. Mineral Resources and Economics Division. Health and Safety Statistics No. 230: Employment and Accidents at Metal and Nonmetal Mines (Other Than Coal Mines) in the United States in 1934. Washington, 1936. (Mimeographed.)

<sup>2</sup> For earlier figures, see Monthly Labor Review for March 1932, October 1932, and December 1933.

## LABOR LAWS AND COURT DECISIONS

### Bituminous Coal Conservation Act Held Unconstitutional

THE United States Supreme Court on May 18, 1936, declared the National Bituminous Coal Conservation Act of 1935,<sup>1</sup> usually referred to as the Guffey Coal Act, unconstitutional. The validity of the law was challenged in four suits,<sup>2</sup> all of which were considered together by the Court. Three of these cases were brought by stockholders and one by a coal company and others, to enjoin the collection of the tax imposed by the act.

The decision was a divided one. Justices Cardozo, Brandeis, and Stone dissented, while Mr. Chief Justice Hughes wrote a separate opinion which concurred in part with the decision of the majority.

The majority decision, in effect, held that Congress has no power to regulate wages, hours of labor, and working conditions in an industry not directly engaged in interstate commerce, and that the production of coal does not directly affect such commerce.

#### Majority Opinion

A NUMBER of questions were raised for determination by the Court. Mr. Justice Sutherland, rendering the majority opinion, first disposed of the contention that, as none of the parties had as yet suffered any loss, the suits were brought prematurely. The Court held that the suits were properly brought, as the 15-percent tax authorized by the act was definitely imposed and its exaction certain to ensue. Said the Court: "One does not have to await the consummation of threatened injury to obtain preventive relief. If the injury is certainly impending that is enough."

The court next considered the provision of the law imposing a tax of 15 percent. This tax is imposed by section 3 of the act, which is in part as follows:

There is hereby imposed upon the sale or other disposal of all bituminous coal produced within the United States an excise tax of 15 per centum on the sale price at the mine, or in the case of captive coal the fair-market value of such coal

<sup>1</sup> See Monthly Labor Review for October 1935 (p. 982).

<sup>2</sup> *Carter v. Carter Coal Co. et al.*; *Helvering et al. v. Carter et al.*; *R. C. Tway Coal Co. et al. v. Glenn*; *R. C. Tway Coal Co. et al. v. Clark*. 56 Sup. Ct. 855.

at the mine, \* \* \* *Provided further*, That any such coal producer who has filed with the National Bituminous Coal Commission his acceptance of the code provided for in section 4 of this act, and who acts in compliance with the provisions of such code, shall be entitled to a drawback in the form of a credit upon the amount of such tax payable hereunder, equivalent to 90 per centum of the amount of such tax, to be allowed and deducted therefrom at the time settlement therefor is required, in such manner as shall be prescribed by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

The Court held that the so-called tax is not a tax at all, but a penalty, because "the whole purpose of the exaction is to coerce what is called an agreement—which, of course, it is not, for it lacks the essential element of consent."

But it is not necessary to pursue the matter further. That the "tax" is in fact a penalty is not seriously in dispute. The position of the Government, as we understand it, is that the validity of the exaction does not rest upon the taxing power but upon the power of Congress to regulate interstate commerce; and that if the act in respect of the labor and price-fixing provisions be not upheld, the "tax" must fall with them. With that position we agree and confine our consideration accordingly.

Regarding the purposes of the act as set forth in the preamble and the authority vested in Congress by the Constitution to effectuate them, the Court held that the preamble, in effect, was a detailed assertion of circumstances thought to justify the statute. The preamble declared that the business of producing bituminous coal is affected with a national public interest, and that various enumerated interests require the regulation of the industry as prescribed in the act. It further declared that the production and distribution of such coal bear upon and directly affect interstate commerce, and render regulation imperative for the protection of such commerce. The preamble also recited a necessity for regulation in order to preserve the right of collective bargaining for wages, hours of labor, and conditions of employment.

In this connection, the Court called attention to the fact that this preamble is not legislation, but is merely a recital of the considerations which in the opinion of Congress existed and justified the expression of its will in the present act. The preamble is important, however, even if without effect, because it shows that "the powers which Congress undertook to exercise are not specific but of the most general character—namely, to protect the general public interest and the health and comfort of the people, to conserve privately owned coal, maintain just relations between producers and employees and others, and promote the general welfare, by controlling Nation-wide production and distribution of coal."

The Court conceded that these are objects of great worth, but then asked the question, "Are they ends, the attainment of which has been committed by the Constitution to the Federal Government?"

The answer to this question was "No." "The ruling and firmly established principle", said the Court, "is that the powers which the general Government may exercise are only those specifically enumerated in the Constitution, and such implied powers as are necessary and proper to carry into effect the enumerated powers." Continuing, the court said:

The proposition, often advanced and as often discredited, that the power of the Federal Government inherently extends to purposes affecting the Nation as a whole with which the States severally cannot deal or cannot adequately deal, and the related notion that Congress, entirely apart from those powers delegated by the Constitution, may enact laws to promote the general welfare, have never been accepted but always definitely rejected by this Court. Mr. Justice Story, as early as 1816, laid down the cardinal rule, which has ever since been followed—that the general Government "can claim no powers which are not granted to it by the Constitution, and the powers actually granted must be such as are expressly given, or given by necessary implication."

Mr. Justice Sutherland stated that the purposes which Congress undertook to achieve are beyond the powers of Congress, except so far, and only so far, as they may be realized by the exercise of some specific power granted by the Constitution. There is "no grant of power which authorizes Congress to legislate in respect of these general purposes unless it be found in the commerce clause."

In order to determine the validity of the act, therefore, it was necessary for the Court to consider whether the regulation of labor relations and conditions in coal mines is authorized by the clause of the Constitution empowering Congress to regulate commerce. A great many cases were cited by the Court, indicating that there is quite a distinction between production and commerce. "Production is not commerce, but a step in preparation for commerce." The case of *Oliver Iron Co. v. Lord*, 262 U. S. 172, 178, was then cited, in which the Supreme Court said:

Mining is not interstate commerce, but, like manufacturing, is a local business subject to local regulation and taxation. \* \* \* Its character in this regard is intrinsic, is not affected by the intended use or disposal of the product, is not controlled by contractual engagements, and persists even though the business be conducted in close connection with interstate commerce.

Finally, in deciding that coal mining is not commerce, and that the effect of the labor provisions of the act falls primarily upon production and not commerce, the Court said:

\* \* \* The word "commerce" is the equivalent of the phrase "intercourse for the purposes of trade." Plainly, the incidents leading up to and culminating in the mining of coal do not constitute such intercourse. The employment of men, the fixing of their wages, hours of labor and working conditions, the bargaining in respect of these things—whether carried on separately or collectively—each and all constitute intercourse for the purposes of production, not of trade. The latter is a thing apart from the relation of employer and employee, which in all producing occupations is purely local in character. Extraction of coal from

the mine is the aim and the completed result of local activities. Commerce in the coal mined is not brought into being by force of these activities, but by negotiations, agreements, and circumstances entirely apart from production. Mining brings the subject matter of commerce into existence. Commerce disposes of it.

In further discussion of this feature of the law, the court compared the Guffey Act with the National Industrial Recovery Act.<sup>3</sup> In the *Schechter case*,<sup>4</sup> in which the latter law was held unconstitutional, chickens were shipped from one State to another, and the court held that such commodity when it came to rest in the State of destination was no longer in a current or flow of interstate commerce. In the case of coal, the commodity had not yet left the State and was not yet in interstate commerce. "In the *Schechter case* the flow had ceased. Here it had not begun. The difference is not one of substance. The applicable principle is the same."

In other words, as the Court said, "the Federal regulatory power ceases when interstate commercial intercourse ends; and, correlatively, the power does not attach until interstate commercial intercourse begins."

The next question to be considered by the Court was whether part III of section 4 of the act, which delegated power to fix wages and hours, is an unconstitutional delegation of power. Subdivision (g) of this part "delegated the power to fix maximum hours of labor to a part of the producers and the miners—namely, 'the producers of more than two-thirds the annual national tonnage production for the preceding calendar year', and 'more than one-half the mine workers employed'; and to producers of more than two-thirds of the district annual tonnage during the preceding calendar year and a majority of the miners, there is delegated the power to fix minimum wages for the district or group of districts."

In deciding that this delegation of power is invalid, the opinion first called attention to the fact that the power conferred upon the majority is, in effect, the power to regulate the affairs of an unwilling minority. "This", the court said, "is legislative delegation in its most obnoxious form; for it is not even delegation to an official or an official body, presumptively disinterested, but to private persons whose interests may be and often are adverse to the interests of others in the same business." In conclusion, the Court stated that the delegation is clearly arbitrary and a denial of rights safeguarded by the due-process clause of the fifth amendment.

One question involved in the case now remained—whether the price-fixing provisions of the act were separable and could stand in

<sup>3</sup> See Monthly Labor Review for July 1933 (p. 87).

<sup>4</sup> *Idem*, June 1935 (p. 1466).

spite of the invalidity of the labor provisions. The act conferred the power to fix the minimum price of coal at each and every coal mine in the United States, with such price variations as the board might deem necessary and proper. There was also a provision authorizing the Commission to establish maximum prices, and all sales and contracts for the sale of coal were subject to the code prices provided for and in effect when such sales and contracts were made. Various unfair methods of competition were defined and forbidden.

There was also a provision in the act to the effect that if any of its provisions or their application be held unconstitutional, the remainder of them, and their application to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected. However, the Court held that the price-fixing and labor provisions were so connected that the entire law must be held invalid. This conclusion was reached by the Court because "the price-fixing provisions of the code are so related to and dependent upon the labor provisions as conditions, considerations, or compensations, as to make it clearly probable that the latter being held bad, the former would not have been passed. The fall of the latter, therefore, carries down with it the former."

The primary contemplation of the act is stabilization of the industry through the regulation of labor and the regulation of prices; for, since both were adopted, we must conclude that both were thought essential. The regulations of labor on the one hand and prices on the other furnish mutual aid and support; and their associated force—not one or the other but both combined—was deemed by Congress to be necessary to achieve the end sought. The statutory mandate for a code upheld by two legs at once suggests the improbability that Congress would have assented to a code supported by only one.

For this reason, the Court did not rule on the constitutionality of the price-fixing provisions of the act, but said: "Neither this disposition of the matter, nor anything we have said, is to be taken as indicating that the Court is of opinion that these provisions, if separately enacted, could be sustained."

#### Separate Opinion

MR. CHIEF JUSTICE HUGHES rendered a separate opinion. He concurred with the majority in holding that the labor provisions of the Guffey Act were unconstitutional, but stated that in his opinion not only were the price-fixing and labor provisions separable, but the price-fixing features of the act were constitutional.

In agreeing with the majority that the labor features of the act are invalid, the Chief Justice said that these provisions go beyond any proper measure of protection of interstate commerce and attempt a broad regulation of industry within the State. Continuing, he said: "If the people desire to give Congress the power to regulate industries within the State, and the relations of employers and employees in those industries, they are at liberty to declare their will in

the appropriate manner, but it is not for the Court to amend the Constitution by judicial decision."

As to the separability of the price-fixing and labor provisions, he said:

I do not think that the question of separability should be determined by trying to imagine what Congress would have done if certain provisions found to be invalid were excised. That, if taken broadly, would lead us into a realm of pure speculation.

The opinion of the Chief Justice also went beyond that of the majority, in holding the price-fixing features of the act to be constitutional. He said:

Undoubtedly transactions in carrying on interstate commerce are subject to the Federal power to regulate that commerce, and the control of charges and the protection of fair competition in that commerce are familiar illustrations of the exercise of the power, as the Interstate Commerce Act, the Packers and Stockyards Act, and the Anti-Trust Acts abundantly show. \* \* \*

Whether the policy of fixing prices of commodities sold in interstate commerce is a sound policy is not for our consideration. The question of that policy, and of its particular applications, is for Congress. The exercise of the power of regulation is subject to the constitutional restriction of the due-process clause, and if in fixing rates, prices, or conditions of competition, that requirement is transgressed, the judicial power may be invoked to the end that the constitutional limitation may be maintained.

#### Dissenting Opinion

A MINORITY opinion was written by Mr. Justice Cardozo, in which Mr. Justice Brandeis and Mr. Justice Stone concurred. The minority contended that the suits, insofar as the labor provisions are concerned, were brought prematurely. For this reason Mr. Justice Cardozo did not discuss the question of the constitutionality of the labor provisions, although he did contend that the statute is separable and that the price-fixing feature should be held to be valid, even though the labor portion were held unconstitutional.

The major portion of the opinion was devoted to a discussion of the price-fixing features of the act. As a system of price fixing the act was challenged on three grounds, which the minority answered in order. (1) It was contended that the governance of prices is not within the commerce clause. In the minority opinion, so far as the act is directed to interstate transactions, sales made in such conditions constitute interstate commerce and do not merely "affect" it. (2) The contention was made that the system of price fixing is a denial of due process. The New York milk case (*Nebbia v. New York*, 291 U. S. 502) was cited, in which the court upheld price fixing when "the conditions or practices in an industry make unrestricted competition an inadequate safeguard of the consumers' interests, produce waste harmful to the public, threaten ultimately to cut off the supply of a commodity needed by the public, or portend the destruction of

the industry itself.” (3) In answer to the objection that there was an unlawful delegation of legislative power, it was held that the standards fixed by this act are quite as definite as others that have had the approval of the court. Comparing this system of price fixing with the regulation of railroad rates, it was said “reasonable prices can as easily be ascertained for coal as for the carriage of passengers or property under the Interstate Commerce Act, or for the services of brokers in the stockyards.”

After disposing of the question of the constitutionality of the price-fixing feature of the law, Mr. Justice Cardozo discussed the question of the separability of the labor and price-fixing provisions of the act, and reached the conclusion that they are separable. In the first place, the contention was made that the physical separation of the labor provisions strongly indicated an intention on the part of Congress for the law to be separable. Furthermore, “it is possible that none of these agreements as to hours and wages will ever be made. If made, they may not be completed for months or even years. In the meantime, however, the provisions of part II will be continuously operative and will determine prices in the industry.”

In further discussing this phase of the case the minority opinion said:

Undoubtedly the rules as to labor relations are important provisions of the statute. Undoubtedly the law-makers were anxious that provisions so important should have the force of law. But they announced with all the directness possible for words that they would keep what they could have if they could not have the whole.

The dissenting opinion concluded by holding that the prevailing opinion “begins at the wrong end. To adopt a homely form of words the complainants have been crying before they are really hurt.”



## Legislation Relating to Payment of Wages in Scrip, Protection of Employees as Traders, and Company Stores

LEGISLATION has been adopted in many States with a view to protecting workers in their employee-employer relationships. Laws of this kind include those governing the payment of wages in scrip, those covering employees in their capacity as purchasers, and those dealing with company stores.<sup>1</sup>

Approximately two-thirds of the States<sup>2</sup> have passed legislation with respect to the medium of exchange in the payment of wages.

<sup>1</sup> See mimeographed text of laws by Bureau of Labor Statistics (no. 2963).

<sup>2</sup> Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin.



Some of these State laws are similar in form, though various terms are used to describe the system of payment, the most common being "scrip", "check", "draft", "ticket", "due bill", "punch-out", and "store order." Such acts have been subjected to considerable litigation and there is divergence of opinion as to their constitutionality.

While a few laws<sup>3</sup> specifically forbid discounting of scrip, most of them require that any scrip, etc., given to an employee in payment of wages, shall be redeemable in lawful money, at face value. The Colorado law is novel in that it forbids the use of the "truck system" in the payment of wages. This system is defined as an agreement requiring an employee to waive payment of his wages in lawful money, and to take the whole or any part of it in merchandise.

Another class of laws related to this subject includes those intended to insure to employees freedom to choose the stores at which to make their purchases. Sixteen States<sup>4</sup> have provided legislation making it unlawful to compel an employee to buy goods at a particular store, and 2 others (Idaho and Texas) forbid restriction of the employees' trading or their place of abode. In Montana, Nevada, Oregon, and Utah it is unlawful to coerce an employee in the selection of a boarding house. Alaska has similar legislation. In Massachusetts an employee engaged in public work may "lodge, board, and trade where and with whom he elects", while in Michigan it is unlawful to require employees to insure with any particular company.

Subject to some of the same rules of construction as those applicable to payment of wages in scrip and freedom of traders are laws governing the operation of company stores. In some cases the operation of stores may be prohibited by legislation, or restrictions may be placed upon the price of the goods sold. Thus five States<sup>5</sup> have regulated the prices which may be charged for goods sold in company stores within the confines of the State. In certain States the legislation applies only to specified industries.

The law of Pennsylvania forbids any mining or manufacturing corporation to carry on any store known as a "company store." The establishment of company stores by railroad and mining companies is forbidden in Maryland, and by transportation companies in Nevada. In New York, by an act adopted in 1935, a company store may be operated by a person engaged in the construction of public works if there is no store selling supplies within 2 miles of the place where the contract is being executed. In such cases, however, it is necessary to obtain a permit from the industrial commissioner. Several laws

<sup>3</sup> California, Connecticut, Illinois, Mississippi, Oregon, Washington, and Puerto Rico.

<sup>4</sup> Arizona, California, Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, Tennessee, Utah, Washington, and West Virginia.

<sup>5</sup> Arkansas, Indiana, Ohio, Virginia, and West Virginia.

also forbid a company store from selling to an employee at a price higher than the reasonable or current market price for cash.

While the three subjects of this article are separately covered in some States, in others they overlap and are generally covered in one law.

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## Labor Laws Enacted Following French Strikes<sup>1</sup>

A STRIKE movement in France started in the second week of May with three strikes in small aviation factories. Ten days later a series of strikes broke out in the Paris metallurgical industry, including many automobile plants, and spread to practically all other industries and trades in the Paris district with the exception of the essential city services. Practically the same situation occurred in Lille, the most important textile manufacturing center of France. There was a general strike among the miners in the north of France, and the movement extended to many other provincial centers. The strikes in almost all instances took the form of "stay-in" strikes, the workers appearing to regard this as more effective than picketing, while it also prevented them from being locked out. However, in the latter part of June (when this article was prepared) lock-outs of employees occurred in a number of places, notably in hundreds of hotels in the French Riviera.

Shortly after M. Leon Blum took office as Premier on June 4, he announced that he would take in hand the defense of the workers' interests but he asked for their confidence in return on the ground that "the law must be obeyed." He thus obtained the cooperation of the Confédération Générale du Travail<sup>2</sup> in negotiations with the employers. An agreement was reached on June 7, at a conference between the Premier, the Minister of the Interior, and representatives of several of the principal employers' organizations and of the Confédération Générale du Travail, providing for the recognition of full political freedom of the workers and their right to belong to the trade unions recognized by law; immediate application of collective contracts; in view of the fall of real wages, wage increases ranging from 7 percent for the highest-paid workers to 15 percent for the lowest paid; negotiations to be opened for fixing the minimum wage in different parts of the country; and election of workers' delegates.

Wage increases were granted in many instances in which the strikes were settled. In the Paris stores a scale of minimum salaries was fixed, and increases were granted which ranged from 25 percent for

<sup>1</sup> Reports from Edwin A. Plitt, American Consul, and John H. Fuqua, American Vice Consul, at Paris; issues of the New York Times through June; The Economist (London), June 13; Manchester Guardian (Manchester, England), June 8; and Le Figaro (Paris), issues of June 1-16, 1936.

<sup>2</sup> Trade-union unity was established in France at a conference between the two factions in the trade-union movement in March 1936. See Monthly Labor Review, June 1936 (p. 1566).

employees' receiving less than 6,000 francs a year to 5 percent for those earning between 18,000 and 20,000 francs. Various other concessions were granted to workers in the different strike settlements.

Five bills were introduced in the Chamber of Deputies during the second week in June, covering the principal claims of the workers. These bills provided for: (1) A 40-hour week with no reduction in weekly pay; (2) vacations with pay amounting to 15 days annually, 12 of which must be work days, in industry and commerce with the anticipated extension to the liberal professions, servants, and agriculture; (3) extension of the conditions of application of collective contracts, the Minister of Labor being empowered to appoint a mixed commission to draw up a collective agreement when requested to do so by employers' or workers' organizations in a particular industry, while collective agreements may also be made compulsory for all employers and workers in the industries and localities included in the field of application of the agreements; (4) removal of the tax on war veterans' pensions, with the understanding that before the end of the year the pension fund will be created; (5) repeal of the decree-laws which instituted levies on wages and salaries, indemnities, and retirement allowances of Government employees and permission to increase, by decree, the minimum salaries or pay or pensions of such employees.

These bills were passed by the Chamber on June 12 and 13 and sent to the Senate. The vote for the measures was nearly unanimous, with the exception of the one providing for increase in pay of Government employees which was passed by a vote of 404 to 200, and the bill establishing a 40-hour week which was the subject of more debate and was finally passed by a vote of 385 to 175. The bills were introduced in the Senate on June 13 and the bills providing for a revision of the deflation decrees affecting the pay of Government employees and the tax on the pensions of war veterans, and granting vacations with pay were passed on June 17. The two remaining bills—40-hour week and collective agreements—were enacted into law on June 19.

## MINIMUM WAGE

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### United States Supreme Court Decision on New York Minimum-Wage Law

THE United States Supreme Court on June 1, 1936, in a five to four decision upheld the New York Court of Appeals<sup>1</sup> which declared the minimum-wage law of that State unconstitutional. (*Morehead v. Tipaldo*, 56 Sup. Ct. 918). The law<sup>2</sup> was adopted in 1933 and, like several other similar laws passed in that year, was based upon the standard minimum-wage bill drafted to meet the constitutional objection raised by the United States Supreme Court in 1923.<sup>3</sup> The New York law did not attempt to fix a living wage. It did, however, provide that whenever a substantial number of women and minors in any occupation were receiving less than a subsistence wage, the industrial commission was empowered to conduct an investigation to determine whether the wages were "fairly and reasonably commensurate with the value of the service or class of service rendered." The law defined an unreasonable wage as one that is "less than the fair and reasonable value of the services rendered and less than sufficient to meet the minimum cost of living necessary for health." By the provisions of the New York law, authority was vested in the commissioner of labor to enforce the act by making his order mandatory after a directory minimum-wage order had been in effect for 9 months. For failure to observe the act and the orders of the labor department the employer was liable to fine and imprisonment. It was under this provision of the act that one Joseph Tipaldo, the manager of a laundry, was indicted in the Kings County Court of New York and imprisoned to await trial for failure to obey a mandatory order of the industrial commissioner prescribing minimum wages for woman employees. In the lower court of New York, Tipaldo had petitioned for his release but was denied relief. He based his right of release from the custody of the warden, Frederick L. Morehead, on the ground that the law under which he was indicted was contrary to the due-process clause of the

<sup>1</sup> See Monthly Labor Review, April 1936 (pp. 995-997).

<sup>2</sup> See analysis of law in Monthly Labor Review, June 1933 (pp. 1268-1272). See also principal provisions of this and other minimum-wage laws in Monthly Labor Review, March 1936 (pp. 655-666).

<sup>3</sup> *Adkins v. Children's Hospital* 261 U. S. 525.

State and Federal Constitutions. He also based his claim on the ground that the State minimum-wage law was in substance the same as the District of Columbia minimum-wage law which had previously been declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court (*Adkins v. Children's Hospital*). The court dismissed his plea for release and he thereupon carried the case to the Court of Appeals of New York which held the act repugnant to the due-process clause of the State and Federal Constitutions. The State then appealed to the United States Supreme Court. In defense of the validity of the act it was argued that the State law provided that wages should be at least the value of the services rendered, in contradistinction to the District of Columbia act which fixed a wage based solely on the necessities of the workers. Seven of the 17 States<sup>4</sup> having minimum-wage acts also petitioned the Supreme Court to sustain the New York act.

The majority opinion was written by Mr. Justice Butler and concurred in by Justices Van Devanter, McReynolds, Sutherland, and Roberts. A dissenting opinion was delivered by Mr. Chief Justice Hughes, which also presented for the most part the views of Justices Brandeis, Cardozo, and Stone.

#### Majority Opinion

Mr. JUSTICE BUTLER, rendering the majority opinion, reviewed the provisions of the District of Columbia and the New York minimum-wage acts. The State contended that since the two laws were vitally dissimilar they should be distinguished. The question arose as to whether there was such a difference as to compel the court to hold other than it had in the well-known *Adkins case*. The District of Columbia act provided for a board to ascertain and declare standards of minimum wages for women in any occupation the wages in which were "inadequate to supply the necessary cost of living to any such woman workers to maintain them in good health and to protect their morals." On the other hand, the New York act declared it to be against public policy for any employer to employ any woman at an oppressive and unreasonable wage.

In regard to these two acts, it was observed—

Thus it appears: The minimum wage provided for in the District act was one not less than adequate "to supply the necessary cost of living to any such woman workers to maintain them in good health and to protect their morals." The New York act defines an oppressive and unreasonable wage as containing two elements. The one first mentioned is: "Less than the fair and reasonable value of the services rendered." The other is: "Less than sufficient to meet the minimum cost of living necessary for health." The basis last mentioned is not to be distinguished from the living wage defined in the District act. The exertion of the granted power to prescribe minimum wages is by the State act conditioned

<sup>4</sup> California, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin.

upon a finding by the commissioner or other administrative agency that a substantial number of women in any occupation are receiving wages that are oppressive and unreasonable, i. e., less than value of the service and less than a living wage. That finding is essential to jurisdiction of the commissioner. In the State court there was controversy between the parties as to whether the "minimum fair wage rates" are required to be established solely upon value of service or upon that value and the living wage.

The majority opinion pointed out that, contrary to the contention of the State, the Court of Appeals of New York had held that the minimum wage must be based on both elements, also that the New York court could find no material difference between the act passed by the Congress and the one enacted by the Legislature of New York and had said that there was a difference in phraseology but not in principle.

In answering the contention that the New York court misconstrued the act, it was shown that—

This Court is without power to put a different construction upon the State enactment from that adopted by the highest court of the State. We are not at liberty to consider petitioner's argument based on the construction repudiated by that court. The meaning of the statute as fixed by its decision must be accepted here as if the meaning had been specifically expressed in the enactment.

The State court was held to have been right in holding that the *Adkins case* controlled this one and that Tipaldo had been indicted and imprisoned in violation of the due-process clause of the fourteenth amendment. As to the extent of the law, in covering only women and minors, no other class of workers was involved, the Court declared. The question arose also "whether the State may impose upon the employers State-made minimum-wage rates for all competent experienced women workers whom they may have in their service"; and again, "that question involves another one": Has the State the power similarly to subject to State-made wages all adult women employed in trade, industry or business, other than house and farm work? These and other questions were decided in the *Adkins case*, the Court opined. Especially was this the case as to the right of contract, which, it was declared was a part of the liberty protected by the due-process clause. Within this liberty are "provisions of contracts between employer and employee fixing the wages to be paid." The parties have equal right to obtain the best terms by private bargaining. In amplifying this view the opinion stated:

Legislative abridgment of that freedom can only be justified by the existence of exceptional circumstances. Freedom of contract is the general rule and restraint the exception. This Court has found not repugnant to the due-process clause statutes fixing rates and charges to be exacted by businesses impressed with a public interest, relating to contracts for the performance of public work, prescribing the character, methods and time of payment of wages, fixing hours of labor.

As to the physical differences of men and women, it must be recognized in proper cases, the Court said, "and legislation fixing hours or conditions of work may properly take them into account." Referring again and again to the case deciding the minimum-wage law of the District of Columbia, the opinion concluded as follows:

The New York court's decision conforms to ours in the *Adkins case*, and the later rulings that we have made on the authority of that case. That decision was deliberately made upon careful consideration of the oral arguments and briefs of the respective parties and also of briefs submitted on behalf of States and others as amici curiae. \* \* \* And in each case, being clearly of opinion that no discussion was required to show that, having regard to the principles applied in the *Adkins case*, the State legislation fixing wages for women was repugnant to the due-process clause of the fourteenth amendment, we so held and upon the authority of that case affirmed per curiam the decree enjoining its enforcement. It is equally plain that the judgment in the case now before us must also be affirmed.

#### Dissenting Opinion

IN PRESENTING the dissenting opinion Mr. Chief Justice Hughes stated that he could not agree that the case should be regarded as controlled by the *Adkins case*. He also could find nothing in the Federal Constitution "which denies to the State the power to protect women from being exploited by overreaching employers through the refusal of a fair wage as defined in the New York statute and ascertained in a reasonable manner by competent authority." He pointed out that Tipaldo had not raised the question as to the fairness of the minimum wage he was required to pay. As to the question of right of contract, he said that—

While it is highly important to preserve that liberty from arbitrary and capricious interference, it is also necessary to prevent its abuse, as otherwise it could be used to override all public interests and thus in the end destroy the very freedom of opportunity which it is designed to safeguard. \* \* \*

If liberty of contract were viewed from the standpoint of absolute right, there would be as much to be said against a regulation of the hours of labor of women as against the fixing of a minimum wage. Restriction upon hours is a restriction upon the making of contracts and upon earning power. But the right being a qualified one, we must apply in each case the test of reasonableness in the circumstances disclosed. Here, the special conditions calling for the protection of women, and for the protection of society itself, are abundantly shown.

The legislation is not less in the interest of the community as a whole than in the interest of the women employees who are paid less than the value of their services. That lack must be made good out of the public purse. Granted that the burden of the support of women who do not receive a living wage cannot be transferred to employers who pay the equivalent of the service they obtain, there is no reason why the burden caused by the failure to pay that equivalent should not be placed upon those who create it. The fact that the State cannot secure the benefit to society of a living wage for women employees by any enactment which bears unreasonably upon employers does not preclude the State from seeking its objective by means entirely fair both to employers and the women employed.

Mr. Chief Justice Hughes, therefore, believed that the act should be upheld, as there was no unreasonableness shown in the provisions of the law, and the end to be attained was legitimate and the means appropriate. In this belief Justices Brandeis, Stone, and Cardozo concurred. Mr. Justice Stone also delivered a separate opinion in which he was joined by Justices Brandeis and Cardozo.

Mr. Justice Stone, while agreeing with the Chief Justice, did not believe that the differences between the New York law and the *Adkins* case should be the sole basis of decision. He was of the opinion that the case of *Nebbia v. New York* (291 U. S. 502) should control the present one. It was declared in that case that in the absence of any constitutional restriction a State was free to adopt an economic policy which was reasonably deemed to promote the public welfare and to enforce that policy by legislation adapted to its purpose.

Since the *Adkins* case was decided, Mr. Justice Stone said that—

We have had opportunity to learn that a wage is not always the resultant of free bargaining between employers and employees; that it may be one forced upon employees by their economic necessities and upon employers by the most ruthless of their competitors. We have had opportunity to perceive more clearly that a wage insufficient to support the worker does not visit its consequences upon him alone; that it may affect profoundly the entire economic structure of society and, in any case, that it casts on every taxpayer, and on government itself, the burden of solving the problems of poverty, subsistence, health, and morals of large numbers in the community. Because of their nature and extent these are public problems. A generation ago they were for the individual to solve; today they are the burden of the Nation. I can perceive no more objection, on constitutional grounds, to their solution by requiring an industry to bear the subsistence costs of the labor which it employs, than to the imposition upon it of the cost of its industrial accidents.

In conclusion, Mr. Justice Stone, expressing the minority opinion, believed that the Court should follow the *Nebbia* case and "leave the selection and the method of the solution of the problems to which the statute is addressed where it seems to me the Constitution has left them, to the legislative branch of the Government."

The State of New York has petitioned the United States Supreme Court for a rehearing on the merits of the issues involved in this case. No definite action, however, can be taken on the petition until the Court reconvenes next October.

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### Machinery for Fixing Minimum Wages in Brazil <sup>1</sup>

A WAGE commission of 5 to 11 members, with equal representation of employers and workers, was authorized for each of the 22 geographical divisions of Brazil by a law of January 14, 1936. The chairman, to be appointed by the President of the Republic, and

<sup>1</sup> Data are from Brazil, Boletim do Ministerio do Trabalho, Industria e Comercio, No. 18 (February 1936), pp. 19-25.



the members, elected by the recognized organizations of employers and workers and appointed by the Ministry of Labor, Industry, and Commerce, hold office for 2 years and are eligible for reappointment.

A majority of members, if it includes an equal number of employers' and workers' representatives, constitutes a quorum. Decisions are by majority vote, and in case of a tie, the chairman may cast the deciding vote. Each member is to receive 50 milreis<sup>2</sup> for each meeting, but not to exceed 200 milreis per month.

Elections of commission members are to be held within 60 days after the publication of the regulations necessary for applying the law (which regulations were to be issued within 3 months after publication of the law, Jan. 21, 1936). If conditions warrant, any geographical division may be subdivided into zones in each of which are at least 500,000 inhabitants, which may then have their own commissions. In case conditions vary widely within a district or zone, local subcommissions may be established to propose minimum wages for their localities.

The law states that "every laborer has the right to receive in payment for his services a minimum wage sufficient to satisfy in a given region of the country and in a given period his normal needs for food, shelter, clothing, hygiene, and transportation." The minimum wage established is to be based on the results of inquiries conducted by the Ministry of Labor, Industry, and Commerce, and the commissions. In carrying out their inquiries commissions may call upon all employers to furnish data as to the lowest wages they pay and their classification of workers. A definite time limit is set for each step in the establishment of the minimum wage. The tentative wage set by the commission is to be made public, in order that dissenting views may be taken into account before the final decree is issued. The wage finally fixed is to be established by decree of the President of the Republic. It is to go into effect 60 days after publication in the official newspaper (*Diário Oficial*) and will remain in force for 3 years unless circumstances arise which, in the opinion of three-fourths of the members of the commission, materially affect living conditions, in which case the wage may be revised.

Minors working as apprentices may receive half the wage set for adults and persons employed in unhealthful occupations may receive pay and a half. Contracts which call for a wage lower than the decreed minimum are null and void, and a worker who is paid a subminimum wage may claim the difference, regardless of any contract to the contrary. Penalties are provided for violations of the minimum-wage decree.

<sup>2</sup> Average exchange rate of milreis, January 1936=8.42 cents.

# WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

## Amendment of Federal Employees' Compensation Act

ON May 13, 1936, the President approved an amendment<sup>1</sup> to the Federal Employees' Compensation Act authorizing the United States Employees' Compensation Commission to pay an additional award of not more than \$50 a month to an employee permanently and totally disabled who requires the constant services of an attendant. Heretofore benefits have been limited to a maximum payment, as compensation for permanent and total disability, of \$116.66 a month. By the new provisions the Commission may grant additional benefits whenever it is determined that the employee is in constant need of an attendant by reason of "being totally blind, or having lost both hands or both feet or the use thereof, or is paralyzed and unable to walk or by reason of other total disability actually rendering him so helpless as to require constant attendance." This amendment follows similar provisions contained in many veterans' and pension laws, as well as in several State workmen's compensation laws.

Section 6 of the Federal employees' compensation law (U. S. Code, 1934, title 5, ch. 15, sec. 756), as amended, now reads as follows:

The monthly compensation for total disability shall not be more than \$116.66 nor less than \$58.33, unless the employee's monthly pay is less than \$58.33, in which case his monthly compensation shall be the full amount of his monthly pay. The monthly compensation for partial disability shall not be more than \$116.66. In the case of persons who at the time of the injury were minors or employed in a learner's capacity and who were not physically or mentally defective, the Commission shall, on any review after the time when the monthly wage-earning capacity of such persons would probably, but for the injury, have increased, award compensation based on such probable monthly wage-earning capacity. The Commission may, on any review after the time when the monthly wage-earning capacity of the disabled employee would probably, irrespective of the injury, have decreased on account of old age, award compensation based on such probable monthly wage-earning capacity. In addition to the monthly compensation the Employees' Compensation Commission may pay an injured employee awarded compensation for permanent total disability from injury an additional sum of not more than \$50 a month, as the Commission may deem necessary, when the Commission shall find that the service of an attendant is necessary constantly to be used by reason of the employee being totally blind, or having lost both hands or both feet or the use thereof, or is paralyzed and unable to walk, or by reason of other total disability actually rendering him so helpless as to require constant attendance.

<sup>1</sup> Public, No. 579, 74th Cong.

## Workmen's Compensation in Great Britain, 1934

COMPENSABLE accidents in Great Britain in 1934 numbered 403,688, which represented an increase of 11.5 percent over those of the previous year. Of these 2,229 resulted in death and 401,459 resulted in disability. Compensation was paid in the sum of £5,774,538. These and the following data are taken from a recent official British report on experience under the workmen's compensation acts of Great Britain in 1934.<sup>1</sup>

The report covers the seven great groups of industries—mines, quarries, railways, factories, docks, constructional work, and shipping—for which the law requires reports on industrial accidents from employers.<sup>2</sup> In 1934 the total number of employees in the seven groups of industries was 7,050,177. Of these, the factory employees numbered 5,342,697, or 75.8 percent of the total, and accounted for 10.56 percent of the cases of compensation. Employees in mines numbered 784,643, or 11.13 percent of the total, and accounted for 22.3 percent of the compensation cases.

The following table shows the average number of employees, the number of accident cases compensated, and the total compensation paid, for the 5-year period 1930 to 1934.

Table 1.—Average Number of Employees and Number of Compensated Accidents in Reporting Industry Groups in Great Britain, 1930 to 1934

Year	Average number of employees	Number of cases			Payments for compensation
		Fatal	Nonfatal	Total	
1930.....	7,181,516	2,621	458,509	461,130	£6,415,907
1931.....	6,913,974	2,315	396,571	398,886	6,067,307
1932.....	6,583,402	2,011	364,864	366,875	5,628,778
1933.....	6,716,637	2,072	359,971	362,043	5,404,921
1934.....	7,050,177	2,229	401,459	403,688	5,774,538

In 1934 the average amount of compensation in cases of death was £291, and the average payment in nonfatal cases was £12 15s.

In the case of the various industrial diseases scheduled under the workmen's compensation acts, 26 fatal cases were compensated in 1934 to the amount of £5,941, and 18,493 disabled cases were compensated to the amount of £533,387. The 26 fatal cases included 4 of epitheliomatous cancer and 13 of lead poisoning.

It is stated that in 1934, as in previous years, the majority of cases of disablement on account of industrial disease occurred in the mining industry. Cases of miner's nystagmus accounted for 48.2 percent of the total number; and cases of this disease together with beat hand, beat knee, beat elbow, and inflammation of the synovial

<sup>1</sup> Great Britain. Home Office. Statistics of Compensation and Proceedings Under the Workmen's Compensation Acts and the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, in Great Britain During the Year 1934. London, 1936. 32 pp. (Cmd. 5077.)

<sup>2</sup> No returns are given on the various commercial, clerical, and domestic employments and on several important industries, such as building, road transport, and agriculture, to which the act also applies.

lining of the wrist joint and tendon sheaths, numbered 15,412, or 83.3 percent of the total number. Of the remainder, 2,565, or 13.9 percent, were cases of dermatitis produced by dust or liquids; 215, or 1.2 percent, were cases of lead poisoning; and 206, or 1.1 percent, were cases of skin or other ulceration or cancer. The remaining 95 cases, or 0.5 percent, included 25 cases of various forms of industrial poisoning, 38 cases of cataract caused by exposure to rays from molten or red-hot metal, and 20 cases of anthrax.

Compensation for silicosis and asbestosis is administered under the act through special provisions covering various industries in which these diseases are prevalent. The following table gives the number of fatal and disablement cases compensated in the several industries, together with compensation paid in the years 1933 and 1934:

Table 2.—Number of Compensated Fatal and Disablement Cases Due to Silicosis in Various Industries in 1934

Industry	Fatal cases		Disability cases		
	Number	Amount of compensation	Number		Amount of compensation
			Continued from previous years	New	
Refractories industries.....	6	£1,887	257	24	£12,921
Sandstone industries.....	25	5,034	216	68	13,284
Metal grinding, etc.:					
China and earthenware.....	24	4,797	180	67	18,806
Metal industries.....	8	2,156	35	16	3,363
Coal-mining.....	38	9,855	192	155	26,899
Builders, etc.....	14	3,205	72	39	7,923
Miscellaneous.....	123	6,368	55	46	6,700
Total, 1934.....	138	33,302	1,007	415	89,896
Total, 1933.....	154	39,418	797	448	69,868

<sup>1</sup> Including metalliferous mines which accounted for 1 fatal case (amount £445); 7 "continued" cases, and 7 new cases (amount £714).

Since the compensation scheme for asbestosis came into force on June 1, 1931, £3,549 has been paid in compensation in 71 cases. In 1934 compensation amounting to £390 was paid in 2 fatal cases and £1,057 in 23 disablement cases.

## Guaranty of Compensation for Accidents to Uninsured Workmen in Portugal <sup>1</sup>

**E**MLOYERS in Portugal who have not taken out industrial-accident insurance for their employees are required by a decree law of November 23, 1935, to deposit in the General Deposit, Credit, and Welfare Fund (*Caixa Geral de Depósitos, Crédito e Previdência*)

<sup>1</sup> Data are from *Diário do Governo* (Lisbon), Nov. 23, 1935, pp. 1736-1737.

to the order of the Insurance Inspection Service (*Inspecção de Seguros*) money or securities from which the annual income is sufficient to pay the scheduled compensation for death or permanent disability plus 10 percent. The State, administrative bodies and corporations, foundations, benevolent establishments, and railway companies which are concessionnaires of the State are exempted from this requirement, as are other enterprises presenting acceptable proof that they have insured their risk.

The employer has the choice between the deposit of cash or certain government securities and of a guaranty based on his investments in real property or mortgages, but if he has not offered a satisfactory guaranty within the specified time, he must make the deposit in cash or government securities. The amount of deposit to be required is to be determined by the Insurance Inspection Service and forwarded to the competent labor tribunal to be transmitted to the employer. By resolution of the Insurance Inspection Service, the sum of the pensions to which minors are entitled up to their majority may be substituted for the usual form of deposit, but in this case the deposit cannot be in the form of securities.

Should the employer fail to pay the compensation due an injured workman, the labor tribunal may authorize the Insurance Inspection Service to make payment from the interest on his deposit; or, if the benefit is guaranteed from the income on investments it may secure payment by execution.

Upon the presentation of satisfactory proof that a beneficiary has died or has ceased to be entitled to benefits, the Insurance Inspection Service may authorize the employer to decrease his deposit or guaranty. On the other hand, when the Service considers the deposit is insufficient, it may require that the amount be increased. The deposits made or the securities registered as guaranties may not be seized nor pledged nor diverted to any other purpose while they are used to guarantee the payment of industrial-accident insurance.

This decree is also applicable to cases pending upon the date of its publication.

# INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

## Industrial-Relations Policies in the United States

THE extent to which American industry has established industrial-relations programs was the subject of a recent study by the National Industrial Conference Board.<sup>1</sup> Its purpose was to show the prevailing practice in industrial relations, and no attempt was made to obtain information as to the actual number of employees affected by the activities nor the type or quality of the service rendered.

The study covered 2,452 establishments employing 4,562,608 persons and represented manufacturing, extraction and refining, transportation and communication, wholesale and retail trade, finance, and public utilities. The number of employees in these industries represented 15.5 percent of the total number reported as gainfully employed in these classes of enterprises in the 1930 Census of Occupations and includes therefore a broad and representative cross section of American business. Manufacturing industries alone represented 57.8 percent of the employees covered and 84.6 percent of the companies reporting on their personnel policies. The activities included in the study were grouped under six main headings—i. e., collective bargaining, economic security, employee self-improvement, employee physical welfare, employee privileges, and employment technique.

### Collective Bargaining

ACCORDING to the report of the National Industrial Conference Board employee-representation plans were in operation in 1935 in 751 or 30.6 percent of all companies reporting, as contrasted with only 5 percent in 1927. Trade-union agreements were reported by 287 companies, or 11.7 percent of the total number covered. The study showed that relatively few collective-bargaining plans had been discontinued; 40 employee-representation plans or 5.3 percent of those still in force had been given up and 12 or 4.2 percent of the existing trade-union agreements had been abandoned.

### Economic Security

THE activities in the field of economic security were divided into those intended to provide protection against loss of income from death, disability, or unemployment; those enabling a worker to earn

<sup>1</sup> National Industrial Conference Board, Inc. *What Employers are Doing for Employees*. New York, 247 Park Avenue, 1936.

more than his standard wage or salary; and those promoting habits of thrift. Dismissal compensation was paid by 317 of the companies, and 39 guaranteed employment; 753 companies provided health and accident insurance, 1,440 life insurance, and 60 did not specify the type of insurance provided. Loans to employees were made by 1,083 firms, 692 had mutual-benefit associations, 253 had formal pension plans, 580 had informal plans, and in 64 cases the type was not specified. Two hundred and sixty-six establishments maintained a relief fund and in 370 the policy of sharing work was followed. Relatively few plans in this group were found to have been discontinued.

Incentive wage-payment methods were widely used, the report states. Thus piece work was in force in 1,144 firms and premium or bonus systems in 683. Special bonuses for attendance, quality of product, or service were paid in numerous instances. One hundred and sixteen companies had a profit-sharing system but 56 such plans had been discontinued. The greatest decline, however, was found in suggestion systems, as, while 566 such systems were in force, 159 had been given up.

Savings plans appeared to be most popular in the thrift and investment group of activities. Three hundred and eighty-seven companies, or 15.8 percent of the total number reporting, had such plans, according to the N. I. C. B. survey. Credit unions were in force in 278 instances and only 13 plans were reported to have been discontinued. As a result of the depression home ownership has suffered a set-back and building and loan associations were reported by only 96 companies and other home-purchase plans by 88 companies. Eighteen building and loan associations had been given up, as had also 41 home-purchase plans. The greatest decline was found in stock-purchase plans; 209 had been abandoned and only 166 were in force. Of the latter group it was considered probable that many of the companies were no longer offering stock for sale to employees, but since payments were still being made on earlier purchases the plans were regarded as still being in effect.

#### Employee Improvement

TRAINING programs were recorded by 848 companies reporting to the N. I. C. B. Apprentice training was the most common, but in numerous instances training was provided for special groups, such as executives, foremen, and disabled employees. A director of training was employed by 90 firms. Other educational features included continuation schools maintained by 84 companies and educational courses for employees through cooperative arrangements with outside organizations provided for by 260 companies. Libraries and reading rooms were also provided in numerous instances.

## Physical Welfare and Working Conditions

THE promotion of safety and health in industry has made great progress in the past 20 years. Medical service of some kind was provided by 1,598 companies employing more than 93 percent of the total employees. The services included dispensaries or hospitals in 1,154 establishments and organized first aid in 1,330, while 867 employed a plant nurse and 722 had either a full-time or part-time physician or both. Physical examinations were given to new employees by nearly half the companies and 471 provided periodic examinations for the purpose of enabling employees to detect and arrest incipient physical ailments. A few provided special services such as dental and optical clinics.

Organized accident-prevention work was reported by 1,429 companies or 58.3 percent of those covered by the study, while safety committees were functioning in 1,199 of the companies. The proportion of companies having organized safety work was much higher among the large enterprises than the small ones. Safety contests were part of the safety programs of 474 companies.

Provisions for improvement of working conditions included luncheon facilities, furnished by 934 companies, and automobile parking space, cooperative buying and discount on company products, and the various sanitary conveniences such as dressing rooms, lockers, and shower baths. Recreational programs are sponsored in many instances and athletic programs were in force in nearly half of the companies, although many such programs were discontinued during the depression. Vacations with pay were given to clerical workers by about 80 percent of the reporting firms, and 439, or 17.9 percent, gave paid vacations to wage earners. Clerical workers were paid for holidays by over 75 percent of the establishments and wage earners by 12 percent.

Nearly one-third of the companies had a regular personnel department; employment records were maintained by more than half of the companies, and labor turn-over records by 936 companies. Employment was centralized in 1,011 firms, transfer in 759, and discharge in 739. Also, 510 companies had adopted a definite lay-off procedure in order to eliminate favoritism and promote fairness to both employees and the company.

The National Industrial Conference Board found that the depression and the N. R. A. together had had a considerable effect upon the extension of the 5-day week. Although 5 years ago it was exceptional, the present study revealed that 1,404, or 57.3 percent, of the companies had a 5-day week for wage earners and 1,110 companies for the clerical workers. Only about 1 percent of the



companies, according to the National Industrial Conference Board report, that had adopted the shorter week had given it up.

Among the companies covered by the study, 434 reported that they had made or were making job analysis studies, and 323 reported studies of job specifications, while there was systematic promotion procedure in 315, 363 had systems for rating, and 345 reported salary classification.

#### Trends, 1927 to 1935

DATA obtained in connection with a study of the economic status of wage earners in 1927 concerning the prevalence of certain employer-employee activities indicate certain trends when compared with the findings of the present study. Thus it would appear that length of service and attendance bonuses and stock-purchase plans have lost favor, while, on the other hand, quality-bonus plans appear to have gained in popularity. Group insurance, mutual-benefit associations, health and accident insurance, and pension plans all had made substantial gains. The report states that, notwithstanding the need for retrenchment during the depression, in general the principal personnel activities have been retained or have been resumed as economic conditions have improved. Although much of the pioneering work in this field started in the northeastern section of the United States, the study shows a relatively greater growth of these activities in recent years in the newer industrial sections of the country.

# INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

## Trend of Strikes <sup>1</sup>

PRELIMINARY information shows 195 new strikes in May 1936. This is a substantial increase over the preceding months of 1936 and an increase of 12 percent over May 1935. The number of workers involved in strikes during the month, however, although greater than in April was smaller than the number in March and approximately one-third less than in May a year ago when the general Pacific Coast lumber strike was in progress.

An analysis of May 1936 strikes, based on detailed and verified information, will appear in the September issue of the Monthly Labor Review.

Trend of Strikes, January 1935 to May 1936 <sup>1</sup>

Month	Number of strikes					Workers involved in strikes—		Man-days idle during month
	Beginning—		In progress during month	Ended in Month	In effect at end of month	Beginning in month	In progress during month	
	Prior to month	In month						
1935								
January .....	73	140	213	130	83	81,194	92,630	720,778
February .....	83	149	232	130	102	64,238	96,533	836,498
March .....	102	175	277	163	114	53,089	98,457	966,980
April .....	114	180	294	161	133	67,857	124,174	1,178,851
May .....	133	174	307	177	130	102,491	151,163	1,697,848
June .....	130	189	319	186	133	48,917	129,784	1,311,278
July .....	133	184	317	179	138	70,046	141,829	1,297,730
August .....	138	239	377	228	149	74,313	150,835	1,191,663
September .....	149	162	311	169	142	453,820	514,427	3,027,040
October .....	142	190	332	200	132	48,223	133,742	1,562,908
November .....	132	142	274	154	120	38,279	100,732	1,003,852
December .....	120	90	210	126	84	14,746	61,782	660,911
1936								
January .....	84	145	229	138	91	30,627	57,374	632,055
February .....	91	132	223	116	107	61,931	88,048	728,705
March .....	107	168	275	157	118	74,475	121,024	1,331,088
April <sup>2</sup> .....	118	165	283	155	128	53,000	83,000	833,000
May <sup>2</sup> .....	128	195	323	180	143	63,000	103,000	1,024,000

<sup>1</sup> Strikes involving fewer than 6 workers or lasting less than 1 day are not included in this table, nor in the tables in the following article. Notices or "leads" regarding strikes are obtained by the Bureau from 670 daily papers, labor papers, and trade journals, as well as from all Government labor boards. Schedules are sent to representatives of all parties in the disputes in order to get detailed and first-hand information. Since schedules for all strikes during the last 2 months have not yet been returned, these figures are given as preliminary. Data for previous months are essentially accurate, although they cannot be considered absolutely final. Occasionally later information is received which might slightly alter these figures. These corrections will be included in subsequent reports.

<sup>2</sup> Preliminary.

<sup>1</sup> The term "strike" is here used in the generic sense to include all stoppages of work due to labor disputes whether initiated by the employers (lock-outs) or by the workers.

## Analysis of Strikes in March 1936

THERE were 275 strikes in progress during March 1936, involving 121,000 workers and resulting in 1,331,000 man-days of idleness during the month. Of the 275 strikes in progress during the month, 168 began in March and 107 began in prior months but continued into March.

The industry groups affected by the greatest number of new strikes during the month were textiles with 46; transportation, 14; building and construction, 14; relief work and W. P. A. projects, 13; lumber and allied products, 12; trade, 10; and domestic and personal service, 10. There were more man-days of idleness in the domestic- and personal-service industries than in any other group, due principally to the strike of elevator operators and building-service employees in New York City.

Table 1.—Strikes in March 1936, by Industry

Industry	Beginning in March		In progress during March		Man-days idle during March
	Number	Workers involved	Number	Workers involved	
<b>All industries</b> .....	<b>168</b>	<b>74,475</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>121,024</b>	<b>1,331,088</b>
<b>Iron and steel and their products, not including machinery</b> .....	<b>4</b>	<b>1,139</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1,339</b>	<b>10,537</b>
Blast furnaces, steel works, and rolling mills.....	2	817	2	817	4,279
Hardware.....	1	31	1	31	403
Wirework.....	1	291	1	200	4,400
Other.....	1	291	1	291	1,455
<b>Machinery, not including transportation equipment</b> .....	<b>3</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>8,649</b>
Agricultural implements.....	1	14	1	166	1,162
Electrical machinery, apparatus, and supplies.....	1	14	1	14	14
Engines, turbines, tractors, and water wheels.....	1	283	1	283	4,245
Foundry and machine-shop products.....	1	14	3	104	1,828
Radio and phonographs.....	1	200	1	200	1,400
<b>Transportation equipment</b> .....	<b>3</b>	<b>761</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3,209</b>	<b>54,968</b>
Automobiles, bodies and parts.....	2	311	5	909	17,318
Shipbuilding.....	1	450	3	2,300	37,650
<b>Nonferrous metals and their products</b> .....	<b>2</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>3,113</b>
Silverware and plated ware.....	2	263	1	70	1,540
Stamped and enameled ware.....	2	263	2	263	1,426
Other.....	2	263	2	263	1,426
<b>Lumber and allied products</b> .....	<b>12</b>	<b>2,016</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>2,743</b>	<b>52,262</b>
Furniture.....	3	76	8	633	7,276
Millwork and planing.....	4	289	4	289	2,500
Sawmills and logging camps.....	3	926	4	1,096	31,204
Other.....	2	725	2	725	11,282
<b>Stone, clay, and glass products</b> .....	<b>1</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1,721</b>	<b>5,013</b>
Cement.....	1	215	1	215	645
Glass.....	1	215	1	600	3,000
Pottery.....	1	215	1	906	1,368
<b>Textiles and their products</b> .....	<b>46</b>	<b>5,110</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>20,279</b>	<b>253,239</b>
Fabrics:					
Carpets and rugs.....	1	150	2	550	1,700
Cotton goods.....	2	91	5	3,127	62,654
Dyeing and finishing textiles.....	2	91	2	91	324
Silk and rayon goods.....	11	1,243	20	3,613	49,572
Woolen and worsted goods.....	1	338	1	338	6,084
Other.....	3	369	4	469	4,003
Wearing apparel:					
Clothing, men's.....	4	608	6	883	9,523
Clothing, women's.....	14	1,146	31	3,089	72,041
Hats, caps, and millinery.....	2	267	4	1,014	10,501
Hosiery.....	2	405	4	1,600	31,350
Knit goods.....	4	318	5	330	3,932
Other.....	2	175	2	175	1,555
<b>Leather and its manufactures</b> .....	<b>7</b>	<b>1,339</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1,339</b>	<b>6,669</b>
Boots and shoes.....	3	825	3	825	4,175
Leather.....	1	300	1	300	300
Other leather goods.....	3	214	3	214	2,194

Table 1.—Strikes in March 1936, by Industry—Continued

Industry	Beginning in March		In progress during March		Man-days idle during March	
	Number	Workers involved	Number	Workers involved		
<b>Food and kindred products</b> .....	8	1,196	10	1,404	14,352	
Baking.....	4	384	5	392	2,618	
Canning and preserving.....			1	200	1,800	
Slaughtering and meat packing.....	4	812	4	812	9,934	
<b>Paper and printing</b> .....	7	518	11	601	6,252	
Boxes, paper.....	2	200	2	200	2,530	
Paper and pulp.....	1	125	1	125	750	
Printing and publishing:						
Book and job.....	2	131	4	172	2,193	
Newspapers and periodicals.....	1	17	2	38	563	
Other.....	1	45	2	66	216	
<b>Chemicals and allied products</b> .....			1	750	16,500	
Chemicals.....	4	1,122	5	15,122	215,801	
<b>Rubber products</b> .....	1	35	2	14,035	210,840	
Rubber tires and inner tubes.....	3	1,087	3	1,087	4,961	
Other rubber goods.....	2	36	4	1,341	26,997	
<b>Miscellaneous manufacturing</b> .....			1	1,250	26,250	
Furriers and fur factories.....	2	36	3	91	747	
Other.....	5	5,321	10	11,882	83,839	
<b>Extraction of minerals</b> .....	1	61	1	61	305	
Coal mining, anthracite.....	4	5,260	7	10,621	61,734	
Coal mining, bituminous.....			1	500	13,000	
Metalliferous mining.....			1	700	8,800	
Quarrying and nonmetallic mining.....	14	2,823	21	3,284	20,169	
<b>Transportation and communication</b> .....	9	2,141	14	2,441	14,708	
Water transportation.....	2	575	3	625	2,100	
Motor-truck transportation.....	1	12	1	12	60	
Motor-bus transportation.....	2	95	3	206	3,301	
Taxicabs and miscellaneous.....	<b>Trade</b> .....	<b>10</b>	<b>1,539</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1,936</b>	<b>19,366</b>
Wholesale.....	3	428	5	538	3,917	
Retail.....	7	1,111	11	1,398	15,449	
<b>Domestic and personal service</b> .....	<b>10</b>	<b>39,629</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>40,916</b>	<b>420,780</b>	
Hotels, restaurants, and boarding houses.....	3	42	4	52	440	
Laundries.....	1	51	4	1,328	6,362	
Dyeing, cleaning, and pressing.....	1	3,000	1	3,000	24,000	
Elevator and maintenance workers (when not attached to specific industry).....	4	36,522	4	36,522	389,866	
Other.....	1	14	1	14	112	
<b>Professional service</b> .....	<b>1</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>340</b>	
Professional.....	1	68	1	68	340	
<b>Building and construction</b> .....	<b>14</b>	<b>1,922</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>2,621</b>	<b>38,534</b>	
Buildings, exclusive of P. W. A.....	6	412	11	942	13,816	
All other construction (bridges, docks, etc., and P. W. A. buildings).....	8	1,510	11	1,679	24,718	
<b>Relief work and W. P. A.</b> .....	<b>13</b>	<b>8,909</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>9,139</b>	<b>71,211</b>	
<b>Other nonmanufacturing industries</b> .....	<b>2</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>2,497</b>	

As shown in table 2, the States experiencing the greatest number of new strikes during March were Pennsylvania with 37, New York with 32, California with 13, New Jersey with 11, and Ohio with 10. The greatest number of workers involved in strikes during the month and the greatest number of man-days of idleness were in New York where the elevator operators and building-service employees were on strike. Next in order was Ohio, where 14,000 employees of the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. were involved in a strike which began in February.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> For an account of the 2 strikes above mentioned, see Monthly Labor Review for June 1936 (p. 1583) and May 1936 (p. 1288), respectively.

Table 2.—Strikes in March 1936, by States

State	Beginning in March		In progress during March		Man-days idle during March
	Number	Workers involved	Number	Workers involved	
All States.....	168	74, 475	275	121, 024	1, 331, 088
Alabama.....	3	350	7	2, 465	60, 758
California.....	13	1, 167	19	3, 380	49, 729
Connecticut.....	2	265	5	816	11, 161
District of Columbia.....	2	34	3	55	521
Georgia.....	2	88	2	88	584
Illinois.....	9	4, 009	14	4, 937	30, 597
Indiana.....	5	1, 296	5	1, 296	6, 783
Iowa.....	1	135	1	135	270
Kentucky.....	1	5, 000	1	5, 000	40, 068
Maryland.....	2	674	3	776	6, 022
Massachusetts.....	6	527	8	5, 389	45, 695
Michigan.....	4	126	5	147	645
Minnesota.....	2	296	4	1, 416	24, 726
Missouri.....	5	1, 107	6	1, 129	12, 988
Montana.....	1	68	2	148	3, 304
New Hampshire.....	1	225	2	625	1, 475
New Jersey.....	11	1, 248	19	1, 692	19, 504
New Mexico.....	1	500	1	500	13, 000
New York.....	32	39, 340	61	44, 242	452, 405
North Carolina.....	1	315	1	315	3, 780
North Dakota.....	1	244	1	244	732
Ohio.....	10	3, 598	20	20, 601	294, 625
Oregon.....	3	388	5	591	5, 298
Pennsylvania.....	37	13, 688	54	15, 799	126, 899
Rhode Island.....	2	657	2	657	1, 285
South Carolina.....	3	1, 262	3	1, 262	26, 526
Tennessee.....	2	25	2	25	153
Texas.....	1	35	1	35	35
Vermont.....	1	700	1	700	8, 800
Virginia.....	1	50	1	50	50
Washington.....	5	1, 032	9	1, 350	13, 790
Wisconsin.....	2	2, 150	3	2, 171	32, 996
Interstate.....	2	1, 338	4	2, 988	35, 884

The average number of workers involved in the 168 strikes beginning in March was 443. More than half of the strikes involved fewer than 100 workers each. The only strike beginning in March which involved more than 10,000 workers was the building-service strike in New York City, referred to above.

Table 3.—Strikes Beginning in March 1936, Classified by Number of Workers Involved

Industrial group	Total	Number of strikes in which the number of workers involved was—					
		6 and under 20	20 and under 100	100 and under 500	500 and under 1,000	1,000 and under 5,000	5,000 and under 10,000
All industries.....	168	30	61	60	8	8	1
<i>Manufacturing</i>							
Iron and steel and their products, not including machinery.....	4		1	2	1		
Machinery.....	3	1		2			
Transportation equipment.....	3		1	2			
Nonferrous metals and their products.....	2		1	1			
Lumber and allied products.....	12	3	4	4	1		
Stone, clay, and glass products.....	1			1			
Textiles and their products.....	46	5	22	19			
Leather and its manufactures.....	7	1	2	3	1		
Food.....	8	1	2	4	1		
Paper and printing.....	7	2	2	3			
Rubber products.....	4		2	1	1		
Miscellaneous manufactures.....	2	1	1				
<i>Nonmanufacturing</i>							
Extraction of minerals.....	5		1	2		2	
Transportation and communication.....	14	2	6	4	1	1	
Trade.....	10	4	2	3	1		
Domestic and personal service.....	10	3	3	2		1	1
Professional service.....	1		1				
Building and construction.....	14	5	5	3		1	
Relief work and W. P. A.....	13	1	4	4	1	3	
Other nonmanufacturing industries.....	2	1	1				

Of the 168 strikes which began in March, 48.8 percent were called over union-organization matters, while in 35.7 percent the major issues involved were wages and hours. The disputes over organization were small on the average, however, including only 18.5 percent of the total number of workers involved, while the wage and hour disputes included 64.2 percent of the workers. This information is taken from table 4 in which the 168 strikes beginning in March are classified according to the major issues involved.

Table 4.—Major Issues Involved in Strikes Beginning in March 1936

Major issue	Strikes		Workers involved	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
All issues.....	168	100.0	74,475	100.0
Wages and hours.....	60	35.7	47,757	64.2
Wage increase.....	29	17.3	43,435	58.4
Wage decrease.....	13	7.7	2,210	3.0
Wage increase, hour decrease.....	12	7.1	1,267	1.7
Wage decrease, hour increase.....	3	1.8	457	.6
Hour increase.....	3	1.8	388	.5
Organization.....	82	48.8	13,811	18.5
Recognition.....	10	6.0	1,002	1.3
Recognition and wages.....	18	10.7	3,368	4.5
Recognition and hours.....	1	.6	20	( <sup>1</sup> )
Recognition, wages, and hours.....	27	16.0	6,463	8.8
Closed shop.....	14	8.3	1,666	2.2
Violation of agreement.....	2	1.2	151	.2
Discrimination.....	10	6.0	1,141	1.5
Miscellaneous.....	26	15.5	12,907	17.3
Sympathy.....	2	1.2	153	.2
Different unions competing for control.....	1	.6	3,500	4.7
Jurisdiction.....	3	1.8	530	.7
Other.....	20	11.9	8,724	11.7

<sup>1</sup> Less than 1/10 of 1 percent.

In table 5 the 157 strikes which ended in March are classified by industry groups and duration. Nearly 40 percent of the strikes ended in less than a week after they began and 60 percent lasted less than one-half month. The average duration of the 157 strikes was approximately 20 calendar days. The three strikes which had been in progress for 3 months or more were (1) a strike against the Saxon (cotton) Mills at Spartanburg, S. C., which began in July 1935; (2) a strike against the California Packing Co. at Terminal Island, Calif., which began in October 1935; and (3) a strike against a number of pottery manufacturing companies in Ohio, which also began in October 1935.

Table 5.—Duration of Strikes Ending in March 1936

Industrial group	Total	Number of strikes with duration of—					
		Less than 1 week	1 week and less than ½ month	½ month and less than 1 month	1 and less than 2 months	2 and less than 3 months	3 months or more
All industries.....	157	59	36	30	24	5	3
<i>Manufacturing</i>							
Iron and steel and their products, not including machinery.....	3	1	2				
Machinery, not including transportation equipment.....	4			2	2		
Transportation equipment.....	4		1		1	2	
Nonferrous metals and their products.....	2	1			1		
Lumber and allied products.....	3	1		2			
Stone, clay, and glass products.....	3	1	1				1
Textiles and their products.....	44	14	11	9	6	3	1
Leather and its manufactures.....	3	2	1				
Food and kindred products.....	6	1	2	1	1		11
Paper and printing.....	6	1	2	1	2		
Rubber products.....	5	2	1	1	1		
Miscellaneous manufactures.....	3	1		1	1		
<i>Nonmanufacturing</i>							
Extraction of minerals.....	3	2	1				
Transportation and communication.....	13	13					
Trade.....	14	4	3	4	3		
Domestic and personal service.....	8	3	3	1	1		
Professional service.....	1		1				
Building and construction.....	12	4	3	2	3		
Relief work and W. P. A.....	13	7	3	3			
Other nonmanufacturing industries.....	7	1	1	3	2		

Approximately 70 percent of the workers involved in the strikes which ended in March obtained settlements with the assistance of Government conciliators or labor boards, and 15 percent obtained settlements through direct negotiations between their union representatives and the employers. Eleven strikes were settled directly by the employers and unorganized workers, and four were settled with the assistance of private conciliators or arbitrators.

As shown in table 6, there were 22 strikes which were terminated without any formal settlements. The workers involved in these

strikes simply dropped their demands and returned to work without settlements, or they lost their jobs when the employers permanently discontinued operations or hired new workers to take the places of the strikers.

Table 6.—Methods of Negotiating Settlements of Strikes Ending in March 1936

Negotiations toward settlements carried on by—	Strikes		Workers involved	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
Total.....	157	100.0	90,976	100.0
Employers and workers directly.....	11	7.0	1,160	1.3
Employers and representatives of organized workers directly.....	69	44.0	13,846	15.2
Government conciliators or labor boards.....	47	30.0	64,453	70.9
Private conciliators or arbitrators.....	4	2.5	318	.3
Terminated without formal settlement.....	22	14.0	11,098	12.2
Not reported.....	4	2.5	101	.1

The results of the 157 strikes which ended in March are indicated in tables 7 and 8. The workers in approximately half of the strikes obtained substantially what they set out to gain. The workers in 24.8 percent of the strikes, including over half of the total number of workers, obtained partial gains or compromises as a result of their strike action, and the workers in 22.3 percent of the strikes gained very little, if anything.

The information in table 8, which shows the relation between the results and the major issues involved, indicates that the workers met with a greater degree of success in the strikes over union organization matters than in those over wages and hours. They won 56 percent of the disputes over organization matters and 52 percent of the disputes over wages and hours; they lost 18 percent of the organization disputes and 27 percent of the wage and hour disputes; they compromised 26 percent of the first group and 21 percent of the latter.

Table 7.—Results of Strikes Ending in March 1936

Result	Strikes		Workers involved	
	Number	Percent of total	Number	Percent of total
Total.....	157	100.0	90,976	100.0
Substantial gains to workers.....	78	49.8	27,919	30.8
Partial gains or compromises.....	39	24.8	46,864	51.5
Little or no gains to workers.....	35	22.3	11,022	12.1
Jurisdictional or rival union settlements.....	4	2.5	3,771	4.1
Not reported.....	1	.6	1,400	1.5



Table 8.—Results of Strikes Ending in March 1936, in Relation to Major Issues Involved

Major issues	Total	Number of strikes resulting in—					Undetermined	Not reported
		Substantial gains to workers	Partial gains or compromises	Little or no gains to workers	Jurisdictional or rival union settlements			
All issues.....	157	78	39	35	4	1		
Wages and hours.....	52	27	11	14				
Wage increase.....	29	16	7	6				
Wage decrease.....	10	4	2	4				
Wage increase, hours decrease.....	8	4	2	2				
Wage decrease, hour increase.....	3	1		2				
Hour increase.....	2	2						
Organization.....	78	44	20	14				
Recognition.....	8	5	1	2				
Recognition and wages.....	24	15	5	4				
Recognition, wages, and hours.....	24	13	9	2				
Closed shop.....	11	5	3	3				
Violation of agreement.....	3	3						
Discrimination.....	8	3	2	3				
Miscellaneous.....	27	7	8	7	4	1		
Sympathy.....	1			1				
Different unions competing for control.....	1				1			
Jurisdiction.....	3				3			
Other.....	22	7	8	6		1		

### Conciliation Work of the Department of Labor in May 1936

DURING May 1936, the Secretary of Labor, through the Conciliation Service, exercised her good offices in connection with 93 disputes, which affected a known total of 61,064 employees. Of these disputes, 50 were adjusted, 3 were referred to other agencies, 2 were settled by the parties at interest, 4 could not be adjusted, and 34 were still pending. The table following shows the name and location of the establishment or industry in which the dispute occurred, the nature of the dispute (whether strike or lock-out, or controversy not having reached the strike or lock-out stage), the craft or trade concerned, the cause of the dispute, its present status, the terms of settlement, the date of beginning and ending, and the number of workers directly and indirectly involved.

## Labor Disputes Handled by Commissioners of Conciliation During the Month of May 1936

Company or industry and location	Nature of controversy	Craftsmen concerned	Cause of dispute	Present status and terms of settlement	Date of assignment	Assignment completed	Workers involved	
							Directly	Indirectly
Fenton Glass Co., Williams-town, W. Va.	Strike.....	Glass workers.....	Agreement covering wages and closed shop.	Adjusted. Satisfactory agree- ment; union men to be given preference.	1936 May 5	1936 May 8	200	6
Nissen Brothers, San Antonio, Tex.	do.....	Beauty-parlor opera- tors.	Reduced commission.....	Adjusted. Returned without dis- crimination.	do.....	May 25	(1)	-----
Waukesha Motor Co., Wau- keshia, Wis.	Threatened strike.	Mechanics.....	Agreement covering wages, sen- iority rights, and overtime rates.	Adjusted. Agreement providing 40-hour week, seniority rights, satisfactory wages, and collective bargaining.	May 4	May 26	1,200	300
Belgard Optical Co. and Bel- gard Spero Optical Co., Chi- cago, Ill.	Strike.....	Optical workers.....	Longer hours without increase in pay.	Pending.....	do.....	-----	7	7
Narcotic farm buildings, Fort Worth, Tex.	do.....	Plasterers.....	Wages, working conditions, and closed shop.	Adjusted. Satisfactory signed agreement.	do.....	May 19	58	550
Continental Clay Products Co., Kittanning, Pa.	do.....	Brick and clay workers.	Working conditions.....	Adjusted. Satisfactory agree- ment.	May 5	May 11	34	70
Sewage-disposal plant, Eliza- beth, N. J.	Controversy.	Carpenters, ironwork- ers, and laborers.	Wage rates and union conditions..	Adjusted. Carpenters \$1.20, iron- workers \$1.75, and laborers 75 cents per hour.	do.....	May 22	125	-----
Boat yards, Los Angeles, Calif.	Strike.....	Boat carpenters.....	Wages, hours, and collective bar- gaining.	Unclassified. Referred to Public Works Administration.	do.....	May 11	500	-----
Blue Ridge Lines, Washing- ton, Pa.	Controversy.	Bus drivers.....	Renewal of agreement providing 10 cents increase per hour and closed shop.	Pending.....	May 1	-----	51	50
Hatters and cap makers, St. Louis, Mo.	Strike.....	Hatters.....	Asked 40-hour week, restoration of \$15 per week minimum, and union recognition.	Adjusted. 1-year agreement; 40-hour week, union recognition, and satisfactory wages.	May 6	May 11	400	125
Knickerbocker High School Building, Troy, N. Y.	Controversy.	Building trades.....	Jurisdiction.....	Unclassified. Settled by unions involved in dispute.	May 2	May 6	10	50
H. D. Lee Mercantile Co., South Bend, Ind.	Threatened strike.	Shipping clerks.....	Wage increase and working con- ditions.	Pending.....	do.....	-----	15	-----
Major Upholstery Co., Brook- lyn, N. Y.	Strike.....	Upholsterers.....	Reorganization of union and working conditions.	do.....	Feb. 15	-----	30	-----
Nite Kraft Co., Newark N. J.	do.....	Pajama makers.....	Asked wage increase and union recognition.	Adjusted. Union recognition; agreed to adjust wages and con- ditions in conference.	Apr. 27	May 6	300	100
Filling-station employees, Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minn.	do.....	Station attendants.....	Protested leasing of stations, as being violation of agreement.	Adjusted. Satisfactory award made by Dr. Lapp.	May 6	May 12	1,200	-----

Metropolitan Baking Co. and Victor Baking Co., Jersey City, N. J.	.....do.....	Bakery workers.....	Working conditions.....	Pending.....	.....do.....			(1)	-----
Schorsch & Co., New York City.	.....do.....	Paper-bag makers.....	Asked 12½ percent increase and closed shop.	.....do.....	Mar. 24			125	-----
Garage mechanics, Beckley, W. Va.	Lock-out.....	Mechanics.....	Asked agreement.....	.....do.....	May 7			65	-----
Garage mechanics, Portland, Oreg.	Strike.....	.....do.....	Alleged discrimination.....	.....do.....	May 10			550	-----
Post-office building, Philadelphia, Pa.	.....do.....	Building-trades workers.	Signed agreement covering working conditions.	Adjusted. Satisfactory signed agreement.	May 5	May 7		20	105
Mayer Packing Co., Madison, Wis.	Threatened strike.	Butcher workers.....	Wage increase; discharges.....	Adjusted. Reinstated workers in former positions, seniority rights, and increase to 1 worker.	May 8	May 21		400	100
Post-office building, Chester, Pa.	Strike.....	Engineers, plumbers, and carpenters.	Asked prevailing rates.....	Pending.....	May 7			(1)	-----
Peter Greenberg & Sons, Pottsville, Pa.	.....do.....	Wholesale grocery drivers.	Working conditions.....	.....do.....	May 4			10	-----
Adelphia Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa.	.....do.....	Hotel workers.....	Wages and working conditions.....	Unclassified. Settled before arrival of commissioner.	May 6	May 14		250	-----
Field workers, Salinas, Calif.	.....do.....	Vegetable workers.....	Alleged violation of agreement.....	Adjusted. Satisfactory settlement and majority returned to work.	May 8	May 15		250	3,000
J. P. Stetson School building, Philadelphia, Pa.	.....do.....	Building-trades workers.	(1).....	Pending.....	May 6			(1)	-----
Limestone workers, New Bedford, Ind.	.....do.....	Engineers.....	Asked signed agreement providing 10 cents increase per hour.	Adjusted. Agreed to complete contractual year without increase; 60 cents per hour.	May 8	May 28		140	1,300
City Hall, Delaware, Ohio.....	.....do.....	Electrical workers.....	Protest nonunion electrical subcontract.	Adjusted. Returned with satisfactory agreement.	May 4	May 12		30	-----
Local and long-distance truck drivers, Cleveland, Ohio and other points.	.....do.....	Truck drivers.....	Asked wage increase.....	Adjusted. Increase of 5 cents per hour and agreed to arbitrate other differences.	May 11	May 14		4,500	-----
Parcel-post building, Boston, Mass.	.....do.....	Ironworkers.....	Jurisdiction.....	Adjusted. Work divided between carpenters and ironworkers.	May 1	May 15		300	-----
Northwest Brewing Co., Tacoma, Wash.	Controversy.....	Teamsters.....	Working conditions.....	Pending.....	Apr. 25			(1)	-----
General Utilities Corporation, Chicago, Ill.	Strike.....	Tool and die makers.....	Asked 15 percent increase.....	Unable to adjust.....	May 13	May 26		40	-----
Shell Oil Co., San Francisco, Calif.	Controversy.....	Machinists, electrical workers, and boiler-makers.	Alleged violation of agreement.....	Pending.....	May 12			(1)	-----
Leon Ferenbach Co., Bradford, Pa.	.....do.....	Silk workers.....	Discharges and violation of agreement.	.....do.....	.....do.....			75	50
Soboroff & Rosenwal, Chicago, Ill.	Strike.....	Cap makers.....	Asked \$15 minimum per week, 40-hour week, and union recognition.	Adjusted. Satisfactory; signed union agreement.	May 2	June 2		250	11
Upholstery plants, Milwaukee, Wis.	.....do.....	Upholsters.....	Closed shop asked.....	Pending.....	May 25			100	25

<sup>1</sup> Not reported.

Labor Disputes Handled by Commissioners of Conciliation During the Month of May 1936—Continued

Company or industry and location	Nature of controversy	Craftsmen concerned	Cause of dispute	Present status and terms of settlement	Date of assignment	Assignment completed	Workers involved	
							Directly	Indirectly
Remington-Rand Typewriter Co., Buffalo, Elmira, and Iton, N. Y., and other cities.	Controversy	Metal polishers.....	General conditions in the industry.	Pending.....	1936 May 5	1936	7,000	-----
Allegheny Steel Co., Tarentum, Pa.		Steel-plant workers.....	Collection of wages to be applied on relief for unemployed.	Unable to adjust.....	May 6	May 21	187	-----
Easton Dress Co., Easton, Pa.		Dress workers.....	Wages, hours, and union agreement with check-off.	Adjusted. Minimum, \$13 per week; 40-hour week; closed shop; and check-off, with signed agreement.	May 14	May 19	80	-----
Allen Manufacturing Co., Nashville, Tenn.	Lock-out	Molders.....	Locked out for union affiliation; asked collective bargaining.	Unclassified. Regional Board handling dispute.	May 15	May 23	48	106
Building, Franklin, Pa.		Carpenters.....	Carpenters asked 95 cents, bricklayers and plasterers \$1.50 per hour.	Pending.....	do	do	32	-----
Colonial Salt Works, Akron, Ohio.	do	Salt workers.....	Wages and agreement.....	Adjusted. Signed agreement providing 10 percent increase.	May 4	May 20	225	-----
Albany Florist Co., Chicago, Ill.	Controversy	Teamsters.....	Protested 1 nonunion driver.....	Adjusted. All union drivers employed.	May 14	May 15	3	-----
Postal station, Philadelphia, Pa.		Ironworkers.....	Protested nonunion ironworkers.....	Adjusted. Signed union agreement.	Apr. 30	May 14	6	44
Logging companies, Columbia River, Wash. and Oreg.	do	Loggers.....	Hiring hall and rates of pay.....	Pending.....	May 17	-----	6,000	5,000
St. Johns Table Co., Cadillac, Mich.	do	Carpenters.....	Asked union recognition and signed agreement.	Adjusted. Satisfactory; signed memorandum.	May 11	May 20	120	90
Post-office building, Easton, Pa.	do	Carpenters and electrical workers.	Wage rates.....	Adjusted. Electricians increased to \$1 and carpenters to 95 cents per hour.	May 16	May 22	50	-----
International Resistance Co., Philadelphia, Pa.	do	Radio workers.....	Asked increase, closed shop, and improved conditions.	Pending.....	May 11	-----	300	-----
Gill Glass & Fixture Co., Philadelphia, Pa.	Controversy	Glass and fixture.....	Wage increase, union recognition, and collective bargaining.	Adjusted. Agreed to meet union and arbitrate differences.	do	May 18	50	12
Rochester Packing Co., Rochester, N. Y.		Meat cutters, firemen, engineers, etc.	Dispute among unions and wage increases.	Adjusted. Increases ranging from 2 to 6 cents per hour.	May 18	May 23	200	100
Horn & Hardart Baking Co., Philadelphia, Pa.	Strike	Bakery workers.....	Asked signed agreement.....	Pending.....	May 16	-----	88	20
Bahls Restaurant, Philadelphia, Pa.		Restaurant workers.....	Discharge of union employees.....	do.....	May 15	-----	72	6
Queens Premier Fur Co., Easton, Pa.	do	Fur workers.....	Asked signed agreement and New York scale of wages.	do.....	May 14	-----	156	-----

Shell Pipeline Corporation, Houston and Colorado, Tex.	Controversy	Oil workers	Asked election to select workmen's committee.	Adjusted. Election held and committee selected.	May 15	June 4	363	-----
Standard Oil of Indiana, Sugar Creek, Mo.	do	do	Asked decision under Industrial Relations plan.	Adjusted. Decision accepted.	May 18	do	60	-----
Poultry workers, New York City.	do	Poultry workers and teamsters.	Wages, hours, and conditions	Pending	May 12		(1)	-----
Central Pattern & Foundry Co., Chicago, Ill.	Lock-out	Molders	Discharge of 17 workers	Adjusted. Company agreed to take workmen back as needed.	Apr. 13	May 16	24	-----
Bisbee Linseed Oil Co., Chicago Heights, Ill.	do	Linseed-oil workers	Discharges for union affiliation	Pending	May 20		71	15
Courthouse building project, Salinas, Calif.	Strike	Laborers	Laborers asked 75 cents per hour.	do	May 9		20	100
Export Line ships, Santa Barbara, Calif.	Threatened strike	Masters, mates, pilots, and radiomen.	Wages and agreements covering conditions of labor.	Adjusted. Satisfactory agreement.	Apr. 28	June 2	60	-----
Vulcan Soot Blower Corporation, DuBois, Pa.	do	Machinists	Asked 65 and 80 cents per hour	Adjusted. Increase of 12½ percent, time and half for overtime, and minimum for beginners.	May 19	June 8	22	-----
Standard Fur Dressing Co., Chicago, Ill.	Strike	Fur workers	Failure to comply with agreement.	Adjusted. Satisfactory agreement and established method of settling future difficulties.	May 18	May 19	21	-----
Orleans Stores, Chicago, Ill.	Controversy	Tailors and bushelmen	Asked union contract	Adjusted. Signed union agreement.	May 1	May 18	3	-----
Blossom Dress Co., Scranton, Pa.	Strike	Dress workers	Wages and long hours	Adjusted. Increase of \$2 per week with gradual increases to follow.	May 22	May 27	198	-----
Garage mechanics, Superior, Wis.	Threatened strike	Mechanics	Renewal of agreements providing 20 percent increase and closed shop.	Adjusted. Journeymen, 5 cents per hour increase; foremen and managers, \$5 per week increase; seniority rights and guaranty for helpers.	Apr. 19	June 5	75	94
Snellenburg & Co. warehouse, Philadelphia, Pa.	Strike	Teamsters	Asked increase	Adjusted. Returned without discrimination; no increase.	May 18	May 20	30	70
Renown Stove Co., Owosso, Mich.	do	Mounters and foundry workers.	Wage increases and change in piecework system.	Adjusted. Satisfactory agreement; agreed on joint conferences to adjust differences.	Apr. 24	May 3	61	119
Wheeling Steel Corporation, Portsmouth, Ohio.	do	Steel workers	Wages and union recognition	Pending	May 23		5,500	-----
Nass Dress Co., Hazleton, Pa.	do	Dress workers	Wage cuts	Unable to adjust. Plant closed	May 20	June 8	77	23
Building project, Austin, Tex.	do	Carpenters	Declined to work Saturdays	Unclassified. Referred to Public Works Administration.	May 22	May 28	26	124
Benjamin Franklin Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa.	do	Hotel workers	Wages and union recognition	Adjusted. Increase of 10 percent for kitchen workers, recognition, and improved conditions.	May 21	May 30	74	376
Buildings projects, Rock Island, Moline, and East Moline, Ill., and Davenport, Iowa.	do	Electricians	Asked increase of 5 cents per hour	Adjusted. Present Public Works contracts continued without change in rates; other work, increase of 5 cents per hour as of May 1, and 2½ cents additional on Nov. 1, this year.	May 11	June 7	60	200
Building trades, Adams City and other points, Colo.	do	Building-trades workers.	Asked wage increases	Adjusted. Satisfactory wage adjustments.	May 25	June 1	(1)	-----

<sup>1</sup> Not reported.

## Labor Disputes Handled by Commissioners of Conciliation During the Month of May 1936—Continued

Company or industry and location	Nature of controversy	Craftsmen concerned	Cause of dispute	Present status and terms of settlement	Date of assignment	Assignment completed	Workers involved	
							Directly	Indirectly
City Transfer & Storage Co., Long Beach, Calif.	Control- versy.	Teamsters.....	Working conditions and wages....	Adjusted. Wage increase allowed; returned to work.	1936 May 19	1936 May 27	60	-----
Tennessee Coal, Iron & Railroad Co., Bessemer, Ala.	Threatened strike.	Mine, mill, and smelter workers.	Protested company's proposed "incentive plan."	Pending.....	May 22	-----	2,200	6,000
Dahlstrom Metallic Door Co., Buffalo, N. Y.	Strike.....	Metal workers.....	Wage increase and shorter hours..	Adjusted. Increase of 4 cents per hour, 43-hour week, and time and half for overtime; all reinstated.	May 25	May 26	300	50
Empire Case Goods Co., Jamestown, N. Y.	Control- versy.	Furniture workers.....	Asked 10 percent increase.....	Adjusted. Agreed to settle difficulties by negotiation between employer and workers.	May 1	June 1	300	25
Elkhorn Coal Corp., Lackey and Garrett, Ky.	Strike.....	Carpenters.....	Wages and working conditions....	Unable to adjust. Further conferences refused.	May 25	June 2	280	3,500
M. & W. Spector, Shenandoah, Pa.	....do.....	Wholesale grocery workers.	....do.....	Pending.....	May 26	-----	(1)	-----
Regional High School, Springfield, N. J.	Control- versy.	Carpenters.....	Violation of agreement.....	Adjusted. Returned to work....	May 27	June 9	(1)	-----
Central State Building, Exposition, Dallas, Tex.	Strike.....	Building-trades workers.	Wages and working conditions....	Pending.....	May 29	-----	(1)	-----
Goodrich-Silvertown Co., Akron, Ohio.	Threatened strike.	Station attendants....	Union recognition, seniority rights, and revised agreement.	Adjusted. Satisfactory (terms not yet received).	May 15	June 11	55	-----
Helpers to marble setters, Washington, D. C.	Strike.....	Marble workers.....	Asked wage increase to \$1 per hour.	Adjusted. Returned; agreed to negotiate differences.	May 29	May 29	10	70
Bristol Bay Packing Co., Oakland, Calif.	Control- versy.	Fish-cannery workers..	Working conditions.....	Pending.....	May 22	-----	600	-----
Union Terminal Motor Lines, Inc., Baltimore, Md.	Strike.....	Bus drivers.....	Asked increases .....	Adjusted. Long-distance drivers, increase of \$1 per trip; city drivers, increase of \$2 per week.	May 15	May 29	23	6
C. & W. Motor Lines, Inc., Baltimore, Md., and other points.	Strike.....	....do.....	Wages and conditions.....	Adjusted. Satisfactory agreement.	May 15	May 28	25	10
Berg Grocery, Chicago, Ill.	....do.....	Clerks.....	Asked union agreement.....	Adjusted. Union agreement signed.	May 9	May 21	2	3
Bridgeport Chain & Mfg. Co., Bridgeport, Conn.	Threatened strike.	Machinists.....	Asked increase of 10 cents per hour for skilled mechanics and 10 percent increase for unskilled.	Pending.....	Feb. 15	-----	51	-----
Nicholson Steamship Co., Milwaukee, Wis.	Strike.....	Truck drivers and long-shoremen.	Asked 85 cents per hour and agreement.	Adjusted. Increase of 5 to 15 cents per hour; cargoes released.	May 27	May 31	8	-----
Pattison Supply & Mfg. Co., Cleveland, Ohio.	Threatened strike.	Metal workers.....	Wages and seniority rights.....	Pending.....	May 29	-----	60	-----

Automatic File & Index Co., Green Bay, Wis.	Strike.....	Employees.....	Wages, hours, and union recogni- tion.	Adjusted. Wage increases ranging from 2½ to 4 cents per hour, 9- hour day, and overtime rates fixed.	Apr. 14	May 7	26	5
Diamond Match Co., Barber- ton, and Ohio Match Co., Wadsworth, Ohio.	do.....	Match workers.....	Asked agreement.....	Pending.....	June 6		700	850
Department and clothing stores, Terre Haute, Ind.	Threatened strike.	Retail clerks.....	Asked increases, closed shop, and fixed hours.	do.....	May 20		300	600
Total.....							37,597	23,467

<sup>1</sup> Not reported.

# LABOR TURN-OVER

## Labor Turn-Over in Manufacturing Establishments, April 1936

THE hiring rate at manufacturing establishments in April exceeded that of any other month since October 1935, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' monthly survey of labor turn-over. The lay-off rate in April was lower than in the corresponding month of last year, but slightly higher than in March 1936.

### All Manufacturing

THE turn-over rates represent the number of changes per 100 employees on the pay rolls during the month. These data are compiled from reports received by the Bureau of Labor Statistics from more than 5,000 representative manufacturing establishments in 144 industries. Nearly 2,200,000 workers were employed by the firms reporting to the Bureau in April.

The quit rate increased from 0.86 in March to 1.16 in April. This rise was partially the result of labor disputes in some industries. The discharge rate in April was slightly higher than in the preceding month or in the corresponding month of last year. The lay-off rate of 1.92 was higher than in March but showed a sharp decline compared with April 1935. Total separations of all kinds were 3.29 per 100 persons on the pay roll, compared with 2.88 in March. A sharp rise was indicated in the accession rate compared with the preceding month and the corresponding month in 1935.

Table 1.—Monthly Labor Turn-Over Rates (per 100 Employees) in Representative Factories in 144 Industries

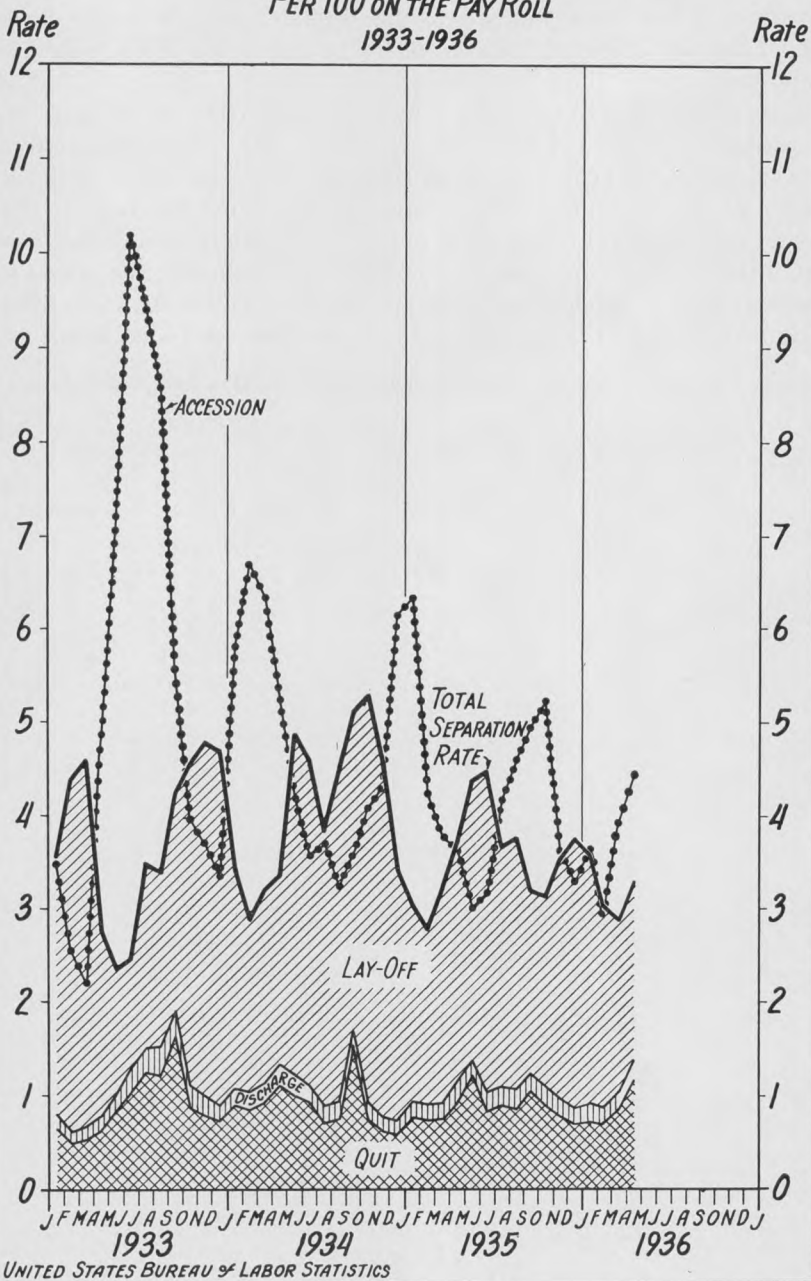
Class of rate and year	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Average
Quit rate:													
1936.....	0.71	0.68	0.86	1.16									
1935.....	.76	.73	.75	.93	1.21	0.83	0.90	0.86	1.05	0.89	0.77	0.69	0.86
Discharge rate:													
1936.....	.20	.17	.19	.21									
1935.....	.18	.18	.17	.20	.17	.20	.20	.21	.19	.21	.20	.18	.19
Lay-off rate: <sup>1</sup>													
1936.....	2.66	2.21	1.83	1.92									
1935.....	2.10	1.88	2.32	2.60	3.00	3.46	2.57	2.70	1.95	2.03	2.58	2.89	2.51
Total separation rate:													
1936.....	3.57	3.06	2.88	3.29									
1935.....	3.04	2.79	3.24	3.73	4.38	4.49	3.67	3.77	3.19	3.13	3.55	3.76	3.56
Accession rate:													
1936.....	3.65	2.95	3.97	4.46									
1935.....	6.33	4.23	3.79	3.63	3.01	3.18	4.17	4.60	4.95	5.23	3.63	3.30	4.17

<sup>1</sup> Including temporary, indeterminate, and permanent lay-offs.



# LABOR TURN-OVER RATES in MANUFACTURING

PER 100 ON THE PAY ROLL  
1933-1936



UNITED STATES BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

75264-36-8

## Thirteen Industries

IN ADDITION to the information for manufacturing as a whole, details of labor turn-over are available for 13 separate manufacturing industries. For these industries, the Bureau's sample covers firms accounting for at least 25 percent of the total number of wage earners employed.

In 9 of the 13 industries for which separate rates are shown, the accession rate exceeded the total separation rate. The highest quit rate (2.04) was indicated in the sawmill industry, the lowest (0.67) in boot and shoe manufacturing. Sawmills registered the highest discharge rate, men's clothing the lowest. The highest lay-off and total separation rates occurred in the men's clothing industry, the lowest in iron and steel. The highest accession rate (13.13) was shown in brick manufacturing, and the lowest (1.11) in the boot and shoe industry.

Table 2.—Monthly Turn-Over Rates (per 100 Employees) in Specified Industries

Class of rates	April 1936	March 1936	April 1935	April 1936	March 1936	April 1935	April 1936	March 1936	April 1935
	Automobiles and bodies			Automobile parts			Boots and shoes		
Quit.....	1.40	0.92	1.96	1.66	1.40	1.33	0.67	0.68	0.59
Discharge.....	.25	.18	.37	.32	.39	.31	.16	.18	.16
Lay-off.....	1.22	1.77	1.95	1.96	2.81	5.56	2.01	1.78	2.15
Total separation.....	2.87	2.87	4.28	3.94	4.60	7.20	2.84	2.64	2.90
Accession.....	5.81	4.98	5.54	6.64	5.87	3.32	1.11	1.85	1.21
	Bricks			Cigars and cigarettes			Cotton manufacturing		
Quit.....	1.11	0.84	11.42	1.40	0.93	1.17	1.39	1.16	1.26
Discharge.....	.27	.20	.05	.26	.25	.14	.32	.30	.26
Lay-off.....	2.17	2.93	5.87	.82	1.45	2.71	2.11	2.29	3.93
Total separation.....	3.55	3.97	17.34	2.48	2.63	4.02	3.82	3.75	5.45
Accession.....	13.13	13.09	9.92	3.29	3.09	2.57	3.79	2.97	2.99
	Foundries and machine shops			Furniture			Iron and steel		
Quit.....	1.17	1.07	0.78	0.93	0.81	0.60	0.79	0.75	0.62
Discharge.....	.29	.29	.30	.25	.17	.19	.08	.10	.06
Lay-off.....	1.25	1.32	2.74	3.09	3.16	3.82	.44	.68	1.27
Total separation.....	2.71	2.68	3.82	4.27	4.14	4.61	1.31	1.53	1.95
Accession.....	5.85	5.17	4.70	3.72	3.45	3.08	5.43	2.51	1.26
	Men's clothing			Petroleum refining			Sawmills		
Quit.....	0.93	0.80	0.90	0.69	0.60	0.38	2.04	1.57	2.33
Discharge.....	.04	.07	.18	.09	.08	.11	.34	.31	.35
Lay-off.....	7.65	1.86	3.44	1.92	1.90	1.29	3.22	3.06	3.89
Total separation.....	8.62	2.73	4.52	2.70	2.58	1.78	5.60	4.94	6.57
Accession.....	1.94	2.45	3.26	4.12	3.48	2.14	8.90	9.86	10.05
	Slaughtering and meat packing								
Quit.....	0.78	0.81	0.58						
Discharge.....	.23	.21	.28						
Lay-off.....	5.57	5.95	8.19						
Total separation.....	6.58	6.97	9.05						
Accession.....	6.61	6.52	8.71						

## Labor Turn-Over in Furniture Manufacturing, 1934 and 1935

THE 174 identical establishments in the furniture-manufacturing industry reporting labor turn-over to the Bureau of Labor Statistics for the years 1934 and 1935 employed an average of 27,736 workers in 1934 and 31,610 in 1935. These employment figures represent approximately 20 percent of the total number of workers in the industry.<sup>1</sup>

A comparison of the annual labor turn-over rates in the furniture-manufacturing industry with the annual rates for all manufacturing in 1934 and 1935 indicates that in both years the rates were higher in the furniture industry than in all manufacturing. In the furniture industry the total separation rates were 60.43 in 1934 and 45.20 in 1935, as against 49.17 in 1934 and 42.74 in 1935 in all manufacturing. Accession rates in 1934 and 1935 in the furniture industry were also higher than in all manufacturing. The accession rate in 1934 in the furniture industry was 58.69 and in all manufacturing the rate was 56.91; in 1935 the rate in the furniture industry was 57.28 compared with a rate of 50.05 in all manufacturing.

Table 1 shows the number of firms, number of employees, quits, discharges, lay-offs, total separations, and accessions in 174 identical furniture plants, by rate groups, for the years 1934 and 1935.

Table 1.—Changes in Personnel in 174 Identical Firms in Furniture Manufacturing, 1934 and 1935, by Rate Groups

Rate group	<i>Quits</i>					
	Number of firms		Number of employees		Number of quits	
	1934	1935	1934	1935	1934	1935
Under 2.5 percent.....	82	70	8,861	9,270	62	55
2.5 and under 5 percent.....	24	16	4,591	2,713	187	102
5 and under 7.5 percent.....	22	21	5,641	3,794	372	232
7.5 and under 10 percent.....	17	20	4,803	4,868	415	438
10 and under 15 percent.....	12	20	2,217	7,177	271	828
15 and under 20 percent.....	7	9	621	1,472	105	252
20 and under 25 percent.....	2	5	163	548	36	121
25 and under 30 percent.....	3	4	374	821	101	227
30 and under 35 percent.....	1	0	63	0	22	0
35 percent and over.....	4	9	402	947	260	771
Total.....	174	174	27,736	31,610	1,831	3,026

<sup>1</sup> This is the second article published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics on labor turn-over, by size of firm, in the furniture industry. The first appeared in *Monthly Labor Review*, August 1934 (p. 400).

Table 1.—Changes in Personnel in 174 Identical Firms in Furniture Manufacturing, 1934 and 1935, by Rate Groups—Continued

*Discharges*

Rate group	Number of firms		Number of employees		Number of discharges	
	1934	1935	1934	1935	1934	1935
Under 0.5 percent.....	96	99	10,565	14,040	6	15
0.5 and under 1 percent.....	9	11	2,902	2,598	19	19
1 and under 2 percent.....	20	14	4,542	3,795	53	49
2 and under 3 percent.....	15	12	3,023	2,396	76	55
3 and under 4 percent.....	11	13	1,447	2,745	48	98
4 and under 5 percent.....	3	2	544	571	24	24
5 and under 7 percent.....	6	8	2,741	3,092	167	188
7 and under 9 percent.....	2	5	315	1,023	23	74
9 and under 11 percent.....	1	2	109	246	11	24
11 percent and over.....	11	8	1,548	1,104	388	183
Total.....	174	174	27,736	31,610	815	729

*Lay-offs*<sup>1</sup>

Rate group	Number of firms		Number of employees		Number of lay-offs	
	1934	1935	1934	1935	1934	1935
Under 5 percent.....	29	27	4,620	4,356	47	83
5 and under 10 percent.....	9	24	1,676	4,632	126	330
10 and under 20 percent.....	26	27	4,901	7,810	683	1,239
20 and under 30 percent.....	18	19	3,079	2,818	737	761
30 and under 40 percent.....	17	22	2,784	3,942	958	1,329
40 and under 60 percent.....	19	17	3,156	2,560	1,642	1,306
60 and under 90 percent.....	22	19	3,247	2,266	2,362	1,662
90 and under 120 percent.....	10	8	1,207	1,778	1,212	1,734
120 and under 150 percent.....	9	3	1,075	540	1,385	726
150 percent and over.....	15	8	1,991	908	3,955	2,075
Total.....	174	174	27,736	31,610	13,107	11,245

*Total separations*

Rate group	Number of firms		Number of employees		Total separations	
	1934	1935	1934	1935	1934	1935
Under 10 percent.....	24	25	2,691	2,643	161	155
10 and under 20 percent.....	21	29	4,032	5,841	579	884
20 and under 30 percent.....	22	22	4,112	5,497	1,056	1,315
30 and under 40 percent.....	20	26	4,232	6,007	1,488	2,099
40 and under 60 percent.....	19	19	3,209	3,230	1,567	1,515
60 and under 90 percent.....	30	24	4,931	3,869	3,673	2,807
90 and under 120 percent.....	9	11	1,216	2,338	1,237	2,322
120 and under 150 percent.....	10	9	1,001	1,246	1,307	1,690
150 and under 180 percent.....	7	2	1,418	191	2,407	322
180 percent and over.....	12	7	894	748	2,278	1,891
Total.....	174	174	27,736	31,610	15,753	15,000

<sup>1</sup> Including temporary, indeterminate, and permanent lay-offs.

Table 1.—Changes in Personnel in 174 Identical Firms in Furniture Manufacturing, 1934 and 1935, by Rate Groups—Continued

<i>Accessions</i>						
Rate group	Number of firms		Number of employees		Number of accessions	
	1934	1935	1934	1935	1934	1935
Under 5 percent.....	6	7	991	696	9	15
5 and under 10 percent.....	12	4	1,856	268	131	25
10 and under 20 percent.....	17	17	2,617	2,150	376	342
20 and under 30 percent.....	12	22	2,280	4,600	527	1,153
30 and under 40 percent.....	18	26	3,840	3,686	1,307	1,317
40 and under 50 percent.....	11	23	3,280	5,589	1,463	2,518
50 and under 70 percent.....	28	30	4,654	6,790	2,678	4,166
70 and under 110 percent.....	30	27	2,742	4,942	2,461	4,231
110 and under 150 percent.....	24	4	3,937	1,352	4,830	1,798
150 percent and over.....	16	14	1,539	1,537	3,181	3,540
Total.....	174	174	27,736	31,610	16,963	19,105

The annual quit rate in the furniture industry increased from 7.42 in 1934 to 8.57 in 1935. In 1934, 106 firms employing more than 13,000 workers, and in 1935, 86 firms with nearly 12,000 employees had a quit rate of less than 5 percent. In the group showing a quit rate of over 25 percent, there were 8 firms with more than 800 employees on the pay roll in 1934 and 13 firms with more than 1,700 workers in 1935.

Ninety-six of the 174 firms had discharge rates of less than 0.5 percent in 1934. These firms employed more than 10,000 workers. In 1935, in the group with discharge rates of 0.5 percent or less, there were 99 firms employing approximately 14,000 wage earners. Twenty firms employing more than 4,600 workers in 1934, and 23 firms with nearly 5,500 on the pay rolls in 1935, had discharge rates of over 5 percent.

Thirty-eight firms with approximately 6,300 employees had a lay-off rate of less than 10 percent in 1934; in 1935, 51 firms employing nearly 9,000 workers were in the same rate group. On the other hand, 24 firms employing 3,000 persons in 1934 and 11 firms with 1,448 workers reported a lay-off rate of 120 percent and over.

The number of firms with a quit rate of less than 5 percent decreased from 106 in 1934 to 86 in 1935, and the number of firms with a lay-off rate of less than 10 percent increased from 38 in 1934 to 51 in 1935. An increase in the quit rate accompanied by a lower lay-off rate indicates improved employment conditions. An improved labor market is also reflected in the accession rates. Eighteen firms with 2,847 workers had an accession rate of less than 10 percent in 1934. In 1935 only 11 firms employing 964 persons were found in this group. The total number of accessions recorded, increased from 16,963 in 1934 to 19,105 in 1935.

Table 2 shows comparative labor turn-over rates in 174 identical establishments in the furniture industry for the years 1934 and 1935, by the size of establishment.

Table 2.—Comparative Labor Turn-Over Rates, 1934 and 1935, in Furniture-Manufacturing Firms, by Size of Establishment

Item	Firms having—			
	Under 75 employees, 1934	75 or more employees, 1934	Under 75 employees, 1935	75 or more employees, 1935
Quit rate.....	4.79	6.80	8.64	9.68
Discharge rate.....	2.43	2.99	1.87	2.35
Lay-off rate.....	57.80	46.09	44.36	34.60
Total separation rate.....	65.02	55.88	54.87	46.63
Accession rate.....	78.90	59.20	61.15	60.36

Firms having less than 75 employees which maintained an average working force of 2,758 workers in 1934 showed 65 separations and 79 accessions for every 100 workers on the pay roll. The larger firms, with an average pay roll of 24,978 workers, reported 56 separations and 59 accessions.

The smaller firms showed lower quit and discharge rates than the larger firms. Lay-off rates for the smaller firms, however, were higher. As a result, the total separation rates in the smaller firms exceeded the rates shown by the larger firms in both years.

Compared with 1934 the quit rate increased for both the smaller and larger firms in 1935, but the discharge and lay-off rates were lower. The accession rate in the smaller firms decreased sharply in 1935; in the larger firms a slight increase over 1934 was indicated.

## WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOR

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### Earnings and Hours in Bar, Puddling, Sheet-Bar, Rod, Wire, and Sheet Mills, 1933 and 1935<sup>1</sup>

THE average weekly earnings of wage earners<sup>2</sup> in bar mills increased 180 percent between March 1933 and March 1935. In puddling mills the increase was 36 percent, and in sheet mills 138 percent. As wage earners in sheet-bar, rod, and wire mills were not covered in 1933, similar percentages are not available for these departments. However, in view of the changes that have taken place in the other rolling-mill departments, it is safe to assume that the average earnings per week of employees in sheet-bar, rod, and wire mills increased very materially between the two periods. In March 1935, the average weekly earnings were \$20.21 in bar mills, \$19.62 in puddling mills, \$23.93 in sheet-bar mills, \$22.77 in rod mills, \$21.78 in wire mills, and \$26.72 in sheet mills. The higher earnings in 1935 resulted from increased wage rates under the code as well as greater production. The above figures are taken from the recent survey made by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in the iron and steel industry, which included wage earners in 21 departments, as well as office workers, with a total of 92,626 employees of both sexes.<sup>3</sup>

The extent of the 1933 and 1935 coverage for each of the 6 departments treated in this article is given in table 1.<sup>4</sup> In the case of sheet mills, the number of States included was increased from 6 in 1933 to 10 in 1935. However, while the number of plants was decreased by 1, the coverage of wage earners in 1935 is 5,000 greater than in 1933. There was very little change between the 2 years in the number of workers covered in bar and puddling mills.

<sup>1</sup> Prepared by Edward K. Frazier, of the Bureau's Division of Wages, Hours, and Working Conditions.

<sup>2</sup> All data relating to office employees as well as female plant workers are excluded from this article.

<sup>3</sup> The 4 basic departments (blast furnaces, Bessemer converters, and open-hearth and electric furnaces) were covered in the April 1936 Monthly Labor Review (pp. 1027-1054); the first five of the rolling-mill departments (blooming, rail, structural, plate and billet) were included in the June 1936 Monthly Labor Review (pp. 1615-1638). The remaining 6 departments (strip, tin, skelp, butt-weld, lap-weld, and seamless tube mills), as well as office employees, together with the industry as a whole, will be treated in subsequent issues of this publication.

<sup>4</sup> For a description of the scope and method of this survey, see April 1936 Monthly Labor Review, (pp. 1027-1029). In order not to reveal the identity of individual plants, the data in this article are shown on a district basis only in bar and sheet mills. The extent of each of the geographical districts used, as well as their relation to the 21 code regions, will be found in footnotes 7 and 8, respectively, on pp. 1029 and 1030 of the April 1936 Monthly Labor Review.

Table 1.—Coverage of 1933 and 1935 Surveys for 6 Departments of the Iron and Steel Industry

Department and year	Number of plants	Number of States	Number of wage earners	Department and year	Number of plants	Number of States	Number of wage earners
Bar mills:				Sheet-bar mills, 1935.....	8	7	1,050
1933.....	42	12	5,779	Rod mills, 1935.....	15	10	2,176
1935.....	41	12	5,074	Wire mills, 1935.....	15	11	3,736
Puddling mills:				Sheet mills:			
1933.....	8	4	979	1933.....	14	6	8,591
1935.....	7	4	818	1935.....	13	10	13,559

### Bar Mills

#### Average Hourly Earnings

THE increased wage rates under the code, as well as fuller operating schedules, raised the average hourly earnings of workers in the bar-mill department from 42.5 cents in 1933 to 64.2 cents in 1935. These averages are based on the earnings and hours of employees in hand, semicontinuous, and continuous mills, ranging in size from 8-inch to 18-inch.

In 1933, approximately one-third of the workers were paid under 35 cents per hour. In 1935, as shown by table 2, slightly less than 6 percent fell in that class. All but 4 of the 281 employees covered by the latter percentage were in the Southern district, where the code minimum-wage rates for common labor ranged from 25 to 37 cents per hour.<sup>5</sup> Those earning 35 and under 45 cents in 1933 amounted to 35.7 percent. That percentage decreased to 11.6 in 1935. Thus, in the former year 68.1 percent, or slightly over two-thirds, of the workers were paid less than 45 cents, whereas in the latter year the number having these low earnings constituted only 17.1 percent. Up to this point the distribution for 1935 relates in the main to Eastern and Southern workers, as it includes only about 6 percent of the employees in the Pittsburgh and Great Lakes and Middle West districts, as against slightly under 42 percent of those in the Eastern and Southern districts. The 1933 percentage of 68.1 includes 80 percent of the Eastern and Southern workers and 63 percent of the Pittsburgh and Great Lakes and Middle West workers.

<sup>5</sup> The minimum-wage rates established for common labor in each district are fully outlined in footnote 8, p. 1030, of the April 1936 Monthly Labor Review.



Table 2.—Distribution of Wage Earners in Bar Mills According to Average Hourly Earnings, 1933 and 1935

Average hourly earnings	1933			1935		
	Number of wage earners	Simple percentage	Cumulative percentage	Number of wage earners	Simple percentage	Cumulative percentage
Under 15.0 cents	23	0.4	0.4	1	(1)	(1)
15.0 and under 20.0 cents	175	3.0	3.4			(1)
20.0 and under 22.5 cents	139	2.4	5.8			(1)
22.5 and under 25.0 cents	139	2.4	8.2	4	(1)	(1)
25.0 and under 27.5 cents	312	5.4	13.6	17	0.3	0.3
27.5 and under 30.0 cents	166	2.9	16.5	135	2.7	3.0
30.0 and under 32.5 cents	383	6.6	23.1	91	1.8	4.8
32.5 and under 35.0 cents	539	9.3	32.4	33	.7	5.5
35.0 and under 37.5 cents	373	6.5	38.9	54	1.1	6.6
37.5 and under 40.0 cents	915	15.8	54.7	60	1.2	7.8
40.0 and under 42.5 cents	452	7.9	62.6	204	4.0	11.8
42.5 and under 45.0 cents	318	5.5	68.1	271	5.3	17.1
45.0 and under 47.5 cents	278	4.8	72.9	224	4.4	21.5
47.5 and under 50.0 cents	241	4.2	77.1	447	8.8	30.3
50.0 and under 55.0 cents	388	6.7	83.8	611	12.0	42.3
55.0 and under 60.0 cents	283	4.9	88.7	713	14.2	56.5
60.0 and under 65.0 cents	200	3.5	92.2	528	10.4	66.9
65.0 and under 70.0 cents	138	2.4	94.6	342	6.7	73.6
70.0 and under 75.0 cents	62	1.1	95.7	316	6.2	79.8
75.0 and under 80.0 cents	43	.7	96.4	187	3.7	83.5
80.0 and under 85.0 cents	53	.9	97.3	182	3.6	87.1
85.0 and under 90.0 cents	39	.7	98.0	124	2.4	89.5
90.0 and under 100.0 cents	36	.6	98.6	221	4.4	93.9
100.0 and under 110.0 cents	26	.4	99.0	140	2.8	96.7
110.0 and under 120.0 cents	17	.3	99.3	43	.8	97.5
120.0 and under 130.0 cents	12	.2	99.5	23	.5	98.0
130.0 and under 140.0 cents	11	.2	99.7	27	.5	98.5
140.0 cents and over	18	.3	100.0	76	1.5	100.0
Total	5,779	100.0		5,074	100.0	

<sup>1</sup> Less than one-tenth of 1 percent.

The class earning 45 and under 65 cents per hour in 1933 included approximately one-fourth (24.1 percent) of the wage earners. By 1935 earnings had advanced to such an extent that the percentage had increased to 49.8. Thus, two-thirds of the workers in 1935 earned under 65 cents, whereas in 1933 approximately the same percentage earned under 45 cents. The number receiving 65 and under 90 cents in 1933 constituted only 5.8 percent of the total, as against 22.6 percent in 1935. From these figures, as well as the change which took place in the proportion of workers earning 90 cents and over (2.0 in 1933 and 10.5 in 1935), it is evident that all classes of workers benefited by the upward swing in average hourly earnings.

In 1933 three wage levels existed geographically in this department, the lowest with an average of 31.9 cents for Southern workers, the next highest, 40.4 cents for employees in the Eastern district, and the highest with averages of 46.6 and 47.5 cents, respectively, for the Great Lakes and Middle West and Pittsburgh districts.

In 1935 only two wage levels appeared. The average hourly earnings of Eastern workers was 64.4 cents, which may be compared with 66.9 cents in the Pittsburgh district and 68.1 cents in the Great Lakes and Middle West district. Since the differences in these average hourly earnings are not very great, the three districts may

be considered as having the same general level. However, Southern workers in 1935 received an average of only 45.5 cents per hour, or approximately 20 cents less than Eastern workers, and, consequently, the Southern district may be considered as having had a wage level distinct from that prevailing in any of the other districts.

It is interesting to note that the average hourly earnings in the Eastern district increased 24 cents (59.4 percent) from 1933 to 1935, as against 13.6 cents (42.6 percent) in the Southern district, 19.4 cents (40.8 percent) in the Pittsburgh district, and 21.5 cents (46.1 percent) in the Great Lakes and Middle West district. The effect of these gains was to raise the averages in the Eastern and Southern districts 9.9 and 2.8 cents, respectively, above the 1929 averages of 54.5 and 42.7 cents. Despite the large gain in the Pittsburgh district since 1933, the 1935 average was still 1.6 cents below the 1929 average of 68.5 cents. In the Great Lakes and Middle West district, the 1935 average was the same as that reported in 1929.<sup>6</sup>

The occupational averages<sup>7</sup> shown in table 3 reveal the extent to which the earnings of the various classes of labor have increased since 1933. Among the skilled occupations<sup>8</sup> the range in gains was from 47 percent for electric roll engineers to 72 percent for finishers; among the semiskilled occupations, from 37 percent for transfer-table operators to 78 percent for chargers and chargers' helpers; and among the unskilled occupations, from 36 percent for common laborers to 60 percent for hotbed men. The smallest percentage of increase thus went to common laborers and the largest to the semiskilled occupation of chargers and chargers' helpers.

<sup>6</sup> The 1929 average for all districts combined was 62.5 cents, or 1.7 cents less than the 1935 average of 64.2 cents.

<sup>7</sup> For list of occupations for which no departmental averages will be presented, see footnote 10 on p. 1033 of the April 1936 Monthly Labor Review.

<sup>8</sup> The skilled occupations are heaters, steam and electric roll engineers, rollers, roughers, catchers, stranders, and finishers; the semiskilled occupations are heaters' helpers, chargers and chargers' helpers, hook-ups, shearmen, and transfer-table operators; the unskilled occupations are stockers, drag-downs, hotbed men, shearmen's helpers, bundlers, common laborers, and miscellaneous labor.

Plant clerical and supervisory employees, as well as other direct and indirect labor, have not been classed as to skill.

Table 3.—Average Hourly Earnings of Wage Earners in Bar Mills, by Occupation and District, 1933 and 1935

Occupation	Total, all districts				Eastern district				Pittsburgh district			
	1933		1935		1933		1935		1933		1935	
	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings
Stockers.....	249	\$0.328	139	\$0.504	45	\$0.324	15	\$0.485	78	\$0.387	71	\$0.528
Chargers and chargers' helpers.....	156	.358	120	.636	(1)	(1)	10	.502	66	.392	41	.592
Heaters.....	176	.639	132	.977	47	.509	46	.825	58	.747	39	1.047
Heaters' helpers.....	209	.403	163	.664	71	.356	58	.632	71	.465	44	.686
Drag-downs.....	79	.404	72	.561	24	.356	26	.577	20	.511	(1)	(1)
Roll engineers, electric.....	32	.401	33	.589	10	.345	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Roll engineers, steam.....	50	.403	31	.613	13	.361	12	.541	21	.490	(1)	(1)
Rollers.....	118	.955	103	1.526	23	.891	29	1.335	46	1.107	32	1.747
Roughers.....	153	.536	127	.828	44	.488	51	.801	32	.666	16	.921
Catchers.....	135	.510	88	.828	40	.489	38	.794	34	.599	17	.836
Stranders.....	241	.464	209	.770	52	.393	79	.703	68	.549	78	.796
Hook-ups.....	137	.382	100	.616	29	.332	15	.666	50	.448	37	.601
Finishers.....	142	.499	87	.856	25	.422	23	.884	39	.578	27	.825
Transfer-table operators.....	199	.487	99	.665	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	116	.507	50	.667
Hotbed men.....	406	.348	124	.557	67	.335	33	.590	98	.391	13	.543
Shearmen.....	172	.415	156	.637	34	.362	54	.585	57	.492	33	.692
Shearmen's helpers.....	392	.348	244	.517	23	.358	18	.510	158	.387	131	.553
Bundlers.....	99	.351	140	.538	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	70	.395	52	.542
Common laborers.....	501	.305	296	.416	68	.327	63	.413	222	.356	71	.466
Miscellaneous labor <sup>2</sup> .....	365	.328	355	.463	52	.281	39	.463	141	.406	114	.526
Clerical, plant.....	186	.425	269	.639	20	.390	41	.565	93	.475	108	.682
Supervisory, plant.....	101	.553	129	.767	11	.523	20	.754	29	.629	54	.809
Other direct labor <sup>3</sup> .....	612	.387	836	.642	75	.363	118	.558	242	.451	316	.643
Other indirect labor <sup>3</sup> .....	73	.432	101	.385	12	.419	15	.551	13	.440	22	.681

Occupation	Great Lakes and Middle West district				Southern district			
	1933		1935		1933		1935	
	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings
Stockers.....	69	\$0.385	31	\$0.578	57	\$0.226	22	\$0.335
Chargers and chargers' helpers.....	53	.400	52	.745	28	.254	17	.485
Heaters.....	40	.693	30	1.148	31	.602	17	.817
Heaters' helpers.....	46	.469	46	.721	21	.323	15	.438
Drag-downs.....	13	.603	15	.668	22	.283	23	.408
Roll engineers, electric.....	12	.445	18	.593	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Roll engineers, steam.....	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Rollers.....	30	.825	26	1.647	19	1.013	16	1.127
Roughers.....	43	.627	36	.905	34	.436	24	.610
Catchers.....	34	.543	22	.990	27	.430	11	.526
Stranders.....	76	.531	40	.878	45	.345	12	.636
Hook-ups.....	33	.468	37	.638	25	.291	16	.517
Finishers.....	56	.560	26	.931	22	.369	11	.566
Transfer-table operators.....	62	.476	43	.679	15	.444	(1)	(1)
Hotbed men.....	173	.392	58	.589	68	.258	20	.396
Shearmen.....	53	.470	52	.721	28	.274	17	.430
Shearmen's helpers.....	165	.364	58	.542	46	.233	37	.348
Bundlers.....	(1)	(1)	60	.551	15	.227	20	.359
Common laborers.....	108	.334	94	.461	103	.228	68	.308
Miscellaneous labor <sup>2</sup> .....	125	.357	137	.482	47	.213	65	.334
Clerical, plant.....	49	.427	101	.646	24	.361	19	.527
Supervisory, plant.....	33	.628	38	.788	28	.423	17	.575
Other direct labor <sup>3</sup> .....	191	.401	306	.709	104	.280	96	.480
Other indirect labor <sup>3</sup> .....	34	.497	43	.610	14	.316	21	.445

<sup>1</sup> Not a sufficient number reported to present averages.

<sup>2</sup> Includes laborers paid either above or below common-labor rate of plant; also includes other unskilled jobs not generally designated as common labor on pay roll.

<sup>3</sup> Various occupations on either direct or indirect work, none of which had enough employees to warrant separate averages.

In 1933 the occupational averages ranged from 30.5 cents per hour for common laborers to 95.5 cents for rollers. In 1935 the same occupations represented the lowest and highest figures, the former averaging 41.6 cents and the latter \$1.526. In 1933 only the skilled mill occupations of heaters, rollers, roughers, and catchers earned as much as 50 cents per hour on the average, whereas in 1935 only the 2 unskilled-labor occupations averaged less than 50 cents. The differential between the average hourly earnings of common laborers and rollers increased from 65.0 cents in 1933 to \$1.110 in 1935, of heaters and heaters' helpers from 23.6 cents in 1933 to 31.3 cents in 1935, and of shearmen and shearmen's helpers from 6.7 cents in 1933 to 12.0 cents in 1935. The supervisory workers received an average of 76.7 cents in 1935, which may be compared with 70.2 cents for them in structural mills, 76.0 cents in plate mills, 86.1 cents in billet mills, and 82.3 cents in blooming mills.

#### Weekly Hours

THE average weekly hours of bar-mill employees amounted to 31.5 in 1935, an increase of 14.5 hours, or 85.3 percent, over the 1933 average of 17.0 hours. This large gain was brought about by greater activity in the building-construction industry, the automobile industry, the manufacture of farm machinery, the construction and repair of railroad rolling stock, the building of highways, construction of power sites, etc.

The information shows that, in 1935, 20.7 percent of the employees in all districts combined worked a week of less than 24 hours. This short workweek was not confined to any one class of workers in any district, as some mills in each district operated short time. Those having a week of 24 and under 40 hours formed 38.7 percent of the total, as against 40.6 percent having a week of 40 hours and over. Slightly over two-thirds of the employees in the latter class had a week of exactly 40 hours and constituted 27.4 percent of the total workers covered.

In 1933 there was a wide variation in the district averages, which amounted to only 14.0 hours in the Pittsburgh district, 20.1 in the Eastern district, and 24.2 in the Southern district. The average for the Great Lakes and Middle West district was very close to that for the Pittsburgh district (15.5 hours). In 1935 the range was not nearly so great, the lowest average being 27.9 for Southern workers and the highest 32.8 for Eastern workers. The Pittsburgh and Great Lakes and Middle West districts averaged, respectively, 31.4 and 32.3 hours. Hence, the smallest percentage of gain in working time (15.3) went to Southern workers and the largest (124.3) to employees in the Pittsburgh district.

Table 4 shows that the average weekly hours of wage earners in bar-mill occupations in 1933 for all districts combined ranged from 13.0 for the unskilled occupation of shearmen's helpers to 24.4 for the skilled occupation of rollers. In 1933 the only occupation other than rollers which averaged as much as 20 hours per week was that of steam-roll engineers. In 1935 the average weekly hours increased to such an extent that the lowest were 24.5 for the unskilled occupation of stockers and the highest 41.3 for plant supervisory employees. Since the employees in the latter occupation were exempt from the hour provisions of the code, a fairer comparison would be to that of 33.8 hours for rollers. Between the 2 years, the average hours per week increased 145 percent for shearmen's helpers and only 39 percent for rollers, and as a result the differential of 11.4 hours existing between these two occupations in 1933 was reduced to only 2.0 hours in 1935. While shearmen's helpers received the greatest percentage increase in working time between the 2 years, it may be stated that, as a general rule, the semiskilled workers benefited most and the skilled workers the least from the increased activity in this department in 1935.

Table 4.—Average Weekly Hours of Wage Earners in Bar Mills, by Occupation and District, 1933 and 1935

Occupation	Total, all districts				1935 <sup>1</sup>							
	1933		1935		Eastern district		Pittsburgh district		Great Lakes and Middle West District		Southern district	
	Number of wage earners	Average weekly hours	Number of wage earners	Average weekly hours	Number of wage earners	Average weekly hours	Number of wage earners	Average weekly hours	Number of wage earners	Average weekly hours	Number of wage earners	Average weekly hours
Stocker	249	16.0	139	24.5	15	29.9	71	23.4	31	24.9	22	24.1
Chargers and chargers' helpers	156	16.9	120	32.4	10	37.3	41	32.0	52	32.5	17	30.2
Heaters	176	18.4	132	29.9	46	28.6	39	31.4	30	34.0	17	22.7
Heaters' helpers	209	17.0	163	29.9	58	32.0	44	28.4	46	33.4	15	15.7
Drag-downs	79	15.9	72	27.6	26	27.3	(2)	(2)	15	31.4	23	22.9
Roll engineers, electric	32	(3)	33	27.9	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	18	29.7	(2)	(2)
Roll engineers, steam	50	20.3	31	33.7	12	30.0	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Rollers	118	24.4	103	33.8	29	34.3	32	31.7	26	40.9	16	25.6
Roughers	153	18.4	127	30.5	51	35.6	16	33.3	36	31.1	24	16.7
Catchers	135	18.6	88	28.5	38	30.5	17	30.1	22	28.3	11	19.5
Stranders	241	17.8	209	31.8	79	32.7	78	32.8	40	31.7	12	19.3
Hook-ups	137	14.8	100	29.9	15	29.6	32	28.5	37	34.2	16	23.4
Finishers	142	19.3	87	29.1	23	33.8	27	27.7	26	30.7	11	18.6
Transfer-table operators	199	(3)	99	33.5	(2)	(2)	50	32.3	43	36.8	(2)	(2)
Hotbed men	406	16.3	124	28.5	33	33.1	13	28.2	58	27.1	20	25.1
Shearmen	172	17.1	156	32.9	54	32.4	33	32.1	52	33.9	17	32.7
Shearmen's helpers	392	13.0	244	31.8	18	41.1	131	30.2	58	33.7	37	30.1
Bundlers	99	15.4	140	26.2	(2)	(2)	52	25.6	60	25.5	20	26.1
Common laborers	501	15.3	296	27.8	63	30.1	71	28.1	94	26.4	68	27.3
Miscellaneous labor <sup>4</sup>	365	(3)	355	29.4	39	26.1	114	29.7	137	27.6	65	34.5
Clerical, plant	186	(3)	269	35.3	41	37.0	108	35.3	101	34.4	19	36.7
Supervisory, plant	101	(3)	129	41.3	20	47.0	54	43.3	38	38.4	17	35.1
Other direct labor <sup>5</sup>	612	(3)	836	32.0	118	31.8	316	31.7	306	34.7	96	25.0
Other indirect labor <sup>5</sup>	73	(3)	101	35.7	15	36.0	22	36.9	43	36.0	21	33.5

<sup>1</sup> No averages by districts are available for 1933.

<sup>2</sup> Not a sufficient number reported to present average.

<sup>3</sup> No data available.

<sup>4</sup> See footnote 2, p. 117.

<sup>5</sup> See footnote 3, p. 117.

## Weekly Earnings

AVERAGE weekly earnings in bar mills amounted to only \$7.22 in 1933. Due to wage increases and a longer workweek, they advanced to \$20.21 in 1935. In that year, 25.5 percent received less than \$12 during the week covered. These employees with low earnings were not confined to workers in the unskilled and semiskilled occupations shown in table 5. In fact, these workers constituted only about 55 percent of the employees with the low earnings. Nor were the remaining 45 percent all found in the skilled occupations shown in table 5. Those receiving \$12 and under \$18 in 1935 constituted 20.1 percent, thus making 45.6 percent with earnings of less than \$18. The number earning \$18 and under \$24 included 22.1 percent, while 19.3 percent received \$24 and under \$32. Only a small part of the remaining 13.0 percent earning \$32 and over were paid as much as \$44 or more.

In 1933, the average for the department was exceeded by the averages for the individual districts in every case except in the Pittsburgh district, whereas in 1935 the average for the Southern district was the only one lower than the average for the department. Between the 2 years, the largest percentage of gain in average weekly earnings was 214.5 in the Pittsburgh district and the smallest 66.5 in the Southern district. The gain in the Eastern district amounted to 159.7 percent, and in the Great Lakes and Middle West district, it was 203.9 percent. The absolute figures in 1933 were \$8.14 in the Eastern, \$6.69 in the Pittsburgh, \$7.23 in the Great Lakes and Middle West, and \$7.64 in the Southern district, whereas in 1935 they were respectively \$21.14, \$21.04, \$21.97, and \$12.72.

While the average weekly earnings in this department were only \$7.22 in 1933, 10 occupations enumerated in table 5 had averages of less than that figure, the lowest being \$4.50 for shearmen's helpers. Only the two skilled occupations of heaters and rollers averaged more than \$11 per week, being \$11.77 and \$23.31 respectively. Likewise, the 1935 average of \$20.21 fails to reveal that there were 10 occupations earning on the average less than that figure, the lowest being \$11.58 for common laborers. On the other hand, 12 occupations and 2 occupational groups received an average above this figure, the highest being \$51.60 for rollers. In 1933, the differential between the average weekly earnings of common laborers and rollers was \$18.64, whereas in 1935 it amounted to \$40.02. In the former year, the differential between the average weekly earnings of heaters and heaters' helpers was \$4.90, but in 1935 it had increased to \$9.30.

Table 5.—Average Weekly Earnings of Wage Earners in Bar Mills, by Occupation and District, 1933 and 1935

Occupation	Total, all districts				1935 <sup>1</sup>							
	1933		1935		Eastern district		Pittsburgh district		Great Lakes and Middle West district		Southern district	
	Number of wage earners	Average weekly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average weekly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average weekly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average weekly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average weekly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average weekly earnings
Stockers.....	249	\$5.20	139	\$12.36	15	\$14.51	71	\$12.35	31	\$14.37	22	\$8.08
Chargers and chargers' helpers.....	156	6.02	120	20.59	10	18.72	41	18.93	52	24.21	17	14.64
Heaters.....	176	11.77	132	29.18	46	23.57	39	32.86	30	39.07	17	18.55
Heaters' helpers.....	209	6.87	163	19.88	58	20.20	44	19.46	46	24.12	15	6.88
Drag-downs.....	79	6.43	72	15.46	26	15.73	(2)	(2)	15	20.97	23	9.35
Roll engineers, electric.....	32	(3)	33	16.45	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	18	17.62	(2)	(2)
Roll engineers, steam.....	50	8.16	31	20.68	12	16.23	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Rollers.....	118	23.31	103	51.60	29	45.81	32	55.39	26	67.42	16	28.80
Roughers.....	153	9.86	127	25.22	51	28.54	16	30.68	36	28.12	24	10.20
Catchers.....	135	9.83	88	23.63	38	24.23	17	25.19	22	28.06	11	10.25
Stranders.....	241	8.15	209	24.45	79	22.99	78	26.07	40	27.81	12	12.30
Hook-ups.....	137	5.73	100	18.44	15	19.70	32	17.11	37	21.81	16	12.13
Finishers.....	142	9.61	87	24.87	23	29.89	27	22.88	26	28.57	11	10.53
Transfer-table operators.....	199	(2)	99	22.24	(2)	(2)	50	21.52	43	24.99	(2)	(2)
Hotbed men.....	406	5.64	124	15.89	33	19.54	13	15.32	58	15.99	20	9.96
Shearmen.....	172	7.00	156	20.97	54	18.97	33	22.24	52	24.48	17	14.07
Shearmen's helpers.....	392	4.50	244	16.44	18	20.93	131	16.70	58	18.27	37	10.47
Bundlers.....	99	5.38	140	14.10	(2)	(2)	52	13.89	60	14.03	20	9.35
Common laborers.....	501	4.67	296	11.58	63	12.43	71	13.08	94	12.16	68	8.41
Miscellaneous labor <sup>4</sup> .....	365	(3)	355	13.60	39	12.09	114	15.65	137	13.30	65	11.53
Clerical, plant.....	186	(2)	269	22.56	41	20.94	108	24.08	101	22.21	19	19.34
Supervisory, plant.....	101	(2)	129	31.72	20	35.44	54	35.02	38	30.27	17	20.15
Other direct labor <sup>5</sup> .....	612	(3)	836	20.58	118	17.75	316	20.37	306	24.58	96	12.01
Other indirect labor <sup>5</sup> .....	73	(2)	101	20.85	15	19.84	22	25.12	43	21.93	21	14.89

<sup>1</sup> No averages by districts are available for 1933.<sup>2</sup> Not a sufficient number reported to present averages.<sup>3</sup> No data available.<sup>4</sup> See footnote 2, p. 117.<sup>5</sup> See footnote 3, p. 117.

### Puddling Mills

#### Average Hourly Earnings

THE average hourly earnings of wage earners in hand-operated puddling mills were 61.9 cents in 1935, as against 47.4 cents in 1933. This represents a gain of 30.6 percent, which was brought about chiefly by increased wage rates under the code, as the operating time affecting the amount of tonnage produced has not changed to any appreciable extent since 1933.

In 1933, nearly 25 percent of the workers earned less than 37.5 cents an hour. In 1935, with the code in effect, no employees earned less than 25 cents, and only 4.4 percent received less than 37.5 cents. Those earning 37.5 and under 50 cents constituted 28.4 percent in 1933, as against 28.2 percent in 1935. Very few of the 46.9 percent who earned 50 cents and over in 1933 made as much as 75 cents, as only 1.6 percent had earnings of that amount or more. In 1935,

however, of the 67.4 percent who earned 50 cents and over, 25.5 percent received 75 cents or more.

As the number of workers reported in the rolling and shearing occupations was very small, separate averages are not presented for them. According to table 6, the three most important occupations based on the number of wage earners are puddlers, level-handed puddlers, and puddlers' helpers. Between 1933 and 1935, the average hourly earnings in these occupations increased as follows: From 43.2 to 49.4 cents, or 14.4 percent, for puddlers' helpers; from 63.6 to 75.5 cents, or 18.7 percent, for puddlers; and from 54.2 to 82.2 cents, or 51.7 percent, for level-handed puddlers.<sup>9</sup> The large increase in the latter occupation is due in some measure to the substitution of a new plant in 1935 for one that was closed in that year but included in the 1933 survey, as well as to a greater percentage of level-handed work in one of the plants with higher earnings.

Table 6.—Average Hourly Earnings of Wage Earners in Puddling Mills, by Occupation, 1933 and 1935

Occupation	1933		1935	
	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings
Stockers.....	45	\$0.400	42	\$0.492
Puddlers.....	100	.636	122	.755
Puddlers, level-handed.....	241	.542	133	.822
Puddler's helpers.....	109	.432	134	.494
Common laborers.....	28	.289	49	.396
Miscellaneous labor <sup>1</sup> .....	58	.312	24	.491
Other direct labor <sup>2</sup> .....	336	.454	259	.618
Other indirect labor <sup>2</sup> .....	25	.402	24	.598

<sup>1</sup> See footnote 2, p. 117.

<sup>2</sup> See footnote 3, p. 117.

The average hourly earnings of common laborers in this department have in past surveys followed rather closely those of common laborers in blast furnaces; however, the 1935 average of 39.6 cents is 2.6 cents lower than the 1935 average in blast furnaces.

### Weekly Hours

THE average working time per week of employees in this department has not increased to any appreciable extent since 1933; it amounted to 30.5 hours in that year, as compared with 31.7 hours in 1935. The 1933 figure indicates that operating time in this department was not so seriously affected by the depression as it was in other rolling mills.

<sup>9</sup> The skilled occupations are puddlers and level-handed puddlers; the semiskilled occupation is puddlers' helpers; and the unskilled occupations are stockers, common laborers, and miscellaneous labor. Other direct and indirect labor has not been classified as to skill.



In 1935, 22.1 percent worked a week of less than 24 hours, and another 39.9 percent a week of 24 and under 40 hours. Those who had a week of exactly 40 hours amounted to 33.0 percent. Most of the workers in the two latter groups were in the Eastern and Pittsburgh plants, as very few wage earners in Southern plants worked a week as long as 24 hours. Only 5 percent of the employees received more than 40 hours' work, and these were mainly in plants in the Eastern district.

Between 1933 and 1935, the average weekly hours of puddlers and their helpers increased approximately 13 percent. This extra working time raised the 1933 averages for these occupations, respectively, from 31.7 to 35.9 and from 29.6 to 33.6 hours. A different situation prevailed among level-handed puddlers, who worked an average of only 26.8 hours in 1935, as against 34.9 hours in 1933. This decrease of 23.2 percent was due in a large measure to the short working time of employees in one large plant. The average weekly hours of common laborers rose from 28.1 in 1933 to 32.4 in 1935, while those for stockers remained almost stationary, being very close to 30 in both years.

#### Weekly Earnings

IN 1935, the average weekly earnings of puddling-mill workers amounted to \$19.62, or \$5.16 more than the 1933 average of \$14.46. In the former year, 11.2 percent of the workers earned less than \$8 per week, and a like percentage earned \$8 and under \$12. The group receiving \$12 and under \$18 constituted 20.1 percent of the total, or practically the same proportion as the group earning \$18 and under \$22. This leaves about 37 percent of the workers with earnings of \$22 and over. Of these latter employees, slightly more than one-half earned \$22 and under \$28, while the remainder were paid \$28 and over.

The highest weekly earnings in 1935 for any occupation were \$27.09 for puddlers, and the lowest, \$12.86, for common laborers. In 1933 the averages for these same occupations were, respectively, \$19.94 and \$8.13. Thus, while the weekly earnings of the skilled occupation of puddlers increased 36 percent, those for common laborers rose 58 percent. This was due chiefly to a greater increase in the average hourly earnings of the latter occupation, as the working time of each occupation increased by nearly the same percentage between the 2 years. Due to the small number of hours of work available in 1935 for level-handed puddlers, they earned an average of only \$22.02 or \$5.07 less than puddlers, whereas in 1933 they received \$18.91 or \$1.03 less than puddlers.

## Sheet-Bar Mills

## Average Hourly Earnings

THE average hourly earnings of employees in sheet-bar mills amounted to 66.1 cents in 1935. Undoubtedly, these earnings were materially higher than they were in 1933, when sheet and tin-plate mills were operating at a very reduced rate. Moreover, the code was of material benefit to a large number of employees, whose earnings were not based on the amount of product turned out during any given period. No district averages are shown here, because of the fact that the number of workers covered in each of the four areas is not sufficiently large.

In 1935, only 1.2 percent of the employees earned less than 40 cents per hour, and these were found in the Southern district, where the minimum rates for common labor ranged from 25 to 37 cents. Those paid 40 and under 50 cents amounted to 19.0 percent. Thus, 20.2 percent of the total earned under 50 cents—exactly the same percentage as for blooming mills, but considerably less than the 30.3 percent for bar mills. The class receiving 50 and under 75 cents included 59.9 percent. This leaves 19.9 percent earning 75 cents and over. Very few of this latter group earned as much as \$1 per hour.

The 1935 occupational averages, which are shown in table 7, ranged from 45.7 cents for common laborers to \$1.459 for the skilled occupation of rollers. The differential between them amounts to \$1.002, or 16.2 cents less than that appearing between the same occupations in blooming mills, a heavy-rolling-mill department where rollers earned an average of \$1.608 and common laborers 44.4 cents. The 1935 averages for the other unskilled occupations in sheet-bar mills were 58.9 cents for shearmen's helpers and 51.3 cents for miscellaneous labor. These averages may be compared respectively with 61.1, 65.4, and 67.1 cents for the semiskilled occupations of transferable operators, bar-yard cranemen, and loopers. Among the skilled occupations, other than rollers, the range was from 66.4 cents for inspectors to \$1.070 for finishers.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>10</sup> The remaining skilled occupations are chargers and drawers, rollers, guide setters, manipulators, finishers, inspectors, shearmen, and electric roll engineers.

Plant clerical and supervisory workers and direct and indirect labor have not been classified as to skill.

Table 7.—Average Hourly Earnings of Wage Earners in Sheet-Bar Mills, by Occupation, 1935

Occupation	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Occupation <sup>1</sup>	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings
Chargers and drawers.....	15	\$0.757	Shearmen.....	51	\$0.776
Roll engineers, electric.....	12	.677	Shearmen's helpers.....	33	.589
Rollers.....	24	1.459	Cranemen, bar yard.....	31	.654
Guide setters.....	13	.870	Common laborers.....	78	.457
Loopers.....	14	.671	Miscellaneous labor <sup>1</sup> .....	68	.513
Manipulators.....	22	.891	Clerical, plant.....	81	.590
Finishers.....	25	1.070	Supervisory, plant.....	42	.816
Transfer-table operators.....	24	.611	Other direct labor <sup>2</sup> .....	196	.604
Inspectors, product.....	32	.664	Other indirect labor <sup>2</sup> .....	28	.398

<sup>1</sup> See footnote 2, p. 117.<sup>2</sup> See footnote 3, p. 117.

Sheet bar may or may not be rolled from the original heat of the ingot. In plants where it is rolled from the original heat of the ingot, the sheet-bar mill is directly connected with a billet or heavier rolling mill, and as a result no heating crew is required. Most of the mills included in this survey were of the latter type. Consequently, sufficient data are not available for heaters and heaters' helpers to justify showing averages.

#### Weekly Hours

SHEET-BAR mill employees worked an average of 36.2 hours during the period covered by this survey. Although no figures are available for 1933, it is safe to say that the 1935 average is far above what it was in that year, when automobile and furniture factories were consuming comparatively small tonnages of sheet. Moreover, the production of tin plate, which is made out of sheet bar, was also below normal at the time of the 1933 survey.

In sheet-bar mills, 10.9 percent of the employees in 1935 worked a week of less than 24 hours. About two-thirds of these workers were found in the two unskilled labor occupations and among plant supervisory and clerical employees. Very few wage earners (4.0 percent) worked 24 and under 32 hours. Those working 32 to 40 hours, inclusive, covered 68.3 percent of the total, leaving 16.8 percent with a week of over 40 hours. This latter group was composed mainly of employees working 48 hours per week.

The occupational averages in 1935 ranged from 27.9 for plant clerical employees to 42.4 for rollers. None of the rolling-crew occupations for which averages have been computed had less than 38.1 hours, except roll engineers. Hence, as may be seen, the mills covered were operating very close to the 40-hour average permitted by the code. Common laborers worked an average of 31.2 hours, as against 23.7 hours in plate mills and 25.2 hours in structural mills.

## Weekly Earnings

AVERAGE weekly earnings in sheet-bar mill amounted to \$23.93 in 1935. In that year 10 percent of the employees received less than \$12 per week, and an additional 23 percent \$12 and under \$20. Thus, one-third of the workers earned less than \$20. Approximately an additional one-third were paid \$20 and under \$26. The remaining 34.5 percent earning \$26 and over were found mostly in the classes of \$26 and under \$36, as those receiving \$36 and over amounted to only 9.2 percent of the total employees covered.

In 1935 the average weekly earnings among the occupations ranged from \$14.26 for common laborers to \$61.82 for rollers. These figures show a differential of \$47.56, or \$4.57 more than that in blooming mills, where rollers earned an average of \$56.76 and common laborers \$13.77. The average weekly earnings of inspectors (\$23) appear to be quite low when compared with those of \$22.96 for the unskilled occupation of shearmen's helpers and \$41.28 for the skilled occupation of finishers or assistant rollers. Only two occupations other than common labor earned an average of less than \$20 per week; these were plant clerical workers and miscellaneous labor. Among the higher-paid occupations, the averages were \$41.28 for finishers, \$36.71 for manipulators, \$34.48 for guide setters, and \$29.80 for shearmen.

## Rod Mills

## Average Hourly Earnings

THE average hourly earnings of rod-mill employees amounted to 68.7 cents in 1935. As no data were secured for this department in 1933, it is not known what increase in earnings took place between that year and 1935. However, judging from the other departments, it is safe to assume that the improved operating schedules in 1935, as well as the higher wage rates under the code, raised the average hourly earnings of workers in this department to a considerable extent. In order not to reveal the earnings of workers in any plant, data are not shown here by districts.

A distribution of employees according to their average hourly earnings shows that in 1935 only 3.0 percent received less than 40 cents, practically none of these being paid less than 25 cents. Those receiving 40 and under 50 cents were 19.1 percent of the total. The 50 and under 75 cents class included 52.0 percent of the employees, leaving 25.9 percent with earnings of 75 cents and over. This latter group was made up principally of workers in the skilled occupations of heaters, rollers, assistant rollers, roughers, catchers, finishers, machinists, millwrights, roll turners, and electricians. However, there was a fair number of workers in the semiskilled occupations,

such as heaters' helpers, reelers, and shearmen, receiving 75 cents and over. There were also a few unskilled tonnage workers among the stockers and miscellaneous labor group receiving such earnings. Among the other occupations and occupational groups, such as plant supervisory and clerical workers, as well as direct and indirect labor, a fair number of workers earned 75 cents and over.

Among the occupational averages shown in table 8, the range in average hourly earnings in 1935 was from 43.6 cents for common laborers to \$1.758 for the skilled occupation of rollers.<sup>11</sup> The differential in earnings in 1935 between the employees in those two occupations was \$1.322, as against \$1.110 in bar mills. Occupations other than rollers averaging \$1 or over per hour were heaters, assistant rollers, catchers, and finishers. The range in average hourly earnings of the semiskilled occupations was from 47.9 cents for hookers to 72.2 cents for heaters' helpers. The averages for the unskilled occupations other than common laborers were 56.9 cents for stockers, 57.5 cents for bundlers, and 52.3 cents for miscellaneous labor.

Table 8.—Average Hourly Earnings of Wage Earners in Rod Mills, by Occupation, 1935

Occupation	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Occupation	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings
Stockers.....	56	\$0.569	Reelers.....	71	\$0.644
Chargers and chargers' helpers...	71	.603	Conveyor men.....	104	.533
Heaters.....	48	1.074	Shearmen.....	43	.659
Heaters' helpers.....	48	.722	Bundlers.....	112	.575
Roll engineers, electric.....	23	.716	Common laborers.....	119	.436
Rollers.....	35	1.758	Miscellaneous labor <sup>1</sup> .....	314	.523
Assistant rollers.....	23	1.530	Clerical, plant.....	91	.616
Roughers.....	48	.890	Supervisory, plant.....	35	.803
Catchers.....	112	1.086	Other direct labor <sup>2</sup> .....	217	.712
Hookers (rolls).....	45	.479	Other indirect labor <sup>2</sup> .....	69	.539
Finishers.....	43	1.259			

<sup>1</sup> See footnote 2, p. 117.

<sup>2</sup> See footnote 3, p. 117.

### Weekly Hours

ROD-MILL employees in 1935 worked an average of 33.1 hours per week. There were 13.9 percent of the employees who worked a week of less than 24 hours. This percentage is quite close to the 12.2 percent working a week of over 40 hours. Between these two limits are found 73.9 percent of the employees. Of this group (73.9 percent), covering 1,608 workers, 20.9 percent worked a week of 24 and under 32 hours and 79.1 percent a week of 32 to 40 hours.

<sup>11</sup> The occupations of stockers, bundlers, common laborers, and miscellaneous labor have been classed as unskilled; the occupations of chargers and chargers' helpers, heaters' helpers, hookers, reelers, conveyormen, and shearmen have been classed as semiskilled; and the occupations of heaters, electric roll engineers, rollers, assistant rollers, roughers, catchers, and finishers have been classed as skilled.

Plant clerical and supervisory employees, as well as other direct and indirect labor, have not been classified as to skill.

The occupational averages in 1935 ranged from 27.7 hours for the skilled occupation of electric roll engineers to 42.6 hours for plant supervisory employees. As the latter occupation was not affected by the hour provisions of the code, a better conception of the spread in average weekly hours is obtained by using the 37 hours for rollers. Only two occupations in addition to electric roll engineers worked an average of less than 30 hours; namely, stockers (29.6 hours) and common laborers (29.9 hours). Among the remaining occupations, there were no great differences in average weekly hours. As may be seen, all classes of workers were afforded more or less an equal opportunity to participate in the gains that took place in working time between the 2 years.

#### Weekly Earnings

AVERAGE weekly earnings of employees in rod mills amounted to \$22.77 in 1935. There were 14.3 percent of the workers who made less than \$12 per week in 1935, and only 10.7 percent \$36 and over. The class earning \$12 and under \$20 included 31.0 percent of the total, thus making 45.3 percent earning less than \$20. Furthermore, 29.8 percent were paid \$20 and under \$28, and 14.2 percent \$28 and under \$36. The above percentages show that there was no tendency toward concentration of weekly earnings in any particular wage class. This indicates that the short workweek was not confined to the unskilled and semiskilled workers.

The occupational averages in 1935 ranged from \$13.06 for common laborers to \$65.11 for the skilled occupation of rollers. The differential in earnings between these two occupations was \$52.05, or \$12.03 more than that existing between the same occupations in bar mills. Occupations, other than common laborers, averaging less than \$20 per week were stockers (\$16.80), chargers and chargers' helpers (\$19.40), electric roll engineers (\$19.87), hookers (\$16.57), conveyor men (\$17.57), bundlers (\$18.40), miscellaneous labor (\$16.97), and other indirect labor (\$17.50). Only one of the above occupations (electric roll engineers) can be classed as skilled. Among the skilled occupations other than electric roll engineers, the lowest average weekly earnings were \$31.01 for roughers.

#### Wire Mills

##### Average Hourly Earnings

EMPLOYEES in wire mills <sup>12</sup> earned an average of 64.6 cents per hour in 1935. As data are not available for this department in 1933, there are no definite figures showing to what extent the average hourly earnings have increased since that year. However, the benefits from

<sup>12</sup> Excludes the fabrication of wire.

code rates and greater production undoubtedly lifted the 1935 average materially above 1933.

Two geographical wage levels existed in this department in 1935. The lowest average earnings per hour, 49.6 cents, went to Southern workers and the highest, 67.2 cents, to Eastern workers. Employees in the Pittsburgh and the Great Lakes and Middle West districts averaged 65.3 and 64.7 cents, respectively, thus having essentially the same wage level as the Eastern district.

In 1935 only 2.7 percent of the workers in all districts combined earned under 40 cents per hour. A goodly proportion of these employees were found in the Southern district, where the code minimum rates for common labor varied from 25 to 37 cents. Those earning 40 and under 60 cents constituted 41.6 percent, the class of 60 and under 80 cents included 35.3 percent, and 20.4 percent had earnings of 80 cents and over. Nearly three-fourths of the workers in the latter group were found in the skilled occupation of wire drawers.

In order not to reveal the data in any plant, the occupational averages shown in table 9 are given only for the country as a whole. However, the number of employees in the skilled occupation of wire drawers and the unskilled occupation of common laborers is sufficiently large to present district figures without revealing plant identity. In the former occupation, the average hourly earnings ranged from a low of 58.3 cents in the Southern district to a high of 88.3 cents in the Eastern district. In the Pittsburgh district, the average earnings of wire drawers amounted to 72.2 cents, and in the Great Lakes and Middle West district it was 80.1 cents. Common laborers earned an average of only 27.9 cents in the Southern district, as against 46.6 cents in the Eastern, 46.1 cents in the Pittsburgh, and 44.1 cents in the Great Lakes and Middle West district. Among the skilled occupations,<sup>13</sup> other than wire drawers, the range in the averages for the country as a whole was from 54.6 cents for product inspectors to 71.6 cents for die reamers; for semiskilled occupations the range was from 54.6 cents for reelers to 58.8 cents for power truckers. The only unskilled occupations, other than common laborers, are hand truckers and miscellaneous labor, each averaging close to 55 cents.

<sup>13</sup> The occupation of wire drawers, die reamers, wipers, product inspectors, and testers and gagers have been classified as skilled; the occupations of annealing and galvanizing firemen, block tenders, reelers, power truckers, and straightener and cutter operators have been classified as semiskilled; the occupations of common laborers, miscellaneous labor, and hand truckers have been classified as unskilled.

Plant supervisory and clerical workers, as well as the groups designated as other direct and other indirect labor, have not been classified as to skill.

Table 9.—Average Hourly Earnings of Wage Earners in Wire Mills, by Occupation, 1935

Occupation	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Occupation	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings
Die reamers.....	72	\$0.716	Reelers.....	197	\$0.546
Truckers, hand.....	150	.557	Block tenders.....	172	.556
Truckers, power.....	177	.588	Inspectors, product.....	57	.546
Wire drawers.....	1,399	.770	Common laborers.....	223	.437
Testers and gagers.....	73	.633	Miscellaneous labor <sup>1</sup> .....	322	.552
Straightener and cutter operators.....	22	.581	Clerical, plant.....	115	.598
Firemen, annealing and galvanizing, furnaces.....	84	.583	Supervisory, plant.....	124	.719
Wipers.....	53	.664	Other direct labor <sup>2</sup> .....	189	.606
			Other indirect labor <sup>2</sup> .....	36	.571

<sup>1</sup> See footnote 2, page 117.<sup>2</sup> See footnote 3, page 117.

### Weekly Hours

THE average weekly hours of wire-mill employees amounted to 33.7 in 1935. Owing to greater activity in industry and improved agricultural conditions, this average is unquestionably higher than in 1933.

Taking all districts combined, 12.8 percent of the workers had a week of less than 24 hours and 11.8 percent a week of over 40 hours. Every class of labor was represented in these two end groups. About three-fourths of the workers therefore worked a week of 24 to 40 hours, inclusive, of whom 2,820 employees, or 45.0 percent, had a week of exactly 40 hours.

The average hours per week for the 17 occupations shown in table 9 were all above 30. There were only 8 occupations and one occupational group that averaged more than 35 hours, the highest figures shown being 38.2 for testers and gagers and 42.5 for plant supervisory employees. Common laborers had an average of 31.9 and wire drawers 31.5 hours. The average weekly hours of wire drawers were 27.8 in the Southern district, as against a high of 33.4 in the Great Lakes and Middle West district. In the Eastern and Pittsburgh districts, the averages for this occupation were the same—31.6 hours. Common laborers worked an average of only 29.7 hours in the Pittsburgh district, as compared with 35.0 in the Eastern, 33.4 in the Great Lakes and Middle West, and 33.5 in the Southern districts.

### Weekly Earnings

THE average weekly earnings of employees in wire mills amounted to \$21.78 in 1935. This figure compares quite favorably with that of \$22.06 in blast furnaces and \$22.77 in rod mills, the products of which are used in making wire, but it is considerably lower than that of \$25.84 in open-hearth furnaces.

There were 8.4 percent of the workers in all districts combined who received less than \$10 per week, and an additional 17.2 percent \$10 and under \$16. Altogether one-fourth of the employees earned less than \$16 per week during the period covered by this survey. The



class earning \$16 and under \$24 contained 36.5 percent of the workers, as against 27.1 percent in the class of \$24 and under \$32. The remaining 10.8 percent had earnings of \$32 and over, about three-fourths of these being found in the two occupations of wire drawers and plant supervisory employees.

The average weekly earnings by occupation ranged from a low of \$13.95 for common laborers to a high of \$30.57 for plant supervisory employees. The highest average weekly earnings, other than those for supervisory employees, were \$26.63 for the highly skilled occupation of die reamers. These earnings are rather low when one considers that the quality of the wire drawn depends upon the reamer's accuracy in reaming the die. Likewise, the earnings of \$18.99 for product inspectors are very low in comparison with the skill required to fill this position, as it ranks in importance with plant supervisory workers. The largest occupation, wire drawers, earned an average of \$24.21. The district averages for this occupation varied from a low of \$16.19 in the South to a high of \$27.85 in the East. Practically no employees in this occupation in the former district earned as much as \$28, whereas in the latter district somewhat over 40 percent received \$28 and over. In the Pittsburgh district, wire drawers earned an average of \$22.85, as against \$26.77 in the Great Lakes and Middle West district. Likewise, the average earnings per week of common laborers were lowest in the South (\$9.35) and highest in the East (\$16.33). They averaged respectively \$13.69 and \$14.72 in the Pittsburgh and Great Lakes and Middle West districts. In this occupation, only one employee in the Southern district earned over \$10 per week, whereas in the Great Lakes and Middle West district only one earned less than \$10 per week. Slightly over one-half of all the common laborers were found in the Pittsburgh district, but only 5 earned as much as \$20, whereas approximately 35 percent received less than \$12. In the Eastern district, over one-half of the common laborers earned between \$16 and \$18.

### Sheet Mills

#### Average Hourly Earnings

AVERAGE hourly earnings of sheet-mill employees amounted to 70.1 cents in 1935,<sup>14</sup> as compared with 47.2 cents in 1933, which represents a gain of 48.5 percent.

In 1933, according to table 10, slightly over one-third of the workers in all districts combined earned less than 40 cents per hour. However, in order to cover the same percentage of the wage earners in

<sup>14</sup> The 1935 survey included also sheet mills in the Southern and Eastern districts, whereas all former surveys covered only those located in the Pittsburgh and Great Lakes and Middle West districts. The inclusion of 3,030 employees in the Southern and Eastern districts, however, had little effect on the average earnings per hour in this department, as with those two districts omitted the figure would have been increased by only 1.1 cents.

1935, it was necessary to include all those with earnings of less than 55 cents, as only 3 percent averaged less than 40 cents. Practically the same relative number received 40 and under 60 cents in both years, the figures being 44.1 percent in 1933 and 42.0 in 1935. The percentages found in the class of 60 and under 80 cents were 12.1 and 29.3, respectively. Approximately one-fourth of the wage earners therefore averaged 80 cents and over in 1935, which may be compared with only about 7 percent in 1933. As regards those receiving 80 cents and over in 1935, about one-half earned 80 cents and under \$1 and the remainder \$1 and over.

In 1933, the average earnings per hour in the Pittsburgh and Great Lakes and Middle West districts were respectively 46.8 and 47.9 cents. In 1935, the average in the Pittsburgh district was 72.1 cents and in the Great Lakes and Middle West district 70.5 cents.<sup>15</sup> In general both districts had the same wage level each year.

Table 10.—Distribution of Wage Earners in Sheet Mills, According to Average Hourly Earnings, by District, 1933 and 1935

Average hourly earnings (cents)	Total, all districts						Pittsburgh district					
	1933			1935			1933			1935		
	Number of wage earn- ers	Sim- ple per- cent- age	Cum- ulative per- cent- age	Number of wage earn- ers	Sim- ple per- cent- age	Cum- ulative per- cent- age	Number of wage earn- ers	Sim- ple per- cent- age	Cum- ulative per- cent- age	Number of wage earn- ers	Sim- ple per- cent- age	Cum- ulative per- cent- age
15.0 and under 20.0	125	0.3	0.3	1	(2)	(2)	122	0.5	0.5	1	(2)	(2)
20.0 and under 25.0	56	.7	1.0	2	(2)	(2)	39	.8	1.3	2	(2)	(2)
25.0 and under 27.5	149	1.7	2.7	1	(2)	(2)	104	2.2	3.5	1	(2)	(2)
27.5 and under 30.0	189	2.2	4.9	3	(2)	(2)	120	2.5	6.0	1	(2)	(2)
30.0 and under 32.5	442	5.1	10.0	7	(2)	(2)	279	5.9	11.9	3	(2)	(2)
32.5 and under 35.0	704	8.2	18.2	28	0.2	0.2	371	7.8	19.7	3	(2)	(2)
35.0 and under 37.5	755	8.8	27.0	110	.8	1.0	447	9.5	29.2	1	(2)	(2)
37.5 and under 40.0	796	9.4	36.4	269	2.0	3.0	440	9.3	38.5	5	0.1	0.1
40.0 and under 42.5	712	8.3	44.7	311	2.3	5.3	359	7.5	46.0	45	1.0	1.1
42.5 and under 45.0	562	6.5	51.2	393	2.9	8.2	313	6.6	52.6	29	.6	1.7
45.0 and under 47.5	606	7.1	58.3	599	4.4	12.6	289	6.1	58.7	190	4.2	5.9
47.5 and under 50.0	514	6.0	64.3	1,075	7.9	20.5	262	5.5	64.2	351	7.8	13.7
50.0 and under 55.0	796	9.3	73.6	1,688	12.5	33.0	406	8.5	72.7	644	14.4	28.1
55.0 and under 60.0	594	6.9	80.5	1,625	12.0	45.0	275	5.8	78.5	726	16.2	44.3
60.0 and under 65.0	381	4.4	84.9	1,281	9.5	54.5	199	4.2	82.7	410	9.1	53.4
65.0 and under 70.0	268	3.1	88.0	1,064	7.8	62.3	158	3.3	86.0	425	9.4	62.8
70.0 and under 75.0	219	2.5	90.5	864	6.4	68.7	135	2.8	88.8	294	6.5	69.3
75.0 and under 80.0	184	2.1	92.6	759	5.6	74.3	110	2.3	91.1	233	5.2	74.5
80.0 and under 85.0	139	1.6	94.2	551	4.1	78.4	96	2.0	93.1	155	3.4	77.9
85.0 and under 90.0	112	1.3	95.5	445	3.3	81.7	83	1.7	94.8	138	3.1	81.0
90.0 and under 95.0	69	.8	96.3	425	3.1	84.8	54	1.1	95.9	149	3.3	84.3
95.0 and under 100.0	59	.7	97.0	354	2.6	87.4	42	.9	96.8	120	2.7	87.0
100.0 and under 110.0	90	1.0	98.0	533	3.9	91.3	44	.9	97.7	178	3.9	90.9
110.0 and under 120.0	56	.7	98.7	292	2.2	93.5	38	.8	98.5	111	2.5	93.4
120.0 and under 130.0	26	.3	99.0	250	1.8	95.3	13	.3	98.8	91	2.0	95.4
130.0 and under 140.0	27	.3	99.3	173	1.3	96.6	22	.5	99.3	56	1.2	96.6
140.0 and under 150.0	17	.2	99.5	122	.9	97.5	12	.3	99.6	49	1.1	97.7
150.0 and under 160.0	14	.2	99.7	70	.5	98.0	8	.2	99.8	24	.5	98.2
160.0 and under 170.0	14	.2	99.9	61	.4	98.4	7	.1	99.9	16	.4	98.6
170.0 and under 180.0	9	.1	100.0	50	.4	98.8	6	.1	100.0	19	.4	99.0
180.0 and under 190.0	3	(2)	100.0	38	.3	99.1	3	(2)	100.0	18	.4	99.4
190.0 and under 200.0	1	(2)	100.0	35	.3	99.4	1	(2)	100.0	9	.2	99.6
200.0 cents and over	3	(2)	100.0	80	.6	100.0	-----	-----	-----	18	.4	100.0
Total	8,591	100.0	-----	13,559	100.0	-----	4,757	100.0	-----	4,515	100.0	-----

<sup>1</sup> Includes 5 employees with earnings of less than 15 cents.

<sup>2</sup> Less than  $\frac{1}{10}$  of 1 percent.

<sup>15</sup> In order not to reveal the identity of any of the plants in the Eastern and Southern districts, both the averages and frequency distributions are shown here only for the Pittsburgh and Great Lakes and Middle West districts. However, the figures for the country as a whole represent all four districts.

Table 10.—Distribution of Wage Earners in Sheet Mills, According to Average Hourly Earnings, by District, 1933 and 1935—Continued

Average hourly earnings (cents)	Great Lakes and Middle West district					
	1933			1935		
	Number of wage earners	Simple percentage	Cumulative percentage	Number of wage earners	Simple percentage	Cumulative percentage
15.0 and under 20.0	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )			
20.0 and under 25.0	17	0.4	0.4			
25.0 and under 27.5	45	1.2	1.6			
27.5 and under 30.0	69	1.8	3.4	2	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
30.0 and under 32.5	163	4.3	7.7	2	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
32.5 and under 35.0	333	8.7	16.4	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
35.0 and under 37.5	308	8.0	24.4	2	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
37.5 and under 40.0	356	9.4	33.8	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
40.0 and under 42.5	353	9.2	43.0	114	1.9	1.9
42.5 and under 45.0	249	6.5	49.5	141	2.3	4.2
45.0 and under 47.5	317	8.3	57.8	284	4.7	8.9
47.5 and under 50.0	252	6.6	64.4	533	9.0	17.9
50.0 and under 55.0	390	10.3	74.7	755	12.7	30.6
55.0 and under 60.0	319	8.3	83.0	664	11.0	41.6
60.0 and under 65.0	182	4.7	87.7	656	11.0	52.6
65.0 and under 70.0	110	2.9	90.6	470	7.8	60.4
70.0 and under 75.0	84	2.2	92.8	422	7.0	67.4
75.0 and under 80.0	74	1.9	94.7	410	6.8	74.2
80.0 and under 85.0	43	1.1	95.8	280	4.7	78.9
85.0 and under 90.0	29	.8	96.6	213	3.5	82.4
90.0 and under 95.0	15	.4	97.0	200	3.3	85.7
95.0 and under 100.0	17	.4	97.4	159	2.6	88.3
100.0 and under 110.0	46	1.2	98.6	225	3.7	92.0
110.0 and under 120.0	18	.5	99.1	119	2.0	94.0
120.0 and under 130.0	13	.3	99.4	103	1.7	95.7
130.0 and under 140.0	5	.1	99.5	70	1.2	96.9
140.0 and under 150.0	5	.1	99.6	41	.7	97.6
150.0 and under 160.0	6	.2	99.8	27	.4	98.0
160.0 and under 170.0	7	.2	100.0	23	.4	98.4
170.0 and under 180.0	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	100.0	26	.4	98.8
180.0 and under 190.0			100.0	14	.2	99.0
190.0 and under 200.0			100.0	19	.3	99.3
200.0 cents and over	3	( <sup>2</sup> )	100.0	44	.7	100.0
Total	3,834	100.0		6,014	100.0	

<sup>2</sup> Less than 1/10 of 1 per cent.

Among the occupational averages shown in table 11, the lowest in 1933 for all districts combined was 33.1 cents for the unskilled occupation of roller and stretcher levelers' helpers, and the highest, \$1.138, for the skilled occupation of rollers on hand mills.<sup>16</sup> Common laborers received an average of 33.9 cents.

Owing to an increase of 81 percent in the hourly earnings of roller and stretcher levelers' helpers between 1933 and 1935, as compared with 32 percent for common laborers, the latter occupation had the lowest average (44.9 cents) in 1935. The earnings of rollers on hand mills rose by 53 percent between the two years, which raised the aver-

<sup>16</sup> The skilled occupations in this department are pair heaters, rollers on hand and mechanical mills, rollers' helpers and finishers on hand mills, assistant rollers on mechanical mills, roughers, catchers, heaters, shearmen, cold-roll rollers, roller and stretcher levelers, resquare shearmen, galvanizers, and gaggers and inspectors; the semiskilled occupations are heaters' helpers, spannermen, matchers, doublers, openers, picklers, and feeders; and the unskilled occupations are stockers, common laborers, miscellaneous labor, roller and stretcher levelers' helpers, re-square shearmen's helpers, drag-ups, shearmen's helpers, picklers' helpers, cold-roll catchers, chargers on pair and pack furnaces, catchers and feeders on normalizing furnaces, reelers, and rackmen galvanizing. Plant clerical and supervisory employees, as well as direct and indirect labor, have not been classed as to skill.

age for this occupation to \$1.742. The differential of 79.9 cents existing between common laborers and rollers on hand mills in 1933 was thus widened to \$1.293 in 1935. Among the skilled occupations, the relative increases between the 2 years ranged from 29 percent for galvanizers to 99 percent for roller and stretcher levelers, among the semiskilled occupations from 34 for spannermen to 82 percent for picklers, and among the unskilled occupations from 32 percent for common laborers and catchers and feeders on normalizing furnaces to 81 percent for roller and stretcher levelers' helpers.

Of the 38 occupations and occupational groups shown in table 11, the averages in 24 amounted to less than 50 cents in 1933. In that year 11 additional occupations averaged between 50 and 75 cents and the remaining 3 over 75 cents. In 1935, on the other hand, only 1 occupation had an average of less than 50 cents, while 20 fell between 50 and 75 cents and 16 over 75 cents.

Table 11.—Average Hourly Earnings of Wage Earners in Sheet Mills, by Occupation and District, 1933 and 1935

Occupation	Total, all districts				Pittsburgh district				Great Lakes and Middle West district			
	1933		1935		1933		1935		1933		1935	
	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings
Stockers.....	27	\$0.394	113	\$0.556	(1)	(1)	41	\$0.673	(1)	(1)	39	\$0.569
Pair heaters.....	197	.603	185	.885	104	\$0.636	74	.878	93	\$0.562	103	.882
Drag-ups.....	87	.371	140	.636	55	.372	34	.595	32	.369	57	.588
Rollers, hand mills.....	183	1.138	235	1.742	80	1.182	67	1.614	103	1.107	135	1.729
Rollers, helpers and finishers, hand mills.....	156	.572	179	.909	79	.569	59	.720	77	.575	88	.942
Rollers, mechanical mills.....	60	1.003	126	1.504	48	1.023	51	1.557	(1)	(1)	31	1.511
Assistant rollers, mechanical mills.....	61	.664	115	1.068	52	.653	41	1.175	(1)	(1)	29	1.019
Spannermen.....	90	.641	165	.862	52	.607	64	.817	38	.574	56	.986
Roughers.....	218	.719	229	1.104	138	.753	72	1.031	80	.661	122	1.117
Catchers.....	292	.646	386	.933	160	.666	97	.900	132	.618	188	.919
Matchers.....	306	.516	394	.839	218	.516	170	.916	88	.516	156	.737
Doublers.....	217	.513	277	.797	121	.519	86	.814	96	.505	89	.807
Sheet heaters.....	114	.806	158	1.188	75	.851	74	1.145	39	.742	77	1.221
Sheet heaters' helpers.....	118	.520	141	.792	60	.547	55	.736	58	.496	79	.815
Chargers, pair and pack furnaces.....	176	.415	251	.667	85	.387	48	.762	91	.460	106	.652
Shearmen.....	134	.721	262	1.059	46	.840	75	1.269	88	.671	140	.950
Shearmen's helpers.....	187	.430	259	.748	97	.429	68	.905	90	.431	124	.690
Openers.....	227	.442	439	.720	150	.455	153	.884	77	.414	153	.676
Openers, level-handed.....	133	.417	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)
Picklers, sheet.....	125	.386	98	.701	104	.370	23	.690	21	.475	49	.717
Picklers' helpers.....	189	.385	627	.630	100	.372	353	.642	86	.405	199	.618
Cold-roll rollers.....	113	.460	172	.753	70	.447	59	.653	43	.489	63	.749
Cold-roll catchers.....	126	.401	197	.661	77	.386	56	.570	49	.432	66	.674
Catchers and feeders, normalizing furnaces.....	142	.411	437	.543	108	.407	178	.572	34	.431	190	.540
Roller and stretcher levelers.....	66	.387	129	.772	39	.369	34	.638	27	.430	68	.757
Roller and stretcher levelers' helpers.....	67	.331	114	.598	39	.317	63	.554	28	.374	45	.605
Re-square shearmen.....	61	.412	151	.687	44	.397	61	.661	17	.451	62	.720

<sup>1</sup> Not a sufficient number reported to present averages.

<sup>2</sup> None reported.

<sup>3</sup> District averages omitted in order not to reveal the identity of certain plants.

Table 11.—Average Hourly Earnings of Wage Earners in Sheet Mills, by Occupation and District, 1933 and 1935—Continued

Occupation	Total, all districts				Pittsburgh district				Great Lakes and Middle West district			
	1933		1935		1933		1935		1933		1935	
	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average hourly earnings
Re-square shearmen's helpers.....	83	\$0.350	118	\$0.566	52	\$0.340	44	\$0.562	31	\$0.371	46	\$0.598
Galvanizers.....	57	.488	55	.631	30	.506	(1)	(1)	27	.471	34	.681
Feeders, galvanizing.....	81	.416	52	.571	63	.396	(2)	(2)	18	.492	39	.601
Reelers and rackmen, galvanizing.....	62	.423	64	.640	44	.432	(2)	(2)	18	.393	14	.541
Gagers and inspectors, product.....	115	.426	272	.605	54	.431	69	.640	61	.421	139	.628
Common laborers.....	588	.339	830	.449	312	.337	189	.484	276	.342	436	.460
Miscellaneous labor <sup>1</sup> .....	645	.356	1,445	.532	374	.354	548	.529	271	.359	623	.572
Clerical, plant.....	93	.416	268	.611	55	.435	120	.658	38	.389	111	.585
Supervisory, plant.....	195	.526	366	.754	101	.518	103	.785	94	.536	180	.780
Other direct labor <sup>2</sup> .....	1,772	.482	1,776	.704	831	.496	606	.695	941	.468	688	.710
Other indirect labor <sup>3</sup> .....	173	.402	299	.614	130	.397	147	.647	43	.426	81	.637

<sup>1</sup> Not a sufficient number reported to present averages.  
<sup>2</sup> None reported.

<sup>4</sup> See footnote 2, p. 117.  
<sup>3</sup> See footnote 3, p. 117.

## Weekly Hours

AVERAGE weekly hours of wage earners in sheet mills were 38.1 in 1935, which may be compared with 23.7 in 1933. In 1933, the normal working time of employees was 46.9 hours per week, thus making the actual working time 50.5 percent of normal. In 1935, however, the actual working time was 95.3 percent of the average maximum of 40 hours permitted by the code during any 6-month period.

The distribution of employees according to weekly hours in 1935 shows that 17.1 percent worked a week of less than 32 hours and that 22.6 percent had a week in excess of 40 hours. The hours worked by these two groups were not confined to any one class of labor, as in most plants the unskilled worked as many hours as the skilled and semiskilled occupations. Between these limits, 60.3 percent of the workers were found, most of whom (44.6 percent of the total) were employed exactly 40 hours.

In 1933, employees in the Pittsburgh district worked an average of 25.5 hours, as compared with 21.5 hours in the Great Lakes and Middle West district. In the Pittsburgh district, employees averaged 39.7 hours in 1935—an increase of 55.7 percent over the 1933 average. In the Great Lakes and Middle West district, the 1935 average of 37.0 hours represents an increase of 72.1 percent over the 1933 figure.

In 1933, the occupational averages ranged from 13.1 for spannermen to 33.2 for picklers, as may be seen from table 12. In one occupation the average was less than 15 hours, in 10 between 15 and 20 hours,

in 4 between 20 and 25 hours, in 5 between 25 and 30 hours, and in 2 over 30 hours. In 1935, however, the range was much narrower, as the lowest average was 32.3 hours for sheet heaters and the highest, other than 48.7 for plant supervisory workers, was 42.7 for plant clerical workers. In 9 of the occupations the averages were between 30 and 35 hours, in 12 from 35 to 39 hours, and in 16 they amounted to 39 and over.

In each year, the common laborers worked a greater number of hours than rollers on hand mills. Likewise, the rollers and assistant rollers on mechanical mills had longer working hours than the hand-mill occupations. It will also be seen that the employees in the finishing operations averaged more hours than the workers on the hot mills.

Table 12.—Average Weekly Hours of Wage Earners in Sheet Mills by Occupation and District, 1933 and 1935

Occupation	Total, all districts				1935 <sup>1</sup>			
	1933		1935		Pittsburgh district		Great Lakes and Middle West district	
	Number of wage earners	Average weekly hours	Number of wage earners	Average weekly hours	Number of wage earners	Average weekly hours	Number of wage earners	Average weekly hours
Stockers.....	27	( <sup>2</sup> )	113	39.5	41	35.3	39	44.7
Fair heaters.....	197	17.0	185	34.0	74	42.2	103	28.3
Drag-ups.....	87	( <sup>2</sup> )	140	33.7	34	38.9	57	27.8
Rollers, hand mills.....	183	19.1	235	33.7	67	38.4	135	30.9
Rollers, helpers and finishers, hand mills.....	156	17.6	179	33.8	59	40.4	88	29.0
Rollers, mechanical mills.....	60	26.4	126	38.4	51	39.1	31	38.4
Assistant rollers, mechanical mills.....	61	29.2	115	39.7	41	40.3	29	39.2
Spannermen.....	90	13.1	165	35.8	64	40.0	56	31.5
Roughers.....	218	17.7	229	33.7	72	40.7	122	30.2
Catchers.....	292	16.3	386	34.4	97	39.4	188	32.7
Matchers.....	306	16.2	394	35.0	170	40.5	156	29.4
Doublers.....	217	18.1	277	34.4	86	40.3	89	28.0
Sheet heaters.....	114	18.0	158	35.4	74	41.3	77	30.0
Sheet heaters' helpers.....	118	16.8	141	32.3	55	39.6	79	27.3
Chargers, pair and pack furnaces.....	176	20.5	251	36.6	48	40.0	106	34.1
Shearmen.....	134	21.6	262	34.9	75	40.6	140	31.3
Shearmen's helpers.....	187	21.2	259	35.1	68	40.2	124	31.3
Openers.....	227	16.8	439	37.0	153	39.8	153	35.1
Openers, level-handed.....	133	21.9	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	---	---	---	---
Picklers.....	125	33.2	98	40.0	23	43.0	49	39.3
Picklers' helpers.....	189	( <sup>2</sup> )	627	37.9	353	37.2	199	40.4
Cold-roll rollers.....	113	31.7	172	40.4	59	39.4	63	43.8
Cold-roll catchers.....	126	28.6	197	39.4	56	38.3	66	42.4
Catchers and feeders, normalizing furnaces.....	142	( <sup>2</sup> )	437	35.2	178	36.7	190	32.9
Roller and stretcher levelers.....	66	( <sup>2</sup> )	129	39.9	34	40.1	68	41.2
Roller and stretcher levelers' helpers.....	67	( <sup>2</sup> )	114	38.9	63	38.7	45	38.1
Re-square shearmen.....	61	( <sup>2</sup> )	151	40.3	61	40.1	62	39.8
Re-square shearmen's helpers.....	83	( <sup>2</sup> )	118	40.0	44	39.9	46	39.1
Galvanizers.....	57	( <sup>2</sup> )	55	41.7	( <sup>4</sup> )	( <sup>4</sup> )	34	40.8
Feeders, galvanizing.....	81	26.3	52	39.4	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	39	36.9
Reelers and rackmen, galvanizing.....	62	( <sup>2</sup> )	64	42.5	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	14	36.5
Gagers and inspectors, product.....	115	( <sup>2</sup> )	272	40.8	69	42.3	139	39.5
Common laborers.....	588	26.2	830	37.3	189	34.2	436	38.7
Miscellaneous labor <sup>5</sup> .....	645	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,445	39.3	548	38.9	623	39.4
Clerical, plant.....	93	( <sup>2</sup> )	268	42.7	120	41.9	111	43.6
Supervisory, plant.....	195	( <sup>2</sup> )	366	48.7	103	51.4	180	47.9
Other direct labor <sup>6</sup> .....	1,772	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,776	37.7	606	40.6	688	36.3
Other indirect labor <sup>6</sup> .....	173	( <sup>2</sup> )	299	39.7	147	39.9	81	42.1

<sup>1</sup> No averages by districts available for 1933.

<sup>2</sup> No data available.

<sup>3</sup> None reported.

<sup>4</sup> Not a sufficient number reported to present averages

<sup>5</sup> See footnote 2, p. 117.

<sup>6</sup> See footnote 3, p. 117.

## Weekly Earnings

THE average weekly earnings of sheet-mill wage earners rose from \$11.22 in 1933 to \$26.72 in 1935. This increase of 138 percent was brought about by two factors, namely higher average hourly earnings and a longer workweek.

In 1935, in all districts combined, the percentage earning less than \$18 per week was 16.5. About one-third of these were found in the two unskilled-labor occupations of common and miscellaneous labor. Those receiving \$18 and under \$26 constituted 41.1 percent of the total, thus making nearly 60 percent who were paid less than the average for the department. The number earning \$26 and under \$36 included 26.5 percent, and the remaining 15.9 percent had weekly earnings of \$36 and over. Of this latter group, made up principally of rolling occupations, the number receiving \$40 and over constituted slightly over 10 percent of the total wage earners covered.

The average weekly earnings in 1935 in the Pittsburgh and Great Lakes and Middle West districts amounted to \$28.67 and \$26.10, respectively. In 1933, the average for the Pittsburgh district was \$11.94, as compared with \$10.33 in the Great Lakes and Middle West district. While the difference between the two districts in 1935 amounted to only \$2.57, the distribution of the employees in each of these districts was somewhat different.

For the country as a whole, the average weekly earnings increased between 1933 and 1935 by 110 percent for cold-roll rollers and galvanizing feeders and by 263 percent for spannermen. The other occupations in table 13 that showed increased earnings of over 200 percent are rollers' helpers and finishers on hand mills, catchers, matchers, and openers. The average weekly earnings of common laborers rose by only 89 percent, as compared with 162 percent for rollers on hand mills, 119 percent for rollers on mechanical mills, and 148 percent for shearmen. In 1933, only hand and mechanical rollers averaged more than \$20, whereas in 1935 only 2 unskilled occupations, catchers and feeders on normalizing furnaces and common laborers, averaged less than \$20. In fact, 25 of the 37 averaged more than \$25, and of these 25 occupations, 7 received an average in excess of \$36, the highest being \$58.76 for rollers on hand mills.

Table 13.—Average Weekly Earnings of Wage Earners in Sheet Mills, by Occupation and District, 1933 and 1935

Occupation	Total, all districts				1935 <sup>1</sup>			
	1933		1935		Pittsburgh district		Great Lakes and Middle West district	
	Number of wage earners	Average weekly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average weekly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average weekly earnings	Number of wage earners	Average weekly earnings
Stockers.....	27	( <sup>2</sup> )	113	\$21.97	41	\$23.77	39	\$25.45
Pair heaters.....	197	\$10.32	185	30.08	74	37.03	103	24.94
Drag-ups.....	87	( <sup>2</sup> )	140	21.44	34	23.14	57	16.36
Rollers, hand mills.....	183	22.44	235	58.76	67	62.06	135	53.48
Rollers' helpers and finishers, hand mills.....	156	10.17	179	30.67	59	29.13	88	27.30
Rollers, mechanical mills.....	60	26.35	126	57.73	51	60.83	31	57.97
Assistant rollers, mechanical mills.....	61	18.72	115	42.36	41	47.34	29	39.94
Spannermen.....	90	8.49	165	30.81	64	32.68	56	31.01
Roughers.....	218	12.77	229	37.20	72	41.96	122	33.74
Catchers.....	292	10.60	386	32.05	97	35.47	188	30.00
Matchers.....	306	8.38	394	29.36	170	37.11	156	21.67
Doublers.....	217	9.30	277	27.42	86	32.84	89	22.58
Sheet heaters.....	114	14.58	158	42.02	74	47.30	77	36.58
Sheet heaters' helpers.....	118	8.77	141	25.62	55	29.19	79	22.26
Chargers, pair and pack furnaces.....	176	( <sup>2</sup> )	251	24.40	48	30.45	106	22.22
Shearmen.....	134	14.93	262	37.01	75	51.58	140	29.70
Shearmen's helpers.....	187	9.16	259	26.28	68	36.40	124	21.62
Openers.....	227	7.47	439	26.64	153	35.17	153	23.72
Openers, level-handed.....	133	9.13	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )				
Picklers.....	125	12.83	98	28.03	23	29.69	49	28.16
Picklers' helpers.....	189	( <sup>2</sup> )	627	23.86	353	23.92	199	24.97
Cold-roll rollers.....	113	14.47	172	30.42	59	26.90	63	32.82
Cold-roll catchers.....	126	11.35	197	26.02	56	21.83	66	28.57
Catchers and feeders, normalizing furnaces.....	142	( <sup>2</sup> )	437	19.14	178	21.03	190	17.79
Roller and stretcher levelers.....	66	( <sup>2</sup> )	129	30.84	34	25.62	68	31.21
Roller and stretcher levelers' helpers.....	67	( <sup>2</sup> )	114	23.23	63	21.45	45	23.03
Re-square shearmen.....	61	( <sup>2</sup> )	151	27.65	61	26.51	62	28.66
Re-square shearmen's helpers.....	83	( <sup>2</sup> )	118	22.63	44	22.43	46	23.39
Galvanizers.....	57	( <sup>2</sup> )	55	26.24	( <sup>4</sup> )	( <sup>4</sup> )	34	27.79
Feeders, galvanizing.....	81	10.71	52	22.50	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	39	22.21
Feeders and packmen, galvanizing.....	62	( <sup>2</sup> )	64	27.19	( <sup>3</sup> )	( <sup>3</sup> )	14	19.71
Gagers and inspectors, product.....	115	( <sup>2</sup> )	272	24.73	69	27.08	139	24.85
Common laborers.....	588	8.89	830	16.76	189	16.58	436	17.79
Miscellaneous labor <sup>5</sup> .....	645	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,445	20.88	548	20.61	623	22.53
Clerical, plant.....	93	( <sup>2</sup> )	268	26.11	120	27.53	111	25.49
Supervisory, plant.....	195	( <sup>2</sup> )	366	36.72	103	40.35	180	37.42
Other direct labor <sup>6</sup> .....	1,772	( <sup>2</sup> )	1,776	26.53	606	28.22	688	25.80
Other indirect labor <sup>6</sup> .....	173	( <sup>2</sup> )	299	24.41	147	25.83	81	26.82

<sup>1</sup> No averages by districts are available for 1933.<sup>2</sup> No data available.<sup>3</sup> None reported.<sup>4</sup> Not a sufficient number reported to present averages.<sup>5</sup> See footnote 2, p. 117.<sup>6</sup> See footnote 3, p. 117.



## Employment and Earnings in Commercial Milk Distribution, 1929-34

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WEEKLY earnings in March 1934 averaged \$24.10 for office employees in the commercial milk-distribution industry, \$25.37 for plant employees, and \$31.30 for route men. These earnings represented decreases of 17 and 18 percent respectively for office and plant employees as compared with March 1929, but of less than 1 percent for route men. These figures are based on reports from 1,563 milk-distribution plants. The study was an outgrowth of an earlier one made<sup>1</sup> by the Division of Research and Planning of the National Recovery Administration.

Although milk is one of the most common of human foods, information is extremely scanty concerning the volume of employment and the working conditions prevailing in the establishments processing and distributing the fresh-milk supply of our cities.<sup>2</sup> An initial problem in a review of any industry is the determination of industrial boundaries. This is particularly difficult and therefore perhaps all the more important where the individual business units do not confine their operations to the handling of a single product or where the same product makes its way to market through several distinct types of organization.

In the business of fresh-milk distribution both of these conditions obtain. Commercial milk dealers who buy fresh milk from farmers and resell it to the family trade or to institutional consumers rarely confine their operations to this one item. Typically they also distribute and frequently manufacture cheese, butter, ice cream, and concentrated milk byproducts.<sup>3</sup> Moreover, commercial milk dis-

<sup>1</sup> Under the direction of the writer.

<sup>2</sup> Two pioneer efforts (the Census of Distribution, 1929, and the Census of Business, 1933) to review the distributive trades have now been made. However, the present study indicates clearly that in neither of these was it possible to get a complete coverage of the milk-distributing industry. The summary volumes of the Census of Distribution show a coverage of 4,787 wholesale and retail milk-distributing establishments in which there were 66,438 employees in 1929. The present study is based on reports coming from firms having more than 55,000 employees in March of that same year, although careful estimating indicates that these firms were responsible for only 40 percent of the employment in the industry. It is clear therefore that all of these reviews, including the present one, must be regarded as based upon samples. It was stated that details which could not be included in the summary volumes of the Census of Distribution would be covered in a special report on milk dealers, but this report has never been published.

<sup>3</sup> A check on the mailing list of the 8,400 establishments used as the basis for this study showed that the following percentages of the plants handle the products mentioned; 60 percent cheese (probably mostly cottage cheese), 20 percent butter, 20 percent ice cream, and 8 percent some form of concentrated dry milk.

tributors are by no means in exclusive control of the distribution channels through which urban consumers obtain fresh milk. Although within the last few decades dairy farmers have grown increasingly accustomed to selling milk in bulk to specialized commercial dealers, it is still common in many of the smaller communities, and to some extent in cities, for farmers to deliver milk directly to ultimate consumers. Direct sales by such producer-distributors, as they are commonly referred to in the trade, may have accounted for as much as 40 percent of the total amount of fresh milk consumed by the urban population in 1933.<sup>4</sup> However, in the larger cities, where the milk supply must be drawn from a wide area, and where pasteurization has become general, commercial milk dealers will be found to handle the bulk of the market milk.

The commercial milk-distributing industry, as here defined, embraces all firms which buy milk from farmers and resell it, usually after pasteurizing and bottling, to family, restaurant, or institutional trade. As such it includes many firms engaged in the manufacture of butter, ice cream, and/or other dairy products, but to which nevertheless the sale of fresh milk represents an important source of income.<sup>5</sup> It is with the volume of employment and the levels of earnings and pay rolls in the plants of such commercial distributors that this study is concerned. None of the data presented, therefore, may be assumed to be any direct indication of practices among producer-distributors.

#### Scope of Study

To OBTAIN comprehensive and uniform data on labor conditions in the plants operated by commercial milk dealers, a schedule was sent out to each of the 8,428 establishments of which there was any record. This was made possible by use of a mailing list furnished through the courtesy of one of the trade journals in the industry. The publishing company compiling this list had succeeded, after several years of effort, not only in obtaining a statement as to the

<sup>4</sup> This estimate is based on the fact that commercial firms reporting on schedules used for this study sold over their milk routes 750 million gallons of milk in 1933. Some corroboration for this estimate is furnished by an entirely independent calculation made by the International Association of Milk Dealers, based on a post-card questionnaire to its membership, which resulted in the estimate that commercial dealers operated 55 percent and producer-distributors 45 percent of the total number of milk routes in September 1934. (See Transcript of Hearings on Proposed Code of Fair Competition for the Fluid Milk Industry. Supplement to Record of First Day. N. R. A. Ward and Paul, Washington, D. C., reporters.) Since the typical producer-dealer probably handles a much smaller volume per route than does the commercial distributor, our estimate appears reasonable. However, its tentative character should be emphasized and attention called to the wide discrepancy between it and that appearing in the Brookings Institution Pamphlet 13: Dairy Products Under the Agricultural Adjustment Act (p. 9).

<sup>5</sup> The total aggregate sales income for 1933 of the firms reporting complete sales figures on the schedule used was \$265,000,000. Of this total, 8.7 percent represented sales of firms where the income from milk routes was less than 50 percent of gross sales. The inclusion of this type of firm in the industry definition here used is one of the factors which prevents direct comparison of our results with those of the Census of Business.

number of delivery routes operated by each establishment, but also in making the list inclusive of very nearly every commercial milk plant in the country.<sup>6</sup>

A count from the list used showed that commercial milk dealers operated a total of 57,539 delivery routes in 1933. Of the 8,428 schedules sent out, 1,508 returned schedules survived editing and were classified as usable. These returned schedules brought data from 1,563 distributing plants operating 24,056 delivery routes in March 1933. On the basis of routes covered, therefore, the material used is representative of somewhat more than 40 percent of the industry.

The schedule used called for a report on the number of employees, the total man-hours worked, and weekly pay roll, by three major departments for a single week in March 1929, 1933, and 1934. Also it requested more detailed data concerning the distribution of employees classified on the basis of weekly earnings in March 1933. Supplementary to this information directly concerning labor, the form provided for a statement of annual sales, cost of raw product, and annual pay rolls (exclusive of executive salaries) in 1929 and 1933, as well as for the number of routes operated in March 1929 and in March 1933. Consideration was given to the possibility of including an inquiry which would reveal fluctuations in employment from month to month during 1929 and 1933, but after numerous consultations with representatives of the industry, it was felt that March data could be taken as representative of the average level for the year.<sup>7</sup>

#### Volume of Employment

BY MEANS of the route count made from the mailing list mentioned, it was possible to construct an estimate of the total volume of employment in the industry. This was done by classifying the returned schedules in accordance with the size of the reporting firm (based on the number of routes operated in March 1933) and working out the ratios of the number of employees per route in each of the major departments. These ratios were then applied to the count of the total number of routes in the industry for each class of firms. The results are shown in table 1.

<sup>6</sup> Checking this list against several others resulted in adding only 22 establishments to the 8,406 original entries.

<sup>7</sup> Seasonal changes in employment are very small and are probably accounted for mainly by changes in the number of part-time employees. The Census of Distribution reports the ratios of total employees (full-time and part-time) on specific dates to the average for the year 1929 to be as follows: Apr. 15, 98 percent; July 15, 101 percent; Oct. 15, 102 percent; and Dec. 15, 99 percent. For the corresponding dates it reports the proportion of part-time to total employees as 1, 2, 2, and 1 percent, respectively. See Retail Distribution, Summary for United States, p. 53.

Table 1.—Estimated Employment in the Fresh-Milk Distributing Industry, March 1933

Class of employees	Number	Percent
Clerical employees.....	15, 547	11
Plant employees.....	56, 778	41
Delivery-sales employees.....	65, 514	48
Total.....	137, 839	100

It should be mentioned that the returned schedules used for computing the employee-per-route ratios for this estimate were, on the whole, better representative of conditions in large than in small plants. Nevertheless, reports from small firms (with three delivery routes or less) covered 9 percent of the aggregate routes operated by such small commercial firms. In view of the fact that such units do not bulk large among the commercial dealers,<sup>8</sup> and that returns for the other classes in each case covered 30 percent or more of the total routes, it is felt that the results presented in table 1 are reasonably reliable.

It will be observed that of the 138,000 employees estimated to be attached to the industry in March 1933, 11 percent were clerical workers, 41 percent were employed in mechanical operations inside the plant, and almost half were route men engaged in the delivery and sale of the product. The estimate for the clerical force does not include the central-office employees of the larger companies which may control several subsidiaries operating in different markets. Moreover, the distribution of employees by departments is by no means uniform for all firms in the industry. Many of the small plants, where the proprietor is in active charge, may have no clerical employees on the pay roll.

There is no current and continuous index of employment in this industry. The material gathered for the present study cannot be said to fill this gap. The most that can be said for it is that it does allow comparison of statistical snapshots taken as of<sup>9</sup> three different dates. To demonstrate that a statistical sample used for the construction of an employment index continues to represent the same proportion of the industry at all times requires almost complete knowledge beforehand of the very thing which is under investigation. In the present case, such a demonstration is not attempted, but it is possible to indicate some of the more important shortcomings of the data. Two of these call for special attention: (1) No accurate indication of the possible growth of the industry outside the firms reporting is to be had; (2) the merger movement, known to be important in this industry as late as 1931, might act to swell the total volume of

<sup>8</sup> This statement would not be true, of course, for the producer-distributors, who are typically small dealers usually operating one route only.

<sup>9</sup> N. B. Not at different dates.

employment in the firms reporting even though employment in the industry as a whole was actually declining during the period under review. The first of these must admittedly be accepted as limiting the significance of the results here presented. The latter defect has been partially overcome by careful classification and editing of returns. To this end many schedules useful for other purposes were not used in this section. In segregating the schedules for the purpose of measuring the changes in employment levels, all reports which did not provide information on plant and route employees in March in each of the 3 years, 1929, 1933, and 1934, were discarded. Likewise, all schedules in which there was evidence that the reporting firm had been a party to a merger sometime during the period 1929 to 1934 were classified as unsuitable for use. While the application of the latter rule resulted in eliminating schedules from a few of the larger firms, in general the reports remaining were those from medium-sized and larger establishments, since these probably kept more complete accounting records. Rigid application of these rules of selection left reports covering 382 distributing plants and 367 affiliated country shipping plants. A summary of employment levels in the two major departments of these establishments is presented in table 2.

In order to isolate the effect of dairy-products manufacturing, a subclassification of the data was made based upon the percentage which the value of milk and cream sales from routes represented of total dollar sales in 1933. Hence, the class A firms referred to in table 2 include all those in which the value of milk and cream sold represented more than 50 percent of total sales in 1933. The aggregate total sales of all these firms in 1933 amounted to \$241,292,200, of which 83 percent represented milk and cream route sales. All firms for which 1933 milk-route sales represented less than 50 percent of total sales make up the class B firms. Slightly less than 30 percent of the \$23,023,400 aggregate sales of this group was accounted for by milk and cream sales.

Table 2.—Volume of Employment, and Index Numbers Thereof, in Identical Fresh-Milk Distributing Firms 1929, 1933, and 1934

Type of firm and class of employees	Number of employees			Index numbers		
	1929	1933	1934	1929	1933	1934
Class A (specialized milk dealers):						
Plant workers.....	15,906	14,034	14,687	100.0	88.2	92.3
Route men.....	19,593	18,752	19,025	100.0	95.7	97.1
Class B (dairy manufacturers with milk departments):						
Plant workers.....	1,419	1,204	1,338	100.0	84.8	94.2
Route men.....	1,044	947	987	100.0	90.7	97.9
Both classes:						
Plant workers.....	17,325	15,238	16,125	100.0	87.9	93.0
Route men.....	20,637	19,699	20,012	100.0	95.4	96.9

It may be observed from table 2 that the March 1933 levels of employment for both plant workers and route men relative to the 1929 base were higher in the establishments of the specialized milk dealers (class A firms) than in the combined dairy-products manufacturing and milk-distributing establishments (class B firms). For 1934 this situation had been reversed as either the shortening of work periods (under the President's Reemployment Agreement)<sup>10</sup> or increased business had forced the general-purpose plants to add relatively more new employees than the specialized milk dealers, although in neither group had employment been fully restored to its 1929 level.

Table 2 also reveals that the volume of employment for route men was maintained somewhat higher relatively than that for inside plant employees. Thus the index of the total number of delivery-sales route employees in March 1933 was 95.4 percent of the number employed in the same month of 1929, as compared with an index of 87.9 percent for plant workers in the same firms. For March 1934 plant employment stood at 93.0 percent of its 1929 level while that for route men was 96.9 percent.

#### Average Weekly Hours

AGAINST the background of this discussion of employment levels, it will be of interest to ascertain the typical work periods observed in the industry. The average length of the workweek for plant employees in March of each of the 3 years reviewed is shown in table 3. The classification of firms and the schedules used are identical with those for table 2.

Table 3.—Average Weekly Hours of Plant Employees of Fresh-Milk Distributing Firms, March 1929, 1933, and 1934

Type of firm	Average hours worked per week		
	March 1929	March 1933	March 1934
Class A (specialized milk dealers).....	51.8	50.8	47.0
Class B (dairy manufacturers with milk departments).....	57.3	55.5	47.2

Two characteristics of table 3 call for comment. First, although work periods for inside plant employees in March 1933 were somewhat shorter than in 1929, they were still much longer than those typically observed by American manufacturing plants in other industries.<sup>11</sup> Second, the length of the workweek in the combination plants (class B firms) was in both 1929 and 1933 considerably greater

<sup>10</sup> No N. R. A. labor code was ever adopted by any of the dairy-products industries (except processed cheese manufacturing), although numerous firms subscribed to the President's Reemployment Agreement.

<sup>11</sup> See Trend of Employment and Pay Rolls section in any 1933 issue of Monthly Labor Review.

than in plants of specialized milk dealers (class A firms). In part this is a reflection of differences in the location of plants as well as in mechanical and marketing organization, since in general the reports from the class A firms tend to cover operations of plants in the larger metropolitan areas, while plants of the class B firms are more apt to be found in smaller communities and rural areas.

Analysis of all the reports used as the basis for tables 2 and 3 shows that the plant employees in the reporting firms worked an aggregate total of 906,219 man-hours in a selected week in March 1929. Aggregate man-hours worked by this same class of employees for similar periods in 1933 and 1934 represented only 86 percent and 83.8 percent respectively of the figure for 1929. It would appear, therefore, that, had there been no change in the workweek from that customary in 1929, March employment levels in 1933 and in 1934 might have been somewhat lower than those existing. Although there is some evidence of the practice of spreading out employment opportunities by shortening the weekly working hours between 1929 and 1933, this practice appears to have become much more significant after 1933 than before. Warning should perhaps be issued against the possible conclusion that these figures demonstrate a universal shortening of the workweek during 1933 and 1934 by all firms in the industry, since it has not been possible to determine to what extent the industry as a whole complied with the terms of the President's Reemployment Agreement.

Even among the firms reporting, there are many variations from the averages given in table 3. To measure the extent of such variations in the industry, man-hour data for March 1933 from all the returned schedules were analyzed. The results of this analysis, covering 20,867 inside plant workers, are shown in table 4.

Table 4.—Variation in Weekly Work Periods of Plant Employees of Fresh-Milk Distributing Firms, March 1933

Hours per week	Number of employees	Percent of total
40 hours or under.....	583	2.7
40.1 to 44 hours.....	783	3.8
44.1 to 48 hours.....	4,876	23.4
48.1 to 52 hours.....	2,919	14.0
52.1 to 56 hours.....	5,537	26.5
56.1 to 60 hours.....	3,005	14.4
60.1 to 64 hours.....	1,061	5.1
64.1 hours or over.....	2,104	10.1
All classes.....	20,867	100.0

Although a summary of all the data presented in table 4 shows the weighted average work period to be 53 hours per week, it may be observed that almost 30 percent of the plant employees covered were

working in establishments where the average workweek exceeded 56 hours. Only a very few firms, employing less than 7 percent of all plant workers, observed weekly work periods shorter than 44 hours.

Preliminary inquiries indicated that very few firms kept a record of the number of man-hours worked by employees in the delivery-sales department. Hence, the schedule used did not call for a report as to hours worked by the route drivers, but it did request information from each firm as to the total number of man-days worked by this class of employees in a single week during March 1933. In the firms replying to this inquiry, employing an aggregate total of 26,243 route men, it was found that the average workweek for the delivery-sales force was very nearly 7 days. Less than 1 percent of these route employees were in establishments where the workweek for the individual driver was  $5\frac{1}{2}$  days or under. Almost 42 percent of the employees of this class worked a full 6-day week, 11 percent worked  $6\frac{1}{2}$  days, and the remaining number, almost 46 percent, were in establishments where the route men worked every day of the week. The introduction of the President's Reemployment Agreement may have been responsible for the fact that the average workweek for route men was slightly less than 6 days in March 1934.

#### Average Weekly Earnings

RELATIVE to other American industries, earnings of workers in the fresh-milk distributing industry have not generally been low. Table 5 presents a summary of the average weekly earnings of full-time employees in all reporting firms as of March in each of the 3 years reviewed.

Table 5.—Average Weekly Earnings of Full-Time Employees of Fresh-Milk Distributing Firms<sup>1</sup>

Class of employees	March 1929	March 1933	March 1934
Office employees.....	\$29.06	\$23.95	\$24.10
Plant employees.....	31.05	24.78	25.37
Route employees.....	31.49	30.15	31.30

<sup>1</sup> Reports used as a basis for this table were not necessarily from identical firms for each of the three dates. The reporting firms employed an aggregate total of 61,872 workers in March 1933.

Although there is apparently very little part-time employment in the industry, the fact that the data in table 5 apply to full-time workers only, as well as the length of the typical work periods previously reviewed, must be borne in mind when one makes comparisons with other industries. For both plant and delivery employees it appears that the typical working week is somewhat longer than that currently observed in American manufacturing industries. The differentials in terms of hourly or daily rates of earnings, therefore, will be considerably less than in weekly earnings. Thus, for example,



the weekly earnings for plant workers in March 1933 which appear in table 5, represent an hourly rate of 46.7 cents. This is only 7 percent higher than the average rate for all manufacturing industries, whereas the weekly earnings were 57 percent above the average per capita weekly earnings as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.<sup>12</sup>

Some additional features of table 5 call for special comment. First, it is apparent that earnings in the delivery-sales department were somewhat higher than in the other two departments on all three dates reviewed. Moreover, in spite of the fact of some shrinkage in the dollar value of sales from routes during the years since 1929, and of the widespread custom of at least partial remuneration of the route employees on a commission basis, the average weekly earnings of route men, both in 1933 and in 1934, were maintained very near the level of 1929. The brunt of the pay-roll reductions following 1929 appears to have fallen mainly on the clerical and inside plant employees. The position of the route employees may have been influenced by a partial transition from payment on a commission basis to a straight time rate. Thus, 61.8 percent of the route employees in the firms reporting were paid at least part of their earnings in the form of commission in March 1929. The corresponding figures for 1933 and 1934, however, were 59.2 and 54.5 percent, respectively.

Some further details as to the range of variation in the earnings for employees in each of the major departments during March 1933 are presented in table 6.

Table 6.—Classified Weekly Earnings of Full-Time Employees of Fresh-Milk Distributing Firms, March 1933, by Departments

Average weekly earnings	Office		Plant		Delivery sales	
	Number of employees	Percent of total	Number of employees	Percent of total	Number of employees	Percent of total
Less than \$5.00.....	7	0.1	37	0.2	43	0.1
\$5.00 to \$9.99.....	101	1.5	544	2.3	179	.6
\$10.00 to \$14.99.....	843	12.5	1,534	6.4	687	2.4
\$15.00 to \$19.99.....	1,831	27.0	4,264	17.8	1,996	6.8
\$20.00 to \$24.99.....	1,386	20.5	5,654	23.5	3,556	12.0
\$25.00 to \$29.99.....	825	12.2	5,677	23.5	4,939	16.7
\$30.00 to \$34.99.....	709	10.7	2,595	10.8	4,521	15.3
\$35.00 and over.....	1,046	15.5	3,716	15.5	13,632	46.1
Total.....	6,748	100.0	24,021	100.0	29,553	100.0

A comparison of the distributions of employees in the different earnings classes by departments reveals that slightly more than 14 percent of the clerical employees had weekly pay envelopes amounting to less than \$15.00 while only 9 percent of the plant workers fell within this range and 3.1 percent of the route men. At the other end of the scale, however, exactly equal proportionate numbers of

<sup>12</sup> See Monthly Labor Review, June 1933.

clerical and plant workers (15.5 percent), were found to be getting \$35.00 or more per week, while slightly more than 46 percent of the delivery-sales force fell within this earnings classification.

#### Pay Rolls in Relation to Sales

ALTHOUGH table 2 indicates a shrinkage in the employment opportunities between 1929 and 1933 and table 5 shows a drop in average earnings per employed worker occurring in the same interval, these tables taken together do not reveal the relative significance of pay rolls in the industry. Fortunately, reports were obtained on total dollar sales in 1929 and 1933 and total aggregate pay rolls (not including executive salaries) in the same years. An analysis of these figures to determine the comparative importance of pay rolls in these 2 years is given in table 7.

Table 7.—Aggregate Pay Rolls of Fresh Milk-Distributing Plants and Proportion These Formed of Sales <sup>1</sup>

Class of firms	1929		1933	
	Amount	Percent of sales	Amount	Percent of sales
Class A (specialized milk dealers).....	\$78, 413, 000	22. 3	\$59, 115, 000	27. 9
Class B (dairy manufacturers with milk departments).....	15, 503, 000	15. 8	12, 013, 700	22. 6
Both classes.....	93, 916, 000	20. 9	71, 128, 700	26. 9

<sup>1</sup> The basis for the classification of firms and the reports used for this table are identical with those used for tables 2 and 3.

When attention is focused upon the importance of expenditures for labor in different types of firms, it becomes apparent that pay roll expenditures bulk relatively larger for the specialized milk dealers (class A firms). This was true both in 1929, when the pay rolls absorbed 22.3 percent of gross sales income of class A firms as compared with 15.8 percent in the other group; and in 1933, when the corresponding percentage figures for the two groups were 27.9 and 22.6, respectively. However, although pay rolls continued to absorb a larger proportion of gross sales value of the specialized milk dealers in 1933, it may also be observed that the relative change in this proportion was greater in the general-purpose plants than in the class A firms. Supplementary analysis of the available data indicates that this was in part due to the fact that specialized milk dealers reduced their working forces as well as rates of pay slightly more than did the general purpose plants, but to a much greater degree to the fact that gross sales incomes of the combination dairy products-manufacturing-milk distribution firms fell much more drastically than did those of the other group. Readers familiar with the differences in the character of markets for manufactured dairy

products and of fresh milk and with the recent history of prices in these two types of markets can readily account for the difference in the character of the income shrinkage in the two branches of the industry.

Although the annual 1933 aggregate pay roll for all the identical firms reporting corresponding information for 1929 and 1933, as summarized in table 7, was but 75.7 percent of that for 1929, nevertheless, the 1933 pay roll represented 26.9 percent of gross sales, whereas that for 1929 had only absorbed 20.9 percent of sales income in that year. It would appear, therefore, that in spite of wage cuts and reductions in the working force, the employers' expenditures for labor were relatively more significant in 1933 than in 1929. Since 1933 the advance of prices in all the dairy products markets has probably changed again the proportion of income expended for labor but data are not available to permit analysis of the 1934 position.

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### Wages and Hours in the Women's Neckwear and Scarf Industry

**D**IRECT labor costs in the manufacture of women's neckwear and scarfs represented slightly over one-fourth of the total costs in the period of N. R. A. code operation. Average hours ranged from 34.3 to 40.4 per week. Wages of women ranged from \$13.79 to \$21.12 per week and those of men from \$25.89 to \$33.74, according to region. A study of the neckwear industry from which the above data were taken<sup>1</sup> was ordered by the National Recovery Administration in February 1935 in order to determine the facts necessary for establishing wage differentials to be fixed in the applicable code. Information obtained covered the years 1933 to 1935. Facts on labor were supplied by about one-third of the manufacturing units and the National Recovery Administration stated, in making the figures available, that it regarded the results as fairly representative.

#### Labor Costs.

INFORMATION on labor costs in 1934 was obtained for 65 firms of which 55 were in New York City, 4 in the East other than New York City, and 6 in the West. In these firms the direct labor cost accounted for 27.5 percent of the total expenditures; for the New York City firms the percentage was 27.0, for the other eastern firms 27.6, and for the western firms 32.5 percent. For the whole group, office

<sup>1</sup> National Recovery Administration. Division of Review. Industry Studies Section. Work Materials No. 3, 1936: Financial and Labor Data on the Women's Neckwear and Scarf Industry, by W. A. Gill. Washington, 1936.

salaries (excluding executives) accounted for 2.4 percent and sales-force salaries and commissions for 6.4 percent of the operating expenses. Raw materials constituted the largest expense—55.1 percent of the total; in the East (other than New York City) the percentage expended for materials was notably higher (62.4 percent), probably due, the report states, to the manufacture of a relatively high grade of neckwear and scarfs in that market.

### Wages and Hours of Labor

TABLE 1 shows the average hours per week and average weekly and hourly wage rates for 1 week in February 1933 and 1935, respectively, by industrial regions.

Table 1.—Average Working Hours and Wages in Women's Neckwear and Scarf Industry, Weeks Ending Feb. 16, 1933 and 1935, by Region and Sex

Area	Average hours per week			Average weekly wages			Average hourly wage rate		
	February 1933	February 1935	Per-cent of change	February 1933	February 1935	Per-cent of change	February 1933	February 1935	Per-cent of change
New York City (27 firms):									
Males.....	42.3	38.5	-19.0	\$31.50	\$33.74	+7.1	\$0.74	\$0.88	+18.9
Females.....	42.8	36.5	-14.7	17.72	21.12	+19.2	.41	.58	+41.5
Total.....	42.7	36.7	-14.1	19.16	22.33	+16.5	.45	.61	+35.6
East, except New York City (4 firms):									
Males.....	52.7	40.4	-23.3	29.89	25.89	-13.4	.57	.64	+12.3
Females.....	47.0	38.0	-19.1	11.63	13.79	+18.6	.25	.36	+44.0
Total.....	47.2	38.0	-19.5	12.43	14.18	+14.1	.26	.37	+42.3
Midwest and far West <sup>1</sup> (8 firms):									
Males.....		38.6			26.83			.70	
Females.....		34.3			14.19			.41	
Total.....		34.6			15.00			.43	

<sup>1</sup> No figures available for week of study; those used represent a week in either January or February.

These statistics show a general reduction in hours of work and a rise in weekly and hourly wages between February 1933 and the same period in 1935. The level of both weekly and hourly pay was higher in the New York City area for both male and female workers than in the East outside New York City. On a percentage basis, male workers in New York City benefited by a sharper hourly increase in the 2-year period (18.9 percent) than did those outside the metropolitan district (12.3 percent); for females the increases were much greater (41.5 and 44.0 percent, respectively); the increase for both groups was higher outside (42.3 percent) than in New York City (35.6 percent).

Median hourly earnings are given for six occupational classes, covering the weeks ending February 16, 1933 and 1935, in table 2.

Table 2.—Median Hourly Earnings in Women's Neckwear and Scarf Industry, Weeks Ending Feb. 16, 1933 and 1935, by Occupation

Occupation	New York City		East outside New York City		West
	1933	1935	1933	1935	1935 <sup>1</sup>
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
All occupations.....	41.7	56.9	27.5	39.4	40.6
Cutters.....	83.3	<sup>2</sup> 100.0	-----	-----	81.3
Operators.....	48.6	64.7	31.4	45.3	46.2
Pressers.....	35.3	50.2	27.5	39.0	39.0
Finishers.....	26.9	46.9	21.1	35.3	38.6
Others <sup>3</sup> .....	31.3	46.4	23.8	35.9	39.0

<sup>1</sup> For a representative week in January or February.

<sup>2</sup> Given in report as "over \$1."

<sup>3</sup> Includes other factory employees only.

### Wages of Civil Employees in Field Service of Navy Department and Marine Corps, 1936

THE following data on hourly wage rates of clothing workers and of workers in the laborer, helper, and mechanical branches of the field service of the Navy Department and the Marine Corps are from the revised wage schedule for civilian employees of that service issued by the Navy Department as of March 1, 1936.<sup>1</sup>

The schedule of wages for the calendar year 1929 was continued through the calendar years 1930 to 1935 and into the calendar year 1936. However, to comply with the provisions of the Independent Offices Appropriation Act of March 28, 1934, the daily and hourly rates of compensation from that date were increased 20 percent in order that there might be no decrease in earnings because of the reduction of the working week from 48 to 40 hours. The hourly rates given in the following tables, therefore, represent a 20 percent increase over those prevailing in 1929. The figures for all occupations are the maximum. The minimum rate is 12 cents under the maximum and there is an intermediate rate 6 cents under the maximum.

<sup>1</sup> U. S. Navy Department. Schedule of wages for civil employees in the field service of the Navy Department and the Marine Corps, revised to Mar. 1, 1936. Washington, 1936.

Table 1.—Rates of Wages per Hour in the Clothing Workers' Service, 1936

Occupation	Rate per hour	Occupation	Rate per hour
<i>Naval Clothing Depot, Brooklyn, N. Y.</i>		<i>Naval Clothing Depot, Brooklyn, N. Y.—Con.</i>	
Assistant custom cutter.....	\$1.02	Spreader.....	\$0.804
Baster.....	1.02	Trimmer.....	.72
Bushelman.....	.96	Trouser finisher.....	.66
Canvas maker.....	.78	Trouser maker.....	.96
Chopper.....	.90	Trouser operator.....	1.08
Cloth sponger.....	.90	Underpresser.....	.96
Clothing examiner.....	.90	Vest maker.....	.90
Coat finisher.....	.66		
Coat maker.....	1.08	<i>Marine Supply Depot, Philadelphia, Pa.</i>	
Coat operator.....	1.20	Baster.....	.876
Collar maker.....	1.08	Clothing examiner.....	.876
Custom cutter.....	1.50	Coat fitter.....	.996
Cutting-machine operator.....	1.08	Coat maker.....	1.08
Cutter and marker.....	1.02	Coat operator.....	1.176
Die-machine operator.....	.90	Custom cutter.....	1.50
Double-needle operator.....	.84	Cutter.....	.996
Dress-coat maker.....	1.14	Cutter and marker.....	.996
Embroiderer.....	.66	Cutting-machine operator.....	1.08
Finish presser.....	1.14	Embroiderer.....	.576
Fitter.....	1.02	Finisher.....	.48
Garment maker (bundle hand).....	( <sup>1</sup> )	Operator (female).....	.612
General tailor.....	1.02	Head operator (female).....	.72
Head custom cutter.....	1.62	Presser.....	.876
Hand buttonhole maker.....	.96	Sponger.....	.612
Operator (female).....	.66	Tailor, first-class.....	.996
Operator, sewing machine.....	.804	Ticketeer.....	.576
Operator, special machine.....	1.20	Trimmer.....	.54
Pocket maker.....	1.20		

<sup>1</sup> Compensation computed on a piecework schedule.

Table 2.—Rates of Wages per Hour in the Laborer, Helper, and Mechanical Service, 1936

Trade or occupation	Boston	New York	Philadelphia	Washington	Norfolk	Charleston	New Orleans	Mare Island	Puget Sound	Great Lakes
<i>Group I</i>										
Attendant, building (Naval Academy).....				\$0.480						
Laborer, common.....	\$0.672	\$0.672	\$0.636	1.636	\$0.552	\$0.432	\$0.432	\$0.672	\$0.672	\$0.684
<i>Group II</i>										
<i>Apprentice:</i>										
First class.....	.720	.720	.720	.720	.720	.720		.720	.720	
Second class.....	.600	.600	.600	.600	.600	.600		.600	.600	
Third class.....	.480	.480	.480	.480	.480	.480		.480	.480	
Fourth class.....	.360	.360	.360	.360	.360	.360		.360	.360	
<i>Attendant:</i>										
Battery.....				.684						
Powder factory <sup>2</sup> .....				.960						
<i>Hammer runner:</i>										
Heavy.....	.792	.792	.756	.792	.720	.684				
Others.....	.720	.744	.696	.732	.660	.624				
<i>Helper:</i>										
Aircraft mechanic's, general.....					.672					
Aviation instrument maker's.....					.672					
<i>Blacksmith's:</i>										
Heavy fires.....	.768	.768	.744	.744	.708	.672		.816	.780	
Other fires.....	.732	.732	.684	.684	.648	.612		.768	.732	
Boilermaker's.....	.732	.732	.684	.684	.672	.612		.756	.756	
Coppersmith's.....	.732	.732	.684	.684	.648	.612		.756	.756	
Electrician's.....	.756	.756	.708	.708	.672	.612	.612	.756	.756	.732
Flange turner's.....	.768	.768	.744		.708	.672		.816	.816	
Forger's, heavy.....	.768	.768	.744		.708	.672		.816	.816	
General.....	.732	.732	.684	.684	.648	.612	.612	.756	.756	.720
Machinist's.....	.732	.732	.684	.684	.672	.612	.612	.756	.756	.720
Metalsmith's.....					.672					
Molder's.....	.732	.756	.684	.684	.672	.612		.744	.744	
<i>Navigational instrument-maker's</i>										
Pipefitter's.....	.756	.756	.708	.708	.660	.612	.612	.756	.756	.732
Rigger's.....	.732	.732	.684	.684	.648	.612	.612	.756	.756	.720

<sup>1</sup> Rate for laborer, common, at naval powder factory, Indianhead, Md., and naval proving ground, Dahlgren, Va., \$0.60 per hour.

<sup>2</sup> Intermediate rates, \$0.90, \$0.84, \$0.78, and \$0.72 per hour. Minimum rate, \$0.66 per hour.

Table 2.—Rates of Wages per Hour in the Laborer, Helper, and Mechanical Service, 1936—Continued

Trade or occupation	Boston	New York	Philadelphia	Washington	Norfolk	Charleston	New Orleans	Mare Island	Puget Sound	Great Lakes
<i>Group II—Continued</i>										
Helper—Continued.										
Ropemaker's	\$0.732									
Sheet-metal worker's	.732	\$0.732	\$0.684	\$0.684	\$0.660	\$0.612		\$0.756	\$0.756	
Shipfitter's	.732	.732	.684	.684	.660	.612		.756	.756	
Woodworker's	.756	.756	.708	.708	.684	.612		.756	.756	
Hod carrier		.768		.744		.672			.780	
Holder-on	.804	.792	.780		.744	.708		.816	.816	
Ironer, hand, laundry			.480	.480		.300				
Laborer, classified	.672	.672	.636	.636	.552	.432	\$0.432	.672	.672	\$0.684
Laundress					.420					
Laundryman	.684	.720	.780	.600		.480				
Mangle hand, laundry	.348			.408		.240				
Oiler	.888	.900	.840	.840	.840				.840	
Press feeder, folder, stitcher, etc. (P. S.)						.492				
Press operator, laundry	.480			.408		.240				
Rivet heater	.696	.720	.672		.540	.420		.720	.720	
Sand blaster	.864	.912	.864	.864	.840	.800		.864	.864	
Stable keeper	.696	.696	.672	.672					.696	
Stevedore	.804	.816	.780		.636	.636		.852	.852	
Teamster	.720	.756	.672	.672	.576			.744	.744	.744
<i>Group III</i>										
Aircraft-fabric worker			.684		.672					
Aircraft mechanic:										
General			1.056		1.056			1.116		
Motor			1.056		1.056			1.116	1.116	1.056
Angle smith:										
Heavy fires	1.152	1.188	1.116		1.116	1.068		1.212	1.212	
Other fires	1.032	1.068	.996		.996	.948		1.092	1.092	
Blacksmith:										
Heavy fires	1.176	1.188	1.116	1.116	1.116	1.068		1.224	1.260	
Other fires	1.056	1.068	.996	.996	.996	.948		1.104	1.092	
Boatbuilder	1.080	1.104	1.044	1.044	1.044		.960	1.116	1.104	1.044
Boilermaker	1.056	1.104	1.044	1.044	1.044			.780	.780	.756
Box maker	.744	.780	.720	.720	.720	.696		.972	.972	
Brakeman	.912	.912	.912	.912	.912	.912		1.068	1.068	
Buffer and polisher	.996	.996	.996	.996	.996					.876
Butcher			.876			.780				
Calker, wood	1.008	1.068	1.008	1.008	1.008	.960	.960	1.104	1.104	
Calker and chipper, iron	1.032	1.068	1.008		1.008	.984	.960	1.092	1.092	
Cement finisher	1.104	1.140	1.080	1.080	1.056	1.056	1.008	1.176	1.176	1.116
Cement worker	.756		.732	.732	.612	.492		.756	.756	
Chain maker	1.092									
Chaufleur	.816	.852	.780	.780	.744	.672	.720	.900	.900	.852
Coffee roaster		1.104						1.104		
Conductor, railroad		.984	.984	.984	.984			1.008	1.008	
Cooper	.900	.912			.816			.936	.936	
Coppersmith	1.116	1.176	1.104	1.104	1.104	1.020	1.008	1.176	1.176	
Craneman, electric (under 20 tons)	.864	.900	.840	.840	.900	.816		.936	.936	
Crystal oscillator maker			.984							
Cupola tender	.936	.972	.900	.900	.900	.804		.996	.996	
Die sinker	1.176	1.224	1.176	1.176	1.176			1.236	1.236	
Diver	2.280	2.280	2.280		2.280	2.280	2.280	2.280	2.280	
Dredge operator						1.200				
Driller	.876	.912	.840		.840	.816		.936	.936	
Electrician	1.140	1.176	1.116	1.116	1.116	1.044	1.080	1.188	1.188	1.140
Electroplater	1.056	1.116	1.044	1.044	1.044			1.188	1.188	
Elevator mechanic		1.320			1.056					
Engineman	1.044	1.092	1.008	1.008	1.008	.972	.960	1.116	1.116	1.056
Engineman, locomotive	1.056	1.104	1.032	1.032	1.032	.972			1.116	
Engineman, locomotive, electric			.960	.960						
Engineman, hoisting and portable	1.056	1.104	1.032	1.032	1.032				1.116	
Fireman	.864	.900	.840	.840	.840		.780	.948	.924	.888
Fireman, power plant						.792				
Fireman, other fires						.612				
Flange turner	1.068	1.128	1.044	1.044	1.044	1.032		1.128	1.128	
Forger:										
Drop	1.008	1.092	.984	.984	.984			1.080	1.056	
Heavy	1.596	1.632	1.572	1.572	1.572	1.560		1.656	1.656	
Light	1.296	1.308	1.236	1.236	1.236	1.188		1.344	1.380	
Foundry chipper	.768	.840	.768	.768	.768			.780	.780	
Frame bender	1.068	1.128	1.044		1.044	1.020		1.128	1.128	
Furnace man:										
Foundry	.840	.840	.780	.780	.780	.720		.900	.900	
Heater		.840	.780	.780	.780	.720		.840	.840	
Heavy forge, heater	.900	.960	.900	.864	.864	.840		.900	.900	
Other forge	.780	.840	.780	.788	.768	.720		.840	.840	

<sup>3</sup>Rate for laborer, classified, at naval powder factory, Indianhead, Md., and naval proving ground, Dahlgren, Va., \$.60 per hour.

Table 2.—Rates of Wages per Hour in the Laborer, Helper, and Mechanical Service, 1936—Continued

Trade or occupation	Boston	New York	Philadelphia	Washington	Norfolk	Charleston	New Orleans	Mare Island	Puget Sound	Great Lakes
<i>Group III—Continued</i>										
Galvanizer	\$0.852	\$0.864	\$0.804		\$0.804	\$0.768		\$0.996	\$0.960	
Gardener	.768	.756	.756	\$0.756	.756	.756	\$0.756	.876	.876	\$0.756
Gas cutter or burner	.912	.948	.888	.888	.888	.840		.912	.912	
Glass apparatus maker				1.440						
Heat treater (aviation)					1.056					
Instrument maker	1.104	1.140	1.092	1.092	1.092	1.020		1.164	1.164	
Joiner	1.080	1.116	1.056	1.056	1.056	1.020	1.020	1.188	1.188	1.104
Ladleman, foundry	.768	.840	.780	.804	.696				.840	
Lead burner <sup>4</sup>				1.284						
Leatherworker	.864	.900	.840	.840	.816			.846		
Letterer and gainer	1.128	1.164	1.104	1.104	1.104			1.212	1.200	
Linotype or monotype operator, or compositor			1.080		1.080			1.140	1.140	
Loftman	1.128	1.152	1.116		1.116	1.044		1.140	1.164	
Machine operator	.816	.852	.804	.804	.804			.912	.912	
Machinist	1.056	1.104	1.056	1.056	1.056	.984	.984	1.116	1.116	1.080
Marker and sorter, laundry				.660		.360				
Mason, brick or stone	1.368	1.368	1.368	1.368	1.368	1.368	1.368	1.404	1.404	1.368
Mechanic, bombsight				1.320						
Melter	.948	.984	.924	.924	.924				.996	
Electric	1.260	1.260	1.320	1.260	1.380				1.260	
Open hearth				1.380						
Metallic-cartridge-case maker				.816						
Metalsmith (aviation)					1.056					
Millman	1.080	1.116	1.056	1.056	1.056	1.044		1.188	1.188	
Model maker, wood				1.236						
Molder	1.152	1.236	1.176	1.176	1.176	1.080		1.224	1.212	
Operator, gas plant	.984	1.008	.960	.960	.960	.936		1.008	1.008	
Optical instrument finisher				1.008						
Optical instrument maker				1.104						
Optical glass grinder and polisher				.984						
Optical parts inspector				.984						
Optical instrument assembler				.888						
Optical polish and wax mixer				.984						
Ordnamceman	.900	.900	.900	.900	.900	.900		.960	.960	
Packer	.816	.840	.780	.840	.780	.780		.924	.924	.864
Painter	1.068	1.104	1.056	1.056	1.056	.972	.972	1.152	1.152	1.080
Painter, coach				1.080						
Pattern maker	1.224	1.272	1.248	1.248	1.248	1.128		1.356	1.320	
Paver		1.068								
Pipe coverer and insulator	1.056	1.092	1.056	1.056	1.056	1.020		1.116	1.092	
Pipe fitter	1.140	1.176	1.116	1.116	1.116	1.080	1.044	1.188	1.188	1.128
Plasterer	1.368	1.368	1.368	1.368	1.368	1.368	1.368	1.404	1.404	1.344
Plumber	1.140	1.176	1.116	1.116	1.116	1.080	1.068	1.188	1.188	1.128
Precision lens, prism and test platemaker				1.104						
Printer, job	1.080		1.080	1.080	1.080	1.044		1.164	1.164	
Puncher and shearer	.780	.876	.768		.768	.720		.864	.840	
Rigger	1.080	1.104	1.008	1.008	1.008	.972	.960	1.128	1.128	1.020
Rigger, antenna								1.248		
Riveter	1.056	1.092	1.032		1.008	.960		1.080	1.080	
Roller, brass and copper				.912						
Roofer	1.140	1.176								
Ropemaker	.924									
Sailmaker	1.056	1.080	1.008	1.008	1.008	1.008		1.128	1.104	
Saw filer	1.164	1.248	1.140	1.140	1.200	1.140		1.260	1.200	
Sewer	.684	.696	.660	.660	.660	.552		.696	.684	.600
Sheet-metal worker	1.140	1.176	1.116	1.116	1.116	1.068	.996	1.188	1.188	1.128
Ship fitter	1.056	1.092	1.044	1.044	1.044	.984		1.116	1.092	
Shipwright	1.080	1.116	1.056	1.056	1.056	1.020		1.188	1.164	
Temperer	1.080		1.080	1.080						
Tile and plate setter	1.056	1.080	1.080	1.056		.996			1.104	
Toolmaker	1.116	1.164	1.116	1.116	1.116	1.044		1.176	1.176	
Trackman	.756	.756	.732	.732	.672	.672		.756	.756	.756
Upholsterer	1.068	1.104	1.044	1.044	1.044			1.200	1.140	
Watch and chronometer repairer <sup>5</sup>				1.260						
Water tender	.912	.948	.876	.876	.876	.840				
Welder:										
Electric	1.056	1.092	1.032	1.032	1.032	.996	.996	1.116	1.116	
Gas	1.032	1.068	1.008	1.008	1.008	.996	.960	1.080	1.080	
Wharf builder	1.080	1.104	1.056	1.056	1.056	1.020		1.188	1.188	
Wireworker (aviation)			1.008							

<sup>4</sup> Rate of \$1.188 per hour for gardener allowed at naval ammunition depot, Hawthorne, Nev.<sup>5</sup> For use at naval powder factory, Indianhead, Md., only.<sup>6</sup> For use at Naval Observatory, Washington, D. C., only.



## Hourly Wages of Industrial Workers in Denmark, Fourth Quarter of 1934 and 1935

HOURLY wages of industrial workers in Denmark increased by 1 øre in the fourth quarter of 1935 as compared with the fourth quarter of 1934. Average hourly wages for these workers are shown in the following table by locality, degree of skill, and sex.<sup>1</sup>

### Hourly Wages of Industrial Workers in Denmark in the Fourth Quarter of 1934 and 1935

[Krone (100 øre) at par=26.8 cents; average exchange rate in December 1934 and 1935, was 22.0 cents]

Groups of workers	Number of workers	Average hourly wages		
		Fourth quarter of—		Increase (+) or decrease (-) 1934 to 1935
		1934	1935	
		Øre	Øre	Øre
Entire country.....	130,405	132	133	+1
Male workers.....	99,781	145	145	-----
Skilled.....	46,135	160	159	-1
Unskilled.....	53,646	132	133	+1
Female workers.....	30,624	87	88	+1
Copenhagen.....	66,012	141	140	-1
Male workers.....	47,063	160	160	-----
Skilled.....	24,366	176	175	-1
Unskilled.....	22,697	142	143	+1
Female workers.....	18,949	88	90	+2
Provinces.....	64,393	124	125	+1
Male workers.....	52,718	132	133	+1
Skilled.....	21,769	142	142	-----
Unskilled.....	30,949	124	126	+2
Female workers.....	11,675	85	85	-----

### Wages in France, October 1935

THE general decrease in wage rates which occurred in France in the preceding 5 years is revealed by the annual wage study<sup>2</sup> made by the French Ministry of Labor as of October 1935. Data giving the percentage decreases in the different occupations among male workers in cities other than Paris in October 1935 as compared with the maximum wages in force in October 1930 or October 1931 show decreases ranging from 3.3 percent for bookbinders to 13 percent for brick-makers. In the majority of the occupations the reductions ranged from 6 to 10 percent, but the reductions for quarrymen amounted to 12 percent, cabinetmakers 11.8 percent, navvies 11.7 percent, masons 11.5 percent, weavers 11.3 percent, and stonecutters 10.9 percent. The two industries most seriously affected by the lowering of wages, therefore, are seen to be the textile and building industries.

<sup>1</sup> Denmark. Statistiske Departement. Statistiske Efterretninger, No. 19, May 2, 1936.

<sup>2</sup> France. Ministère du Travail. Bulletin de la Statistique Générale de la France, January-March 1936, pp. 262-277.

A wage study is made in France in October of each year which gives the average wages of certain classes of workers represented in practically all localities. The information is secured through questionnaires addressed to officers of trade councils, employers' organizations, and mayors or other competent persons, and the inquiry covers the same classes of workers each year, so that the data are comparable. The current wages reported by the different agencies are an approximate estimate of the average wages in each occupation. The report warns that there is a certain degree of inaccuracy in figures thus obtained but that every effort is made to keep errors to a minimum. In 1935 reports were received from 15 additional cities.

Table 1 gives the average hourly wages in different occupations in October 1934 and 1935 in Paris and other cities.

Table 1.—Average Hourly Wages in French Cities in October 1934 and 1935, by Occupation

[Franc at par=3.92 cents; exchange rate October 1934=6.62 cents, October 1935=6.59 cents]

Occupation	Average hourly wages in—				Occupation	Average hourly wages in—			
	Paris and its environs		Cities other than Paris			Paris and its environs		Cities other than Paris	
	1934	1935	1934	1935		1934	1935	1934	1935
<i>Males</i>					<i>Males—Continued</i>				
Brewers.....	Fr.	Fr.	Fr.	Fr.	Quarrymen.....	Fr.	Fr.	Fr.	Fr.
Printers, compositors.....	6.35	6.15	4.38	4.24	Stone cutters.....	9.25	9.25	4.32	4.16
Bookbinders.....	5.35	5.05	4.20	4.13	Masons.....	6.50	6.37	4.04	3.92
Tanners.....	-----	-----	3.57	3.49	Navvies.....	6.25	6.25	3.43	3.31
Saddlers, harnessmakers.....	-----	-----	3.66	3.42	Roofers.....	6.50	6.25	4.10	4.02
Shoemakers.....	-----	-----	3.51	3.40	House painters.....	6.00	6.00	3.96	3.83
Tailors.....	5.50	5.50	3.88	3.84	Ornamental-stone cutters.....	7.20	7.12	4.85	4.95
Dyers, scourers.....	-----	-----	3.62	3.56	Brickmakers.....	-----	-----	3.67	3.48
Weavers.....	-----	-----	2.90	2.90	Potters.....	-----	-----	3.70	3.56
Ropemakers.....	-----	-----	3.39	3.33	Glaziers.....	6.25	6.12	3.84	3.82
Wheelwrights.....	-----	-----	3.81	3.72	Motormen (tramways).....	-----	-----	4.04	3.98
Wood turners.....	6.25	6.25	4.02	3.94	Conductors (tramways).....	-----	-----	3.86	3.86
Coopers.....	-----	-----	3.92	3.75	Truck drivers.....	-----	-----	4.01	3.83
Cabinetmakers.....	6.00	5.87	4.13	3.97	Laborers.....	-----	-----	2.95	2.87
Upholsterers.....	-----	-----	4.08	4.00	Average.....	6.34	6.23	3.89	3.80
Pit sawyers.....	-----	-----	3.93	3.78	<i>Females</i>	-----	-----	-----	-----
Carpenters.....	6.10	5.87	4.18	4.02	Ironers.....	-----	-----	2.37	2.33
Joiners.....	6.10	5.87	3.93	3.88	Dressmakers.....	-----	-----	2.28	2.33
Coppersmiths.....	-----	-----	4.25	4.16	Seamstresses.....	-----	-----	2.22	2.15
Tinsmiths.....	-----	-----	3.90	3.83	Waistcoat makers.....	-----	-----	2.33	2.33
Plumbers.....	6.50	6.25	4.08	3.96	Lacemakers.....	-----	-----	2.22	2.27
Blacksmiths.....	6.10	6.10	4.00	3.89	Embroiderers.....	-----	-----	2.28	2.19
Farriers.....	-----	-----	3.76	3.74	Milliners.....	-----	-----	2.27	2.20
Stovemakers.....	-----	-----	3.97	3.83	Average.....	-----	-----	2.28	2.26
Locksmiths.....	6.25	6.00	3.87	3.77					
Fitters.....	-----	-----	4.06	4.01					
Metal turners.....	6.05	6.05	4.16	4.03					
Electrical fitters.....	6.00	6.00	4.12	4.03					
Watchmakers.....	-----	-----	4.30	4.26					

Table 2 shows the average weekly wages paid in Paris to female workers in dressmaking and lingerie shops, 1933 to 1935, and the average monthly wages paid in fashionable dressmaking shops in 1933 and 1934 and average weekly wages in 1935.

Table 2.—Average Weekly or Monthly Wages in French Dressmaking Shops, October 1933 to 1935

[Franc at par=3.92 cents; exchange rate October 1933=5.82 cents, October 1934=6.62 cents, October 1935=6.59 cents]

Occupation	Weekly rates		
	1933	1934	1935
Dressmaking and lingerie shops:	<i>Francs</i>	<i>Francs</i>	<i>Francs</i>
First hands.....	194.40	190.80	187.20
Second hands.....	139.20	136.80	134.40
Helpers.....	93.00	91.20	89.40
Apprentices.....	46.25-55.40	43.35-54.30	44.45-53.20
	Monthly rates		
Fashionable dressmaking shops:			
Skilled workers.....	936.00	850.00	1 192.00
Workers of medium skill.....	748.40	680.00	1 160.00
Helpers.....	520.00	500.00	1 100.00
Apprentices.....	208.00-280.00	190.00-260.00	190.00-260.00

<sup>1</sup> Per week.

A comparison of wages and cost of living, as represented by the cost of board and lodging for an unmarried worker in the localities from which the wage data were secured, shows that there is a fairly close relationship between the curves of prices of board and lodging and the daily wages of men. Thus from 1930 to 1935 the average daily wage had decreased 9 percent and the cost of board and lodging 12 percent.

Table 3.—Average Daily Wages and Cost of Board and Lodging in France, October 1934 and 1935

[Franc at par=3.92 cents, exchange rate October 1934=6.62 cents, October 1935=6.59 cents]

Item	October 1934	October 1935	Index numbers (1911=100)	
			1934	1935
Daily wages of—	<i>Francs</i>	<i>Francs</i>		
Men.....	31.60	30.72	685	666
Women.....	18.38	18.13	803	792
Cost of board and lodging per month.....	496.00	473.00	709	676

Wages of French coal miners were at their maximum at the close of 1930. In 1931 and the early part of 1932 they decreased an average of 12 percent. Since April 1, 1932, there has been little change in the wage rates but the total number of days of work and consequently the total wages have decreased steadily. During the period April 1, 1932, to the end of 1935 the average daily wages of underground workers were between 35 and 36 francs and of surface workers between 26 and 27 francs. The decrease in the time worked and in the earnings of miners is shown in the following table.

**Table 4.**—Number of Days Worked and Total Earnings in French Coal Mines, 1930 to 1935

[Franc at par=3.92 cents; average exchange rate 1930 and 1931=3.92 cents, 1932=3.93 cents, 1933=5.03 cents, 1934=6.57 cents, 1935=6.60 cents]

Year	Total number of days worked	Total wages	Year	Total number of days worked	Total wages
		<i>Francs</i>			<i>Francs</i>
1930.....	79,400,000	2,935,800,000	1933.....	57,000,000	1,856,000,000
1931.....	70,500,000	2,519,400,000	1934.....	56,600,000	1,846,500,000
1932.....	60,100,000	1,975,300,000	1935.....	53,900,000	1,749,700,000

A detailed study is made of wages in the metallurgical, machine, and related industries in the region of Paris in February, each year, but average wages are also secured quarterly for three occupational groups in these industries. Wages began to decrease at the end of 1930, the decrease for all workers amounting to about 7 percent by the first quarter of 1932. There was a slight increase in 1932 and 1933 followed by small decreases in 1934 and 1935. Table 5 shows the average wages of highly skilled, skilled, and ordinary workers in these trades in the fourth quarter of 1934 and each quarter of 1935.

**Table 5.**—Average Hourly Wages of Workers in French Metallurgical and Machine Industries in 1934 and 1935

[Franc at par=3.92 cents; average exchange rate 1934=6.57 cents; 1935=6.60 cents]

Occupation	1934: Fourth quarter	1935			
		First quarter	Second quarter	Third quarter	Fourth quarter
	<i>Francs</i>	<i>Francs</i>	<i>Francs</i>	<i>Francs</i>	<i>Francs</i>
Highly skilled workers.....	6.40	6.35	6.34	6.34	6.32
Skilled workers.....	5.10	5.05	5.05	5.05	5.05
Ordinary workers.....	3.95	3.97	4.00	4.00	4.00
Average.....	5.64	5.60	5.60	5.60	5.59

In connection with the application of the law of December 15, 1922, extending the workmen's compensation law to cover agricultural workers, each prefect is required to furnish a tabulation showing wages by occupations and if possible by agricultural regions. The study is made every 2 years and the latest figures, therefore, relate to 1934. The average wages of agricultural workers vary greatly in the different departments. For the country as a whole the average reduction amounted to from 6 to 7 percent between 1930 and 1934. In some regions, particularly in the vine-growing regions, reductions amounted to about 20 percent. In 1934 the lowest yearly wages for laborers (3,060 francs) were paid in the Briançon region of the Department of Alpes (Hautes) and the highest (8,400 francs) in the Department of Seine-et-Oise. The wages of farm hands varied

from 3,935 francs in one area of the Department of Loire-Inferieure to 8,680 francs in the Department of Var, while the wages of teamsters varied from 4,400 francs in the Department of Gers to 10,240 francs per year in the Department of Seine-et-Oise. Among woman farm laborers the lowest annual wages were 2,000 francs in the Department of Ariège and in a portion of the Department of Pas-de-Calais, and the highest (6,900 francs) in the Department of Seine-et-Oise, while the wages of farm servants ranged from 2,200 francs in the Department of Ariège to 6,900 francs in the Department of Seine-et-Oise.

Table 6 shows the average daily and yearly wages of the different classes of farm workers in 1928, 1930, 1932, and 1934.

Table 6.—Average Daily and Yearly Wages of Different Classes of Agricultural Workers in France, 1928, 1930, 1932, and 1934

[Franc at par = 3.92 cents; average exchange rate 1928 = 3.92 cents, 1930 = 3.92 cents, 1932 = 3.93 cents, 1934 = 6.57 cents]

Sex and occupation	1928		1930		1932		1934	
	Per day	Per year	Per day	Per year	Per day	Per year	Per day	Per year
Males:	<i>Francs</i>	<i>Francs</i>	<i>Francs</i>	<i>Francs</i>	<i>Francs</i>	<i>Francs</i>	<i>Francs</i>	<i>Francs</i>
Laborers.....	20.60	5,642	22.50	6,202	22.35	6,150	21.02	5,878
Farm hands.....	18.94	5,993	20.85	6,690	20.75	6,549	19.35	6,052
Teamsters.....	21.56	6,699	23.73	7,437	23.00	7,120	21.71	6,723
Females:								
Laborers.....	14.20	3,595	15.41	3,933	15.38	3,930	14.50	3,929
Farm servants.....	13.58	4,324	14.74	4,806	14.72	4,709	13.94	4,420

### Average Hourly and Weekly Earnings of Industrial Workers in Germany, December 1935

THERE were considerable differences as between industries in average gross earnings per hour and per week in Germany in December 1935, as shown in the table following, which presents data on earnings for 15 industries surveyed by the State Statistical Office.<sup>1</sup> For skilled workers, average gross earnings per hour ranged from 69.0 pfennigs in the textile industry to 104.8 pfennigs in the brewing industry. Printing trades showed the highest earnings per hour—120.2 pfennigs for skilled male helpers in book printing and 112.9 pfennigs in lithographic and offset printing. For masons in the building trades, hourly earnings were 80.2 pfennigs and for carpenters 84.2 pfennigs. Women's gross earnings were considerably lower than for the men. The variance in gross weekly earnings did not, however, follow the same trend as did hourly earnings. Skilled workers in the brewing industry for example, earned 104.8 pfennigs per hour as against 86.4 pfennigs in the confectionery and bakery industries, while the gross weekly earnings for these workers were 43.99 marks and 43.46 marks, respectively.

<sup>1</sup> Germany. Statistisches Reichsamt. Wirtschaft und Statistik, Berlin, Apr. 1, 1936 (p. 283).

## Average Hourly and Weekly Gross Earnings of Workers in Germany, December 1935, by Industry

[Exchange rate of German mark (100 pfennigs) in December, 1935=40.2]

Industry and class of workers	Average gross earnings		Industry and class of workers	Average gross earnings	
	Per hour	Per week		Per hour	Per week
	<i>Pfennigs</i>	<i>Marks</i>		<i>Pfennigs</i>	<i>Marks</i>
Iron and steel works <sup>1</sup> .....	86.5	44.20	Paper products industry:	97.5	51.54
Workers, first grade.....	92.0	47.40	Skilled workers, male.....	64.4	32.98
Workers, third grade.....	87.2	43.94	Worker's helpers, male.....	54.4	27.27
Worker's helpers.....	76.4	38.40	Worker's helpers, female.....	40.2	19.18
Metal-working industry:			Printing, book:		
Skilled workers, male.....	96.4	47.81	Skilled helpers, male.....	120.2	56.94
Semiskilled workers, male.....	84.5	41.43	Technical helpers, male.....	98.8	47.31
Worker's helpers.....	65.8	32.43	Technical helpers, female.....	51.5	24.52
Female workers.....	50.4	23.92	Lithographic and offset printing:		
Chemical industry:			Skilled helpers, male.....	112.9	53.94
Skilled workers, male.....	104.3	48.68	Technical helpers, male.....	78.0	37.92
Semiskilled and unskilled workers, male.....	87.8	39.47	Technical helpers, female.....	44.3	21.16
Female workers.....	51.3	21.90	Textile industry:		
Building trades: <sup>2</sup>			Skilled workers, male.....	69.0	27.31
Masons.....	80.2	-----	Worker's helpers, male.....	53.3	22.97
Carpenters, plasterers, and cement workers, skilled.....	84.0	-----	Skilled workers, female.....	48.7	17.56
Building helpers and cement workers.....	68.0	-----	Worker's helpers, female.....	37.7	15.62
Underground workers.....	61.0	-----	Clothing industry:		
Sawmills:			Skilled and semiskilled workers, male.....	79.3	37.36
Skilled and semiskilled workers, male.....	57.9	27.57	Skilled and semiskilled workers, female.....	45.3	20.88
Worker's helpers (unskilled workers).....	50.9	23.83	Shoe industry:		
Woodworking and furniture manufacture:			Factory workers, male.....	76.0	30.75
Skilled workers.....	76.0	36.17	Factory workers, female.....	49.8	19.89
Semiskilled workers.....	63.4	30.11	Confectionery and bakery industries:		
Worker's helpers.....	50.5	23.79	Skilled workers, male.....	86.4	43.46
Paper industry:			Worker's helpers, male.....	67.4	33.69
Skilled and semiskilled workers, male.....	71.2	35.38	Skilled workers, female.....	50.2	23.89
Unskilled workers.....	64.2	31.28	Worker's helpers, female.....	43.0	21.00
Female workers.....	41.7	18.76	Brewing industry:		
			Skilled workers.....	104.8	43.99
			Unskilled workers.....	91.0	38.03
			Skilled employees.....	105.1	43.82

<sup>1</sup> Data are for November 1935.<sup>2</sup> Data are for September 1935.

## Wages in Sugar Industry of Java, 1925 and 1930 to 1934

THE average daily wages paid in the sugar industry of Java in 1925 and in each year from 1930 to 1934 inclusive are shown in the following table taken from a statistical report for Netherland India for 1934.<sup>1</sup>

From 1925 to 1934 wages of the regular workers declined 12.9 percent, those of male seasonal laborers, 41.7 percent, and those of female factory coolies on seasonal work, 38.9 percent.

The report states that the greater part of the labor in the sugar industry of Java is contract labor.

<sup>1</sup> Netherland India. Departement van Economische Zaken. Centraal Kantoor voor de Statistiek. Indisch verslag, 1935: II, Statistisch jaaroverzicht van Nederlandsch-Indië over het jaar 1934, Batavia, 1935, p. 184.

## Average Daily Wages in Sugar Industry of Java, 1925 and 1930 to 1934

[Dutch cent at par=0.40 cent in U. S. currency. Exchange rate varies]

Class of worker	Average daily wages (in Dutch cents)					
	1925	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934
Regular workers.....	85	85	87	82	80	74
Laborers.....	114	113	113	104	100	95
Field foremen.....	68	68	71	65	62	57
Helpers.....	60	57	57	53	51	45
Seasonal laborers:						
Male workers.....	48	46	44	38	33	28
Factory foremen.....	64	62	61	57	54	49
Factory coolies.....	46	46	45	37	31	27
Assistant cane-field foremen.....	41	41	39	34	31	31
Field guards.....	35	35	35	32	27	24
Railway coolies.....	41	41	40	34	28	24
Factory coolies, female.....	36	37	36	30	25	22

Reestablishment of 44-Hour Week in Metallurgical Industries in Spain<sup>1</sup>

THE 44-hour week for workers in the metallurgical and electrical industries in all of Spain was temporarily reestablished, pending the passage of a general law on hours of work, by an order of March 5, 1936, of the Ministry of Labor, to become effective March 9, 1936. This order rescinds that of November 29, 1934, which, notwithstanding agreements for a 44-hour week in force at that time in certain Provinces, established the 48-hour week throughout the country.

The wages to be paid for the 44-hour week are not to be less than those hitherto paid for 48 hours.

Workers employed in undertakings whose processes are continuous and those metal workers rendering auxiliary services connected with other industries may work 48 hours per week provided the extra 4 hours each week are paid for at overtime rate. The Government proposes to carry out at once a works program which is to compensate the metallurgical industries for any injury due to the present reduction in working hours.

The special board set up in 1934 to investigate the whole question of wages and hours in the metal-working industries is to continue and bring to a conclusion its studies already begun.

<sup>1</sup> Data are from report of Hallett Johnson, Counselor of the American Embassy at Madrid, Mar. 9, 1936; and from Boletín del Ministerio de Trabajo, Sanidad y Previsión (Madrid), March 1936, Anuario de Legislación Social, pp. 54-56, 62.

## EMPLOYMENT OFFICES

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### Operations of the United States Employment Service, May 1936

**S**IGNIFICANT widening in employment opportunities available to persons seeking work through the United States Employment Service was evident in the placement results attained by the public employment offices during May. Placements with private employers reached the highest level in almost 2 years. One of the most outstanding developments in Employment Service operations during recent months has been the increasing opportunity for private employment open to the registered job seekers. Placements with private employers have increased every month during the present year. In May employment of this type made through the public placement agencies increased 20.7 percent over April, with a total of 131,786 placements for the month. This is the highest level in 23 months and represents a gain of 17.5 percent over the corresponding period 1 year earlier.

High levels of activity in nonrelief public work operating on a prevailing-wage basis is reflected in the 243,380 placements in this field made by the employment offices in May. This total of nearly a quarter of a million is the largest monthly volume of prevailing-wage nonrelief placements on regular public works which has been reached since inauguration of the public employment-office system. The May total represents a gain of 21.1 percent over the previous month and is 54.1 percent above the volume for May 1935. Placements in this category are made on all types of prevailing-wage public work including P. W. A. and other nonrelief public-works projects, and regular activities of local, State, and Federal units, and with private contractors operating on such work.

Employment on W. P. A. and similar relief projects at security wages again declined in relative importance in May. Of a total of 466,273 placements of all types made by the Employment Service in May, only 91,107 represented security-wage placements. This is a drop of 35.6 percent from the previous month and follows the declining trend which has been evident in this field since the peak of W. P. A. referrals was reached in December 1935.

A slight decrease in the volume of new applications received from previously unregistered job seekers was reported for May. During



the month 291,833 job seekers were registered and classified, 1.3 percent fewer than in the preceding month. This is the smallest load of new job seekers registered in any similar period in the past 13 months.

Accompanying the decrease in the volume of new registrations was an even larger decline in the total number of persons currently reported as active job applicants. At the end of May, 8,786,138 persons were reported as seeking work through the public employment offices throughout the country. This is a decline of 2.3 percent from the preceding month. The active file is not a register of unemployed nor does this figure represent any approximation of the volume of unemployment in the country. The active file contains the registrations of employed workers seeking better jobs and of temporary and day workers who although presently employed are registered for further job opportunities. Likewise the registrations of relief persons working on security-wage projects are maintained as active so that these people may receive consideration for prevailing-wage employment. Thus a large portion of the active files is made up of persons working in regular private or public employment or on security-wage projects.

Offices of the Employment Service made a large volume of referrals of veterans during May, 34,377 being reported as placed, 2 percent more than in April. Placements of veterans with private employers numbered 6,935, or 20.5 percent above the previous month. Public placements numbered 22,107, or 11.6 percent over April. Assignments of veterans on relief works projects totaled 5,335, a decrease of 34.4 percent. The volume of new applications by veterans declined 14 percent during May, to a total of 9,122. At the end of the month the cards of 502,386 veterans were in the active file, 3.5 percent fewer than at the end of April.

Offices of the affiliated and cooperating State employment services made a total of 215,905 placements of all classes in May—46.3 percent of the total for the entire Employment Service. The State offices led in the field of private employment, with 93,083 verified placements. This total is 21.5 percent above that for April and comprises 70.6 percent of the aggregate for the combined services.

In the field of prevailing-wage public employment, the State services were responsible for 85,333 placements, a gain of 17.2 percent over the previous month. State offices played a much smaller part in the total referral activity in this field than did the National Reemployment Service offices, making only 35.1 percent of the placements for the entire service.

State employment services reported 37,489 assignments of relief persons during the month, a decline of 47.9 percent from the preceding month. This total represented 41.1 percent of the relief assignments made through the combined operations of both branches of the Employment Service.

A total of 165,120 new applicants were registered and classified by State offices, 56.6 percent of the total for the entire service and 0.1 percent fewer than in April. Active files of the State employment offices declined 1.9 percent during May to a month-end total of 4,071,870, or 46.3 percent of the total for the entire Employment Service.

Offices of the National Reemployment Service made 250,368 placements of all classes during May, 53.7 percent of the national aggregate. Public placement was the most predominant field of activity of the National Reemployment Service offices. Here 158,047 verified placements were made, 64.9 percent of the combined total for the two branches of the Employment Service. This number is 23.8 percent higher than the April volume. In the field of private industry National Reemployment Service offices made 38,703 placements, 29.4 percent of the combined total and 23.6 percent more than in the previous month. Assignments on security-wage work numbered 53,618, a decrease of 22.9 percent.

During May, 126,713 new applicants registered with National Reemployment Service offices, 2.1 percent fewer than in April. This number was 43.4 percent of the total for the entire service. At the end of May 4,714,268 active applicants were registered with National Reemployment Service offices, 2.7 percent less than 1 month earlier. The active files of the National Reemployment Service offices contained 53.7 percent of the total active registrations with the Employment Service.

Table 1.—Operations of Offices of Combined State Employment Services and National Reemployment Service, May 1936

State	Placements					New applica- tions		Active file		
	Total	Private		Public		Relief <sup>1</sup>	Number	Percent of change from April	May 31	Percent of change from Apr. 30
		Number	Percent of change from April	Number	Percent of change from April					
United States.....	466,273	131,786	+20.7	243,380	+21.1	91,107	291,833	-1.3	8,786,138	-2.3
Alabama.....	7,314	394	+26.7	4,832	+26.5	2,088	4,310	+11.8	138,813	-1.5
Arizona.....	3,170	730	+15.3	2,208	+10.5	232	1,551	+10.5	33,844	-11.8
Arkansas.....	6,042	842	+35.2	2,545	-5.4	2,655	2,885	-21.6	99,811	-3.8
California.....	31,942	14,341	+22.0	13,567	+22.8	4,034	22,345	-3.3	353,630	-3.7
Colorado.....	5,787	2,411	+103.5	1,809	-5.1	1,567	3,933	+51.3	104,862	-3.8
Connecticut.....	5,983	1,991	+13.8	2,875	+22.4	1,117	3,936	-11.7	76,396	-9.0
Delaware.....	1,964	741	+28.0	1,112	+33.3	111	750	-10.5	15,216	-7.7
Florida.....	4,689	1,085	-49.1	2,701	-3.1	903	3,877	-20.0	116,111	-4.0
Georgia.....	7,441	1,835	-5.4	3,547	-20.7	2,059	6,408	+1	328,783	-3.0
Idaho.....	3,612	504	+16.4	1,989	+31.2	1,119	3,382	+148.9	38,865	+4.5
Illinois.....	28,840	14,408	+13.2	11,006	+3.4	3,426	22,596	+2.4	441,346	-3.6
Indiana.....	11,131	5,498	+25.5	5,357	+16.3	276	7,576	-3.9	208,977	-1.3
Iowa.....	13,420	3,498	+6.1	9,297	+54.1	625	5,840	-2.7	79,156	-14.6
Kansas.....	7,137	1,011	+7.8	5,562	-30.1	564	3,307	-12.5	115,177	+4.2
Kentucky.....	5,386	1,451	+9.1	3,578	+25.2	357	3,382	-14.4	245,240	+1
Louisiana.....	3,761	545	-6.5	3,138	-45.1	78	9,277	-11.8	88,954	+13.3
Maine.....	3,363	49	+69.0	2,457	+139.0	857	2,144	+24.0	41,816	+2.0
Maryland.....	4,382	627	+30.1	2,255	+40.9	1,500	2,799	+12.6	120,998	-2.0
Massachusetts.....	7,470	1,140	+15.2	2,896	+43.1	3,434	6,803	-12.6	418,742	+2
Michigan.....	13,520	2,003	+105.9	6,462	+52.2	5,055	8,670	-23.2	291,479	-2.4
Minnesota.....	15,897	5,304	+26.6	9,041	+140.5	1,552	6,790	+4.3	156,172	-4.5
Mississippi.....	7,740	25	+69.0	3,255	+8.8	4,460	3,612	-11.9	186,377	-2.9
Missouri.....	12,090	2,302	+9.8	8,055	+52.8	1,733	7,221	+6.4	335,586	-1.3
Montana.....	8,153	1,520	+31.3	6,121	+49.0	512	2,053	+28.2	42,726	-8.3
Nebraska.....	7,856	525	-14.1	5,658	+4.4	1,673	2,602	-17.8	57,900	-6.1
Nevada.....	1,835	188	+39.3	1,431	+22.7	216	728	+42.7	6,545	-5
New Hampshire.....	2,603	293	-72.7	1,117	+17.6	1,193	1,195	+12.3	36,258	-4
New Jersey.....	11,485	4,194	+24.7	1,756	+9.4	5,535	8,807	-6.8	319,612	+2.4
New Mexico.....	3,445	728	+87.6	2,006	-8.7	711	1,808	+42.4	61,230	+1.3
New York.....	35,257	14,267	+19.0	13,088	+49.7	7,902	21,021	-7	576,167	-7.9
North Carolina.....	13,949	4,689	+63.6	7,416	+15.0	1,844	10,471	+25.2	187,199	+1
North Dakota.....	4,966	668	-38.8	2,654	+319.9	1,644	2,622	+37.3	40,636	+4
Ohio.....	25,688	12,507	+31.6	10,050	+44.1	3,131	14,883	-1.1	366,398	-3
Oklahoma.....	10,362	2,266	+80.6	5,603	+43.0	2,493	3,775	-8.6	176,870	-1.5
Oregon.....	6,243	939	+19.5	4,074	-5	1,230	2,513	+5.7	110,194	-1.8
Pennsylvania.....	27,545	6,127	+11.4	13,342	+46.0	8,076	25,359	-12.8	1,344,388	-1.4
Mississippi.....	925	309	-1.9	487	+24.9	129	1,144	-2.3	61,228	+7
South Carolina.....	6,143	1,103	-7.2	3,540	-3	1,489	3,488	+31.5	156,266	-1.5
South Dakota.....	5,690	746	-26.4	3,606	+64.0	1,338	2,162	+31.9	36,600	-4.7
Tennessee.....	8,468	1,272	+36.6	5,060	+17.9	2,136	5,601	+4.7	260,724	-5
Texas.....	25,620	3,412	+100.0	19,126	-4.4	3,082	11,708	-14.9	323,410	-2.4
Utah.....	4,380	1,209	+67.9	2,474	+6.7	697	926	+8.1	33,008	-7.0
Vermont.....	1,882	372	+16.3	973	-16.6	537	1,010	+7.2	18,084	+3
Virginia.....	10,346	1,742	+12.6	7,046	+20.9	1,558	5,729	-8	118,792	-7.4
Washington.....	7,091	727	+5.8	5,434	-1.1	930	3,107	-18.4	187,802	-9.1
West Virginia.....	5,113	1,231	-4.4	3,606	+52.0	276	4,535	+58.1	140,051	+1.4
Wisconsin.....	12,449	5,282	+37.1	5,090	+59.4	2,077	6,836	+3.1	122,004	-6.0
Wyoming.....	3,504	500	+57.2	2,243	+32.6	761	1,722	+35.8	13,072	-3.8
Dist. of Columbia.....	3,205	2,235	+5.2	835	-7.5	135	2,614	+9.3	45,723	-6

<sup>1</sup> Includes only security-wage placements on work-relief projects.

Table 2.—Operations of Offices of State Employment Services, May 1936

State	Placements					Relief <sup>1</sup>	New applica- tions		Active file	
	Total	Private		Public			Number	Percent of change from April	May 31	Percent of change from Apr. 30
		Number	Percent of change from April	Number	Percent of change from April					
All States.....	215,905	93,083	<sup>2</sup> +21.5	85,333	<sup>2</sup> +17.2	37,489	165,120	<sup>2</sup> -0.1	4,071,870	<sup>2</sup> -1.9
Arizona.....	967	377	+17.4	567	-6.6	23	579	+13.3	12,046	-17.6
California.....	21,988	11,138	+15.6	8,388	+30.4	2,462	18,156	-3.5	293,482	-3.1
Colorado.....	2,399	1,158	+79.0	396	-42.3	845	2,578	+92.7	57,928	-1.9
Connecticut.....	4,443	1,465	+8.4	2,021	+19.7	957	3,144	-12.1	57,374	-10.9
Delaware.....	1,964	741	+28.0	1,112	+33.3	111	750	-10.5	15,216	-7.7
Florida.....	4,689	1,085	( <sup>3</sup> )	2,701	( <sup>3</sup> )	903	3,877	( <sup>3</sup> )	116,111	( <sup>3</sup> )
Idaho.....	2,173	276	-9.5	1,076	+28.6	821	2,250	+166.0	19,654	+5.8
Illinois.....	20,324	12,726	+13.2	5,130	-2.0	2,468	17,103	+1.1	315,805	-3.2
Indiana.....	7,420	5,096	+25.6	2,276	+23.2	48	5,509	+14.5	116,728	-1.1
Iowa.....	6,292	3,091	+14.3	2,939	+46.0	262	3,096	-4.1	46,563	-12.0
Kansas (not affil- ated).....	1,855	682	+17.2	1,083	-34.2	90	693	+4.5	26,036	+2.0
Louisiana.....	3,761	545	-6.5	3,138	-45.1	78	9,277	-11.8	88,954	+13.3
Massachusetts.....	3,862	971	+10.7	1,163	+42.0	1,728	3,858	-14.7	188,713	+9
Minnesota.....	5,180	3,046	+17.0	1,892	+113.1	242	2,775	-4.7	73,918	-3.0
Missouri.....	4,440	1,746	+11.0	1,778	+87.9	916	3,850	-1.0	137,157	-4
Nevada.....	962	135	+53.4	810	+13.8	17	418	+31.9	4,494	+1.4
New Hampshire.....	864	154	-63.9	389	+27.5	321	637	+3.6	18,387	-1.8
New Jersey.....	9,915	3,765	+24.5	1,163	-2	4,997	7,839	-6.2	270,596	+3.5
New Mexico.....	1,655	269	+66.0	1,002	+3.6	384	1,161	+83.1	31,354	+2.5
New York.....	23,085	12,333	+18.8	6,298	+39.3	4,454	15,472	-3.0	312,257	-12.1
North Carolina.....	13,949	4,689	+63.6	7,416	+15.0	1,844	10,471	+25.2	187,199	+1
North Dakota.....	703	290	-10.8	205	+64.0	208	425	-25.3	5,892	-3.6
Ohio.....	16,735	9,882	+29.7	4,705	+29.9	2,148	10,796	-7.4	228,240	-4
Oklahoma.....	3,550	1,851	+115.5	1,314	+38.9	385	1,136	-11.6	32,189	-1.2
Oregon.....	3,166	567	+16.4	1,851	+9	748	1,417	-3.7	81,882	-9
Pennsylvania.....	14,323	3,757	+12.5	6,027	+34.3	4,539	17,020	-8.3	840,639	-6
Rhode Island.....	780	264	-7.0	409	+61.7	107	1,092	-1.7	54,773	+1.2
South Dakota.....	5,094	652	-26.7	3,331	+63.4	1,111	1,935	+29.3	33,552	-5.2
Tennessee.....	4,298	947	+39.3	2,583	-3.8	768	2,786	+4.8	110,532	-2.0
Texas.....	6,950	802	+197.0	5,066	+8.6	1,082	3,550	-20.1	91,866	+1.1
Vermont.....	1,882	372	+16.3	973	-16.6	537	1,010	+7.2	18,084	+3
Virginia.....	1,635	741	+17.1	691	+125.8	103	811	+20.7	19,943	-6.2
West Virginia.....	1,069	384	-20.7	641	+13.1	44	1,140	+40.9	30,294	-9
Wisconsin.....	8,611	4,562	+41.8	2,747	+53.7	1,302	4,974	-5	89,452	-5.1
Wyoming.....	1,817	289	+67.1	1,227	+46.6	301	921	+36.8	5,537	-4.8
Dist. of Columbia.....	3,205	2,235	+5.2	835	-7.5	135	2,614	+9.3	45,723	-6

<sup>1</sup> Includes only security-wage placements on work-relief projects.<sup>2</sup> Computed from comparable reports only.<sup>3</sup> Coverage S. E. S. extended to entire State, May 1, 1936.

Table 3.—Operations of Offices of National Reemployment Service, May 1936

State	Placements					New applica- tions		Active file		
	Total	Private		Public		Relief <sup>1</sup>	Number	Percent of change from April	May 31	Percent of change from Apr. 30
		Number	Percent of change from April	Number	Percent of change from April					
All States.....	250,368	38,703	+23.6	158,047	+23.8	53,618	126,713	-2.1	4,714,268	-2.7
Alabama.....	7,314	394	+26.7	4,832	+26.5	2,088	4,310	+11.8	138,813	-1.5
Arizona.....	2,203	353	+13.1	1,641	+17.9	209	972	+8.8	21,798	-8.2
Arkansas.....	6,042	842	+35.2	2,545	-5.4	2,655	2,885	-21.6	99,811	-3.8
California.....	9,954	3,203	+51.0	5,179	+12.2	1,572	4,189	-2.3	60,148	-6.6
Colorado.....	3,388	1,253	+132.9	1,413	+15.7	722	1,375	+7.9	46,934	-6.0
Connecticut.....	1,540	526	+32.2	854	+29.2	160	792	-9.9	19,022	-3.1
Florida.....	(3)	(3)	---	(3)	---	(3)	(3)	---	(3)	---
Georgia.....	7,441	1,835	-5.4	3,547	-20.7	2,059	6,408	-4.1	238,783	-3.0
Idaho.....	1,439	228	+78.1	913	+34.7	298	1,132	+120.7	19,211	+3.1
Illinois.....	8,516	1,682	+12.7	5,876	+8.5	958	5,493	+6.7	125,541	-4.6
Indiana.....	3,711	402	+24.1	3,081	+11.7	228	2,067	-32.8	98,249	-1.4
Iowa.....	7,128	407	-31.2	6,358	+58.1	363	2,744	-1.0	32,593	-18.0
Kansas.....	5,282	329	-7.6	4,479	-29.0	474	2,614	-16.2	89,141	+4.9
Kentucky.....	5,386	1,451	+9.1	3,578	+25.2	357	3,382	-14.4	245,240	+1.1
Maine.....	3,363	49	+69.0	2,457	+139.0	857	2,144	+24.0	41,816	+2.0
Maryland.....	4,382	627	+30.1	2,255	+40.9	1,500	2,799	+12.6	120,998	-2.0
Massachusetts.....	3,608	169	+49.6	1,733	+43.8	1,706	2,945	-9.8	226,929	-4.1
Michigan.....	13,520	2,003	+105.9	6,462	+52.2	5,055	8,670	-23.2	291,479	-2.4
Minnesota.....	10,717	2,288	+42.5	7,149	+149.0	1,310	4,015	+11.5	82,254	-5.9
Mississippi.....	7,740	25	-56.1	3,255	+8.8	4,460	3,612	-11.9	186,377	-2.9
Missouri.....	7,650	556	+6.3	6,277	+45.2	817	3,371	+16.2	198,429	-2.0
Montana.....	8,153	1,520	+31.3	6,121	+49.0	512	2,053	+28.2	42,726	-8.3
Nebraska.....	7,856	525	-14.1	5,658	+4.4	1,673	2,602	-17.8	57,900	-6.1
Nevada.....	873	53	+12.8	621	+36.8	199	310	+60.6	2,051	-4.2
New Hampshire.....	1,739	139	-78.5	728	+12.9	872	558	+24.3	17,871	+1.0
New Jersey.....	1,570	429	+26.2	603	+34.0	538	968	-11.8	49,016	-3.4
New Mexico.....	1,790	459	+103.1	1,004	-18.3	327	647	+1.7	29,876	+1.1
New York.....	12,172	1,934	+20.4	6,790	+60.8	3,448	5,549	+6.2	263,910	-2.3
North Dakota.....	4,263	378	-50.7	2,449	+383.0	1,436	2,197	+64.0	34,744	+1.1
Ohio.....	8,953	2,625	+39.5	5,345	+59.4	983	4,087	+20.5	138,158	-2.2
Oklahoma.....	6,812	415	+4.8	4,289	+44.4	2,108	2,639	-7.2	144,681	-1.6
Oregon.....	3,077	372	+24.4	2,223	-1.6	482	1,096	+20.8	28,812	-4.1
Pennsylvania.....	13,222	2,370	+9.7	7,315	+57.3	3,537	8,339	-20.6	503,749	-2.9
Rhode Island.....	145	45	+45.2	78	-43.1	22	52	-13.3	6,455	-31.4
South Carolina.....	6,132	1,103	-7.2	3,540	-3	1,489	3,488	+31.5	156,266	-1.5
South Dakota.....	596	94	-24.2	275	+71.9	227	227	+59.9	3,048	+1.0
Tennessee.....	4,170	325	+29.5	2,477	+54.2	1,368	2,815	+4.6	150,192	+7.7
Texas.....	18,670	2,610	+81.8	14,060	-8.3	2,000	8,158	-12.4	231,744	-3.7
Utah.....	4,380	1,209	+67.9	2,474	+6.7	697	926	+8.1	33,008	-7.0
Virginia.....	8,811	1,001	+9.5	6,355	+15.1	1,455	4,918	-3.6	98,849	-7.7
Washington.....	7,091	727	+5.8	5,434	-1.1	930	3,107	-18.4	187,802	-9.1
West Virginia.....	4,044	847	+5.3	2,965	+64.2	232	3,395	+64.9	109,757	+2.0
Wisconsin.....	3,838	720	+13.4	2,343	+66.5	775	1,862	+14.1	32,552	-8.3
Wyoming.....	1,687	211	+45.5	1,016	+19.0	460	801	+34.6	7,535	-3.0

<sup>1</sup> Includes only security-wage placements on work-relief projects.<sup>2</sup> Computed from comparable reports only.<sup>3</sup> Discontinued as N. R. S. May 1, 1936.

Table 4.—Veterans' Activities of Offices of Combined State Employment Services and National Reemployment Service, May 1936

States	Placements					New applica- tions		Active file		
	Total	Private		Public		Relief <sup>1</sup>	Number	Percent of change from April	May 31	Percent of change from Apr. 30
		Number	Percent of change from April	Number	Percent of change from April					
United States.....	34,377	6,935	+20.5	22,107	+11.6	5,335	9,122	-14.0	502,386	-3.5
Alabama.....	536	29	+163.6	421	+43.7	86	113	+18.9	6,530	-5.3
Arizona.....	219	30	+20.0	175	-4.4	14	56	-30.9	1,753	-18.2
Arkansas.....	302	35	-27.1	173	-7.0	94	70	-35.2	4,311	-7.0
California.....	3,220	1,062	+7.4	1,798	+12.2	360	1,218	-9.7	27,224	-6.0
Colorado.....	317	61	+15.1	198	+8.8	58	110	-13.4	5,740	-4.5
Connecticut.....	385	67	0	219	+6.8	99	136	-25.7	5,221	-10.1
Delaware.....	113	37	+32.1	74	+60.9	2	18	+28.6	830	-10.0
Florida.....	247	61	-27.4	141	-19.4	45	97	-34.5	5,142	-5.6
Georgia.....	391	106	+9.3	217	-22.5	68	92	-15.6	9,994	-3.9
Idaho.....	285	34	-12.8	188	+16.0	63	80	+3.9	2,076	-4.2
Illinois.....	2,025	728	+15.4	1,129	-5.4	168	806	-15.7	29,451	-6.0
Indiana.....	823	261	+26.7	550	+5.0	12	198	-23.3	13,775	-3.8
Iowa.....	1,281	284	+2.5	939	+35.9	58	238	-24.0	5,179	-20.2
Kansas.....	606	70	+29.6	494	-34.2	42	106	-10.9	6,997	+5.7
Kentucky.....	518	117	+33.0	378	+29.9	23	111	-4.3	14,225	-9
Louisiana.....	216	19	-34.5	192	-47.0	5	333	-18.4	6,235	+7.9
Maine.....	271	1	0	204	+161.5	66	72	+44.0	2,895	-4.0
Maryland.....	353	39	+11.4	204	+10.3	110	90	-17.4	7,600	-3.3
Massachusetts.....	590	38	+8.6	285	+35.1	267	247	+4.7	24,372	-5
Michigan.....	904	117	+91.8	621	+61.7	166	379	-26.7	17,754	-4.8
Minnesota.....	1,373	288	+46.9	943	+109.6	142	226	-5.0	12,140	-6.1
Mississippi.....	271	1	-80.0	137	-4.9	133	37	-63.0	6,434	-4.4
Missouri.....	1,045	117	+25.8	820	+53.3	108	254	-4.2	21,710	-2.4
Montana.....	751	165	+51.4	553	+45.1	33	79	+27.4	2,239	-16.3
Nebraska.....	605	36	-12.2	441	-2.2	128	76	-38.7	3,644	-8.2
Nevada.....	185	23	+76.9	152	+2.7	10	33	+37.5	340	+5.6
New Hampshire.....	193	5	-90.7	101	+21.7	87	34	-41.4	2,306	-5.1
New Jersey.....	571	158	+24.4	140	+15.7	273	240	-19.2	20,723	-1.5
New Mexico.....	241	32	+6.7	179	-5.8	30	56	+43.6	3,136	-5
New York.....	2,151	503	+33.8	1,119	+40.4	529	499	+2	35,205	-8.1
North Carolina.....	712	172	+17.0	459	+15.9	81	202	-8.2	7,026	-3.6
North Dakota.....	270	16	-72.9	193	+29.2	61	57	+21.3	1,786	-5.4
Ohio.....	1,873	648	+52.1	1,028	+22.2	197	390	-16.5	22,455	-3.9
Oklahoma.....	801	191	+141.8	469	+37.9	141	124	+3.3	10,069	-3.7
Oregon.....	634	58	+11.5	454	-9.2	122	108	-12.9	8,352	-3.2
Pennsylvania.....	2,135	242	-10.0	1,325	+36.2	568	632	-24.3	68,383	+4.8
Rhode Island.....	105	23	+76.9	75	+53.1	7	29	-21.6	3,737	-1.3
South Carolina.....	300	45	0	224	-12.2	31	48	-2.0	5,994	-3.1
South Dakota.....	477	85	0	313	+25.7	79	59	+25.5	1,982	-10.0
Tennessee.....	470	38	-28.2	338	+1.8	94	154	+10.0	12,913	-1.7
Texas.....	1,830	169	+92.0	1,489	-17.4	172	319	-33.1	14,678	-5.3
Utah.....	391	102	+88.9	236	-30.4	53	20	-47.4	1,895	-9.9
Vermont.....	76	12	+20.0	42	-40.8	22	19	-32.1	582	-5.2
Virginia.....	645	78	-7.1	486	+17.7	81	161	-12.0	4,843	-11.0
Washington.....	614	49	+25.6	508	-17.8	57	74	-30.2	11,971	-10.9
West Virginia.....	348	43	-6.5	294	+3.9	11	101	+5.2	7,565	-1.5
Wisconsin.....	1,151	314	+96.3	609	+38.7	228	285	-3.4	9,104	-8.1
Wyoming.....	263	26	+100.0	195	-2.5	42	70	+6.1	798	-5.1
District of Columbia.....	294	100	-31.5	185	-48.3	9	166	+11.4	3,072	+1.1

<sup>1</sup> Includes only security-wage placements on work-relief projects.

# TREND OF EMPLOYMENT AND PAY ROLLS

## Summary of Employment Reports for May 1936

**I**NDUSTRIAL employment and pay rolls again increased between April and May according to reports from more than 135,000 manufacturing and nonmanufacturing establishments surveyed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Although seasonal activity was a primary factor in the gains registered by a number of manufacturing industries, the net increases for manufacturing as a whole were contra-seasonal.

Gains in employment were shown by 12 of the 16 nonmanufacturing industries surveyed, and increased pay rolls by all but one (bituminous-coal mining). Among the industries showing marked gains in both employment and pay rolls were building construction, anthracite mining, quarrying and nonmetallic mining, dyeing and cleaning, and metalliferous mining.

An increase in the number of workers employed by class I steam railroads was also shown between April and May according to preliminary reports of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The public-employment reports for May showed marked increases in the number of employees working on construction projects financed by regular governmental appropriations and on construction projects financed by the Public Works Administration. Substantial employment gains also occurred on construction projects financed by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and on the emergency conservation program.

### Private Employment

It is estimated that nearly 90,000 workers were returned to employment between April and May in the manufacturing and non-manufacturing industries surveyed. Weekly pay rolls were increased by approximately \$6,900,000. In comparison with the corresponding month of last year, May 1936 showed increases of more than 654,000 in number of workers employed and nearly \$36,000,000 in weekly wage disbursements. These estimates are based on reports from approximately 135,000 establishments. In May these establishments employed more than 7,200,000 workers whose weekly earnings totaled more than \$170,000,000.

Contrary to the seasonal movement, factory employment rose 0.7 percent in May, continuing the upswing which has been shown each month since January. This gain represented the return of more than 51,000 workers to jobs and brought the employment index to 85.7. The factory pay-roll index advanced 1.8 percent to 79.3; expressed in dollars, the gain in weekly wages over the month interval amounted to \$2,659,000. The May indexes for both employment and pay rolls stood at the highest level reached since October 1930.

Employment in the durable-goods group of manufacturing industries showed a gain of 2.1 percent over the year, the May 1936 index standing at 79.2 and exceeding the level of any month since October 1930. The nondurable-goods group, however, showed a decline of 0.4 percent in employment, due primarily to seasonal decreases in the textile and leather industries. Despite this recession, the May 1936 employment index for the nondurable-goods group stood at 92.7 and was 1.0 percent above the figure for May 1935.

Fifty of the ninety manufacturing industries surveyed showed gains in employment over the month interval and 65 reported increased pay rolls. The gains in employment in May brought the level of employment in a number of industries above the maximum recorded in any month during recent years. Employment in blast furnaces, steel works, and rolling mills reached the highest level since September 1930, foundries and machine shops employed more workers than in any month since September 1930, engine-turbine-tractor factories employed more workers than in any month since March 1930, and the electrical machinery, steam fitting, sawmill, brick, and steam-railroad repair shop industries had more employees than in any month since the latter part of 1931.

Seasonal activity was a primary factor in the employment gains of 19.2 percent in ice cream, 14.2 percent in radios and phonographs, 9.2 percent in beverages, 9.0 percent in beet sugar, and 5.5 percent in butter. Employment increased sharply in a number of the industries manufacturing building construction materials and supplies. The cement industry showed a gain of 11.6 percent; brick, tile, and terra cotta, 8.7 percent; structural and ornamental metalwork, 7.2 percent; lighting equipment, 5.6 percent; marble-slate-granite, 5.1 percent; sawmills, 2.5 percent; and steam fittings, millwork, paint and varnish, and plumbers' supplies from 1 percent to 2.8 percent. The locomotive industry reported a gain of 10.7 percent, and employment in the blast-furnace, steel-works, rolling-mill industry rose 3.1 percent. Other industries of major importance reporting increases were foundries and machine shops, 2.8 percent; electrical machinery, apparatus and supplies, 2.3 percent; furniture, 1.2 percent; baking, 1.2 percent, and automobiles, 1.4 percent. Gains ranging from 2.1 percent to 3.1 percent were shown in men's furnishings, slaughtering,



rubber tires and tubes, cigars and cigarettes, and rayon and allied products. Employment in the machine-tool industry continued the upward movement which has been shown consistently each month since October 1934. The gain of 1.7 percent in employment in this industry from April to May raised the May index (107.8) to the maximum recorded in any month since October 1930.

The most pronounced declines in employment from April to May were seasonal. The fertilizer industry reported a decrease of 19.7 percent; cottonseed oil-cake-meal, 14.8 percent; millinery, 6.6 percent; and men's clothing, 5.1 percent.

Employment in the silk and rayon goods industry decreased 6.6 percent and in dyeing and finishing textiles, 4.0 percent. Boot and shoe factories reported a seasonal decrease of 3.4 percent and the shirt and collar industry showed a decline of 3.1 percent. Declines ranging from 2.0 percent to 2.8 percent were shown in the confectionery, explosive, flour, women's clothing, corset, and cotton small ware industries. Eleven industries showed declines ranging from 1 percent to 1.8 percent, and the remaining 15 industries which registered declines showed losses ranging from less than 0.1 percent to 0.8 percent.

Twelve of the 16 nonmanufacturing industries surveyed showed gains in employment and all except one (bituminous-coal mining) showed larger pay rolls.

Substantial gains in employment were reported in the private building construction, anthracite mining, quarrying, dyeing and cleaning, and metal mining industries. The gain of 13 percent in the private building construction industry is larger than the gain shown in May of any of the 4 preceding years for which information is available. Sharp gains in the production of anthracite coal resulted in an increase of 10.3 percent in employment. Seasonal activity accounted for the gains of 7.5 percent in quarrying and 6.7 percent in dyeing and cleaning. Metal mines showed a further increase in number of workers (5.7 percent), continuing the gains which have been reported each month since July 1935. The May 1936 employment index for this industry (60.8) reached the highest point recorded since May 1931. Laundries reported a seasonal increase of 2.7 percent in employment and crude petroleum producing firms increased their forces by 1.9 percent. Hotels continued to add workers to their pay rolls and each of the three public utility industries surveyed (telephone and telegraph, electric light and power and manufactured gas, and electric railroad and motor-bus operation and maintenance) reported gains in employment. Insurance offices also showed a slight gain in number of employees.

Employment in retail trade establishments showed but little change, reports from 54,959 establishments indicating a net decline of only 0.2 percent. The decline was confined largely to the general merchandising group of retail establishments, which is composed of department, variety, and general merchandise stores and mail order houses, and in which employment rose sharply in April in response to spring and Easter shopping. Retail apparel stores also reported a seasonal slackening in employment. Among the lines of retail trade in which additional workers were employed in May, the largest gains were shown in lumber and building materials, hardware, automotive, drug, and furniture stores.

Reports received from 16,197 wholesale-trade establishments employing 307,903 workers in May showed a net decline of 1.3 percent in employment over the month interval, although gains were reported in a number of important lines of trade, including food products, furniture, hardware, machinery, chemicals, paper and paper products, automotive, and lumber. These increases, however, were not sufficient to offset the decreases reported in the wholesale dry goods and apparel, groceries, petroleum and petroleum products, farm supplies, and other lines of wholesale trade.

Bituminous-coal mines and brokerage firms reported decreases in employment of 1.6 percent and 0.2 percent, respectively.

According to preliminary reports of the Interstate Commerce Commission, there were 1,056,000 workers (exclusive of executives and officials) employed by class 1 railroads in May 1936 as against 1,037,798 in April, a gain of 1.8 percent. Pay-roll data for May were not available at the time this report was prepared. The total compensation of all employees except executives and officials was \$143,505,090 in April and \$144,859,291 in March, a decrease of 0.9 percent. The preliminary indexes of employment, compiled by the Interstate Commerce Commission and based on the 3-year average 1923-25 as 100, are 59.8 for May and 58.8 for April. The final March index is 57.2.

*Hours and earnings.*—Average hours worked per week in the manufacturing industries surveyed rose 1.2 percent from 38.7 in April to 39.2 in May. Hourly earnings climbed from 57.3 cents in April to 57.4 cents in May, a gain of 0.1 percent. Average weekly earnings rose 1.1 percent over the month interval, the May figure being \$22.95.

Gains in average hours worked per week were also shown by 11 of the 14 nonmanufacturing industries for which man-hour data are compiled. These increases ranged from less than 0.1 percent in metalliferous mining to 69.8 percent in anthracite mining. Hourly earnings were up in 9 of the 14 industries, the gains ranging from 0.3 percent in the retail trade and electric light and power manufactured gas industries to 2.3 percent in anthracite mining and dyeing and

cleaning. Nine of the 14 industries and one other, brokerage, showed gains in average weekly earnings. Among them were anthracite mining, 78.2 percent; quarrying and nonmetallic mining, 8.5 percent; building construction, 6.4 percent; and dyeing and cleaning, 5.5 percent.

Table 1 presents a summary of employment and pay-roll indexes and average weekly earnings in May 1936 for all manufacturing industries combined, for selected nonmanufacturing industries, and for class I railroads, with percentage changes over the month and year intervals except in the few industries for which certain items cannot be computed. The indexes of employment and pay rolls for the manufacturing industries are based on the 3-year average 1923-25 as 100 and for the nonmanufacturing industries, on the 12-month average for 1929 as 100.

Table 1.—Employment, Pay Rolls, and Earnings in All Manufacturing Industries Combined and in Nonmanufacturing Industries, May 1936 (Preliminary Figures)

Industry	Employment			Pay roll			Per capita weekly earnings		
	Index, May 1936	Percentage change from—		Index, May 1936	Percentage change from—		Average in May 1936	Percentage change from—	
		April 1936	May 1935		April 1936	May 1935		April 1936	May 1935
	(1923-25 = 100)			(1923-25 = 100)					
All manufacturing industries combined.....	85.7	+0.7	+5.5	77.3	+1.8	+15.8	\$22.95	+1.1	+9.6
Class I steam railroads <sup>1</sup> .....	59.8	+1.7	+7.2	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Coal mining:	(1929 = 100)			(1929 = 100)					
Anthracite.....	54.9	+10.3	+2.5	56.3	+96.5	+13.6	29.79	+78.2	+10.8
Bituminous.....	76.2	-1.6	+1.2	62.2	-	+26.7	20.72	+1.0	+25.2
Metalliferous mining.....	60.8	+5.7	+37.0	47.7	+4.9	+51.6	24.09	-	+10.7
Quarrying and nonmetallic mining.....	52.0	+7.5	+5.1	42.1	+16.7	+28.6	20.30	+8.5	+22.2
Crude-petroleum producing.....	72.5	+1.9	-4.6	58.0	+1.8	+3	28.86	-1	+5.0
Public utilities:									
Telephone and telegraph.....	71.6	+1.1	+2.3	78.5	+3.3	+6.6	29.47	+2.2	+4.2
Electric light and power and manufactured gas.....	88.9	+1.0	+6.7	87.0	+1.0	+9.0	31.66	0	+2.1
Electric-railroad and motor-bus operation and maintenance.....	71.5	+4	-1	66.1	+3	+3.9	29.93	-1	+4.1
Trade:									
Wholesale.....	84.6	-1.3	+2.6	68.2	+5	+5.5	28.61	+1.7	+2.9
Retail.....	85.0	-2	+3.4	65.8	+7	+6.1	20.69	+9	+2.7
General merchandising.....	95.5	-2.0	+4.5	80.8	-2	+6.0	17.56	+1.8	+1.4
Other than general merchandising.....	82.3	+3	+3.2	62.7	+9	+6.2	23.37	+6	+3.0
Hotels (cash payments only) <sup>3</sup> .....	84.1	+1.2	+3.1	67.0	+1.0	+5.1	13.94	-1	+1.9
Laundries.....	85.5	+2.7	+5.5	75.6	+6.6	+13.4	16.46	+3.7	+7.7
Dyeing and cleaning.....	87.3	+6.7	+7.9	72.2	+12.5	+17.0	20.30	+5.5	+8.4
Banks.....									
Brokerage.....	( <sup>2</sup> )	-2	+27.1	( <sup>2</sup> )	+1	+36.6	37.52	+3	+7.5
Insurance.....	( <sup>2</sup> )	+2	+9	( <sup>2</sup> )	+2	+4.0	38.16	-( <sup>4</sup> )	+3.1
Building construction.....	( <sup>2</sup> )	+13.0	+21.6	( <sup>2</sup> )	+20.2	+39.8	27.00	+6.3	+14.9

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary; source—Interstate Commerce Commission.

<sup>2</sup> Not available.

<sup>3</sup> Cash payments only; the additional value of board, room, and tips cannot be computed.

<sup>4</sup> Less than  $\frac{1}{10}$  of 1 percent.

## Public Employment

DURING May more than 315,000 employees were working on construction projects financed from Public Works Administration funds. Compared with the previous month this is an increase of 51,000, or 19 percent. Substantial employment gains were registered on Federal and non-Federal projects financed from funds provided by the National Industrial Recovery Act. On non-Federal projects financed from funds provided by the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1935 the number of employees increased from 108,000 in April to 144,000 in May. Total pay-roll disbursements for May amounted to \$22,591,000, a gain of 19 percent over April.

A substantial increase in the number of workers employed on construction projects financed from regular governmental appropriations was also reported. During the month there were approximately 80,000 wage earners employed, a gain of 32.7 percent compared with April. Marked increases in employment occurred on public-road projects and on river, harbor, and flood-control work. Pay-roll disbursements also advanced, increasing from \$5,205,000 in April to \$6,243,000 in May.

Employment on construction projects financed by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation showed a moderate gain. During the month 10,988 wage earners were employed on these projects, an increase of 967 compared with the number working in April. Employment gains occurred on bridge construction projects and on building construction projects, but the sharpest increase was registered on water and sewerage work. Total pay-roll disbursements of \$962,000, however, were 15.1 percent less than in April.

The number of wage earners employed on projects financed by The Works Program decreased in May. During the month there were approximately 268,000 fewer workers engaged on this program than in April. On Federal projects employment totaled 401,000, an increase of 6.8 percent over the previous month. On projects operated by the Works Progress Administration, however, the number of employees decreased from 2,857,000 in April to 2,563,000 in May. Total pay-roll disbursements of \$150,696,000 were \$9,360,000 less than in April.

In the regular agencies of the Federal Government, increases in the number of employees were reported for the executive, judicial, and legislative services; a small decrease, however, occurred in the military service. The level of employment in the executive service increased less than 1 percent in May but was 15 percent higher compared with May 1935. Of the 818,228 employees in the executive service in May, 117,229 were working in the District of Columbia and 700,999, outside the District. The most pronounced increase in employment in the executive departments of the Federal Govern-

ment in May occurred in the War Department. Marked gains also were reported in the Department of Agriculture, the Resettlement Administration, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and the Treasury Department. There were appreciable decreases in the number of workers, on the other hand, in the Home Owners' Loan Corporation, the Works Progress Administration, and the Department of Interior.

Employment during May in emergency conservation work (Civilian Conservation camps) was the highest of any month since February 1936. During the month the number of employees totaled 408,000, an increase of 17,000 compared with April. All groups of employees with the exception of supervisory and technical workers registered employment gains. Pay-roll disbursements amounted to \$18,610,000, an increase of \$552,000 over the previous month.

The number of workers employed on the construction and maintenance of State roads in May was greater than in any month since October 1935. During the month there were 180,922 workers engaged on this program, an increase of 26,278 compared with employment in April. Of the total number employed 16,566, or 9.2 percent, were engaged in new road construction and 164,356, or 90.8 percent, in maintenance work. Pay-roll disbursement also showed a marked gain, increasing from \$8,918,000 in April to more than \$10,560,000 in May.

A summary of Federal employment and pay-roll statistics for May is presented in table 2.

Table 2.—Summary of Federal Employment and Pay Rolls, May 1936 (Preliminary Figures)

Class	Employment		Per-centage change	Pay roll		Per-centage change
	May	April		May	April	
Federal service:						
Executive.....	<sup>2</sup> 818, 228	810, 767	+0.9	\$126, 867, 718	<sup>3</sup> \$125, 145, 629	+1.4
Judicial.....	1, 927	1, 924	+ .2	492, 188	511, 303	-3.7
Legislative.....	5, 032	4, 945	+1.8	1, 187, 232	1, 172, 205	+1.3
Military.....	296, 746	297, 394	- .2	22, 751, 644	22, 442, 140	+1.4
Construction projects:						
Financed by P. W. A.....	<sup>4</sup> 315, 393	<sup>5</sup> 264, 427	+19.3	<sup>6</sup> 22, 590, 878	<sup>5</sup> 18, 915, 663	+19.4
Financed by R. F. C.....	<sup>6</sup> 10, 988	<sup>7</sup> 10, 021	+9.6	<sup>8</sup> 962, 280	<sup>7</sup> 1, 133, 880	-15.1
Financed by regular governmen- tal appropriations.....	79, 789	60, 107	+32.7	6, 242, 763	5, 205, 353	+19.9
The Works Program: <sup>*</sup>						
Federal projects.....	401, 298	375, 865	+6.8	19, 160, 510	16, 563, 885	+15.7
Projects operated by W. P. A.....	2, 563, 185	2, 856, 508	-10.3	131, 535, 493	143, 492, 350	-8.3
Relief work:						
Emergency conservation work....	<sup>9</sup> 407, 621	<sup>10</sup> 391, 002	+4.3	<sup>10</sup> 18, 610, 245	<sup>10</sup> 18, 058, 235	+3.1

<sup>1</sup> Data concerning number of wage earners refer to employment on last day of month specified. Includes employees of Columbia Institution for the Deaf, and Howard University.

<sup>2</sup> Includes 136 employees by transfer previously reported as separations by transfer not actual additions for May.

<sup>3</sup> Revised.

<sup>4</sup> Includes 149,334 wage earners and \$9,101,702 pay roll covering P. W. A. projects financed from E. R. A. A. 1935 funds.

<sup>5</sup> Includes 112,345 wage earners and \$6,346,433 pay roll covering P. W. A. projects financed from E. R. A. A. 1935 funds.

<sup>6</sup> Includes 85 employees and pay roll of \$7,621 on projects financed by R. F. C. Mortgage Co.

<sup>7</sup> Includes 131 employees and pay roll of \$8,531 on projects financed by R. F. C. Mortgage Co.

<sup>8</sup> Data covering P. W. A. projects financed from E. R. A. A. 1935 funds are not included in The Works Program and shown only under P. W. A.

<sup>9</sup> 41,510 employees and pay roll of \$5,750,350 included in executive service.

<sup>10</sup> Revised; 42,220 employees and pay roll of \$5,900,025 included in executive service.

## Detailed Reports for April 1936

THIS article presents the detailed figures on volume of employment, as compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, for the month of April 1936. The tabular data are the same as those published in the *Employment and Pay Rolls* pamphlet for April, except for certain minor revisions or corrections.

### Private Employment

MONTHLY reports on employment and pay rolls in private industry are now available for the following groups: 90 manufacturing industries; 16 nonmanufacturing industries, including building construction; and class I steam railroads. The reports for the first two of these groups—manufacturing and nonmanufacturing—are based on sample surveys by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, but in virtually all industries the samples are sufficiently large to be entirely representative. The figures on class I steam railroads are compiled by the Interstate Commerce Commission and are presented in the foregoing summary.

#### Employment, Pay Rolls, Hours, and Earnings in April 1936

THE indexes of employment and pay rolls, average hours worked per week, average hourly earnings, and average weekly earnings in manufacturing and nonmanufacturing industries in April 1936 are shown in table 1. Percentage changes from March 1936 and April 1935 are also given.

Table 1.—Employment, Pay Rolls, Hours, and Earnings in Manufacturing and Nonmanufacturing Industries, April 1936

Industry	Employment			Pay rolls			Average weekly earnings <sup>1</sup>			Average hours worked per week <sup>1</sup>			Average hourly earnings <sup>1</sup>		
	Index April 1936	Percentage change from—		Index April 1936	Percentage change from—		April 1936	Percentage change from—		April 1936	Percentage change from—		April 1936	Percentage change from—	
		March 1936	April 1935		March 1936	April 1935		March 1936	April 1935		March 1936	April 1935		March 1936	April 1935
<i>Manufacturing (indexes are based on 3-year average 1923-25=100)</i>															
All manufacturing industries.....	85.1	+1.2	+3.0	77.9	+2.1	+10.0	\$22.69	+0.9	+6.8	38.7	+0.5	+6.8	Cents 57.3	+0.1	-0.1
Durable goods.....	77.6	+2.5	+8.1	73.8	+5.9	+19.4	25.68	+3.3	+10.5	40.7	+2.6	+8.7	61.9	+2	+1.6
Nondurable goods.....	93.1	-1	-1.2	83.3	-1.9	+1.1	19.65	-1.8	+2.3	26.8	-1.8	+3.3	52.9	-2	-1.6
<i>Durable goods</i>															
<b>Iron and steel and their products, not including machinery.....</b>	<b>79.1</b>	<b>+2.6</b>	<b>+9.6</b>	<b>73.9</b>	<b>+5.7</b>	<b>+24.4</b>	<b>25.66</b>	<b>+3.0</b>	<b>+13.5</b>	<b>40.9</b>	<b>+2.6</b>	<b>+13.9</b>	<b>61.7</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>+2</b>
Blast furnaces, steel works, and rolling mills.....	79.7	+3.0	+8.1	79.2	+7.3	+27.0	27.47	+4.1	+17.6	41.4	+4.0	+18.1	66.3	+1	-3
Bolts, nuts, washers, and rivets.....	86.6	+4.3	+8.1	82.6	+13.2	+22.3	24.65	+8.5	+12.9	43.0	+8.9	+11.7	57.3	-1	+6
Cast-iron pipe.....	56.7	+2.8	+20.0	37.2	+6.5	+41.0	18.16	+3.7	+17.6	36.4	+2.5	+16.7	48.8	-(?)	-1.7
Cutlery (not including silver and plated cutlery) and edge tools.....	77.9	-1.6	-3.0	64.8	+2.1	+7.8	20.70	+3.8	+11.0	39.7	+2.8	+11.5	52.4	+1.4	+1
Forgings, iron and steel.....	66.9	+5	+6.6	55.2	+6	+5.8	26.15	+1	-9	41.8	-5	-2.0	62.5	+6	+1.6
Hardware.....	55.2	+3	+1.5	52.4	+3.8	+13.1	22.03	+3.4	+11.4	39.9	+2.0	+11.4	55.6	+1.5	-3
Plumbers' supplies.....	93.9	-8	+27.1	60.3	-5.7	+30.7	21.42	-4.9	+2.9	37.5	-4.0	+4	57.0	-1.0	+2.0
Steam and hot-water heating apparatus and steam fittings.....	60.1	+3.0	+19.7	43.8	+2.6	+29.6	23.29	-4	+8.0	39.8	+2	+7.4	58.5	-5	-1
Stoves.....	104.9	+4.8	+7.6	85.5	+1.3	+16.1	23.18	-3.3	+7.8	40.7	-1.2	+8.3	57.3	-2.3	-5
Structural and ornamental metalwork.....	64.5	+5.9	+16.6	54.7	+9.4	+37.5	23.52	+3.4	+18.2	40.6	+3.8	+17.8	57.9	-2	+3
Tin cans and other tinware.....	95.8	+2.0	+8.5	94.3	-2	+10.4	21.36	-2.1	+1.9	38.9	-7	+2.9	55.2	-1.6	-1.6
Tools (not including edge tools, machine tools, files, and saws).....	72.7	-1.0	+11.2	74.7	+4	+22.9	23.44	+1.4	+10.7	43.7	+8	+11.5	53.6	+7	-4
Wirework.....	144.4	+1.5	+12.0	146.7	+4.7	+20.8	23.59	+3.2	+7.6	42.8	+4.7	+9.2	55.2	-1.5	-6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1.—Employment, Pay Rolls, Hours, and Earnings in Manufacturing and Nonmanufacturing Industries, April 1936—Continued

Industry	Employment			Pay rolls			Average weekly earnings <sup>1</sup>			Average hours worked per week <sup>1</sup>			Average hourly earnings <sup>1</sup>		
	Index April 1936	Percentage change from—		Index April 1936	Percentage change from—		April 1936	Percentage change from—		April 1936	Percentage change from—		April 1936	Percentage change from—	
		March 1936	April 1935		March 1936	April 1935		March 1936	April 1935		March 1936	April 1935		March 1936	April 1935
<i>Manufacturing (indexes are based on 3-year average 1923-25=100)—Continued</i>															
<i>Durable goods—Continued</i>															
<b>Machinery, not including transportation equipment</b> .....	96.2	+2.8	+13.0	86.3	+5.0	+27.7	\$25.27	+2.2	+13.0	41.1	+2.3	+10.9	<i>Cents</i> 60.9	+(?)	+1.7
Agricultural implements.....	140.4	+1.3	+44.8	172.5	+9	+58.6	25.15	-.3	+9.7	40.9	-.1	+3.8	61.7	-0.4	+5.0
Cash registers, adding machines, and calculating machines.....	119.3	+1.7	+14.1	105.0	+3.9	+23.7	28.87	+2.2	+8.4	41.5	+1.4	+6.8	70.2	+9	+2.0
Electrical machinery, apparatus, and supplies.....	75.3	+4.2	+6.3	68.6	+7.7	+17.5	25.03	+3.4	+10.3	40.4	+3.5	+11.3	61.7	+1	+7
Engines, turbines, tractors, and water wheels.....	120.3	+3.5	+23.5	91.1	+2.7	+31.0	27.62	-.8	+6.1	40.1	-.6	+4.3	69.0	-2	+5.5
Foundry and machine-shop products.....	83.8	+2.7	+12.7	75.4	+5.3	+30.0	25.42	+2.5	+15.3	42.5	+2.6	+14.1	59.7	+1	+1.4
Machine tools.....	105.9	+1.3	+29.5	97.5	+1	+43.8	27.54	-1.3	+10.8	43.6	-1.2	+9.7	63.1	-2	+1.1
Radio and phonographs.....	188.6	+1.3	+3.4	118.0	-7.6	+10.3	19.36	+6.1	+6.9	35.5	+6.3	+8.7	54.6	-4	-1.9
Textile machinery and parts.....	70.8	-.4	+7.6	62.5	-3.3	+21	24.26	-2.9	+12.6	41.0	+3.0	+7.7	59.2	-1	+4
Typewriters and parts.....	105.7	+1.0	+13.0	95.4	+4.7	+22.4	23.09	+3.7	+8.5	40.4	+3.0	+7.7	57.2	+8	+5
<b>Transportation equipment</b> .....	104.3	+4.0	-.5	110.3	+14.8	+7.4	30.32	+10.4	+8.0	40.2	+10.0	+3.0	75.0	+1.3	+5.2
Aircraft.....	531.4	+6.1	+49.2	407.6	+5.4	+39.8	25.16	-.7	-6.3	40.5	+2	+1.5	64.0	-7	-4.5
Automobiles.....	114.1	+2.7	-4.9	121.7	+15.5	+3.9	31.31	+12.5	+9.3	40.9	+12.2	+3.1	76.7	+4	+6.6
Cars, electric- and steam-railroad.....	62.2	+9.5	+5.3	70.0	+12.9	+7.6	23.60	+3.1	+2.2	38.0	+2.3	+3.5	62.1	+7	-1.1
Locomotives.....	31.4	+13.7	-3.0	15.1	+17.8	-1.2	24.86	+3.5	+4.5	39.0	+3.6	+6.8	63.7	-1	-2.5
Shipbuilding.....	99.8	+10.1	+33.7	95.6	+12.4	+54.2	27.59	+2.1	+15.0	36.2	+9	+12.4	74.9	+5	+1.6
<b>Railroad repair shops</b> .....	59.9	-.3	+13.2	60.6	-4.0	+19.5	28.50	-3.6	+5.6	42.0	-3.0	+4.6	68.0	-2	+4
Electric railroad.....	66.0	+4	+6	62.5	-1.8	+3.4	28.33	-2.2	+2.8	44.7	-2.3	+2	61.7	-1	+9
Steam railroad.....	59.4	-5	+14.3	60.6	-4.0	+21.1	28.53	-3.5	+6.1	41.7	-3.1	+5.6	68.5	-2	+3
<b>Nonferrous metals and their products</b> .....	88.7	-.2	+6.4	74.0	+1	+14.4	22.24	+4	+7.5	39.8	-.2	+7.0	55.5	+5	+1.6
Aluminum manufactures.....	84.3	-1.0	+7.2	78.7	-1.5	+13.7	22.59	-.5	+5.9	40.2	-9	+1.3	56.0	+4	+4.1
Brass, bronze, and copper products.....	86.8	-.1	+6.1	70.8	+1.4	+10.6	23.57	+1.5	+4.3	40.2	+1.0	+3.5	58.5	+6	+4
Clocks and watches and time-recording devices.....	91.2	-1.7	+14.2	78.7	-3.2	+21.2	19.52	-1.5	+6.1	39.2	-2.8	+3.0	49.8	+1.3	+2.9
Jewelry.....	68.3	-2.4	-1.6	51.7	-2.1	+5	20.49	+2	+2.2	36.0	+1.1	+3.7	55.9	-7	+1.3
Lighting equipment.....	78.0	-1.5	+11.2	74.7	+3.0	+26.8	22.75	+4.5	+14.0	40.1	+3.9	+14.4	56.8	+7	-6
Silverware and plated ware.....	65.5	-1.6	-8.7	48.7	-6.6	-4.7	21.22	-5.1	+4.1	36.5	-6.5	+4.2	57.8	+1.3	+1
Smelting and refining—copper, lead, and zinc.....	88.5	-1.0	+14.8	63.5	-3.3	+27.5	23.00	-2.3	+11.4	40.8	-2.9	+7.5	56.7	+6	+4.1
Stamped and enameled ware.....	112.8	+3.3	+3.3	101.1	+4.9	+14.9	21.36	+1.5	+11.2	41.2	+1.0	+9.8	51.7	+4	+1.3



<b>Lumber and allied products</b> .....	<b>55.6</b>	<b>+2.0</b>	<b>+7.5</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>+3.8</b>	<b>+23.5</b>	<b>18.91</b>	<b>+1.8</b>	<b>+14.9</b>	<b>40.8</b>	<b>-(?)</b>	<b>+11.1</b>	<b>45.9</b>	<b>+1.4</b>	<b>+2.1</b>
Furniture.....	72.1	- .5	+5.0	56.2	+ .8	+14.2	18.34	+1.3	+8.5	40.1	+ .5	+8.7	45.9	+1.0	+ .7
Lumber:															
Millwork.....	48.5	+3.2	+22.1	41.2	+5.2	+48.6	19.79	+1.9	+21.7	42.6	+1.5	+20.8	46.4	-(?)	+ .9
Sawmills.....	37.5	+3.8	+7.8	29.7	+6.1	+25.5	19.21	+2.3	+16.8	41.2	+(?)	+13.5	47.2	+2.4	+4.5
Turpentine and rosin.....	99.0	+1.9	- .2	57.0	-3.8	-1.6	12.11	-5.5	-1.4						
<b>Stone, clay, and glass products</b> .....	<b>57.7</b>	<b>+6.7</b>	<b>+8.5</b>	<b>46.9</b>	<b>+7.8</b>	<b>+19.3</b>	<b>21.19</b>	<b>+1.1</b>	<b>+10.0</b>	<b>38.5</b>	<b>+1.5</b>	<b>+11.4</b>	<b>55.7</b>	<b>- .2</b>	<b>+ .6</b>
Brick, tile, and terra cotta.....	36.7	+13.1	+33.0	25.8	+15.1	+58.5	18.29	+1.8	+19.1	41.4	+2.9	+22.7	44.4	-1.0	-2.3
Cement.....	52.3	+17.9	+4.6	38.3	+20.5	+19.9	21.59	+2.2	+14.4	37.7	+3.3	+14.1	57.2	-1.0	+ .7
Glass.....	97.1	+2.3	+3.1	92.1	+3.4	+11.4	22.18	+1.1	+8.2	36.8	+ .7	+3.7	60.4	+ .3	+3.8
Marble, granite, slate, and other products.....	29.5	+11.7	+11.1	23.3	+22.6	+27.8	25.05	+9.8	+14.8	38.5	+5.9	+19.5	65.1	+3.4	-3.2
Pottery.....	71.6	+ .5	-2.5	56.9	-1.2	+6.7	21.23	-1.7	+9.2	39.7	-1.6	+9.5	54.9	- .1	+2.7
<i>Nondurable goods</i>															
<b>Textiles and their products</b> .....	<b>96.1</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>80.0</b>	<b>-5.1</b>	<b>-2.9</b>	<b>16.16</b>	<b>-4.0</b>	<b>-1.9</b>	<b>35.3</b>	<b>-1.9</b>	<b>+5.0</b>	<b>45.7</b>	<b>-1.6</b>	<b>-5.2</b>
Fabrics:															
Carpets and rugs.....	79.6	-1.6	+ .6	69.2	-1.6	-6.7	19.27	+ .1	-7.3	34.3	+ .4	-4.4	56.3	- .1	+1.2
Cotton goods.....	90.4	-1.3	-1.6	77.1	- .9	+4.1	13.46	+ .3	+6.1	36.8	+ .8	+10.7	36.7	- .3	-3.6
Cotton small wares.....	86.9	+2.5	-4.1	78.4	+4.5	- .4	17.25	+2.0	+3.9	38.9	+2.0	+4.6	44.6	+ .3	- .8
Dyeing and finishing textiles.....	111.5	- .3	-2.7	96.0	+ .3	+ .3	20.12	+ .6	+2.7	38.6	+1.2	+3.9	52.3	- .7	- .3
Hats, fur-felt.....	83.5	- .7	-1.6	71.3	-16.1	+ .2	20.19	-15.6	+1.9	28.0	-21.6	+3.7	67.3	- .4	-3.4
Knit goods.....	114.9	-(?)	+ .5	110.5	-1.8	+ .2	16.63	-1.8	- .3	35.8	-2.2	+3.8	47.6	+ .4	-2.3
Silk and rayon goods.....	64.8	-(?)	-8.8	53.5	- (?)	-10.2	15.12	-1.1	-1.4	35.5	+ .6	+6.2	42.8	- .5	-6.6
Woolen and worsted goods.....	87.8	-5.6	+ .9	67.3	-5.9	+1.2	17.58	- .3	+ .2	35.3	- .5	- .2	49.9	+ .3	+ .7
Wearing apparel:															
Clothing, men's.....	93.1	-3.2	-1.7	67.8	-16.0	-17.8	17.37	-13.2	-16.4	30.5	-10.1	-7.7	55.8	-2.4	-10.5
Clothing, women's.....	136.3	+1.9	+1.1	101.1	-7.0	-2.7	19.08	-8.7	-3.5	34.4	-2.4	+8.2	49.7	-7.5	-12.4
Corsets and allied garments.....	87.1	+1.3	-7.1	87.0	-1.8	-4.7	15.91	-3.1	+2.5	35.3	-4.2	+3.8	43.4	- .5	+ .7
Men's furnishings.....	111.8	+2.4	+ .4	71.0	-5.3	-7.4	12.73	-7.5	-7.9	35.7	- .5	+10.9	34.0	-2.5	-17.7
Millinery.....	67.4	-4.9	-3.3	63.0	-17.3	-9.9	22.63	-13.0	-7.0						
Shirts and collars.....	108.4	+2.7	+3.9	105.9	+1.2	+1.4	12.93	-1.5	-2.5	35.5	- .3	+12.9	37.0	- .8	-13.9
<b>Leather and its manufactures</b> .....	<b>86.4</b>	<b>-2.9</b>	<b>-5.6</b>	<b>69.9</b>	<b>-7.4</b>	<b>-11.6</b>	<b>17.43</b>	<b>-4.6</b>	<b>-6.4</b>	<b>33.4</b>	<b>-5.5</b>	<b>-5.7</b>	<b>51.6</b>	<b>+ .3</b>	<b>-1.3</b>
Boots and shoes.....	84.3	-3.5	-7.2	62.4	-10.5	-16.9	16.25	-7.2	-10.6	32.0	-7.7	-7.8	50.2	0	-2.8
Leather.....	94.9	- .8	+ .4	94.5	+ .8	+3.5	21.38	+1.6	+3.0	38.2	+1.1	+1.0	56.2	+ .8	+2.2
<b>Food and kindred products</b> .....	<b>94.1</b>	<b>+2.3</b>	<b>-1.4</b>	<b>87.7</b>	<b>+2</b>	<b>+2.1</b>	<b>21.54</b>	<b>-2.0</b>	<b>+3.6</b>	<b>39.8</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>+2.1</b>	<b>54.2</b>	<b>- .6</b>	<b>+ .6</b>
Baking.....	113.5	+ .5	+1.5	100.4	- .5	+5.1	22.36	-1.1	+3.6	41.4	- .9	+3.8	54.0	-1.1	-1.1
Beverages.....	163.9	+3.4	+5.1	168.0	+3.4	+9.3	30.74	+1.1	+4.0	39.6	+1.1	+2.9	78.2	- .1	+1.6
Butter.....	71.0	+4.4	+ .8	56.5	+1.4	+3.3	20.48	-2.9	+2.6						
Canning and preserving.....	68.2	+20.3	-10.9	78.8	+11.2	-5.9	13.95	-7.6	+5.6	33.1	-7.4	+3.1	41.5	-1.3	+1.1
Confectionery.....	70.6	-4.5	-9.1	60.5	-9.3	-6.6	15.62	-5.0	+2.9	36.4	-5.6	+4.5	43.3	+ .6	- .5
Flour.....	72.4	-1.8	-2.5	63.8	-5.8	+2.0	22.49	-4.0	+4.7	41.5	-3.6	+8.1	53.5	- .5	-3.2
Ice cream.....	68.8	+11.3	- .4	57.6	+8.3	+3.8	26.11	-2.7	+4.1	46.2	-1.3	+4.1	55.9	+ .1	+ .5
Slaughtering and meat packing.....	80.7	+ .3	- .9	73.6	- .6	- .9	22.71	- .9	-(?)	38.9	-1.2	- .6	56.2	+ .1	+ .5
Sugar, beet.....	36.0	+14.3	-8.9	36.5	+1.6	-6.3	24.03	-11.1	+2.7	40.0	-1.2	- .6	63.0	-7.5	+2.5
Sugar refining, cane.....	81.8	+2.7	-2.4	73.9	-2.5	-3.0	23.17	-5.0	- .5	40.0	-1.3	-1.6	58.2	-3.0	+ .6
<b>Tobacco manufactures</b> .....	<b>55.4</b>	<b>- .9</b>	<b>-2.5</b>	<b>42.6</b>	<b>-5.1</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>13.72</b>	<b>-4.2</b>	<b>+1.3</b>	<b>32.8</b>	<b>-5.3</b>	<b>- .5</b>	<b>41.7</b>	<b>+ .8</b>	<b>+ .6</b>
Chewing and smoking tobacco and snuff.....	65.2	-1.2	-5.1	64.4	-2.7	- .8	15.19	-1.5	+4.4	34.6	-3.3	+2.4	44.1	+2.1	+2.3
Cigars and cigarettes.....	54.1	- .9	-2.1	39.8	-5.8	-1.3	13.41	-5.0	+ .7	32.6	-5.6	-1.0	41.3	+ .6	+ .9

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1.—Employment, Pay Rolls, Hours, and Earnings in Manufacturing and Nonmanufacturing Industries, April 1936—Continued

Industry	Employment			Pay rolls			Average weekly earnings <sup>1</sup>			Average hours worked per week <sup>1</sup>			Average hourly earnings <sup>1</sup>		
	Index April 1936	Percentage change from—		Index April 1936	Percentage change from—		April 1936	Percentage change from—		April 1936	Percentage change from—		April 1936	Percentage change from—	
		March 1936	April 1935		March 1936	April 1935		March 1936	April 1935		March 1936	April 1935		March 1936	April 1935
<i>Manufacturing (indexes are based on 3-year average 1923-25=100)—Continued</i>															
<i>Nondurable goods—Continued</i>															
<b>Paper and printing</b> .....	<b>98.6</b>	<b>+0.4</b>	<b>+1.8</b>	<b>91.1</b>	<b>+0.7</b>	<b>+7.7</b>	<b>\$26.00</b>	<b>+0.2</b>	<b>+5.8</b>	<b>39.1</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>+4.7</b>	<i>Cents</i> <b>69.4</b>	<b>+0.3</b>	<b>+1.0</b>
Boxes, paper.....	84.3	-5	-1.7	78.8	-1.1	+1.0	18.96	-6	+2.6	39.4	+1	+5.9	48.4	-8	-2.8
Paper and pulp.....	110.3	+6	+4	96.2	+1.4	+10.2	22.08	+8	+9.4	41.6	+5	+9.6	53.2	+2	+5
Printing and publishing:															
Book and job.....	89.1	+1	+2.3	81.8	-1	+6.1	28.56	-1	+3.5	38.3	-6	+3.4	75.0	+2	-2
Newspapers and periodicals.....	103.5	+9	+4.1	98.5	+1.1	+8.8	34.56	+2	+4.1	37.1	-2	+1	89.9	+7	+1.6
<b>Chemicals and allied products, and petroleum refining</b> .....	<b>110.7</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>-7</b>	<b>101.3</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>+5.6</b>	<b>23.95</b>	<b>+2</b>	<b>+6.4</b>	<b>39.1</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>+5.5</b>	<b>61.6</b>	<b>+1.3</b>	<b>+3.1</b>
Other than petroleum refining.....	111.0	-1.9	-1.2	101.2	-1.0	+5.9	21.95	+1.0	+7.2	40.4	+(2)	+6.1	54.7	+1.7	+2.9
Chemicals.....	109.0	+8	+2.0	104.9	+1.9	+9.1	26.31	+1.0	+6.9	40.9	+3	+3.8	64.3	+8	+3.0
Cottonseed—oil, cake, and meal.....	47.0	-30.9	-12.3	45.5	-34.3	-7.9	9.45	-4.9	+5.0	44.0	-3.1	+10.5	21.6	-1.0	-4.9
Druggists' preparations.....	98.4	-7	-5	98.0	-2.0	+2	21.44	-1.4	+6	39.7	-1.2	-5	54.9	-4	+4
Explosives.....	85.3	-4.6	+9	77.7	-9.8	+12.0	25.51	-5.4	+11.2	37.4	-3.1	+7.1	68.1	+2.9	+2.4
Fertilizers.....	138.0	-2.4	-11.1	123.9	+2	+3.4	13.42	+2.7	+16.1	41.0	+1.3	+21.6	32.8	+1.5	-5.1
Paints and varnishes.....	111.9	+3.6	+2.5	100.7	+5.0	+9.5	25.01	+1.4	+6.9	42.3	+2.0	+4.6	59.1	-6	+2.8
Rayon and allied products.....	331.1	-6.0	-1.2	254.9	-4.6	+5.0	20.48	+1.4	+6.4	39.1	+7	+5.0	52.4	+7	+1.3
Soap.....	96.8	+4	-5.8	93.6	-1.4	-3.4	23.50	-1.8	+2.6	38.1	-2.9	-3	61.8	+1.0	+2.6
Petroleum refining.....	109.4	+1.7	+1.0	101.7	-1.3	+4.9	28.69	-2.9	+4.0	35.5	-2.2	+2.3	81.4	+7	+2.9
<b>Rubber products</b> .....	<b>82.1</b>	<b>+12.9</b>	<b>-1.8</b>	<b>74.0</b>	<b>+17.5</b>	<b>+3.9</b>	<b>25.95</b>	<b>+3.9</b>	<b>+5.8</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>+7.4</b>	<b>67.6</b>	<b>+4.0</b>	<b>-3.1</b>
Rubber boots and shoes.....	59.8	+1.6	+13.1	52.0	-5	+18.8	19.26	-2.0	+5.1	37.2	-2.1	+6.3	51.8	+1	-1.4
Rubber goods, other than boots, shoes, tires, and inner tubes.....	131.0	+2.7	+3.4	119.7	+5.0	+12.2	21.00	+2.3	+8.7	39.9	+1.3	+7.4	52.7	-(2)	+5
Rubber tires and inner tubes.....	68.1	+28.2	-9.0	63.2	+33.4	-3.3	30.29	+4.1	+6.1	35.8	+1.0	+8.2	85.1	+2.7	-1.9

Nonmanufacturing (indexes are based on 12-month average 1929=100)

Coal mining:																
Anthracite.....	49.8	-5.3	-5.3	28.6	-32.8	-42.6	16.72	-29.1	-39.4	20.7	-25.4	-39.7	81.9	-1.5	-0.7	
Bituminous.....	77.5	-3.7	+4.3	62.6	-10.8	+39.0	20.65	-7.4	+33.2	25.8	-8.3	+25.7	80.1	+8	+7.1	
Metalliferous mining.....	57.5	+2.9	+25.1	45.5	+7	+42.7	24.25	-2.2	+14.3	41.3	-2.9	+14.3	58.1	+6	+1.3	
Quarrying and nonmetallic mining.....	48.4	+14.6	+6.9	36.1	+16.8	+25.1	18.36	+1.9	+16.9	39.3	+6	+16.6	46.6	+1.3	-4.1	
Crude-petroleum producing.....	71.2	+6	-4.9	56.9	+1.9	+4	29.32	+1.2	+5.7	38.3	+2.0	+4.1	77.0	-9	-9	
Public utilities:																
Telephone and telegraph.....	70.8	+9	+1.6	76.0	-1.6	+4.0	28.80	-2.4	+2.3	38.6	-2	-3	77.1	-2.1	+3.2	
Electric light and power and manufactured gas <sup>3</sup> .....	88.0	+1.4	+6.5	86.2	+4	+9.1	81.51	-1.0	+2.4	40.5	+9	+2.6	77.6	-1.5	+2	
Electric-railroad and motor-bus operation and maintenance.....	71.3	+1	-2	65.9	-2.8	+4.1	29.88	-2.9	+4.3	46.5	-1.4	+3.3	63.1	-1.3	+1.6	
Trade:																
Wholesale.....	85.7	+1	+3.0	67.9	-1.5	+4.8	28.04	-1.7	+1.7	42.5	-6	+2.5	65.7	-9	-1.5	
Retail.....	85.2	+4.1	+2.0	65.3	+2.8	+4.5	20.42	-1.2	+2.4	43.1	-9	+3.4	51.9	-2	-9	
General merchandising.....	97.4	+7.2	+3.1	81.0	+4.8	+4.5	17.21	-2.2	+1.3	40.1	-8	+6.3	45.9	-6	-3.6	
Other than general merchandising.....	82.0	+3.1	+1.6	62.1	+2.4	+4.6	23.22	-7	+2.9	44.1	-8	+2.7	53.8	+1	-5	
Hotels (year-round) <sup>4</sup> .....	83.2	+5	+2.6	66.3	+4	+4.2	14.01	-1	+1.7	48.5	-1	+2.0	28.6	+5	-1	
Laundries.....	83.2	+1.4	+4.0	70.9	+1.4	+8.3	15.85	-1	+4.0	42.1	-2	+4.5	37.3	+3	-	
Dyeing and cleaning.....	81.8	+9.5	+2.4	64.1	+13.7	+3.6	19.19	+3.8	+1.2	43.1	+9	-2.9	44.4	+3	-8	
Brokerage.....	( <sup>5</sup> )	+4	+29.7	( <sup>5</sup> )	+1.8	+39.6	37.30	+1.4	+7.6	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	
Insurance.....	( <sup>5</sup> )	+2	+8	( <sup>5</sup> )	+1.0	+3.7	37.83	+8	+2.9	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	( <sup>5</sup> )	
Building construction.....	( <sup>5</sup> )	+15.5	+19.2	( <sup>5</sup> )	+20.3	+33.8	25.57	+4.2	+12.2	31.7	+3.2	+14.6	80.1	+9	-1.2	

<sup>1</sup> Average weekly earnings are computed from figures furnished by all reporting establishments. Average hours and average hourly earnings are computed from data supplied by a smaller number of establishments as all reporting firms do not furnish man-hours. Percentage changes over year are computed from indexes. Percentage changes over month in average weekly earnings for the manufacturing groups, for all manufacturing industries combined, and for retail trade are also computed from indexes.

<sup>2</sup> Less than  $\frac{1}{10}$  of 1 percent.

<sup>3</sup> March data for electric light and power and manufactured gas revised as follows: Employment index 86.8; pay-roll index 85.9, percentage change from February 1936+1.3, from March 1935+8.1; average weekly earnings \$31.86, percentage change from February 1936+0.5, from March 1935+2.5; average hours worked per week 40.2, percentage change from February 1936+1.1, from March 1935+0.8; average hourly earnings 78.9 cents.

<sup>4</sup> Cash payments only; the additional value of board, room, and tips cannot be computed.

<sup>5</sup> Not available.

## Indexes of Employment and Pay Rolls, January 1935 to April 1936

Indexes of employment and pay rolls for all manufacturing industries combined, for the durable- and nondurable-goods groups of manufacturing industries separately, and for 13 nonmanufacturing industries including two subgroups under retail trade by months, January 1935 to April 1936, inclusive, are given in table 2. The accompanying diagram indicates the trend of factory employment and pay rolls from January 1919 to April 1936.

The indexes of factory employment and pay rolls are computed from returns supplied by representative establishments in 90 manufacturing industries. The base used in computing these indexes is the 3-year average 1923-25 taken as 100. In April 1936 reports were received from 24,239 establishments employing 4,134,273 workers, whose weekly earnings were \$93,786,969. The employment reports received from these establishments cover more than 55 percent of the total wage earners in all manufacturing industries of the country and more than 65 percent of the wage earners in the 90 industries included in the Bureau of Labor Statistics' monthly survey.

The indexes for nonmanufacturing industries are also computed from data supplied by reporting establishments, but the base is the 12-month average for 1929 as 100.

Table 2.—Indexes of Employment and Pay Rolls in Manufacturing and in Non-manufacturing Industries, January 1935 to April 1936<sup>1</sup>

[3-year average 1923-25=100 for manufacturing; 12-month average 1929=100 for nonmanufacturing industries]

Month	Manufacturing											
	Total				Durable goods				Nondurable goods			
	Employment		Pay rolls		Employment		Pay rolls		Employment	Pay rolls		
	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936		
January.....	78.8	83.0	64.3	72.2	66.2	74.4	52.5	65.1	92.4	92.1	79.3	82.4
February.....	81.4	83.2	69.1	72.2	69.4	74.4	58.6	64.7	94.2	92.6	82.6	82.8
March.....	82.5	84.1	70.8	76.3	71.0	75.7	60.5	69.7	95.0	93.2	83.9	84.9
April.....	82.6	85.1	70.8	77.9	71.8	77.6	61.8	73.8	94.2	93.1	82.4	83.3
May.....	81.2	-----	68.5	-----	71.4	-----	60.1	-----	91.8	-----	79.2	-----
June.....	79.7	-----	66.4	-----	69.7	-----	57.6	-----	90.6	-----	77.6	-----
July.....	79.7	-----	65.4	-----	69.4	-----	55.6	-----	90.8	-----	77.9	-----
August.....	82.0	-----	69.7	-----	70.5	-----	58.9	-----	94.3	-----	83.4	-----
September.....	83.7	-----	72.2	-----	71.2	-----	60.6	-----	97.1	-----	87.1	-----
October.....	85.3	-----	75.0	-----	74.9	-----	66.3	-----	96.4	-----	86.2	-----
November.....	85.0	-----	74.5	-----	76.1	-----	68.1	-----	94.6	-----	82.7	-----
December.....	84.6	-----	76.6	-----	75.7	-----	69.7	-----	94.2	-----	85.0	-----
Average.....	82.2	-----	70.3	-----	71.4	-----	60.9	-----	93.8	-----	82.3	-----

<sup>1</sup> Comparable indexes for earlier years for all of these industries, except year-round hotels, will be found in the February 1935 and subsequent issues of the Monthly Labor Review. Comparable indexes for year-round hotels will be found in the September 1935 issue of the Monthly Labor Review.

<sup>2</sup> Revised.

Table 2.—Indexes of Employment and Pay Rolls in Manufacturing and in Non-manufacturing Industries, January 1935 to April 1936—Continued

Month	Anthracite mining				Bituminous-coal mining				Metalliferous mining				Quarrying and non-metallic mining			
	Employment		Pay rolls		Employment		Pay rolls		Employment		Pay rolls		Employment		Pay rolls	
	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936
January.....	62.9	59.1	57.5	54.4	80.0	79.8	59.6	70.6	44.3	54.2	30.1	41.7	36.9	39.4	20.8	25.5
February.....	64.4	61.2	64.3	76.7	81.1	80.2	66.1	78.4	44.3	55.5	29.9	42.8	37.3	36.9	22.2	23.9
March.....	51.4	52.5	38.9	42.6	81.6	80.4	67.5	70.2	45.0	55.9	30.9	45.1	40.5	42.2	24.9	30.9
April.....	52.6	49.8	49.9	28.6	74.3	77.5	45.0	62.6	46.0	57.5	31.8	45.5	45.3	48.4	28.9	36.1
May.....	53.5	.....	49.5	.....	75.3	.....	49.1	.....	44.4	.....	31.4	.....	49.5	.....	32.8	.....
June.....	56.8	.....	66.0	.....	77.9	.....	64.7	.....	46.0	.....	31.5	.....	50.4	.....	33.8	.....
July.....	49.4	.....	37.5	.....	70.0	.....	35.9	.....	45.2	.....	31.1	.....	50.9	.....	34.4	.....
August.....	38.7	.....	28.3	.....	73.4	.....	45.8	.....	46.3	.....	33.4	.....	51.0	.....	36.3	.....
September.....	46.0	.....	38.2	.....	77.1	.....	60.1	.....	48.9	.....	35.4	.....	50.0	.....	35.4	.....
October.....	58.8	.....	55.9	.....	74.3	.....	69.8	.....	51.6	.....	38.7	.....	50.0	.....	36.5	.....
November.....	46.6	.....	28.4	.....	76.1	.....	65.5	.....	52.6	.....	39.6	.....	46.7	.....	32.1	.....
December.....	57.3	.....	55.4	.....	79.1	.....	69.5	.....	53.5	.....	43.2	.....	43.1	.....	29.7	.....
Average.....	53.2	.....	47.5	.....	76.7	.....	58.2	.....	47.3	.....	33.9	.....	46.0	.....	30.7	.....

Month	Crude-petroleum producing				Telephone and telegraph				Electric light and power, and manufactured gas				Electric-railroad and motorbus operation and maintenance <sup>3</sup>			
	Employment		Pay rolls		Employment		Pay rolls		Employment		Pay rolls		Employment		Pay rolls	
	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936
January.....	74.9	71.1	55.5	55.7	70.5	70.1	73.9	75.0	82.7	86.1	78.0	84.8	71.2	70.7	62.9	65.0
February.....	74.2	70.8	54.9	55.7	70.0	69.9	72.9	76.2	82.2	86.1	78.3	84.7	71.0	71.7	63.1	68.3
March.....	74.0	70.7	56.0	55.9	69.8	70.2	75.3	77.2	82.3	<sup>2</sup> 86.8	79.4	<sup>2</sup> 85.9	71.3	71.2	63.4	67.8
April.....	74.9	71.2	56.7	56.9	69.7	70.8	73.1	76.0	82.6	88.0	79.0	86.2	71.4	71.3	63.3	65.9
May.....	76.0	.....	57.8	.....	70.0	.....	73.7	.....	83.3	.....	79.8	.....	71.6	.....	63.6	.....
June.....	76.7	.....	59.2	.....	70.2	.....	74.4	.....	83.9	.....	79.8	.....	71.7	.....	63.9	.....
July.....	77.4	.....	59.9	.....	70.3	.....	75.7	.....	84.8	.....	81.5	.....	71.5	.....	63.4	.....
August.....	76.3	.....	58.9	.....	70.5	.....	75.5	.....	86.8	.....	82.8	.....	71.2	.....	63.3	.....
September.....	75.1	.....	60.9	.....	70.4	.....	73.8	.....	86.9	.....	84.5	.....	71.0	.....	64.0	.....
October.....	74.7	.....	57.9	.....	70.0	.....	74.9	.....	87.4	.....	84.4	.....	71.1	.....	64.1	.....
November.....	73.0	.....	57.2	.....	69.8	.....	74.9	.....	87.6	.....	83.4	.....	71.1	.....	63.8	.....
December.....	71.9	.....	59.9	.....	69.6	.....	75.6	.....	86.8	.....	86.0	.....	70.5	.....	66.1	.....
Average.....	74.9	.....	57.9	.....	70.1	.....	74.5	.....	84.8	.....	81.4	.....	71.2	.....	63.7	.....

<sup>2</sup> Revised.<sup>3</sup> Not including electric-railroad car building and repairing; see transportation equipment and railroad repair-shop groups, manufacturing industries, table 3.

Table 2.—Indexes of Employment and Pay Rolls in Manufacturing and in Non-manufacturing Industries, January 1935 to April 1936—Continued

Month	Wholesale trade				Total retail trade				Retail trade—general merchandising				Retail trade—other than general merchandising			
	Employment		Pay rolls		Employment		Pay rolls		Employment		Pay rolls		Employment		Pay rolls	
	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936
January	84.2	85.6	63.9	66.6	79.5	80.4	59.7	62.1	87.3	88.2	73.5	76.4	77.4	78.4	56.9	59.1
February	84.6	85.0	64.6	66.6	79.2	79.7	59.3	61.6	86.2	85.1	72.3	73.9	77.3	78.3	56.6	59.1
March	84.0	85.6	65.2	69.0	80.2	81.9	60.4	63.5	88.6	90.9	74.1	77.3	78.0	79.5	57.6	60.7
April	83.2	85.7	64.8	67.9	83.5	85.2	62.5	65.3	94.4	97.4	77.5	81.0	80.7	82.0	59.4	62.1
May	82.5		64.6		82.2		62.0		91.3		76.3		79.8		59.0	
June	82.1		64.6		82.2		62.5		91.2		76.7		79.8		59.5	
July	82.1		64.6		79.3		60.5		85.5		72.0		77.7		58.1	
August	82.7		64.8		78.0		59.3		83.1		69.5		76.7		57.2	
September	83.7		67.2		81.8		62.5		92.2		77.2		79.1		59.4	
October	85.7		66.8		83.8		63.2		97.1		79.8		80.3		59.8	
November	86.4		66.9		84.6		63.4		101.6		82.0		80.1		59.6	
December	86.8		68.6		92.9		69.3		131.7		104.5		82.7		62.0	
Average	84.0		65.6		82.3		62.1		94.2		78.0		79.1		58.8	

Month	Year-round hotels				Laundries				Dyeing and cleaning			
	Employment		Pay rolls		Employment		Pay rolls		Employment		Pay rolls	
	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936	1935	1936
January	80.3	81.9	62.2	64.9	79.6	81.5	63.9	68.3	70.3	71.5	50.4	51.6
February	81.1	82.8	63.5	66.5	79.6	81.2	64.1	67.8	69.6	70.3	49.8	49.6
March	80.8	82.8	63.9	66.0	79.7	82.1	64.6	69.9	72.5	74.7	53.5	56.1
April	81.1	83.2	63.6	66.3	80.0	83.2	65.5	70.9	79.9	81.8	61.9	64.4
May	81.6		63.7		81.1		66.6		80.9		61.7	
June	81.3		63.5		82.3		68.2		83.6		65.7	
July	80.3		62.1		84.4		70.9		81.7		61.5	
August	80.7		62.0		84.2		69.2		79.4		58.2	
September	81.1		63.1		83.0		67.9		82.1		63.1	
October	81.6		64.3		81.9		67.1		80.4		61.1	
November	81.5		64.8		81.3		66.7		76.3		55.4	
December	80.8		64.2		81.1		67.5		73.4		52.9	
Average	81.0		63.4		81.5		66.9		77.5		57.9	

## Trend of Private Employment, by States

A COMPARISON of employment and pay rolls, by States and geographic divisions, March and April 1936 for all groups combined, except building construction and class I railroads, and for all manufacturing industries combined, based on data supplied by reporting establishments is shown in table 3. The percentage changes shown, unless otherwise noted, are unweighted—that is, the industries included in the manufacturing group and in the grand total have not been weighted according to their relative importance.

# EMPLOYMENT & PAY ROLLS

*All Manufacturing Industries*  
1923-25=100



UNITED STATES BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Table 3.—Comparison of Employment and Pay Rolls in Identical Establishments in March and April 1936, by Geographic Divisions and by States

Figures in italics are not compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, but are taken from reports issued by cooperating State organizations]

Geographic division and State	Total—All groups					Manufacturing				
	Number of establishments	Number on pay roll April 1936	Percentage change from March 1936	Amount of pay roll (1 week) April 1936	Percentage change from March 1936	Number of establishments	Number on pay roll April 1936	Percentage change from March 1936	Amount of pay roll (1 week) April 1936	Percentage change from March 1936
<b>New England</b> .....	<b>13,659</b>	<b>812,084</b>	<b>+0.5</b>	<b>17,653,771</b>	<b>+1.6</b>	<b>3,291</b>	<b>544,360</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>11,075,463</b>	<b>+0.3</b>
Maine.....	775	51,790	+2.0	1,007,272	+4.2	264	41,879	+1.5	772,128	+3.9
New Hampshire.....	626	33,855	+4	670,293	+2.9	196	27,210	-7	514,388	+2.0
Vermont.....	451	15,818	+7	337,120	+5.1	128	9,854	-1.7	204,162	+4.1
Massachusetts.....	<i>18,574</i>	<i>453,613</i>	<i>+1.6</i>	<i>10,153,753</i>	<i>+2.4</i>	<i>1,656</i>	<i>258,733</i>	<i>-4</i>	<i>5,377,152</i>	<i>+1.1</i>
Rhode Island.....	1,188	84,884	-1.4	1,727,141	-6	394	65,567	-2.4	1,249,903	-1.7
Connecticut.....	2,045	172,124	-1.7	3,758,192	-6	673	141,117	-1.9	2,957,730	-1.5
<b>Middle Atlantic</b> .....	<b>33,113</b>	<b>1,879,847</b>	<b>+1.0</b>	<b>45,318,077</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>4,882</b>	<b>1,098,440</b>	<b>+1.0</b>	<b>25,761,538</b>	<b>+2.3</b>
New York.....	21,556	854,697	+1.2	21,806,111	-3	<i>1,908</i>	<i>407,281</i>	+2	<i>10,111,376</i>	-1.3
New Jersey.....	3,288	260,204	+7	6,325,267	+3	<i>374</i>	<i>226,301</i>	+8	<i>5,288,075</i>	+1.5
Pennsylvania.....	8,269	764,946	+9	17,186,699	-1.3	<i>2,231</i>	<i>464,858</i>	+1.8	<i>10,362,087</i>	+6.6
<b>East North Central</b> .....	<b>19,645</b>	<b>1,971,796</b>	<b>+2.8</b>	<b>49,991,159</b>	<b>+5.3</b>	<b>7,066</b>	<b>1,509,080</b>	<b>+2.8</b>	<b>39,088,225</b>	<b>+6.7</b>
Ohio.....	8,076	565,090	+5.2	14,051,608	+6.4	<i>2,264</i>	<i>406,273</i>	+5.8	<i>10,388,047</i>	+8.2
Indiana.....	<i>2,231</i>	<i>209,959</i>	+1.8	<i>5,026,840</i>	+2.6	<i>912</i>	<i>172,906</i>	+1.6	<i>4,184,686</i>	+3.0
Illinois.....	<i>4,686</i>	<i>532,006</i>	+1.9	<i>12,711,381</i>	+7	<i>2,803</i>	<i>345,318</i>	+1.5	<i>8,181,367</i>	+9
Michigan.....	3,656	492,093	+2.4	14,203,110	+11.3	<i>346</i>	<i>444,772</i>	+2.3	<i>13,066,939</i>	+12.4
Wisconsin.....	<i>4,996</i>	<i>172,648</i>	+1	<i>3,998,220</i>	+6	<i>741</i>	<i>139,811</i>	+7	<i>3,267,186</i>	+3
<b>West North Central</b> .....	<b>11,543</b>	<b>393,845</b>	<b>+1.9</b>	<b>8,829,079</b>	<b>+7</b>	<b>2,111</b>	<b>185,567</b>	<b>+1.6</b>	<b>4,087,825</b>	<b>+1.6</b>
Minnesota.....	2,147	81,129	+3.4	1,886,928	+1.6	374	35,046	+2.9	802,609	+1.5
Iowa.....	1,754	54,722	+2.5	1,200,835	+6	380	28,321	+3.7	629,505	+3.0
Missouri.....	3,158	158,973	+9	3,521,123	-4	739	81,370	+4	1,700,605	+3
North Dakota.....	516	4,716	+2.7	104,692	-2.8	43	664	+3.4	16,859	-8
South Dakota.....	511	5,395	+2.4	115,339	-5	37	1,709	+1.1	35,313	-6
Nebraska.....	1,640	32,359	-2	726,688	-5	156	10,814	-1.0	253,575	-2
Kansas.....	<i>1,817</i>	<i>56,551</i>	+3.4	<i>1,278,474</i>	+4.8	<i>382</i>	<i>27,643</i>	+2.4	<i>649,359</i>	+4.7
<b>South Atlantic</b> .....	<b>11,036</b>	<b>760,341</b>	<b>-3</b>	<b>13,836,109</b>	<b>-2.3</b>	<b>2,640</b>	<b>492,832</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>8,214,579</b>	<b>-1</b>
Delaware.....	217	12,852	+8	298,546	+1.2	78	8,566	-1	188,321	+1.0
Maryland.....	<i>1,583</i>	<i>113,201</i>	+3.2	<i>2,440,893</i>	+4.8	<i>532</i>	<i>73,740</i>	+2.8	<i>1,643,209</i>	+7.2
District of Columbia.....	1,058	37,117	+4.6	866,373	+1.7	41	2,644	+2.0	82,607	+4.1
Virginia.....	2,102	95,202	-1	1,747,078	-3.0	433	64,784	-2	1,138,404	-3.9
West Virginia.....	1,275	143,216	+1.2	3,160,701	-5.9	245	54,460	+3.8	1,269,420	+3.7
North Carolina.....	1,364	144,458	-5	2,029,704	-2.7	569	133,170	-9	1,837,019	-3.1
South Carolina.....	752	68,866	-2.4	947,773	-2.8	204	61,451	-2.8	813,283	-3.0
Georgia.....	1,480	101,901	-7	1,574,167	-6	357	77,569	-1.2	1,075,797	-2
Florida.....	1,205	43,528	-12.0	770,874	-9.6	181	16,448	-11.3	266,519	-4.0
<b>East South Central</b> .....	<b>4,613</b>	<b>255,518</b>	<b>+2</b>	<b>4,486,334</b>	<b>-9</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>154,917</b>	<b>+2</b>	<b>2,548,888</b>	<b>+6</b>
Kentucky.....	1,475	75,900	-2	1,531,573	-2.2	259	31,478	+7	623,131	-1.0
Tennessee.....	1,309	85,149	+5	1,475,368	+1.1	314	60,373	+1	1,008,716	+1.9
Alabama.....	1,262	77,406	-1	1,238,783	-1.4	228	52,251	-4	787,250	-1.1
Mississippi.....	567	17,063	+2.6	240,610	-2.7	92	10,815	+2.4	129,791	-2.2

<sup>1</sup> Includes banks and trust companies, construction, municipal, agricultural, and office employment, amusement and recreation, professional services, and trucking and handling.

<sup>2</sup> Includes laundering and cleaning, and water, light, and power.

<sup>3</sup> Includes laundries.

<sup>4</sup> Includes automobile and miscellaneous services, restaurants, and building and contracting.

<sup>5</sup> Includes construction, but does not include hotels, restaurants, or public works.

<sup>6</sup> Less than one-tenth of 1 percent.

<sup>7</sup> Weighted percentage change.

<sup>8</sup> Includes financial institutions, construction, miscellaneous services, and restaurants.



Table 3.—Comparison of Employment and Pay Rolls in Identical Establishments in March and April 1936, by Geographic Divisions and by States—Con.

Geographic division and State	Total—All groups					Manufacturing				
	Number of establishments	Number on pay roll April 1936	Percentage change from March 1936	Amount of pay roll (1 week) April 1936	Percentage change from March 1936	Number of establishments	Number on pay roll April 1936	Percentage change from March 1936	Amount of pay roll (1 week) April 1936	Percentage change from March 1936
<b>West South</b>				<i>Dollars</i>					<i>Dollars</i>	
<b>Central</b> .....	4, 223	175, 720	+1.2	3, 789, 873	+1.9	919	86, 847	+1.3	1, 768, 771	+3.8
Arkansas.....	<sup>9</sup> 538	22, 180	+ .5	363, 356	+3.2	223	15, 955	+1.6	249, 945	+5.1
Louisiana.....	951	43, 351	+2.1	792, 698	- .4	209	21, 251	+1.3	334, 186	- .8
Oklahoma.....	1, 417	38, 587	+1.6	868, 883	+ .5	120	9, 700	+3.1	210, 981	+4.2
Texas.....	1, 317	71, 602	+1.4	1, 764, 936	+3.4	367	39, 941	+ .8	973, 659	+5.0
<b>Mountain</b> .....	4, 492	117, 130	+2.2	2, 831, 083	+1.2	560	32, 644	+4.5	791, 974	+4.1
Montana.....	746	18, 343	+1.9	491, 281	+ .5	85	4, 350	- .7	107, 149	- .2
Idaho.....	472	8, 570	+4.7	197, 643	+6.5	53	2, 561	+15.4	59, 938	+21.7
Wyoming.....	326	8, 224	- .6	219, 397	-5.8	42	1, 713	+3.1	47, 804	-2.9
Colorado.....	1, 263	40, 097	+3.0	958, 079	+3.4	172	13, 492	+5.8	342, 283	+7.4
New Mexico.....	351	6, 030	+2.0	121, 953	+5.3	30	860	-3.8	13, 767	-8.0
Arizona.....	519	14, 847	- .3	356, 241	-1.3	39	2, 641	+4.3	60, 562	+ .6
Utah.....	611	17, 953	+3.1	403, 104	- .5	111	6, 241	+3.4	138, 217	+1.1
Nevada.....	224	3, 066	+3.7	83, 385	+1.0	28	786	+1.7	22, 254	-2.5
<b>Pacific</b> .....	6, 487	417, 847	+4.8	10, 616, 450	+2.1	2, 057	226, 076	+7.2	5, 736, 656	+4.8
Washington.....	3, 030	90, 500	+3.7	2, 259, 651	+3.7	482	48, 916	+4.1	1, 210, 819	+6.9
Oregon.....	1, 313	43, 790	+2.7	1, 057, 348	+1.1	258	22, 519	+3.3	523, 552	+4.1
California.....	<sup>10</sup> 2, 144	283, 557	+5.5	7, 299, 451	+1.8	1, 317	154, 641	+8.9	4, 002, 285	+4.3

<sup>9</sup> Includes automobile dealers and garages, and sand, gravel, and building stone.

<sup>10</sup> Includes banks, insurance, and office employment.

#### Private Employment and Pay Rolls in Principal Cities

A COMPARISON of April employment and pay rolls with the March totals in 13 cities of the United States having a population of 500,000 or over is made in table 4. The changes are computed from reports received from identical establishments in both months.

In addition to reports included in the several industrial groups regularly covered in the survey of the Bureau, reports have also been secured from establishments in other industries for inclusion in these city totals. As information concerning employment in building construction is not available for all cities at this time, figures for this industry have not been included in these city totals.

Table 4.—Comparison of Employment and Pay Rolls in Identical Establishments in March and April 1936, by Principal Cities

City	Number of establishments	Number on pay roll April 1936	Percentage change from March 1936	Amount of pay roll (1 week) April 1936	Percentage change from March 1936
New York, N. Y.....	16, 795	655, 229	+0.6	\$17, 064, 292	-1.2
Chicago, Ill.....	4, 063	382, 249	+1.2	9, 843, 240	- .3
Philadelphia, Pa.....	2, 639	225, 903	+1.3	5, 456, 341	-1.3
Detroit, Mich.....	1, 564	337, 955	+2.7	10, 193, 078	+11.8
Los Angeles, Calif.....	2, 757	136, 997	+1.1	3, 522, 691	+1.1
Cleveland, Ohio.....	1, 819	136, 767	+2.8	3, 480, 773	+2.6
St. Louis, Mo.....	1, 615	131, 250	+2.2	2, 979, 021	+ .6
Baltimore, Md.....	1, 332	102, 155	+3.9	2, 380, 915	+3.8
Boston.....	4, 271	172, 178	+1.2	4, 119, 833	+1.2
Pittsburgh, Pa.....	1, 522	189, 572	+2.9	4, 839, 161	+6.9
San Francisco, Calif.....	1, 545	89, 980	+3.8	2, 382, 232	+1.3
Buffalo, N. Y.....	1, 074	83, 396	+ .5	2, 085, 500	+7.9
Milwaukee, Wis.....	707	72, 642	+1.1	1, 759, 098	+( <sup>1</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> Less than  $\frac{1}{10}$  of 1 percent.

## Public Employment

EMPLOYMENT created by the Federal Government includes employment in the regular agencies of the Government, employment on the various construction programs wholly or partially financed by Federal funds, and employment on relief-work projects.

Construction projects financed by the Public Works Administration are those projects authorized by Title II of the National Industrial Recovery Act of June 16, 1933. This program of public works was extended to June 30, 1937, by the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1935.

The Works Program was inaugurated by the President in a series of Executive orders by authority of Public Resolution No. 11, approved April 8, 1935. Employment created by this program includes employment on Federal projects and employment on projects operated by the Works Progress Administration. Federal projects are those conducted by Federal agencies which have received allotments from The Works Program fund. Projects operated by the Works Progress Administration are those projects conducted under the supervision of the W. P. A.

The emergency conservation program (Civilian Conservation Corps) created in April 1933 has been further extended under authority of the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1935.

## Executive Service of the Federal Government

STATISTICS of employment in the executive branches of the Federal Government in April 1935, March 1936, and April 1936 are given in table 5.

Table 5.—Employees in the Executive Service of the U. S. Government, April 1935, March and April 1936<sup>1</sup>

[Subject to revision]

Item	District of Columbia <sup>2</sup>			Outside District of Columbia			Entire service <sup>2</sup>		
	Permanent	Temporary	Total	Permanent	Temporary <sup>3</sup>	Total	Permanent	Temporary <sup>3</sup>	Total
Number of employees:									
April 1935.....	92,480	8,949	101,429	512,794	96,233	609,027	605,274	105,182	710,456
March 1936.....	105,524	7,215	112,739	598,953	94,712	693,665	704,477	101,927	806,404
April 1936.....	107,222	8,200	115,422	599,268	96,077	695,345	706,490	104,277	810,767
Percentage change:									
April 1935 to April 1936.....	+15.94	-8.37	+13.80	+16.86	-.16	+14.17	+16.72	-.86	+14.12
March 1936 to April 1936.....	+1.61	+13.65	+2.38	+1.10	+1.44	+1.24	+1.29	+2.31	+1.54
Labor turn-over, April 1936:									
Additions <sup>4</sup> .....	2,649	2,065	4,714	10,841	18,471	29,312	13,490	20,536	34,026
Separations <sup>5</sup> .....	1,374	663	2,037	12,544	15,124	27,668	13,918	15,787	29,705
Turn-over rate per 100.....	1.29	8.60	1.79	1.81	15.85	3.98	1.91	15.31	3.67

<sup>1</sup> This table shows employment on last day of month specified.

<sup>2</sup> Includes employees of Columbia Institution for the Deaf and Howard University.

<sup>3</sup> Not including field employees of Post Office Department or 12,357 employees hired under letters of authorization by the Department of Agriculture with a pay roll of \$749,731.

<sup>4</sup> Includes 42 employees by transfer previously reported as separations by transfer not actual additions for April.

<sup>5</sup> Not including employees transferred within the Government service, as such transfers should not be regarded as labor turn-over.

The monthly record of employment in the executive departments of the United States Government from January 1935 to April 1936, inclusive, is shown in table 6.

Table 6.—Employment in the Executive Departments of the U. S. Government by Months, January 1935 to April 1936

[Subject to revision]

Month	District of Columbia	Outside District of Columbia	Total	Month	District of Columbia	Outside District of Columbia	Total
<i>1935</i>				<i>1935—Contd.</i>			
January.....	96,081	592,140	688,221	October.....	110,583	687,115	797,698
February.....	97,251	597,769	695,020	November.....	111,196	690,202	801,398
March.....	99,133	600,484	699,617	December.....	112,088	704,135	816,223
April.....	101,429	609,027	710,456	<i>1936</i>			
May.....	103,019	609,573	712,592	January.....	111,797	689,499	801,296
June.....	103,977	614,259	718,236	February.....	112,697	687,626	800,323
July.....	104,747	631,134	735,881	March.....	112,739	693,665	806,404
August.....	107,037	663,086	770,123	April.....	115,422	695,345	810,767
September.....	109,195	678,229	787,424				

### Construction Projects Financed by the Public Works Administration

DETAILS concerning employment, pay rolls, and man-hours worked during April<sup>1</sup> on construction projects financed by Public Works Administration funds are given in table 7, by type of project.

Table 7.—Employment and Pay Rolls on Construction Projects Financed from Public Works Administration Funds, Month Ending Apr. 15, 1936

[Subject to revision]

Type of project	Wage earners		Monthly pay-roll disbursements	Number of man-hours worked during month	Average earnings per hour	Value of material orders placed during month
	Maximum number employed <sup>1</sup>	Weekly average				
Federal projects—Financed from N. I. R. A. funds						
All projects <sup>2</sup> .....	93,099	87,293	\$8,197,583	11,078,687	\$0.740	\$9,292,024
Building construction <sup>2</sup> .....	14,872	12,124	1,053,605	1,372,003	.768	1,697,989
Forestry.....	34	26	2,556	3,448	.741	3,377
Naval vessels.....	27,515	27,067	3,529,584	4,389,531	.804	2,905,857
Public roads <sup>4</sup> .....	( <sup>5</sup> )	21,454	989,554	1,841,800	.537	1,260,000
Reclamation.....	12,107	11,608	1,173,897	1,578,960	.743	1,149,864
River, harbor, and flood control.....	13,827	12,008	1,256,981	1,592,004	.790	2,097,776
Streets and roads.....	1,807	1,594	97,330	164,876	.590	55,392
Water and sewerage.....	23	20	1,344	1,551	.867	66,731
Miscellaneous.....	1,460	1,392	92,732	134,514	.689	55,038

<sup>1</sup> Maximum number employed during any 1 month by each contractor and Government agency doing force-account work.

<sup>2</sup> Includes a maximum of 4,467 and an average of 3,468 employees working on low-cost housing projects financed from E. R. A. funds, who were paid \$249,557 for 424,144 man-hours of labor. Material orders in the amount of \$209,224 were placed for these projects. These data are also included in separate tables covering projects financed by The Works Program.

<sup>3</sup> Includes weekly average for public roads.

<sup>4</sup> Estimated by the Bureau of Public Roads.

<sup>5</sup> Not available; average included in total.

<sup>1</sup> Data concerning P. W. A. employment are based on the month ending Apr. 15.

Table 7.—Employment and Pay Rolls on Construction Projects Financed from Public Works Administration Funds, Month Ending Apr. 15, 1936—Con.

[Subject to revision]

Type of project	Wage earners		Monthly pay-roll disbursements	Number of man-hours worked during month	Average earnings per hour	Value of material orders placed during month
	Maximum number employed	Weekly average				
Non-Federal projects—Financed from N. I. R. A. funds						
All projects.....	60,793	49,638	\$4,327,372	4,945,351	\$0.875	\$6,703,793
Building construction.....	31,411	25,783	2,475,446	2,582,140	.959	3,882,288
Railroad construction.....	2,952	2,450	69,380	136,073	.510	224,989
Streets and roads.....	6,143	4,789	335,269	455,153	.737	720,363
Water and sewerage.....	17,505	14,345	1,281,486	1,506,175	.851	1,596,025
Miscellaneous.....	2,782	2,271	165,791	265,810	.624	280,128
Non-Federal projects—Financed from E. R. A. A. 1935 funds <sup>6</sup>						
All projects.....	107,878	86,855	\$6,096,876	8,787,535	\$0.694	\$14,516,502
Building construction.....	71,930	57,822	4,019,779	5,671,811	.709	10,220,830
Electrification.....	336	280	13,798	17,756	.777	95,728
Heavy engineering.....	1,676	1,389	196,230	201,427	.974	151,545
Reclamation.....	909	769	52,324	95,140	.550	70,282
River, harbor, and flood control.....	133	89	9,630	9,858	.977	33,131
Streets and roads.....	7,822	6,108	335,226	563,115	.595	664,815
Water and sewerage.....	24,514	19,950	1,442,756	2,177,964	.662	3,172,920
Miscellaneous.....	558	451	27,133	50,464	.538	107,251

<sup>6</sup> These data are also included in separate tables covering projects financed by The Works Program.

Federal construction projects are financed by allotments made by the Public Works Administration to the various agencies and departments of the Federal Government from funds provided under the National Industrial Recovery Act. The major portion of the low-cost housing program now under way, however, is financed by funds provided under the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1935. The work is performed either by commercial firms, which have been awarded contracts, or by day labor hired directly by the Federal agencies.

Non-Federal projects are financed by allotments made by the Public Works Administration from funds available under either the National Industrial Recovery Act or the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1935. Most of the allotments have been made to the States and their political subdivisions, but occasionally allotments have been made to commercial firms. In financing projects for the States or their political subdivisions from funds appropriated under the National Industrial Recovery Act, the Public Works Administration makes a direct grant of not more than 30 percent of the total labor and material cost. When funds provided under the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1935 are used to finance a non-Federal project, as much as 45 percent of the total labor and material cost may be furnished in the form of a grant. The remaining 55 percent or more of the cost is financed by the recipient. When circumstances justify

such action, the Public Works Administration may provide the grantee with the additional funds by means of a loan. Allotments to commercial enterprises are made only as loans. All loans made by the Public Works Administration carry interest charges and have a definite date of maturity. Collateral posted with the Public Works Administration to secure loans may be offered for sale to the public. In this way a revolving fund is provided which enlarges the scope of the activities of the Public Works Administration.

Commercial loans have been made, for the most part, to railroads. Railroad work financed by loans made by the Public Works Administration falls under three headings: First, construction work in the form of electrification, the laying of rails and ties, repairs to buildings, bridges, etc.; second, the building and repairing of locomotives and passenger and freight cars in shops operated by the railroads; and third, locomotive and passenger- and freight-car building in commercial shops.

Information concerning the first type of railroad work, i. e., construction, is shown in table 7, page 190. Employment in car and locomotive shops owned by the railroads and in commercial car and locomotive shops is shown in a separate table. (See table 8 below.)

Employment, pay rolls, and man-hours worked during April in railway-car and locomotive shops on projects financed by the Public Works Administration fund are shown in table 8.

Table 8.—Employment and Pay Rolls in Railway-Car and Locomotive Shops on Work Financed from Public Works Administration Funds, April 1936

[Subject to revision]

Geographic division	Wage earners		Monthly pay-roll disbursements	Number of man-hours worked during month	Average earnings per hour	Value of material orders placed during month
	Maximum number employed <sup>1</sup>	Semi-monthly average				
All divisions.....	2,657	( <sup>2</sup> )	\$293,832	391,437	\$0.751	( <sup>2</sup> )
Railroad shops						
All divisions.....	2,295	2,153	\$194,403	277,322	\$0.701	\$1,493,074
New England.....	113	113	4,615	6,182	.747	92
Middle Atlantic.....	198	159	5,469	8,470	.646	1,377,260
East North Central.....	542	510	49,574	71,718	.691	35,411
East South Central.....	1,442	1,371	134,745	190,952	.706	80,311
Commercial shops						
All divisions.....	362	( <sup>2</sup> )	\$99,429	114,115	\$0.871	( <sup>2</sup> )
Middle Atlantic.....	5	( <sup>2</sup> )	571	862	.662	( <sup>2</sup> )
East North Central.....	349	( <sup>2</sup> )	98,432	112,378	.876	( <sup>2</sup> )
West South Central.....	8	( <sup>2</sup> )	426	875	.487	( <sup>2</sup> )

<sup>1</sup> Maximum number employed during either semimonthly period by each shop.

<sup>2</sup> Data not available.

## Monthly Trend

A summary of employment, pay rolls, and man-hours worked on projects financed from Public Works Administration funds from July 1933 to April 1936 is given in table 9.

Table 9.—Employment and Pay Rolls, July 1933 to April 1936, Inclusive, on Projects Financed From Public Works Funds

[Subject to revision]

Year and month	Maximum number of wage earners <sup>1</sup>	Monthly pay-roll disbursements	Number of man-hours worked during month	Average earnings per hour	Value of material orders placed during month
July 1933 to April 1936, inclusive <sup>2</sup> .....	-----	\$654,945,295	1,035,956,094	\$0.632	\$1,209,306,001
July 1933 to December 1934, inclusive.....	-----	341,252,478	585,280,577	.583	<sup>3</sup> 685,504,204
<i>1935</i>					
January.....	304,723	18,462,677	27,478,022	.672	<sup>3</sup> 30,746,857
February.....	272,273	16,896,475	25,144,558	.672	29,264,484
March.....	281,461	17,400,798	26,008,063	.669	27,276,566
April.....	333,045	20,939,741	31,387,712	.667	31,645,166
May.....	394,875	24,490,087	36,763,164	.667	<sup>3</sup> 36,893,840
June.....	414,306	25,386,962	38,800,178	.654	<sup>3</sup> 42,017,642
July.....	405,332	24,968,785	37,845,047	.660	41,936,424
August.....	394,509	25,292,656	37,133,989	.681	46,954,714
September <sup>2</sup> .....	344,520	22,772,317	32,478,773	.701	<sup>3</sup> 40,988,896
October <sup>2</sup> .....	308,632	21,692,439	30,358,351	.715	35,042,853
November <sup>2</sup> .....	271,111	19,512,866	26,317,564	.741	29,046,684
December <sup>2</sup> .....	231,692	16,360,315	21,637,131	.756	25,507,315
<i>1936</i>					
January <sup>2</sup> .....	197,820	14,399,381	19,195,535	.750	<sup>4</sup> 22,796,818
February <sup>2</sup> .....	176,764	12,220,479	16,404,771	.745	<sup>4</sup> 23,460,743
March <sup>2</sup> .....	202,236	13,981,176	18,519,649	.755	28,217,402
April <sup>2</sup> .....	264,427	18,915,663	25,203,010	.751	32,005,393

<sup>1</sup> Maximum number employed during any 1 week of the month by each contractor and Government agency doing force-account work. Includes weekly average for public-road projects.

<sup>2</sup> Includes wage earners employed on projects under the jurisdiction of P. W. A. which are financed from E. R. A. A. 1935 funds. These data are also included in tables covering projects financed by The Works Program.

<sup>3</sup> Includes orders placed by railroads for new equipment.

<sup>4</sup> Revised.

## The Works Program

A DETAILED record of employment, pay rolls, and man-hours worked on projects financed by The Works Program in April <sup>1</sup> is shown in table 10, by type of project.

<sup>1</sup> Data concerning The Works Program are based on month ending Apr. 15.

Table 10.—Employment and Pay Rolls on Projects Financed by The Works Program, April 1936

[Subject to revision]

Type of project	Wage earners		Monthly pay-roll disbursements	Number of man-hours worked during month	Average earnings per hour	Value of material orders placed during month
	Maximum number employed <sup>1</sup>	Weekly average				
Federal projects						
All projects.....	375,865	335,122	\$16,563,885	38,563,300	\$0.430	\$12,903,903
Building construction.....	36,168	32,704	1,824,488	3,472,547	.525	2,005,283
Electrification.....	820	705	37,505	70,545	.532	198,668
Forestry.....	15,716	15,092	869,589	2,188,149	.397	-----
Grade-crossing elimination.....	17,282	14,348	829,194	1,454,802	.570	1,403,010
Heavy engineering.....	247	198	14,333	28,645	.500	32,094
Hydroelectric power plants.....	2,468	1,718	31,078	132,602	.234	71,948
Plant, crop, and livestock conservation.....	44,702	35,488	1,148,497	5,067,787	.227	40,915
Professional, technical, and clerical.....	38,784	38,772	1,986,061	3,640,257	.546	152,798
Public roads.....	71,443	57,502	3,073,391	6,721,691	.457	2,795,322
Reclamation.....	83,270	78,974	2,831,093	8,030,281	.353	1,239,473
River, harbor, and flood control.....	46,786	43,043	3,041,499	5,769,183	.527	4,123,956
Streets and roads.....	8,250	7,575	349,568	870,885	.401	255,620
Water and sewerage.....	837	717	44,056	105,061	.419	20,375
Miscellaneous.....	9,092	8,286	483,533	1,010,865	.478	564,441
P. W. A. projects financed from E. R. A. A. 1935 funds <sup>2</sup>						
All projects <sup>3</sup> .....	112,345	90,326	\$6,346,433	9,211,679	\$0.689	\$14,725,726
Building construction <sup>3</sup> .....	76,397	61,290	4,269,336	6,095,955	.700	10,430,054
Electrification.....	336	280	13,798	17,756	.777	95,728
Heavy engineering.....	1,676	1,389	196,230	201,427	.974	151,545
Reclamation.....	909	769	52,324	95,140	.550	70,282
River, harbor, and flood control.....	133	89	9,630	9,858	.977	33,131
Streets and roads.....	7,822	6,108	335,226	563,115	.595	664,815
Water and sewerage.....	24,514	19,950	1,442,756	2,177,964	.662	3,172,920
Miscellaneous.....	558	451	27,133	50,464	.538	107,251
Projects operated by Works Progress Administration						
All projects <sup>3</sup> .....	\$2,856,508	-----	\$143,492,350	330,771,776	\$0.434	\$19,586,594
Conservation.....	233,108	-----	9,715,973	24,960,933	.389	1,027,300
Highway, road, and street.....	1,017,992	-----	46,393,550	119,857,912	.387	5,930,944
Housing <sup>3</sup> .....	5,679	-----	373,851	627,762	.596	477
Professional, technical, and clerical.....	256,743	-----	18,046,728	30,646,097	.589	554,730
Public building.....	235,762	-----	13,724,419	25,570,066	.537	4,328,269
Publicly owned or operated utilities <sup>7</sup> .....	252,990	-----	12,829,079	28,633,063	.448	3,025,329
Recreational facilities <sup>8</sup> .....	302,123	-----	16,766,321	33,161,775	.506	2,606,405
Rural electrification and electric utilities.....	3,580	-----	185,346	402,958	.460	74,157
Sanitation and health.....	98,635	-----	4,412,773	12,080,157	.365	637,659
Sewing, canning, gardening, etc.....	336,151	-----	15,064,519	41,169,665	.366	703,673
Transportation.....	55,707	-----	2,898,822	6,207,912	.467	636,850
Not elsewhere classified.....	61,602	-----	3,080,969	7,453,476	.413	60,801

<sup>1</sup> Maximum number employed during any 1 week of the month by each contractor and Government agency doing force-account work.

<sup>2</sup> These data are also included in separate tables covering projects under the jurisdiction of the Public Works Administration.

<sup>3</sup> Data for a maximum of 125 and an average of 83 employees who were paid \$4,650 for 9,526 man-hours on demolition work at the site of low-cost housing projects are included both under P. W. A. projects financed from E. R. A. A. 1935 funds and under projects operated by the Works Progress Administration.

<sup>4</sup> This total differs from the sum of the individual items, since 3,564 employees worked on more than one type of project.

<sup>5</sup> Includes data for 30,876 transient camp workers who were paid \$690,964 and subsistence for 3,781,592 man-hours on conservation work, etc.

<sup>6</sup> Value of material orders placed during month ending Apr. 30, 1936.

<sup>7</sup> Exclusive of electric utilities.

<sup>8</sup> Exclusive of buildings.

## Monthly Trend

Employment, pay rolls, and man-hours worked on projects financed by The Works Program from the beginning of the program in July 1935 to April 1936 are given in table 11.

Table 11.—Employment and Pay Rolls, July 1935 to April 1936, Inclusive, on Projects Financed by The Works Program

(Subject to revision)

Month and year	Maximum number employed <sup>1</sup>	Monthly pay-roll disbursements	Number of man-hours worked during month	Average earnings per hour	Value of material orders placed during month
Federal projects					
July 1935 to April 1936, inclusive.....		\$84,782,165	194,852,529	\$.435	\$71,722,344
1935					
July.....	5,131	276,839	607,318	.456	164,004
August.....	32,672	1,215,990	2,791,802	.436	1,684,347
September.....	76,524	3,754,773	7,815,795	.480	4,071,945
October.....	129,064	6,243,023	13,669,524	.457	9,723,568
November.....	168,234	8,391,581	18,870,799	.445	9,214,916
December.....	217,027	10,195,537	22,160,371	.460	7,268,162
1936					
January.....	248,929	11,179,541	25,955,820	.431	8,988,622
February.....	298,589	12,529,207	29,173,914	.429	9,684,578
March.....	325,505	14,431,789	35,243,886	.409	8,028,299
April.....	375,865	16,563,885	38,563,300	.430	12,903,903
P. W. A. projects financed from E. R. A. A. 1935 funds <sup>2</sup>					
September 1935 to April 1936, inclusive.....		\$12,963,497	18,963,935	\$.684	\$39,543,658
1935					
September.....	317	10,575	17,493	.605	28,573
October.....	1,184	54,380	78,928	.689	159,568
November.....	3,422	149,545	223,363	.670	444,588
December.....	9,203	446,783	676,307	.661	1,392,765
1936					
January.....	23,740	1,128,635	1,621,349	.696	3,632,378
February.....	39,848	1,794,866	2,609,270	.688	8,611,717
March.....	64,223	3,032,280	4,525,546	.670	10,548,343
April.....	112,345	6,346,433	9,211,679	.689	14,725,226
Projects operated by Works Progress Administration					
August 1935 to April 1936, inclusive.....		\$720,561,851	1,679,509,737	\$.429	\$120,978,953
1935					
August.....	73,153	1,199,936	2,581,988	.465	3,202,136
September.....	258,830	10,303,491	17,790,436	.579	2,089,324
October.....	516,581	23,357,955	50,739,568	.460	8,236,263
November.....	1,202,471	44,497,604	94,677,998	.470	14,836,346
December.....	2,335,610	91,552,345	201,799,051	.454	17,678,214
1936					
January.....	2,755,802	127,054,184	310,755,226	.409	19,860,772
February.....	2,900,645	136,276,680	331,916,478	.411	17,896,597
March.....	3,044,685	142,827,306	338,477,216	.422	17,592,687
April.....	2,856,508	143,492,350	330,771,776	.434	19,586,594

<sup>1</sup> Maximum number employed during any 1 week of the month by each contractor and Government agency doing force-account work.

<sup>2</sup> These data are also included in tables covering projects under the jurisdiction of the Public Works Administration.



## Emergency Conservation Work

STATISTICS concerning employment and pay rolls in emergency conservation work in March and April 1936 are presented in table 12.

Table 12.—Employment and Pay Rolls in Emergency Conservation Work, March and April 1936 <sup>1</sup>

[Subject to revision]

Group	Number of employees		Amount of pay rolls	
	April	March	April	March
All groups.....	388, 656	353, 471	\$18, 021, 978	\$17, 213, 224
Enrolled personnel.....	338, 025	301, 177	10, 556, 517	9, 405, 759
Reserve officers.....	6, 992	8, 078	1, 457, 001	1, 683, 296
Educational advisers <sup>2</sup> .....	1, 970	1, 886	339, 242	324, 912
Supervisory and technical <sup>3</sup> .....	<sup>4</sup> 41, 669	<sup>5</sup> 42, 330	<sup>4</sup> 5, 669, 218	<sup>5</sup> 5, 799, 257

<sup>1</sup> Data on number of employees refer to employment on last day of month. Amounts of pay rolls are for entire month.

<sup>2</sup> Included in executive service table.

<sup>3</sup> Includes carpenters, electricians, and laborers.

<sup>4</sup> 40,250 employees and pay roll of \$5,560,783 included in executive service table.

<sup>5</sup> 40,879 employees and pay roll of \$5,691,067 included in executive service table.

Employment and pay-roll data for emergency conservation workers are collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics from the War Department, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Commerce, the Treasury Department, and the Department of the Interior. The monthly pay of the enrolled personnel is distributed as follows: 5 percent are paid \$45; 8 percent, \$36; and the remaining 87 percent, \$30. The enrolled men, in addition to their pay, are provided with board, clothing, and medical services.

Monthly statistics of employment and pay rolls on the emergency conservation program from January 1935 to April 1936, inclusive, are given in table 13.

Table 13.—Monthly Totals of Employees and Pay Rolls in Emergency Conservation Work, January 1935 to April 1936

Month	Number of employees	Monthly pay-roll disbursements	Month	Number of employees	Monthly pay-roll disbursements
<i>1935</i>			<i>1935—Continued</i>		
January.....	398, 692	\$16, 757, 883	October.....	550, 650	\$24, 830, 752
February.....	373, 850	16, 320, 803	November.....	543, 958	23, 957, 751
March.....	294, 955	14, 188, 097	December.....	506, 605	21, 905, 516
April.....	368, 537	16, 401, 114	<i>1936</i>		
May.....	385, 192	17, 719, 018	January.....	476, 609	21, 387, 521
June.....	427, 556	19, 766, 881	February.....	452, 165	20, 448, 752
July.....	480, 586	22, 070, 577	March.....	353, 471	17, 213, 224
August.....	590, 362	26, 235, 863	April.....	338, 656	18, 021, 978
September.....	534, 057	24, 404, 708			

## Construction Projects Financed by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation

STATISTICS of employment, pay rolls, and man-hours worked on construction projects financed by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in April <sup>1</sup> are presented in table 14, by type of project.

Table 14.—Employment and Pay Rolls on Projects Financed by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, by Type of Project, April 1936

[Subject to revision]

Type of project	Number of wage earners	Monthly pay-roll disbursements	Number of man-hours worked during month	Average earnings per hour	Value of material orders placed during month
All projects.....	10,021	\$1,133,880	1,479,182	\$0.767	\$1,292,063
Bridges.....	1,271	201,200	174,192	1.155	46,735
Building construction <sup>1</sup> .....	430	37,848	46,243	.818	78,974
Reclamation.....	84	1,914	3,035	.631	1,123,173
Water and sewerage.....	6,737	720,662	1,021,909	.705	43,181
Miscellaneous.....	1,499	172,256	233,803	.737	

<sup>1</sup> Includes 131 employees; pay-roll disbursements of \$8,531; 8,293 man-hours worked; and material orders placed during the month amounting to \$45,935 on projects financed by R. F. C. Mortgage Co.

A monthly summary of employment, pay rolls, and man-hours worked on construction projects financed by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation from January 1935 to April 1936, inclusive, is given in table 15.

Table 15.—Employment and Pay Rolls on Projects Financed by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, January 1935 to April 1936

[Subject to revision]

Month	Number of wage earners	Monthly pay-roll disbursements	Number of man-hours worked during month	Average earnings per hour	Value of material orders placed during month
<i>1935</i>					
January.....	11,180	\$1,054,708	1,484,190	\$0.711	\$3,966,718
February.....	10,373	1,048,593	1,457,662	.719	5,028,547
March.....	9,586	890,333	1,253,493	.710	1,072,886
April.....	10,300	1,007,424	1,389,072	.725	2,517,175
May.....	10,506	1,100,977	1,522,959	.723	2,287,090
June.....	11,901	1,191,336	1,592,744	.748	3,998,576
July.....	9,581	1,001,653	1,349,064	.742	1,495,108
August.....	9,415	1,020,208	1,367,071	.746	965,174
September.....	9,301	957,846	1,271,475	.753	1,016,202
October.....	9,192	952,790	1,269,273	.751	1,228,928
November.....	9,793	1,001,408	1,344,234	.745	1,411,338
December.....	7,786	869,459	1,160,845	.749	1,383,293
<i>1936</i>					
January.....	7,560	850,271	1,093,350	.778	1,355,520
February.....	7,961	905,455	1,179,431	.768	1,436,119
March.....	8,134	916,059	1,193,145	.768	1,385,640
April.....	10,021	1,133,880	1,479,182	.767	1,292,063

<sup>1</sup> Data concerning employment on R. F. C. projects refer to the month ending Apr. 15.

## Construction Projects Financed From Regular Governmental Appropriations

WHENEVER a construction contract is awarded or force-account work is started by a department or agency of the Federal Government, the Bureau of Labor Statistics is immediately notified on forms supplied by the Bureau, of the name and address of the contractor, the amount of the contract, and the type of work to be performed. Blanks are then mailed by the Bureau to the contractor or Government agency doing the work. These reports are returned to the Bureau and show the number of men on pay rolls, the amounts disbursed for pay, the number of man-hours worked on the project, and the value of the different types of materials for which orders were placed during the month.

The following tables present data concerning construction projects on which work has started since July 1, 1934. The Bureau does not have statistics covering projects which were under way previous to that date.

Data concerning employment, pay rolls, and man-hours worked on construction projects financed from regular governmental appropriations during April <sup>1</sup> are given in table 16, by type of project.

Table 16.—Employment on Construction Projects Financed from Regular Governmental Appropriations, by Type of Project, April 1936

[Subject to revision]

Type of project	Number of wage earners		Monthly pay-roll disbursements	Number of man-hours worked during month	Average earnings per hour	Value of material orders placed during month
	Maximum number employed <sup>1</sup>	Weekly average				
All projects.....	<sup>2</sup> 60,107	57,112	\$5,205,353	8,375,190	\$0.622	\$9,861,378
Building construction.....	9,546	7,964	657,570	982,922	.669	1,786,524
Electrification.....	58	38	2,211	5,324	.415	966
Naval vessels.....	14,510	14,115	1,720,318	2,109,919	.815	4,935,894
Public roads <sup>3</sup> .....	( <sup>4</sup> )	23,069	1,882,819	3,518,867	.535	2,397,386
Reclamation.....	943	666	103,251	123,952	.833	2,415
River, harbor, and flood control.....	8,624	8,264	688,878	1,312,193	.525	586,940
Streets and roads.....	2,308	2,120	99,357	239,028	.416	51,709
Water and sewerage.....	73	47	2,692	5,637	.478	181
Miscellaneous.....	976	829	48,257	77,348	.624	99,363

<sup>1</sup> Maximum number employed during any 1 week of the month by each contractor and Government agency doing force-account work.

<sup>2</sup> Includes weekly average for public roads.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated by the Bureau of Public Roads.

<sup>4</sup> Not available; average number included in total.

Employment, pay rolls, and man-hours worked on construction projects financed from regular governmental appropriations from January 1935 to April 1936 are shown, by months, in table 17.

<sup>1</sup> Data concerning projects financed from regular governmental appropriations are based on the month ending Apr. 15.

Table 17.—Employment on Construction Projects Financed from Regular Governmental Appropriations, January 1935 to April 1936

[Subject to revision]

Month	Number of wage earners	Monthly pay-roll disbursements	Number of man-hours worked during month	Average earnings per hour	Value of material orders placed during month
<i>1935</i>					
January .....	12,784	\$669,199	1,062,118	\$0.630	\$3,163,946
February .....	13,106	704,190	1,102,864	.639	1,962,087
March .....	14,659	862,886	1,359,043	.635	2,709,912
April .....	22,270	1,389,583	2,210,893	.629	2,562,404
May .....	23,057	1,599,937	2,370,925	.675	2,704,333
June .....	26,191	1,904,464	2,842,470	.670	2,960,270
July .....	25,788	1,890,209	2,752,801	.687	3,079,618
August .....	36,491	2,694,822	4,137,008	.651	4,459,551
September .....	45,592	3,199,785	5,066,873	.632	5,801,445
October .....	59,091	4,193,129	6,716,798	.624	7,181,155
November .....	63,912	4,077,395	6,559,665	.622	6,690,405
December .....	56,780	3,707,963	5,980,118	.620	6,155,840
<i>1936</i>					
January .....	46,895	3,990,725	6,246,418	.639	5,584,611
February .....	43,915	3,619,025	5,545,115	.653	6,669,016
March .....	47,538	3,674,896	5,814,569	.632	7,185,019
April .....	60,107	5,205,353	8,375,190	.622	9,861,378

## State-Road Projects

A RECORD of employment and pay-roll disbursements in the construction and maintenance of State roads from January 1935 to April 1936, inclusive, is presented in table 18.

Table 18.—Employment on Construction and Maintenance of State Roads, January 1935 to April 1936<sup>1</sup>

[Subject to revision]

Month	Number of employees working on—			Total pay roll
	New roads	Maintenance	Total	
<i>1935</i>				
January .....	23,537	120,283	143,820	\$4,864,899
February .....	17,940	122,209	140,149	4,575,171
March .....	18,391	108,149	126,540	4,896,325
April .....	24,193	135,484	159,677	5,501,076
May .....	27,924	135,541	163,465	6,008,348
June .....	30,823	138,253	169,076	7,079,793
July .....	35,826	148,575	184,401	8,232,589
August .....	40,130	163,960	204,090	9,063,104
September .....	40,431	156,187	196,618	8,435,225
October .....	40,390	147,324	187,714	8,150,299
November .....	32,487	139,138	171,625	7,156,025
December .....	27,046	121,690	148,736	6,139,581
<i>1936</i>				
January .....	14,358	105,795	120,153	7,481,502
February .....	10,256	119,777	130,033	7,572,614
March .....	8,150	133,886	141,536	7,689,770
April .....	11,339	143,305	154,644	8,918,024

<sup>1</sup> Excluding employment furnished by projects financed from Public Works Administration funds.

## Unemployment in Foreign Countries in the Spring of 1936

STATISTICS on unemployment in the spring of 1936 show that the usual seasonal decrease occurred in most of the foreign countries for which figures are given in the following table. In a number of instances the improvement in economic conditions, as reflected in the official series on unemployment, was more than seasonal. For example, in Austria the figure for May indicates that conditions were more favorable in that month than at the same time of year in the past 4 years. The number of registered unemployed in Germany fell below 1½ million persons at the end of May 1936 for the first time since the middle of 1930. In Great Britain also the registration was as low as that of 1930. Improvement was shown in the figures for Australia, Belgium, Canada, and Poland as well.

There was little change in the situation in Hungary and the Netherlands. In Hungary the applications for work at the employment exchanges were somewhat higher this year than last. The unemployed in insurance societies in the Netherlands remained about as numerous as a year ago and the monthly percentages of total membership were somewhat higher.

During the month of May 1936 the number of unemployed in receipt of benefit in France was somewhat lower than in the same month of 1935. However, conditions as measured in these statistics have not improved materially.

The situation in Switzerland in the early months of 1936, as reflected by the number of wholly unemployed members of unemployment funds, was less favorable than in the previous year. The number of such unemployed was considerably higher and the situation did not appear to be improving perceptibly on a month-to-month basis.

The table following gives statistics of unemployment in foreign countries, as shown in official reports for the years 1930 to 1935, and by months beginning with April 1935 to the latest available date.

Beyond comparisons of the figures in a single series for different periods it is not possible to use the official unemployment statistics to measure volume of unemployment in a single country or to compare conditions in one country with those in another, owing to the fact that the coverage is not always complete. For example, only insured persons may be reported, or certain categories, such as agricultural labor, may be excluded.

## Statement of Unemployment in Foreign Countries

Year and date (end of month)	Australia		Austria	Belgium			
	Trade-unionists unemployed		Compulsory insurance, number of unemployed in receipt of benefit	Unemployment-insurance societies			
	Number	Percent		Wholly unemployed		Partially unemployed	
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
1930.....	84,767	19.3	208,389	23,250	3.6	50,918	7.9
1931.....	117,866	27.4	253,368	79,186	10.9	121,890	16.9
1932.....	120,454	29.4	309,969	161,468	19.0	175,259	20.7
1933.....	104,035	25.1	328,844	168,023	17.0	170,023	17.2
1934.....	86,865	20.5	287,528	182,855	19.0	166,229	17.2
1935.....	71,823	16.5	261,768	165,469	17.9	118,754	12.8
<i>1935</i>							
April.....			286,748	181,110	19.3	127,419	13.6
May.....			255,646	159,551	17.1	114,534	12.3
June.....	77,177	17.8	238,133	146,581	15.8	104,066	11.2
July.....			220,599	138,376	15.1	109,049	11.9
August.....			209,493	136,139	14.9	106,627	11.7
September.....	69,575	15.9	204,908	136,726	14.9	109,125	11.9
October.....			214,094	130,981	14.5	95,069	10.6
November.....			242,759	143,407	15.9	93,012	10.3
December.....	59,992	13.7	284,914	162,166	17.9	102,174	11.3
<i>1936</i>							
January.....			317,200	167,083	18.6	99,858	11.1
February.....			321,529	168,017	18.7	101,038	11.2
March.....	158,848	13.4	298,714	138,962	15.6	93,574	10.5
April.....			267,047				
May.....			242,227				

Year and date (end of month)	Canada	Czechoslovakia		Danzig, Free City of	Denmark		
	Percent of trade-unionists unemployed	Number of unemployed on live register	Trade-union insurance funds—unemployed in receipt of benefit		Number of unemployed registered	Trade-union unemployment funds—unemployed	
			Number	Percent		Number	Percent
1930.....	11.1	105,442	52,047	4.6	18,291	39,631	13.7
1931.....	16.8	291,332	102,179	8.3	24,898	53,019	17.9
1932.....	22.0	554,059	184,555	13.5	33,244	99,508	31.7
1933.....	22.3	738,267	247,613	16.9	31,408	97,417	28.8
1934.....	18.2	676,994	245,953	17.4	20,326	81,756	22.2
1935.....	15.4	686,269	235,623	15.9	17,983	76,195	19.8
<i>1935</i>							
April.....	17.0	734,550	261,307	17.6	18,410	70,397	18.6
May.....	15.9	666,433	236,532	16.0	18,353	55,504	14.4
June.....	15.4	605,956	212,786	14.3	16,212	48,855	12.6
July.....	15.1	566,559	203,787	13.6	14,341	48,937	12.6
August.....	14.2	557,706	198,757	13.3	14,445	53,041	13.7
September.....	13.0	573,362	192,675	12.9	14,610	57,923	14.9
October.....	13.3	601,390	192,429	12.8	16,447	67,390	17.3
November.....	13.3	678,870	203,626	<sup>1</sup> 13.4	19,213	84,907	21.4
December.....	14.6	794,407	236,641	15.5	21,039	124,612	31.7
<i>1936</i>							
January.....	14.8	850,010	267,471	17.2	19,746	110,544	28.0
February.....	13.8	860,239	272,019	17.5	20,959	118,224	30.0
March.....	14.5	797,770	254,471	16.2	18,066	<sup>1</sup> 107,679	26.8
April.....	15.1	719,166			16,560	74,384	18.5
May.....		633,900			14,966	53,540	13.3

<sup>1</sup> Provisional figure.

## Statement of Unemployment in Foreign Countries—Continued

Year and date (end of month)	Estonia	Finland	France	Germany	Great Britain
	Number unemployed remaining on live register	Number of unemployed registered	Number of unemployed in receipt of benefit	Number of unemployed registered	Number of persons registered with employment exchanges
1930.....	3,054	7,993	2,514	3,144,910	2,297,000
1931.....	3,632	11,522	56,112	4,573,218	2,668,000
1932.....	7,121	17,581	278,412	5,579,858	2,757,000
1933.....	8,210	17,139	276,033	4,733,014	2,520,616
1934.....	2,970	10,011	345,033	2,718,309	2,159,231
1935.....	1,779	7,163	426,879	2,151,039	2,036,422
<i>1935</i>					
April.....	2,247	8,369	452,007	<sup>2</sup> 2,233,255	2,044,460
May.....	1,358	5,804	428,126	<sup>2</sup> 2,019,293	2,044,752
June.....	856	3,948	402,661	<sup>2</sup> 1,876,579	2,000,110
July.....	752	3,122	380,960	<sup>1</sup> 1,754,117	1,972,941
August.....	868	4,003	380,296	<sup>2</sup> 1,706,230	1,947,964
September.....	593	4,755	373,446	<sup>2</sup> 1,713,912	1,958,610
October.....	977	6,446	380,719	<sup>2</sup> 1,828,721	1,916,390
November.....	1,717	8,538	409,466	<sup>2</sup> 1,984,925	1,918,562
December.....	2,007	7,427	439,782	<sup>2</sup> 2,507,955	1,868,565
<i>1936</i>					
January.....	2,316	10,117	474,462	<sup>2</sup> 2,520,499	2,159,722
February.....	2,605	8,257	487,374	<sup>2</sup> 2,514,894	2,025,021
March.....	1,791	6,687	465,127	<sup>2</sup> 1,937,120	1,881,531
April.....	1,274	5,836	445,970	<sup>2</sup> 1,763,074	1,831,230
May.....	587	-----	422,036	<sup>2</sup> 1,491,201	1,705,042

Year and date (end of month)	Great Britain and Northern Ireland				Hungary		
	Compulsory insurance				Employment exchanges, applications for work	Trade-unionists unemployed	
	Wholly unemployed		Temporary stoppages			Christian (Budapest)	Social Democratic
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent			
1930.....	1,467,347	11.8	526,604	4.3	43,592	951	21,339
1931.....	2,129,359	16.7	587,494	4.6	52,305	977	27,635
1932.....	2,272,590	17.6	573,805	4.5	66,235	1,026	29,772
1933.....	2,110,090	16.4	456,673	3.5	60,595	1,085	26,716
1934.....	1,801,913	13.9	368,906	2.9	52,157	996	22,291
1935.....	1,714,844	13.2	312,958	2.3	52,048	967	18,315
<i>1935</i>							
April.....	1,744,814	13.5	285,458	2.2	55,361	983	19,750
May.....	1,703,952	13.1	320,511	2.5	52,605	955	18,952
June.....	1,636,037	12.6	367,963	2.9	50,504	898	18,448
July.....	1,589,590	12.3	402,271	3.1	46,069	851	18,317
August.....	1,605,036	12.4	344,767	2.6	46,480	878	17,754
September.....	1,644,723	12.7	308,011	2.4	48,707	892	16,136
October.....	1,658,720	12.7	243,644	1.9	52,331	943	15,343
November.....	1,679,912	12.9	225,763	1.7	52,674	1,068	14,976
December.....	1,648,256	12.6	209,983	1.6	52,225	1,068	18,318
<i>1936</i>							
January.....	1,780,412	13.6	350,822	2.7	57,916	953	18,480
February.....	1,752,279	13.4	264,299	2.0	57,199	944	18,521
March.....	1,638,720	12.5	240,092	1.9	58,177	882	17,887
April.....	1,555,829	11.9	251,667	1.9	54,421	804	17,350
May.....	1,467,097	11.2	229,823	1.8	-----	-----	-----

<sup>2</sup> Includes the Saar.

## Statement of Unemployment in Foreign Countries—Continued

Year and date (end of month)	Irish Free State	Italy	Japan		Latvia	Netherlands	
	Compulsory insurance—number unemployed	Number of unemployed registered wholly unemployed	Official estimates, unemployed		Number unemployed remaining on live register	Unemployment insurance societies—unemployed	
			Number	Percent		Number	Percent
1930	22, 176	425, 437	368, 465	5.2	4, 851	37, 800	9.7
1931	25, 230	734, 454	413, 248	5.9	8, 709	82, 800	18.1
1932	62, 817	1, 006, 442	489, 168	6.9	14, 587	153, 500	29.5
1933	72, 255	1, 018, 955	413, 853	5.7	8, 156	163, 000	31.0
1934	103, 671	963, 677			4, 972	160, 400	32.1
1935	<sup>3</sup> 119, 498				4, 825	173, 673	36.3
<i>1935</i>							
April	125, 847	803, 054	360, 325	4.7	6, 165	166, 502	34.6
May	124, 920	755, 349	362, 273	4.7	3, 266	163, 718	34.0
June	130, 244	638, 100	351, 764	4.6	1, 812	157, 416	32.9
July	<sup>3</sup> 82, 371	637, 972	353, 553	4.6	2, 077	161, 891	33.9
August	<sup>3</sup> 82, 697	628, 335	349, 880	4.6	1, 595	164, 068	34.5
September	<sup>3</sup> 83, 191	609, 094	346, 758	4.5	1, 819	166, 474	35.4
October	123, 705		348, 229	4.5	2, 334	166, 479	35.2
November	129, 403		346, 168	4.5	6, 347	173, 262	36.6
December	133, 319		351, 469	4.5	8, 130	192, 273	40.7
<i>1936</i>							
January	144, 764		359, 636	4.6	7, 949	200, 319	42.6
February	141, 168				8, 392	<sup>1</sup> 184, 812	40.0
March	123, 336				7, 148	<sup>1</sup> 174, 266	37.7
April	116, 621				4, 450	<sup>1</sup> 165, 405	35.8
May	109, 185					<sup>1</sup> 159, 169	34.6

Year and date (end of month)	New Zealand	Norway		Poland	Rumania	
	Number unemployed registered by employment exchanges <sup>4</sup>	Trade-unionists (10 unions) unemployed		Number unemployed registered with employment offices	Number unemployed remaining on live register	
		Number	Percent			
1930	5, 003	7, 175	16.6	19, 353	226, 659	25, 338
1931	41, 430		22.3	27, 479	299, 502	35, 851
1932	51, 549	14, 790	30.8	<sup>3</sup> 32, 705	255, 582	38, 899
1933	46, 971	16, 588	33.4	<sup>3</sup> 35, 591	249, 660	29, 060
1934	39, 235	15, 963	30.7	35, 121	342, 166	16, 871
1935	36, 857	<sup>1</sup> 14, 765	25.3	40, 288	381, 935	13, 852
<i>1935</i>						
April	36, 792	17, 221	30.6	41, 432	476, 250	15, 140
May	38, 100	14, 446	25.5	34, 865	413, 882	12, 003
June	39, 330	12, 200	21.1	29, 757	366, 949	11, 332
July	41, 499	11, 241	19.1	26, 228	318, 412	10, 792
August	42, 745	11, 846	19.7	28, 281	275, 661	9, 392
September	42, 200	12, 099	19.8	32, 548	257, 550	9, 071
October	39, 681	13, 264	21.2	36, 549	264, 109	8, 667
November	35, 979	14, 000	22.0	39, 270	308, 888	11, 034
December	35, 653	16, 752	26.0	40, 950	393, 644	17, 040
<i>1936</i>						
January	34, 777	18, 264	28.0	40, 177	472, 526	22, 247
February		17, 627	26.7	40, 263	488, 157	23, 458
March				39, 999	479, 049	
April				37, 756	414, 165	
May				30, 923	334, 822	

<sup>1</sup> Provisional figure.<sup>3</sup> Registration area extended; incomplete returns July-September 1935.<sup>4</sup> New series, from 1933 on.<sup>5</sup> Revised figures.



## Statement of Unemployment in Foreign Countries—Continued

Year and date (end of month)	Sweden		Switzerland				Yugo- slavia
	Trade-unionists unemployed		Unemployment funds				Number of unem- ployed regis- tered
	Number	Percent	Wholly unem- ployed		Partially unem- ployed		
			Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
1930.....	42,016	12.2	-----	3.4	-----	7.2	
1931.....	64,815	17.2	-----	5.9	-----	12.1	10,018
1932.....	89,922	22.8	-----	9.1	-----	12.2	14,761
1933.....	97,316	23.7	-----	10.8	-----	8.5	15,997
1934.....	80,216	18.9	-----	9.8	-----	6.1	15,647
1935.....	81,385	16.1	-----	-----	-----	-----	16,752
<i>1935</i>							
April.....	82,221	16.9	58,500	10.6	34,400	6.2	16,112
May.....	61,177	-----	50,600	9.1	30,800	5.5	12,619
June.....	59,572	12.3	45,445	8.3	29,865	5.4	10,935
July.....	54,401	11.1	45,900	8.3	29,200	5.2	11,215
August.....	56,552	11.4	48,300	8.7	30,900	5.5	12,260
September.....	60,810	12.2	51,045	9.2	30,861	5.6	12,544
October.....	69,372	13.8	59,600	10.7	30,700	5.4	10,564
November.....	77,883	15.7	71,200	12.8	33,200	5.7	11,917
December.....	114,176	22.5	94,940	17.0	37,217	6.7	18,685
<i>1936</i>							
January.....	93,708	18.8	106,500	19.0	37,300	6.8	27,624
February.....	91,893	18.0	104,400	18.6	38,000	6.9	34,136
March.....	86,888	17.0	85,082	15.6	37,203	6.7	30,783
April.....	77,005	15.0	70,700	13.0	32,800	5.9	25,695

<sup>1</sup> Provisional figure.

## Trend of Employment in Canada, 1921 to 1936

AT THE opening of the month of April 1936 the employment index for all industries in Canada was 97.4 or 1.5 points below that of the preceding month. In fact from 1921 to 1936 the April indexes (average for calendar year 1926=100) for all industries exceeded the base level in only 3 years—1928, 1929, and 1930, the highest record being in 1929 (110.4). The lowest April index for the 15-year period was (76.0) in 1933.

In the manufacturing industries in the same 15-year period the April indexes rose above 100 in 5 years only—1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, and 1936—the peak being reached in April 1929, when the index was 116.5; while the lowest index (76.0) was that for April 1933. In April 1936 the index in manufacturing (101.1) was 1.6 points above that of the preceding month but 15.4 points below that of April 1929.

The April employment index for construction fell as low as 49.9 in 1922. The 1936 figure (71.8), however, was 17.1 points above the April 1933 index (54.7).

From 1921 to 1936 the range of the April transportation indexes was from 74.2 in 1933 to 101.8 in 1929. The April 1936 index was only 78.5.

Among other conspicuous features of the following tabulation from the May 1936 Canadian Labor Gazette, from which the above figures were taken, are the great variations in the April logging index which was as low as 31.1 in 1932 and as high as 104.9, 104.3, and 102.6 in 1934, 1935, and 1936, respectively.

Index Numbers of Employment in Canada, by Industries, Apr. 1, 1921, to Apr. 1, 1936

[Average 1926=100]

Date	All industries	Manufacturing	Logging	Mining	Communications	Transportation	Construction	Services	Trade
Apr. 1—									
1921.....	85.1	87.3	80.3	92.1	87.5	88.2	53.2	81.7	91.8
1922.....	81.8	84.4	49.1	93.0	84.4	89.4	49.9	79.1	87.9
1923.....	88.7	92.6	104.3	101.5	84.2	92.5	52.3	79.3	89.5
1924.....	90.4	93.6	97.8	104.1	91.0	95.7	56.1	90.2	90.3
1925.....	88.3	91.2	85.7	98.5	82.4	91.0	59.4	90.0	92.9
1926.....	92.5	96.6	79.2	103.0	101.9	96.2	72.5	99.0	102.3
1927.....	97.4	101.5	85.7	103.0	95.4	93.4	69.8	94.2	95.4
1928.....	102.3	106.6	88.3	109.0	102.3	98.2	78.6	108.4	111.1
1929.....	110.4	116.5	83.1	112.9	113.5	101.8	85.4	121.1	122.5
1930.....	107.8	111.3	87.6	114.6	117.1	99.5	86.4	126.1	123.1
1931.....	99.7	99.7	42.9	108.1	103.3	94.3	96.8	122.0	123.1
1932.....	87.5	87.3	31.1	101.0	93.9	81.9	79.9	113.9	114.3
1933.....	76.0	76.0	35.6	91.4	84.5	74.2	54.7	102.5	107.6
1934.....	91.3	88.1	104.9	103.3	76.8	75.9	95.8	111.8	116.1
<i>1935</i>									
Jan. 1.....	94.4	87.4	181.3	119.1	78.6	76.2	87.9	115.2	130.6
Feb. 1.....	94.6	90.1	183.4	120.3	77.8	76.2	87.2	111.9	116.6
Mar. 1.....	96.4	92.7	166.9	118.8	77.5	76.5	94.2	111.7	116.7
Apr. 1.....	93.4	93.9	104.3	117.7	77.7	76.3	80.2	111.4	117.4
May 1.....	95.2	95.6	93.9	116.2	77.5	80.1	84.7	116.4	119.3
June 1.....	97.6	98.4	96.0	119.2	79.2	79.9	89.5	118.5	119.9
July 1.....	99.5	98.5	82.2	121.5	80.8	82.7	101.1	123.6	122.1
Aug. 1.....	101.1	99.8	79.0	125.2	81.6	85.4	104.7	127.9	120.7
Sept. 1.....	102.7	100.8	77.7	128.6	82.1	85.8	110.9	127.8	121.8
Oct. 1.....	106.1	103.3	115.8	129.5	82.1	86.4	117.4	120.5	123.8
Nov. 1.....	107.7	103.5	158.4	132.5	81.4	84.5	119.9	117.1	124.6
Dec. 1.....	104.6	101.4	183.5	131.1	81.0	84.0	95.9	116.3	131.1
<i>1936</i>									
Jan. 1.....	99.1	96.8	183.4	129.9	79.3	77.9	74.8	118.0	135.9
Feb. 1.....	98.4	98.5	173.1	129.4	77.2	78.2	74.4	116.4	121.6
Mar. 1.....	98.9	99.5	147.0	129.1	77.7	78.9	78.2	117.5	123.1
Apr. 1.....	97.4	101.1	102.6	128.2	77.7	78.5	71.8	118.5	121.0
Relative weight of employment by industries as at Apr. 1, 1936 <sup>1</sup> .....	100.0	55.5	3.2	6.4	2.2	10.3	9.2	2.8	10.4

<sup>1</sup> The "relative weight" shows the proportion of employees in the indicated industry to the total number of all employees reported in Canada by the firms making returns for the date under review.

Since 1928, except in a few instances the April employment indexes for mining, services, and trade have been notably high and in April 1936 were respectively 128.2, 118.5, and 121.0.

## BUILDING OPERATIONS

### Summary of Building Construction Reports for May 1936

A MODERATE curtailment in building construction activity occurred in May. The value of building construction for which permits were issued in May totaled \$119,451,000, a decrease of 2.2 percent compared with the \$122,130,000 reported by the same cities in April. Increases in the value of permits issued for new residential construction and for additions, alterations, and repairs to existing structures were offset by a sharp decrease in the estimated cost of new nonresidential buildings.

The level of building construction activity in May 1936, however, was substantially higher than in May 1935. The value of construction permits issued in May 1936 was 53.6 percent greater than in the corresponding month of 1935. A pronounced improvement was shown in every class of construction.

Data comparing April and May 1936 are based on reports received by the Bureau of Labor Statistics from 1,522 identical cities with a population of 2,500 or over. Data comparing May 1936 and May 1935 are based on reports received by the Bureau from 792 identical cities with a population of 10,000 or over.

Comparisons, May 1936 with April 1936

A SUMMARY of building construction in 1,522 identical cities, for April and May 1936, is given in table 1.

Table 1.—Summary of Building Construction in 1,522 Identical Cities, April and May 1936

Class of construction	Number of buildings			Estimated cost		
	May 1936	April 1936	Per-centage change	May 1936	April 1936	Per-centage change
All construction.....	58, 758	57, 812	+1.6	\$119, 451, 167	\$122, 130, 316	-2.2
New residential buildings.....	10, 295	10, 376	- .8	53, 418, 436	53, 013, 193	+ .8
New nonresidential buildings.....	10, 868	10, 579	+2.7	36, 994, 123	42, 624, 699	-13.2
Additions, alterations, and repairs.....	37, 595	36, 857	+2.0	29, 038, 608	26, 492, 424	+9.6

The number of buildings for which permits were issued in May increased 1.6 percent compared with the previous month. Increases were indicated for new nonresidential buildings and for additions, alterations, and repairs, but a decrease occurred in the number of new residential buildings. Measured by the value of permits issued, the estimated cost of construction in May was \$2,679,000 less than in April. New residential building increased \$405,000, and a gain of \$2,546,000 occurred in additions, alterations, and repairs to existing buildings but a loss of \$5,631,000 was indicated for new nonresidential buildings.

A summary of the estimated cost of housekeeping dwellings and the number of families provided for in dwellings for which permits were issued in April and May 1936 is presented in table 2.

Table 2.—Summary of Estimated Cost of Housekeeping Dwellings and of the Number of Families Provided for in 1,522 Identical Cities, April and May 1936

Type of dwelling	Estimated cost of housekeeping dwellings			Number of families provided for in new dwellings		
	May 1936	April 1936	Per-centage change	May 1936	April 1936	Per-centage change
All types.....	\$52, 186, 803	\$52, 381, 716	-0. 4	13, 341	13, 027	+2. 4
1-family.....	41, 782, 902	42, 899, 896	-2. 6	9, 622	9, 636	-. 1
2-family <sup>1</sup> .....	2, 029, 840	2, 530, 061	-19. 8	733	906	-19. 1
Multifamily <sup>2</sup> .....	8, 374, 061	6, 951, 759	+20. 5	2, 986	2, 485	+20. 2

<sup>1</sup> Includes 1- and 2-family dwellings with stores.

<sup>2</sup> Includes multifamily dwellings with stores.

Measured by the value of permits issued, the estimated cost of housekeeping dwellings in May was virtually the same as in April. A pronounced gain was registered for multifamily dwellings but decreases in expenditures were indicated for 1- and 2-family dwellings. The number of families provided for by all types of dwellings increased 2.4 percent. An increase of 20.2 percent occurred in the number of families provided for by multifamily dwelling units. Losses, however, were shown in the number of families provided for by 1- and 2-family dwelling units.

## Comparisons, May 1936 with May 1935

A SUMMARY of building construction in 792 identical cities in May 1935 and May 1936 is shown in table 3.

Table 3.—Summary of Building Construction in 792 Identical Cities, May 1935 and May 1936

Class of construction	Number of buildings			Estimated cost		
	May 1936	May 1935	Per-centage change	May 1936	May 1935	Per-centage change
All construction.....	53,755	45,594	+17.9	\$107,348,312	\$69,905,225	+53.6
New residential buildings.....	8,762	5,014	+74.8	45,720,384	25,573,278	+78.8
New nonresidential buildings.....	9,713	8,064	+20.4	34,394,636	23,794,695	+44.5
Additions, alterations, and repairs.....	35,280	32,516	+8.5	27,233,292	20,537,252	+32.6

The number of buildings for which permits were issued in May 1936 was 17.9 percent greater than in the corresponding month of 1935. All classes of construction showed substantial gains, but new residential construction with an increase of 74.8 percent in the number of buildings registered the most marked gain. The estimated cost of new residential buildings in May 1936, measured by the value of permits issued, was \$20,147,000 greater than in May 1935; for new nonresidential buildings, the increase over the same period was \$10,600,000; and for additions, alterations, and repairs to existing buildings the gain was \$6,696,000.

Table 4 presents, in summary form, the estimated cost of new housekeeping dwellings and the number of families provided for in such dwellings, for the months of May 1935 and May 1936.

Table 4.—Summary of Estimated Cost of Housekeeping Dwellings and of the Number of Families Provided for in 792 Identical Cities, May 1935 and May 1936

Type of dwelling	Estimated cost of housekeeping dwellings			Number of families provided for in new dwellings		
	May 1936	May 1935	Per-centage change	May 1936	May 1935	Per-centage change
All types.....	\$45,283,751	\$25,364,014	+78.5	11,582	7,010	+65.2
1-family.....	35,577,008	19,072,938	+86.5	8,181	4,656	+75.7
2-family <sup>1</sup> .....	1,820,282	1,165,294	+56.2	644	438	+47.0
Multifamily <sup>2</sup> .....	7,886,461	5,125,782	+53.9	2,757	1,916	+43.9

<sup>1</sup> Includes 1- and 2-family dwellings with stores.

<sup>2</sup> Includes multifamily dwellings with stores.

There was an increase of 65.2 percent in the number of families provided for in new dwellings in May 1936 compared with May 1935. Measured by the value of permits issued, the estimated cost of house-

keeping dwellings in May was \$19,920,000, or 78.5 percent, greater than in the corresponding month of 1935. Pronounced increases in expenditures were indicated for all types of dwellings.

#### Important Building Projects

PERMITS were issued during May for the following important building projects: In Boston, Mass., for a hospital building to cost \$330,000; in New York City—in the Borough of the Bronx for apartment houses to cost \$970,000, in the Borough of Manhattan for apartment houses to cost over \$500,000, for office buildings to cost over \$3,500,000, and for mercantile buildings to cost nearly \$400,000, and in the Borough of Queens for apartment houses to cost over \$1,000,000; in Rochester, N. Y., for factory buildings to cost nearly \$1,200,000; in Philadelphia, Pa., for a factory building to cost \$700,000 and for school buildings to cost over \$850,000; in Peoria, Ill., for school buildings to cost \$681,000; in Ann Arbor, Mich., for buildings at the University of Michigan to cost over \$1,600,000; in Detroit, Mich., for mercantile buildings to cost nearly \$400,000; in St. Paul, Minn., for a school building to cost nearly \$300,000; in Dallas, Tex., for mercantile buildings to cost over \$400,000; in Fort Worth, Tex., for amusement buildings to cost over \$800,000, and for a school building to cost \$400,000; in Albuquerque, N. Mex., for school buildings to cost nearly \$250,000; in Glendale, Calif., for a recreation center to cost \$500,000; in Los Angeles, Calif., for apartment houses to cost over \$500,000 and for motion-picture studio buildings to cost nearly \$650,000; in San Francisco, Calif., for school buildings to cost over \$300,000; and in Spokane, Wash., for a power plant to cost \$850,000.

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#### Detailed Reports for April 1936

**D**ETAILED figures on building construction, as compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, for the month of April 1936 are presented in this article. The data are the same as published in the Building Construction pamphlet for April, except for certain minor revisions or corrections.

#### Building Construction in Principal Cities

APRIL was featured by a further rise in the number and cost of buildings for which permits were issued. Reports from principal cities in the country indicate that the total value of permits issued during the month was 10.0 percent above the March level. The improvement was shared by all types of construction. The value of residential buildings increased 15.5 percent, new nonresidential

buildings, 2.5 percent, and the value of additions, alterations, and repairs to existing structures was 12.4 percent greater than in the preceding month. The value of all buildings for which permits were issued in April amounted to \$121,784,000. (See table 1.)

Compared with the corresponding month of last year, all classes of building construction showed impressive gains. For home building the increase amounted to 96.8 percent, new nonresidential building ranked next with a gain of 51.7 percent, and a rise of 25.0 percent was shown in the value of additions, alterations, and repairs to existing structures. The total value of building construction for which permits were issued in April was greater than for any month since May 1931.

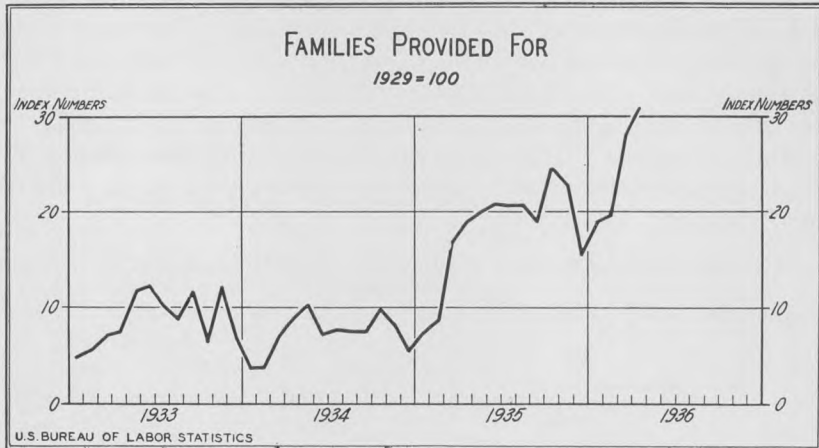
Table 1.—Summary of Building Construction in 1,471 Identical Cities, March and April 1936

Class of construction	Number of buildings			Estimated cost		
	April 1936	March 1936	Percentage change	April 1936	March 1936	Percentage change
All construction.....	57, 308	47, 919	+19. 6	\$121, 783, 997	\$110,746,482	+10. 0
New residential buildings.....	10, 245	9, 279	+10. 4	52, 990, 603	45, 887, 106	+15. 5
New nonresidential buildings.....	10, 458	8, 247	+26. 8	42, 417, 814	41, 399, 237	+2. 5
Additions, alterations, and repairs.....	36, 605	30, 393	+20. 4	26, 375, 580	23, 460, 139	+12. 4

The comparisons of April with March are based on reports received by the Bureau from 1,471 identical cities having a population of 2,500 and over. The comparisons with the corresponding month of 1935 are based on reports received from 768 identical cities having a population of 10,000 and over.

The information is received by the Bureau of Labor Statistics direct from local building officials, except in the States of Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania, where the State departments of labor collect and forward the data to the Bureau. The cost figures shown in this report are estimates made by prospective builders on applying for permits to build. No land costs are included. Only building projects within the corporate limits of the cities included in the survey are shown in the Bureau's tabulations. The data, however, do show the value of contracts awarded for Federal and State buildings in the cities covered. This information is forwarded by the various Federal and State officials who have the power to award contracts for building construction. The data on public buildings are then added to the data on private buildings received from the local building officials. In April 1936 the value of Federal and State buildings for which contracts were awarded in these cities amounted to \$1,396,000; in March 1936, to \$4,187 000; and in April 1935, to \$6,437,000.

Index numbers of indicated expenditures for each of the different types of building construction and for the number of family-dwelling units provided in new dwellings are given in table 2. The monthly trends for these major classes of construction and for the number of



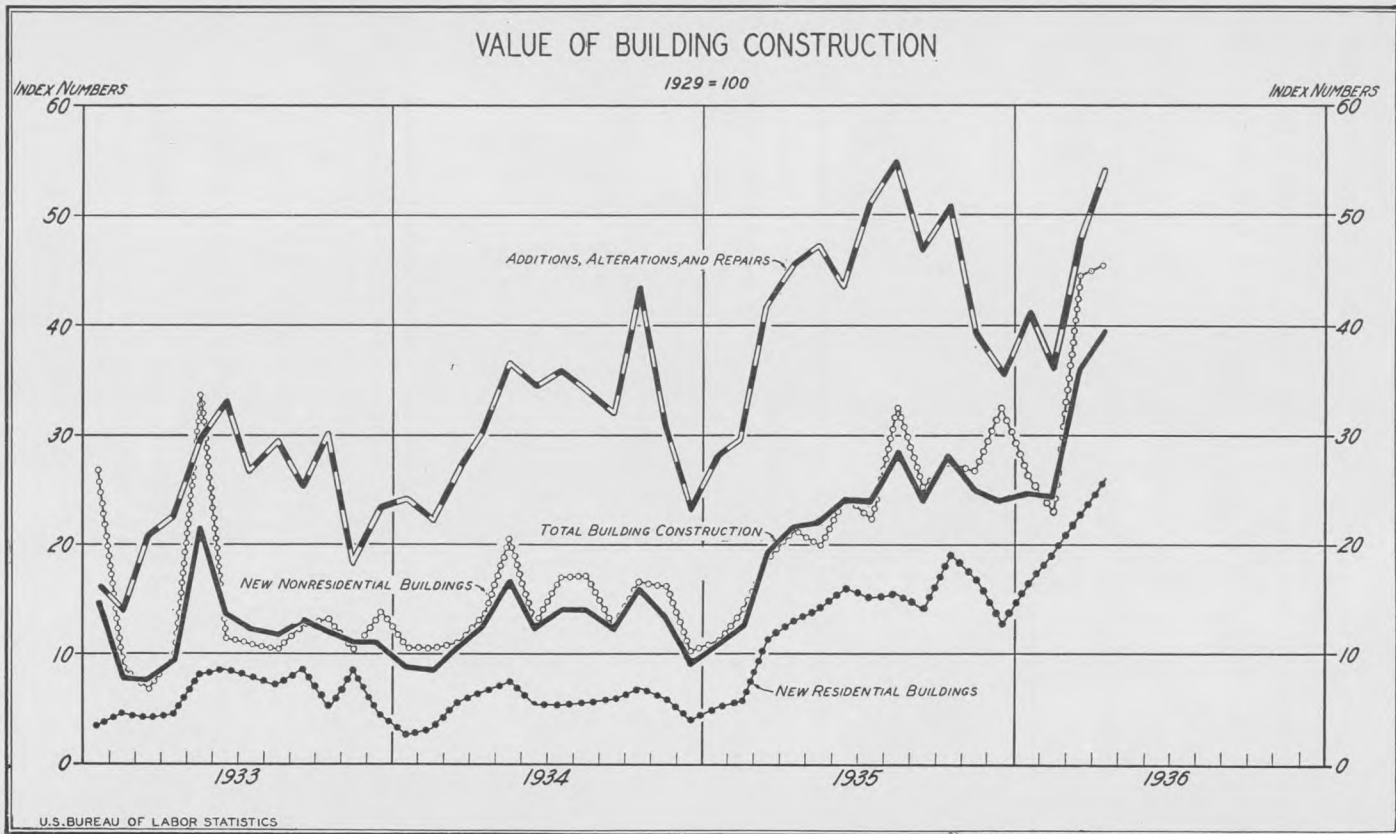
family-dwelling units provided during the period January 1933 to April 1936 are shown graphically by the accompanying charts.

Table 2.—Index Numbers of Families Provided for and of Indicated Expenditures for Building Construction

[Monthly average 1929=100]

Month	Families provided for	Indicated expenditures for—			
		New residential buildings	New non-residential buildings	Additions, alterations, and repairs	Total construction
<i>1930</i>					
March.....	57.1	47.2	87.1	77.5	66.4
April.....	62.0	51.0	100.1	81.8	73.8
<i>1931</i>					
March.....	53.4	40.7	76.4	58.0	57.1
April.....	64.6	48.6	73.9	65.2	60.6
<i>1932</i>					
March.....	15.4	10.7	18.1	27.0	15.7
April.....	13.4	9.7	25.0	32.0	18.8
<i>1933</i>					
March.....	7.2	4.2	6.9	20.9	7.8
April.....	7.4	4.6	9.9	22.6	9.5
<i>1934</i>					
March.....	7.2	5.7	10.9	27.0	10.8
April.....	9.0	6.7	13.6	30.1	12.8
<i>1935</i>					
March.....	16.6	11.4	18.6	41.6	19.2
April.....	18.9	13.0	21.2	45.5	21.6
<i>1936</i>					
January.....	19.0	16.6	26.2	41.0	24.9
February.....	19.6	19.1	23.1	36.2	24.5
March.....	28.1	22.7	44.4	47.9	36.0
April.....	30.9	26.2	45.5	53.9	39.6





## Comparison With Previous Month

THE gains in the value of new residential buildings were spread over eight of the nine geographic divisions, the West South Central being the only division showing a decrease. (See table 3.)

Table 3.—Estimated Cost of Building Construction in 1,471 Identical Cities, March and April 1936

Geographic division	New residential buildings (estimated cost)			New nonresidential buildings (estimated cost)		
	April 1936	March 1936	Percentage change	April 1936	March 1936	Percentage change
All divisions.....	\$52,990,603	\$45,887,106	+15.5	\$42,417,814	\$41,399,237	+2.5
New England.....	3,380,164	2,433,685	+38.9	2,214,827	3,820,565	-42.0
Middle Atlantic.....	14,593,085	11,509,347	+26.8	11,191,763	8,450,592	+32.4
East North Central.....	10,098,336	8,864,409	+13.9	12,359,770	7,648,701	+61.6
West North Central.....	3,029,451	2,673,835	+13.3	2,477,968	2,647,537	-6.4
South Atlantic.....	7,699,494	6,139,100	+25.4	4,129,471	5,434,924	-24.0
East South Central.....	755,429	740,314	+2.0	1,637,756	1,291,143	+26.8
West South Central.....	3,298,309	3,556,408	-7.3	2,757,040	4,935,759	-44.1
Mountain.....	1,221,185	1,209,343	+1.0	693,819	827,812	-16.2
Pacific.....	8,915,150	8,760,665	+1.8	4,955,400	6,342,204	-21.9

Geographic division	Additions, alterations, and repairs (estimated cost)			Total construction			Number of cities
	April 1936	March 1936	Percentage change	April 1936	March 1936	Percentage change	
All divisions.....	\$26,375,580	\$23,460,139	+12.4	\$121,783,997	\$110,746,482	+10.0	1,471
New England.....	2,506,007	2,321,231	+8.0	8,100,998	8,575,481	-5.5	121
Middle Atlantic.....	8,210,919	6,785,317	+21.0	33,995,767	26,745,256	+27.1	353
East North Central.....	4,526,232	4,454,906	+1.6	26,984,338	20,968,016	+28.7	327
West North Central.....	1,519,602	1,416,016	+7.3	7,027,021	6,737,388	+4.3	135
South Atlantic.....	2,899,643	2,498,122	+16.1	14,728,608	14,072,146	+4.7	171
East South Central.....	792,804	1,176,546	-32.6	3,185,989	3,208,003	-0.7	66
West South Central.....	1,554,848	1,039,385	+49.6	7,610,197	9,531,552	-20.2	103
Mountain.....	1,168,924	676,615	+72.8	3,083,928	2,713,770	+13.6	58
Pacific.....	3,196,601	3,092,001	+3.4	17,067,151	18,194,870	-6.2	137

The value of permits issued for new nonresidential buildings varied widely, six geographic divisions showing decreases and three divisions registering increases. The greatest gain occurred in the East North Central States and the largest decrease in the West South Central States. The value of additions, alterations, and repairs to existing buildings increased in eight of the nine divisions. In the Mountain States the gain amounted to more than 70 percent, and the East South Central States registered a decrease of 32.0 percent.

The irregularity of the movement in new nonresidential building construction had a pronounced effect on the total construction figures.

Five of the geographic divisions showed gains in the total value of building construction and four divisions registered losses.

The new housekeeping dwellings for which permits were issued during April will provide living quarters for 12,881 families, a gain of nearly 10 percent compared with the previous month. All three types of dwellings shared in the increase. (See table 4.)

Table 4.—Estimated Cost and Number of Family-Dwelling Units Provided in 1,471 Identical Cities, March and April 1936

Type of dwelling	Number of families provided for in new dwellings			Estimated cost		
	April 1936	March 1936	Percentage change	April 1936	March 1936	Percentage change
All types.....	12,881	11,719	+9.9	\$51,977,126	\$45,401,280	+14.5
1-family.....	9,528	8,632	+10.4	42,602,537	37,184,015	+14.6
2-family <sup>1</sup> .....	876	790	+10.9	2,439,830	2,104,829	+15.9
Multifamily <sup>2</sup> .....	2,477	2,297	+7.8	6,934,759	6,112,436	+13.5

<sup>1</sup> Includes 1- and 2-family dwellings with stores.

<sup>2</sup> Includes multifamily dwellings with stores.

#### Analysis by Size of Cities, March and April 1936

COMPARED with the previous month, wide variations are shown in the estimated cost of building construction in the cities of the different population groups. The largest increase occurred in cities having a population between 25,000 and 50,000. The only decrease occurred in the group having a population between 5,000 and 10,000. All seven groups showed increases in indicated expenditures for new residential buildings. The largest gain occurred in the 155 cities having a population of more than 25,000 but less than 50,000.

Four of the seven groups showed increases in the value of new nonresidential buildings, the largest gain, 40 percent, occurring in the cities with a population of less than 5,000.

Expenditures for additions, alterations, and repairs to existing structures were greater in five of the seven population groups. In the 331 cities falling in the group between 5,000 and 10,000, the increase amounted to nearly 60 percent.

The estimated cost of building construction in 1,471 identical cities having a population of 2,500 or over is given in table 5, by population groups, for the months of March and April 1936.

Table 5.—Estimated Cost of Building Construction, by Population Groups, March and April 1936

Population group	Number of cities	Total construction			New residential buildings		
		April 1936	March 1936	Percentage change	April 1936	March 1936	Percentage change
Total, all groups.....	1,471	\$121,783,997	\$110,746,482	+10.0	\$52,990,603	\$45,887,106	+15.5
500,000 and over.....	14	38,715,486	34,836,264	+11.1	17,671,049	15,689,624	+12.6
100,000 and under 500,000.....	78	27,775,433	26,314,735	+5.6	9,435,137	8,303,809	+13.6
50,000 and under 100,000.....	95	13,424,438	12,437,914	+7.9	4,788,548	4,148,284	+15.4
25,000 and under 50,000.....	155	10,589,679	8,956,557	+18.2	4,495,293	3,488,592	+28.9
10,000 and under 25,000.....	428	18,824,661	16,273,743	+15.7	9,358,388	7,351,922	+27.3
5,000 and under 10,000.....	331	7,468,960	7,654,561	-2.4	4,603,019	4,421,569	+4.1
2,500 and under 5,000.....	366	4,985,340	4,272,708	+16.7	2,639,169	2,483,306	+6.3

Population group	New nonresidential buildings			Additions, alterations, and repairs		
	April 1936	March 1936	Percentage change	April 1936	March 1936	Percentage change
Total, all groups.....	\$42,417,814	\$41,399,237	+2.5	\$26,375,580	\$23,460,139	+12.4
500,000 and over.....	11,473,292	10,401,735	+10.3	9,571,145	8,744,905	+9.4
100,000 and under 500,000.....	12,160,707	12,277,098	-0.9	6,179,589	5,733,858	+7.8
50,000 and under 100,000.....	5,803,430	5,374,719	+8.0	2,832,460	2,914,911	-2.8
25,000 and under 50,000.....	3,702,232	3,138,889	+17.9	2,332,154	2,329,076	+2.7
10,000 and under 25,000.....	5,751,905	6,394,327	-10.0	3,714,278	2,527,494	+47.0
5,000 and under 10,000.....	1,578,718	2,421,889	-34.8	1,287,223	811,103	+58.7
2,500 and under 5,000.....	1,947,440	1,390,610	+40.0	398,731	398,792	(1)

<sup>1</sup> Less than  $\frac{1}{10}$  of 1 percent.

The number of family-dwelling units provided in the 1,471 cities is shown, by population groups, in table 6.

Table 6.—Number of Families Provided for in New Dwellings in 1,471 Identical Cities, March and April 1936, by Population Groups

Population group	Number of cities	Total number families provided for		1-family dwellings		2-family dwellings <sup>1</sup>		Multifamily dwellings <sup>2</sup>	
		April 1936	March 1936	April 1936	March 1936	April 1936	March 1936	April 1936	March 1936
Total, all groups.....	1,471	12,881	11,719	9,528	8,632	876	790	2,477	2,297
500,000 and over.....	14	4,387	4,218	2,396	2,449	204	187	1,787	1,582
100,000 and under 500,000.....	78	2,429	2,165	1,988	1,846	202	187	239	132
50,000 and under 100,000.....	95	1,129	1,063	907	799	100	143	122	121
25,000 and under 50,000.....	155	1,120	943	945	727	71	93	104	123
10,000 and under 25,000.....	428	2,212	1,683	1,903	1,473	197	78	110	132
5,000 and under 10,000.....	335	993	1,038	823	813	67	66	103	159
2,500 and under 5,000.....	366	611	609	566	525	33	36	12	48

<sup>1</sup> Includes 1- and 2-family dwellings with stores.

<sup>2</sup> Includes multifamily dwellings with stores.

Six of the seven groups showed gains in the number of dwelling units provided, the largest gain occurring in the cities having a population of over 10,000 and under 25,000.

## Comparison With a Year Ago

IN COMPARISON with the corresponding month of 1935, sharp gains are shown in the value of buildings for which permits were issued in all geographic divisions. In the East North Central States the gain amounted to 114.0 percent, and for the country as a whole the increase was 59.2 percent. An increase of 96.8 percent is indicated in new residential buildings with six geographic divisions showing gains of more than 100 percent. (See table 7.)

Table 7.—Estimated Cost of Building Construction in 768 Identical Cities, April 1935 and April 1936

Geographic division	New residential buildings (estimated cost)			New nonresidential buildings (estimated cost)		
	April 1936	April 1935	Percentage change	April 1936	April 1935	Percentage change
All divisions.....	\$45,522,515	\$23,127,570	+96.8	\$38,956,474	\$25,676,767	+51.7
New England.....	3,267,164	1,523,810	+114.4	2,152,217	3,589,330	-40.0
Middle Atlantic.....	13,161,822	7,754,166	+69.7	10,658,516	6,570,015	+62.2
East North Central.....	8,360,654	2,833,421	+195.1	11,824,937	5,442,350	+117.3
West North Central.....	2,593,570	1,396,186	+85.8	2,080,285	708,678	+193.5
South Atlantic.....	5,568,978	4,477,794	+24.4	3,266,572	1,602,434	+103.9
East South Central.....	662,479	323,757	+104.6	1,527,081	667,839	+128.7
West South Central.....	2,875,866	1,219,032	+135.9	2,507,130	1,087,148	+130.6
Mountain.....	1,078,745	484,384	+122.7	510,677	367,309	+39.0
Pacific.....	7,953,237	3,115,020	+155.3	4,429,059	5,641,664	-21.5

Geographic division	Additions, alterations and repairs (estimated cost)			Total construction			Number of cities
	April 1936	April 1935	Per- centage change	April 1936	April 1935	Per- centage change	
All divisions.....	\$24,673,286	\$19,746,028	+25.0	\$109,152,275	\$68,550,365	+59.2	768
New England.....	2,458,217	1,849,561	+32.9	7,877,598	6,962,701	+13.1	105
Middle Atlantic.....	7,806,617	5,534,927	+41.0	31,626,955	19,859,108	+59.3	170
East North Central.....	4,300,585	3,165,321	+35.9	24,486,176	11,441,092	+114.0	184
West North Central.....	1,376,993	1,321,357	+4.2	6,050,848	3,426,221	+76.6	67
South Atlantic.....	2,565,610	3,672,157	-30.1	11,401,160	9,752,385	+16.9	80
East South Central.....	682,430	531,808	+28.3	2,871,990	1,523,404	+88.5	32
West South Central.....	1,472,123	1,173,025	+25.5	6,855,119	3,479,205	+97.0	50
Mountain.....	1,079,480	500,546	+115.7	2,668,902	1,352,239	+97.4	24
Pacific.....	2,931,231	1,997,326	+46.8	15,313,527	10,754,010	+42.4	56

In new nonresidential construction, seven of the geographic divisions registered increases and two showed decreases. In the East North Central States the value of nonresidential buildings for which permits were issued in April 1936 was more than twice as great as during the corresponding month of 1935.

The number of family-dwelling units and the estimated cost of the various types of housekeeping dwellings for which permits were issued in April 1935 and April 1936 are given in table 8.

Table 8.—Estimated Cost and Number of Family-Dwelling Units Provided in 768 Identical Cities, April 1935 and April 1936

Type of dwelling	Number of families provided for in new dwellings			Estimated cost		
	April 1936	April 1935	Percentage change	April 1936	April 1935	Percentage change
All types.....	11, 254	6, 524	+72. 5	\$45, 333, 567	\$23, 091, 820	+96. 3
1-family.....	8, 116	3, 894	+108. 4	36, 434, 287	14, 712, 746	+147. 6
2-family <sup>1</sup> .....	776	362	+114. 4	2, 206, 621	1, 041, 982	+111. 8
Multifamily <sup>2</sup> .....	2, 362	2, 268	+4. 1	6, 692, 659	7, 337, 092	-8. 8

<sup>1</sup> Includes 1- and 2-family dwellings with stores.

<sup>2</sup> Includes multifamily dwellings with stores.

Substantial gains were registered in the number of family-dwelling units provided in one- and two-family dwellings. A small gain was also registered in the number of family-dwelling units provided in apartment houses.

#### Construction From Public Funds

COMPARED with March a marked decrease was shown in the value of Federal construction work for which contracts were awarded or force-account work started in April.

Pronounced decreases were shown in building construction, professional, technical, and clerical projects, and street and road work. Substantial increases, on the other hand, occurred in grade-crossing-elimination projects and public-road work.

Information concerning the value of contracts awarded and force-account work started during March and April 1936 on projects financed from the Public Works Administration fund, from The Works Program fund, and from regular governmental appropriations is shown in table 9.

Table 9.—Value of Contracts Awarded and Force-Account Work Started on Projects Financed from Federal Funds, March and April 1936 <sup>1</sup>

Type of project	Total		The Works Program <sup>2</sup>		Regular governmental appropriations	
	April 1936	March 1936	April 1936	March 1936	April 1936	March 1936
	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>
All types.....	<sup>3</sup> 92,724,395	<sup>4</sup> 108,257,791	30,935,132	<sup>5</sup> 36,213,572	18,113,053	<sup>6</sup> 16,915,485
Building.....	<sup>3</sup> 25,827,470	<sup>4</sup> 33,520,691	558,863	752,432	2,013,013	3,467,475
Electrification.....	279,032	<sup>5</sup> 460,566	269,000	<sup>6</sup> 247,440	2,100	154,953
Heavy engineering.....	971,839	0	0	0	0	0
Hydroelectric power plants.....	14,230	14,800	0	0	0	0
Naval vessels.....	1,298,900	1,285,200	0	0	1,298,900	1,285,200
Plant, crop, and livestock control.....	0	50,000	0	50,000	0	0
Professional, technical, and clerical projects.....	24,728	8,886,146	24,728	8,886,146	0	0
Public roads:						
Grade-crossing elimination.....	12,811,051	<sup>8</sup> 8,424,089	12,808,252	<sup>8</sup> 8,113,632	0	0
Roads.....	30,442,218	28,761,643	15,848,593	17,540,948	13,206,992	9,254,475
Railroad construction and repair.....	0	500,500	0	0	0	0
Reclamation.....	1,394,161	<sup>9</sup> 1,019,785	1,096,651	<sup>4</sup> 426,051	155,500	154,000
River, harbor, and flood control.....	1,385,608	<sup>5</sup> 2,590,292	150,845	<sup>5</sup> 87,720	867,763	2,234,714
Sewing, canning, gardening, etc.....	2,500	0	2,500	0	0	0
Streets and roads <sup>6</sup> .....	1,561,098	<sup>5</sup> 4,228,452	0	0	0	105,027
Water and sewerage systems.....	13,530,875	<sup>5</sup> 15,328,619	0	0	6,530	113,628
Miscellaneous.....	3,180,685	<sup>5</sup> 3,187,008	175,700	<sup>5</sup> 109,203	562,255	<sup>5</sup> 146,013

Type of project	Public Works Administration					
	Federal		Non-Federal			
			N. I. R. A.		E. R. A. A. 1935 <sup>7</sup>	
	April 1936	March 1936	April 1936	March 1936	April 1936	March 1936
<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	
All types.....	2,709,526	2,521,252	12,882,777	16,266,090	<sup>3</sup> 28,083,907	<sup>4</sup> 36,341,392
Building.....	1,109,574	102,376	5,003,511	4,323,425	<sup>3</sup> 17,142,509	<sup>4</sup> 24,874,983
Electrification.....	0	0	0	0	7,932	58,173
Heavy engineering.....	0	0	0	0	971,839	0
Hydroelectric power plants.....	0	0	0	0	14,230	14,800
Public roads:						
Grade-crossing elimination.....	0	0	0	0	2,799	310,457
Roads.....	1,386,633	1,966,220	0	0	0	0
Railroad construction and repair.....	0	0	0	500,500	0	0
Reclamation.....	142,010	41,744	0	0	0	<sup>5</sup> 397,990
River, harbor, and flood control.....	0	0	0	0	367,000	267,858
Streets and roads <sup>6</sup> .....	0	403,363	591,195	1,330,347	969,903	<sup>5</sup> 2,389,715
Water and sewerage systems.....	48,549	4,975	5,405,239	7,271,309	8,070,557	<sup>5</sup> 7,938,707
Miscellaneous.....	22,760	2,574	1,882,832	2,840,509	537,138	88,700

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary, subject to revision.

<sup>2</sup> Does not include data for that part of The Works Program operated by the Works Progress Administration.

<sup>3</sup> Includes \$873,064 low-cost housing projects (housing division, P. W. A.).

<sup>4</sup> Revised includes \$144,861 low-cost housing projects (housing division, P. W. A.).

<sup>5</sup> Revised.

<sup>6</sup> Other than those reported by the Bureau of Public Roads.

<sup>7</sup> Not included in The Works Program.

Among the more important construction projects to be financed wholly or partially from Federal funds during April were: Water purification improvements in Cincinnati, Ohio, to cost \$1,374,000; sewerage system in Little Rock, Ark., to cost over \$900,000; work in

connection with the construction of Triborough Bridge to cost over \$1,500,000; work in connection with the construction of Midtown Hudson Tunnel to cost over \$500,000; rehabilitation of the transportation system in Indianapolis, Ind., to cost over \$1,500,000, and sewage disposal plant to cost over \$700,000; and construction of a new lighthouse tender in Bay City, Mich., to cost nearly \$350,000.

The value of public-building and highway-construction awards financed wholly from appropriations from State funds, as reported by the various State governments, for April 1935 and March and April 1936 is shown, by geographic division, in table 10.

Table 10.—Value of Public-Building and Highway-Construction Awards Financed Wholly by State Funds

Geographic division	Value of awards for public buildings			Value of awards for highway construction		
	April 1936	March 1936	April 1935	April 1936	March 1936	April 1935
All divisions.....	\$2,810,397	\$2,645,168	\$900,535	\$5,555,464	\$5,126,403	\$2,751,774
New England.....	6,000	0	2,176	1,280,495	371,223	0
Middle Atlantic.....	602,521	114,030	500,954	370,960	662,201	114,893
East North Central.....	321,382	93,246	85,774	561,519	413,623	298,491
West North Central.....	102,970	5,290	138,910	482,526	22,892	213,601
South Atlantic.....	51,242	102,743	43,065	226,971	216,776	209,967
East South Central.....	0	0	0	0	0	114,456
West South Central.....	1,087,119	1,628,707	129,656	612,509	1,113,698	1,212,797
Mountain.....	127,473	1,152	0	21,173	12,704	15,280
Pacific.....	511,690	700,000	0	1,999,311	2,313,286	572,289

The value of awards for public buildings and for highway construction in April 1936 were greater than in either the preceding month or the corresponding month of last year.



## RETAIL PRICES

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### Food Prices in May 1936

RETAIL food costs advanced 0.2 percent during May. On May 19 the composite index stood at 79.9 percent of the 1923-25 average, as compared with 79.7 percent on April 21. During the month there was a reversal in the movement of the index. From April 21 to May 5 retail food costs increased, due chiefly to advances in the prices of eggs and of fresh fruits and vegetables. During the next 2 weeks, from May 5 to May 19, lower prices for dairy products and meats more than offset continued advances for eggs and fresh fruits and vegetables, and the index of the cost of all foods combined declined.

The total cost of cereals and bakery products fell 0.6 percent during the 4-week period. Prices of three of the foods made from wheat moved downward. The price of wheat flour, which decreased 1.8 percent, is lower than at any time since July 15, 1933. Macaroni showed a drop of 1.0 percent. White bread, with lower prices reported from eight cities, registered an average decline of 0.5 percent. The largest decrease for white bread occurred in Milwaukee where the majority of the reporting bakeries and groceries lowered the price 1 cent a loaf. Rye bread decreased and whole-wheat bread increased by an equal amount, 0.3 percent. The only other significant price changes in the group were advances for cake and rice of 0.9 and 0.6 percent, respectively, and a drop of 0.5 percent for soda crackers.

The net decrease of 1.0 percent in meat costs resulted from an 0.3 percent increase from April 21 to May 5 and a decline of 1.2 percent from May 5 to May 19. The advance during the first 2-week period was due primarily to a gain of 6.2 percent in the cost of lamb. Lower prices for 16 of the 21 items in the group contributed to the decline which occurred during the succeeding 2 weeks. Beef costs dropped 1.5 percent during the month. Price declines were recorded for all beef items except round steak, which rose 0.1 percent, and sirloin steak, which showed no change. The average decrease of 2.0 percent for pork resulted from lower prices for all items except ham. The more significant decreases were 4.8 percent for loin roast, 3.4 percent for pork chops, and 2.3 percent for salt pork. Increases in the prices of the lamb items ranged from 5.0 percent for leg of lamb to 7.8 percent for

breast. The average decline in meat prices was shared by all regional areas except the Pacific and Mountain, where prices of beef advanced.

Decreases in prices of all items in the dairy-products group resulted in a 3.3 percent drop in the group index. Butter prices, following the usual seasonal trend, showed the largest reduction, 9.6 percent, with lower prices reported from all cities. The prices of cream and cheese showed decreases of 1.6 percent and 0.9 percent, respectively. A decrease of 1 cent a quart for fresh milk in Cleveland was the only significant price change reported for this item.

Egg prices, for which the normal movement is moderately upward at this season, advanced 3.8 percent during the month. Increases were reported from all sections of the country but were most pronounced in the North Central, South Atlantic, and East South Central areas.

The retail cost of fruits and vegetables rose 5.4 percent, due almost entirely to higher prices for the fresh products. The increase in the index for fresh fruits and vegetables amounted to 6.2 percent. Although an increase normally takes place in May, price changes for some of the items in the subgroup were exceptional. Prices of all fresh fruits rose. The increase for lemons was 14.6 percent and for oranges 8.0 percent, making the prices of these two items on May 19 higher than for any previous reporting period in 1936. Bananas showed an advance of 1.9 percent and apples were 1.5 percent higher. The most important single factor in the gain of the subgroup index was the continued advance in the price of white potatoes. Although a portion of the rise must be attributed to the inclusion of prices of new potatoes in the average, there was also a general shortage in the supply. Potato prices rose 16.3 percent during the month and were higher than in any May since 1930. Other items which registered price increases were sweetpotatoes, 11.6 percent; onions, 1.3 percent; and celery, 0.9 percent. Prices of other fresh vegetables declined, the decreases ranging from 2.2 percent for carrots to 25.9 percent for green beans. Changes recorded for items in the canned and dried fruits and vegetables subgroups were comparatively small. The index for canned products declined 0.1 percent, while dried products advanced 0.2 percent. The only significant price change was an increase of 1.6 percent for navy beans.

The index for beverages and chocolate rose 0.1 percent. Coffee and tea prices advanced 0.1 percent each, while cocoa and chocolate prices decreased 0.7 and 0.4 percent, respectively.

The cost of fats and oils was lower than at any time since January 1935. The index for the group declined 1.2 percent. Lard prices dropped 1.1 percent. Price reductions, ranging from 0.1 percent for vegetable shortening to 2.5 percent for oleomargarine, were reported

for all items in the group except mayonnaise, which remained unchanged.

An average increase of 0.4 percent in the cost of sugar and sweets resulted from higher prices for sugar and corn sirup. Molasses and strawberry preserves showed slight declines.

Indexes of retail food costs by major commodity groups in May and April 1936 are presented in table 1, together with comparison of the level of costs for May 1929 and other recent years.

Table 1.—Indexes of Retail Food Costs in 51 Cities Combined,<sup>1</sup> by Commodity Groups,

May and April 1936 and May 1935, 1933, and 1929

[1923-25=100]

Commodity group	1936				1935		1933	1929
	May 19	May 5	Apr. 21	Apr. 7	May 21	May 7	May 15	May 15
All foods.....	79.9	80.1	79.7	78.9	81.4	81.5	62.5	102.4
Cereals and bakery products.....	90.7	91.0	91.2	91.3	92.9	92.4	71.0	98.0
Meats.....	93.2	94.3	94.1	93.7	98.0	96.9	64.1	122.6
Dairy products.....	75.2	76.1	77.8	77.8	75.6	76.8	63.7	102.1
Eggs.....	59.6	59.0	57.4	56.9	65.9	64.9	44.0	80.6
Fruits and vegetables.....	70.1	68.9	66.5	63.3	66.0	67.5	59.3	93.1
Fresh.....	69.9	68.6	65.8	62.2	64.5	66.2	59.5	91.8
Canned.....	78.2	78.3	78.3	78.4	84.3	84.4	66.0	97.8
Dried.....	57.8	57.7	57.7	57.8	62.9	63.1	51.2	102.4
Beverages and chocolate.....	67.6	67.7	67.5	67.7	70.6	71.0	67.7	110.8
Fats and oils.....	74.2	74.8	75.2	75.1	80.9	81.0	48.0	93.5
Sugar and sweets.....	64.1	63.8	63.8	63.8	64.6	64.2	60.0	72.6

<sup>1</sup> Aggregate costs of 42 foods in each city prior to Jan. 1, 1935, and of 84 foods since that date, weighted to represent total purchases, have been combined with the use of population weights.

Increases in prices of 31 of the 84 foods included in the index more than offset the decreases reported for 47 items. Average prices for six foods remained unchanged. Average prices for each of the 84 commodities for 51 large cities combined are shown in table 2 for May and April 1936 and May 1935.

Table 2.—Average Retail Prices of 84 Foods in 51 Large Cities Combined <sup>1</sup>  
May and April 1936 and May 1935

[\*Indicates the 42 foods included in indexes prior to Jan. 1, 1935]

Article	1936				1935	
	May 19	May 5	Apr. 21	Apr. 7	May 21	May 7
Cereals and bakery products:						
Cereals:						
*Flour, wheat..... pound..	<i>Cents</i> 4.6	<i>Cents</i> 4.7	<i>Cents</i> 4.7	<i>Cents</i> 4.7	<i>Cents</i> 5.0	<i>Cents</i> 5.0
*Macaroni..... do.....	14.7	14.8	14.9	14.7	15.7	15.7
*Wheat cereal..... 28-oz. package	24.3	24.3	24.3	24.2	23.9	23.9
*Corn flakes..... 8-oz. package	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.3	8.3
*Corn meal..... pound.....	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.9	5.1	5.1
Hominy grits..... 24-oz. package	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.2	9.3
*Rice..... pound.....	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.3	8.3
*Rolled oats..... do.....	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.6	7.6
Bakery products:						
*Bread, white..... do.....	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.4	8.3
Bread, whole wheat..... do.....	9.3	9.3	9.2	9.3	9.4	9.3
Bread, rye..... do.....	8.9	8.9	9.0	9.0	8.9	8.9
Cake..... do.....	25.1	24.9	24.8	24.8	23.3	23.2
Soda crackers..... do.....	18.0	18.1	18.1	18.1	16.8	16.7

<sup>1</sup> Prices for individual cities are combined with the use of population weights.

Table 2.—Average Retail Prices of 84 Foods in 51 Large Cities Combined—Con.

May and April 1936 and May 1935

[\* Indicates the 42 foods included in indexes prior to Jan. 1, 1935]

Article	1936				1935	
	May 19	May 5	Apr. 21	Apr. 7	May 21	May 7
<b>Meats:</b>						
<b>Beef:</b>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>
*Sirloin steak.....pound..	37.0	37.1	37.0	36.7	42.4	42.2
*Round steak.....do....	33.4	33.6	33.4	33.3	38.4	37.9
*Rib roast.....do....	28.8	29.2	29.4	29.4	33.0	32.9
*Chuck roast.....do....	21.8	22.2	22.4	22.5	25.9	25.6
*Plate.....do....	15.3	15.6	15.8	15.9	17.9	17.9
Liver.....do....	25.4	25.4	25.4	25.5	23.8	23.7
<b>Veal:</b>						
Cutlets.....do....	39.9	39.9	39.9	40.1	38.8	38.4
<b>Pork:</b>						
*Chops.....do....	32.5	34.1	33.7	33.2	35.4	34.4
Loin roast.....do....	26.8	28.4	28.2	27.7	29.2	28.3
*Bacon, sliced.....do....	40.5	41.0	40.9	40.9	39.7	39.0
Bacon, strip.....do....	35.2	35.5	35.7	35.4	34.3	33.8
*Ham, sliced.....do....	46.9	47.0	46.8	46.8	44.0	43.4
Ham, whole.....do....	30.7	30.7	30.6	30.6	27.4	27.0
Ham, picnic.....do....	23.3	23.3	23.2	23.0	22.0	21.5
Salt pork.....do....	24.0	24.4	24.6	24.5	25.5	25.3
<b>Lamb:</b>						
Breast.....do....	14.0	13.9	13.0	12.9	12.6	12.5
Chuck.....do....	24.1	23.8	22.4	21.6	21.3	20.6
*Leg.....do....	30.4	30.8	28.9	28.1	27.7	26.9
Rib chops.....do....	37.9	37.6	35.6	34.6	33.9	33.1
<b>Poultry:</b>						
*Roasting chickens.....do....	32.5	32.7	33.0	32.8	31.5	31.2
<b>Fish:</b>						
Salmon, pink.....16-oz. can..	13.1	13.1	13.1	13.0	13.0	13.0
*Salmon, red.....do....	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.3	20.8	20.8
<b>Dairy products:</b>						
*Butter.....pound..	33.9	35.2	37.5	37.6	33.8	35.6
*Cheese.....do....	26.5	26.9	26.8	26.8	26.8	26.9
Cream.....½ pint..	14.7	14.9	14.9	14.9	14.8	14.9
Milk, fresh (delivered and store).....quart..	11.6	11.6	11.6	11.6		
*Milk, fresh (delivered).....do....	11.8	11.8	11.8	11.8	11.8	11.8
*Milk, evaporated.....14½-oz. can..	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.4	7.2	7.2
*Eggs.....dozen..	31.0	30.7	29.9	29.6	34.3	33.8
<b>Fruits and vegetables:</b>						
<b>Fresh:</b>						
Apples.....pound..	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.4	6.7	6.5
*Bananas.....do....	6.3	6.1	6.1	6.3	6.1	6.0
Lemons.....dozen..	32.6	28.1	28.4	28.4	20.7	21.2
*Oranges.....do....	32.0	30.1	29.6	29.3	33.0	32.8
Beans, green.....pound..	11.3	12.9	15.3	17.1	8.3	10.3
*Cabbage.....do....	4.0	4.3	4.3	3.9	4.7	6.8
Carrots.....bunch..	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.9	5.9
Celery.....stalk..	9.9	10.0	9.8	9.7	10.6	10.4
Lettuce.....head..	7.4	8.6	8.0	7.7	8.9	9.7
*Onions.....pound..	4.0	4.1	4.0	3.8	7.2	7.6
*Potatoes.....do....	3.4	3.2	2.9	2.6	2.1	2.0
Spinach.....do....	6.0	6.9	6.9	6.8	6.0	7.1
Sweetpotatoes.....do....	4.6	4.3	4.1	3.8	4.3	4.3
<b>Canned:</b>						
Peaches.....no. 2½ can..	17.6	17.6	17.7	17.7	19.4	19.4
Pears.....do....	22.2	22.3	22.2	22.2	22.8	22.9
Pineapples.....do....	22.2	22.4	22.3	22.3	22.6	22.6
Asparagus.....no. 2 can..	26.0	25.8	26.0	26.0	25.2	25.1
Beans, green.....do....	11.4	11.4	11.4	11.4	12.0	11.9
*Beans with pork.....16-oz. can..	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.1	6.9	6.9
*Corn.....no. 2 can..	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.3	13.0	13.0
*Peas.....do....	15.8	15.8	15.8	15.9	17.4	17.5
*Tomatoes.....do....	9.2	9.2	9.3	9.2	10.4	10.5
Tomato soup.....10¾-oz. can..	8.1	8.1	8.1	8.0	8.1	8.1
Tomato juice.....13¼-oz. can..	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.5	8.5
<b>Dried:</b>						
Peaches.....pound..	17.1	17.1	17.2	17.1	16.8	16.9
*Prunes.....do....	9.4	9.4	9.5	9.5	11.3	11.4
*Raisins.....15-oz. package..	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.8	9.8
Black-eyed peas.....pound..	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8	8.8
Lima beans.....do....	10.6	10.6	10.5	10.5	10.0	10.0
*Navy beans.....do....	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.6	6.3	6.3

Table 2.—Average Retail Prices of 84 Foods in 51 Large Cities Combined—Con.  
May and April 1936 and May 1935

[\* Indicates the 42 foods included in indexes prior to Jan. 1, 1935]

Article	1936				1935	
	May 19	May 5	Apr. 21	Apr. 7	May 21	May 7
Beverages and chocolate:	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>
*Coffee..... pound	24.4	24.4	24.3	24.4	25.7	25.9
*Tea..... do	67.9	67.8	67.8	67.8	68.8	68.8
Cocoa..... 8-oz. can	10.6	10.7	10.7	10.7	11.1	11.2
Chocolate..... 8-oz. package	16.5	16.4	16.5	16.5	21.9	22.0
Fats and oils:						
*Lard..... pound	15.9	16.0	16.1	16.0	18.7	18.7
Lard compound..... do	14.7	14.9	14.9	14.9	16.4	16.3
*Vegetable shortening..... do	21.4	21.5	21.4	21.4	21.7	21.7
Salad oil..... pint	24.7	24.7	24.7	24.7	24.7	24.6
Mayonnaise..... ½ pint	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	16.8	16.8
*Oleomargarine..... pound	18.0	18.4	18.5	18.5	19.1	19.2
Peanut butter..... do	18.7	18.9	19.0	19.1	22.1	21.9
Sugar and sweets:						
*Sugar..... do	5.6	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.6	5.6
Corn sirup..... 24-oz. can	13.6	13.6	13.6	13.6	13.7	13.7
Molasses..... 18-oz. can	14.3	14.3	14.4	14.3	14.2	14.2
Strawberry preserves..... pound	20.3	20.2	20.3	20.2	20.3	20.3
Salt, table..... do	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.4

#### Details by Regions and Cities

THE increase in retail food costs between April 21 and May 19 was shared by 31 of the 51 cities included in the index. In only nine of these did the advance amount to 1.0 percent or more. Increases were relatively greater in cities in the East North Central region. The largest gain, 3.0 percent, occurred in Columbus, where prices of eggs and fresh fruits and vegetables moved upward.

Decreased food costs were reported by 16 cities scattered throughout the United States. The decline in Manchester, 1.5 percent, was the largest recorded. In this city, the average price of butter fell 13.7 percent and the fresh fruit and vegetable costs moved downward 2.8 percent.

Indexes of retail food costs remained unchanged in four cities—New York, Jacksonville, Norfolk, and Savannah.

Index numbers of the retail cost of food in each of the cities are given in table 3 for May and April 1936 and for May of earlier years.

Table 3.—Indexes of the Average Retail Cost of All Foods, by Cities<sup>1</sup>

May and April 1936 and May 1935, 1934, 1933, and 1929

[1923-25=100]

Region and city	1936				1935		1934	1933	1929
	May 19	May 5	Apr. 21	Apr. 7	May 21	May 7	May 22	May 15	May 15
<b>United States</b> .....	<b>79.9</b>	<b>80.1</b>	<b>79.7</b>	<b>78.9</b>	<b>81.4</b>	<b>81.5</b>	<b>73.0</b>	<b>62.5</b>	<b>102.4</b>
<b>New England</b> .....	<b>78.4</b>	<b>79.2</b>	<b>78.8</b>	<b>77.9</b>	<b>79.2</b>	<b>79.2</b>	<b>72.3</b>	<b>61.4</b>	<b>100.8</b>
Boston.....	76.9	77.9	77.2	76.3	77.4	77.4	70.1	60.0	100.8
Bridgeport.....	82.6	82.6	82.2	82.2	83.4	83.7	75.8	65.2	100.1
Fall River.....	79.1	80.3	80.3	79.0	79.7	79.2	73.1	60.2	99.9
Manchester.....	81.2	81.9	82.5	80.9	80.7	80.7	73.6	61.2	100.2
New Haven.....	82.4	82.3	82.2	81.6	83.5	83.0	77.7	64.5	102.2
Portland, Maine.....	78.5	79.5	78.7	77.9	79.5	80.3	74.1	64.0	102.1
Providence.....	77.8	78.8	78.7	77.5	78.4	79.1	71.5	61.7	99.5
<b>Middle Atlantic</b> .....	<b>81.0</b>	<b>81.3</b>	<b>81.0</b>	<b>79.7</b>	<b>81.8</b>	<b>82.2</b>	<b>76.2</b>	<b>63.9</b>	<b>102.8</b>
Buffalo.....	79.8	80.1	79.4	78.1	82.0	82.0	72.6	62.6	102.2
Newark.....	80.9	81.6	81.4	80.7	84.3	84.2	77.1	63.7	101.9
New York.....	81.8	82.1	81.8	80.6	82.2	82.6	76.9	66.3	101.9
Philadelphia.....	81.9	82.5	82.9	81.1	82.2	82.8	78.9	63.2	103.5
Pittsburgh.....	78.6	78.7	78.0	77.1	80.2	81.7	73.4	61.1	104.6
Rochester.....	82.3	81.5	79.9	78.3	80.9	80.2	73.3	59.7	102.6
Seranton.....	77.6	77.8	76.9	76.1	79.1	77.7	72.1	61.5	103.7
<b>East North Central</b> .....	<b>80.1</b>	<b>80.3</b>	<b>79.8</b>	<b>79.2</b>	<b>82.0</b>	<b>82.2</b>	<b>71.1</b>	<b>61.6</b>	<b>104.0</b>
Chicago.....	80.5	81.0	80.2	79.8	81.3	81.3	68.9	63.8	105.4
Cincinnati.....	84.3	84.0	82.3	81.8	85.1	86.4	74.2	62.5	108.7
Cleveland.....	79.1	78.6	79.8	77.9	82.5	83.0	72.2	59.3	101.7
Columbus, Ohio.....	82.5	80.4	80.1	79.3	84.8	85.1	74.0	61.3	102.6
Detroit.....	79.5	79.9	79.4	79.5	81.6	81.4	71.2	58.5	102.5
Indianapolis.....	79.3	79.5	78.3	77.2	80.0	80.5	73.4	59.4	104.4
Milwaukee.....	80.9	82.3	82.0	80.9	83.2	81.9	74.6	65.7	103.4
Peoria.....	80.3	80.2	79.5	79.5	80.0	82.8	71.6	62.4	100.7
Springfield, Ill.....	77.8	77.7	77.0	76.6	79.5	80.0	68.9	60.6	101.2
<b>West North Central</b> .....	<b>82.7</b>	<b>82.9</b>	<b>81.9</b>	<b>81.3</b>	<b>87.0</b>	<b>85.3</b>	<b>72.8</b>	<b>62.1</b>	<b>103.4</b>
Kansas City.....	80.5	80.4	79.8	78.8	90.6	84.0	72.6	63.8	101.2
Minneapolis.....	84.6	85.0	84.4	84.0	87.0	86.8	76.6	60.9	103.2
Omaha.....	79.6	79.2	79.5	78.8	85.1	85.3	69.7	59.2	98.8
St. Louis.....	85.1	85.6	83.5	83.2	86.1	85.7	71.9	63.4	107.9
St. Paul.....	81.4	81.3	80.8	80.6	84.8	84.7	75.7	60.1	100.7
<b>South Atlantic</b> .....	<b>79.5</b>	<b>79.6</b>	<b>79.0</b>	<b>78.4</b>	<b>80.7</b>	<b>81.4</b>	<b>73.0</b>	<b>61.2</b>	<b>100.9</b>
Atlanta.....	75.4	75.5	74.8	75.2	78.1	77.8	69.3	58.0	102.4
Baltimore.....	84.6	84.4	83.8	82.8	84.4	84.3	76.1	63.7	99.7
Charleston, S. C.....	78.6	79.1	79.4	78.8	78.6	79.4	69.5	59.1	99.5
Jacksonville.....	76.2	76.2	76.2	76.0	75.2	76.3	66.8	56.8	94.1
Norfolk.....	78.4	78.6	78.4	78.5	79.6	79.7	74.1	60.1	105.8
Richmond.....	75.7	75.2	74.5	74.0	77.5	78.5	72.1	59.2	101.3
Savannah.....	79.8	79.3	79.8	79.1	79.0	80.1	70.2	59.2	101.7
Washington, D. C.....	82.7	83.2	81.8	80.6	84.4	86.8	76.5	65.6	102.9
<b>East South Central</b> .....	<b>75.1</b>	<b>75.0</b>	<b>74.2</b>	<b>73.4</b>	<b>77.3</b>	<b>77.3</b>	<b>68.5</b>	<b>59.1</b>	<b>102.9</b>
Birmingham.....	70.7	70.3	70.0	69.4	72.4	72.4	64.5	56.3	98.8
Louisville.....	83.9	84.0	82.3	81.5	88.3	88.3	75.8	64.8	112.2
Memphis.....	77.8	78.8	77.1	75.7	80.8	81.0	71.0	60.0	102.1
Mobile.....	74.8	74.9	74.5	73.9	75.4	77.0	66.9	58.0	101.0
<b>West South Central</b> .....	<b>76.6</b>	<b>76.8</b>	<b>77.2</b>	<b>76.7</b>	<b>79.1</b>	<b>79.5</b>	<b>69.9</b>	<b>60.6</b>	<b>101.6</b>
Dallas.....	74.4	74.4	75.2	74.4	79.4	79.3	69.5	60.7	102.1
Houston.....	75.9	76.5	76.4	76.2	76.6	77.5	68.9	59.2	99.9
Little Rock.....	76.3	76.8	76.7	76.2	77.9	77.6	67.6	57.1	102.2
New Orleans.....	80.6	80.5	81.1	80.7	82.1	83.1	72.6	63.2	103.1

<sup>1</sup> Aggregate costs of 42 foods in each city prior to Jan. 1, 1935, and of 84 foods since that date, weighted to represent total purchases, have been combined for regions and for the United States with the use of population weights.

Table 3.—Indexes of the Average Retail Cost of All Foods, by Cities—Con.  
 May and April 1936 and May 1935, 1934, 1933, and 1929

[1923-25=100]

Region and city	1936				1935		1934	1933	1929
	May 19	May 5	Apr. 21	Apr. 7	May 21	May 7	May 22	May 15	May 15
<b>Mountain</b> .....	<b>83.0</b>	<b>82.7</b>	<b>82.8</b>	<b>81.8</b>	<b>86.6</b>	<b>86.9</b>	<b>71.0</b>	<b>63.4</b>	<b>99.8</b>
Butte.....	77.2	77.5	77.8	77.1	80.2	79.7	64.2	61.6	100.8
Denver.....	85.3	85.4	85.1	83.9	89.7	90.0	73.5	65.8	100.9
Salt Lake City.....	80.4	79.4	80.3	79.4	83.1	83.6	69.0	59.7	96.6
<b>Pacific</b> .....	<b>77.1</b>	<b>76.8</b>	<b>77.0</b>	<b>77.0</b>	<b>79.0</b>	<b>79.3</b>	<b>68.9</b>	<b>63.8</b>	<b>100.3</b>
Los Angeles.....	72.3	71.7	72.2	72.8	74.2	75.0	64.8	59.4	98.9
Portland, Oreg.....	80.8	80.0	80.3	79.5	80.8	81.1	67.5	62.6	101.2
San Francisco.....	80.8	80.7	80.9	80.4	83.3	83.4	73.5	68.4	101.7
Seattle.....	80.0	80.2	79.8	79.4	81.5	81.1	70.5	66.0	100.3

## Retail Food Costs, 1929 to May 1936

RETAIL food costs in the larger cities of the United States in May 1936 were 1.8 percent lower than a year ago. The index declined from 81.4 percent of the 1923-25 average on May 21, 1935, to 79.9 percent on May 19, 1936.

With the exception of fresh fruits and vegetables, the index for each of the food groups declined during the year. Five groups showed decreases of 5.0 percent or over. They were meats, 5.0 percent; eggs, 9.5 percent; canned fruits and vegetables, 7.2 percent; dried fruits and vegetables, 8.1 percent; and fats and oils, 8.3 percent. The advance of 65.6 percent in the average price of potatoes was the principal feature of the increase in the cost of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Of the 84 foods included in the index, lower prices were recorded for 49 and higher prices for 35.

Compared with May 1929, the cost of all foods in May 1936 shows a decline of 22.0 percent with decreases for the groups ranging from 7.5 percent for cereals to 43.5 percent for dried fruits and vegetables.

Indexes of retail food costs for all foods and for the various commodity groups are given in table 4 by years from 1929 to 1935 and for all pricing periods from January 2, 1935, to May 19, 1936.

The chart on page 227 shows the relative changes in the retail costs of all foods and each of the major food groups from 1929 to May 1936, inclusive.

Table 4.—Indexes of Retail Food Costs in 51 Large Cities Combined,<sup>1</sup> by Commodity Groups

1929 to May 19, 1936, Inclusive

[1923-25=100]

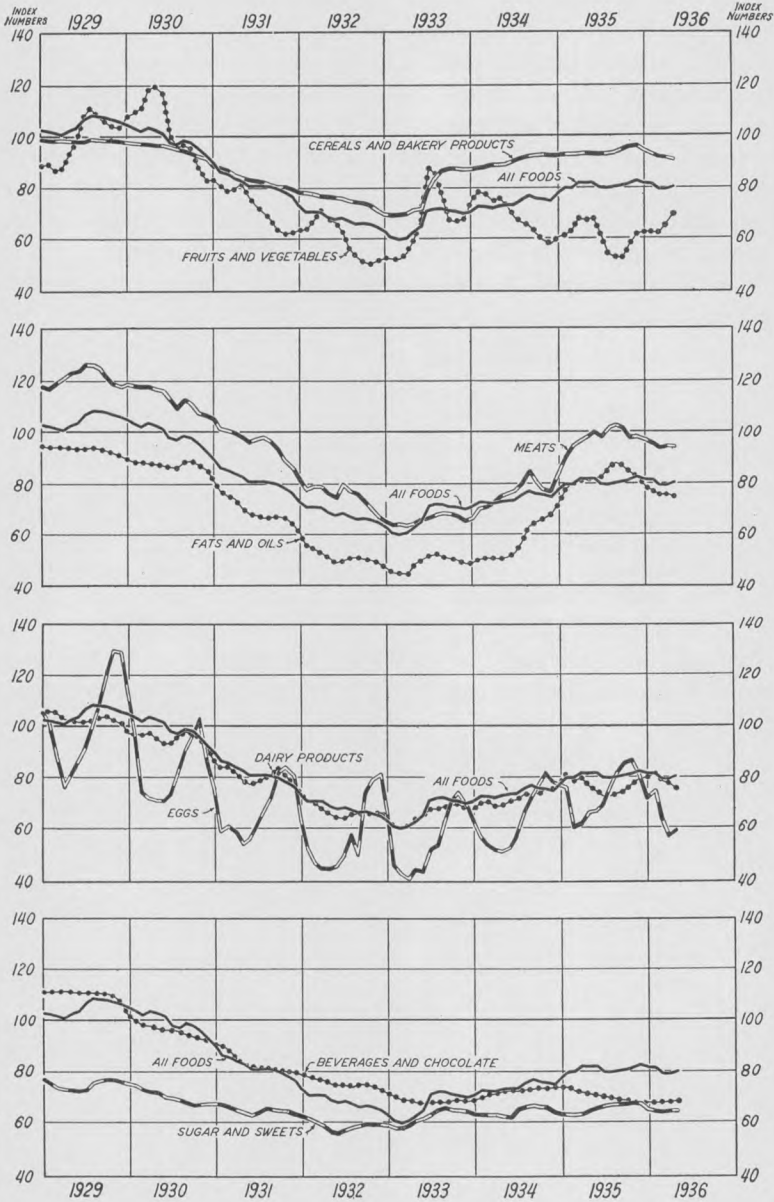
Date	All foods	Cereals and bakery products	Meats	Dairy products	Eggs	Fruits and vegetables				Beverages and chocolate	Fats and oils	Sugar and sweets
						Total	Fresh	Canned	Dried			
<i>By years</i>												
1929.....	104.7	98.1	121.1	102.9	101.2	98.4	98.1	96.8	103.8	110.0	93.1	74.6
1930.....	99.6	95.1	113.6	95.1	85.4	103.4	104.9	92.3	96.4	95.7	86.7	70.1
1931.....	82.1	83.5	96.4	80.8	67.2	73.3	72.9	80.3	72.1	83.2	70.4	64.7
1932.....	68.3	75.5	75.5	66.7	57.9	60.4	59.9	71.0	55.4	75.1	52.0	58.4
1933.....	66.4	77.4	65.7	65.2	55.3	65.8	66.6	68.5	53.6	68.4	48.6	61.5
1934.....	74.1	91.0	75.0	71.2	62.4	69.8	69.6	80.7	61.3	71.7	55.4	63.8
1935.....	80.4	92.9	96.1	76.7	73.5	60.6	58.6	82.7	61.8	70.3	81.5	65.0
<i>By months for 1935 and 1936</i>												
<i>1935</i>												
Jan. 2.....	75.8	91.9	79.1	76.3	76.4	59.9	57.7	83.0	62.7	73.5	70.5	62.8
Jan. 15.....	77.5	91.9	84.6	77.4	76.2	60.6	58.5	83.0	62.5	73.6	72.9	62.5
Jan. 29.....	78.9	91.9	87.9	79.4	76.8	61.1	59.1	83.5	62.4	73.3	75.0	62.5
Feb. 12.....	79.7	92.0	88.9	81.4	78.1	60.9	58.7	84.0	62.8	73.3	76.7	62.4
Feb. 26.....	79.7	92.1	90.9	80.6	72.1	61.1	59.0	84.0	63.0	73.3	78.1	62.5
Mar. 12.....	79.6	92.0	94.2	78.7	61.2	61.9	59.9	84.2	62.9	72.5	79.6	62.6
Mar. 26.....	79.8	92.2	93.9	77.9	58.8	63.8	62.1	84.4	62.8	72.1	80.1	62.4
Apr. 9.....	81.2	92.3	95.1	80.3	60.7	66.5	65.1	84.4	62.7	71.6	80.6	62.7
Apr. 23.....	81.9	92.2	96.5	79.3	61.8	68.7	67.6	84.2	63.1	71.3	81.0	63.0
May 7.....	81.5	92.4	96.9	78.8	64.9	67.5	66.2	84.4	63.1	71.0	81.0	64.2
May 21.....	81.4	92.9	98.0	75.6	65.9	66.0	64.5	84.3	62.9	70.6	80.9	64.6
June 4.....	81.9	92.4	99.9	74.5	65.9	67.7	66.4	84.4	63.0	70.8	81.5	64.9
June 18.....	81.5	92.1	99.1	73.9	66.3	67.3	66.0	84.3	63.1	70.1	81.7	65.1
July 2.....	80.6	92.0	97.3	73.3	67.4	65.3	63.7	84.7	63.1	69.9	82.1	65.6
July 16.....	80.2	92.1	98.1	72.7	68.8	62.6	60.6	84.5	63.2	69.9	82.1	66.2
July 30.....	79.0	92.2	97.8	72.6	70.6	57.1	54.5	84.2	62.8	69.7	82.7	66.3
Aug. 13.....	79.6	92.6	100.6	72.7	73.4	55.3	52.4	83.5	62.9	69.4	85.0	66.4
Aug. 27.....	79.6	92.5	101.9	73.0	76.2	52.8	49.7	82.7	62.2	69.2	87.0	66.3
Sept. 10.....	80.1	92.7	102.6	73.3	80.3	52.9	49.9	81.4	61.9	68.5	87.3	66.6
Sept. 24.....	79.9	92.7	102.2	73.2	82.3	52.3	49.3	80.9	61.0	68.3	87.4	66.5
Oct. 8.....	79.9	93.4	101.3	73.5	83.8	51.7	48.8	79.9	60.7	68.1	87.2	66.7
Oct. 22.....	80.5	94.4	100.6	74.4	85.8	53.4	50.7	79.9	60.0	68.0	86.3	66.9
Nov. 5.....	80.4	94.9	97.1	75.1	86.7	55.4	53.1	79.8	59.4	67.8	85.1	67.1
Nov. 19.....	81.5	95.0	97.2	77.5	84.9	58.7	56.8	80.0	59.0	67.8	83.5	67.0
Dec. 3.....	82.0	95.3	97.4	78.2	82.8	60.7	59.2	79.7	58.4	67.5	83.1	66.7
Dec. 17.....	82.0	95.4	97.1	78.8	80.5	61.3	59.8	79.6	58.5	67.6	82.3	66.5
Dec. 31.....	82.5	95.6	98.2	79.4	77.2	62.7	61.4	79.6	58.6	67.6	81.2	66.4
<i>1936</i>												
Jan. 14.....	81.7	94.0	97.3	79.8	73.8	62.7	61.5	79.4	58.2	67.6	79.3	64.9
Jan. 28.....	80.7	93.0	95.9	79.8	69.6	62.1	60.8	79.2	58.1	67.5	77.6	64.4
Feb. 11.....	80.6	92.5	94.9	80.5	70.6	62.0	60.8	78.9	57.9	67.4	76.8	64.1
Feb. 25.....	81.3	92.1	94.9	81.8	78.0	62.4	61.2	78.6	58.1	67.4	76.2	63.9
Mar. 10.....	79.5	91.7	93.3	79.5	66.9	61.7	60.5	78.5	57.9	67.6	75.7	63.7
Mar. 24.....	79.0	91.6	93.2	78.5	59.5	62.4	61.2	78.3	58.0	67.6	75.3	63.7
Apr. 7.....	78.9	91.3	93.7	77.8	56.9	63.3	62.2	78.4	57.8	67.7	75.1	63.8
Apr. 21.....	79.7	91.2	94.1	77.8	57.4	66.5	65.8	78.3	57.7	67.5	75.2	63.8
May 5.....	80.1	91.0	94.3	76.1	59.0	68.9	68.6	78.3	57.7	67.7	74.8	63.8
May 19.....	79.9	90.7	93.2	75.2	59.6	70.1	69.9	78.2	57.8	67.6	74.2	64.1

<sup>1</sup> Aggregate costs of 42 foods in each city prior to Jan. 1, 1935, and of 84 foods since that date, weighted to represent total purchases, have been combined with the use of population weights.



RETAIL COST OF FOOD

1923-25=100



U. S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

## Electricity Prices in April 1936

RESIDENTIAL rates for electricity are secured quarterly from 51 cities. These rates are used for computing average prices and typical bills in each city for the quantities of electricity which most nearly approximate the consumption requirements for the usual domestic services for a five-room house, including living room, dining room, kitchen, and two bedrooms. The blocks of consumption which have been selected as representative of average conditions throughout the country are 25 and 40 kilowatt-hours for the use of electricity for lighting and small appliances alone; 100 kilowatt-hours for lighting, small appliances, and a refrigerator; and 250 kilowatt-hours for the addition of an electric range to the preceding equipment.

The technical specifications which are used as the basis for the application of these rates are:

Floor area (1,000 square feet).	
Connected load:	<i>Watts</i>
Lighting and appliances.....	700
Refrigeration.....	300
Cooking.....	6, 000
Measured demand:	
Lighting and appliances.....	600
Refrigeration.....	100
Cooking.....	2, 300
Outlets: Fourteen 50-watt.	
Active room count: In accordance with schedule of rates.	

Typical bills and average prices per kilowatt-hour for the various blocks of consumption in each of the 51 cities are shown in table 5.

Table 5.—Total Net Monthly Bill and Price per Kilowatt-hour for Specified Amounts of Electricity Based on Rates as of Apr. 15, 1936, by Cities

[P=private utility. M=municipal plant]

Region and city	Total net monthly bill				Net monthly price per kilowatt-hour			
	Lighting and small appliances		Lighting, appliances, and refrigerator	Lighting, appliances, refrigerator, and range	Lighting and small appliances		Lighting, appliances, and refrigerator	Lighting, appliances, refrigerator, and range
	25 kilowatt-hours	40 kilowatt-hours	100 kilowatt-hours	250 kilowatt-hours	25 kilowatt-hours	40 kilowatt-hours	100 kilowatt-hours	250 kilowatt-hours
<b>New England:</b>					<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>
Boston.....P..	\$1.55	\$2.30	\$5.10	\$9.60	6.2	5.8	5.1	3.8
Bridgeport.....P..	1.31	2.05	4.87	8.90	5.3	5.1	4.9	3.6
Fall River.....P..	1.75	2.60	5.20	9.35	7.0	6.5	5.2	3.7
Manchester.....P..	2.00	2.80	5.00	8.00	8.0	7.0	5.0	3.2
New Haven.....P..	1.31	2.05	4.87	8.90	5.3	5.1	4.9	3.6
Portland, Maine.....P..	1.88	2.63	4.73	7.73	7.5	6.6	4.7	3.1
Providence.....P..	1.87	2.81	5.60	9.63	7.5	7.0	5.6	3.9
<b>Middle Atlantic:</b>								
Buffalo.....P..	1.13	1.70	3.06	5.31	4.5	4.3	3.1	2.1
Newark.....P..	1.92	2.60	4.50	8.75	7.7	6.5	4.5	3.5
<b>New York:<sup>1</sup></b>								
Bronx.....P..	1.80	2.56	4.92	8.26	7.2	6.4	4.9	3.3
Brooklyn.....P..	1.80	2.56	4.92	8.26	7.2	6.4	4.9	3.3
Manhattan.....P..	1.80	2.56	4.92	8.26	7.2	6.4	4.9	3.3
Queens.....P..	1.80	2.56	4.92	8.26	7.2	6.4	4.9	3.3
Richmond.....P..	2.17	3.26	6.38	13.01	8.7	8.2	6.4	5.2
Philadelphia.....P..	2.19	3.17	5.62	9.09	8.8	7.9	5.6	3.6
Pittsburgh.....P..	1.50	2.25	4.25	7.50	6.0	5.6	4.3	3.0
Rochester.....P..	1.25	2.00	4.00	8.50	5.0	5.0	4.0	3.4
Seranton.....P..	1.59	2.26	4.56	7.81	6.4	5.7	4.6	3.1
<b>East North Central:</b>								
Chicago.....P..	1.63	2.45	4.85	9.35	6.5	6.1	4.9	3.7
Cincinnati.....P..	1.51	2.04	3.75	8.02	6.0	5.1	3.8	3.2
Cleveland.....P..	1.13	1.58	2.88	5.88	4.5	4.0	2.9	2.4
Columbus.....M..	1.00	1.60	4.00	9.88	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Detroit <sup>2 3</sup> .....P..	.88	1.31	3.05	7.40	3.5	3.3	3.1	3.0
Indianapolis.....P..	1.25	1.95	4.50	8.50	5.0	4.9	4.5	3.4
Milwaukee.....P..	1.00	1.58	3.80	8.30	4.0	4.0	3.8	3.3
Peoria.....P..	1.43	1.99	3.65	7.12	5.7	5.0	3.7	2.8
Springfield, Ill.....M..	1.44	2.30	4.80	8.53	5.8	5.8	4.8	3.4
<b>West North Central:</b>								
Kansas City <sup>4</sup> .....P..	1.41	1.90	3.60	6.48	5.6	4.8	3.6	2.6
Minneapolis.....P..	1.50	2.01	3.57	6.32	6.0	5.0	3.6	2.5
Omaha.....P..	1.25	1.90	3.90	6.90	5.0	4.8	3.9	2.8
St. Louis <sup>2 4</sup> .....P..	1.25	1.90	3.02	4.80	5.0	4.8	3.0	1.9
St. Paul.....P..	1.65	2.32	4.04	7.83	6.6	5.8	4.0	3.1
<b>South Atlantic:</b>								
Atlanta:								
Immediate.....P..	1.66	2.18	3.80	6.79	6.6	5.5	3.8	2.7
Inducement <sup>5</sup> .....P..	1.19	1.90	3.88	7.78	4.8	4.8	3.9	3.1
Baltimore.....P..	1.20	1.73	3.16	6.28	4.8	4.3	3.2	2.5
Charleston, S. C.:								
Immediate.....P..	1.08	1.44	2.88	5.76	4.3	3.6	2.9	2.3
Objective <sup>6</sup> .....P..	1.60	2.15	3.85	7.00	6.4	5.4	3.9	2.8
Jacksonville.....M..	1.62	2.37	4.57	8.32	6.5	5.9	4.6	3.3
Norfolk.....P..	1.45	2.12	3.95	6.57	5.8	5.3	4.0	2.6
Richmond.....P..	1.25	2.00	4.18	8.98	5.0	5.0	4.2	3.6
Savannah.....P..	1.60	2.50	5.35	8.85	6.4	6.3	5.4	3.5
Washington.....P..	1.50	2.25	4.20	6.82	6.0	5.6	4.2	2.7
	1.75	2.70	4.95	7.95	7.0	6.8	5.0	3.2
	1.38	2.10	4.65	7.65	5.5	5.3	4.7	3.1
	1.38	2.10	4.65	7.65	5.5	5.3	4.7	3.1
	1.63	2.38	4.57	8.32	6.5	6.0	4.6	3.3
	.98	1.56	3.40	5.67	3.9	3.9	3.4	2.3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 5.—Total Net Monthly Bill and Price per Kilowatt-hour for Specified Amounts of Electricity Based on Rates as of Apr. 15, 1936, by Cities—Continued

Region and city	Total net monthly bill				Net monthly price per kilowatt-hour			
	Lighting and small appliances		Lighting, appliances, and refrigerator	Lighting, appliances, refrigerator, and range	Lighting and small appliances		Lighting, appliances, and refrigerator	Lighting, appliances, refrigerator, and range
	25 kilowatt-hours	40 kilowatt-hours	100 kilowatt-hours	250 kilowatt-hours	25 kilowatt-hours	40 kilowatt-hours	100 kilowatt-hours	250 kilowatt-hours
East South Central:								
Birmingham:					<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>
Immediate..... P..	\$1.45	\$2.20	\$3.95	\$7.50	5.8	5.5	4.0	3.0
Objective <sup>3</sup> ..... P..	.98	1.56	3.20	6.95	3.9	3.9	3.2	2.8
Louisville..... P..	1.25	2.00	3.80	8.30	5.0	5.0	3.8	3.3
Memphis..... P..	1.38	2.20	4.25	8.75	5.5	5.5	4.3	3.5
Mobile:								
Present..... P..	1.55	2.30	4.05	7.60	6.2	5.8	4.1	3.0
Objective <sup>3</sup> ..... P..	1.45	2.13	3.95	6.58	5.8	5.3	4.0	2.6
West South Central:								
Dallas..... P..	1.38	2.20	4.60	8.40	5.5	5.5	4.6	3.4
Houston..... P..	1.30	1.90	4.30	8.28	5.2	4.8	4.3	3.3
Little Rock: <sup>1</sup>								
Present..... P..	1.99	2.88	5.20	8.67	8.0	7.2	5.2	3.5
Centennial <sup>3</sup> ..... P..	1.84	2.63	5.10	8.67	7.4	6.6	5.1	3.5
New Orleans..... P..	1.88	2.85	5.50	10.25	7.5	7.1	5.5	4.1
Mountain:								
Butte..... P..	1.55	2.38	4.43	7.93	6.2	5.9	4.4	3.2
Denver <sup>1</sup> ..... P..	1.53	2.45	4.90	9.49	6.1	6.1	4.9	3.8
Salt Lake City: <sup>1</sup>								
Present..... P..	1.92	2.99	4.92	7.85	7.7	7.5	4.9	3.1
Objective <sup>3</sup> ..... P..	1.63	2.30	3.83	7.14	6.5	5.8	3.8	2.9
Pacific:								
Los Angeles..... P..	1.10	1.66	3.04	5.27	4.4	4.1	3.0	2.1
..... P..	1.10	1.66	3.04	5.27	4.4	4.1	3.0	2.1
..... M..	1.10	1.66	3.04	5.27	4.4	4.1	3.0	2.1
Portland, Oreg..... P..	1.38	1.95	3.39	6.09	5.5	4.9	3.4	2.4
..... P..	1.38	1.95	3.39	6.09	5.5	4.9	3.4	2.4
San Francisco..... P..	1.40	2.00	3.50	7.15	5.6	5.0	3.5	2.9
Seattle..... P..	1.25	2.00	3.20	6.08	5.0	5.0	3.2	2.4
..... M..	1.25	2.00	3.20	6.10	5.0	5.0	3.2	2.4

<sup>1</sup> Prices include 2-percent sales tax.<sup>2</sup> Prices include free lamp-renewal service.<sup>3</sup> Prices include 3-percent sales tax.<sup>4</sup> Prices include 1-percent sales tax.<sup>5</sup> The "inducement" rate in Atlanta, the "objective" rate in Charleston (S. C.), Birmingham, Mobile, and Salt Lake City, and the "centennial" rate in Little Rock are designed to encourage greater use of electricity.

Reductions in residential rates for electricity between January and April 1936 were reported for three cities in the South Atlantic area and one on the Pacific coast. In Norfolk and Richmond customers using a small amount of electricity received the greatest benefit. The reductions in customers' bills for these cities ranged from 8.3 percent for 25 kilowatt-hours to 1.9 percent for 250 kilowatt-hours. The reduction for Washington affected bills for current used in excess of the first 50 kilowatt-hours. For the average customer this applies to equipment which includes a refrigerator in addition to lighting and small appliances. A reduction of 2.9 percent was reported for the consumption of 100 kilowatt-hours. No reduction was shown for a

consumption of 250 kilowatt-hours which includes the use of a range, since customers using a range are served under a different rate schedule.

The percentage changes in net monthly bills for specified amounts of electricity from January to April 1936 are shown in table 6.

Table 6.—Percentage Decrease in the Total Monthly Bill for Specified Amounts of Electricity by Cities

Apr. 15, 1936, Compared With Jan. 15, 1936

[P=private utility, M=municipal plant]

Region and city	Percentage decrease, Jan. 15, 1936, to Apr. 15, 1936			
	25 kilo-watt-hours	40 kilo-watt-hours	100 kilo-watt-hours	250 kilo-watt-hours
South Atlantic:				
Norfolk.....P	8.3	6.7	3.1	1.9
Richmond.....P	8.3	6.7	3.1	1.9
Washington.....P	0	0	2.9	0
Pacific:				
Los Angeles:				
Company 1.....P	8.3	8.6	8.3	16.6
Company 2.....P	12.0	17.3	39.3	24.8
Company 3.....M	8.3	8.6	8.3	16.6

### Gas Prices in April 1936

RESIDENTIAL rates for gas are secured from 50 cities. These rates are used in computing average prices and typical bills for each city for quantities of gas which approximate the average residential consumption requirements for each of four combinations of services. In order to put the rate quotations upon a comparable basis it is necessary to convert the normal consumption requirements used for computing monthly bills into an equivalent heating value expressed in therms (1 therm=100,000 British thermal units). This procedure is necessary because of the wide range in the heating value of a cubic foot of gas between different cities. The equipment and blocks of consumption which have been selected as representative of average conditions throughout the country are based upon the requirements of a five-room house, including living room, dining room, kitchen, and two bedrooms.

These specifications are:

Range.....	Therms
Range and manual-type water heater.....	10.6
Range and automatic storage or instantaneous type water heater.....	19.6
Range, automatic storage or instantaneous type water heater and refrigerator.....	30.6
	40.6

Typical net monthly bills and prices per therm and per thousand cubic feet for these services for each city are shown in table 7.

Table 7.—Total Net Monthly Bill and Prices per Thousand Cubic Feet and per Therm for Specified Amounts of Gas; Based on Rates as of Apr. 15, 1936, by Cities

Region and city	Kind of gas <sup>1</sup>	Heat- ing value per cubic foot in British thermal units	Monthly consumption in cubic feet and net monthly bill based on specified numbers of therms <sup>4</sup>								Net monthly price based on consumption of specified numbers of therms <sup>2</sup>							
			Range, 10.6 therms		Range and water heater of indicated type				Range, auto- matic <sup>3</sup> water heater, and refrigerator, 40.6 therms		Per thousand cubic feet for—				Per therm for—			
					Manual, 19.6 therms		Automatic, <sup>3</sup> 30.6 therms				Range, 10.6 therms	Range and water heater of indicated type		Range, 10.6 therms	Range and water heater of indicated type		Range, auto- matic <sup>3</sup> water heater, and refriger- ator, 40.6 therms	
			Cubic feet	Bill	Cubic feet	Bill	Cubic feet	Bill	Cubic feet	Bill		Man- ual, 19.6 therms	Auto- matic, <sup>3</sup> 30.6 therms		Man- ual, 19.6 therms	Auto- matic, <sup>3</sup> 30.6 therms		Man- ual, 19.6 therms
New England:			<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>		<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	
Boston.....	M	528	2,010	2.51	3,710	4.21	5,800	5.76	7,690	7.27	1.25	1.13	0.99	0.95	23.7	21.5	18.8	17.9
.....	M	528	2,010	2.31	3,710	4.27	5,800	5.69	7,690	7.20	1.15	1.15	.98	.94	21.8	21.8	18.6	17.7
Fall River.....	M	528	2,010	2.53	3,710	4.06	5,800	5.94	7,690	7.64	1.26	1.09	1.02	.99	23.9	20.7	19.4	18.8
Manchester.....	M	525	2,020	2.85	3,730	4.82	5,830	5.67	7,730	6.92	1.41	1.29	.97	.90	26.9	24.6	18.5	17.0
New Haven.....	M	528	2,010	2.41	3,710	4.11	5,800	6.20	7,690	8.09	1.20	1.11	1.07	1.05	22.7	21.0	20.3	19.9
Portland, Maine.....	M	525	2,020	3.03	3,730	5.16	5,830	6.51	7,730	8.03	1.50	1.38	1.12	1.04	28.6	26.3	21.3	19.8
Providence.....	M	510	2,080	2.57	3,840	4.16	6,000	6.10	7,960	7.86	1.24	1.08	1.02	.99	24.2	21.2	19.9	19.4
Middle Atlantic:																		
Buffalo.....	X	900	1,180	.77	2,180	1.42	3,400	2.21	4,510	2.93	.65	.65	.65	.65	7.3	7.2	7.2	7.2
Newark.....	M	525	2,020	2.69	3,730	4.31	5,830	6.06	7,730	7.29	1.33	1.16	1.04	.94	25.4	22.0	19.8	18.0
New York: <sup>4</sup>																		
Bronx.....	M	537	1,970	2.32	3,650	4.28	5,700	6.69	7,560	8.86	1.18	1.17	1.17	1.17	21.9	21.8	21.9	21.8
.....	M	537	1,970	2.32	3,650	4.28	5,700	6.69	7,560	8.86	1.18	1.17	1.17	1.17	21.9	21.8	21.9	21.8
Brooklyn.....	M	537	1,970	2.35	3,650	3.81	5,700	5.27	7,560	6.45	1.19	1.04	.93	.85	22.2	19.4	17.2	15.9
.....	M	537	1,970	2.45	3,650	4.07	5,700	6.06	7,560	7.86	1.24	1.12	1.06	1.04	23.1	20.8	19.8	19.4
.....	M	537	1,970	2.59	3,650	4.40	5,700	6.59	7,560	8.58	1.31	1.21	1.16	1.13	24.4	22.4	21.5	21.1
Manhattan.....	M	537	1,970	2.32	3,650	4.28	5,700	6.69	7,560	8.86	1.18	1.17	1.17	1.17	21.9	21.8	21.9	21.8
Queens.....	M	537	1,970	2.32	3,650	4.28	5,700	6.69	7,560	8.86	1.18	1.17	1.17	1.17	21.9	21.8	21.9	21.8
.....	M	537	1,970	2.32	3,650	4.28	5,700	6.69	7,560	8.86	1.18	1.17	1.17	1.17	21.9	21.8	21.9	21.8
.....	M	537	1,970	3.12	3,650	5.12	5,700	7.11	7,560	8.90	1.58	1.40	1.25	1.18	29.4	26.1	23.2	21.9
Richmond.....	M	530	2,000	1.80	3,700	3.25	5,770	5.00	7,660	6.61	.90	.88	.87	.86	17.0	16.6	16.3	16.3
Philadelphia.....	N	1,130	940	1.00	1,730	1.04	2,710	1.63	3,590	2.15	1.06	.60	.60	.60	9.4	5.3	5.3	5.3
Pittsburgh.....	N	1,100	960	1.00	1,780	1.07	2,780	1.67	3,690	2.21	1.04	.60	.60	.60	9.4	5.5	5.5	5.4
.....	N	1,100	960	1.00	1,780	1.07	2,780	1.67	3,690	2.21	1.04	.60	.60	.60	9.4	5.5	5.5	5.4
Rochester.....	M	537	1,970	1.97	3,650	3.65	5,700	5.56	7,560	7.05	1.00	1.00	.98	.93	18.6	18.6	18.2	17.4
Scranton.....	M	520	2,040	3.10	3,770	4.97	5,880	7.08	7,810	9.01	1.52	1.32	1.20	1.15	29.2	25.4	23.1	22.2
East North Central:																		
Chicago.....	X	800	1,330	1.94	2,450	3.33	3,830	4.69	5,080	5.39	1.46	1.36	1.23	1.06	18.3	17.0	15.3	13.3
Cincinnati.....	X	865	1,230	.91	2,270	1.63	3,540	2.45	4,690	3.16	.74	.72	.69	.67	8.6	8.3	8.0	7.8

Cleveland	N	1,100	960	\$ .75	1,780	.89	2,780	1.43	3,690	1.93	.78	.50	.51	.52	7.1	4.5	4.7	4.8
Columbus	N	1,030	1,030	\$ .75	1,900	1.05	2,970	1.63	3,940	2.17	.73	.55	.55	.55	7.1	5.4	5.3	5.3
	N	1,030	1,030	\$ .75	1,900	.91	2,970	1.43	3,940	1.89	.73	.48	.48	.48	7.1	4.6	4.7	4.7
Detroit <sup>6</sup>	M	530	2,000	1.71	3,700	3.16	5,770	4.93	7,660	6.55	.86	.85	.85	.86	16.1	16.1	16.1	16.1
Indianapolis	M	570	1,860	1.77	3,440	3.27	5,370	5.10	7,120	6.76	.95	.95	.95	.95	16.7	16.7	16.7	16.7
Milwaukee	M	520	2,040	1.73	3,770	3.03	5,880	4.61	7,810	6.02	.85	.80	.78	.77	16.3	15.5	15.1	14.8
Peoria	N	1,000	1,060	2.12	1,960	3.64	3,060	4.67	4,060	5.57	2.00	1.86	1.53	1.37	20.0	18.6	15.3	13.7
Springfield	N	1,000	1,060	1.91	1,960	3.36	3,060	4.66	4,060	5.56	1.80	1.71	1.52	1.37	18.0	17.1	15.2	13.7
West North Central:																		
Kansas City <sup>7</sup>	N	1,000	1,060	1.35	1,960	2.17	3,060	3.12	4,060	3.98	1.27	1.11	1.02	.98	12.7	11.1	10.2	9.8
Minneapolis	X	800	1,330	1.90	2,450	2.97	3,830	4.27	5,080	5.41	1.43	1.21	1.11	1.06	17.9	15.2	13.9	13.3
Omaha	M	550	1,930	1.54	3,560	2.43	5,560	3.53	7,380	4.53	.80	.68	.63	.61	14.5	12.4	11.5	12.2
St. Louis <sup>7</sup>	X	800	1,330	2.03	2,450	3.31	3,830	4.88	5,080	6.17	1.53	1.35	1.27	1.21	19.2	16.9	15.9	15.2
St. Paul	M	550	1,930	1.74	3,560	3.20	5,560	5.00	7,380	6.64	.90	.90	.90	.90	16.4	16.3	16.3	16.4
South Atlantic:																		
Atlanta	N	980	1,080	1.78	2,000	2.70	3,120	3.77	4,140	4.38	1.65	1.35	1.21	1.06	16.8	13.8	12.3	10.8
Baltimore	M	500	2,120	1.80	3,920	3.33	6,120	4.78	8,120	6.08	.85	.85	.78	.75	17.0	17.0	15.6	15.0
Charleston, S. C.	M	550	1,930	2.70	3,560	4.98	5,560	7.18	7,380	9.00	1.40	1.40	1.29	1.22	25.5	25.4	23.5	22.2
Jacksonville	M	535	1,980	4.03	3,660	6.34	5,720	8.20	7,590	9.88	2.04	1.73	1.43	1.30	38.0	32.3	26.8	24.3
Norfolk	M	530	2,000	2.40	3,700	4.36	5,770	6.62	7,660	8.51	1.20	1.18	1.15	1.11	22.6	22.2	21.6	21.0
Richmond	M	525	2,020	2.63	3,730	4.78	6,830	7.43	7,730	9.82	1.30	1.28	1.27	1.27	24.8	24.4	24.3	24.2
Savannah	M	575	1,840	2.30	3,410	4.26	5,320	6.65	7,060	8.83	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	21.7	21.7	21.7	21.7
Washington, D. C.	X	600	1,770	1.53	3,270	2.73	5,100	4.08	6,770	5.25	.86	.83	.80	.78	14.4	13.9	13.3	12.9
East South Central:																		
Birmingham <sup>8</sup>	M	534	1,990	1.59	3,670	2.94	5,730	4.58	7,600	6.08	.80	.80	.80	.80	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
Louisville	X	900	1,180	.89	2,180	1.39	3,400	2.00	4,510	2.56	.75	.64	.59	.57	8.4	7.1	6.5	6.3
Memphis <sup>8</sup>	N	980	1,080	1.51	2,000	2.48	3,120	3.60	4,140	4.21	1.40	1.24	1.15	1.02	14.3	12.7	11.8	10.4
Mobile:																		
Present	N	960	1,100	2.25	2,040	3.43	3,190	4.75	4,230	5.43	2.05	1.68	1.49	1.28	21.2	17.5	15.5	13.4
Objective	N	960	1,100	2.05	2,040	2.99	3,190	4.06	4,230	4.69	1.86	1.47	1.27	1.11	19.3	15.3	13.3	11.6
West South Central:																		
Dallas	N	1,015	1,040	1.28	1,930	1.88	3,010	2.61	4,000	3.28	1.23	.97	.87	.82	12.1	9.6	8.5	8.1
Houston	N	1,000	1,060	1.19	1,960	1.77	3,060	2.49	4,060	3.14	1.12	.90	.81	.77	11.2	9.0	8.1	7.7
Little Rock <sup>4</sup>	N	1,000	1,060	1.10	1,960	1.61	3,060	2.22	4,060	2.78	1.04	.82	.73	.68	10.4	8.2	7.3	6.8
New Orleans	N	950	1,120	1.26	2,060	2.10	3,220	3.15	4,270	4.09	1.13	1.02	.98	.96	11.9	10.7	10.3	10.1
Mountain:																		
Butte	N	850	1,250	1.11	2,310	1.59	3,600	2.17	4,780	2.70	.89	.69	.60	.56	10.5	8.1	7.1	6.7
Denver <sup>4</sup>	N	830	1,280	2.18	2,360	3.34	3,690	4.19	4,890	4.82	1.70	1.42	1.14	.99	20.6	17.0	13.7	11.9
Salt Lake City <sup>4</sup>	N	865	1,230	2.12	2,270	3.26	3,540	4.15	4,690	4.86	1.72	1.44	1.17	1.04	20.0	16.6	13.6	12.0
Pacific:																		
Los Angeles	N	1,100	960	1.26	1,780	1.82	2,780	2.51	3,690	2.97	1.31	1.02	.90	.80	11.9	9.3	8.2	7.3
Portland, Oreg.	M	570	1,860	2.34	3,440	3.98	5,370	5.96	7,120	7.63	1.26	1.16	1.11	1.07	22.1	20.3	19.5	18.8
San Francisco	N	1,150	920	1.38	1,700	2.05	2,660	2.86	3,530	3.60	1.50	1.21	1.08	1.02	13.0	10.5	9.3	8.9
Seattle <sup>6</sup>	M	500	2,120	3.25	3,920	5.67	6,120	5.33	8,120	6.46	1.53	1.45	.87	.80	30.7	28.9	17.4	15.9

<sup>1</sup> The different kinds of gas are indicated as follows: M, manufactured; N, natural; and X, mixed, manufactured and natural.

<sup>2</sup> Monthly consumption for each service for a five-room house (1 therm equals 100,000 B. t. u.).

<sup>3</sup> Automatic storage or instantaneous water heater.

<sup>4</sup> Prices include 2-percent sales tax.

<sup>5</sup> Minimum charge.

<sup>6</sup> Prices include 3-percent sales tax.

<sup>7</sup> Prices include 1-percent sales tax.

<sup>8</sup> Revised figures.

Reductions in residential gas rates between January and April 1936 were reported for two cities. For Minneapolis the decrease in average monthly bills for each of the four services ranged from 1.5 percent to 2.6 percent. In Los Angeles only those customers whose equipment included range, automatic water heater, and refrigerator benefited by the reduction. Average monthly bills for these customers were reduced about 5.5 percent. Percentage changes in the net monthly price of specified amounts of gas from January 15, 1936, to April 15, 1936, are shown in table 8. Data are given in this table for only those cities for which price changes were reported during this period.

Table 8.—Percentage Decrease in the Total Monthly Bill for Specified Amounts of Gas by Cities

Apr. 15, 1936, Compared With Jan. 15, 1936

Region and city	Kind of gas	Heating value per cubic foot in British thermal units	Percentage decrease from Jan. 15, 1936, to Apr. 15, 1936			
			10.6 Therms	19.6 Therms	30.6 Therms	40.6 Therms
West North Central:						
Minneapolis.....	X	800	1.5	2.0	-2.4	2.6
Pacific:						
Los Angeles.....	N	1,100	0	0	0	5.4

### Coal Prices in April 1936

AVERAGE retail prices of coal for the larger cities of the United States showed unusually slight seasonal decreases from January to April 1936. For bituminous coal the decline was 0.1 percent, and for stove and chestnut sizes of Pennsylvania anthracite the decreases were 0.3 percent and 0.2 percent, respectively. The general decline during the first quarter of 1936 was less than for any corresponding period since 1920 for which both January and April prices have been collected. The nearest approach was 1930 when prices from January to April showed virtually no change for Pennsylvania anthracite; prices for bituminous coal, however, dropped about 3 percent. Average prices of bituminous coal and Pennsylvania anthracite in large cities combined were 4.0 percent higher in April 1936 than for the corresponding period in 1935.

Retail prices of coal as of the 15th of the month are collected from each of the 51 cities from which retail prices of food are obtained. Prices of bituminous coal of several kinds are received from 38 of the cities. Of these 38 cities, 12 also report on stove and chestnut sizes of Pennsylvania anthracite and 6 report on anthracite from other fields. In addition to the 38 cities there are 13 cities which report prices for Pennsylvania anthracite alone. For each city, prices are



shown for those coals sold in considerable quantities for household use. Prices are for curb delivery of the kinds of coal sold to wage earners. Extra charges for handling are not included.

Table 9.—Average Retail Prices of Coal in Large Cities Combined

April and January 1936 and April 1935

Article	Average retail price per ton of 2,000 pounds			Relative retail price (1935=100)			Percentage change April 1936 compared with—	
	1936		1935	1936		1935	1936	1935
	Apr. 15	Jan. 15	Apr. 15	Apr. 15	Jan. 15	Apr. 15	Jan. 15	Apr. 15
	Bituminous coal (38 cities).....	\$8.57	\$8.58	\$8.24	157.7	157.8	151.7	-0.1
Pennsylvania anthracite (25 cities):								
Stove.....	13.13	13.17	12.67	169.9	170.4	164.0	-.3	+3.6
Chestnut.....	12.94	12.96	12.47	163.5	163.8	157.6	-.2	+3.8

#### Details by Regions and Cities

ALTHOUGH the average retail price of bituminous coal for 38 cities combined continued at practically the same level from January to April 1936, changes were reported for many individual cities. The most marked variations were shown for the East Central areas. Price increases and decreases were rather uniformly distributed among the cities within each area, with the exception of the West North Central. In this area prices advanced in all cities except Kansas City which reported no change. Average retail prices in each of the 38 cities on April 15 and January 15, 1936, and April 15, 1935, are shown in table 10.

Prices of Pennsylvania anthracite did not change in 13 of the 25 reporting cities, 10 of which are located in the New England and South Atlantic areas. The usual seasonal decline was reported for the cities in the Middle Atlantic area. In the North Central area, prices remained unchanged in three cities, dropped slightly in one city, and showed advances ranging from 26 to 46 cents per ton in the remaining three cities. Table 11 presents average retail prices in each of the 25 cities on April 15 and January 15, 1936, and April 15, 1935.

Table 10.—Average Retail Prices of Bituminous Coal per Ton of 2,000 Pounds, by Cities

April and January 1936 and April 1935

Region, city, and grade and size of coal	1936	1936	1935	Region, city, and grade and size of coal	1936	1936	1935
	Apr. 15	Jan. 15	Apr. 15		Apr. 15	Jan. 15	Apr. 15
Middle Atlantic:				South Atlantic—Con.			
Pittsburgh:				Charleston, S. C.:			
Prepared sizes.....	\$4.38	\$4.40	\$4.20	Prepared sizes.....	\$9.33	\$9.33	\$10.00
East North Central:				Jacksonville:			
Chicago:				Prepared sizes.....	10.25	11.13	9.75
Prepared sizes:				Norfolk:			
High volatile.....	8.92	8.59	8.31	Prepared sizes:			
Low volatile.....	11.22	10.79	10.20	High volatile.....	7.50	7.63	8.00
Run of mine:				Low volatile.....	9.50	9.50	9.50
Low volatile.....	8.20	7.91	8.03	Run of mine:			
Cincinnati:				Low volatile.....	7.50	7.50	8.00
Prepared sizes:				Richmond:			
High volatile.....	5.85	6.26	5.06	Prepared sizes:			
Low volatile.....	7.86	8.18	6.87	High volatile.....	8.08	8.08	7.67
Cleveland:				Low volatile.....	9.33	9.33	8.87
Prepared sizes:				Run of mine:			
High volatile.....	6.91	6.66	7.08	Low volatile.....	7.40	7.40	7.75
Low volatile.....	9.80	9.54	9.21	Savannah:			
Columbus:				Prepared sizes.....	19.28	19.16	19.62
Prepared sizes:				Washington, D. C.:			
High volatile.....	6.11	6.18	5.85	Prepared sizes:			
Low volatile.....	7.69	7.97	7.06	High volatile.....	28.94	29.00	28.94
Detroit:				Low volatile.....	210.87	210.87	210.38
Prepared sizes:				Run of mine:			
High volatile.....	7.40	7.36	7.03	Mixed.....	28.02	28.02	28.02
Low volatile.....	8.63	8.63	7.92	East South Central:			
Run of mine:				Birmingham:			
Low volatile.....	7.92	7.73	7.34	Prepared sizes.....	5.75	6.36	6.02
Indianapolis:				Louisville:			
Prepared sizes:				Prepared sizes:			
High volatile.....	6.21	5.76	6.27	High volatile.....	6.02	5.66	5.53
Low volatile.....	8.45	8.56	8.41	Low volatile.....	8.13	8.06	7.28
Run of mine:				Memphis:			
Low volatile.....	7.28	7.30	7.42	Prepared sizes.....	7.49	7.43	7.16
Milwaukee:				Mobile:			
Prepared sizes:				Prepared sizes.....	8.76	8.99	8.75
High volatile.....	8.42	8.43	7.98	West South Central:			
Low volatile.....	11.43	11.48	10.65	Dallas:			
Peoria:				Prepared sizes.....	10.29	10.29	10.25
Prepared sizes.....	7.34	7.24	6.83	Houston:			
Springfield, Ill.:				Prepared sizes.....	11.50	11.71	11.25
Prepared sizes.....	4.31	4.35	4.51	Little Rock:			
West North Central:				Prepared sizes.....	8.44	8.41	8.11
Kansas City:				New Orleans:			
Prepared sizes.....	5.85	5.85	5.94	Prepared sizes.....	10.60	10.60	10.60
Minneapolis:				Mountain:			
Prepared sizes:				Butte:			
High volatile.....	10.72	10.68	10.35	Prepared sizes.....	9.98	10.00	9.77
Low volatile.....	13.38	13.36	12.97	Denver:			
Omaha:				Prepared sizes.....	7.75	7.69	7.77
Prepared sizes.....	8.74	8.62	8.39	Salt Lake City:			
St. Louis:				Prepared sizes.....	7.48	7.61	7.17
Prepared sizes.....	5.76	5.38	5.87	Pacific:			
St. Paul:				Los Angeles:			
Prepared sizes:				Prepared sizes.....	16.74	16.74	16.78
High volatile.....	10.49	10.49	10.17	Portland, Ore.:			
Low volatile.....	13.41	13.39	13.12	Prepared sizes.....	11.97	11.97	11.74
South Atlantic:				San Francisco:			
Atlanta:				Prepared sizes.....	16.38	16.33	15.21
Prepared sizes.....	7.54	7.38	7.02	Seattle:			
Baltimore:				Prepared sizes.....	10.11	10.16	9.70
Prepared sizes:							
Low Volatile.....	9.19	9.19	9.31				
Run of mine:							
High volatile.....	7.29	7.29	7.24				

<sup>1</sup> All coal sold in Savannah is weighed by the city. A charge of 10 cents per ton or half ton is made. This additional charge has been included in the above prices.

<sup>2</sup> Per ton of 2,240 pounds.

Table 11.—Average Retail Prices of Anthracite per Ton of 2,000 Pounds, by Cities

April and January 1936, and April 1935

Region, city, and size of coal	1936	1936	1935	Region, city, and size of coal	1936	1936	1935
	Apr. 15	Jan. 15	Apr. 15		Apr. 15	Jan. 15	Apr. 15
<i>Pennsylvania anthracite</i>							
New England:				East North Central:			
Boston:				Chicago:			
Stove.....	\$12.90	\$12.90	\$13.36	Stove.....	\$14.50	\$14.04	\$14.11
Chestnut.....	12.90	12.90	13.16	Chestnut.....	14.25	13.79	13.86
Bridgeport:				Cleveland:			
Stove.....	13.00	13.00	11.83	Stove.....	13.65	13.39	13.08
Chestnut.....	13.00	13.00	11.83	Chestnut.....	13.39	13.13	12.83
Fall River:				Detroit:			
Stove.....	13.75	13.75	14.50	Stove.....	12.66	12.71	12.32
Chestnut.....	13.50	13.50	14.25	Chestnut.....	12.40	12.45	12.06
Manchester:				Milwaukee:			
Stove.....	14.83	14.83	15.50	Stove.....	14.25	14.25	13.55
Chestnut.....	14.83	14.83	15.50	Chestnut.....	14.00	14.00	13.30
New Haven:				West North Central:			
Stove.....	13.55	13.15	13.25	Minneapolis:			
Chestnut.....	13.55	13.15	13.25	Stove.....	16.20	16.20	15.80
Portland, Maine:				Chestnut.....	15.95	15.95	15.55
Stove.....	14.50	14.50	13.00	St. Louis:			
Chestnut.....	14.25	14.25	12.75	Stove.....	14.46	14.11	13.95
Providence:				Chestnut.....	14.21	13.86	13.70
Stove.....	14.75	14.75	14.75	St. Paul:			
Chestnut.....	14.50	14.50	14.50	Stove.....	16.20	16.20	15.80
Middle Atlantic:				Chestnut.....	15.95	15.95	15.55
Buffalo:				South Atlantic:			
Stove.....	12.50	13.00	11.40	Baltimore:			
Chestnut.....	12.42	12.75	11.15	Stove.....	11.75	11.75	11.75
Newark:				Chestnut.....	11.50	11.50	11.54
Stove.....	11.45	11.65	10.55	Norfolk:			
Chestnut.....	11.20	11.40	10.30	Stove.....	13.50	13.50	13.50
New York:				Chestnut.....	13.50	13.50	13.50
Stove.....	11.83	12.24	10.10	Richmond:			
Chestnut.....	11.58	11.99	9.84	Stove.....	13.50	13.50	13.00
Philadelphia:				Chestnut.....	13.50	13.50	13.00
Stove.....	10.92	10.92	9.96	Washington, D. C.:			
Chestnut.....	10.63	10.54	9.75	Stove.....	13.50	13.50	13.65
Pittsburgh:				Chestnut.....	13.20	13.20	13.37
Stove.....	12.75	12.75	12.75				
Chestnut.....	12.88	12.75	12.75				
Rochester:							
Stove.....	12.09	12.24	11.00				
Chestnut.....	11.84	12.00	10.76				
Scranton:							
Stove.....	7.74	8.81	7.34				
Chestnut.....	7.49	8.56	7.09				

*Other anthracite*

West North Central:				Mountain:			
Kansas City:				Denver:			
Arkansas, furnace...	\$10.65	\$10.74	\$10.50	Colorado, furnace...	\$15.81	\$15.81	\$15.81
stove.....	12.12	12.00	11.75	stove.....	15.81	15.81	15.81
West South Central:				Pacific:			
Dallas:				San Francisco:			
Arkansas, egg.....	13.25	13.00	13.50	New Mexico, egg.....	23.69	23.95	25.63
Houston:				Colorado, egg.....	23.69	23.95	25.11
Arkansas, egg.....	14.33	14.33	14.50				
Little Rock:							
Arkansas, egg.....	10.25	10.00	10.50				

<sup>1</sup> Per ton or 2,240 pounds.

## Coal Prices 1926 to April 1936

RETAIL prices of coal have been collected from the cities covered in the retail-food-price study. For the years 1913-19 prices were collected semiannually on January 15 and July 15. From June 1920 to July 1935 prices were collected on the 15th of each month. Beginning with July 1935 it is planned to collect these prices on the 15th of January, April, July, and October of each year.

Table 12 shows, for large cities combined, average prices of bituminous coal and of Pennsylvania white-ash anthracite, stove and chestnut sizes, on January 15 and July 15, 1926 to 1933, and quarterly from January 15, 1934, to April 15, 1936.

The accompanying chart shows the trend in retail prices of stove and chestnut sizes of Pennsylvania anthracite in 25 cities combined and on bituminous coal in 38 cities combined. The trend is shown by months from January 15, 1929, to July 15, 1935, inclusive, and quarterly to April 15, 1936.

Table 12.—Average Retail Prices of Coal in Large Cities Combined <sup>1</sup>

January 1926 to April 1936

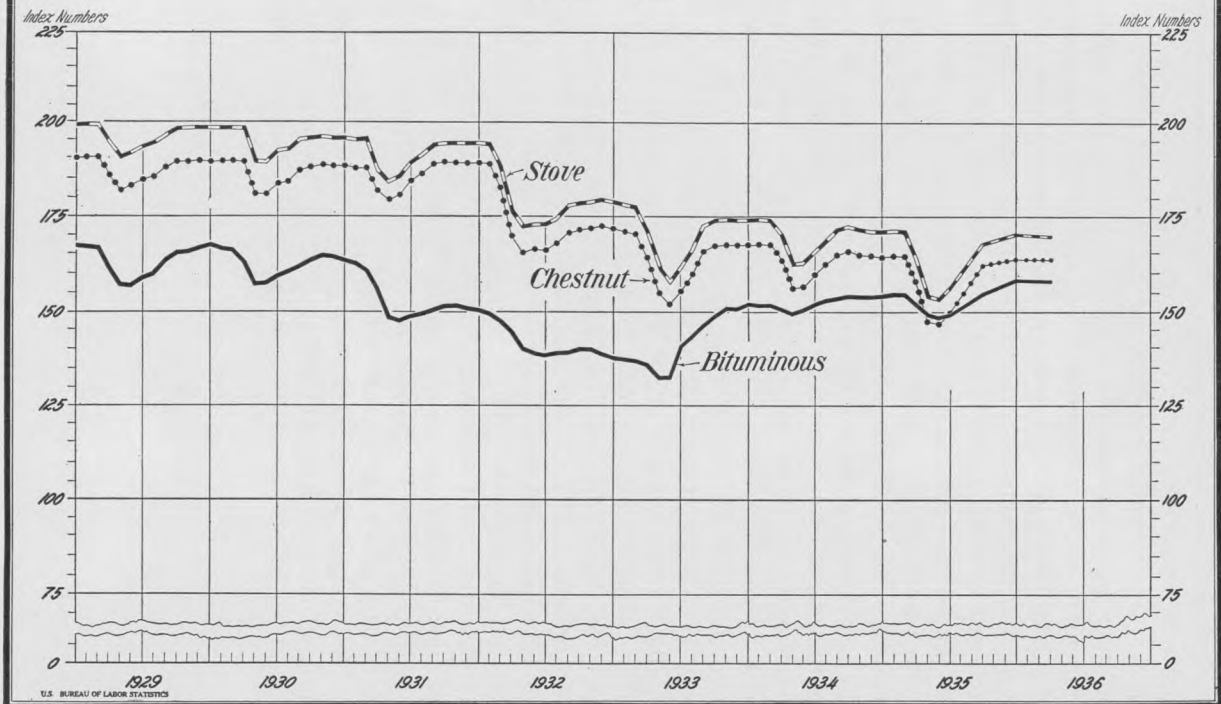
Year and month	Average price, 2,000 pounds			Relative price (1913=100.0)			Year and month	Average price, 2,000 pounds			Relative price (1913=100.0)		
	Bituminous	Pennsylvania anthracite		Bituminous	Pennsylvania anthracite			Bituminous	Pennsylvania anthracite		Bituminous	Pennsylvania anthracite	
		Stove	Chestnut		Stove	Chestnut			Stove	Chestnut			
1926: Jan.	\$9.74	(?)	(?)	179.3	(?)	(?)	1933: Jan.	\$7.46	\$13.82	\$13.61	137.3	178.9	171.9
July	8.70	\$15.43	\$15.19	160.1	199.7	191.9	July	7.64	12.47	12.26	140.7	161.3	155.0
1927: Jan.	9.96	15.66	15.42	183.3	202.7	194.8	1934: Jan.	8.24	13.44	13.25	151.6	174.0	167.4
July	8.91	15.15	14.81	163.9	196.1	187.1	Apr.	8.18	13.14	12.94	150.5	170.1	163.5
1928: Jan.	9.30	15.44	15.08	171.1	199.8	190.6	July	8.23	12.79	12.60	151.5	165.5	159.2
July	8.69	14.91	14.63	159.9	192.9	184.9	Oct.	8.35	13.32	13.11	153.6	172.4	165.7
1929: Jan.	9.09	15.38	15.06	167.2	199.1	190.3	1935: Jan.	8.37	13.21	13.01	154.0	171.0	164.4
July	8.62	14.94	14.63	158.6	193.4	184.8	Apr.	8.24	12.67	12.47	151.7	164.0	157.6
1930: Jan.	9.11	15.33	15.00	167.6	198.4	189.5	July	8.12	12.06	11.86	149.3	156.1	149.9
July	8.65	14.84	14.53	159.1	192.1	183.6	Oct.	8.41	13.04	12.83	154.7	168.8	162.1
1931: Jan.	8.87	15.12	14.88	163.2	195.8	188.1	1936: Jan.	8.58	13.17	12.96	157.8	170.4	163.8
July	8.09	14.61	14.59	148.9	189.1	184.3	Apr.	8.57	13.15	12.94	157.7	169.9	163.5
1932: Jan.	8.17	15.00	14.97	150.3	194.2	189.1							
July	7.50	13.37	13.16	138.0	173.0	166.2							

<sup>1</sup> The prices in the table are unweighted averages of quotations from 38 cities for bituminous coal and from 25 cities for Pennsylvania anthracite.

<sup>2</sup> Insufficient data.

# RETAIL PRICES OF COAL

1913 = 100



## Average Retail Prices of Tobacco Products

THE Bureau of Labor Statistics collects retail prices on an extensive list of commodities and services for use in computing the indexes of the cost of the goods and services purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers. The prices of food, coal, gas, and electricity are presented regularly in the monthly pamphlet, but prices of other goods and services have hitherto not been published. The Bureau, in response to frequent requests, now plans to present a series of special tables giving average prices for certain articles not formerly carried in the pamphlet. A review is being made of the price records collected in 1920 and 1921 and from December 1926 to date. Data for the period June 1922 to June 1926 are not available.

National averages will be based on all quotations secured from the reporting cities. The average price in each city will be weighted by the population of the metropolitan area where the retail-price information is collected, and of adjacent areas. National averages will be given only for those items which are widely used throughout the country and in which quality changes have not been so great as to invalidate comparisons over a period of years. Tobacco products have been selected for publication in this issue.

The Bureau collects prices on five tobacco products—cigarettes, cigars, cigarette tobacco, pipe tobacco, and plug tobacco. Prices for each item were obtained from approximately four dealers in each of 32 large cities. The dealer was asked to report the retail price as of the fifteenth of the month, for the brand and/or package size most in demand in his store. The continuity of the series was maintained by obtaining from each dealer prices of articles of identical or similar quality from one pricing period to another. Certain necessary substitutions due to changes in brand and/or package size did not materially affect the average prices.

The average prices of the five tobacco products listed above for specified months from December 1920 to December 1921, and from December 1926 to April 1936, inclusive, are shown in table 13.

Table 13.—Average Retail Prices of Tobacco Products in 32 Large Cities Combined <sup>1</sup>

December 1920 to December 1921, and December 1926 to April 1936

Year and month	Cigarettes	Cigars	Cigarette tobacco	Pipe tobacco	Plug tobacco
	<i>Cents per pack of 20</i>	<i>Cents per cigar</i>	<i>Cents per oz.</i>	<i>Cents per oz.</i>	<i>Cents per oz.</i>
December..... 1920	19.8	11.0	8.8	8.9	7.8
May..... 1921	19.5	10.4	8.8	8.9	7.5
September.....	19.4	10.3	8.8	8.6	7.5
December.....	18.7	10.2	8.8	8.6	7.5
December..... 1926	14.6	8.4	8.6	7.2	7.3
June..... 1927	14.5	8.2	8.4	7.2	7.3
December.....	14.4	8.1	8.4	7.2	7.2
June..... 1928	13.8	8.0	8.4	7.3	7.2
December.....	13.7	8.1	8.4	7.2	7.3
June..... 1929	13.1	7.8	8.5	7.2	7.2
December.....	13.4	7.6	8.4	7.1	7.1
June..... 1930	13.6	6.5	8.4	7.0	7.0
December.....	13.3	6.0	8.5	6.8	6.8
June..... 1931	13.3	5.5	8.4	6.7	6.8
December.....	14.2	5.2	6.3	6.6	6.8
June..... 1932	14.2	5.0	5.8	6.9	6.8
December.....	14.2	4.7	5.9	7.0	6.5
June..... 1933	11.5	4.6	5.8	6.8	6.3
December.....	12.2	4.7	5.7	6.8	6.5
June..... 1934	13.1	4.9	5.8	6.8	6.6
November.....	13.1	5.2	5.8	6.6	6.6
March..... 1935	13.2	4.9	5.7	6.6	6.4
July.....	13.2	4.7	5.7	6.5	6.4
October.....	13.3	4.6	5.7	6.4	6.4
January..... 1936	13.2	4.5	5.6	6.4	6.4
April.....	13.2	4.5	5.7	6.6	6.3

<sup>1</sup> Sales taxes are included wherever applicable.

## Retail Prices of Food in the United States and in Certain Foreign Countries

THE accompanying table brings together the index numbers of retail prices of food published by certain foreign countries and those of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. The base periods used in the original reports have been retained. Indexes are shown for each year from 1926 to 1931, inclusive, and for the months as indicated since March 1932.

As shown in the table, the number of articles included in the indexes for the various countries differs widely. The indexes are not absolutely comparable from month to month over the entire period for certain countries, owing to slight changes in the list of commodities and localities included on successive dates.

Index Numbers of Retail Food Prices in the United States and in Foreign Countries

Country.....	United States	Australia	Austria	Belgium	Bulgaria	Canada	China	Czechoslovakia
Computing agency.....	Bureau of Labor Statistics	Bureau of Census and Statistics	Federal Statistics Bureau	Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare	General Direction of Statistics	Dominion Bureau of Statistics	National Tariff Commission	Central Bureau of Statistics
Number of localities.....	51	30	Vienna	59	12	69	Shanghai	Prague
Commodities included.....	42 foods	44 foods and groceries	18 foods	33 foods	35 foods	46 foods	24 foods	35 foods
Base = 100.....	1923-25	1923-27 (1000)	July 1914	1921	1926	1926	1926	July 1914
1926.....	<sup>1</sup> 108.1	1027	116	<sup>2</sup> 170.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	<sup>3</sup> 117.8
1927.....	<sup>1</sup> 104.9	1004	119	<sup>2</sup> 207.5	97.8	98.0	106.7	<sup>3</sup> 126.2
1928.....	<sup>1</sup> 103.3	989	119	<sup>2</sup> 207.4	102.5	98.6	92.1	<sup>3</sup> 125.5
1929.....	<sup>1</sup> 104.7	1047	122	<sup>2</sup> 218.4	106.4	101.0	98.4	<sup>3</sup> 123.1
1930.....	<sup>1</sup> 98.4	946	118	<sup>2</sup> 208.6	86.7	98.6	118.8	114.3
1931.....	<sup>1</sup> 80.6	830	108	<sup>2</sup> 176.4	68.0	77.3	107.5	104.2
<i>1932</i>								
March.....	70.7	825	109	148.2	-----	66.1	114.2	100.1
June.....	67.6	803	113	143.8	-----	62.1	107.3	101.4
September.....	66.6	792	110	150.8	-----	63.0	102.6	97.6
December.....	64.7	759	109	156.9	-----	64.0	84.5	102.3
<i>1933</i>								
March.....	59.8	734	103	150.4	63.1	60.4	92.3	94.9
June.....	64.9	759	106	143.4	60.2	62.2	84.1	98.8
September.....	71.8	768	104	151.2	60.4	65.9	88.0	94.2
December.....	69.4	769	104	153.6	62.4	66.6	79.8	92.7
<i>1934</i>								
March.....	72.7	774	101	141.1	62.7	72.9	75.0	75.9
June.....	73.3	777	102	134.0	60.7	67.6	75.4	79.6
September.....	77.0	791	101	146.1	61.0	68.8	106.7	77.1
December.....	74.5	794	100	144.0	62.1	69.3	90.4	75.8
<i>1935</i>								
March.....	<sup>4</sup> 79.7	795	98	130.8	60.7	69.5	85.7	76.7
June.....	<sup>4</sup> 82.0	805	103	141.4	60.0	69.3	89.5	82.7
September.....	<sup>4</sup> 79.9	826	101	154.3	59.1	70.9	89.8	81.8
October.....	<sup>4</sup> 80.2	827	103	159.5	59.6	72.4	86.3	81.4
November.....	<sup>4</sup> 81.0	820	103	162.7	60.6	73.2	90.3	81.0
December.....	<sup>4</sup> 82.1	813	102	160.1	61.1	73.7	88.9	81.6
<i>1936</i>								
January.....	<sup>4</sup> 81.2	812	102	161.4	60.6	73.9	93.3	82.1
February.....	<sup>4</sup> 80.9	815	101	161.7	61.3	72.9	95.6	82.5
March.....	<sup>4</sup> 79.2	-----	99	-----	60.5	73.4	102.2	82.0
April.....	<sup>4</sup> 79.3	-----	98	-----	-----	71.0	97.9	82.1

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary, based on average of 1 month in each quarter.

<sup>2</sup> Average computed by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

<sup>3</sup> July.

<sup>4</sup> Based on 84 foods after January 2, 1935.



Index Numbers of Retail Food Prices in the United States and in Foreign Countries—Continued

Country.....	Estonia	Finland	France	Germany	Hungary	India	Ireland	Italy
Computing agency..	Bureau of Statistics	Ministry of Social Affairs	Commission of Cost of Living	Federal Statistical Bureau	Central Office of Statistics	Labor Office	Department of Industry and Commerce	Office Provincial of Economy
Number of localities.	Tallin	21	Paris	72	Budapest	Bombay	105	Milan
Commodities included.....	52 foods	14 foods	Foods	37 foods	12 foods	17 foods	29 foods	18 foods
Base=100.....	1913	January-June 1914	January-June 1914	October 1913-July 1914	1913	July 1914	July 1914	January-June 1914
1926.....	118	1107.8	<sup>2</sup> 529	144.4	113.3	<sup>2</sup> 152	179	654.7
1927.....	112	1115.1	<sup>2</sup> 536	151.9	124.8	<sup>2</sup> 151	170	558.7
1928.....	120	1150.2	<sup>2</sup> 539	153.0	127.7	<sup>2</sup> 144	169	517.0
1929.....	126	1123.5	<sup>2</sup> 584	155.7	124.1	<sup>2</sup> 146	169	542.8
1930.....	103	971.2	<sup>2</sup> 609	145.7	105.1	<sup>2</sup> 134	160	519.3
1931.....	90	869.0	<sup>2</sup> 611	131.0	96.2	<sup>2</sup> 102	147	451.9
<i>1932</i>								
March.....	83	911.2	561	117.3	89.8	103	<sup>3</sup> 151	445.6
June.....	80	871.0	567	115.6	93.3	99	<sup>3</sup> 144	438.0
September.....	79	891.4	534	113.6	92.9	101	<sup>3</sup> 134	409.7
December.....	75	910.2	531	112.9	86.7	103	<sup>3</sup> 135	433.9
<i>1933</i>								
March.....	75	869.8	542	109.4	86.1	98	<sup>3</sup> 130	416.6
June.....	74	881.7	532	113.7	84.4	95	<sup>3</sup> 126	402.9
September.....	81	920.1	530	114.4	77.3	94	<sup>3</sup> 129	401.5
December.....	79	881.2	548	117.8	74.3	88	<sup>3</sup> 140	408.9
<i>1934</i>								
March.....	78	865.3	548	116.5	75.7	84	<sup>3</sup> 133	406.8
June.....	77	852.0	544	117.8	79.6	85	<sup>3</sup> 129	383.3
September.....	73	885.7	525	119.2	77.9	90	<sup>3</sup> 134	377.8
December.....	72	922.1	516	119.1	75.7	90	<sup>3</sup> 143	390.5
<i>1935</i>								
March.....	76	884.6	494	118.8	78.2	89	<sup>3</sup> 136	389.8
June.....	73	887.5	491	120.6	79.8	92	<sup>3</sup> 132	398.3
September.....	77	930.4	466	120.9	85.0	94	<sup>3</sup> 140	403.9
October.....	83	947.1	-----	119.6	84.2	94	-----	-----
November.....	83	943.2	-----	119.9	83.6	96	150	-----
December.....	83	936.4	481	120.9	84.9	96	-----	-----
<i>1936</i>								
January.....	84	904.2	-----	122.3	85.8	96	-----	-----
February.....	86	908.1	-----	122.3	86.7	93	145	-----
March.....	87	905.0	495	122.2	87.3	94	-----	-----
April.....	87	891.2	-----	122.4	88.5	92	-----	-----

<sup>2</sup> Average computed by Bureau of Labor Statistics.  
<sup>3</sup> Index for preceding month.

## Index Numbers of Retail Food Prices in the United States and in Foreign Countries—Continued

Country.....	Nether-lands	New Zealand	Norway	Poland	South Africa	Sweden	Switzer-land	United Kindgom
Computing agency..	Bureau of Statistics	Census and Statistics Office	Central Bureau of Statistics	Central Statistical Office	Office of Census and Statistics	Board of Social Welfare	Federal Labor Office	Ministry of Labor
Number of localities.	Amster-dam	25	31	Warsaw	9	49	34	509
Commodities in-cluded.....	15 foods	58 foods	89 foods	25 foods	20 foods	49 foods	28 foods	14 foods
Base=100.....	1911-13	1926-30 (1000)	July 1914	1928	1914 (1000)	July 1914	June 1914	July 1914
1926.....	<sup>2</sup> 161.3	1026	<sup>3</sup> 198	88.5	<sup>2</sup> 1178	<sup>2</sup> 158	160	164
1927.....	<sup>2</sup> 163.0	983	<sup>3</sup> 175	102.0	<sup>2</sup> 1185	<sup>2</sup> 152	158	160
1928.....	<sup>2</sup> 166.4	1004	168	100.0	<sup>2</sup> 1169	<sup>2</sup> 154	157	157
1929.....	<sup>2</sup> 162.4	1013	158	97.0	<sup>2</sup> 1153	<sup>2</sup> 150	156	154
1930.....	<sup>2</sup> 150.2	974	152	83.7	<sup>2</sup> 1101	<sup>2</sup> 140	152	145
1931.....	<sup>2</sup> 135.8	845	139	73.9	<sup>2</sup> 1049	<sup>2</sup> 131	141	130
<i>1932</i>								
March.....	118.8	792	135	65.8	993	<sup>6</sup> 125	128	129
June.....	119.2	778	133	69.5	963	<sup>6</sup> 124	125	123
September.....	119.7	758	134	62.1	927	<sup>6</sup> 125	122	123
December.....	119.2	713	132	57.9	926	<sup>6</sup> 123	120	125
<i>1933</i>								
March.....	115.5	712	130	60.0	950	<sup>6</sup> 119	116	119
June.....	116.5	723	130	59.5	989	<sup>6</sup> 120	116	114
September.....	121.1	746	132	56.0	987	<sup>6</sup> 123	117	122
December.....	128.3	751	129	56.5	1050	<sup>6</sup> 120	117	126
<i>1934</i>								
March.....	125.5	769	128	54.6	1038	<sup>6</sup> 120	115	120
June.....	123.1	778	132	51.2	1041	<sup>6</sup> 123	115	117
September.....	123.6	771	135	51.4	1027	<sup>6</sup> 125	114	126
December.....	122.3	792	134	48.6	1021	<sup>6</sup> 124	114	127
<i>1935</i>								
March.....	118.3	819	135	47.4	1024	<sup>6</sup> 126	112	122
June.....	117.6	835	138	49.6	1039	<sup>6</sup> 129	113	120
September.....	117.2	837	140	52.2	1003	-----	116	125
October.....	-----	875	142	52.4	998	131	117	128
November.....	-----	873	142	52.0	1006	-----	118	131
December.....	119.2	855	142	48.7	1014	-----	118	131
<i>1936</i>								
January.....	-----	841	142	47.7	1016	132	118	131
February.....	-----	830	143	46.9	1016	-----	118	130
March.....	-----	827	144	46.9	1015	-----	118	129
April.....	-----	-----	145	48.1	-----	134	119	126

<sup>2</sup> Average computed by Bureau of Labor Statistics.<sup>3</sup> July.<sup>6</sup> Index for following month.

# WHOLESALE PRICES

## Wholesale Prices in May 1936

### Summary

**B**ETWEEN April and May wholesale commodity prices declined 1.4 percent. The decrease brought the all-commodity index to 78.6 percent of the 1926 average, the lowest point reached during the current year. The drop in farm products and foods was the principal factor contributing to the decline. The composite index for the month is 2.5 percent below the January level and is 2.0 percent lower than that of the corresponding month of last year.

In addition to the decreases in farm products and foods, 2.2 and 2.7 percent, respectively, declines are likewise shown in the indexes for chemicals and drugs, hides and leather products, textile products, fuel and lighting materials, and metals and metal products. Prices of miscellaneous commodities, on the other hand, averaged 0.9 percent higher in May than in the month preceding and prices of building materials rose 0.1 percent. The index for the housefurnishing-goods group remained unchanged at the April level.

Compared with the corresponding month of last year, the indexes for 6 of the 10 major commodity groups are higher. The increases range from 0.6 percent for textile products to 6.5 percent for hides and leather products. These gains were more than offset, however, by lower average prices for foods, farm products, chemicals and drugs, and metals and metal products. During the 12-month interval the index for foods has declined 7.3 percent, the index for farm products has fallen 6.7 percent, chemicals and drugs prices have receded 4.3 percent, and the index for metals and metal products shows a loss of 0.3 percent.

Changes within the major commodity groups influencing the trend of the composite index during May are indicated by table 1.

Table 1.—Number of Commodities Changing in Price From April to May 1936

Groups	Increases	Decreases	No change
All commodities.....	103	181	500
Farm products.....	25	35	7
Foods.....	20	67	35
Hides and leather products.....	4	9	28
Textile products.....	7	29	76
Fuel and lighting materials.....	7	4	13
Metals and metal products.....	9	4	117
Building materials.....	13	14	59
Chemicals and drugs.....	5	10	74
Housefurnishing goods.....	5	1	55
Miscellaneous.....	8	8	36

Prices of raw materials declined 1.6 percent in May and those of finished products were 1.3 percent lower. Compared with a year ago, the indexes of both of these broad commodity groups show decreases of 2.3 percent. Semimanufactured articles declined fractionally to 74.1 percent of the 1926 average during the month. This group, however, is still 0.8 percent above the level of the same month of last year.

During the month interval, all commodities other than farm products (nonagricultural) receded 1.1 percent and all commodities other than farm products and foods, representing industrial commodities, declined 0.1 percent. The index for the nonagricultural commodities group is 1.0 percent below the level of a year ago. Industrial commodities in May, on the other hand, were 1.5 percent above the corresponding month of last year.

A comparison of the May level of wholesale prices with April 1936 and May 1935 is shown in table 2.

Table 2.—Comparison of Index Numbers for May 1936, with April 1936, and May 1935

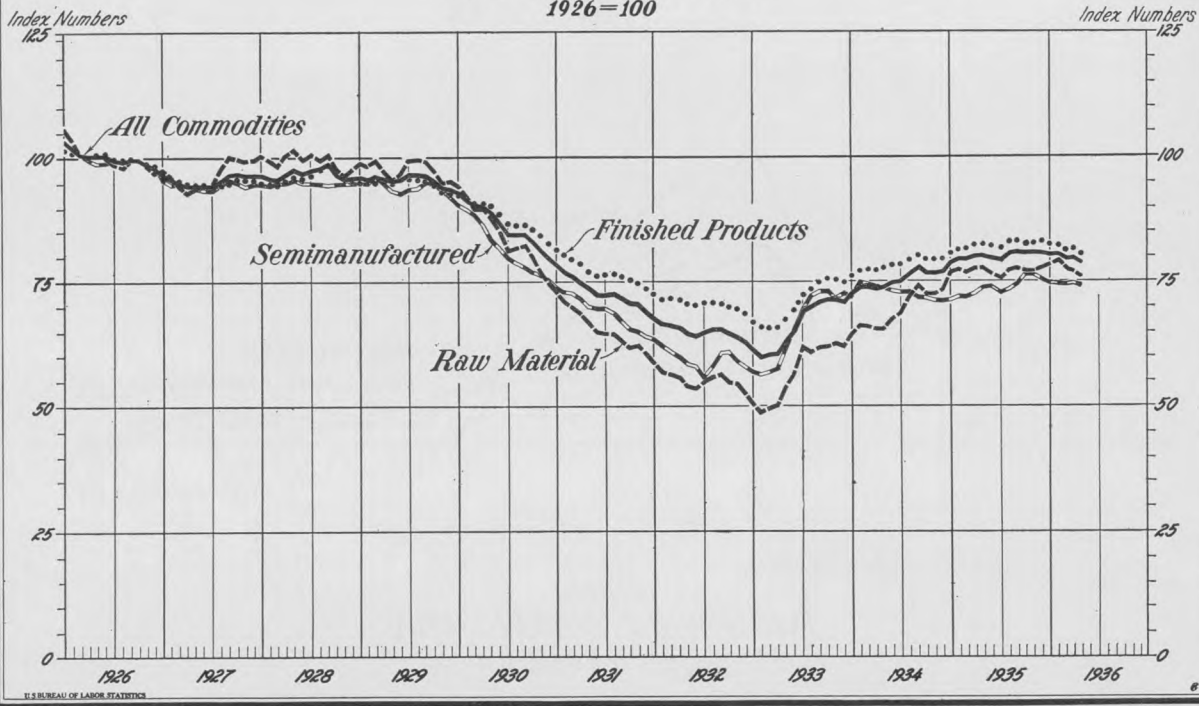
[1926=100]

Commodity groups	May 1936	April 1936	Change from a month ago (percent)	May 1935	Change from a year ago (percent)
All commodities.....	78.6	79.7	-1.4	80.2	-2.0
Farm products.....	75.2	76.9	-2.2	80.6	-6.7
Foods.....	78.0	80.2	-2.7	84.1	-7.3
Hides and leather products.....	94.0	94.6	-0.6	88.3	+6.5
Textile products.....	69.8	70.2	-0.6	69.4	+0.6
Fuel and lighting materials.....	76.0	76.4	-0.5	73.1	+4.0
Metals and metal products.....	86.3	86.6	-0.3	86.6	-0.3
Building materials.....	85.8	85.7	+0.1	84.8	+1.2
Chemicals and drugs.....	77.7	78.5	-1.0	81.2	-4.3
Housefurnishing goods.....	81.5	81.5	0	80.6	+1.1
Miscellaneous commodities.....	69.2	68.6	+0.9	68.7	+0.7
Raw materials.....	75.8	77.0	-1.6	77.6	-2.3
Semimanufactured articles.....	74.1	74.5	-0.5	73.5	+0.8
Finished products.....	80.5	81.6	-1.3	82.4	-2.3
All commodities other than farm products.....	79.2	80.1	-1.1	80.0	-1.0
All commodities other than farm products and foods.....	78.8	78.9	-0.1	77.6	+1.5

Index numbers for the groups and subgroups of commodities for April and May 1936, and May of each of the past 7 years are shown in table 3.

# WHOLESALE PRICES STAGE OF PROCESSING

1926=100



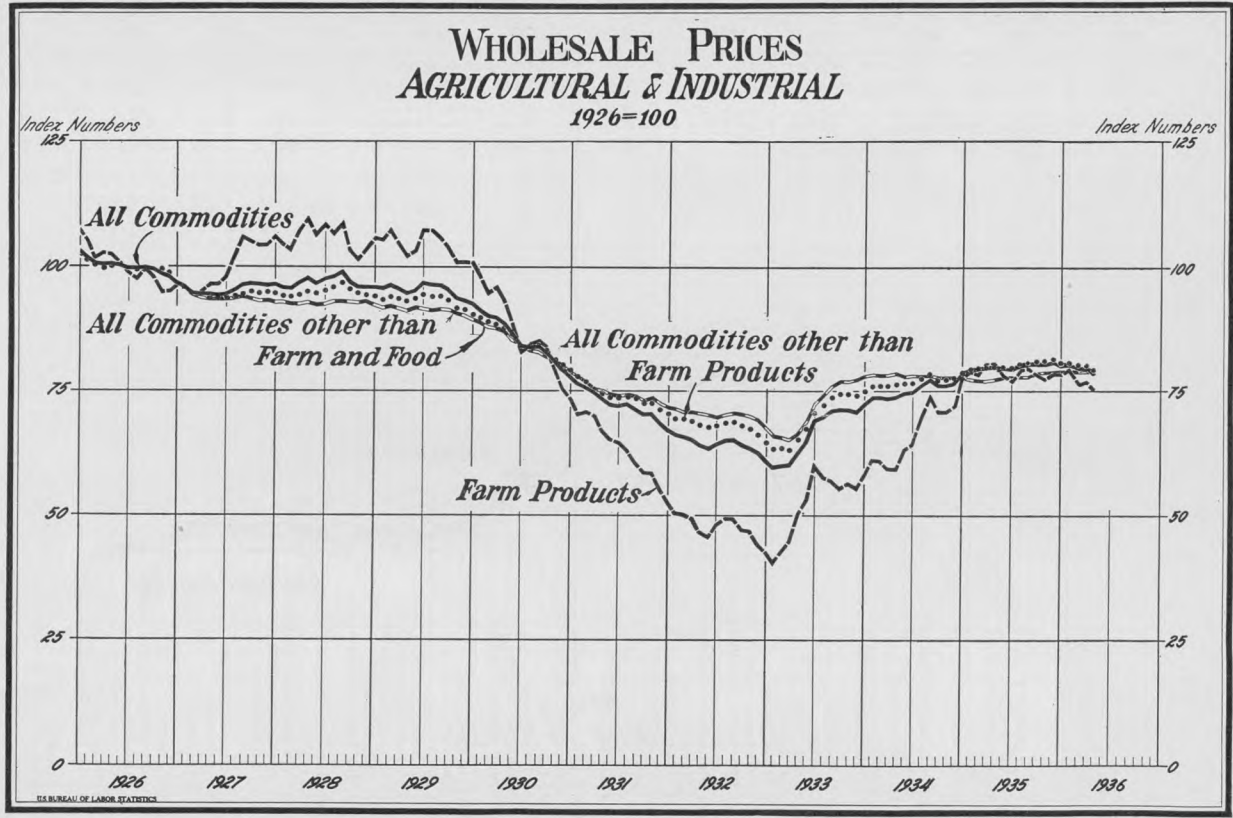


Table 3.—Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices by Groups and Subgroups of Commodities

[1926=100]

Groups and subgroups	May 1936	April 1936	May 1935	May 1934	May 1933	May 1932	May 1931	May 1930	May 1929
All commodities.....	78.6	79.7	80.2	73.7	62.7	64.4	73.2	88.8	94.7
Farm products.....	75.2	76.9	80.6	59.6	50.2	46.6	67.1	93.0	102.2
Grains.....	70.6	73.9	83.2	63.9	52.8	42.6	59.6	82.1	88.2
Livestock and poultry.....	82.5	88.3	87.6	47.8	46.8	44.4	64.1	93.2	110.0
Other farm products.....	71.4	70.4	75.0	65.0	51.8	49.6	71.5	96.5	101.7
Foods.....	78.0	80.2	84.1	67.1	59.4	59.3	73.8	92.2	98.0
Dairy products.....	75.0	78.8	77.7	67.1	58.8	59.6	78.1	92.3	104.2
Cereal products.....	82.2	84.2	92.3	87.3	69.3	68.1	74.6	84.0	84.4
Fruits and vegetables.....	72.3	67.8	66.3	68.2	58.8	61.5	76.1	109.4	89.2
Meats.....	85.1	91.0	97.0	60.0	52.3	56.5	74.4	101.3	111.5
Other foods.....	71.5	72.4	77.7	60.8	60.4	54.9	67.9	79.7	90.8
Hides and leather products.....	94.0	94.6	88.3	87.9	76.9	72.5	87.6	102.6	106.7
Shoes.....	100.2	100.3	97.2	98.5	83.6	88.4	94.8	103.7	106.2
Hides and skins.....	87.3	90.1	76.1	73.5	67.3	35.7	62.6	96.8	104.7
Leather.....	84.4	84.5	79.6	76.3	68.3	60.6	88.1	104.2	110.7
Other leather products.....	95.4	95.4	84.4	86.8	77.2	97.9	101.4	105.7	105.4
Textile products.....	69.8	70.2	69.4	73.6	55.9	54.3	67.4	83.4	90.7
Clothing.....	81.1	80.8	78.5	82.7	61.9	62.9	76.9	87.2	90.1
Cotton goods.....	75.5	76.2	82.7	86.3	57.9	59.9	69.2	89.0	98.5
Knit goods.....	60.6	62.0	60.4	65.3	48.0	50.5	60.7	83.6	89.9
Silk and rayon.....	29.1	30.1	27.6	26.5	29.1	29.1	41.4	68.1	80.9
Woolen and worsted goods.....	82.2	82.2	73.5	81.0	61.5	58.3	68.5	80.0	89.2
Other textile products.....	67.5	67.5	68.2	77.3	70.7	67.2	76.7	87.6	93.2
Fuel and lighting materials.....	76.0	76.4	73.1	72.5	60.4	70.7	65.3	80.3	82.5
Anthracite.....	76.6	80.0	73.0	75.7	78.5	85.6	87.5	86.7	87.4
Bituminous coal.....	96.5	96.8	95.7	94.6	78.3	82.0	83.9	88.5	89.2
Coke.....	93.7	93.7	88.7	84.5	75.2	77.1	83.7	84.0	84.7
Electricity.....	(1)	82.8	88.7	88.9	94.6	106.1	98.0	98.4	93.1
Gas.....	(1)	84.8	92.0	94.6	99.5	103.0	99.0	97.9	93.4
Petroleum products.....	58.2	57.9	52.2	50.7	31.2	47.2	35.9	66.5	72.5
Metals and metal products.....	86.3	86.6	86.6	89.1	77.7	80.1	85.0	93.5	101.2
Agricultural implements.....	94.2	94.2	93.6	91.1	83.0	84.9	93.0	94.6	99.0
Iron and steel.....	86.3	86.3	86.6	90.2	75.2	80.0	83.8	90.1	95.6
Motor vehicles.....	93.0	94.0	94.4	97.3	90.0	93.8	94.5	102.6	107.8
Nonferrous metals.....	70.7	70.4	69.2	68.1	56.6	48.3	63.3	82.3	105.5
Plumbing and heating.....	73.8	73.8	67.1	75.0	61.3	64.4	86.6	96.2	96.0
Building materials.....	85.8	85.7	84.8	87.3	71.4	71.5	80.0	92.4	95.5
Brick and tile.....	88.8	89.0	89.3	91.2	75.2	77.4	83.7	90.6	95.3
Cement.....	95.5	95.5	94.9	89.4	81.8	75.0	79.7	92.2	94.6
Lumber.....	83.0	83.2	79.8	85.9	59.6	59.5	69.4	89.6	94.2
Paint and paint materials.....	78.8	79.3	79.9	80.3	70.7	73.9	80.2	92.8	92.3
Plumbing and heating.....	73.8	73.8	67.1	75.0	61.3	64.4	86.6	96.2	96.0
Structural steel.....	92.0	92.0	92.0	94.5	81.7	81.7	84.3	91.9	99.6
Other building materials.....	89.9	89.1	89.8	92.0	78.8	78.2	86.3	94.5	97.5
Chemicals and drugs.....	77.7	78.5	81.2	75.4	73.2	73.6	80.5	90.2	94.1
Chemicals.....	84.1	85.5	87.5	78.6	80.9	79.1	83.9	95.3	98.4
Drugs and pharmaceuticals.....	73.2	73.2	74.2	72.8	55.0	58.7	63.2	68.5	71.6
Fertilizer materials.....	64.7	64.6	65.9	66.4	66.8	69.4	80.5	86.5	94.1
Mixed fertilizers.....	65.3	64.5	73.1	73.2	63.1	69.0	82.8	93.6	96.7
Housefurnishing goods.....	81.5	81.5	80.6	82.0	71.7	74.8	86.8	93.5	94.0
Furnishings.....	85.0	85.0	84.1	84.1	72.0	75.5	83.6	92.4	93.8
Furniture.....	77.9	78.0	77.1	80.1	71.6	74.1	90.4	94.6	94.3
Miscellaneous.....	69.2	68.6	68.7	69.8	58.9	64.4	70.5	80.4	82.0
Automobile tires and tubes.....	47.5	45.0	45.0	44.6	37.6	39.2	46.9	53.0	54.5
Cattle feed.....	71.2	74.0	107.0	72.5	54.4	45.9	67.9	110.3	101.6
Paper and pulp.....	80.5	80.5	80.0	83.7	70.7	76.5	81.5	86.6	89.3
Rubber, crude.....	32.3	33.0	24.9	27.7	10.2	6.7	13.7	29.2	44.9
Other miscellaneous.....	80.7	80.6	79.4	83.6	74.0	84.6	88.5	98.5	98.3
Raw materials.....	75.8	77.0	77.6	65.1	53.7	53.9	66.5	87.8	95.3
Semimanufactured articles.....	74.1	74.5	73.5	73.7	61.3	58.1	69.8	83.1	93.0
Finished products.....	80.5	81.6	82.4	77.8	67.2	70.3	76.9	90.1	94.6
All commodities other than farm products.....	79.2	80.1	80.0	76.6	65.4	68.1	74.5	87.9	93.1
All commodities other than farm products and foods.....	78.8	78.9	77.6	78.9	66.5	70.4	75.1	87.3	91.5

1 Data not yet available.

## Weekly Fluctuations

IN THE weeks ending May 2, 9, and 16, three successive declines of 0.6 percent reduced the all-commodity index to 78.1 percent of the 1926 average. Part of this loss was recovered in the last half of the month, and for the week ending May 30 the composite index stood at 78.4. The net decline for the month was 0.9 percent from the closing April figure.

From an index of 76.6 for the week ending May 2, the raw-materials group fell to 75.1 by mid-May, a decrease of 2.0 percent. During the latter part of the month the index turned upward and climbed to 76.0 for the last week of the month. Wholesale prices of semimanufactured articles declined moderately toward the middle of the month. The downward tendency was checked in the latter part of May and the index leveled off at 74.1. Finished products registered a decrease of 0.9 percent in May. Manufactured commodity prices declined steadily from May 2 to 16, but advanced 0.1 percent the following week and then remained steady at 80.5 during the remainder of the month.

The index for the large group of all commodities other than farm products (nonagricultural) fell from 79.5 for the week of May 2 to 78.8 for the week ending May 23. Thereafter the trend was upward, the index advancing 0.3 percent to 79.0. The cumulative decline during the month was 0.6 percent. Prices of all commodities other than farm products and processed foods followed much the same course, although the changes were less pronounced. The decrease for industrial commodities during May amounted to only 0.1 percent.

Farm-products prices registered a decline of 1.6 percent during May. Grains fell 6.4 percent and livestock and poultry prices, although slightly firmer toward the end of the month, declined 5.0 percent. The subgroup "Other farm products" rose steadily, due principally to sharp increases in prices of eggs, lemons, dried beans, onions, and potatoes. Lower prices were reported for barley, oats, wheat, cows, steers, hogs, live poultry, hops, fresh milk at Chicago, and seeds.

Wholesale food prices declined 1.6 percent, 1.4 percent, and 0.8 percent during the first 3 weeks of May. They strengthened toward the end of the month, but the index for the week of May 30 was 78.4, as against 79.1 for the week ending May 2.

Meats declined 3.8 percent during the 4-week period. Cereal products decreased 3.1 percent and dairy products fell 1.0 percent. Fruits and vegetables, on the other hand, advanced 11.3 percent. Higher prices were also reported for hominy grits, rice, bananas, canned asparagus, lamb, and cocoa beans. Lower prices were reported for butter, flour, canned and dried fruits, cured and fresh beef, mutton, cured



and fresh pork, dressed poultry, ginger ale, lard, oleomargarine, oleo oil, peanut butter, salt, edible tallow, vegetable oils, and vinegar.

Weakening prices of hides, skins, and leather caused the hides and leather-products group to decline 0.6 percent during May. Average prices of shoes and other leather products showed little or no change.

Textile products also averaged lower in May, due to weakening prices for cotton goods, silk and rayon, and knit goods. Clothing and woolen and worsted goods were fractionally higher. The index for the group as a whole declined from 69.7 to 69.2.

From an index of 77.3 for May 2, fuel and lighting materials declined steadily throughout the month, dropping to 76.8 by May 30. Lower prices for coal and petroleum products were responsible for the decline.

Maintaining the steadiness which has been characteristic of the metals and metal-products group, the index remained at 86.0 during the first and second weeks of May. Lower prices for pig tin, scrap steel, and quicksilver caused a slight recession during the week ending May 16, and the index dropped to 85.7 percent of the 1926 average. It remained unchanged at this level through the month.

A minor increase was registered by the building-materials group in May, the index advancing from 85.5 to 85.7 between May 2 and 30. Prices of certain paint materials declined and lumber advanced slightly. After weakening toward midmonth, brick and tile prices rallied to regain this loss. Cement, plumbing and heating, and structural steel remained steady.

Lower prices for fats and oils, iodine, menthol, and potassium iodide caused the chemicals and drugs group to decline 0.5 percent during the month. Average prices of mixed fertilizers were higher. The index for the chemicals and drugs group as a whole stood at 77.4 percent of the 1926 average for the last week of the month.

Following a 6-week period of stability, the index for the house-furnishing-goods group rose slightly in the last week of May. The advance was due to higher prices of carpets and blankets.

An advance of 5.7 percent in automobile tires and tubes and a fractional advance in paper and pulp caused the index for the miscellaneous-commodities group to rise 0.7 percent. Cattle-feed prices declined 7.0 percent and crude rubber decreased 0.9 percent during the month.

Table 4 shows index numbers of wholesale prices for the main groups of commodities for each week of April and May 1936.

Table 4.—Weekly Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices, by Groups of Commodities

Commodity groups	[1926=100]								
	May 30, 1936	May 23, 1936	May 16, 1936	May 9, 1936	May 2, 1936	Apr. 25, 1936	Apr. 18, 1936	Apr. 11, 1936	Apr. 4, 1936
All commodities.....	78.4	78.2	78.1	78.6	79.1	79.6	79.7	79.5	79.2
Farm products.....	75.9	75.0	74.4	76.2	77.1	77.8	77.4	76.9	76.3
Foods.....	78.4	77.5	77.4	78.0	79.1	80.4	81.1	80.2	79.7
Hides and leather products.....	94.3	94.3	94.8	94.9	94.9	95.2	95.2	95.1	95.1
Textile products.....	69.2	69.2	69.5	69.6	69.7	69.7	69.9	69.9	70.1
Fuel and lighting materials.....	76.8	76.8	76.9	77.2	77.3	77.4	77.5	77.6	76.8
Metals and metal products.....	85.7	85.7	85.7	86.0	86.0	86.0	86.0	85.9	85.9
Building materials.....	85.7	85.6	85.5	85.6	85.5	85.5	85.4	85.4	85.3
Chemicals and drugs.....	77.4	77.3	77.3	77.5	77.8	78.2	78.9	79.0	79.1
Housefurnishing goods.....	82.9	82.8	82.8	82.8	82.8	82.8	82.8	82.8	82.7
Miscellaneous.....	69.1	69.1	69.2	68.4	68.6	68.6	68.6	68.3	68.2
Raw materials.....	76.0	75.5	75.1	76.0	76.6	77.1	77.3	77.0	76.9
Semimanufactured articles.....	74.1	74.1	74.3	74.4	74.5	74.5	74.6	74.5	74.5
Finished products.....	80.5	80.5	80.4	80.8	81.2	81.8	81.9	81.6	81.3
All commodities other than farm products.....	79.0	78.8	78.9	79.1	79.1	80.0	80.2	80.0	79.9
All commodities other than farm products and foods.....	78.8	78.7	78.8	78.9	78.9	79.0	79.1	79.0	78.8

## Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices, by Commodity Groups

INDEX numbers of wholesale prices by commodity groups, by years from 1926 to 1935, inclusive, and by months from January 1935 to May 1936, inclusive, are shown in table 5.

Table 5.—Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices, by Groups of Commodities

Period	[1926=100]										
	Farm products	Foods	Hides and leather products	Textile products	Fuel and lighting	Metals and metal products	Building materials	Chemicals and drugs	Housefurnishing goods	Miscellaneous	All commodities
By years:											
1926.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1927.....	99.4	96.7	107.7	95.6	88.3	96.3	94.7	96.8	97.5	91.0	95.4
1928.....	105.9	101.0	121.4	95.5	84.3	97.0	94.1	95.6	95.1	85.4	96.7
1929.....	104.9	99.9	109.1	90.4	83.0	100.5	95.4	94.2	94.3	82.6	95.3
1930.....	88.3	90.5	100.0	80.3	78.5	92.1	89.9	89.1	92.7	77.7	86.4
1931.....	64.8	74.6	86.1	66.3	67.5	84.5	79.2	79.3	84.9	69.8	73.0
1932.....	48.2	61.0	72.9	54.9	70.3	80.2	71.4	73.5	75.1	64.4	64.8
1933.....	51.4	60.5	80.9	64.8	66.3	79.8	77.0	72.6	75.8	62.5	65.9
1934.....	65.3	70.5	86.6	72.9	73.3	86.9	86.2	75.9	81.5	69.7	74.9
1935.....	78.8	83.7	89.6	70.9	73.5	86.4	85.3	80.5	80.6	68.3	80.0
By months:											
1935:											
January.....	77.6	79.9	86.2	70.3	72.9	85.8	84.9	79.3	81.2	70.7	78.8
February.....	79.1	82.7	86.0	70.1	72.5	85.8	85.0	80.4	80.7	70.1	79.5
March.....	78.3	81.9	85.4	69.4	73.0	85.7	84.9	81.5	80.7	69.2	79.4
April.....	80.4	84.5	86.3	69.2	72.8	85.9	84.6	81.0	80.7	68.7	80.1
May.....	80.6	84.1	88.3	69.4	73.1	86.6	84.8	81.2	80.6	68.7	80.2
June.....	78.3	82.8	88.9	70.1	74.2	86.9	85.3	80.7	80.5	68.4	79.8
July.....	77.1	82.1	89.3	70.2	74.7	86.4	85.2	78.7	80.4	67.7	79.4
August.....	79.3	84.9	89.6	70.9	74.1	86.6	85.4	78.6	80.5	67.3	80.5
September.....	79.5	86.1	90.9	71.8	73.0	86.6	85.9	80.2	80.5	67.1	80.7
October.....	78.2	85.0	93.6	72.9	73.4	86.5	86.1	81.1	80.6	67.5	80.5
November.....	77.5	85.1	95.0	73.4	74.5	86.9	85.8	81.2	81.0	67.4	80.6
December.....	78.3	85.7	95.4	73.2	74.6	86.8	85.5	80.6	81.0	67.5	80.9
1936:											
January.....	78.2	83.5	97.1	71.7	75.1	86.7	85.7	80.5	81.4	67.8	80.6
February.....	79.5	83.2	96.1	71.0	76.1	86.7	85.5	80.1	81.5	68.1	80.6
March.....	76.5	80.1	94.9	70.8	76.2	86.6	85.3	79.3	81.4	68.3	79.6
April.....	76.9	80.2	94.6	70.2	76.4	86.6	85.7	78.5	81.5	68.6	79.7
May.....	75.2	78.1	94.0	69.8	76.0	86.3	85.8	77.7	81.5	69.2	78.6

The price trend since 1926 is shown in table 6 for the following groups of commodities: Raw materials, semimanufactured articles, finished products, commodities other than farm products, and commodities other than those designated as farm products and foods. All commodities, with the exception of those included in the groups of farm products and foods, have been included in the group of "All commodities other than farm products and foods." The list of commodities included under the designations "Raw materials", "Semimanufactured articles", and "Finished products" was given in the October 1934 issue of this publication.

Table 6.—Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices by Special Groups of Commodities

[1926=100]

Year	Raw materials	Semimanufactured articles	Finished products	All commodities other than farm products	All commodities other than farm products and foods	Month	Raw materials	Semimanufactured articles	Finished products	All commodities other than farm products	All commodities other than farm products and foods
1926-----	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	1935—Continued.					
1927-----	96.5	94.3	95.0	94.6	94.0	May-----	77.6	73.5	82.4	80.0	77.6
1928-----	99.1	94.5	95.9	94.8	92.9	June-----	76.4	73.9	82.2	80.0	78.0
1929-----	97.5	93.9	94.5	93.3	91.6	July-----	75.8	72.8	82.0	79.8	78.0
1930-----	84.3	81.8	88.0	85.9	85.2	August-----	77.1	73.2	83.0	80.6	77.9
1931-----	65.6	69.0	77.0	74.6	75.0	September---	77.3	74.4	83.1	80.8	77.8
1932-----	55.1	59.3	70.3	68.3	70.2	October-----	77.1	76.3	82.7	80.9	78.3
1933-----	56.5	65.4	70.5	69.0	71.2	November-----	77.2	76.2	82.7	81.1	78.8
1934-----	68.6	72.8	78.2	76.9	78.4	December-----	77.7	75.2	83.1	81.3	78.7
1935-----	77.1	73.6	82.2	80.2	77.9	1936:					
1935: January-----	76.6	71.2	80.8	78.9	77.7	January-----	78.1	74.8	82.4	80.9	78.8
February-----	77.4	71.7	81.5	79.4	77.4	February-----	79.1	74.6	82.2	80.7	79.0
March-----	76.6	71.8	81.7	79.5	77.3	March-----	77.4	74.4	81.3	80.2	78.9
April-----	77.5	72.3	82.3	79.9	77.2	April-----	77.0	74.5	81.6	80.1	78.9
						May-----	75.8	74.1	80.5	79.2	78.8

## Purchasing Power of the Dollar at Wholesale

THE purchasing power of the dollar by groups and subgroups of commodities for May 1936 in comparison with April 1936 and May of each of the past 7 years is shown in table 7. The figures in this table are reciprocals of the index numbers. To illustrate, the index number representing the level of all commodities at wholesale in May 1936, with average prices for the year 1926 as the base of 100, is 78.6. The reciprocal of this index number is 0.01272 which, translated into dollars and cents, becomes \$1.272.

The purchasing power of the dollar in terms of groups, subgroups, and special groups of commodities for former periods will be found in the preceding monthly pamphlets of this series.

Table 7.—Purchasing Power of the Wholesale-Price Dollar, by Groups and Subgroups of Commodities

Groups and subgroups	[1926=\$1.000]								
	May 1936	April 1936	May 1935	May 1934	May 1933	May 1932	May 1931	May 1930	May 1929
All commodities.....	\$1.272	\$1.255	\$1.247	\$1.357	\$1.595	\$1.553	\$1.366	\$1.126	\$1.056
Farm products.....	1.330	1.300	1.241	1.678	1.992	2.146	1.490	1.075	.978
Grains.....	1.416	1.353	1.202	1.565	1.894	2.347	1.678	1.218	1.134
Livestock and poultry.....	1.212	1.133	1.142	2.092	2.137	2.252	1.570	1.073	.909
Other farm products.....	1.401	1.420	1.333	1.538	1.931	2.016	1.399	1.036	.983
Foods.....	1.282	1.247	1.189	1.490	1.684	1.686	1.355	1.085	1.020
Dairy products.....	1.333	1.269	1.287	1.490	1.701	1.678	1.280	1.083	.960
Cereal products.....	1.217	1.188	1.083	1.145	1.443	1.468	1.340	1.190	1.185
Fruits and vegetables.....	1.383	1.475	1.508	1.466	1.701	1.626	1.314	.914	1.121
Meats.....	1.175	1.099	1.031	1.607	1.912	1.770	1.344	.987	.897
Other foods.....	1.399	1.381	1.287	1.645	1.656	1.821	1.473	1.255	1.101
Hides and leather products.....	1.064	1.057	1.133	1.138	1.300	1.379	1.142	.975	.937
Shoes.....	.998	.997	1.029	1.015	1.196	1.131	1.055	.964	.942
Hides and skins.....	1.145	1.110	1.314	1.361	1.486	2.801	1.597	1.033	.955
Leather.....	1.185	1.183	1.256	1.311	1.464	1.650	1.135	.960	.903
Other leather products.....	1.048	1.048	1.185	1.152	1.295	1.021	.986	.946	.949
Textile products.....	1.433	1.425	1.441	1.359	1.789	1.842	1.484	1.199	1.103
Clothing.....	1.233	1.238	1.274	1.209	1.616	1.590	1.300	1.147	1.110
Cotton goods.....	1.325	1.312	1.209	1.159	1.727	1.890	1.445	1.124	1.015
Knit goods.....	1.650	1.613	1.656	1.531	2.083	1.980	1.647	1.196	1.112
Silk and rayon.....	3.436	3.322	3.623	3.774	3.436	3.436	2.415	1.468	1.236
Woolen and worsted goods.....	1.217	1.217	1.361	1.235	1.626	1.715	1.400	1.250	1.121
Other textile products.....	1.481	1.481	1.466	1.294	1.414	1.488	1.304	1.142	1.073
Fuel and lighting materials.....	1.316	1.309	1.368	1.379	1.656	1.414	1.531	1.245	1.212
Anthracite.....	1.305	1.250	1.370	1.321	1.274	1.168	1.143	1.153	1.144
Bituminous coal.....	1.036	1.033	1.045	1.057	1.277	1.220	1.192	1.130	1.121
Coke.....	1.067	1.067	1.127	1.183	1.330	1.297	1.195	1.190	1.181
Electricity.....	(1)	1.208	1.127	1.125	1.057	.943	1.020	1.016	1.074
Gas.....	(1)	1.179	1.087	1.057	1.005	.971	1.010	1.021	1.071
Petroleum products.....	1.718	1.727	1.916	1.972	3.205	2.119	2.786	1.504	1.379
Metals and metal products.....	1.159	1.155	1.155	1.122	1.287	1.245	1.176	1.070	.988
Agricultural implements.....	1.062	1.062	1.068	1.098	1.205	1.178	1.060	1.057	1.010
Iron and steel.....	1.159	1.159	1.155	1.109	1.330	1.250	1.193	1.110	1.046
Motor vehicles.....	1.075	1.064	1.059	1.028	1.106	1.066	1.058	.975	.928
Nonferrous metals.....	1.414	1.420	1.445	1.468	1.767	2.070	1.580	1.215	.948
Plumbing and heating.....	1.355	1.355	1.490	1.333	1.631	1.553	1.155	1.040	1.042
Building materials.....	1.166	1.167	1.179	1.145	1.401	1.399	1.250	1.082	1.047
Brick and tile.....	1.126	1.124	1.120	1.096	1.330	1.292	1.195	1.104	1.049
Cement.....	1.047	1.047	1.054	1.119	1.222	1.333	1.255	1.085	1.057
Lumber.....	1.205	1.202	1.253	1.164	1.678	1.681	1.441	1.116	1.062
Paint and paint materials.....	1.269	1.261	1.252	1.245	1.414	1.353	1.247	1.078	1.083
Plumbing and heating.....	1.355	1.355	1.490	1.333	1.631	1.553	1.155	1.040	1.042
Structural steel.....	1.087	1.087	1.087	1.058	1.224	1.224	1.186	1.088	1.004
Other building materials.....	1.112	1.122	1.114	1.087	1.269	1.279	1.169	1.058	1.026
Chemicals and drugs.....	1.287	1.274	1.232	1.326	1.366	1.359	1.242	1.109	1.063
Chemicals.....	1.189	1.170	1.143	1.272	1.236	1.264	1.192	1.049	1.016
Drugs and pharmaceuticals.....	1.366	1.366	1.348	1.374	1.818	1.704	1.582	1.460	1.397
Fertilizer materials.....	1.546	1.548	1.517	1.506	1.497	1.441	1.242	1.156	1.063
Mixed fertilizers.....	1.531	1.550	1.368	1.366	1.585	1.449	1.208	1.068	1.034
Housefurnishing goods.....	1.227	1.227	1.241	1.220	1.395	1.337	1.152	1.070	1.064
Furnishings.....	1.176	1.176	1.189	1.189	1.389	1.325	1.196	1.082	1.066
Furniture.....	1.284	1.282	1.297	1.248	1.397	1.350	1.106	1.057	1.060
Miscellaneous.....	1.445	1.458	1.456	1.433	1.698	1.553	1.418	1.244	1.220
Automobile tires and tubes.....	2.105	2.222	2.222	2.242	2.660	2.551	2.132	1.887	1.835
Cattle feed.....	1.404	1.351	.935	1.379	1.838	2.179	1.473	.907	.984
Paper and pulp.....	1.242	1.242	1.250	1.195	1.414	1.307	1.227	1.155	1.120
Rubber, crude.....	3.096	3.030	4.016	3.610	9.804	14.925	7.299	3.425	2.227
Other miscellaneous.....	1.239	1.241	1.259	1.196	1.351	1.182	1.130	1.015	1.017
Raw materials.....	1.319	1.299	1.289	1.536	1.862	1.855	1.504	1.139	1.049
Semimanufactured articles.....	1.350	1.342	1.361	1.357	1.631	1.721	1.433	1.203	1.075
Finished products.....	1.242	1.225	1.214	1.285	1.488	1.422	1.300	1.110	1.057
All commodities other than farm products.....	1.263	1.248	1.250	1.305	1.529	1.468	1.342	1.138	1.074
All commodities other than farm products and foods.....	1.269	1.267	1.289	1.267	1.504	1.420	1.332	1.145	1.093

1 Data not yet available.

Monthly Average Wholesale Prices and Index Numbers of Individual Commodities

THE table showing monthly average wholesale prices and index numbers of individual commodities formerly appearing in the monthly pamphlet is now published semiannually instead of monthly. The December 1935 issue of the Wholesale Prices pamphlet showed information for the last 6 months and the average for the year 1935. The monthly figures will be furnished upon request.

Estimated Value in Exchange, 1935

THE Bureau has recently issued a mimeographed report entitled "Estimated Value in Exchange and Relative Importance of Commodities Included in Weighted Index Numbers of Wholesale Commodity Prices for the Year 1935." This report shows the estimated value in exchange in 1935 for each of the 784 items entering into the Bureau's weighted index numbers of wholesale commodity prices, the relative importance (based upon the aggregate value) each commodity bears to the group in which it is classified, and the percentage relationship each commodity and each group bears to the all-commodity total.

The value aggregates are the product of the quantity-weighting factor assigned each item and the average price of that item.

A mimeographed statement giving the quantity-weighting factors assigned each item used in calculating the wholesale-price index numbers has also been issued by the Bureau.

These reports are for free distribution and are available upon request.

## COST OF LIVING

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### Changes in Cost of Living in the United States, April 15, 1936

AVERAGE living costs for families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers in 32 large cities of the United States declined eight-tenths of 1 percent in the quarter ending April 15, 1936. Although the decrease in the average cost of living was largely the result of a 2.8 percent drop in food costs, slight declines in cost of fuel and light and of miscellaneous items were also factors in the decline. Average costs of clothing, rent, and housefurnishing goods each advanced three-tenths of 1 percent. The index of the cost of goods purchased, based on costs in the years 1923-25 as 100, dropped from 81.3 on January 15, 1936, to 80.7 on April 15, 1936. The index on April 15 was two-tenths of 1 percent higher than on March 15, 1935, 13 months earlier. From the low point in June 1933 until April 1936, however, the increase was 8.3 percent.

These index numbers show changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers from time to time in each of the 32 large cities covered by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, but they do not measure differences in the cost of these goods from city to city. There are serious technical difficulties in the way of determining the cost of the same level of living from one part of the country to another. No satisfactory techniques have been developed for measuring differences in such costs from large to small cities or from cities to rural communities. In large cities with similar climate, comparisons are possible with the use of standard specifications, but such studies because of their great expense have been beyond the resources of this Bureau.

In pricing for the Bureau's indexes, the type of goods priced has been varied from city to city to meet the purchasing habits of moderate-income families in the separate cities. In any one city the kind and quality of goods priced are held constant from year to year insofar as possible. Since 1921, when the indexes were first computed in their present form, certain changes in the list of goods priced have been made as a result of fundamental changes in consumer-purchasing habits, but comparisons from one pricing period to the next following are based on goods of identical kind and quality.

Even though these series furnish no information as to differences in absolute cost in dollars among the 32 cities, the indexes for the

various cities may be used to indicate comparative rate of change in the cost of goods purchased by families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers. Thus, the index of the cost of all items purchased by this group was 73.9 for Birmingham, in April 1936, on the 1923-25 base; that for Washington was 85.5. In other words, during the years from 1923-25 to 1936, living costs declined much more rapidly in Birmingham than in Washington.

The indexes are constructed by pricing, from time to time, a list of the goods most important in the spending of families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers, as shown by the Bureau's study of the expenditures of 12,096 families in 1917-19.<sup>1</sup> In the construction of the index, price changes, noted from period to period, are weighted according to the importance of these items in family spending, as shown by that study. A new Nation-wide study, now under way, will provide weights more nearly approximating present-day consumption. The field work for this study is partially completed, and the data secured are now being tabulated and analyzed.

Pending this basic revision in weights, several important revisions in method have been incorporated in the indexes beginning with the March 15, 1935, period, and the food and all-items indexes, as well as the combined United States indexes, have been revised back to the base years.<sup>2</sup> The pamphlet containing data for July 15, 1935, presents complete revised series.

Prices used in the construction of the food indexes are taken from retail-price quotations secured in 51 cities. Beginning with the year 1935, they cover 84 articles, instead of 42 as in the past. For all articles other than food, prices have been secured in 32 cities. Prices of the items included in the food and fuel and light indexes are obtained by mail, all others, by personal visits of representatives of the Bureau. Details of the number of items priced and outlets visited may be secured from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.

Twenty-nine of the thirty-two cities covered by the Bureau's surveys reported decreases in average living costs in the 3 months ending April 15, 1936. For the most part, average declines were small, only Savannah showing a decrease of over 2 percent, due to a reduction in street-car fares as well as to a decline in food costs. The increases in average costs reported in the three other cities were slight. The largest gain appeared in Detroit, where a substantial increase in rental costs occurred.

All but 1 of the 32 cities covered showed a decline in food costs. The exception was Portland, Oreg., where an advance of one-tenth

<sup>1</sup> The results of this study were published in the Bureau's Bulletin No. 357.

<sup>2</sup> For details of this revision, see the article which appeared in the September 1935 Monthly Labor Review, "Revision of index of cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers."

of 1 percent occurred. In that city, a decline in the cost of such items as butter and eggs were more than counterbalanced by a rise in the cost of potatoes and milk. Declines of over 5 percent occurred in food costs in Richmond and Norfolk. In three other cities, Washington, Jacksonville, and Atlanta, the decline was over 4 percent. In each of these five cities, all located in the South Atlantic area, the drop in food costs was accounted for to a large extent by a decrease in the price of eggs and butter. Other food items whose decline was significant were flour in Richmond, flour and bananas in Norfolk, white bread in Washington, and carrots in Jacksonville and Atlanta.

Clothing costs advanced, on the average, three-tenths of 1 percent, reflecting slight increases in all but 5 of the 32 cities from which price reports were received. All of the gains reported were small, except in Richmond, where the index in April, which was more than 5 percent higher than in January, reflected a rise from the low level of prices of men's and boys' clothing reached during the January sales in that city.

The upward trend in average rental costs, noted during the past year, continued between January and April. A rise of three-tenths of 1 percent was noted for the 32 cities combined, with 20 cities reporting advances. The rise in rent was less than 2 percent in all cities except Detroit. Detroit continued to lead the upward movement in rents, as it has since early in 1934, reporting a rise of 2.7 percent during the quarter ending April 15, 1936. This brought the index of Detroit rentals from the low point of 41.7 in December 1933 up to 56.6 on April 15, 1936, compared with 100 in 1923-25.

Average fuel and light costs declined slightly during the quarter ending April 15. Fourteen cities reported decreases, 14 increases, and 4 reported no change. Scranton, Houston, Los Angeles, and Birmingham experienced the sharpest declines. In Scranton and Birmingham, this was caused by a decline in coal costs; in Houston, by a decrease in wood prices, following a substantial rise in the price of wood during the preceding quarter; and in Los Angeles, by a reduction in both gas and electricity rates. Of the cities reporting gains in fuel and light costs, only St. Louis showed a rise of as much as 3.8 percent, caused by an increase in coal prices.

An average rise of three-tenths of 1 percent marked the movement of the cost of housefurnishing goods. Costs in April were higher than in January in 23 of the 32 cities from which price reports were received, but in no case was the increase as great as 2 percent.

The cost of miscellaneous items declined, on the average, one-tenth of 1 percent, with reductions in 20 of the 32 cities. All changes, whether increases or decreases, were small, except in Savannah, where a drop in streetcar fares resulted in a decline of 4.6 percent in the cost of miscellaneous items.



Percentage changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in 32 large cities of the United States, between January 15 and April 15, 1936, are shown in table 1.

Table 1.—Percentage Changes From Jan. 15, 1936, to Apr. 15, 1936, in the Cost of Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried Workers

City	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel and light	House-furnishing goods	Miscellaneous
Average: 32 large cities.....	-0.8	1-2.8	+0.3	+0.3	-0.4	+0.3	-0.1
New England:							
Boston.....	-4	-1.2	+1	-1	(2)	(3)	-1
Portland, Maine.....	-6	-1.9	+4	-7	(2)	-1	(2)
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo.....	-9	-2.9	-1	+8	-1.3	-1	-1
New York.....	-1.3	-3.4	+4	-1	-1.5	(4)	-4
Philadelphia.....	-8	-2.9	+6	-1	+2	+7	-1
Pittsburgh.....	-1.1	-3.1	+2	(3)	+1	-1	-5
Scranton.....	-1.6	-2.9	+4	-3	-10.3	-4	-2
East North Central:							
Chicago.....	-6	-2.6	+6	+2	+2.2	+5	-1
Cincinnati.....	-1.0	-3.2	+7	+4	-2.3	+1.2	+1
Cleveland.....	(2)	-9	+1.1	+5	+5	+3	(4)
Detroit.....	+4	-2.1	+2	+2.7	(3)	+1.4	+1.8
Indianapolis.....	-7	-3.8	+2	+1.3	+2.9	+5	(2)
West North Central:							
Kansas City.....	-8	-2.6	+2	-2	+2	+1	-1
Minneapolis.....	-1.0	-3.2	-2	+3	-4	+9	(4)
St. Louis.....	-9	-3.2	+1	+4	+3.8	+1	-6
South Atlantic:							
Atlanta.....	-1.0	-4.1	+1	+1	+2.1	+5	+2
Baltimore.....	-7	-1.9	+1	+1	(2)	+2	-4
Jacksonville.....	-1.1	-4.3	+2	+3	+4	-1	-1
Norfolk.....	-1.3	-5.3	+4	-6	-7	-1.4	+5
Richmond.....	-9	-5.4	+5.3	(4)	-1	+1.6	+2
Savannah.....	-2.2	-2.9	-4	-1	+3	+2	-4.6
Washington.....	-1.4	-4.4	+9	+3	-4	+5	-1
East South Central:							
Birmingham.....	-1.4	-2.9	+5	(4)	-6.3	+1	-7
Memphis.....	-1	-1.5	+2	+3	+1.0	-2	+4
Mobile.....	-9	-2.8	+1	-3	-1.2	+2	+2
West South Central:							
Houston.....	-1.1	-3.5	(3)	+6	-8.6	+6	+7
New Orleans.....	-1.0	-2.8	+1	-1	-1.4	+1	-1
Mountain: Denver.....	-5	-1.6	(3)	+7	+7	-1.3	-1
Pacific:							
Los Angeles.....	-9	-2.9	+1	+1.9	-6.6	+3	-2
Portland, Oreg.....	+1	+1	+8	+9	+1	+1.3	-6
San Francisco.....	-7	-2.4	-2	+1	(2)	+7	+1
Seattle.....	-5	-2.1	-2	+5	-3	+2	(2)

<sup>1</sup> Covers 51 cities.

<sup>2</sup> No change.

<sup>3</sup> Increase of less than 0.05 percent.

<sup>4</sup> Decrease of less than 0.05 percent.

Percentage changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers from peak and from low points in the past and from March 15, 1935, to April 15, 1936, in 32 cities are presented in table 2. Living costs increased 0.2 percent from March 15, 1935, to April 15, 1936, a period of a little over a year. The index in April 1936 was 8.3 percent higher than at the low point in June 1933.

Table 2.—Percentage Changes in Cost of All Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried Workers for Specified Periods

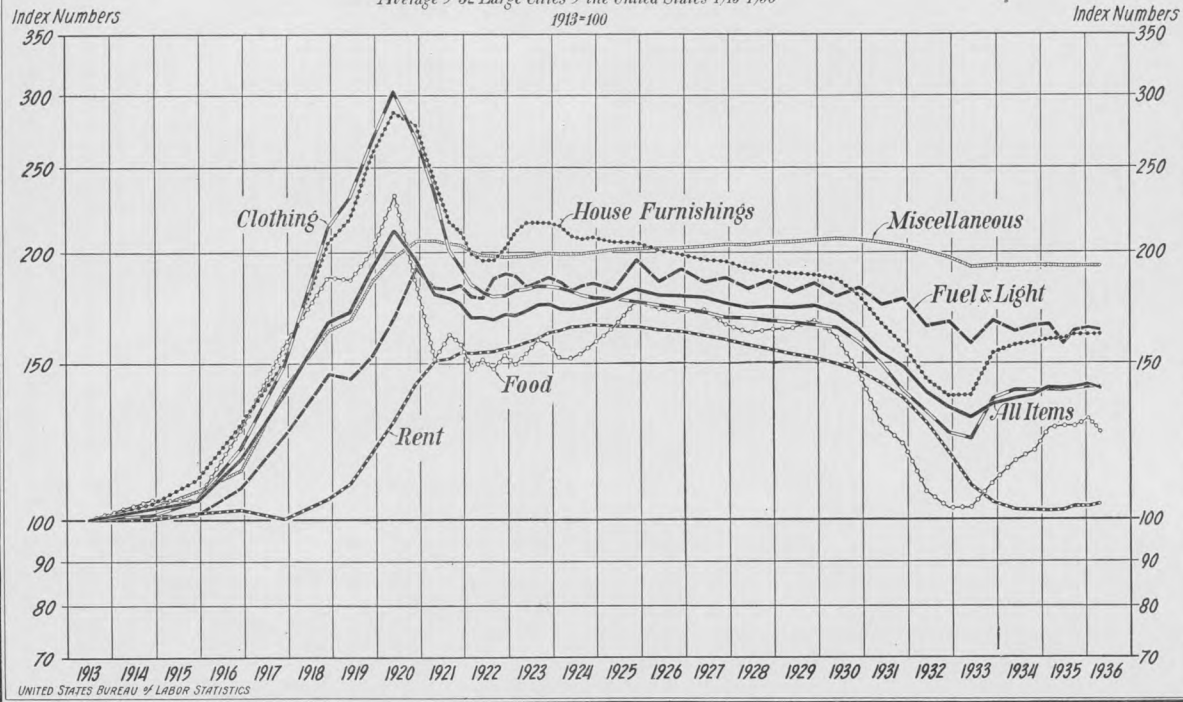
City	Percentage decrease from—		Percentage increase from June 1933 to Apr. 15, 1936	Percentage change from Mar. 15, 1935, to Apr. 15, 1936
	June 1920 to Apr. 15, 1936	Dec. 1925 to Apr. 15, 1936		
Average: 32 large cities.....	33.5	22.4	8.3	+0.2
New England:				
Boston.....	32.2	21.6	7.8	-.3
Portland, Maine.....	32.6	17.9	7.7	+1.1
Middle Atlantic:				
Buffalo.....	32.5	21.8	6.7	+1.2
New York.....	29.8	20.7	6.3	-.7
Philadelphia.....	31.6	22.8	8.5	+1.1
Pittsburgh.....	34.3	24.4	8.0	-.1
Scranton.....	32.8	22.8	7.9	-.2
East North Central:				
Chicago.....	34.8	26.8	7.8	(1)
Cincinnati.....	32.9	19.7	7.7	-.9
Cleveland.....	32.2	20.3	8.8	+1.5
Detroit.....	39.3	25.0	17.3	+3.7
Indianapolis.....	37.8	23.3	8.6	+1.3
West North Central:				
Kansas City.....	39.1	22.2	5.4	-1.0
Minneapolis.....	33.2	20.5	9.6	+1.6
St. Louis.....	34.7	22.2	8.3	(1)
South Atlantic:				
Atlanta.....	39.6	24.0	10.8	+1.8
Baltimore.....	29.6	18.5	9.4	+1.3
Jacksonville.....	36.8	27.2	10.1	+1.8
Norfolk.....	36.0	18.9	10.4	-.1
Richmond.....	34.2	21.4	9.5	(2)
Savannah.....	38.7	23.4	6.4	-.8
Washington.....	30.3	17.7	9.4	+1.2
East South Central:				
Birmingham.....	41.7	29.0	10.0	+1.5
Memphis.....	35.9	22.7	8.4	-.3
Mobile.....	36.4	22.7	8.1	-1.5
West South Central:				
Houston.....	35.7	22.5	11.0	+1.2
New Orleans.....	31.1	20.8	7.3	-1.4
Mountain: Denver.....	35.2	20.7	9.0	(2)
Pacific:				
Los Angeles.....	32.4	25.2	6.9	-.3
Portland, Oreg.....	36.7	19.8	11.2	+2.5
San Francisco.....	29.1	18.8	6.7	-.4
Seattle.....	33.9	18.9	6.4	+1.2

<sup>1</sup> Increase of less than 0.05 percent.<sup>2</sup> Decrease of less than 0.05 percent.

Indexes of the average cost of goods purchased by the families of wage earners and lower-salaried workers in the 32 cities combined, from 1913 to April 15, 1936, are presented in table 3. The accompanying chart presents these data in graphic form.

# COST OF GOODS PURCHASED by WAGE EARNERS and LOWER-SALARIED WORKERS

Average of 32 Large Cities of the United States 1913-1936  
1913=100



UNITED STATES BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Table 3.—Indexes of Cost of Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried Workers, 1913 to Apr. 15, 1936

[32 large cities of the United States combined]

Date	Index numbers (1913=100)						
	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel and light	House-furnishing goods	Miscellaneous
1913: Average	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1914: December	102.7	105.0	101.0	100.0	101.0	104.0	103.0
1915: December	104.7	105.0	104.7	101.5	101.0	110.6	107.4
1916: December	116.6	126.0	120.0	102.3	108.4	127.8	113.3
1917: December	138.3	157.0	149.1	100.1	124.1	150.6	140.5
1918: December	166.9	187.3	213.4	105.3	146.0	205.0	163.3
1919: June	171.1	185.9	231.1	109.6	144.2	218.0	168.0
December	191.4	200.4	286.3	119.0	153.1	257.8	185.4
1920: June	211.3	231.6	302.6	129.2	169.3	287.2	197.8
December	195.6	183.3	271.1	142.5	192.0	278.3	205.8
1921: May	179.1	151.8	233.0	150.9	182.2	239.7	205.8
September	177.2	161.7	201.3	151.9	181.6	216.3	204.4
December	174.8	157.9	192.5	154.4	183.4	210.5	203.4
1922: March	168.8	148.1	183.8	154.1	178.1	199.1	200.1
June	169.0	151.5	180.3	154.6	177.2	195.5	198.4
September	168.0	147.9	178.2	154.9	186.6	195.8	197.9
December	170.3	153.2	178.4	156.0	189.0	201.8	197.3
1923: March	170.0	149.9	181.0	156.8	187.7	211.0	197.5
June	171.8	154.0	181.4	158.4	182.7	215.5	197.6
September	174.5	159.4	182.9	159.9	184.8	215.7	198.6
December	174.7	157.7	182.8	162.3	187.2	215.6	199.4
1924: March	172.5	151.9	182.2	163.2	185.0	214.0	198.9
June	172.3	152.1	180.6	164.9	180.8	208.4	199.1
September	172.9	154.1	178.7	165.1	183.1	206.7	199.1
December	174.3	157.7	177.5	165.6	184.3	207.7	199.8
1925: June	176.7	165.1	176.9	165.1	181.4	205.0	201.1
December	181.3	176.1	175.8	165.0	196.0	205.0	201.6
1926: June	178.7	172.6	174.2	163.5	185.2	200.9	201.5
December	178.3	171.3	172.7	162.8	191.4	198.6	202.1
1927: June	177.7	172.2	171.0	161.1	184.8	195.8	202.8
December	175.1	165.8	168.7	159.4	187.0	193.0	203.7
1928: June	172.9	162.4	168.4	157.2	181.6	191.0	203.6
December	173.3	163.6	167.4	155.5	185.3	189.8	205.0
1929: June	172.8	164.3	166.6	153.5	180.2	189.1	205.4
December	173.7	167.5	165.6	151.9	184.2	188.4	206.1
1930: June	170.3	160.4	164.3	149.8	178.1	186.1	206.8
December	163.6	145.9	158.1	146.7	182.2	178.4	206.3
1931: June	153.9	127.7	149.7	142.1	174.2	166.2	205.0
December	148.4	120.8	139.3	136.6	177.0	156.9	203.1
1932: June	138.9	107.2	131.9	127.8	165.0	143.4	200.2
December	133.5	102.6	124.7	<sup>1</sup> 118.4	166.9	137.5	197.1
1933: June	129.8	102.8	122.8	108.7	157.8	137.8	192.3
December	134.6	110.0	136.7	104.0	167.3	154.1	193.0
1934: June	136.5	116.1	139.8	102.1	162.9	157.2	192.7
Nov. 15	137.8	119.1	139.7	102.0	165.4	158.3	192.9
1935: Mar. 15	140.4	126.3	139.9	101.8	165.9	159.4	193.1
July 15	140.2	127.1	139.6	102.1	157.8	159.8	192.8
Oct. 15	140.7	127.1	140.1	103.1	163.0	161.4	192.6
1936: Jan. 15	141.7	129.4	140.5	103.3	164.1	161.4	192.6
Apr. 15	140.6	125.8	141.0	103.7	163.5	162.0	192.5

<sup>1</sup> Corrected figure.

Indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers are now constructed, for each of the 32 cities surveyed, and for the cities combined, using an average of the years 1923-25 as the base. The new base was chosen in order to make these indexes comparable with others frequently used in conjunction with the cost-of-living index (notably the Bureau's index of employment and pay rolls and the indexes of industrial production published by the Federal Reserve Board).

Table 4.—Indexes of Cost of Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried Workers, in 32 Large Cities, Apr. 15, 1936

[Average 1923-25=100]

City	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel and light	House-furnishing goods	Miscellaneous
Average: 32 large cities.....	80.7	<sup>1</sup> 79.4	78.5	63.7	88.3	77.3	96.5
New England:							
Boston.....	82.6	76.8	84.1	75.5	85.4	76.1	98.2
Portland, Maine.....	84.7	78.3	80.7	76.4	88.0	85.3	103.0
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo.....	81.8	78.8	77.0	65.6	99.7	79.8	98.4
New York.....	83.0	81.3	78.4	75.2	88.3	74.4	96.0
Philadelphia.....	81.3	82.1	74.8	65.2	84.1	76.9	95.9
Pittsburgh.....	79.1	77.6	76.6	60.7	99.4	75.2	96.2
Scranton.....	81.8	76.5	80.1	73.0	75.8	83.9	98.6
East North Central:							
Chicago.....	76.2	80.0	72.5	50.8	91.9	70.0	98.5
Cincinnati.....	84.3	82.1	77.2	73.5	93.8	83.7	97.4
Cleveland.....	81.7	79.0	80.9	59.2	100.4	74.2	101.8
Detroit.....	77.0	79.4	78.2	56.6	83.9	77.2	91.7
Indianapolis.....	79.2	77.9	74.9	58.0	89.3	81.8	92.9
West North Central:							
Kansas City.....	79.6	79.4	76.9	58.0	81.7	74.4	97.1
Minneapolis.....	81.8	84.2	77.1	63.9	91.8	79.4	95.4
St. Louis.....	81.4	83.4	78.3	55.3	90.1	83.4	99.9
South Atlantic:							
Atlanta.....	79.0	75.0	80.8	59.1	75.0	86.7	93.8
Baltimore.....	85.0	83.4	79.1	71.2	86.7	77.0	104.7
Jacksonville.....	78.5	76.1	78.8	56.0	89.2	79.0	90.2
Norfolk.....	83.7	78.4	84.8	62.3	82.5	80.8	103.8
Richmond.....	82.8	74.3	84.6	68.7	81.9	88.4	99.7
Savannah.....	79.4	79.4	81.2	58.6	82.4	82.0	91.2
Washington.....	85.5	81.3	78.0	85.8	85.4	81.4	97.4
East South Central:							
Birmingham.....	73.9	69.7	82.7	47.6	77.2	75.0	91.9
Memphis.....	79.3	76.5	83.7	54.8	88.5	85.3	94.8
Mobile.....	81.0	74.3	86.9	62.9	69.6	82.5	97.3
West South Central:							
Houston.....	79.5	76.3	73.9	66.7	73.2	82.0	95.2
New Orleans.....	80.8	80.9	75.7	70.3	76.2	82.6	90.4
Mountain: Denver.....	81.1	84.5	76.3	57.5	78.4	83.4	97.2
Pacific:							
Los Angeles.....	75.1	72.5	81.7	46.1	96.8	76.0	91.2
Portland, Oreg.....	80.8	79.9	78.5	54.6	85.9	78.7	98.4
San Francisco.....	83.9	80.7	86.4	69.6	83.4	79.8	98.0
Seattle.....	83.2	79.6	84.2	62.4	92.6	84.7	96.8

<sup>1</sup> Covers 51 cities.

The indexes for the 32 cities and for these cities combined, as of April 15, 1936, on the 1923-25 base, are presented in table 4. For the periods from June 1926 to April 15, 1936, for the 32 cities combined, indexes on this base appear in table 5. Figures for each city from June 1926 to April 15, 1936, may be obtained from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 5.—Indexes of Cost of Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried Workers, 1926 to Apr. 15, 1936

[Average 1923-25=100]

City and date	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel and light	House-furnishing goods	Miscellaneous
Average, 32 large cities:							
1926—June.....	102.5	108.9	97.1	100.4	100.0	95.8	101.0
December.....	102.3	108.1	96.2	100.0	103.4	94.7	101.4
1927—June.....	101.9	108.7	95.3	99.0	99.8	93.4	101.7
December.....	100.4	104.7	94.0	97.9	101.0	93.0	102.1
1928—June.....	99.2	102.5	93.8	96.5	98.1	91.1	102.1
December.....	99.4	103.2	93.3	95.5	100.0	90.5	102.8
1929—June.....	99.1	103.7	92.8	94.3	97.3	90.2	103.0
December.....	99.7	105.7	92.2	93.3	99.5	89.9	103.4
1930—June.....	97.7	101.2	91.5	92.0	96.2	88.8	103.7
December.....	93.9	92.1	88.1	90.1	98.4	85.1	103.4
1931—June.....	88.3	80.6	83.4	87.3	94.1	79.3	102.8
December.....	85.1	76.2	77.6	83.9	95.6	74.9	101.8
1932—June.....	79.7	67.6	73.5	78.5	89.1	68.4	100.4
December.....	76.6	64.7	69.5	72.7	90.1	65.6	98.8
1933—June.....	74.5	64.9	68.4	66.8	85.2	65.8	96.4
December.....	77.2	69.4	76.2	63.9	90.3	73.5	96.8
1934—June.....	78.3	73.3	77.9	62.7	88.0	75.0	96.6
Nov. 15.....	79.0	75.2	77.8	62.7	89.3	75.5	96.7
1935—Mar. 15.....	80.5	79.7	78.0	62.6	89.6	76.0	96.8
July 15.....	80.4	80.2	77.8	62.7	85.2	76.2	96.7
Oct. 15.....	80.7	80.2	78.0	63.3	88.0	77.0	96.6
1936—Jan. 15.....	81.3	81.6	78.3	63.5	88.6	77.0	96.6
Apr. 15.....	80.7	79.4	78.5	63.7	88.3	77.3	96.5

Data on changes in living costs from December 1914 for 19 cities, and from December 1917 for the other 13 cities have been presented in former issues. When the indexes of the cost of goods purchased by wage-earning and lower-salaried groups in 1919 were first prepared, it was impossible to secure the prices needed for their computation back to 1914 in all the 32 cities. The pamphlet presenting cost-of-living indexes for July 1935 (R. 258) includes these series, revised, for all the periods for which prices are available. For the convenience of those who have been using these indexes on the early bases, each series has been brought up to date in the October and January pamphlets and again in the present article and current pamphlet by tables 6 and 7, which show changes in the cost of goods purchased by wage earners and lower-salaried workers in 19 cities from December 1914 to April 15, 1936, and in 13 cities from December 1917 to April 15, 1936.

Table 6.—Percentage Changes in Cost of Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried Workers in 19 Cities, December 1914 to Apr. 15, 1936

City	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel and light	House-furnishing goods	Miscellaneous
New England:							
Boston.....	+38.0	+15.8	+60.3	+12.0	+66.0	+83.5	+85.1
Portland, Maine.....	+40.3	+23.0	+41.8	-2.1	+73.7	+93.4	+93.4
Middle Atlantic:							
Buffalo.....	+47.9	+25.2	+40.0	+14.3	+117.4	+77.4	+99.7
New York.....	+47.6	+26.0	+56.5	+23.6	+72.7	+64.7	+106.0
Philadelphia.....	+43.0	+22.4	+39.1	+10.4	+63.1	+56.8	+105.2
East North Central:							
Chicago.....	+35.8	+27.3	+23.6	-1.3	+44.7	+57.4	+87.5
Cleveland.....	+48.4	+21.1	+42.1	+4.6	+145.8	+62.2	+115.4
Detroit.....	+43.4	+24.1	+40.7	+13.7	+55.8	+54.2	+106.5
South Atlantic:							
Baltimore.....	+50.8	+32.3	+41.4	+21.8	+64.6	+74.3	+116.9
Jacksonville.....	+32.4	+9.8	+56.9	-24.0	+52.9	+86.1	+78.8
Norfolk.....	+44.5	+12.8	+50.3	+2.3	+65.7	+61.3	+110.8
Savannah.....	+23.8	+1	+44.8	-15.2	+33.6	+89.3	+62.2
Washington.....	+36.3	+26.5	+38.5	+16.6	+25.0	+82.4	+70.0
East South Central: Mobile.....	+32.0	+10.7	+32.9	-11.0	+33.5	+72.2	+88.1
West South Central: Houston.....	+33.4	+18.5	+46.5	-9.8	+5.1	+100.9	+80.9
Pacific:							
Los Angeles.....	+34.7	+7.4	+48.0	-10.9	+29.9	+83.6	+87.0
Portland, Ore.....	+27.8	+16.9	+25.3	-22.2	+38.1	+60.7	+72.5
San Francisco.....	+34.3	+19.6	+65.4	-4.6	+25.6	+71.5	+72.7
Seattle.....	+41.7	+16.5	+47.9	+2.0	+46.8	+105.2	+88.5

Table 7.—Percentage Changes in Cost of Goods Purchased by Wage Earners and Lower-Salaried Workers in 13 Cities, December 1917 to Apr. 15, 1936

City	All items	Food	Clothing	Rent	Fuel and light	House-furnishing goods	Miscellaneous
Middle Atlantic:							
Pittsburgh.....	-1.0	-22.9	-13.5	+1.6	+80.7	-3.2	+40.0
Scranton.....	+5.1	-20.0	-2.6	+20.1	+31.5	+12.2	+51.0
East North Central:							
Cincinnati.....	+1.7	-19.1	-19.0	+8.1	+43.3	+3.5	+44.4
Indianapolis.....	-2.8	-23.1	-16.9	-15.6	+29.9	-2	+40.3
West North Central:							
Kansas City.....	-6.3	-24.3	-13.1	-13.2	+10.1	-12.0	+31.2
Minneapolis.....	-1.4	-14.1	-17.3	-8.0	+31.8	-9	+25.5
St. Louis.....	+2	-18.0	-15.2	-1	+15.7	+6.7	+35.4
South Atlantic:							
Atlanta.....	-8.5	-29.1	-14.8	-6.4	+2.8	+5.0	+25.7
Richmond.....	-2.3	-27.4	-6.2	-4.1	+24.7	+22.4	+35.1
East South Central:							
Birmingham.....	-13.3	-31.7	-15.6	-20.5	+10.6	-13.0	+17.2
Memphis.....	-2.2	-26.6	-9.5	-7.1	+45.8	+2.8	+30.4
West South Central: New Orleans.....	-1.7	-22.3	-10.9	+10.2	+2.4	+7.6	+34.8
Mountain: Denver.....	+8	-15.7	-11.6	+6.2	+1.4	+4.4	+32.4

These figures for other dates, and indexes for particular cities or for the cities combined, on bases other than those presented in this article, may be secured by applying to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, United States Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.

## Cost of Living in the United States and Foreign Countries

THE trend of cost of living in the United States and certain foreign countries for June and December 1933, 1934, and March, July, and October 1935 and January and April 1936 is shown in the following table. In cases where data for April 1936 are not available, the latest information is given and the month noted. The number of countries included varies according to the available information.

A general index and index numbers for the individual groups of items are presented for all countries shown with the exception of Australia, Ireland, the Netherlands, Peru, South Africa, and Yugoslavia. Four countries publish a general index and an index number for food only.

Caution should be observed in the use of the figures because of differences in the base periods, in the number and kind of articles included, and the number of localities represented. There are also very radical differences in the method of the construction and calculation of the indexes.

The table shows the trend in the general cost of living and for the groups of food, clothing, fuel and light, and rent for the countries for which such information is published in original sources.



Table 8.—Index Numbers of Cost of Living for Specified Periods for the United States and Certain Foreign Countries

Country.....	United States	Australia (30 towns)	Austria, Vienna	Belgium	Canada	China, Shanghai	Czechoslovakia, Prague	Estonia, Tallin
Commodities included.....	Food, clothing, fuel and light, rent, house-furnishing goods, miscellaneous (revised)	Food, clothing, rent, miscellaneous (in general index)	Food, clothing, fuel and light, rent, sundries <sup>1</sup>	Food, clothing, fuel and light, rent, sundries	Food, clothing, fuel, rent, sundries	Food, clothing, fuel and light, rent, miscellaneous	Food, clothing, fuel and light, rent, sundries <sup>2</sup>	Food, clothing, fuel and light, rent, etc.
Computing agency.....	Bureau of Labor Statistics	Bureau of Census and Statistics	Federal Statistical Bureau	Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare	Dominion Bureau of Statistics	National Tariff Commission	Office of Statistics	Bureau of Statistics
Base period.....	1923-25=100	1923-27=1,000	July 1914=100	1921=100	1926=100	1926=100	July 1914=100	1913=100
<b>General:</b>								
1933—June.....	74.5	3 803	106	177.2	77.0	105.4	102.7	85
December.....	77.2	3 805	106	183.3	77.9	102.6	99.6	90
1934—June.....	78.3	3 818	105	168.5	78.0	98.5	84.7	88
December.....	4 79.0	3 820	105	174.5	78.9	110.4	82.7	87
1935—March.....	80.5	3 824	104	164.7	78.8	104.8	83.3	85
July.....	80.4	3 836	105	174.8	78.8	105.2	86.5	87
October.....	80.7	3 838	106	185.5	80.4	103.9	85.5	93
1936—January.....	81.3	3 838	106	5 186.6	80.7	111.0	86.1	94
April.....	80.7	-----	104	-----	79.8	111.7	86.2	97
<b>Food:</b>								
1933—June.....	64.9	759	106	143.4	62.2	84.1	98.8	74
December.....	69.4	769	104	153.6	66.6	79.8	92.7	79
1934—June.....	73.3	777	102	134.0	67.6	75.4	79.6	77
December.....	4 75.2	794	100	144.0	69.3	90.4	75.8	72
1935—March.....	79.7	795	98	130.8	69.5	85.7	76.7	76
July.....	80.2	812	102	143.8	69.3	90.3	83.5	76
October.....	80.2	827	103	159.5	72.4	86.3	81.4	83
1936—January.....	81.6	812	102	5 160.1	73.9	93.3	82.1	84
April.....	79.4	-----	98	-----	71.0	97.9	82.1	87
<b>Clothing:</b>								
1933—June.....	68.4	-----	159	225.2	66.1	89.5	95.4	120
December.....	76.2	-----	157	222.3	69.2	87.4	95.4	134
1934—June.....	77.9	-----	157	215.9	70.1	83.4	81.0	129
December.....	4 77.8	-----	157	212.0	71.0	82.7	82.1	129
1935—March.....	78.0	-----	157	206.6	70.3	80.7	83.0	128
July.....	77.8	-----	157	214.1	69.9	77.9	83.0	131
October.....	78.0	-----	157	215.1	71.6	77.6	83.2	135
1936—January.....	78.3	-----	157	5 217.8	70.6	84.0	83.2	135
April.....	78.5	-----	157	-----	70.6	84.3	83.7	135
<b>Fuel and light:</b>								
1933—June.....	85.2	-----	105	164.9	87.7	115.9	114.7	57
December.....	90.3	-----	112	161.7	87.3	114.4	114.7	60
1934—June.....	88.0	-----	109	151.7	87.2	101.2	95.6	60
December.....	4 89.3	-----	109	149.6	88.4	113.7	96.2	62
1935—March.....	89.6	-----	109	149.8	88.7	123.3	96.2	54
July.....	85.2	-----	109	155.0	84.7	101.8	93.7	56
October.....	88.0	-----	109	154.1	86.5	116.3	94.7	65
1936—January.....	88.6	-----	109	5 160.2	87.2	137.6	94.5	73
April.....	88.3	-----	109	-----	87.3	132.5	94.5	79
<b>Rent:</b>								
1933—June.....	66.8	-----	28	394.8	84.0	109.8	54.9	120
December.....	63.9	-----	28	393.1	80.4	110.2	54.9	114
1934—June.....	62.7	-----	29	392.2	79.7	110.3	45.7	112
December.....	4 62.7	-----	31	391.2	80.3	111.4	45.7	112
1935—March.....	62.6	-----	31	389.8	80.3	111.4	45.7	112
July.....	62.7	-----	31	391.6	81.4	111.4	45.7	112
October.....	63.3	-----	31	392.0	82.6	111.0	45.7	116
1936—January.....	63.5	-----	33	5 291.7	82.6	111.0	45.7	116
April.....	63.7	-----	33	-----	82.6	110.3	45.7	115

<sup>1</sup> In shillings.

<sup>2</sup> Gold.

<sup>3</sup> Quarter.

<sup>4</sup> November.

<sup>5</sup> December.

Table 8.—Index Numbers of Cost of Living for Specified Periods for the United States and Certain Foreign Countries—Continued

Country.....	Finland	France, Paris	Germany	Hungary, Buda- pest	India, Bombay	Ireland	Italy, Milan	Nether- lands, Amster- dam
Commodities in- cluded.....	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent, taxes, etc.	Food, clothing, fuel and light, rent, sun- dries	Food, clothing, fuel and light, rent, sun- dries	Food, clothing, fuel and light, rent	Food, clothing, fuel and light, rent	Food, clothing, fuel and light, rent, sun- dries	Food, clothing, fuel and light, rent, sun- dries	Food, all com- modities
Computing agency..	Ministry of Social Affairs	Commis- sioner for study of cost of living	Federal Statisti- cal Bu- reau	Central Office of Statistics	Labor Industry	Depart- ment of Indus- try and Commer- ce	Municipal Adminis- tration	Bureau of Statis- tics
Base period.....	January- June 1914= 100	January- June 1914= 100	1913-14= 100	1913=100	July 1914=100	July 1914=100	January- June 1914=100	1911-13= 100
<b>General:</b>								
1933—June.....	985.3	<sup>3</sup> 516	118.0	92.1	104	<sup>3</sup> 148	446.7	<sup>3</sup> 137.4
December.....	990.6	<sup>3</sup> 526	120.6	87.8	98	<sup>3</sup> 156	449.9	<sup>3</sup> 142.5
1934—June.....	965.8	<sup>3</sup> 522	120.5	90.4	95	<sup>3</sup> 149	419.3	<sup>3</sup> 139.9
December.....	1,001.2	<sup>3</sup> 504	122.2	88.2	99	<sup>3</sup> 157	423.8	<sup>3</sup> 138.8
1935—March.....	979.0	<sup>3</sup> 494	122.2	89.4	98	<sup>3</sup> 153	422.9	<sup>3</sup> 136.7
July.....	996.0	<sup>3</sup> 469	124.3	92.8	101	<sup>3</sup> 156	430.3	<sup>3</sup> 135.6
October.....	1,021.3	<sup>3</sup> 478	122.8	93.0	103	<sup>3</sup> 162	7 434.1	<sup>3</sup> 136.7
1936—January.....	992.4	-----	124.3	95.0	103	<sup>3</sup> 159	-----	-----
April.....	989.9	-----	<sup>6</sup> 124.2	<sup>6</sup> 95.8	100	-----	-----	-----
<b>Food:</b>								
1933—June.....	881.7	<sup>3</sup> 532	113.7	84.4	95	<sup>3</sup> 126	402.9	<sup>3</sup> 116.5
December.....	881.2	<sup>3</sup> 548	117.8	74.3	88	<sup>3</sup> 140	408.9	<sup>3</sup> 128.3
1934—June.....	852.0	<sup>3</sup> 544	117.8	79.6	85	<sup>3</sup> 129	383.3	<sup>3</sup> 123.1
December.....	922.1	<sup>3</sup> 516	119.1	75.7	90	<sup>3</sup> 143	390.5	<sup>3</sup> 122.3
1935—March.....	884.6	<sup>3</sup> 494	118.8	78.2	89	<sup>3</sup> 136	389.8	<sup>3</sup> 118.3
July.....	908.9	<sup>3</sup> 466	122.9	84.7	93	<sup>3</sup> 140	397.4	<sup>3</sup> 117.2
October.....	947.1	<sup>3</sup> 481	119.6	84.2	94	<sup>3</sup> 150	7 403.9	<sup>3</sup> 119.2
1936—January.....	904.2	-----	122.3	85.8	96	<sup>3</sup> 145	-----	-----
April.....	891.2	-----	<sup>6</sup> 122.2	<sup>6</sup> 87.3	92	-----	-----	-----
<b>Clothing:</b>								
1933—June.....	963.6	<sup>3</sup> 499	105.8	101.3	115	-----	347.7	-----
December.....	958.6	<sup>3</sup> 504	108.2	104.4	111	-----	347.6	-----
1934—June.....	958.0	<sup>3</sup> 504	109.8	101.7	111	-----	329.3	-----
December.....	957.7	<sup>3</sup> 490	116.1	101.7	114	-----	331.4	-----
1935—March.....	956.7	<sup>3</sup> 490	117.2	101.7	114	-----	331.4	-----
July.....	956.3	<sup>3</sup> 490	117.8	101.7	112	-----	352.5	-----
October.....	959.4	<sup>3</sup> 483	118.4	103.6	112	-----	7 352.5	-----
1936—January.....	962.0	-----	118.5	114.0	113	-----	-----	-----
April.....	964.6	-----	<sup>6</sup> 118.7	<sup>6</sup> 114.6	111	-----	-----	-----
<b>Fuel and light:</b>								
1933—June.....	878.1	<sup>3</sup> 585	125.1	128.8	136	-----	393.3	-----
December.....	897.1	<sup>3</sup> 613	128.0	133.7	136	-----	392.2	-----
1934—June.....	898.8	<sup>3</sup> 563	124.6	135.2	136	-----	382.2	-----
December.....	896.7	<sup>3</sup> 595	127.5	133.7	136	-----	388.5	-----
1935—March.....	922.3	<sup>3</sup> 592	127.6	133.1	136	-----	382.9	-----
July.....	913.4	<sup>3</sup> 533	124.6	132.7	136	-----	384.4	-----
October.....	938.6	<sup>3</sup> 551	126.8	134.6	136	-----	7 384.4	-----
1936—January.....	990.9	-----	127.1	133.3	128	-----	-----	-----
April.....	1,083.6	-----	<sup>6</sup> 127.1	<sup>6</sup> 133.1	126	-----	-----	-----
<b>Rent:</b>								
1933—June.....	1,132.1	<sup>3</sup> 375	121.3	86.3	158	-----	488.9	-----
December.....	1,132.1	<sup>3</sup> 375	121.3	86.3	158	-----	491.0	-----
1934—June.....	1,082.6	<sup>3</sup> 375	121.3	86.3	158	-----	431.9	-----
December.....	1,082.6	<sup>3</sup> 375	121.2	86.3	158	-----	431.7	-----
1935—March.....	1,082.6	<sup>3</sup> 400	121.2	86.3	158	-----	431.1	-----
July.....	1,101.2	<sup>3</sup> 363	121.2	86.3	158	-----	431.1	-----
October.....	1,101.2	<sup>3</sup> 363	121.3	86.3	158	-----	431.1	-----
1936—January.....	1,101.2	-----	121.3	86.3	158	-----	7 431.1	-----
April.....	1,101.2	-----	<sup>6</sup> 121.3	<sup>6</sup> 86.3	158	-----	-----	-----

<sup>3</sup> Quarter.<sup>6</sup> March.<sup>7</sup> September.

Table 8.—Index Numbers of Cost of Living for Specified Periods for the United States and Certain Foreign Countries—Continued

Country-----	New Zealand	Norway	Peru, Lima	South Africa	Sweden	Switzerland	United Kingdom	Yugoslavia, Beograd
Commodities included-----	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent, sundries	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent, sundries	Food, clothing, rent, sundries	Food, fuel, light, rent, sundries	Food, clothing, fuel and light, rent, taxation, sundries	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent, sundries	Food, clothing, fuel, light, rent, sundries	Food, clothing, fuel and light
Computing agency--	Census and Statistics Office	Central Statistical Office	Office of Investigations	Office of Census and Statistics	Board of Social Welfare	Federal Labor Office	Ministry of Labor	National Bank
Base period-----	1926-1930 = 1,000	July 1914=100	1913=100	1914=1,000	July 1914=100	June 1914=100	July 1914=100	1926=100
<b>General:</b>								
1933—June-----	3 796	147	149	1, 148	3 153	131	136	74. 5
December-----	3 800	146	148	1, 174	3 154	131	143	74. 2
1934—June-----	3 812	148	151	1, 164	3 153	129	138	70. 9
December-----	3 810	149	150	1, 157	3 155	129	144	69. 4
1935—March-----	3 826	149	152	1, 157	3 155	127	141	70. 7
July-----	3 836	151	152	1, 156	3 156	128	143	68. 0
October-----	3 853	153	153	1, 146	3 157	129	145	69. 9
1936—January-----	3 839	153	157	1, 157	3 158	130	147	71. 1
April-----	-----	155	6 158	6 1, 157	3 158	130	144	70. 4
<b>Food:</b>								
1933—June-----	723	130	138	989	3 119	116	114	75. 3
December-----	751	129	140	1, 050	3 123	117	126	73. 5
1934—June-----	778	132	149	1, 041	3 120	115	117	72. 2
December-----	792	134	146	1, 021	3 125	114	127	70. 9
1935—March-----	819	135	148	1, 024	3 124	112	122	72. 6
July-----	826	140	147	1, 019	3 129	115	126	71. 0
October-----	875	142	147	998	3 131	117	128	72. 5
1936—January-----	841	142	154	1, 016	3 132	118	131	73. 6
April-----	6 827	145	6 155	6 1, 015	3 134	119	126	73. 0
<b>Clothing:</b>								
1933—June-----	3 821	142	150	-----	3 163	117	185	77. 1
December-----	3 823	143	150	-----	3 163	115	185	78. 0
1934—June-----	3 833	144	158	-----	3 165	115	188	76. 9
December-----	3 834	144	167	-----	3 167	115	188	74. 8
1935—March-----	3 831	144	167	-----	3 168	115	188	73. 7
July-----	3 829	143	170	-----	3 167	114	188	71. 2
October-----	3 825	145	173	-----	3 167	112	185	70. 7
1936—January-----	3 823	146	173	-----	3 168	112	185	72. 1
April-----	-----	3 146	6 173	-----	3 169	111	188	72. 1
<b>Fuel and light:</b>								
1933—June-----	3 894	139	-----	-----	3 139	118	168	75. 2
December-----	3 849	137	-----	-----	3 136	119	170	75. 7
1934—June-----	3 856	136	-----	-----	3 136	116	168	73. 4
December-----	3 835	138	-----	-----	3 136	116	170	73. 7
1935—March-----	3 837	138	-----	-----	3 137	115	173	73. 2
July-----	3 874	139	-----	-----	3 137	113	168	71. 4
October-----	3 876	141	-----	-----	3 138	113	170	71. 5
1936—January-----	3 874	143	-----	-----	3 138	113	175	71. 2
April-----	-----	145	-----	-----	3 140	113	178	71. 2
<b>Rent:</b>								
1933—June-----	3 768	172	150	-----	3 202	184	156	-----
December-----	3 761	168	150	-----	3 202	184	156	-----
1934—June-----	3 758	168	146	-----	3 202	182	156	-----
December-----	3 761	166	146	-----	3 201	182	156	-----
1935—March-----	3 766	166	153	-----	3 201	182	156	-----
July-----	3 776	166	153	-----	3 198	180	158	-----
October-----	3 783	166	156	-----	3 198	180	158	-----
1936—January-----	3 789	167	156	-----	3 198	180	158	-----
April-----	-----	3 167	6 156	-----	3 196	180	158	-----

3 Quarter.

6 March.

# RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF LABOR INTEREST

June 1936

## Agricultural Conditions

*Revolt among the share-croppers.* By Howard Kester. New York, Covici-Friede, 1936. 98 pp.

An account of "the economic, social, and political forces which have contributed to the plight of the tenants and laborers in the cotton fields of the South."

*Les mesures concernant la lutte engagée pour remédier à la détresse des agriculteurs montagnards.* Brugg, Switzerland, 1936. (Publication du Secrétariat des Paysans Suisses No. 112.) 202 pp.

Report on the measures taken by the Swiss Government to improve the condition of agriculture and farmers in mountainous regions; these include extension of credit to farmers, subsidies for housing construction, reduction of taxes and of transportation costs, and general relief.

*Recherches relatives à la rentabilité de l'agriculture pendant l'exercice 1934-35.* Rapport du Secrétariat des paysans suisses au Département fédéral de l'Économie publique, 1<sup>re</sup> partie. Bern, Switzerland, 1936. 79 pp., map, charts.

Contains data on conditions in Swiss agriculture in 1934, prices of agricultural products, cost of production, wages of agricultural laborers, etc.

## Cooperative Movement

*Consumers' cooperation in California, 1934-35.* Washington, U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1936. 10 pp. (Serial No. R. 388, reprint from May 1936 Monthly Labor Review.)

*Organizing and incorporating fishery cooperative-marketing associations.* By L. C. Salter. Washington, U. S. Bureau of Fisheries, 1936. 49 pp., mimeographed. (Special Memorandum No. 2600.)

Outlines the aims and principles of these associations, the proper procedure for organizing, operation methods and policies, and the legal requirements and corporate structure. Contains suggested articles of incorporation, bylaws, membership application, and the text of the Federal Fishery Cooperative Marketing Act.

"Preventive medicine" for cooperatives. Address before the Twin Cities Milk Producers Association, Minneapolis, Minn., November 1935, by Frank W. Peck. Washington, U. S. Farm Credit Administration, 1936. 14 pp. (Circular A-3.)

Points out some of the weak points of farmers' marketing and business cooperative organizations.

*Periodicals issued by farmers' marketing and purchasing associations, including house organs, news letters, etc.* Revised to January 7, 1936. By Chastina Gardner. Washington, U. S. Farm Credit Administration, Cooperative Division, 1936. 16 pp., mimeographed. (Miscellaneous Report No. 5.)

*Towards the cooperative commonwealth.* By T. W. Mercer. Manchester, England, Cooperative Press, Ltd., 1936. 221 pp., illus.

Treats of the development of the consumers' cooperative movement in Great Britain, by periods. Features of the book are the discussion of the events leading up to the formation of the Cooperative Party, encounters between the movement and the organized private dealers, and legislative measures directed against the movement.

*El cooperativismo en Colombia es un éxito.* Cartagena, Colombia, Cooperativa de Crédito para Empleados Limitada, 1935. 16 pp.

Annual report for 1935 of the Cooperativa de Crédito para Empleados Limitada—a cooperative credit society—together with a brief account of the development of cooperative societies in Colombia.

## Economic and Social Problems

*A program for modern America.* By Harry W. Laidler. New York, Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1936. 517 pp.

Four-year program for dealing with child labor, social insurance, hours of work, collective bargaining, and various other aspects of national economy. The program is described by the author as calling for "mere skirmishes in the general battle" for ultimate reorganization of economic life along cooperative lines.

*The commonwealth of industry: The separation of industry and the State.* By Benjamin A. Javits. New York, Harper & Brothers, 1936. 229 pp., charts.

Proposal for attempting economic coordination on a self-governing basis by means of a national economic council. The council would be nonpolitical, based mainly on trade associations with a minority membership representing labor, and would have large powers and responsibilities subject to restriction by the courts to prevent actions unwarranted by law.

*Economic thought and its institutional background.* By Harvey W. Peck. New York, Farrar & Rinehart, Inc., 1935. 379 pp., charts.

A study of the main currents of modern economic thought in the light of the institutional conditions which have influenced the formulation of ideas. The analysis extends from the era of agricultural predominance and local handicrafts to the "newer capitalism" and the collectivism of today.

*Create the wealth.* By William Beard. New York, W. W. Morton & Co., Inc., 1936. 314 pp., illus.

Considers the technological possibility of adequate production for a high standard of living and the causes of failure to achieve this end. The author proposes an experimental dual system of production with private enterprise functioning for those who have employment and ample buying power, and public enterprise for utilizing the productive capacity and supplying the needs of the unemployed and of those with submarginal incomes.

*A world production order.* By F. M. Wibaut. Translated from the Dutch by R. W. Roame. London, George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., 1935. 240 pp.

Criticizes prevailing systems of production as necessarily involving recurrent depressions, unemployment, waste, and low standards; and discusses a possible international reorganization of production on the basis of agreements for the allocation of production and the utilization of the most efficient facilities. Statistical evidence is presented to show that high wages and living standards do not entail a high unit cost of production. A progressive nonrevolutionary socialization of investment is viewed as essential.

*The problem of poverty: A plain statement of economic fundamentals.* By John Rustgard. New York, D. Appleton-Century Co., Inc., 1936. 289 pp.

The thesis of this book is that differences in ability make for inequalities in income and will inevitably continue to do so.

*Illinois Conference on Social Welfare, East St. Louis, Ill., October 28-31, 1935.* Chicago, 203 North Wabash Avenue, 1936. 285 pp.

Among the subjects discussed are problems of citizenship in family case work; health program objectives; the organization of social forces; report of the governor's commission on the State's relief problem.

*Who are the blind in New Jersey?* A statistical analysis of the persons on the register of the State commission for the blind during the fiscal year 1934. Trenton, State Department of Institutions and Agencies, 1936. 32 pp., charts. (Publication No. 30.)

*The home market, a handbook of statistics.* By Major G. Harrison and F. C. Mitchell. London, George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., 1936. 149 pp., maps, charts.

A graphic presentation of British population, income, cost of living, and related statistics in their relation to possible markets in Great Britain.

*A brief outline of the ten years of activities of the Palestine Economic Corporation.* New York, 40 Exchange Place, [1936?]. 14 pp., illus.

Summarizes the activities of the corporation in the settlement of Palestine, by making credit available to farmers, city workers, and small business men. Among the beneficiaries of this source of credit have been the cooperative societies.

*Ninth annual report of the Palestine Economic Corporation, calendar year 1935.* New York, 40 Exchange Place, [1936]. 52 pp.

A brief review of the economic situation in Palestine during 1935, with statistics on developments during the past 10 years relative to Jewish immigration into Palestine, industrial and agricultural development, cooperative societies, etc.

*This Soviet world.* By Anna Louise Strong. New York, Henry Holt & Co., 1936. 301 pp.

A description and analysis of present-day Russian economic and social conditions and their development, based upon the author's studies and observations during her residence of a number of years in the Soviet Union.

### Education and Training

*Handbook of adult education in the United States, 1936.* Edited by Dorothy Rowden. New York, American Association for Adult Education, 60 East 42d Street, 1936. 423 pp.

Information on both the so-called cultural and the vocational adult educational agencies is included in this volume, as it seemed to the editor that in American life the vocational motives and those termed cultural are inextricably associated. Among the subjects dealt with in the articles presented are adult education of the Negro and of the foreign born, training of employees by corporations, vocational education and vocational guidance of adults, vocational rehabilitation of the physically handicapped, and workers' education.

*Training in industry.* Edited by R. W. Ferguson. London, Sir Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., 1935. 156 pp.

The results of studies carried out between 1931 and 1934 by the Association for Education in Industry and Commerce. Educational methods followed by various British firms are described and problems in training for different types of employment are discussed.

### Efficiency

*The acquisition of skill: An analysis of learning curves.* By J. M. Blackburn. London, Industrial Health Research Board, 1936. 84 pp., diagrams. (Report No. 73.)

Brings together the results of various investigations of methods of acquiring skill, including the effects of different incentives and the more general factors underlying efficient and economical methods of learning. The first part of the report deals with the effect of practice on the relative differences in performance of a group of individual workers; the second with an analysis of the different types of learning curves; and the third with the factors underlying economical learning.

*The prognostic value of some psychological tests.* By E. Farmer and E. G. Chambers. London, Industrial Health Research Board, 1936. 41 pp. (Report No. 74.)

The authors discuss the relation between vocational tests and industrial proficiency, the value of various tests in different industrial groups, and group factors in the tests.

### Employment and Unemployment

*Report on the Works Program.* Washington, U. S. Works Progress Administration, March 16, 1936. 113 pp., maps, charts, illus.

Reviews the developments leading to the employment of 3,800,000 persons under the Works Program up to March 1936.

*Court decisions on teacher tenure in 1935.* Washington, National Education Association, 1201 16th Street NW., 1936. 47 pp.

A decided increase is reported in the number of decisions handed down in the year covered by this report as compared with the average number in any one of the three previous years. The probable contributing causes of the increase, it is stated, are recent financial difficulties of the schools which have resulted in the dismissal of teachers, and a greater tendency among teachers to stand for their rights in such cases.

*Siebenter Bericht der Reichsanstalt für Arbeitsvermittlung und Arbeitslosenversicherung für die Zeit vom 1. April 1934 bis zum 31. März 1935.* Berlin, 1935. 56 pp., charts. (Reprint No. 35 from Reichsarbeitsblatt, 1935.)

Report on the activities of the employment service and operations under the unemployment-insurance system in Germany from April 1, 1934, to March 31, 1935.

*Sinn und Ende der Arbeitslosigkeit.* By Peter Dehen. Freiburg, Germany, Herder & Co., 1935. 123 pp.

The author deals with the unemployment problem and its solution as he understands it.

### Housing

*Housing officials' yearbook, 1936.* Edited by Coleman Woodbury. Chicago, National Association of Housing Officials, 850 East 58th Street, 1936. 244 pp.

A reference book on housing practice and policy in the United States. Because of the interest in methods being used in Great Britain, information is also included on British housing activities. Laws governing the establishment of housing authorities and creating limited-dividend housing corporations are listed.

*Housing in relation to delinquency and crime.* Washington, Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works, Housing Division, 1936. 101 pp., maps, charts, illus.; mimeographed. (Research Bulletin No. 1.)

*Principles of planning small houses.* Washington, Federal Housing Administration, 1936. 36 pp., plans, illus. (Technical Bulletin No. 4.)

*Construction costs, 1936 edition.* New York, Engineering News-Record, 330 West 42d Street, 1936. 128 pp., charts.

The data presented cover volume of construction, financing costs, prices of materials, wage rates, operating characteristics of construction equipment and plant, workmen's accident compensation rates, and directories of manufacturers and distributors of building materials.

*Industrielle Heimstättensiedlung—der Weg zur Krisenfestigkeit des deutschen Arbeiters.* By W. Wiedemann. Berlin, VDI-Verlag, 1936. 138 pp., maps, charts, illus.

Deals with the establishment of small homesteads for industrial workers in Germany.

*Annual report of the London County Council, 1934: Vol. II, Public health.* London, 1936. 55 pp.

A section on housing outlines the duties of the Council with regard to provision of better buildings, cites results of work it has already done, and describes the undertakings now under way.

*Report of the Central Housing Board, Union of South Africa, 1935.* Pretoria, Department of Public Health, 1936. 29 pp.

Discussion of housing legislation and the building program undertaken, with statistics of size and kind of dwellings constructed.

### Industrial Accidents, Health, and Hygiene

*An investigation relating to health conditions of workers employed in the construction and maintenance of public utilities.* Hearings before a subcommittee of the Committee on Labor, U. S. House of Representatives, 74th Congress, 2d session, on H. J. Res. 449, January and February 1936. Washington, 1936. 203 pp.

The hearings were in reference to the deaths from silicosis of workers employed in digging a tunnel at Gauley Bridge, W. Va.

*Roentgenological appearances in silicosis and the underlying pathological lesions.* Washington, U. S. Public Health Service, 1935. 8 pp. (Reprint No. 1696 from Public Health Reports, August 2, 1935.)

*Food, health, and income.* A report on a survey of adequacy of diet in relation to income. By John Boyd Orr. London, Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1936. 72 pp., charts.

Deals with the consumption of various types of food by different income groups of the working population of Great Britain, and the effects of inadequate diets upon health.

*Medical care and costs in California families in relation to economic status.* By Margaret C. Klem. San Francisco, State Relief Administration, 1935. 117 pp., charts.

The author finds as a result of the survey that "without some method of spreading the risks of medical costs, of substituting a collective for an individual liability, the diagnostic and therapeutic value of modern medicine can reach in

full measure only the small portion of the population in the high income classes, and, to lesser extent, those who are forced either to incur bills which they can never hope to pay, or to accept charity."

*Physical examinations in industry.* New York, Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., Madison Avenue, [1936?]. 32 pp., charts, illus. (Industrial Health Series, No. 2.)

An outline of the purposes of physical examinations of industrial workers and the methods used in making preliminary and periodic examinations. Floor plans of examining rooms and sample forms are included.

*Silencing a noisy world.* London, Anti-Noise League, 66 Victoria Street, 1935. 48 pp.

Proceedings of a conference on noise abatement. The discussions covered sound and noise, the law and noise, noise and housing, and health and noise.

*Statistique des accidents du travail dans le Royaume de Bulgarie, 1931, 1932, 1933.* Sofia, Direction Générale de la Statistique, 1935. 53 pp. (In Bulgarian and French.)

#### Industrial Relations

*Collective agreements in the brewery industry, 1935.* Washington, U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1936. 13 pp. (Serial No. R. 379, reprint from April 1936 Monthly Labor Review.)

*The labor contract.* By B. F. Shields. London, Burns Oates & Washbourne, Ltd., 1936. 152 pp.

A text book on employer-employee relations in which various aspects of the labor contract in different countries are discussed. The following subjects are dealt with: The guild system, the age of individualism, the wage problem, organized labor, working conditions, industrial disputes, voluntary methods of settling industrial disputes, and State intervention in such controversies.

*Industrial America, its way of work and thought.* By Arthur Pound. Boston, Little, Brown & Co., 1936. 234 pp., illus.

Studies of 12 prominent business corporations as illustrations of certain characteristics which the author believes to be praiseworthy and typical of present-day industry. Two chapters deal specifically with labor conditions and relations.

*Report of Massachusetts Board of Conciliation and Arbitration, together with decisions rendered by the board, for the year ending November 30, 1935.* Boston, [1936]. 30 pp.

*Trade unionism and labor disputes in India.* By Ahmad Mukhtar. New York, Longmans, Green & Co., Ltd., 1935. 251 pp.

After a brief historical survey of the conflict between labor and capital in India, the author takes up the subjects of the law and the right to combine, the investigation and settlement of labor disputes, the Ahmedabad Textile Labor Association, and trade-union coordination.

#### International Labor Conditions

*Report of the Director of the International Labor Office to the International Labor Conference, 20th session, Geneva, 1936.* Geneva, International Labor Office, 1936. 91 pp., charts. (American agent: World Peace Foundation, Boston.)

The report deals with general world economic conditions during the past year; the unemployment situation; social and industrial policies, including social insurance, hours of work, wages and wage policy, and organization of industry and agriculture; and the work of the International Labor Organization in 1935.

An appendix of 50 pages, published separately, presents tables showing the situation to the States members of the International Labor Organization in respect of the conventions and recommendations adopted by the International Labor Conference.

#### Labor and Employer Organizations

*Directorio de asociaciones sindicales de la República de Mexico.* Mexico, Departamento del Trabajo, 1935. 226 pp.

This second directory of workers' and employers' organizations in Mexico classifies by State the organizations registered by Federal and State authorities and reported to the Federal Department of Labor up to December 31, 1934. Membership is reported for each organization under Federal jurisdiction.



## Labor Legislation

*Legal restrictions on hours of labor of men in the United States, as of January 1, 1936.* Washington, U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1936. 4 pp. (Serial No. R. 385, reprint from April 1936 Monthly Labor Review.)

*Labor legislation for Kansas coal mines.* By Domenico Gagliardo. Lawrence, University of Kansas, School of Business, 1936. 49 pp. (Kansas Studies in Business No. 17.)

*Labor legislation in Canada, 1935.* Ottawa, Department of Labor, 1936. 110 pp. A review of labor legislation enacted in Canada in 1935. Canadian Federal labor legislation was summarized in the Monthly Labor Review for December 1935.

*Leyes de la revolución: Legislación social de Cuba.* By Francisco Boudet y Rosell. Habana, Rambla, Bouza & Co., 1936. 720 pp.

This publication constitutes the labor legislation section of a series of volumes presenting laws, decrees, resolutions, and other public papers issued in Cuba from August 12, 1933, to December 31, 1935.

*Ley federal del trabajo.* By Victor Manuel Varela. Mexico, Cesar Ciceron, 1935. 259 pp. 3d ed.

Annotated text of the Mexican Federal labor law of 1931, incorporating various amendments.

## Leisure-Time Activities

*The new leisure, its significance and use.* A selected bibliography compiled by Grace P. Thornton. New York, Russell Sage Foundation Library, 130 East 22d Street, June 1936. 4 pp. (Bul. No. 137.)

## Migration of Industry

*Migration of selected industries as influenced by area wage differentials in the codes of fair competition—(a) boot and shoe industry, (b) cotton-textile industry.* By J. J. Lane. Washington, U. S. National Recovery Administration, Division of Review, 1936. 41 pp. (Work Materials No. 45; a section of part C, Control of wages).

Shows trends existing prior to the adoption of N. R. A. codes, the provisions of the codes with reference to wages, and the effect of code provisions in altering location of industrial plants.

## Occupations

*Jobs and Careers: The Vocational Digest.* Mount Morris, Ill., Jobs and Careers, Inc., 404 North Wesley Ave., March 1936. 64 pp.

The first issue of a national monthly magazine designed to carry selected articles, condensed for ready reading, concerning vocational problems, new opportunities for employment, and changes in occupational fields.

*Make yourself a job—a student employment handbook.* By Myron Downey Hockenbury. Harrisburg, Pa., Dauphin Publishing Co., 1936. 160 pp.

Various employment opportunities for financing one's way through college are described, including selling, agricultural pursuits, advertising, clerical work, the professions, art and entertainment, athletics, and vacation jobs at summer resorts.

## Personnel Management

*Compensation problems and training technique today.* New York, American Management Association, 330 West Forty-second Street, 1936. 48 pp. (Personnel Series 24.)

*Convention of American Council of Guidance and Personnel Associations, St. Louis—addresses and papers.* (In Occupations—The Vocational Guidance Magazine, New York, 551 Fifth Avenue, May 1936, Section I, pp. 709-805.)

Among the problems taken up at this meeting were: Today's challenge to personnel work; what industry wants from the university; educating for vocational competence; professional standards in guidance; and exploring occupational trends.

*Psychology of human relations for executives.* By J. L. Rosenstein. New York, McGraw-Hill Book Co., Inc., 1936. 284 pp.

The progressive industrialist realizes the importance of the human factor in industrial production. The objective of this book is to show executives how they may utilize the teachings of psychology in solving personnel problems.

#### Prices and Cost of Living

*Revised indexes of retail food costs, 1929-35.* Washington, U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1936. 30 pp. (Serial No. R. 384.)

*Elinkustannustulkimus vuodelta, 1928.* Helsinki, Finland, Socialiministeriö, Sosialinen Tutkimustoimisto, 1936. 134 pp.

Presents statistics obtained in a survey of cost of living in Finland in the year 1928. (In Finnish and Swedish, with résumé in French.)

#### Relief Measures and Methods

*The transient unemployed: A description and analysis of the transient relief population.* By John N. Webb. Washington, U. S. Works Progress Administration, Division of Social Research, 1935. 132 pp., maps, charts. (Research Monograph III.)

Reviewed in this issue.

*Digest of publications released by the Works Progress Administration and the National Youth Administration (since June 1, 1935).* Washington, U. S. Works Progress Administration, Division of Information and Publications, January 1, 1936. Various paging, mimeographed.

*References on the Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works and its work, including the Public Works Housing Division.* Compiled by James T. Rubey. Washington, U. S. Geological Survey Library, March 1, 1936. 47 pp., mimeographed. (Bibliographical List No. 2.)

*26,000 manpower plus: A history of the work program of the State and county relief committees of Oregon.* [Salem, State Relief Committee, 1936?] 84 pp., maps, charts, illus.

*The Michigan poor law, its development and administration, with special reference to State provision for medical care of the indigent.* By Isabel Campbell Bruce and Edith Eickhoff; edited with an introductory note and selected court decisions by Sophonisba P. Breckenridge. Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1936. 292 pp. (Social Service Monograph No. 23.)

*Arbetslöshetshjälpen i Stockholm, 1934.* Stockholm, Arbetslöshetskommitté og Statistiska Kontor, 1936. 44 pp.

Report on unemployment relief in the city of Stockholm, Sweden, in 1934. There is a French translation of the table of contents and a résumé in French.

#### Social Security

*The old-age security and the welfare titles of the Social Security Act.* (In Law and Contemporary Problems, Duke University School of Law, Durham, N. C., April 1936, pp. 173-334.)

A symposium on the various benefit features of the Social Security Act, by well-known economists.

*Security or the dole?* By Maxwell S. Stewart. Washington, Public Affairs Committee, National Press Building, 1936. 32 pp., charts. (Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 4.)

Designed to answer the following: How has the machine made us insecure?; what are the benefits and dangers of the Social Security Act?; and how does it, the Social Security Act, compare with foreign laws?

*Survey and study of the social security benefits program, 1935.* Charleston, West Virginia Relief Administration, 1935. 127 pp.

Gives the results of a survey of 46,108 persons on relief in West Virginia in October 1935, representing 17,046 family groups; a compilation of data on persons being cared for in county infirmaries; and some findings of a 1934 State census of physically handicapped persons up to 25 years of age. Estimates of the probable cost to West Virginia of participation in the Social Security Program are also included.

*Annual report of Division of Old Age Security, New York State Department of Social Welfare, year ended June 30, 1935.* Albany, [1936?]. 7 pp. (Reprinted from sixty-ninth annual report of Department of Social Welfare.)

*Evolution of the American pension system, 1883-1936.* By Harvey Lebrun. (In *Sociology and Social Research*, Los Angeles, May-June 1936, pp. 453-462.)

*The Canadian Unemployment Insurance Act—its relation to social security.* By J. L. Cohen. Toronto, Thomas Nelson & Sons, Ltd., 1935. 167 pp.

Considers the particular problems presented by the Canadian act and discusses the relative merits of contributory and noncontributory schemes of unemployment insurance. The author favors the latter type, which he believes is calculated to contribute to a constructive social program.

*Die gewerbliche Sozialversicherung.* By Josef Resch. Vienna, Austria, Carl Ueberreuters Verlag, 1935. 460 pp.

Deals with Austrian social insurance against sickness, accidents, disability, old age, and unemployment, including legislation covering the subject, and requirements made of the insured.

### Wages and Hours of Labor

*Earnings and hours in blast furnaces, Bessemer converters, open-hearth furnaces, and electric furnaces, 1933 and 1935.* Washington, U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1936. 33 pp. (Serial No. R. 380, reprint from April 1936 Monthly Labor Review.)

Data for 5 rolling-mill departments of the iron and steel industry were published in the June 1936 Monthly Labor Review, and similar figures are given in the present issue for several other departments.

*Financial and labor data on the women's neckwear and scarf industry.* By W. A. Gill. Washington, U. S. National Recovery Administration, Division of Review, 1936. 28 pp., mimeographed. (Work Materials No. 3.)

Figures on wages and hours in the women's neckwear and scarf industry, taken from this report, are given in this issue of the Monthly Labor Review.

*Schedule of wages for civil employees in the field service of the Navy Department and the Marine Corps, revised to March 1, 1936.* Washington, U. S. Navy Department, 1936. 63 pp.

Portions of this schedule are reproduced in this issue of the Monthly Labor Review.

*Report on wages, hours of work, and conditions of employment in the printing industry in the Bombay Presidency (excluding Sind), May 1934.* Bombay, Labor Office, 1936. 92 pp., illus. (General Wage Census, Part I—Perennial factories, second report.)

### Youth Problems

*The lost generation—a portrait of American youth today.* By Maxine Davis. New York, Macmillan Co., 1936. 385 pp.

A journalist's report of interviews with many kinds of boys and girls in various parts of the United States. The author also discusses the present opportunities for youth and the activities of a number of public and private agencies in behalf of young people.

### General Reports

*Annual report of Kansas Coal Mine and Metal Mine Inspection and Mine Rescue Departments, 1935.* Topeka, 1936. 66 pp.

Contains data on production, number of employees, days worked, and accidents in mines, together with mine directories. There were 5,797 workers employed in coal mines, metal mines, and tailing mills during 1935. Ten fatal and 898 nonfatal accidents were reported.

*Annual report of the Missouri Department of Mines and Mining for the fiscal year 1935.* Jefferson City, 1936. 80 pp., illus.

Figures are given on production, men employed, days worked, and accidents in the mines of the State. The data on accidents show 11 fatalities, of which 9 occurred in coal mines.

*Annual report of the Wyoming State Inspector of Coal Mines, 1935.* [Cheyenne?], 1936. 61 pp., illus.

Statistics on employment, production, mine rescue work, and accidents are presented. Twenty fatal and 239 nonfatal accidents are reported for the year.

*Statistique de l'industrie minière de la Grèce pendant l'année 1934.* Athens, Ministère de l'Economie Nationale, Inspection Générale des Mines, 1935. 62 pp. (In Greek and French.)

Statistics of employment, production, accidents to workers, and average wages and output per day in mines and quarries in Greece. Comparative data on wages are given for each year from 1925 to 1933.

*Eighteenth biennial report of the Department of Commissioner of Labor and Industrial Statistics of Louisiana, 1935-36.* New Orleans, 1936. 105 pp.

Proposed labor legislation, strikes, and paid employment agencies are discussed, and standard wage scales on public works are given. There is also a roster of labor unions and industrial directories for specified cities, the industrial directories showing number of persons employed in each of the various establishments.

*Supplementary relief in New Jersey.* Trenton, State Emergency Relief Administration, 1936. 51 pp., chart; mimeographed.

Contains statistical data on earnings, working hours, length of employment, and composition of families given supplementary relief in New Jersey, during the year ending September 30, 1934.

*Statistical abstract for the United Kingdom, for each of the 15 years 1913 and 1921 to 1934.* London, Board of Trade, 1936. 436 pp. (Cmd. 5144.)

The matters covered include housing, employment, unemployment, unemployment insurance, old-age pensions, poor relief, health insurance, profit sharing, labor organizations, strikes and lockouts, industrial accidents and compensation therefor, cost of living, wages, cooperative societies, and production.

*Seventh annual report of the Department of Health for Scotland, 1936.* Edinburgh, 1936. 220 pp.

In addition to health matters, the report contains information on housing, national health insurance, old-age pensions, assistance to the blind, and poor-law operation.

*Memoria presentada por Genero V. Vásquez, jefe del Departamento del Trabajo de Mexico, el 1° de Septiembre de 1935.* Mexico, Departamento del Trabajo, 1935. [Various paging.]

Yearbook of the Mexican Federal Department of Labor for the fiscal year 1935, covering such subjects as labor inspection, conciliation and arbitration, social welfare, unemployment, cost of living, low-cost housing, etc.

*Annual report of the Department of Labor of Nova Scotia, for the year ended November 30, 1935.* Halifax, 1936. 59 pp., folders.

Includes the reports of the minimum wage board, employment offices, factory inspector, and supervisor of unemployment relief.

During the year under review beauty parlors were brought under coverage of the Minimum Wage Act. Labor-market conditions due to the depression were still evident, although there was a general revival of industrial activity in the latter part of the year, according to the report.

*General report of the Minister of Labor of the Province of Quebec for the year ending June 30, 1935.* Quebec, 1935. 218 pp.

A survey of activities in connection with the administration of the Collective Labor Agreements Extension Act, the Women's Minimum Wage Act, the Employment Bureaus Act, the Trade Disputes Act, and certain other Quebec laws.

*Anuario estadístico de España, 1934.* Madrid, Instituto Geográfica, Catastral y de Estadística, 1935. 992 pp., maps, charts. 2 vols.

Gives data on wages and hours of labor, by occupations, in Madrid, 1931; labor inspection, 1927-1931; strikes, unemployment, and organizations of employers and workers, 1933; and industrial accidents and social insurance for various years through 1933. Maps and charts to accompany this statistical annual are published in a separate volume.

*Annuaire statistique, 1934-35.* Ankara, Turkey, l'Office Central de Statistique, [1936?]. 697 pp., maps, charts. (In Turkish and French.)

This Turkish statistical yearbook contains, in addition to statistics of population, hygiene, public assistance, public works, communications, etc., figures on production in various industries, cost of living, and accidents in coal mines. The figures are for the most part for 1934 and earlier years.

