## SECTTION XXXIII.

## LABOUUR AND INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS.

## § I. Introductory.

1. General.-In Year Book No. 7 (pages 992-3), a résume was given of the functions and dsope of the Labour and Industrial Branch of the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics. Owing to considerations of space, that information is not repeated in the present issue of the Year Book.

## § 2. Fluctuations in Employment and Unemployment.

1. General.-In Australia, but few of the trade unions pay any form of unemployment benefit, and consequently accurate and complete records of unemployment are difficult to obtain: For that reason the investigation for past years was advisedly limited to a record of the numbers unemployed at the end of each year. The results are, therefore, subject to certain limitations, inasmuch as they do not take into account variations in employment and unemployment throughout the year due to seasonal activity and. other causes.

For the above reasons it is not safe to conclude that the actual percentage returned as unemployed in past years by trade unions at the end of each year is equal to the average percentage unemployed during the year. Nevertheless, for the purpose of making comparisous and shewing tendencies over a period of years, the percentages returned as unemployed, though not exact, are the most satisfactory figures available, and the average percentages and index-numbers computed for the several States and groups. of unions may be taken as denoting the true course of events with substantial accuracy.*

It may be mentioned that, in order to overcome the difficulties alluded to in regard to seasonal fluctuations, returns as to numbers unemployed have been collected from. trade unions for each quarter since the beginning of the year 1913.
2. Number Unemployed in Various Industries, 1891 to 1914.—The following: table shews for each of the years specified :-
(a) The number of unions for which returns as to unemployment are available.
(b) The number of members of such unions.
(c) The number of members unemployed, and
(d) The percentage of members unemployed on the total number of members of those unions for which returns are available.
The information given in this table obviously does not furnish a complete register of unemployment. In the first place, with the exception of the year 1914, it relates. only to the number unemployed at the end of the year (see preceding paragraph hereof), and, secondly, it does not cover more than a part of the industrial field. And attention should here be drawn to the fact that the value of the comparisons which can be madeis, to some extent, vitiated by the fact that returns are not available for the same unions throughout. As regards the years 1912 to 1914, the table on page 1001 shews that for most of the important industries, returns are available for a considerable number of unions and members. It is not unlikely, however, that particulars of unemployment are, on the whole, more generally available for those trades in which liability to unemployment is above the average of skilled occupations. Thus the building and engineering industries are heavily represented in the returns, while such comparatively

[^0]stable industries as railway service are hardly represented at all. On the other hand, unskilled casual labour caunot, in the nature of the case, be well represented in the returns, which relate mainly to skilled workmen.

Thus, for some reasons, the percentage given is likely to be greater, and for other reasons less, than the true average percentage unemployed throughout the country.

## UNEMPLOYMENT,-NUMBER OF UNIONS AND MEMBERS REPORTING, AND NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED, 1891 to 1914.



It may be seen that the extent of unemployment was greatest in 1914 and least in 1911. The general trend of the figures shews a decline in unemployment since 1896. In 1912, however, there was an increase of about 0.8 per cent., while the percentage at the end of 1913 shews a slight decrease compared with the previous year. The high percentage for 1891 was largely due, no doubt, to the dislocation of industry following the maritime strike, while the still higher percentage for 1896 may be traced to the prevalent industrial depression, especially in Victoria, caused by the bank failures and the severe droughts. The high percentage during the last half of 1914 was due to the droughtand thewar. It may be noticed that, though the number of unions reporting in 1896 is the same as in 1891 , the number of members shews a large reduction. This

- indicates that, in time of severe industrial depression, when employment is bad, the members tend to drift away from the unions. Many probably leave their ordinary places of residence in search of work elsewhere.

The accuracy of the above results as an index to the general state of employment among all wage-earners in Australia is confirmed by the results obtained from the oensuses of 1891, 1901 and 1911, the closeness of the percentages obtained from these two independent sources for the two latter years being remarkable. A comparative table is given in Report No. 2 (p. 18) of the Labour and Industrial Branch of this Bureau.
3. Unemployment in Different Industries, 1913.-The following table shews the percentages unemployed in several of the fourteen industrial groups. It may be observed that for those industries in which unemployment is either unusually stable or, on the other hand, exceptionally casual, information as to unemployment cannot ordinarily be obtained from trade unions. Hence, certain industries such as railways, shipping, agricultural, pastoral, etc., and domestic, hotels, etc., are insufficiently represented in the returns. Particulars are not, therefore, shewn separately for these groups, such returns as are available being included in the last group, "Other and Miscellaneous."

## onemployment in different industries at the end of year 1914.

| Industrial Group. | Number Reporting. |  | Unemplozed, |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Unions. | Members. | Number. | Percentage. |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| I. Wood, Furniture, etc. | 19 | 13,591 | 2,132 | 15.7 |
| II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. | 56 | 34,763 | 4,447 | 12.8 |
| III. Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. ... | 52 | 26,739 | 3,285 | 12.3 |
| IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ... | 26 | 17,109 | 1,760 | 10.3 |
| F. Books, Printing, etc. ... ... | 22 | 6,681 | 430 | 6.4 |
| VI. Other Manufacturing... ... | 67 | 22,439 | 2,170 | 9.7 |
| VII. Building ... ... ... | 51 | 24,931 | 3,207 | 12.9 |
| VIII. Mining, Quarrying, etc. ... | 22 | 29,594 | 2,425 | 8.8 |
| X. Other Land Transport | 16 | 9,698 | 446 | 4.6 |
| IX., XI., XII., XIII. and XIV., Other and Miscellaneous ... | 108 | 65,171 | 7,308 | 11.2 |
| All Groups | 439 | 250,716 | 27,610 | 11.0 |

From the above figures it may be seen that the degree of unemployment varies considerably in different industries, ranging from 4.6 per cent. in Group X. (Other Land Transport) to 15.7 per cent. in Group I. (Wood, Furniture, etc.).
4. Unemployment In each State, 1914.-Any deductions which can be drawn from the data collected as to the relative degree of unemployment in the several States are subject to certain qualifications (in addition to those already stated on page 999), inasmuch as the industries included in the trade union returns are not uniform for each State. In comparing the results for the individual States, it must therefore be borne in mind that, to some extent, at least, comparisons are being drawn between different industries and not only between different States. Nevertheless, since the industrial occupations of the people vary considerably in the several States, all comparisons between the States based on comprehensive data as to unemployment must, to some extent, suffer from the defect indicated.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN DIFFERENT STATES AT THE END OF YEAR 1914.

| State. |  |  | Number Reporting. |  | Unemployed. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Unions. | Members. | Number. | Percentage. |
| New South Wales | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 127 | 104,307 | 7,244 | 6.9 |
| Victoria | ... | ... | 109 | 79,946 | 11,300 | 14.1 |
| Queensland ... | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ | 50 | 24,688 | 4,357 | 17.7 |
| South Australia |  |  | 43 | 12,808 | 1,766 | 13.8 |
| Western Australia | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 73 | 24,243 | 2,079 | 8.6 |
| Tasmania ... |  | $\cdots$ | 37 | 4,724 | 864 | 18.3 |
| Commonwealth... |  | $\ldots$ | 439 | 250,716 | 27,610 | 11.0 |

The above figures shew that, at the time indicated, the degree of unemployment was the greatest in Tasmania, followed, in the order named, by Queensland, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, and New South Wales.

## § 3. Variations in Nominal and Effective Wages.

1. Variations in Wage Index-Numbers in Various Industries, 1891 to 1914.-The total number of different occupations for which particulars as to wages are available back to 1891 is 652 . These wages relate generally to union rates, but in a few cases, more especially for the earlier years, when there were no union rates fixed, predominant or most frequent rates have been taken. The 652 occupations have been distributed over the fourteen industrial groups already specified, and index-numbers computed for each group for the whole Commonwealth. The wages refer generally to the capital town of each State, but in industries such as mining and agriculture, the rates in the more important industrial centres have been taken.

The following table shews wage index-numbers for the whole Commonwealth in each of the fourteen industrial groups during the years specified. Rates of wages for females are not included. The index-numbers are "weighted" according to the number of persons engaged in different industrial groups in each State and the Commonwealth (see Report No. 5, page 45). It is important to observe that a departure has been made in the method of fixing the base index-numbers adopted previously. Hitherto each State and industry has been dealt with separately, the average wage in the particular State or industry in the year 1911 being taken as base $(=1000)$ for each such State or industry separately. The index-numbers thus obtained were not, of course, comparable through-out-that is to say, as between different States or industries-for the reason that the average wage in 1911 in each State or industry was made equal to 1000 , though it is obvious that the wage was not, in fact, the same in each State or industry. As these limitations do not seem to have been clearly recognised by certain persons, it has been decided to furnish the results in future in such form that they are comparable throughout. In the tables of index-numbers given in this Section, the weighted average wage in 1911 for all States or industries, as the case may be, is accordingly taken as base ( $=1000$ ). The result is that the index-numbers are comparable in all respects, that is to say, they shew not only the variations in wages from year to year in each State or industrial group, but they also furnish comparisons as to the relative wages in each State or industry, either in any particular year, or as between one jear and another, and one State or industry and another.

## Variations in nominal wage index-numbers in different industries in THE COMMONWEALTH, 1891 to 1914. (Weighted average wage for all GROUPS IN $1911=1000$. )

| Particulars. | No. of Occupations included. |  | 1901. | 1906. | 1907. | 1908. | 1909. |  | 1911. | 1912. | 1913. | 1914. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} 1891 \\ \text { to } \\ 1912 . \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 1913- \\ 14 . \end{gathered}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I. Wood, Furniture, etc. ... | 27 | 270 | 1,019 | 1,024 | 1,049 | 1,051 | 1.055 | 1,097 | 1.125 | 1,144 | $\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ 1,142 \end{array}$ | 1,161 |
| II. Engineering,MetalWorks etc. | 101 | 636 | 945 | 957 | 971 | 989 | 995 |  |  | 1,104 | 1,113 | 1,127 |
| III. Food, ${ }^{\text {Drink, etc.... }}$... | 34 | 576 | 871 | 887 | 902 | 905 | 914 | '928 | 991 | 1,038 | 1,074 | 1,085 |
| IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, ete. | 13 | 124 | 708 | 841 | 856 | 867 | 935 | 976 | 981 | 990 | 1,019 | 1,034 |
| V. Books, Printing, etc. ... | 25 | 205 | 996 | 1,002 | 1,010 | 1,021 | 1.070 | 1,102 | 1,149 | 1.188 | 1,234 | 1,246 |
| VI. Other Manufacturing .. | 102 | 875 | 907 | 906 | 905 | 915 | 923 | 947 | 1.013 | 1,037 | 1,076 | 1,093 |
| VII. Building $\cdots$ | 67 | 190 | 1,050 | 1,070 | 1,105 | 1,114 | 1,130 | 1,163 | 1.213 | 1,245 | 1,270 | 1,276 |
| VIII. Mining, Quarries, etc. ... | 71 | 161 | 1,067 | 1,093 | 1,117 | 1,116 | 1,120 | 1,168 | 1,194 | 1,216 | 1,270 | 1,272 |
| IX. Rail and TramServices... | 68 | 224 | 1,021 | 1,024 | 1,027 | 1,031 | 1,064 | 1,074 | 1,113 | 1,164 | 1,165 | 1,165 |
| X. Other Land Transport ... | 9 | 70 | 795 | 795 | 813 | 836 | 836 | 889 | 910 | 993 | 996 | 1,026 |
| XI. Shipping, etc. ... ... | 74 | 198 | 751 | 778 | 787 | 787 | 856 | 857 | 871 | 942 | 953 | 972 |
| 'XII. Agriculture, Pastoral, etc. | 8 | 72 | 627 | 671 | 730 | 736 | 787 | 798 | 839 | 944 | 965 | 965 |
| XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. ... | 17 | 114 | 598 | 606 | 608 | 626 | 727 | 743 | 887 | 894 | 918 | 935 |
| XIV. Miscellaneous ... ... | 36 | 233 | 759 | 771 | 812 | 820 | 843 | 889 | 929 | 1,015 | 1,045 | 1,054 |
| All Groups* | 652 | 3,948 | 848 | 866 | 893 | 900 | 923 | 955 | 1,000 | 1,051 | 1,076 | 1,085 |

[^1]It may be seen that the index-numbers increase during the whole period under review. The wage index-number increased from 848 in 1901 to 1000 in 1911 to 1051 in 1912, and to 1085 in 1914. It will be observed that the increase from 1901 to 1914 was relatively greatest in Class XIII. (Domestic, Hotels, etc.), and least in Classes I. (Wood, Furniture, etc.), and VIII. (Mining, Quarries, etc.).

It was pointed out in Report No. 2 (see pages 25 and 26) that the index-numbers given in the preceding table are readily reversible, that is to say, any year other than the year 1911 can be taken as base, and an example was given, shewing the amount of wages payable in 1901, 1911 and 1912 in each industrial group for every $£ 1$ payable in 1891.
2. Variations in Wage Index-Numbers in Different States, 1891 to 1914.-The following table shews the progress in rates of wages for all industries in each State, the weighted average wage for the Commonwealth in 1911 being taken as the base ( $=1000$ ). These results are based generally upon rates of wages prevailing in the capital town of each State, but in certain industries, such as mining, rates are necessarily taken for places other than the capital towns.

The following table shews that the relative increase from 1901 to 1914 was greatest in Tasmania and least in Queensland.

These index-numbers are, of course, also reversible, and an illustration was given in Report No. 2 (see page 27).

## variations in nominal wage index-numbers in different states, 1901 to 1914.

(Weighted average Wage for Commonwealth in 1911=1000.)

| Particulars. | No. of Occupations included. |  |  | 1901. | 1906. | 1907. | 1908. | 1909. | 1910. | 1911. | 1912. | 1913. | 1914. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\begin{gathered} 1901 \\ \text { to } \\ 1912 . \end{gathered}$ | 1913. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| New South Wales | $\cdots$ | 158 | 874 | 858 | 886 | 910 | 913 | 942 | 968 | 1,003 | 1,058 | 1,088 | 1,096 |
| Victoria ... |  | 150 | 909 | 796 | 807 | 857 | 871 | 887 | 924 | 985 | 1,038 | 1,058 | 1,065 |
| Queensland ... | ... | 88 | 627 | 901 | 909 | 914 | 925 | 946 | 960 | 997 | 1,010 | 1,027 | 1,042 |
| South Australia | ... | 134 | 567 | 819 | 832 | 858 | 868 | 905 | 951 | 1,013 | 1,048 | 1,061 | 1,062 |
| Western Australia | $\ldots$ | 69 | 489 | 1,052 | 1,053 | 1,053 | 1,061 | 1,068 | 1,116 | 1,152 | 1,191 | 1,214 | 1,226 |
| Tasmania ... | $\ldots$ | 54 | 482 | 719 | 749 | 725 | 725 | 732 | 772 | 799 | 934 | 1,025 | 1,028 |
| Commonwealth* | ... | 652 | 3,948 | 848 | 866 | 893 | 900 | 923 | 955 | 1,000 | 1,051 | 1,076 | 1,085 |

> * Weighted average.

Nore--The figures in the above table are comparable both horizontally and vertically.
The significance of the above figures since 1906 can be better appreciated by reference to the graph on page 1010, which shows, of course, not only variations in wages in each State from year to year, but also the difference in wage level as between the several States. From this graph it is clearly seen that, excluding Western Australia, the difference between nominal wages in the several States has decreased very considerably since 1906. This difference is shewn at any point by the vertical distance between the graphs. Wages in Queensland increased during 1914 at a higher rate than in any other State, and though the general level in that State is now only a little higher than in Tasmania, it is gradually approaching South Australia, where the rate of increase in 1914 was slower than in any other State. The graphs for Victoria and South Australia lie very close iogether throughout the period. In Tasmania the first determination under the Wages Boards Acts 1910 and 1911 came into force in 1911. In 1912 and 1913 wages in that State increased very rapidly, and their general level is now not far below those of the other States, except Western Australia.
3. Variations in Effective Wages.-In order to oblain an accurate measure of the progress of wage-earners, regard must be had to the purchasing powers of wages, and the index-numbers based merely upon records of rates of wages must consequently be
subject to some correction, inasmuch as they take no account of variations in cost of living. In computing these effective wage index-numbers, the nominal wage indexnumbers given in paragraph 2 hereof have been divided by the cost-of-living indexnumbers in Section IV., paragraph 5 of Report No. 5. The resulting index-numbers shew for each State and for the Commonwealth for the years specified the variations in effective wages.

The following table shews the effective wage index-numbers for each State for each of the years indicated from 1901 to 1914.

## variations in effective wages in each state and commonwealith, 1901 to 1914.

| Particulars. |  |  |  | 1901. | 1906. | 1907. | 1908. | 1909. | 1910. | 1911. | 1912. | 1913. | 1914. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| New South Wales | ... | $\ldots$ |  | 961 | 949 | 983 | 926 | 952 | 973 | - 973 | 922 | 924 | 909 |
| Victoria |  |  |  | 915 | 919 | 979 | 941 | 980 | 981 | 1.037 | 981 | 1,007 | $964{ }^{\circ}$ |
| Queensland |  | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ | 1,172 | 1,165 | 1,151 | 1,081 | 1,112 | 1,095 | 1,090 | 1,032 | 1,060 | 1,045 |
| South Australia |  |  | . | 1,948 | 934 | 960 | 911 | 914 | 943 | 957 | 906 | . 947 | . 929 |
| Western Australia | $\ldots$ | ... | . | 1,024 | 1,029 | 1,068 | 1,060 | 1.081 | 1,091 | 1,023 | 1,032 | 1,076 | 1.073 |
| 'Tasmenia | ... | ... |  | 827 | 833 | 818 | 788 | 769 | 812 | 838 | 896 | 976 | 943 |
| Commonwe | 1th | $\ldots$ |  | 964 | 960 | 996 | 946 | 974 | 985 | 1,000 | 955 | 95 | 952 |

The figures in the above table from the year 1906 onwards are shewn in the graph on page 1010. A comparison between this graph and that shewing nominal wages, shews that the difference between nominal and effective wages is very marked. In the first place, the whole nature of the graphs is entirely different. Instead of having a series of lines shewing a practically continuous and rapid upward trend, the effective wages shew (except for Tasmania) a series of fluctuating points, in which no very marked tendency is immediately discernible. It will be seen that, generally speaking, the years 1907, 1909, 1910, 1911, and 1913 were marked by increases in effective wages, but that in each of the years 1908,1912 , and 1914 there were rapid decreases. Each of these years in which effective wages declined were years of severe drought, when there was a rapid inorease in cost of living. In 1914 wages increased 0.9 per cent., but cost of living went ap 3.1 per cent., with the result that effective wages decreased 2.3 per cent.

One important feature common to both graphs (nominal and effective wages) is the manner in which the graphs for the individual States have, on the whole, approached more closely together. With the adoption of differential rates of wages fixed according to the relative cost of living, it appears probable that this tendency will continue in the future.

The relative positions of the States shewn in the two graphs is also of inferest. Queensland is lowest but one in regard to nominal wages, but is nearly as high as Western Australia in regard to effective wages. New South Wales, which comes second in nominal wages, is last in effective wages. South Australia changes from the fourth to the fifth place, Victoria retains the third, and Tasmania changes from last to fourth. Western Australia is first in regard to both nominal and effective wages, but its level above the other States is much less with respect to effective than nominal wages.
4. Variations In Effective Wages and Standard of Comfort, 1901 to 1914.-In the preceding paragraph particulars are given as to variations in effective wages in each State, due allowance having been made for variations in cost of living, though not for unemployment. For years prior to 1913 the data available as to unemployment are so meagre that comparative results allowing for variations both in cost of living and in unemployment cannot be accurately computed for the several States. In the following table, however, the percentage of unemployment for the whole Commonwealth at the end of the years specified has been used in order to obtain results shewing the variations in unemployment upon effective wages. Column I. shews the nominal rate of wage index-numberse and Column II. the relative percentages unemployed. Applying these percentages to the numbers shewn in Column I., and deducting the results from each
corresponding index-number, so as to allow for relative loss of time, the figures in Column III. are obtained. These figures are then re-computed with the year 1911 as base, and are shewn in Column IV. In Column V. the cost-of-living index-numbers are shewn, and in Columns VI. and VII. the effective wage index-numbers are given, firstly, for full work, and, secondly, allowing for lost time. These are obtained by dividing the figures in Columns I. and IV., respectively, by the corresponding figures in Column $\mathbf{V}$. The resulting index-numbers shew for the Commonwealth for the years specified the variations in effective wages or in what may be called the "standard of comfort.""

A comparison between the figures in Columns I. and VI. shews the relation between the nominal rates of wages and the purchasing efficiency of these rates. The figures in Oolumn VII. shew variations in effective wages after allowing not only for increased cost of living, but also for the relative extent of unemployment.

## UNEMPLOYMENT, COST-OF-LIVING and NOMINAL AND EFFECTIVE WAGE INDEX-NUMBERS, 1901 to 1914.

|  | Year. | $\begin{gathered} \text { I. } \\ \begin{array}{c} \text { Nominal } \\ \text { Wages } \\ \text { Index- } \\ \text { Numbers. } \end{array} \end{gathered}$ | II. <br> Percentage <br> Unem- <br> ployed. | Rate of Wages IndexNumbers, allowing for Lost Time. |  | v. <br> Cost-ofLiving IndexNumbers. | Effective Wage Index-Numbers. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | III. | $\begin{gathered} \text { IV. } \\ \text { Re-com- } \\ \text { puted. } \\ \text { (1,911 } \\ =1,000) . \end{gathered}$ |  | Full Work. | VII. Allowing for Unemploy- ment. |
| 1901 | ... | 848 | 6.6 | 793 | 832 | 880 | 964 | 945 |
| . 1906 | $\cdots$ | 866 | 6.7 | 808 | 848 | 902 | 960 | 940 |
| 1907 | $\ldots$ | 893 | 5.7 | 842 | 884 | 897 | 996 | 986 |
| 1908 | $\ldots$ | 900 | 6.0 | 846 | 888 | 951 | 946 | 934 |
| 1909 | $\cdots$ | 923 | 5.8 | 870 | 913 | 948 | 974 | 963 |
| 1910 | $\ldots$ | 955 | 5.6 | 901 | 945 | 970 | 985 | 974 |
| 1911 |  | 1,090 | 4.7 | 953 | 1,000 | 1,000 | ,000 | 1,000 |
| 1912 |  | 1,051 | 5.5 | 993 | 1,042 | 1,101 | 955 | 946 |
| 1913 |  | 1,076 | 5.3 | 1,021 | 1,071 | 1,104 | 975 | 970 |
| 1914 | $\ldots$ | 1,085 | 11.0 | 966 | 1,014 | 1,140 | 952 | 889 |

It may be seen that the nominal wage index-number has steadily increased, and that the increase has been at a somewhat greater rate (except in the years 1908, 1912, and 1914) than the increase in the cost of living. Owing to the decreases in these three years the effective wage index-numbers (both "Full Work" and "Allowing for Unemployment") do not, on the whole, shew any general increase, but fluctuate between a range which reached its maximum in 1911, and its minimum in 1908, except in the case of the index-numbers "Allowing for Unemployment," which reached a minimum in 1914. In 1907 there was a large decrease in unemployment, which is reflected in the effective wage index-number for that year. The rise in the cost of living in 1908, which was a drought year, caused a considerable fall in effective wages. From that year, however, until the year 1911, the effective wage index-number steadily increased from 934 to 1000, but this increase was almost connterbalanced by the fall in 1912, which was due to the large increase in cost of living and the smaller increase in unemployment. In 1913 the cost-of-living index-number was practically the same as that for 1912, while nominal wages increased and unemployment decreased, with the result that the effective wage index-numbers, both for full work and allowing for unemployment, shew an increase. The effective wage index-numbers for 1914 both shew a decrease since the preceding year. This decrease is particularly marked in the case of the indexnumbers in which allowance is made for unemployment.

[^2]
## §4. Changes in Rates of Wages.

1. General.-The collection of information regarding changes in rates of wages throughout the Commonwealth dates from the 1st January, 1913.
(i.) Definition of a Change in Rate of Wages.-For the purpose of these statistics a change in rate of wages is defined as a change in the weekly rates of remuneration of a certain class of employees, apart from any change in the nature of the work performed or apart from any revision of rates due to increased length of service or experience. It is obvious that under this definition certain classes of changes are excluded, such, for example, as ( $a$ ) changes in rates of pay due to promotion, progressive increments, or, on the other hand, to reduction in pay or grade to inefficient workers, and (b) changes in average earnings in an occupation due to a change in the proportions which higher paid classes of workers bear to lower paid classes.
(ii.) Sources of Information.-Primary information merely as to the fact that a change in rate of wages has occurred is obtained through the following channels:-(a) Industrial Registrars and Chief Inspectors of Factories in each State; (b) Reports from Labour Agents and Correspondents; (c) Quarterly reports from Secretaries of Trade Unions; (d) Returns relating to industrial disputes which resulted in changes in rates of wages ; (e) Reports in newspapers, labour and trade reviews, and other publications.
(iii.) Collection of Particulars concerning Changes.-On the occurrence of a change in rate of wages, forms* (prescribed under the Census and Statistics Act 1905) are issued to employers and employers' associations (if any) and also to the secretaries of the trade unions, the members of which are affected by the change. In certain cases forms are also issued, if necessary, to individual employers. The particulars which have to be inserted in these forms furnish information regarding the occupations of the workers affected, the number of workers in each occupation, the rates of wages paid before and after the change, the locality affected, and the date on which the change took effect. Information must also be furnished regarding employers and employers' associations concerned (if any), and the method by which the change was effected.

When the forms are returned from the various persons who are required to fill them in, the returns are checked and compared with each other and with copies of awards, determinations, and agreements. In all cases when the information furnished on the forms is incomplete or unsatisfactory, further inquiries are made, and the figures checked by reference to Census results, industrial statistics, factory reports, etc.

## 2. Comparative Summary of Changes in Rates of Wages in each State during 1913

 and 1914. -The following table gives particulars of changes occurring in each State of the Commonwealth during the years 1913 and 1914. As regards the number of persons affected, the particulars given refer to the total number of persons ordinarily engaged in the various industries. The results as to the amount of increase in wages are computed for a full week's work for all persons ordinarily engaged in the several industries and occupations affected, and in cases of changes in existing minimum rates under awards or determinations of industrial tribunals, it has ordinarily been assumed (in the absence of any definite information to the contrary) that the whole of the employees in each occupation received the minimum rates of wages before and after the change.It should be clearly understood that the figures given in the third line of the following table (amount of increase per week) do not relate to the increase each week, but only to the increase in a single week on the assumption that the full number of persons ordinarily engaged in the particular trade or occupation affected by the change is employed during that week. It is obvious, therefore, that the aggregate effect per annum cannot be obtained without making due allowance for unemployment and for occupations in which employment is seasonal or intermittent. It is also obvious that since unemployment and activity in all branches of industry may vary from year to year, and in many branches from season to season also, no accurate estimate of the actual effect of the changes in the total amount of wages received or paid per annum can be made, until the determining factors have been investigated. These factors are (a) the amount of unemployment, and (b) the period of employment in seasonal industries.

[^3]
## changes in rates of wages in each state.-Summarised results for YEARS 1913 AND 1914.

| State. | No. of Changes. |  | No. of Persons Affected. |  | Total Amount of Increase per W'k. |  | A verage Increase per Head per W'k |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1913. | 1914. | 1913. | 1914. | 1913. | 1914. | 1913. | 1914. |
| New South Wales... | 149 | 181 | 89,618 | 53,841 | $\stackrel{9}{21,789}$ | $\underset{\text { 12,820 }}{ }$ | 8. ${ }_{4} 10$ | $\begin{array}{cc}3 & \\ 4 & 9\end{array}$ |
| Victoria ... ... | 81 | 68 | 49,254 | 29,816 | 9.880 | 6,679 | 40 | 46 |
| Queensland ... | 41 | 42 | 16,645 | 16,908 | 3.702 | 4,499 | 45 | 54 |
| *South Australia ... | 26 | 18 | 4,574 | 5.624 | 1,279 | 1.941 | 57 | 611 |
| Western Australia | 20 | 39 | 3,036 | 7,299 | 428 | 2.231 | 210 | ${ }_{6}^{6} 1$ |
| -Tasmania... | 12 | 19 | 3,005 | 4,262 | 635 | 804 | 43 | 39 |
| Total, C'wealth ... | *329 | * +368 | 166,132 | +118,140 | 37,713 | +29,117 | 46 | 411 |

* Industrial A wards and Agreements under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, if operative in more than one State, are counted as a separate change in each such State.
t These figures include the effect of one change brought about by agreement made pursuant to Section 24 of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act, particulars of the number of workpeople affected in each State not being ascertainable.

During the year 1913 no decreases in rates of wages were recorded, but in 1914 five small decreases $\ddagger$ occurred during the fourth quarter of the year. In the above table the net results of the 363 increases and 5 decreases are given. Though the number of :separate changes increased during 1913 and 1914 from 329 to 368 , the number of workpeople affected decreased from 166,132 to 118,140 . The total amount of increase per week during the year 1914 was $£ 29,117$, compared with $£ 37,713$ in 1913 , but the average weekly increase per person affected was higher (4s. 11d.) during 1914 than during the year 1913 (4s. 6d.).
3. Number and Magnitude of Changes in Rates of Wages in the Commonwealth, Classified according to Industrial Groups, 1913 and 1914.-In the following table particulars are given of the number of changes, the number of persons afiected, the total amount of increase per week, and the average increase per head per week, classified according to Industrial Groups throughout the Commonwealth during the years 1913 and 1914.
Changes in rates of wages in commonwealth, classified in industrial GROUPS, 1913 and 1914.

| Industrial Groups. | No. of Changes. |  | No. of Persons Affected. |  | Total Amount of Increase per week. |  | Average Increase per Head per week. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1913. | 1914. | 1913. | 1914. | 1913. | 1914. | 1913. | 1914. |
| I. Wood, Furniture,Timber, etc. | 10 | 13 | 7.975 | 10.546 | $\stackrel{\text { 1,569 }}{ }$ | $\stackrel{\text { 2 }}{2.480}$ | 3. d. | 8.d. <br> 4 |
| II. Engineering, MetalWorks, etc. | 90 | 30 | 6,594 | 9,608 | 1,607 | 1,840 | 410 | 310 |
| III. Food, Drink, Tobacco. etc. ... | 45 | 54 | 17,428 | 19,632 | 4,255 | 4,384 | 411 | 46 |
| IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ... | 15 | 9 | 11,727 | 14,970 | 2,062 | 2,461 | 36 | 33 |
| V. Books, Printing, ete. | 11 | 17 | 4,602 | 2,686 | 1,126 | 523 | 411 | 311 |
| VI. Other Manufacturing | 55 | 41 | 17,110 | 8.721 | 3,480 | 2,096 | 41 | 410 |
| VII. Building $\quad . \quad$... | 21 | 16 | 19,237 | 8.305 | 5,696 | 2.441 | 511 | 511 |
| VIII. Mines, Quarries, etc. ... | 17 | 24 | 6.112 | 7.746 | 1,210 | 1,579 | 40 | 41 |
| IX. Rail and Tramway Services... | 16 | 12 | 20,046 | 2.023 | 3,219 | 510 | 33 | 51 |
| X. Other Land Transport | 12 | 10 | 7,335 ${ }^{\text {' }}$ | 4,020 | 2,324 | 716 | 64 |  |
| XI. Shipping, etc. | 19 | 25 | 1,839 | 16,750 | 543 | 6,932 | 511 | 83 |
| XII. Agricultural, etc. ... | 3 | 2 | 828 ' | 590 | 436 | 120 | 106 | 41 |
| XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc. | 9 | 4 | 6,481 | 939 | 1.922 | 188 | 511 |  |
| XIV. Miscellaneous | 59 | 92 | 38,818 | 11,604 | 8,264 | 2,847 | 43 | 411 |
| Total, Commonwealth | ${ }^{*} 312$ | -349 | 166,132 | 118,140 | 37,713 | 29,117 | 46 | 411 |

[^4]The largest number of changes occurred in industries and occupations included in Group XIV. (Miscellaneous), and of that number a considerable proportion was brought about by industrial agreements filed under Commonwealth and State Acts. The industrial group in which the largest number of persons affected by changes in 1914 was employed was Group III. (Food and Drink), in which there were 54 changes, affecting no fewer than 19,632 employees. In Group XI. (Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc.), 25 changes affected 16,750 persons, while the next groups in order, according to number of persons affected, were :-Group IV. (Clothing, Hats, etc.), Group XIV. (Miscellaneous), Group I. (Wood, Furniture, etc.). and Group II. (Engineering, Metal Works, etc.). Persons included in Group XIV. (Miscellaneous), received increases amounting to $£ 2847$ per week, while employees in Groups VII. (Building), and III. (Food, Drink, etc.), benefited to the extent of $£ 2441$ and $£ 4384$ respectively.
4. Decreases in Wages.-Of the five decreases in wages included in the tables in paragraphs 2 and 3, three were in New South Wales and one in each of the States of Victoria and Tasmania. Two of the reductions in New South Wales were the resuits of appeals to the Industrial Court from awards of Boards, and in each case the Court ordered amendments bringing about reductions in the wages of a small number of employees. The persons affected were workers on type-setting machines employed on jobbing work, and masters and engineers employed on ferries and tug boats. The other case in New South Wales affected boiler-makers at Newcastle in the employ of the Broken Hill Proprietary Company. These men were receiving wages considerably in excess (16s. per day) of the minimum award rate (11s.). Soon after the outbreak of war the works were temporarily closed down, and when operations were resumed the wages of these men were cut down to 12 s .4 d . per day, still 1 s . 4 d . above the minimum rate. The decrease in Victoria was of similar nature to that which occurred at Broken Hill. Work was stopped at one of the mines at the Stawell district with the object of erecting new machinery. Before the stoppage of work truckers were being paid at the rate of 7 s .6 d . per day, which is 10 d . in excess of the minimum board rate. On resuming work the wages of these men were reduced to 7 s . per day, a rate still in excess of the minimum. In Tasmania the wages of labourers and others engaged in the construction of water supply works were reduced by 6d. per day on the Government taking over the work. It is stated that the object of this reduction was to keep as many men employed as possible pending the development of new work.

## 8. Current Rates of Wages in Different Occupations and States.

1. Comparative Table of Time Rates of Wages, 31st December, 1914.-The particulars of wages given hereafter are obtained primarily from awards, determinations and agreements under Commonwealth and State Acts, and therefore shew the minimum rates prescribed. In cases where no award, determination, or agreement was in force particulars are given, where possible, of the ruling union or predominant rate as furnished by employers or secretaries of Trade Unions. All particulars obtained from this source are marked with an asterisk. It will be seen that for convenience of comparison the wages are in nearly all cases presented as a weekly rate, though in many industries they are actually based on daily or hourly rates, as specified in awards, determinations or agreements. This caution is necessary, in view of the fact that it is often in those industries and occupations in which employment is of an exceptionally casual or intermittent nature that wages are fixed or paid at a daily or hourly rate. Fence the average weekly earnings in such occupations will probably fall considerably short of the weekly rates specified in the table.

The rates specified refer generally to the capital town of each State, but in industries, such as mining and agriculture, rates are vecessarily taken for places other than the capital towns. The figures given in the first part of the table relate to journeymen or adult male workers, and in the seconl part to adult female workers, and in each case

NOMINAL WAGE INDEX-NUMBERS IN EACH STATE AND COMMONWEALTH, 1906 to 191.4 .


EFFECTIVE,WAGE INDEX-NUMBERS IN EACH STATE AND COMMONWEALTH, 1906 to 1914.

represent (except where otherwise specified in the footnotes) the amounts payable for a full week's work of 48 hours. In every case where the hours of labour constituting a full week's work are other than 48 , the number of hours is indicated in the footnotes.
2. Weighted Average Rates of Wages Payable to Journeymen or Adult Male Workers in each State, 31st December, 1914.-The following table shews the weighted average weekly rates of wages payable to journeymen or male adult workers for a full week's work in each State and the Commonwealth. Taking the average for the whole Commonwealth as the base ( $=1000$ ), index-numbers for each State are also shewn. The number of occupations upon which these results are based amounts in the aggregate to no fewer than 3948.
Weighted average nominal weekly rates of wages payable to journeymen or adult male workers for a full week's work, and wage index-numbers in each state and commonwealth, 31st december, $1914 \cdot$

| Particulars. | N.S.W. | Vic. | Q'land. | S.A. | W.A. | Tas. | C'wlth. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number of Occupationdincluded | 874 | 909 | 627 | 567 | 489 | 482 | 3.948 |
| Weighted Average Weekly Rates of Wages | 56s. 2 d . | 54s. 7 d | 53s. 5 d . | 54s. 5 d. | 62s. 10d. | 52s. 8d. | 55s. 7d. |
| Index-Numbers | 1,011 | 982 | 961 | 980 | 1,132 | 949 | 1,000* |

* Weighted average.

The results shew that nominal rates of wages are highest in Western Australia, followed in the order named by New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia (practically equal), Queensland, and Tasmania.
3. Welghted Average Rates of Wages Payable to Journeymen or Adult male Workers in each Industrial Group, 31st December, 1914.- The following table gives similar particulars in regard to the several industrial groups and to the weighted average for all groups combined. In computing the index-numbers the weighted average is taken as base ( $=1000$ ).
weighted average weekly rates of wages payable to joürneymen or adult male workers for a full week's work, and wage indexNUMBERS IN EACH INDUSTRIAL GROUP, 3Ist december, 1914.

| Industrial Groups. | No. of Rates Included. | Weighted Aver. Weekly Wage (for Full Week's Work) | IndexNumbers. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| I. Wood, Furniture, etc. | 270 | s. <br> 59 <br> 59 <br> 1 | 1,071 |
| II. Engineering, Metal Works, etc. | 636 | 579 | 1,039 |
| III. Food, Drink, etc. ... | 576 | 558 | 1,001 |
| IV. Clothing, Boots, etc. ... | 124 | 530 | 955 |
| V. Books, Printing, etc. | 205 | 6310 | 1,150 |
| VI. Other Manufacturing ... | 875 | 560 | 1,008 |
| VII. Building ... ... | 190 | 656 | 1,178 |
| VIII. Mining ... ... | 161 | $65 \quad 2$ | 1,173 |
| IX. Rail and Tram Services, etc. | 224 | 598 | 1,074 |
| X. Other Land Transport | 70 | 52.8 | 948 |
| XI. Shipping, ete. ... | 198 | 4910 | 897 |
| XII. Agricultural, Pastoral, etc. ... | 72 | 495 | 890 |
| XIII. Domestic, Hotels, etc.* | 114 | 4711 | 863 |
| XIV. Miscellaneous . | 233 | 540 | 972 |
| All Groups | 3,948 | $55 \quad 7$ | 1,000 $\dagger$ |

[^5]The above figures shew that the highest average wage is that paid in Group VII. (Building), 65 s .6 d . per week, or 18 per cent. above the weighted average for all groups, The rates of wages range from 65 s . 6d. per week down to 47 s . 11d. per week, the lowest being in Group XIII. (Hotels, etc.), which is neariy 14 per cent. below the average of all groups.
4. Weighted Average Rates of Wages Payable to Adult Female Workers in each State, 31st December, 1914.-The following table shews the weighted average weekly rates of wages payable to female adult workers for a full week's work in each State and the Commonwealth. Taking the average for the whole Commonwealth as the base ( $=1000$ ), index-numbers for each State are also shewn.

## Welghted average nominal weekly rates of wages payable to adult FEMALE WORKERS FOR A FULL WEEK'S WORK, AND WAGE-INDEX NUMBERS IN EACH STATE AND COMMONWEALTH, 31st DECEMBER, 1914.

| Particulars. | N.S.W. | Vic. | Q'land. | S.A. | W.A. | Tas. | C'with. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number of Occupations included | 85 | 87 | 37 | 47 | ${ }^{\prime \prime} \cdots 24$ | 28 | 308 |
| Weighted Average Weakly Rates of Wages | 26s. 10 d . | 27s. 9d. | 27s. 1d. | 24s. 1 d. | 37s. 4d. | 25s. 10d. |  |
|  | 979 | 1,013 | [78. | ${ }^{248} 8$ | 1,362 |  | 1,000* |

- Weighted average

It will be seen that nominal rates of wages for female workers are highest in Western Australia, followed in the order named by Victoria, Queensland, New South Wales, Tasmania, and South Australia.
5. Weighted Average Rates of Wages Payable to Adult Female Workers in Industrial Groups, 3Ist December, 1914,-The following table gives separate particulars regarding the nominal rates of wages of females in the chief industrial groups in which they are employed, and also shews the weighted average for all groups combined. Index-numbers based on the average nominal wage for the Commonwealth as the base $(=1000)$ are also given :-

## Weighted average weekly rates of wages payable to adult female WORKERS FOR A FULL WEEK'S WORK, AND WAGE INDEX-NUMBERS IN INDUSTRIAL GROUPS, 31st DECEMBER, 1914.

| Industrial Groups. | No. of Rates Included. | Weighted Average Weekly Wage (for Full Week's Work). | IndexNumbers. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| III. Food, Drink, etc. | 35 | $\begin{array}{cc}\text { s. } & \text { d. } \\ 23 & 5\end{array}$ | 855 |
| IV. Clothing, Boots, etc. ... | 114 | $24 \quad 11$ | 909 |
| I., II., V., VI., Other Manufacturing | 84 | 270 | 986 |
| XIII, Domestic, Hotels, etc. ... | 57 | $30{ }^{\text {* }}$ | 1,101 |
| XIV. Shop Assistants, Clerks, etc. ... | 18 | 314 | 1,143 |
| All Groups ... ... | 308 | $27 \quad 5$ | 1,000 $\dagger$ |

[^6]
## MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES FOR JOURNEYMEN OR ADULT MALE WORKERS IN THE MAIN OCCUPATIONS IN THE CAPITAL. TOWN OF EACH STATE FOR A FULL. WEEK'S WORK AT 31st DECEMBER, 1914.

Nome.-Fuling or predominant rates of wages are distinguished from Award, Determination. or Industrial Agreement rates of wases by an asterisk (*). Except where otherwise sjecified by a numerical prefix in small type, the hours of labour constituting a full week's work are forty-eight A ward, Determination, or Agreement rates are quoted from the latest A wards, Determinations, or Agreements made, but which were not invariably in force on the 31st December, 1914. It is found however, that in those States in which Awards, Determinations, or Industrial Agreements are made for a specified period, pending further review of the rates of wages and hours of labour those previously determined or agreed upon are usually maintained. Where two or more Award Determination, or Agreement rates are quoted, the reason for such is that different rates of wages have been fixed for various classes or grades of work. It will be seen that in certain cases of this nature the wages are shewn in the form, say, 50s. to 576., indicating that in addition to the two rates specified, there are also certain intermediate rates in force. In other cases the rates are shewn in the form 54s. and 60 ., indicating that there are only two minimum or rtandard rates in force for different classes and grades of work, and that there are, of course, no intermediate minimum or standard rates.

| Industry and Occupation. | Sydney. | Melb. | Brisbane. | Adelaide. | Perth. | Hobart. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

Group I.-WOOd, Furniture, Sawmills and Timber Works.

(1) 18 hours. (2) 30 hours. (3) 33 hours. (4) 36 hours. (5) 42 hours. (6) 44 hours. (7) 442 hours. (8) 45 hours. (9) 45 h hours. (10) 46 hours. (11) $46 \frac{1}{2}$ hours. (12) 47 hours. (13) 474 hours. (14) 49 hours. (15) $49 \frac{d}{k}$ hours. (16) $49 \frac{1}{3}$ hours. (17) 50 hours (18) 51 hours. (19) 52 hours. (20) 524 hours. (21) $52 \frac{3}{3}$ hours. (22) 53 hours. (23) $53 x$ hours. (24) 533 hours. (25) 54 hours. (26) 54 h hours. (27) 55 hours. (28) 56 hours. (29) $56 \frac{1}{3}$ hours. ( 30 ) 57 hours. (31) 58 hours. (32) 59 hours. (33) 60 hours. (34) 63 hours. (35) 65 hours. (36) 70 hours. (37) 72 hours. (38) 77 hours. (39) 7 nights. (40) 116 hours per fortnight. (41) 136 hours per fortaight. (42) 144 thours per fortnight. (43) 50 hours (summer), 48 hours (winter). (44) 52 hours (summer), 45 hours (winter). (45) 54 hours (summer), 48 hours (winter). (46). 54, hours (summer). $52 t$ hours (winter). (47) 55 hours (summer), 52 hours (winter). (48) 55 hours (gummer), 54 hours (winter). (49) 56 hours (summer), 48 hours (winter). (50) 57 hours (summer), $52 \frac{1}{2}$ hours (winter). (51) 58 hours (summer), 46 hours (winter). ( 59 ) 58 hours (summer), 50 hours (winter). ( 53 ) 58 hours ( bummer), 56 hours (winter). (54) 59 hours (summer), 58 hours (winter). ( 55 ) 60 hours (summer), 56 hours (winter). (56) 60 hours (summer), 58 hours (winter). (57) 84 hours and 72 hours alternate weeks. (58) 48 hours, 51 hours, 54 hours four months each in each year. ( 59 ) 56 hours and 59 hours within certain radius. (60) 56 hours and 60 hours within certain radius. (61) 473 hours. (62) 58 hours (summer), 54 hours (winter).

WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.
Industry and Occupation.

| Sydney. | Melb. | Brisbane. Adelaide. | Perth. | Hobart. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Group I.-WOOD, FURNITURE, SAWMILLS AND Timber WORES-Continued.

| Mortising or Boring | $\ldots$ | 5. | d. 0 0 |  | d. 0 |  | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{d} . \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{d} \\ & 0 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  | s. 51 | $\begin{gathered} \mathrm{d} \\ 0 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Moulding |  | 62 | 0 |  | 0 | 68 | 0 | 57 | 0 | 60 | 0 |  | 53 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | \& 66 | 0 |  |  |  |
| ,, own Grinder | $\cdots$ | 68 | 0 |  | 0 | ... |  | 61 | 6 |  |  |  | 63 | 0 |
| Nailing | $\cdots$ |  | 0 |  | 0 |  |  | 49 | 6 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Planing... ... | ... | 63 | 0 | 60 | 0 | 60 | 0 | 49 | 6 | 72 | 0 |  | 54 | 0 |
| Sandpapering ... |  | 56 | 0 | 54 | 0 | 52 | 0 | 54 | 0 | 54 | 0 |  | 51 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | \& 60 | 0 |  |  |  |
| Shaping |  | 69 | 0 | 66 | 0 | 78 | 0 | 57 | 0 | 75 | 0 |  | 66 | 0 |
| Tenoning |  | 63 | 0 | 60 | 0 | * 60 | 0 | 54 | 0 | 60 | 0 |  | 57 | 0 |
| Ordermen... .. | . $\cdot$ | 58 | 0 | 57 | 0 | 56 | 0 | 54 | 0 | *60 | 0 |  | 54 | 0 |
| Pullers and Tailers Out |  | 54 | 0 | 46 | 0 | 52 | 0 | 45 | 0 | 57 | 0 |  | 49 | 6 |
|  |  |  |  | \& 51 | 0 |  |  | \& 51 | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Saw Doctors |  | 78 | 0 | 72 | 0 | 74 | 0 | 69 | $\cdot 0$ | 72 | 0 |  | 69 | 0 |
| Saw Sharpeners ... | $\cdots$ | 66 | 0 | 60 | 0 | 64 | 0 | 60 | 0 | *60 | 0 |  | 54 | 0 |
| Sawyers-Band or Jig |  | 68 | 0 | 57 | 0 | 66 | 0 | 54 | 0 | 63 | 0 |  | 51 | 0 |
| ,, Circular... |  | 54 | 0 | 56 | 0 | 60 | 0 | 54 | 0 | 60 | 0 |  | 53 | 0 |
|  |  | to 66 | 0 |  |  |  |  | \& 60 | 0 | \& 66 | 0 | \& 5 | 57 | 0 |
| ,, Gang Frame |  | 56 | 0 | 57 | 0 | 56 | 0 | 63 | 0 | 63 | 0 |  | 51 | 0 |
| ," Re-Cut Band |  | 54 | 0 | 57 | 0 | 62 | 0 | 63 | 0 | 63 | 0 |  | 51 | 0 |
|  |  | to 60 | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stackers ... | - | ${ }^{6} 55$ | 0 * | 57 | 0 | ${ }^{6} 45$ | 10* | 68 | 0 | 57 | 0 |  | 46 | 6 |
| Tallymen ... | $\cdots$ | 58 | 0 | 57 | 0 |  | 0 | 54 | 0 | 57 | 0 |  | 51 | 0 |
| Wood Turners |  | 69 | 0 |  | 0 | 66 | 0 | 56 | 0 | *66 | 0 |  | 57 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | \& 58 | 6 | to 72 | 0 |  |  |  |

group II.-Engineering, Metal Works, etc.


WEERLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.

| Industry and Occupation. | Sydney. | Melb. | Brisbane. Adelaide. | Perth. | Hobart. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

Group II.-Engineering, Metah Works, etc.-Continued.

| Bedstead Making (Metal). <br> Blacksmiths |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | s. d. |  | d. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | ... | 59 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chillfitters (Modellers) |  | ... | to65 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 6 |  |  |  |  |  |
| do. (Other)... |  | ... | 60 | 0 |  | 0 | 52 | 6 |  |  | $\ldots$ |  |  |
| Chippers ... |  | ... | 55 | 0 | 52 | 0 | 51 | 0 |  | 0 | ... |  |  |
| Cutters, etc. |  | ... | 55 | 0 | 54 | 0 | 51 | 0 |  | 0 | $\ldots$ |  |  |
| Electroplaters | ... | ... | 60 | 0 | 68 | 0 | ${ }^{6} 50$ | $0^{*}$ |  | 0 | $\ldots$ |  |  |
| Fitters-up | ... | ... | 56 | 0 | 56 | 0 | 52 | 6 |  | 0 | ... |  |  |
| Foundry Hands | ... | ... | 55 | 0 | *54 | 0 | 51 | 0 |  |  | ... |  |  |
| Frame Setters |  | ... | 58 | 0 |  | 0 |  | 6 |  | 0 | ... |  |  |
| Furnacemen |  | ... | 60 | 0 | 54 | 0 | 53 | 0 | *43 | 0 | ... |  |  |
| Japanners... | 0... | ... | 54 | 0 | 56 | 0 | 50 | 0 | 43 $\& 51$ |  | $\cdots$ |  |  |
| Lacquerers |  | $\cdots$ | 59 | 0 | 54 | 0 | * 48 | 0 | 48 | 0 | $\ldots$ |  |  |
| Mounters ... | ... | ... | 54 | 0 | 56 | 0 | 50 | 0 | + 43 |  | ... |  |  |
| Polishers ... |  | ... | 57 | 0 |  | 0 | *48 | 0 |  | 0 | $\cdots$ |  |  |
| Boiler Making. <br> Journeymen | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 66 | 0 | 66 | 0 | *660 | 6 | 72 | 0 | 720 | 60 | 0 |
| Railway Men | ... | $\ldots$ | 68 | 0 | 63 | 0 | ${ }^{*} 64$ | 6 | 66 | 0 | 720 | 63 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | to 72 | 0 | to 70 | 6 | to 72 | 0 |  | to 69 |  |
| Brass Working. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $\ldots$ |  | $\begin{array}{r} 68 \\ \& 72 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0 \\ & 0 \end{aligned}$ | 51 | 0 | ${ }^{6} 44$ | 0 | 48 | 0 | * 720 |  |  |
| Dressers |  | ... | *48 | 0 | 45 | 0 | ${ }^{6} 44$ | 0 |  | 0 |  |  |  |
| Finishers ... | $\ldots$ | ... | 60 | 0 | 57 | 0 | ${ }^{6} 60$ | $6{ }^{*}$ | ... |  | * 720 | 51 | 0 |
| Furnacemen |  | ... | *55 | 0 | 47 | 6 | ${ }^{6} 49$ | 6 | 43 | 0 | * 60 | 42 | 0 |
| Moulders ... | ... |  | 68 $\& 72$ | 0 | 57 | 0 | ${ }^{6} 44$ | 0 |  | 0 | * 720 | 60 |  |
| Polishers |  | $\ldots$ | 60 | 0 | 50 | 0 | $\cdots$ |  | 45 | 0 | $\cdots$ |  |  |
| Cycles and Motors. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Assemblers | ... | ... | 48 | 0 | 47 $\& 55$ | 6 0 | ... |  | $\ldots$ |  | *57 0 | 48 | 0 |
| Cleaners | $\ldots$ |  | 48 | 0 | 47 | 6 | $\ldots$ |  | $\ldots$ |  | $\ldots$ | 48 | 0 |
| Filers |  | ... | 48 | 0 | 47 | 6 | ... |  | ... |  | .... | 48 |  |
| Fitters |  | ... | 52 | 0 | 55 | 0 | ... |  | ... |  | *72 0 | 55 |  |
| Frame Builders |  |  | 52 | 0 | 52 | 6 | ... |  | ... |  | ... | 52 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | \& 55 | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Repairers ... | - | $\ldots$ | 52 | 0 | 50 $\& 55$ | $\begin{aligned} & 6 \\ & 0 \end{aligned}$ | ... |  | $\cdots$ |  | $\ldots$ | 48 |  |
| Turners (Cycle) |  | $\ldots$ | 48 | 0 |  |  | ... |  | ... |  | *72 0 |  |  |
| ,, (Motor) |  | ... | 64 | 0 | 60 | 0 | ... |  |  |  | ... |  |  |
| Wheel Builders |  |  | 48 | 0 |  | 6 | ... |  | $\cdots$ |  | ... |  |  |
| Electrical Installation. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Armature Winders ... |  | ... | 72 | 0 | 66 | 0 | 63 | 0 |  |  | 720 | 63 |  |
| Cable Jointers |  | ... | 72 | 0 | 69 | 0 |  |  |  |  |  | 60 |  |
| FittersLinemen |  |  | 74 | 0 | 66 | 0 |  | 0 |  |  | 720 | 63 |  |
|  |  |  | 66 | 0 | 63 | 0 |  | 0 |  |  | 570 | 54 | 0 |
| MechanicsWiremen |  |  |  | 0 |  |  |  | 0 |  |  |  | \& 57 | 0 |
|  |  | ... | *64 | 0 |  | 0 | ... |  | 51 |  | 60 | 5 |  |

WEERLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.
Industry and Occupation. $\quad$ Sydney. $\mid$ Melb. $\mid$ Brisbane. Adelaide. $\mid$ Perth. $\mid$ Hobart.

Group il.-Engineering, Metal Works, etc.-Continued.


## WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.

| Industry and Occupation. | Sydney. | Melb. | Brisbane. | Adelaide. | Perth. | Hobart. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Group II.-Engineering, Metal Works, etc.-Continued.


WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.

| Industry and Occupation. | Sydney. | Melb. | Brisbane. | Adelaide. | Perth. | Hobart. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

Group III.-FOOD, Drink, Tobacco, ETC.


WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Contiuned.

| Industry and Occupation. | Sydney. | Melb. | Brisbane. | Adelaide. | Perth. | Hobart. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Group III.-FOOD, Drink, Tobacco, etc.-Continued.

$\dagger$ Piecemork rates.

WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.


Group IV.-Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.

| Bootmaking. Bootmakers | $\cdots$ | $\frac{\mathrm{s} .}{60}$ | $\mathrm{d} .$ |  | d. |  |  |  |  | s. 54 |  |  | $\mathrm{d}_{0}^{2}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tailoring (Order) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cutters |  | 75 | 0 | 60 | 0 | 70 | 0 | 70 | 0 |  |  | *70 | 0 |
| Pressers |  | 60 | 0 | 55 | 0 | 52 | 6 | 55 | 0 |  |  | *60 |  |
| Tailors |  | 60 | 0 | 60 | 0 | 55 | 0 | 60 | 0 | 70 |  | *70 |  |
| Trimmers... |  | 65 | 0 | 52 | 6 | 50 | 0 |  | 0 | .... |  | ... |  |
| Tailoring (Ready-made). |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Brushers ... |  |  |  | 36 | 0 | 42 | 6 | 36. | 0 | $\cdots$ |  |  |  |
| Cutters . |  | 65 | 0 | 60 | 0 | 57 | 6 | 60 | 0 | 70 |  |  |  |
| Folders . |  |  |  | 45 | 0 | 42 | 6 | 45 | 0 |  |  |  |  |
| Machinists |  |  |  | 55 | 0 | 50 | 0 | 50 | 0 |  |  |  |  |
| Pressers (Coa | nds) | 60 | 0 | 55 | 0 | 52 | 6 | 55 | 0 |  |  |  |  |
| ,, (Trou | \& Ves | 60 | 0 | 55 | 0 | 52 | 6 | 50 | 0 |  |  |  |  |
| Tailors |  | 60 | 0 | 60 | 0 | 65 | 0 | 60 | 0 | 70 |  | ... |  |

[^7]WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.

| Industry and Occupation. | Sydney. | Melb. | Brisbane. | Adelaide. | Perth. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Group IV.-Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.-Continued.


Group V.-Books, Printing, Binding, etc.

$\dagger$ Piecework rates.

WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.

| Industry and Occupation. | Sydney. | Melb. | Brisbane. | Adelaide. | Perth. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | Hobart.

Group V.-Books, Printing, Binding, etc.-Continued.


Group VI.-Other Manufactures.

| Brickmaking. |  | s. d. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | d. |  | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { s. } & \text { d. } \\ 49 & \end{array}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Burners ... | ... | 61 | 6 |  |  | ${ }^{28} 63$ |  | ${ }^{3} 360$ | 0 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | \& 63 | 0 |  |  | \& 65 | 4 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ,, (Two Horses) | ... | ${ }^{29} 51$ | 0 | 1.945 | 0* | ${ }^{5647}$ | 6 | 48 | 0 | 54 | 0 | ${ }^{25} 42$ | 0 |
|  | ... | ${ }^{29} 56$ | 0 | ${ }^{19} 50$ | 0* | ${ }^{505} 5$ | 0 | 50 | 0 | 60 | 0 | ${ }^{25} 47$ | 0 |
| Clayholemen ... | ... | 62 | 0 | 54 | 0 | 52 | 0 | 51 | 0 | 60 | 0 | *48 | 0 |
| Drawers |  | 64 | 0 | 65 | 0 | 52 | 0 | 54 | 0 | t |  | 49 | 6 |
| Labourers | $\ldots$ | 58 | 0 | 48 | 0 | 46 | 0 | * 48 | 0 | 56 | 0 | * 48 | 0 |
| Loaders Out |  | 58 | 0 | ... |  | 50 | 0 | $\ldots$ |  |  |  | *48 | 0 |
| Loftsmen ... |  | 54 | 0 | 48 | 0 | 48 | 0 | 48 | 0 | 52 | 0 | 48 | 0 |
| Machinemen | $\ldots$ | 60 | 0 | 1859 | 6 | ${ }^{19} 56$ | 4 | 52 | 0 | 58 | 0 | 48 | 0 |
| Panmen ... |  | 58 | 0 | ${ }^{18} 59$ | 6 | 48 | 0 | *56 | 0 | 58 | 0 | 48 | 0 |
| Pit Foremen |  | 70 | 0 | *75 | 0 | 56 | 0 | *56 | 0 | 66 | 0 | *57 |  |
| ,, Men ... |  | 62 | 0 | 57 | 0 | 52 | 0 | 51 | 0 | 60 | 0 | 48 | 0 |
| ,", Shooters | $\cdots$ | 66 | 0 | 61 | 0 | 56 | 0 |  |  | 66 | 0 | 51 | 0 |
| Setters ... | ... | 64 | 0 | 61 | 0 | 50 | 0 | 56 | 0 | 62 | 0 | 54 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | \& 52 | 0 |  |  | \& 64 | 0 |  |  |
| Truckers |  |  |  | 50 | 0 | 46 | 0 | 34 | 0 | 56 | 0 | 40 | . 0 |
| Wheelers |  | 58 | 0 | 50 | 0 | 48 | 0 | 48 | 0 | 60 | 0 | 48 | 0 |
| Yardmen ... |  | 58 | 0 | 48 | 0 | $\& 52$ 46 | 0 0 | 48 | 0 | 56 | 0 | 48 | 0 |
| Candle Making. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Acidifiers ... |  | 50 | 0 | 53 | 0 | *53 | 0 | 53 | 0 |  |  |  |  |
| General Hands |  | 48 | 0 | 48 | 0 | 45 | 0 | 48 | 0 |  |  |  |  |
| Glycerine Distillers | ... | 52 | 6 | 53 | 0 | ... |  |  | 0 |  |  |  |  |
| Moulders ... ... |  | 48 | 0 | 51 | 0 | 48 | 0 |  | 0 |  |  |  |  |
| Press Room Gangers |  | 50 | 0 | 50 | 0 | 47 | 0 |  | 0 |  |  |  |  |
| Stillmen |  |  | 0 | 53 | 0 | 50 |  |  | 0 | ... |  | - |  |

WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continuea.


Group VI.-Other Mandfactures-Continued.


WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.

| Industry and Occupation. | Sydney. | Melb. | Brisbane. | Adelaide. | Perth. | Hobart. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

Group VI.-Other Manufactures-Continued.


WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.

| Industry and Occupation. | Sydney. | Melb. | Brisbane. Adelaide. | Perth. | Hobart. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

Group VI.-Other Mandfactures-Continued.

| Ship Workers. | s. d. | s. d |  |  |  | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Carpenters and Joiners ... | 720 | * ${ }^{8} 66$ |  | ${ }^{6} 66$ | 0 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | *66 0 |
| Dockers . | 60 0 | *60 0 |  | ${ }^{6} 49$ |  | ... | ... |  |
|  | \& 680 |  |  | \& 550 |  |  |  |  |
| Painters ... ... ... | 600 | *660 6 | 6 | ${ }^{6} 49$ |  | 520 | $\cdots$ |  |
|  | \& 680 |  |  | \& 55 | 0 |  | $\ldots$ |  |
| Shipwrights (New Work) | 720 | *672 | 0 | ${ }^{6} 69$ | 8 | ${ }^{*} 720$ | 780 | *66 0 |
| ,, (Old Work) | 760 | * ${ }^{6} 76$ | 0 | ${ }^{6} 73$ |  | *72 0 | 840 | *66 0 |
| Soap Making. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Foremen ... $1 n \cdots$ | 550 | 57 | 6 | *60 |  | 576 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ |
| General Hands ... | 48 0 | 48 | 0 | * 42 | 0 | 480 | ... |  |
| Mixers ... | 480 | 51 | 0 | ... |  | 480 | $\ldots$ |  |
| Soap Makers | $60 \quad 0$ | 65 | 0 | * 60 | 0 | 626 |  |  |
| ,, (Assistant) | $50 \quad 0$ | 57 | 6 | *55 |  | *55 0 | ... | $\cdots$ |
| Tallow Making. Tallowmen | 590 | * 50 | 0 | 52 | 6 | $\ldots$ | 54 0 | ${ }^{27} 526$ |
| Tanning and Currying. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Beamsmen ... | 600 | 60 | 0 | 60 | 0 | $49 \quad 0$ | 540 | * 490 |
| Curriers | 650 | 65 | 0 | 65 | 0 | 520 | 570 | to 63 ${ }_{5}{ }_{5}$ |
| Fancy Leather Finishers | 550 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 450 | ... |  |
| Japanners or Enamellers | 550 |  | 0 | ... |  | ... | $\ldots$ | ... |
| Jiggers and Grainers (Bookbinding Leather) | 580 |  | 0 |  |  | 450 |  | *55 0 |
| Labourers ... | 510 | 51 | 0 |  | 0 | 450 |  |  |
| Limemen and Yardmen | 520 |  | 0 |  | 0 | 450 |  |  |
| Machinists, (Fleshing) | $60 \quad 0$ | 60 | 0 | 60 | 0 | 490 | 540 | *55 0 |
| ," (Scouring) | 550 |  |  | 55 | 0 | $\ldots$ |  |  |
| ", (Scudding) | 550 | 55 | 0 | 55 | 0 | 450 | 500 | *49 0 |
| ,, (Shaving) | 58 | 58 | 0 | 58 | 0 | 450 | 57 0 | *52 0 |
| ,", (Splitting) | 650 |  | 0 | 65 | 0 | 520 | 57 | *55 0 |
| ", (Unhairing) | 550 | 55 | 0 | 55 | 0 | 49.0 | 50 | *52 0 |
| ,, (Whitening) | 58 | 58 | 0 |  |  | 52:0 | 57 0 | *57 0 |
| ,, (Other) | 530 |  | 0 | 53 | 0 | . |  |  |
| Rollers and Strikers | 570 | 57 | 0 | 57 | 0 | 450 | 500 | * 550 |
| Tablemen. | 550 | 55 | 0 | 55 | 0 | 450 | $50 \quad 0$ | *55 0 |
| Tent and Tarpaulin Making. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cutters (1st Hand)... ... | $60 \quad 0$ | *70 | 0 | *660 | 0 | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ | *70 0 |
| ," (2nd , ) ... | 50 | .. |  | ${ }^{* 6} 50$ | 0 | ... | ... | * 480 |
| Dressers ... .. | 540 | * 45 | 0 |  |  | ... |  | ... |
| Machinists | 526 | *60 | 0 | *649 | 6 | .. |  |  |
| Sewers (Hand) ... | 60 0 | *60 | 0 | *649 | 6 | $\ldots$ | 570 | ... |
| Tentmakers | $60 \quad 0$ | *51 | 0 | *649 | 6 | ... | ... |  |
| Wickerworking. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bamboo or Wickerworkers ... | 630 | 57 | 6 | ${ }^{6} 53$ | 2 | 550 | $60 \quad 0$ | 526 |
| Basket Makers and Repairers | 66 0 | 56 | 0 | *855 | 0 | 550 | ... | ... |
| Upholsterers ... ... | ... | 56 | 0 | ... |  | 50 0 | ... | ... |

WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.

| Industry and Occupation. | Sydney. | Melb. | Brisbane. | Adelaide. | Perth. | Hobart. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

Group VII.-Builiding.


[^8]WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.


WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.

| Industry and Occupation, | Sydney. | Melb. | Brisbane. | Adelaide. | Perth. | Hobart. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

Group Vill.-Mining-Continued.


Group IX.-Railway and Tramway Transport.

$\dagger$ Piecework rates.
$\ddagger$ The hours of labour for Railway Employees are 48 per week (in N.S.W. 96 per fortnight) except in the following cases:-N.S.W.-Porters, 108 to 120 hours per fortnight; Victoria-Porters, 48 to 60 hours per weel; Sottin Australia-Porters and Signalmen, 48 to 57 hours per week; and TAsmania-Guards and Shunters. 54, and Porters, 48 to 54 hours per week. Owing to the difference in the classification of grades of Railway Employees in the various States, only minimum and maximum rates are quoted, excluding those for Foremen. § In N.S.W. the rates of wages for 1st class Locomotive Drivers correspond to those fixed for Drivers driving express passenger or mail trains. 2nd to 5th class correspond to the rates of wages fixed for different lengths of service. The classification of Locomotive Drivers and Firemen employed in the Victorian Reilway Service fixes different rates of wages for the following grades of service:-(1) Country Passenger Service; (2) First-grade Suburban Passenger Service; (3) Second-grade Passenger Service; and (4) Goods or Switching Service. The rates of wages for these services have been taken as corresponding to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th class classification in the other States, with the exception that firemen for only three classes of service are graded.

WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.

| Industry and Occupation, | Sydney. | Melb. | Brisbane. | Adelaide. | Perth. | Hobart. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

Group IX.-Railway and Tramway Transport-Continued.


+ For Sydney and Brisbane the wages quoted are those determined by State Awards. For Melbourne, Perth, and Hobart the rates are those specified in agreements registered under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. . For Adelaide ruling or predominant rates are quoted.

WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.

| Industry and Occupation. | Sydney. | Melb. | Brisbane. | Adelaide. 1 Perth. | Hobart. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |

Group X.-Other Land Transport.


Group XI.-Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc.


[^9]WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.

$\dagger$ Rates quoted are exclusive of value of victualling and accommodation. $\ddagger$ Minimum rates under the Commonwealth Arbitration Court Award are classified according to nominal horsepower of vessel; the lowest and highest classes are here specified. IV Minmum rates under the Commonwealth Award are classified for Interstate vessels, and for vessels within a State according to tonnage ; the lowest and highest classes for Interstate passenger and cargo vessels are here given.

WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.

| Industry and Occupation. | N.S.w. | Victoria. | Q'sland. | S. Aust. | W. Aust. | Tas. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Group XII.-Agricultural, Pastoral, etc. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Farming: General Hands $\dagger$ |  |  |  |  |  |  | d. |
|  | 20 0 | 20. | 200 | $20 \quad 0$ | 200 | 20 | 0 |
|  | to 250 | to 250 | to 250 | to 250 | to 250 | to 25 | 0 |
| Harvesters $\dagger$ | 300 | $30 \quad 0$ | 300 | $30 \quad 0$ | 300 | 30 | 0 |
|  | to 400 | to 40 | to 40 | to 40 | to 40 | to 40 | 0 |
| Milkers $\dagger$... | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 150 | 15 | 0 |
|  | to 250 | to 250 | to 250 | to 250 | to 250 | to 25 | 0 |
| Ploughmen $\dagger$ | $20 \quad 0$ | 20 0 | 200 | $20 \quad 0$ | 200 | 20 | 0 |
|  | to 300 | to 30 0 | to 30 | to 30 0 | to 300 | to 30 | 0 |
| Chaff Cutters (Portable) | ... | 50 | ... | ... | ... | ${ }^{30} 60$ | 0 |
| ," (Stationary) ... | ... | 520 | ... | ... | ... | ${ }^{30} 56$ | 0 |
| Thresher (Feeders) ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ${ }^{30} 065$ | 0 |
| " (Machinists) | $\ldots$ | ... | ... | ... | ... | ${ }^{30} 56$ | 0 |
| Gardening. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gardeners | 54 | 480 | *48 0 | ${ }^{25} 510^{*}$ | $60 \quad 0$ | *54 | 0 |
| ,, (Labourers) | 480 | 450 | * 420 | ${ }^{25} 480{ }^{*}$ | * 480 | *48 | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  | to 540 |  |  |
| Nurserymen (Labourers) | $\begin{array}{ll}54 & 0 \\ 48 & 0\end{array}$ | 48 42 0 | $* 48$ $*$ $*$ | ${ }^{25} 510^{*}$ | $\begin{array}{r}60 \\ * 48 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | $* 54$ $*$ |  |
| " (Labourers) | 480 | 420 | *42 0 | ${ }^{25} 48$ 0* | $\begin{array}{rr} * 48 & 0 \\ \text { to } 54 & 0 \end{array}$ |  |  |
| Pastoral Workers. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cooks | 50 | 50 | $50 \quad 0$ | $50 \quad 0$ | * 600 | 50 | 0 |
| Shearers ... ... per 100 | 24.0 | $24 \quad 0$ | 240 | 24 0 | *25 0 | 24 | 0 |
| Shed Hands $\dagger$ |  | 376 | 376 | 376 | *46 0 | 37 | 6 |
| Wool Pressers | 650 | 650 | 650 | 650 | *60 0 |  |  |
| Rural Workers. <br> Fruit Harvesters per hour | ... | 1 13 |  | $11_{2}^{1}$ |  |  |  |

$\dagger$ Rates of wages quoted are in addition to Board and Lodging provided.
Group XIII.-Domestic, Hotels, etc.
Note.-Except where otherwise specified the rates of wages specifled for Employees in Clubs, Hotels, and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where Board and Lodging are provided. If Board and Lodging are not provided, payment has to be made, in lieu thereof, upon an estimated value, fixed by Industrial Determinations for the Capital Towns as follows: Sydney. 15s.; Melbaurne, 14s.; Brisbane, 15s.; Adelaide, 15s.: Perth, 15s.; and Hobart, 15s. per week. Of this sum 10s. per week is allocated as value of Board in each instance.


+ Not in addition to Board and Lodging.

WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.


Group XIV.-Miscellaneous and General Labour.


WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.


## minimum rates of wages for journeywomen or adult female workers in the main occupations in the capital town of each state for A FULL WEEK'S WORK AT 3Ist DECEMBER, 1914.

(See Explanatory Note at top of page 1013.)

| Industry and Occupation. | Sydney. | Melb. | Brisbane. | Adelaide. | Perth. | Hobart. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Group III.-Food, Drink, Tobacco, etc. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Biscuitmaking ... ... | $\begin{array}{ll}\text { s. } & \text { d. } \\ 23 & 0\end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}\text { s. } \\ 22 & \text { d. } \\ 2\end{array}$ | $\left\lvert\, \begin{array}{rr}\text { s. } \\ * 20 & 0 \\ \text { to } 22 & 0 \\ \end{array}\right.$ | s. $\ldots$ | s. d. $\ldots$ | s. d. |
| Buttermaking |  | 30 | ... | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ |
| Cheesemaking ... ... |  | 30 |  |  |  | $\cdots$ |
| Confectionery-Chocolate Dippers |  | 220 | 220 | 220 | $* 20$ 0 <br> to 22 6 | $\ldots$ |
| " Other Adults ... | $20 \quad 0$ | $20 \quad 0$ | $17 \quad 6$ | $20 \quad 0$ |  | ... |
| Jam Making and PreservingFillers | $30 \quad 0$ | 300 | *17 6 |  |  |  |
| Other Adults | 20 | 230 | ${ }^{+17} 6$ | 210 | $\ldots$ | 200 |
| Pastrycooks... ... ... | 226 | $\ldots$ | $20 \quad 0$ | ... | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ |
| Tea Packing-Headwomen ... | **27 $\begin{array}{r}\text { * } \\ \text { to } \\ \end{array}$ | 286 | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| " Other Adults ... | *20 0 | $\begin{array}{r}17 \\ \text { to } 22 \\ \hline\end{array}$ | ... | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ | ... |
| Tobacco Working (Cigars)Ringers | 250 | $24 \quad 0$ | ... | $\cdots$ | ... | ... |
| Wrapper Leaf Strippers... | 250 | 250 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ |  |

Group IV.-Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc.


WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.


Groups I., II., V. and VI.-Printing and Other Manufactures.

| Bedding and Furniture- |  | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { s. } & \text { d. } \\ 30 & 0 \end{array}$ |  | s. d. |  | $\begin{array}{cc} \text { s. } & \text { d. } \\ { }^{8} 27 & 6 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}\text { s. } & \text { d. } \\ 25 & 6\end{array}$ |  | s. d. | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { s. } \\ 27 & \text { d. } \end{array}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bedding Machinists |  |  |  | 27 | 6 |  |  |  | $\ldots$ |  |  |
| Mattress (Wire) Workers | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ |  | 340 |  | ... | 256 |  |  | 27 |  |
| Picture Frame Workers | ... | ${ }^{6} 25$ | 0 | ${ }^{8} 22$ | 6 | ... | ... |  |  |  |  |
| Bookbinding-Folders |  | ${ }^{7} 23$ | 0 | 21 | 0 | $20 \quad 0$ |  | 0 | ... |  |  |
| , Sewers |  | ${ }^{7} 25$ | 0 | 23 | 0 | 200 |  | 0 | ... |  |  |
| $\begin{array}{cc}\text { Brassworking-Coremakers } & . . . \\ \text { Other Adults } & . .\end{array}$ |  | +37 | 0 | 30 | 0 | ... | ... |  | ... | $\cdots$ |  |
|  |  | *20 | 0 | to $\begin{array}{r}20 \\ 25\end{array}$ | 0 | ... | $\ldots$ |  | ... |  |  |
| Brushmaking- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bass Broom Drawers | $\ldots$ | ... |  |  |  | ... |  | 0 | ... |  |  |
| Bench Drawers ... |  | ... |  | 21 | 0 | ... |  | 0 | ... |  |  |
| Machinists (Treadle Knot) | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ |  | 21 | 0 | $\cdots$ |  | 0 | ... | ... |  |
| Candlemaking-Forewomen | ... |  | 0 | 27 | 6 | 216 | ... |  | $\ldots$ |  |  |
| Cardboard Box MakingBox Makers |  | *25 | 0 | 25 | 0 |  |  | 0 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | \& 27 | 6 | $\ldots$ | to 25 | 0 | $\ldots$ | $\cdots$ |  |
| Other Adults |  | * 20 | 0 |  | 0 | $\cdots$ | *20 | 0 | ... | ... |  |
|  |  | to 22 | 6 |  |  |  | to 22 | 6 |  |  |  |
| JewelleryChainmakers |  |  | 0 | 35 | 0 |  |  | 0 |  |  |  |
| Ohainmakers ... |  | to 40 | 0 | 35 | 0 | ... |  | 0 | ... | ... |  |
| Enamel Fillers | ... | $\begin{array}{r} 20 \\ \text { to } 30 \end{array}$ | 0 | $\ldots$ |  | ... | 35 | 0 | $\cdots$ | ... |  |
| Gilders ... | ... | 36 | 0 | 45 | 0 | ... |  | 0 | ... | $\ldots$ |  |
| Polishers . | ... | 36 | 0 | 45 | 0 | ... |  | 0 | ... |  |  |
| Scratch Brushers | ... | 35 | 0 | 35 | 0 | ... |  | 0 | ... |  |  |
| Workers, n.e.i. | ... | 40 | 0 | 55 | 0 | $\cdots$ | 35 | 0 | ... | ... |  |
| Leather Small Goods- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hand Stitchers | $\cdots$ | 26 | 0 |  | 0 | ... | ... |  | ... | ... |  |
| Other Adults | ... | 26 | 0 | 20 | 0 | ... | ... |  |  |  |  |
| Paper Makers | ... | 22 | 6 | 21 | 0 | ... | ... |  | ... |  |  |
| Paper Bag Makers |  | 22 | 6 |  | 0 | $\ldots$ | ... |  | ... |  |  |
| Polish Makers | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ |  |  | 0 |  | $\ldots$ |  | ... |  |  |
| Potteries ... |  | 20 | 0 |  | 0 | ... | ... |  | ... | ... |  |

WEEKLY RATES OF WAGES, ETC.-Continued.

| Industry and Occupation. | Sydney. | Melb. | Brisbane. | Adelaide. | Perth. | Hobart. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Groups I., II., V. and Vi.-Printing and Other Manufactures-Continued. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Printing- | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. ${ }^{\text {d. }}$ |
| Jobbing Office Assistants | 230 | 220 | 20 0 | 226 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ |
| Lithographic Feeders | ${ }^{7} 250$ | 220 | $20 \quad 0$ | 226 | ... | ... |
| Rubber Workers | 270 | 27 0 | ... | - ... | ... | ... |
| Saddlery and Harness Makers | 240 | 240 | 240 | 300 | ... | ... |
| Sail Making ... ... ... | 300 | *24 0 | $\ldots$ | ... | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ |
| Soap Making | 210 | 276 | ... | ... | $\ldots$ |  |
| Tent and Tarpaulin MakingMachinists ... | 1227 to 32 | 24 $\& 27$ | ... | $\cdots$ | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ |

Group XIII.-Domestic, Hotels, etc.
Note.-Except where otherwise specified the rates of wages specified for Employees in Hotels and Restaurants represent the weekly cash payment where Board and Lodging are provided. If Board and Lodging are not provided, payment has to be made in lieu thereof, upon an estimated value, fixed by Industrial Determinations for the Capital Towns as follows: Sydney, 15s.; Melbourne, 14s.; Brisbane, 15 s .; Adelaide, 15s.; Perth, 15 s .; and Hobart. 15s. per week. Of this sum 10s. per week is allocated as value of Board in each instance.


| Grovp XIV.-Shop assistants, Clerks, etc. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Saleswomen, Clerks, etc.Cashiers ... |  | $\begin{array}{lr} \mathrm{s} . & \mathrm{d} . \\ 32 & 0 \end{array}$ | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Clerical Assistants ... |  | 360 | ... | ... | ... | . |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Saleswomen- |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Boot | ${ }^{17} 30 \quad 0$ | ${ }^{17} 300$ | $30 \quad 0$ | 17226 | ... | $\cdots$ |
|  |  |  |  | to 276 | . | $\ldots$ |
| Drapery ... ... | ... ${ }^{17} 300$ | 320 | 300 | ${ }^{17} 226$ | $\cdots$ | ... |
|  |  |  |  | to 276 |  |  |
| Fruit and Confectionery | ${ }^{35} 200$ | ... | 30 | ... | $\ldots$ |  |
| News Agent and Bookstall | . ${ }^{18} \&^{25} 300$ | ... | 300 | ... |  |  |
| Tobacconist ... | $40 \quad 0$ | $\ldots$ | 300 | $\ldots$ | ... |  |

+ Not in addition to Board and Lodging.


## § 6. Strikes and Lockouts.

1. General.-The systematic collection of information regarding strikes and lockouts throughout the Commonwealth was initiated at the beginning of the year 1913. An examination of the available data for past years contained in official reports, newspapers, and other publications, shewed that there was insufficient material available for the compilation of anything like complete or comprehensive information regarding industrial disputes in the Commonwealth for years prior to 1913. In the State of New South Wales a considerable amount of information regarding strikes and lockouts is available from the 1st July, 1907, and has been published in the New South Wales Industrial Gazette (April, 1913, and January, 1914). The particulars given are, however, stated to be incomplete for the period from July, 1907, to April, 1912.

Under the system initiated in 1913 information as to the occurrence of an industrial dispute is derived from a number of sources, of which the following are the most im-portant:-(a) Reports by labour agents and correspondents who have been appointed in all the most important industrial centres of the Commonwealth; (b) monthly reports senl in by secretaries of trade unions, and (c) newspaper, trade and labour journals, and other publications.
(i.) Collection of Particulars. As soon as information is obtained as to the existence of an industrial dispute involving stoppage of work, forms* are despatched to the several parties concerned, viz., secretaries of trade unions, employers' organisations, and individual employers. The first parts of these forms have to be returned immediately. They provide for the insertion of information as to the locality in which the dispute exists, its cause or object, the date of commencement, and the number of persons involved directly and indirectly. The second parts of the forms, which are to be returned as soon as the dispute is terminated, provide for information regarding the date of termination, the conditions or terms on which work was resumed, the method of settlement, the estimated loss in wages, and (if the result involves a change in rates of wages or hours of labour) particulars as to the number affected, etc.

If the information given by one party to the dispute substantially agrees with that furnished by the other, the facts are considered to be accurate, and the result is included in the final returns. In all cases where discrepancies or inconsistent accounts are received, special enquiries are instituted, ordinarily through the labour agents and correspondents. The whole of the available information is then determined as judicially as possible, making the summarised result to agree not necessarily with the testimony of a single individual, but to harmonise with the concurrent evidence of the majority, or of those whose returns appear to be the most reliable. It may, therefore, happen that the particulars, as presented in this report concerning certain disputes, will not agree with the returns as submitted by participants in such disputes. The figures, as published, however, have been determined only after careful consideration of all available particulars.
(ii.) Definitions and Explanations of Terms. Industrial disputes involving stoppage of work may be classified under three main headings, viz., (a) a strike; (b) a lockout; or (c) a sympathetic strike. For the purposes of these investigations the following definitions have been accepted:-
(a) A strike is defined as a concerted withdrawal from work by a part or all of the employees of an establishment or of several establishments, with a view to enforcing a demand on the part of the employees, or of resisting some demand made by their employers.
(b) A lockout is a refusal on the part of an employer or several employers, to permit a part or all of the employees to continue at work, such refusal being made to enforce a demand on the part of the employers, or to resist some demand made by their employees.

[^10](c) A sympathetic strike is one in which the employees of an establishment, or of several establishments, make no demand for their own benefit, but leave work in order to assist employees of some other establishment or establishments, on strike or locked out, for the purpose of enforcing or resisting a demand.

In view of the difficulty which may often occur in distinguishing clearly whether a stoppage of work constitutes a strike or a lockout, for the purposes of these investigations all stoppages are grouped under the general heading-strikes and lockouts. Certain stoppages of work have been excluded from the tabulations, for the reason either that they do not come within the definition of a strike or lockout, or that they are not of sufficient magnitude. Disputes involving less than ten workpeople or which lasted for less than one day, except where the aggregate number of working days lost exceeded ten days, have been excluded, with the exception of four small disputes which occurred during the first quarter of the year 1913. Other dislocations of industry which have been excluded from the tables are those in which the relationship of employer and employee did not exist. Instances of this class of dispute are the dislocations which occurred in the rabbit-trapping industry, in which the trappers are not employees of the freezing companies. As the companies refused to pay the price demanded by the men, trapping was discontinued, but this does not constitute a strike within the above definition. During the period under review numerous stoppages of work occurred for the purpose of holding meetings to discuss grievances and union matters. The majority of these stop-work meetings were held by builders' labourers and colliery employees. Particulars regarding these dislocations are not included in the tabulations, since they do not fall within the definition of a "strike" or "lockout," that is to say, the stoppage is not necessarily for the purpose of enforcing or resisting demands.

In the tables given in this section an establishment means the place of work operated by a person, firm, company, or Government Department. The shops, factories, places of business or construction or repairing works of different employers in the same locality, or of the same employer in different localities, are considered as separate establishments.

The heading, "Workpeople directly involved in dispute" includes only those workpeople who actually joined in the demand and who, on refusal of such demand, ceased work. In the case of a lockout, the term is used to include the number of workpeople whom the employer refused to allow to work unless they complied with his demand.

The number of workpeople involuntarily thrown out of work refers only to those employees who were involuntarily thrown out of work as the result of an industrial dispute, caused by certain other employees going on strike or through an employer or employers locking out certain other employees, whose absence from work rendered it impossible for work to proceed in the establishment or establishments affected by the dispute. It often occurs also that when one section of employees is engaged in an industrial dispute the effect of such dispute is to cause loss of time to other employees, following occupations which are dependent upon those followed by the workpeople actually on strike or locked out.

The number of working days lost is obtained by multiplying the number of workpeople directly involved by the duration of the dispute in working days. In the case of a dispute where workpeople are involuntarily thrown out of work the number of these workpeople is multiplied by the number of days they were idle, and the result is added to the number of days lost by the workpeople directly involved.

[^11]2. Comparative Summary of Disputes in 1913 and 1914.-The systematic collection of information as to strikes and lockouts* throughout the Commonwealth was first undertaken as from the Ist January, 1913, and particulars concerning disputes occurring during the year 1913 were published in Labour Report No. 5. The following table gives particulars of the number of industrial disputes beginning in 1914, and also the number of workpeople involved in these disputes. The number of working days lost and the estimated total loss in wages during 1914 for all disputes in existence during that period are also shewn. For purposes of comparison, similar particulars are furnished for the year 1913. They do not, therefore, agree in all respects with somewhat similar particulars published in Labour Report No. 5, inasmuch as the particulars given in that Report relate solely to disputes which began in 1913, irrespective of the date on which they terminated.

## industrial disputes in each state and territory.-comparative PARTICULARS FOR 1913 AND 1914.

| Particulars. | N.S.W. | Vic. | Q'land. | S.A. | W.A. | Tas. | F.T.* | N.T.t | C'wltb. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| No. of disputes, 1914 | 235 | 44 | 18 | 13 | 18 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 337 |
| " , 1913 | 134 | 29 | 17 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 208 |
| No. of workpeople $\mid 1914$ | 56,281 | 7,051 | 1,686 | 1,191 | 4,409 | 313 | 50 | 68 | 71,049 |
| involved ... ... 1913 | 40,011 | 6,177 | 2,006 | 288 | 967 | 464 | 200 | 170 | 50,283 |
| No. of working days ! 1914 | 727,726 | 93,932 | 27,857 | 15,275 | 124,175 | 3,286 | 350 | 552 | 993,153 |
| lost ... ... ... ; 1913 | 447,979 | 77,587 | 77,178 | 2.412 | 12,492 | 987 | 1,400 | 2,500 | 622,535 |
| Total estimated 1914 £ | 363,326 | 43.747 | 13,176 | 7,697 | 70,552 | 1,459 | 170 | 348 | 500,475 |
| loss in wages ... $\}_{1913 \text { \& }}$ | 208,468 | 32,596 | 37,684 | 1,029 | 5,615 | 434 | 600 | 1,675 | 288,101 |

* Federal Capital Territory.
$\dagger$ Northern Territory.

While anything in the nature of a definite measurement of the general loss to the community or the special loss to employers entailed through these disputes is not available, some rough idea of the magnitude of such losses may be obtained. For the whole of the manufacturing industries of the Commonwealth during the past five years the average proportion of the "wages paid" to the "value added in process of manufacture" is, approximately, 50 per cent., while the proportion of wages paid to the "total value of output" is 20 per cent. Assuming that these proportions apply approximately to all industries affected by the above disputes, it follows that the aggregate resulting loss in "added value" would amount, approximately, to $£ 1,000,000$. The reduction in the "total value of output" would be about $£ 2,500,000$, and on a basis of an average profit of 10 per cent. on the value of the output there would be an immediate and direct loss to employers of about $£ 250,000$, that is, about half the amount of loss in wages. The resultant indirect loss and damage to trade and business may, in some instances, of course, be large compared with the direct losses, but the necessary data for the estimation of these indirect losses is not obtainable.

The above table shews that 337 industrial disputes commenced during the year 1914, as compared with 208 during the preceding year. The number of workpeople involved in strikes and lockouts was also greater, the figures for the respective years being 71,049 during 1914, and 50,283 in 1913. These figures relate to the total number of workpeople affected by disputes, whether directly or indirectly concerned. The number of working days lost during the year 1914 was 993,153 , which was considerably greater than the number lost $(622,535)$ during the previous year. The estimated total loss in wages during twelve months ending 31st December, 1914, was $£ 500,475$, as compared with the estimated total amount of loss of $£ 288,101$ during the year 1913.

The number of disputes was greater in 1914 than in 1913 in each of the States and Territories, with the exception of Tasmania and the Federal Capital Territory. In New South Wales the number of disputes recorded for 1914 was 235 , as compared with 134 during the year 1913. In Victoria, 44 disputes commenced in 1914, as against 29 in 1913, while in Western Australia there were 18 disputes in 1914 and 9 in 1913.
3. Number and Magnitude of Industrial Disputes in the Commonwealth, Classified according to Industrial Groups.-Comparative Particulars for 1913 and 1914.-The following table gives particulars of disputes in the Commonwealth during the years 1913 and 1914, classified according to industrial groups. The system of classification selected is similar to that adopted in connection with labour organisations, unemployment, rates of wages, etc. (see Report No. 5, Labour and Industrial Branch, page 6).
industrial. disputes in the commonwealth, classified according to INDUSTRIAL GROUPS, 1913 and 1914.

| Industrial Group. | No. of Disputes. |  | No. of Workpeople involved in Disputes. |  | No. of Working Days Lost. |  | Total <br> Estimated Loss in Wages. |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1913. | 1914. | 1913. | 1914. | 1913. | 1914. | 1813. | 1914. |
| I. Wood, Furniture, Timber,etc. | 4 | 5 | 105 | 556 | 1.612 | 3,086 | 652 | 1,345 |
| II. Engineering, Metal Wks., etc. | 11 | 29 | 585 | 8,039 | 11,689 | 114,635 | 5,423 | 60,249 |
| III. Food, Drink, etc. ... ... | 7 | 9 | 1,263 | 2,670 | 16,330 | 61,696 | 7.903 | 27,020 |
| IV. Clothing, Hats, Boots, etc. ... | 4 | 1 | 483 | 54 | 2.352 | 35 | 1,048 | 5 |
| V. Books, Printing, etc. | 1 | 3 | 8 | 163 | 384 | 2,212 | 185 | 1,078 |
| VI. Other Manufacturing | 10 | 14 | 2,731 | 1.535 | 29.017 | 14,184 | 11.492 | 6,764 |
| VII. Building ... ... | 10 | 16 | 238 | 4,321 | 2,303 | 140,881 | 1,171 | 72.735 |
| VIII. Mines, Querries, etc. .. | 103 | 186 | 33,537 | 48,785 | 389,854 | 582,967 | 182,724 | 293.722 |
| IX. Rail and Tramway Services | 16 | 23 | 6,343 | 1,994 | 81,806 | 44,791 | 43,216 | 24,720 |
| X. Other Land Transport | 2 | 6 | 428 | 580 | 2,120 | 8,612 | 1,037 | 1,176 |
| XI. Shipping. Wharf Labour ... | 18 | 11 | 2.278 | 682 | 37,108 | 8.783 | 16,752 | 4,282 |
| XII. Pastoral. Agricultural, etc.... | 4 | 5 | 515 | 359 | 840 | 6,942 | 334 | 2,815 |
| XIII. Domestic, Hotel, etc. | 1 | 1 | 25 | 48 | 75 | 73 | 36 | 22 |
| XIV. Miscellaneous | 17 | 28 | 1,750 | 1.263 | 47,045 | 10,266 | 16,128 | 4,542 |
| Commonwealth, All Groups | 208 | 337 | 50,283 | 71,049 | 622,535 | 993,153 | 288,101 | 500,475 |

Of the 337 disputes which commenced during the year 1914, no fewer than 186, or 55 per cent., occurred in the mining industry (Group VIII.), the number of employees $(48,785)$ involved in these disputes representing 69 per cent. of the total number of workpeople involved in all disputes during the year. Employees in Engineering and Metal Works (Group II.), were involved in 29 disputes during the period under review, the number of workpeople involved being 8039, and the loss in working days 114,635. In Group XIV. (Miscellaneous), 28 stoppages of work were recorded. Building Operations (Group VII.), were affected by 16 disputes, involving 4321 workpeople, who lost 140,881 working days. Persons engaged in industries included in Other Manufacturing (Group VI.), were involved in 14 disputes, while 23 disputes affected workpeople in Railway and Tramway Services (Group IX.). In Group XI. (Shipping, Wharf Labour, etc.), 11 disputes were recorded, while employees engaged in the manufacture and distribution of Food and Drink (Group III.), were involved in 9 disputes. The number of disputes in other groups was comparatively small.

## § 7.-Retail Prices, House Rents, and Cost of Living.

1. Introduction.-In Report No. 1, issued in December, 1912, the results of certain investigations into the subjects of Prices, Price-Indexes and Cost of Living in past years were published, and some account was given of the methods empioyed for the collection of the data and of the technique adopted in the computation of the results. An impor. tant discussion of the theory upon which the calculation of the index-numbers is based was given, but being necessarily too technical for the ordinary reader, was relegated to Appendixes. In Reports Nos. 2 and 5 results of further investigations were given, and in those Reports, and in Labour Bulletins Nos. 1 to 8, information was given as to variations in retail and wholesale prices, house-rent, and cost of living up to the end of 1914.

It must here suffice to state that the method adopted for the computation of the index-numbers is what may very properly be called the "aggregate expenditure" method. The first process is, of course, to work out the average price of each commodity included, and numbers (called " mass-units') representing the relative extent to which each commodity was on the average used or consumed are then computed. The price in any year of each commodity multiplied by its corresponding " mass-unit" represents, therefore, the relative total expenditure on that commodity in that year on the basis of the adopted regimen. It follows, therefore, that by taking for any year the sum of the price of each commodity multiplied by its corresponding "mass-unit," a figure is obtained which represents the relative aggregate or total expenditure of the community in that year on all the commodities, etc., included. By computing these aggregate expenditures for a series of years and taking the expenditure in any desired year as "base," that is, making the expenditure in that year equal to 1000 units, the relative expenditure in any other year, that is to say, the "index-numbers," are readily ascertained. A numerical example of the technique and methods adopted for the computation of index-numbers was given in Report No. 2 (pp. 44 and 45).
2. Scope of Investigation.-It was pointed out in Report No. 1 that, in any investigation into the question of change in cost of living of a community, a careful distinction must be drawn between two things, viz:-
(a) Variations in the purchasing power of money, and
(b) Variations in the standard of living.

In Report No. 2, attention was drawn to the fact that the second element (b) can be limited, at any rate to some extent, by the exercise of self denial and thrift, and that such limitation is at the disposal of each individual ; the former ( $a$ ) is not subject to this, possibility. Thus, from this aspect, social economics are concerned primarily with an accurate estimation of variations in the purchasing power of money and only secondarily with the question of the general standard of living which has been reached. The first desideratum demands that we shall select a suitable list of commodities, the quantities of each being taken in due proportion to their relative average consumption, and, keeping this list with the quantities constant, ascertain what it costs to purchase the whole group. In this way we can compare the cost in different areas or districts at the same time, as well as the variation in any one place from time to time. This is the " aggregate expenditure" method explained above.

As explained in Report No. 1, special steps were taken to conduct the investigation back as far as 1901 for the capital towns only. The collection of current monthly returns as to prices and of quarterly returns of house rents commenced in thirty of the more important towns of the Commonwealth in January, 1912.
3. Commodities and Requirements Included.-The 47 items of expenditure included are divided into four groups, viz. :-(i.) groceries and bread, (ii.) dairy produce, (iii.) meat, and (iv.) house rent. These items cover about 60 per cent. of the total expenditure of a normal family. There are very cogent reasons for the restriction of the inquiries to the items mentioned. If the comparisons made are to be satisfactory, no confusion must arise between changes in standard of living and changes arising from a variation of the purchasing power of money. In order to avoid such confusion the items selected are such as are sensibly identical and identifiable in the various localities. The most important group of expenditure which is not included is clothing, the cost of which amounts to about 13 per cent. of the total expenditure. Owing to influences of individual taste, fashion, and the enormous variety of production, articles included in this group are practically not comparable and identifiable. As regards fuel and light, the cost of which amounts to about 4 per cent. of the total expenditure, while these commodities are comparable and identifiable, the usage or relative consumption in the towns included in the inquiries varies to such an extent that their inclusion on an assumed constant regimen would tend to produce a fictitious result in so far as relative cost of living is concerned.


B.-Iight Agures danoto index-numbers for Food and Groceries only

1044
MELBOLRNE WHOLESALE PRICE NDEX-NCMBERS, 1861 TO 9 t9t


In Report No. 2 (pages 46-7) a tabular statement was given furnishing particulars of the commodities and items included, the units of measurement for which prices are collected, and the mass-units shewing the relative extent to which each item is used or consumed.
4. Variations in the Cost of Living in each Metropolitan Town, 1901 to 1914.-In Reports Nos. 1, 2 and 5, and Labour Bulletins Nos. 1 to 8, index-numbers were given for each of the four groups, and for all groups combined, for each capital town since 1901, the expenditure in 1911 being taken in each case as base ( $=1000$ ). In this section only summarised results are given. Firstly, for food and groceries; secondly, for house rent; and thirdly, for all groups combined-the weighted average expenditure for all capital towns in 1911 being taken in each case as base $(=1000)$. The indexnumbers are fully comparable with each other, that is to say, they shew not only the variations from year to year in each capital town, but also the relative cost as between the towns.
(i.) Food and Groceries. The index-numbers thus computed for the three groups comprising groceries and food are shewn in the following table:-

## RETAIL PRICES IN METROPOLITAN TOWNS, index-Numbers FOR GROCERIES AND FOOD (GROUPS I., II., and III.), 1901 to 1914.

| Town. | 1901. | 1903. | 1904. | 1905. | 1906. | 1907. | 1908. | 1909. | 1910. | 1911. | 1912. | 1913. | 1914. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sydney ... | 917 | 1,029 | 877 | 972 | 964 | 936 | 1,030 | 1,012 | 1,000 | 989 | 1,124 | 1,131 | 1.156 |
| Melbourne | 965 | 974 | 916 | 952 | 945 | 925 | 995 | 949 | 960 | 935 | 1,082 | 1, 024 | 1,091 |
| Brisbane | 965 | 987 | 892 | 945 | 959 | 947 | 1,023 | 983 | 1,000 | 1,018 | 1,102 | 1,042 | 1,078 |
| Adelaide... | 1,028 | 981 | 940 | 993 | 982 | 951 | 1,010 | 1,025 | 1,001 | 1,020 | 1,154 | 1.119 | 1,215 |
| Perth | 1,184 | 1,283 | 1,210 | 1,258 | 1,237 | 1,197 | 1,226 | 1,212 | 1.251 | 1,346 | 1,345 | 1,267 | 1,302 |
| Hobart | 1,011 | 1,054 | 981 | 1,030 | 1,047 | 1,010 | 1,055 | 1,093 | 1,073 | 1,058 | 1,190 | 1,164 | 1,212 |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Weighted } \\ \text { Average } \end{gathered}$ | 972 | 1,019 | 924 | 986 | 980 | 955 | 1,031 | 1,006 | 1.005 | 1,000 | 1,129 | 1,095 | 1,144 |

* For all capital towns.

The above figures are directly comparable in every respect; thus it will be seen that the same quantity of food and groceries, which cost $£ 1000$ in the capital towns considered as a whole in 1911, would have cost $£ 917$ in Sydney in 1901, $£ 1346$ in Perth in 1911, or £1091 in Melbourne in 1914.
(ii.) House Rent.- In the following table index-numbers are given computed for the weighted average house rent in each of the capital towns from 1901 to 1914, taking the average rent for the six capital towns in 1911 as the base $(=1000)$. The average rent has been obtained for each town separately by multiplying the average predominant rent for each class of house (i.e., houses having less than 4 rooms, 4 rooms, 5 rooms, 6 rooms, 7 rooms, and over 7 rooms) by a number ("weight") representing the relative number of houses of that class in the particular town. The sum of the products thus obtained, divided by the sum of the weights, gives the weighted average for all houses. The number of houses in each class for each town was obtained from the results of the 1911 census. It should be observed, therefore, that these index-numbers are based on the weighted average rents for all houses, and that they do not refer to any particular class of houses. The actual predominant rents for each class were given in appendixes to Reports Nos, 1, 2 and 5, and an examination of these figures shews that for some classes of houses the increase has been greater, and in some less, than the general increase indicated in the following table:-

## HOUSE RENTS IN METROPOLITAN TOWNS, INDEX-NUMBERS SHEWING WEIGHTED AVERAGE RENTS (GROUP IV.), 1901 to 1914.

| Town. | 1901. | 1903. | 1904. | 1905. | 1906. | 1907. | 1908. | 1909. | 1910. | 1911. | 1912. | 1913. | 1914. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Syduey ... | 858 | 856 | 866 | 887 | 891 | 911 | 922 | 955 | 988 | 1.090 | 1,183 | 1,246 | 1,279 |
| Melbourne | 733 | 747 | 764 | 771 | 782 | 804 | 828 | 842 | 916 | 970 | 1,016 | 1,089 | 1,126 |
| Brisbane | 488 | 507 | 508 | 519 | 524 | 575 | 616 | 662 | 700 | 767 | 804 | 863 | 882 |
| Adelaide | 629 | 629 | 629 | 702 | 761 | 812 | 872 | 940 | 1.018 | 1,112 | 1,160 | 1,125 | 1,040 |
| Perth | 801 | 802 | 798 | 739 | 716 | 684 | 678 | 667 | 696 | 810 | 880 | 928 | 914 |
| Hobart | 667 | 673 | 674 | 681 | 686 | 708 | 727 | 749 | 776 | 805 | 829 | 887 | 914 |
| Weighted Average ${ }^{\circ}$ | 751 | 756 | 766 | 782 | 793 | 816 | 839 | 867 | 919 | 1,000 | 1,063 | 1,118 | 1,135 |

* For all capital towns.

NoTe.-The above figures are dixectly comparable in every respect.
It may be seen that, except in Adelaide, where rents remained constant from 1901 to 1904 , and in Perth, whers they decreased from 1903 to 1909, there has been a uniform increase in each metropolitan town during the whole of the period under review. The increase has been greater in Adelaide (where the average rent in 1901 was only 629, compared with 1112 in 1911, and 1125 in 1913), and in Brisbane than in the other towns. It should be observed, however, that at the commencement of the period, rents were exceptionally low in Adelaide, and were comparatively low in Brisbane (see Appendix IV. to Report No. 1). The graph for Perth presents features entirely different from those for the other towns; the fall in rents commencing in 1903 and lasting until 1907 is followed, after another temporary decline in 1909, by a rapid rise. In 1914 rents fell slightly in Adelaide and Perth, but rose in the other towns.
(iii.) Cost of Living.-The weighted averages for all four groups are of importance, as indicating the general results of this investigation so far as cost of living is concerned, The following table shews the index-numbers for groceries, food, and house rent for each metropolitan town, the weighted average cost for the six capital towns in 1911 being taken as base ( $=1000$ ) :-

## COST OF LIVING IN METROPOLITAN TOWNS, INDEX-NUMBERS SHEWING WEIGHTED ayerage resiults for all groups (groceries, dairy produce, meat, AND HOUSE RENT), 1901 to 1914.

| Town. | 1901. | 1903. | 1904. | 1905. | 1906. | 1907. | 1908. | 1909. | 1910. | 1911. | 1912. | 1913. | 1914. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Sydney ... | 893 | 958 | 872 | 937 | 934 | 926 | 986 | 989 | 995 | 1.031 | 1,148 | 1,178 | 1,206 |
| Melbourne | 870 | 881 | 854 | 878 | 878 | 875 | 926 | 905 | 942 | 950 | 1,055 | 1,051 | 1,105 |
| Brisbane | 769 | 790 | 734 | 770 | 780 | 794 | 856 | 851 | 877 | 915 | 979 | 969 | 997 |
| Adelaide | 864 | 837 | 812 | 873 | 891 | 894 | 953 | 990 | 1.008 | 1,058 | 1,157 | 1,121 | 1.143 |
| Perth | 1,027 | 1,085 | 1,041 | 1,045 | 1,023 | 986 | 1,001 | 988 | 1.023 | 1,126 | 1,154 | 1,128 | 1.143 |
| Hobart | 869 | 897 | 855 | 886 | 899 | 886 | 920 | 952 | 951 | 954 | 1,042 | 1.050 | 1,090 |
| Weighted Average* | 880 | 910 | 858 | 901 | 902 | 897 | 951 | 948 | 970 | 1,000 | 1,101 | 1,104 | 1,140 |

* For all capital towns.

NOTE.-The above figures are directly comparable in every respect.
Generally speaking, prices were low in 1904, high in 1902 and 1908, and rose steadily each year since 1909. The general trend of the graph for Perth is different to that for the other towns, owing mainly to the decline in house rents in that place, which occurred from 1903 to 1907, and again in 1909.

The general result for all the six towns shews that cost of living was only 0.3 per cent. higher in 1913 than in 1912. The cost-of-living index-number for 1914 was 3.3 per cent. higher than for 1913. It was higher in 1914 in every capital city than in 1913.
5. Relative Cost of Living in Different Towns, 1914. -The index-numbers given in the preceding paragraphs shew changes in the cost of living separately for each individual town during the years 1901 to 1914 . The figures given in the table below shew the relative cost of living in 1914 in the thirty towns for which particulars are now being collected. The weighted aggregate expenditure for all towns for the year 1914 has been taken as base and made equal to 1000 , hence the columns are comparable both horizontally and vertically.

## COST OF LIVING, 1914.-INDEX-NUMBERS SHEWING RELATIVE COST IN EACH OF THIRTY TOWNS (INCLUDING 4, 5, AND 6-ROOMED HOUSES AND ALL houses), compared with weigited average cost for all towns.

| Town. |  | House Rent. |  |  |  | Groceries, Food, and Rent, incloding Hodies having- |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | 4-r'n'd <br> Houses only. | 5-r'm'd <br> Houses only. | 6-r'm'd Houses only. | All Houses. Weightd Average. | $\stackrel{4}{\text { Rooms. }}$ | $\underset{\text { Rooms. }}{5}$ | $\underset{\text { Rooms. }}{6}$ | All <br> Houses Weightd Average. |
| N. S. Wales- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sydney ... | 611 | 365 | 440 | 521 | 472 | 976 | 1,051 | 1,138 | 1,083 |
| Newcastle | 604 | 223 | 300 | 368 | 289 | 827 | 904 | . 972 | 893 |
| Broken Hill | -732. | 207 | 263 | 325 | 227 | 939 | 995 | 1,057 | 959 |
| Goalburn | 621 | 207 | 336 | 458 | 394 | 828 | 957 | 1,079 | 1,015 |
| Bathurst | 579 | 211 | 289 | 373 | 308 | 790 | 868 | 952 | 887 |
| Victoria- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Melbourne | 577 | 296 | 376 | 467 | 416 | 873 | 953 | 1,044 | 993 |
| Ballarat | 575 | 132 | 193 | 263 | 237 | 707 | 768 | 838 | 812 |
| Bendigo... | 581 | 172 | 220 | 290 | 247 | 753 | 801 | 871 | 828 |
| Geelong... | 581 | 193 | 281 | 386 | 328 | 774 | 862 | 967 | 909 |
| Warrnambool | 568 | 207 | 280 | 331 | 294 | 775 | 848 | 899 | 862 |
| QUEENSLAND- Brisbane | 570 | 208 | 273 | 360 | 326 | 778 | 843 | 930 | 896 |
| Toowoomba | 576 | 182 | 229 | 259 | 278 | 758 | 805 | 835 | 854 |
| Rockhampton | 606 | 187 | 231 | 296 | 281 | 793 | 837 | 902 | 887 |
| Charters Towers | 670 | 168 | 230 | 272 | 217 | 838 | 900 | 942 | 887 |
| Warwick | 576 | 132 | 213 | 260 | 243 | 708 | 789 | 836 | 819 |
| S. Adstralia- | 643 | 307 | 377 | 463 | 384 | 950 | 1,020 | 1,104 | 1,027 |
| Moonta, ete. | 640 | 159 | 226 | 271 | 222 | 799 | 866 | 911 | 868 |
| Port Pirie | 660 | 249 | 297 | 355 | 288 | 909 | 957 | 1,015 | 948 |
| Mt. Gambier | 562 | 184 | 251 | 316 | 267 | 746 | 813 | 878 | 829 |
| Petersburg .. | 671 | 277 | 348 | 405 | 340 | 948 | 1,019 | 1,076 | 1,011 |
| W. AustraliaPerth ... | 689 | 289 | 350 | 426 | 337 | 972 | 1,039 | 1,115 | 1,026 |
| Kalgoorlie, etc. ... | 875 | 293 | 331 | 436 | 284 | 1,168 | 1,206 | 1,311 | 1,15S |
| Mid. Junct., etc. | 700 | 229 | 318 | 998 | 298 | 929 | 1,018 | 1,098 | 992 |
| Bunbury | 737 | 255 | 315 | 403 | 261 | 992 | 1,052 | 1,140 | 998 |
| Gerald ton ... | 769 | 401 | 513 | 591 | 412 | 1,170 | 1,282 | 1.360 | 1.181 |
| Tasmania- Hobart... | 641 | 264 | 313 | 377 | 338 | 905 | 954 | 1,018 | 979 |
| Launceston | 598 | 212 | 302 | 362 | 313 | 810 | 900 | 960 | 911 |
| Zeehan. | 683 | 129 | 176 | 219 | 123 | 812 | 859 | 902 | 806 |
| Beaconsfield | 637 | 83 | 97 | 116 | 93 | 720 | 734 | 753 | 730 |
| Queenstown ... | 690 | 230 | 081 | 318 | 227 | 920 | 971 | 1,008 | 917 |
| Weighted Average | 611 | 290 | 363 | 444 | 389 | 901 | 974 | 1.055 | 1,000 |

6. Varlation In Purchasing Power of Money, 1901 to 1914.-The tables in paragraph 4 give the relative cost of living in the six capital towns from 1901 to 1914 in the form of index-numbers. In the following tables similar information is given as regards variations in cost of living (groceries, food, and house-rent), the base being taken as 20 s. for the weighted average in the six capital towns in 1911. The figures therefore shew the sums which would have to be paid in each town and in each year in order to purchase such relative quantities (indicated by the mass-units) of the several commodities, and to pay such sums for house-rent as would in the aggregate cost $£ 1$, according to the weighted average prices and rents in the six capital towns in 1911.
purchasing power of money.-amount necessary on the average in each year from 1901 to 1914 TO PURCHASE in Each Capital town what would have cost on the average il in i911 in the australian capitals regarded as a whole.

| Year. |  |  | Sydney. |  | Melb'rne |  | Brisbane. |  | Adelaide. |  | Perth. |  | Hobart. |  | Weighted Average of 6 Capital Towns |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | d. | s. | d. | s. | d. | s. | d. | s. |  | s. | d. | s. | d. |
| 1901 | $\ldots$ | ... | 17 | 10 | 17 | 5 | 15 | 5 | 17 | 3 | 20 | 6 | 17 | 5 | 17 | 7 |
| 1902 | ... | $\cdots$ | 19 | 7 | 18 | 1 | 16 | 0 | 17 | 3 | 21 | 7 | 17 | 10 | 18 | 7 |
| 1903 |  | $\ldots$ | 19 | 2 | 17 | 7 | 15 | 9 | 16 | 9 | 21 | 8 | 17 | 11 | 18 | 2 |
| 1904 |  |  | 17 | 5 | 17 | 1 | 14 | 8 | 16 | 3 | 20 | 10 | 17 | 1 | 17 | 2 |
| 1905 |  | $\ldots$ | 18 | 9 | 17 | 7 | 15 | 5 | 17 | 6 | 20 | 11 | 17 | 9 | 18 | 0 |
| 1906 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 18 | 8 | 17 | 7 | 15 | 7 | 17 | 10 | 20 | 5 | 18 | 0 | 18 | 0 |
| 1907 | ... | $\ldots$ | 18 | 6 | 17 | 6 | 15 | 11 | 17 | 11 | 19 | 9 | 17 | 9 | 17 | 11 |
| 1908 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 19 | 9 | 18 | 6 | 17 | 1 | 19 | 1 | 20 | 0 | 18 | 5 | 19 | 0 |
| 1909 | ... | $\ldots$ | 19 | 9 | 18 | 1 | 17 | 0 | 19 | 10 | 19 | 9 | 19 | 0 | 19 | 0 |
| 1910 |  |  | 19 | 11 | 18 | 10 | 17 | 6 | 20 | 2 | 20 | 6 | 19 | 0 | 19 | 5 |
| 1911 | $\ldots$ | $\ldots$ | 20 | 7 | 19 | 0 | 18 | 4 | 21 | 2 | 22 | 6 | 19 | 1 | 20 | 0* |
| 1912 |  | $\ldots$ | 22 | 11 | 21 | 1 | 19 | 7 | 23 | 2 | 23 | 1 | 20 | 10 | 22 | 0 |
| 1913 | $\cdots$ | $\cdots$ | 23 | 7 | 21 | 0 | 19 | 5 | 22 | 5 | 22 | 6 | 21 | 1 | 22 | 1 |
| 1914 |  |  | 24 | 1 | 22 | 1 | 18 | 11 | 22 | 10 | 22 | 10 | 21 | 10 | 22 | 10 |
|  | (1st Q | uarter | 24 | 0 | 21 | 4 | 19 | 7 | 22 | 4 | 22 | 3 | 21 | 1 | 22 | 4 |
|  | 2nd | " | 24 | 3 | 22 | 7 | 19 | 9 | 23 | 6 | 22 | 10 | 22 | 0 | 23 | 1 |
|  | 3rd | , | 24 | 2 | 22 | 5 | 20 | 1 | 23 | 2 | 23 | 3 |  | 10 | 23 | 0 |
|  | (4th | ,' | 24 | 1 | 22 | 1 | 20 | 4 | 22 | 5 | 23 | 0 | 22 | 3 | 22 | 10 |

- Basis of Table.
(i.) Groceries and Food only. The following table has been computed in the same manner as that indicated above, but relates to groceries and food ( 46 items) only. The average expenditure for the six capital towns in 1911 has again been taken as the basis of the table ( $=20$ shillings) and the figures are, of course, comparable throughout.

PURCHASING POWER OF MONEY.-GROCERIES AND FOOD ONLY.-AMOUNT NECESSARY ON THE AVERAGE in EACH YEAR FROM 1901 to 1914 TO PURchase in each capital town what would have cost on the average fi in 1911 in The australian capitals Regarded as a whole.

|  | Year. | Sydney. | Melb'ne. | Brisbane. | Adelaide. | Perth. | Hobart. | Weighted Average of 6 Capital Towns. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. |
| 1901 | $\ldots$ | 18 4 | 194 | 194 | 207 | 238 | $20 \quad 3$ | 194 |
| 1902 | $\ldots$ | 214 | 204 | 204 | 206 | 256 | 210 | 211 |
| 1903 | $\cdots$ | 207 | 196 | 199 | 198 | 258 | 21.1 | $20 \quad 4$ |
| 1904 | $\cdots$ | 176 | 184 | 1710 | 1810 | 243 | 198 | 185 |
| 1905 | $\cdots$ | 195 | 191 | 1811 | 1910 | $25 \quad 2$ | 207 | 198 |
| 1906 | $\ldots$ | 193 | 1811 | $19 \quad 2$ | 198 | 249 | 2011 | 197 |
| 1907 | $\ldots$ | 189 | 186 | 1811 | 190 | 2311 | $20 \quad 2$ | 191 |
| 1908 |  | 207 | 1911 | 206 | $20 \quad 2$ | 246 | 211 | 207 |
| 1909 | $\cdots$ | 203 | 190 | 198 | 206 | 243 | 2110 | 201 |
| 1910 | ... ... | $20 \quad 0$ | 192 | 20 0 | 20 0 | 250 | 216 | 201 |
| 1911 | $\cdots$ | 199 | 188 | $20 \quad 4$ | 205 | 2611 | 212 | 20 0* |
| 1912 | $\ldots$ | 226 | 218 | $22 \quad 0$ | 231 | 2611 | 2310 | 226 |
| 1913 | $\cdots$ | 228 | 206 | 2010 | 225 | $25 \quad 4$ | 23 3 | 2111 |
| 1914 | $\ldots$ | 231 | 2110 | 217 | 244 | 260 | 243 | 2211 |
|  | 1st Quarter | 230 | 207 | 2011 | 2211 | 2411 | 23 | $22 \quad 1$ |
|  | 2nd " | 23 | $22 \quad 4$ | $21 \quad 2$ | 250 | 2511 | $24 \quad 7$ | $23 \quad 2$ |
| 1914 | 3rd ", | 231 | 220 | 218 | 247 | $26 \quad 9$ | 243 | 23 0 |
|  | 4th ", | 231 | 224 | 226 | 248 | 267 | 2410 | 233 |

* Basis of Table.
(ii.) House Rent only. The following table gives similar particulars for house rent mly, the average for the six towns in 1911 being again taken as the basis of the table ( $=20$ shillings).


## PURCHASING-POWER OF MONEY--HOUSE RENT.-AMOUNT PAYABLE ON THE average in each year from 1901 to 1914 for house rent in each capital town, compared with a rent of fi in 1911 in the australian Capitals regarded as a whole.

|  | Year. | Sydney. | Melb'ne. | Brisbane. | Adelaide. | Perth. | Hobart. | Weighted Average of 6 Capital Towns. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. | s. d. |
| 1901 | ... ... | 17 3 | 148 | 99 | 127 | 160 | 134 | 151 |
| 1902 | ... ... | 17 3 | 1411 | 910 | 127 | 1511 | 135 | 152 |
| 1903 | ... ... | $17 \quad 4$ | 1411 | '10 1 | 127 | 160 | 136 | 153 |
| 1904 | ... ... | $17 \quad 5$ | $15 \quad 3$ | $10 \quad 2$ | 127 | 160 | 136 | 154 |
| 1905 |  | 1710 | $15 \quad 5$ | 105 | 140 | $14 \quad 9$ | 137 | 158 |
| 1906 | ... ... | 1711 | 158 | 106 | $15 \quad 3$ | 144 | 139 | 1511 |
| 1907 | ... ... | $18 \quad 4$ | 161 | 116 | 16 | 138 | $14 \quad 2$ | 164 |
| 1908 | ... ... | 187 | 167 | 124 | $17 \quad 5$ | 137 | 147 | 1610 |
| 1909 | ... ... | $19 \quad 2$ | 1610 | $13 \quad 3$ | 1810 | 134 | 150 | 175 |
| 1910 | ... ... | 1910 | 18 4 | 140 | 204 | 1311 | 156 | 185 |
| 1911 | ... ... | 2110 | $19 \quad 5$ | 15 4 | 223 | 163 | 161 | 20 0* |
| 1912 | ... ... | 238 | 204 | 161 | 232 | $17 \quad 7$ | 16 | 213 |
| 1913 | ... ... | 2411 | 2110 | $17 \quad 3$ | 226 | 187 | 1710 | 224 |
| 1914 |  | 257 | 226 | 178 | 2010 | 183 | 18 3 | 228 |
|  | (1st Quarter | 256 | 225 | 178 |  | 185 | 18 1 | 228 |
| 1914 | 2nd " | 259 | 2210 | 1710 | 215 | 185 | 18 3 | 230 |
|  | 3rd | 258 | 2211 | 1710 | 21 | 184 | 185 | 2211 |
|  | 4th " | 255 | 2110 | 174 | 193 | 1711 | 186 | 222 |

7. Monthly Fluctuations in Retail Prices of Food and Grocerles, July, 1914, to February, 1915.-The following table has been prepared in order to shew the variations in retail prices of food and groceries since July, 1914, the last month prior to the outbreak of war. Particulars for each town are given in the form of index-numbers for food and groceries in each of the months specified. In addition, the index-numbers for the whole of the year 1912 are given in the first column, and in the last column the percentage increase or decrease is shewn for each town in February, 1915, compared with July, 1914.

The aggregate result for the thirty towns covered by the investigations shews that prices were 6.2 per cent. higher in February, 1915, than in July, 1914. This result does not, however, shew the full import of the rise in prices, since these months, July to February, practically cover the period of change from winter to summer, a period during which prices may ordinarily be expeoted to fall. Thus from July, 1912, to February, 1913, prices of food and groceries decreased 5.3 per cent., and from July, 1913, to February, 1914, they fell 0.2 per cent. Prices of the 46 commodities included were 15.6 per cent. higher in February last than in February, 1912, 11.3 per cent. higher than in February, 1913, and 11.8 per cent. higher than in February, 1914.

## RETAIL PRICES INDEX-NUMBERS (FOOD AND GROCERIES), FOR EACH OF THIRTY

 towns, for the months specified, with weighted average for all. TOWNS IN 1912 AS BASE $(=1000)$.| Particulars. | 1912. | 1914. |  |  |  |  |  | 1915. |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Base } \\ \text { for } \\ \text { Whole } \\ \text { Year. } \\ (=1000) \end{gathered}$ | July. | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. |  |
| NEW SoUth Wales- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sydney | 986 | 1,011 | 1,020 | 1,007 | 999 | 1,000 | 1,041 | 1,098 | 1,060 | 4.8 |
| Newcastle | 994 | 1.006 | 1,013 | 1,002 | 1,000 | 996 | 1,041 | 1,081 | 1,071 | 6.5 |
| Broken Hill | 1,186 | 1,287 | 1,215 | 1,164 | 1,170 | 1,187 | 1.260 | 1,283 | 1,313 | 2.0 |
| Goulburn ... | 990 | 1,037 | 1,036 | 1,024 | 1,021 | 1,025 | 1,068 | 1,080 | 1,060 | 2.2 |
| Bathurst ... | 950 | 962 | 974 | 946 | 933 | 934 | 1,007 | 1,026 | 1,038 | 7.9 |
| * Weighted Average | 995 | 1,022 | 1,027 | 1,012 | 1.006 | 1,007 | 1,050 | 1,103 | 1,071 | 4.8 |
| Victoria - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Melbourne | 949 | 970 | 974 | 954 | 958 | 965 | 1,010 | 1,019 | 1,034 | 6.6 |
| Ballarat ... ... | 973 | 967 | 974 | 986 | 966 | 976 | 986 | 1,029 | 1,049 | 8.5 |
| Bendigo ... ... | 976 | 971 | 976 | 971 | 965 | 984 | 1,013 | 1,019 | 1,049 | 8.0 |
| Geelong ... ... | 952 | 955 | 958 | 977 | 965 | 981 | 1,015 | 1,003 | 1,038 | 8.7 |
| Warrnambool | 927 | 953 | 955 | 957 | 963 | 953 | 979 | 977 | 1,007 | 5.7 |
| *Weighted Average | 952 | 969 | 973 | 958 | 960 | 968 | 1,009 | 1,019 | 1,036 | 6.9 |
| QUEENSLAND- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Brisbane ... | \$66 | 926 | 953 | 976 | 977 | 962 | 1,019 | 1,057 | 1.035 | 11.8 |
| Toowoomba | 964 | 912 | 916 | 984 | 985 | 993 | 1,050 | 1,071 | 1,074 | 17.8 |
| Rockhampton .. | 1,002 | 1,013 | 1,030 | 1,011 | 1,022 | 1,026 | 1,071 | 1.111 | 1,095 | 8.1 |
| Charters Towers .. | 1,134 | 1,092 | 1,102 | 1,101 | 1,141 | 1,155 | 1,225 | 1,250 | 1,206 | 10.4 |
| Warwick ... | 1,004 | 949 | 942 | 941 | 947 | 975 | 1,009 | 1,053 | 1,076 | 18.4 |
| *Weighted Average | 985 | 948 | 970 | 990 | 995 | 988 | 1,044 | 1,080 | 1,061 | 11.8 |
| South Australia - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Adelaide | 1,012 | 1,097 | 1,069 | 1,068 | 1,076 | 1,072 | 1,098 | 1,134 | 1,138 | 3.7 |
| Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo | 1,012 | 1,079 | 1,089 | 1,070 | 1,027 | 1,060 | 1,095 | 1,138 | 1,155 | 7.0 |
| Port Pirie | 1.048 | 1,132 | 1,138 | 1.113 | 1,103 | 1,120 | 1.168 | 1,200 | 1,219 | 7.7 |
| Mt. Gambier | 904 | 933 | 947 | 928 | 928 | 943 | 981 | 1,001 | 1,030 | 10.4 |
| Petersburg ... | 1.018 | 1,175 | 1,160 | 1,135 | 1,119 | 1,140 | 1.148 | 1,165 | 1,169 | 0.58 |
| * Weighted Average | 1,011 | 1,093 | 1,070 | 1,067 | 1,071 | 1,070 | 1,098 | 1,134 | 1,140 | 4.3 |
| Western Australta- |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Perth ${ }^{\text {Pen }}$. ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 1,179 | 1,175 | 1,183 | 1.158 | 1,150 | 1,170 | 1.179 | 1,206 | 1,239 | 5.4 4.9 |
| Kalgoorlie and Boulder ${ }^{\text {Mid. }}$. | 1.471 1.209 | 1,460 | 1,493 | 1,502 | 1,500 | 1,518 | 1,526 | 1,517 | 1,532 1,306 1 | 4.9 8.9 |
| Mid, Junction \& Guildford | 1,209 | 1,188 | 1,197 1,266 | 1,182 | 1,174 1,265 | 1,194 | 1,217 1,265 | 1,251 1,260 | 1,306 1,307 | 8.9 5.1 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { Bunbury } . . . \\ & \text { Geraldton } \end{aligned}$ | 1,231 | 1,244 | 1,266 | 1,255 | 1,265 1,318 | 1,358 | 1,265 1,323 | 1,274 | 1,385 | 5.1 9.2 |
| - Weighted A verage | 1,243 | 1,238 | 1,253 | 1.237 | 1,231 | 1,249 | 1,258 | 1,278 | 1,308 | 5.7 |
| Tasmanla - |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hobart ... | 1,044 | 1,063 | 1,065 | 1,060 | 1,071 | 1,078 | 1,122 | 1,114 | 1,136 | 6.9 |
| Launceston | 986 | 1,003 | 1,000 | 1,004 | 1,001 | 1,026 | 1,053 | 1,045 | 1,086 | 8.3 |
| Zeehan | 1,142 | 1,133 | 1,140 | 1,132 | 1,137 | 1,165 | 1,228 | 1,205 | 1,197 | 5.6 |
| Beaconsfield | 1,053 | 1,079 | 1,091 | 1,073 | 1,062 | 1,0:30 | 1.124 | 1,132 | 1,136 | 5.3 |
| Queenstown | 1,130 | 1,153 | 1,154 | 1,142 | 1,140 | 1,145 | 1,165 | 1,202 | 1,217 | 5.6 |
| *Weighted Average | 1,036 | 1,054 | 1,055 | 1,051 | 1,056 | 1,071 | 1,108 | 1,103 | 1,128 | 7.0 |
| +Weighted Aver. for C'wealth | $\ddagger 1,000$ | 1,021 | 1,025 | 1,015 | 1,014 | 1,018 | 1,057 | 1,088 | 1,084 | 62 |

[^12]
## § 8. Investigation into Cost of Living in 100 Towns in Commonwealth.

1. Introduction.-In order to supplement the information as to cost of living, which is collected each month for the thirty towns specified in the preceding section, a special investigation was initiated in November, 1913, as to cost of living in seventy additional towns in the Commonwealth. This investigation was repeated in November, 1914, and it is intended to carry it out in that month each year, thus making information available annually in all for 100 towns.
2. Map shewing relative Cost of Living.-On the map on page 1043 each town is shewn by means of a number, the reference list at the side of the map indicating the town corresponding to each number and its relative cost-of-living index-numbers for the years 1913 and 1914. The figures in black type relate to the cost of food, groceries and rent of 5 -roomed houses, while those in light type refer to food and groceries only. A glance at the map shews that the distribution of the 100 . towns selected is in close approximation to the density of population (indicated by hatching). The weighted average cost for all the 100 towns is taken as the base.

## § 9. Wholesale Prices.

1. General.-The results of an investigation into wholesale prices in Melbourne were given in some detail in Report No. 1, from 1871 to the end of September, 1912. In Report No. 2 summarised results were included for the whole of the latter year, and in Report No. 5 those for the year 1913.

The index-numbers up to the year 1911 are based on the prices of eighty commodities, but since that year the number has been increased to ninety-two.* The methods followed for the computation of the wholesale price index-numbers are the same as those adopted in regard to retail prices. The commodities included, the units of measurement for which the prices are taken, and the mass-units, indicating the relative extent to which each commodity, in the units of measurement specified, is used or consumed, are shewn in a tabular statement in Report No. 2 (page 61).
2. Index-Numbers and Graphs.- Index-numbers have been computed for each group of commodities, as well as for all groups together. The index-numbers for the several groups, and for all groups together, are shewn in the following table.
(i.) Table of Index-numbers.-The index-numbers have in each case been computed with the prices in the year 1911 as base; that is to say, they shew the amount which would have had to be expended in each of the years specified in order to parchase what would have cost $£ 1000$ in 1911, distributed in purchasing the relative quantities (indicated by the mass-units), of the several commodities included in each group, and in all groups respectively. Thus, in the last column it may be seen that the cost of the relative quantities of the various commodities was 1229 in 1871 , and 974 in 1901, as compared with 1000 in 1911, 1170 in 1912, 1088 in 1913, and 1149 in 1914. In other words, prices were lower in 1911 than in either 1871 or 1914, and the purchasing power of money in 1911 was, accordingly, greater. Again, prices were lower in 1901 than in 1911, and the purchasing power of money in the former year was therefore greater.

[^13]melbourne wholesale prices index-numbers, 1861 to 1914, COMPUTED to year i91I as base.

| Year. |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { II. } \\ \text { Jute, } \\ \text { Leather, } \\ \text { \&c. } \end{gathered}$ | III. Agri- cultural Produce, \&c. | IV. <br> Dairy Produce. | V. Groceries. | VI. <br> Meat. |  | VIII. Chemicals. | All <br> commodities together. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1861 | 1,439 | 1,381 | 1,583 | 1,008 | 1,963 | $\cdots$ | 1.070 | 2,030 | 1,538 |
| 1871 | 1,096 | 1,257 | 1,236 | 864 | 1,586 | ... | 1,044 | 1,409 | 1,229 |
| 1881 | 1,178 | 1,115 | 1,012 | 935 | 1,421 | $\ldots$ | 1,091 | 1,587 | 1,121 |
| 1891 | 895 | 847 | 1,024 | 995 | 1,032 | 888 | 780 | 1,194 | 45 |
| 1901 | 1,061 | 774 | 928 | 1.029 | 1,048 | 1,345 | 841 | 917 | 974 |
| 1902 | 1,007 | 756 | 1,193 | 1,215 | 945 | 1,447 | 837 | 881 | 1,051 |
| 1903 | 923 | 834 | 1,209 | 1,059 | 936 | 1,443 | 875 | 921 | 1,049 |
| 1904 | 821 | 885 | -754 | 876 | 916 | 1,427 | 845 | 875 | 890 |
| 1905 | 772 | 850 | 894 | 980 | 942 | 1,209 | 801 | 859 | 910 |
| 1906 | 882 | 978 | 916 | 972 | 923 | 1,110 | 896 | 864 | 948 |
| 1907 | 1,037 | 1,017 | 973 | 1,020 | 948 | 1,294 | 968 | 961 | 1,021 |
| 1908 | 1,033 | 1,901 | 1,312 | 1,198 | 968 | 1,335 | 935 | 891 | 1,115 |
| 1909 | 1,014 | 907 | 1,000 | 1,119 | 978 | 1,088 | 911 | 815 | 998 |
| 1910 | 1,004 | 1,052 | 969 | 1,100 | 999 | 1,008 | 996 | 898 | 1,008 |
| 1811 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| 1912 | 1.021 | , 991 | 1,370 | 1,206 | 1,052 | 1,357 | 1.057 | 978 | 1,170 |
| 1913 | 1,046 | 1,070 | 1,097 | 1,054 | 1,024 | 1,252 | 1,128 | 995 | 1,088 |
| 1914 | 1,099 | 1,032 | 1,207 | 1,137 | 1,021 | 1,507 | 1,081 | ,253 | 1,149 |

Note.-The figures given in this table are comparable in the vertical columns, but are not directly comparable horizontally. The index-numbers are reversible.
(ii.) Graphs.-The index-numbers are shewn for each group and for all groups combined in the graphs on page 1044. The heavy line, repeated on each graph, represents the index-numbers for the weighted average for all groups, and is shewn so that comparison may be made between the price levels for all commodities and those for the commodities comprised in each group separately. The index-numbers for the individual groups are represented by the light lines. The broken lines at the commencement of each graph shew the index-numbers for the separate years 1861 and 1866, the continuous records commencing with the year 1871. The actual index-numbers for the whole period were given in Report No. 1.
3. Seasonal Fluctuations and Tables of Prices.-Information as to seasonal fluctuations in wholesale prices was given in Report No. 2 (page 64) and tables of prices of each commodity were given in Appendixes to Reports Nos. 1, 2 and 5.
4. Fluctuations in Wholesale Prices, July 1914 to March 1915.-Since the outbreak of war, prices of many commodities have increased considerably. This is shewn in the following table in which the index-numbers are given for each group for the month of March, 1915, taking July, 1914, the last month before the outbreak of war, as base ( $=1000$ ) for each group :-
melbourne wholesale prices.-Variations between duly 1914, and MARCH, 1915.

| Particulars. | Metals and Ccal. | II. Jute, Leather, etc. | $\begin{gathered} \text { III. } \\ \text { Agri- } \\ \text { Pultural } \\ \text { Produce, } \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { IV. } \\ \text { Dairy } \\ \text { Produce. } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { V. } \\ \text { Groceries } \end{gathered}$ |  | VII. Building Materials. | VIII. <br> Chemicals. | All <br> Groups. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| July, 1914 _. | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| January, 1915 | 1,101 | 855 | 1,982 | 1,039 | 1,052 | 1,052 | 1.051 | 1,489 | 1,280 |

In Group II., although nearly all the commodities fell slightly in price between July, 1914, and March, 1915, the decline in the index-number was due mainly to the fall in price of cotton from $7 \frac{1}{8} \mathrm{~d}$. per lb. in July, 1914, to $5 \frac{1}{16} \mathrm{~d}$. in March, 1915 . If this commodity had been omitted the index-number for Group II. for March, 1915, would have been 947. All the other groups shew increases, ranging from 4 per cent. in Group IV. (Dairy Produce) to nearly 100 per cent. in Group III. (Agricultural Produce, etc.).


[^0]:    * Some description of the various methods of testing the state of the labour market may be found in the Board of Trade Memorandum on Industrial Conditions (Second Series). Cd. 2337. 1904, pp. 79 to 125.

    See also "Rapport Préliminaire sur la Statistique Internationale du Chômage," M. LouisVarlez, Gand, 1912.

[^1]:    Note.-The figures in the above table are comparable both horizontally and vertically. * Weighted average: see graph on page 1009 hereof. $\dagger$ The decrease in this group is due to a reduction in the award rates in the Furniture trade resulting from an appeal made by employers.

[^2]:    *This expression must not be confused with "standard of living." A change in the standard of living necessarily involves a change in regimen (see Labour Report No 1), that is, a change in the nature or in the relative quantity of commodities purchased, or both. A change in the "Etandard of comfort" merely implies a variation in effiective wages, which variation mas, or may not, result in, or be accompanied by, a change in the "standard of living."

[^3]:    * Since these forms are issued under the authority of the Census and Statistics Act 1905, it is compulsory upon prescribed persons to furnish the information required.

[^4]:    * In this table an Award or Industrial Agreement under the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act has been counted as one change only, although such Award or Agreement may be operative in more than one State.

[^5]:    * The value of Board and Lodging (estimated at 15s. per week) is included, where supplied in order that the results may be comparable with the rates paid in other industries. + Weighted average.

[^6]:    - The value of Board and Lodging (estimated at 15s. per week) is included, where supplied in order that the results may be comparable with the rates paid in other industries. $\dagger$ Weighted average.

    6. Rates of Wages of Adult Males and Females.-In the tabular statement on pages 1013 to 1037 particulars are shewn for adult males and females separately of the minimum rates of wages fixed by awards, determinations, or agreements, at 31st December, 1914. (See paragraph 1 of this section.)
[^7]:    $\dagger$ Computed on the hourly rate of 1s. $6 d$..for 48 hours.

[^8]:    $\dagger$ For footnotes see page 1013. The rates of wages quoted for Builders' Labourers for Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, and Adelaide are those payable under State Determinations or Awards. The rates quoted for Perth are the ruling Union or predominant rates, while those for Hobart are the rates fixed by the award of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court, which also awarded the following:-Sydney and Adelaide 60s. 6d., Melbourne 56s. 10d., and Brisbane 55s. per week of 44 hours. The validity of parts of this award has not yet been decided.

[^9]:    $\dagger$ Rates quoted are exclusive of value of victualling and accommodation.

[^10]:    * As these forms have been prescribed under the Census and Statistics Act 1905, it is compulsory upon prescribed persons to furnish the information required.

[^11]:    * The same persons may, of course, be involved in two or more disputes in a single year, in which case they would be duplicated in the statistics of the number of workpeople involved in disputes. This remark also applies to those workpeople involuntarily thrown out of work.

[^12]:    * Average for the five towns. + Average for thirty towns. $\ddagger$ Basis of Table. § Decrease.

[^13]:    * In the computation of the index-numbers for years prior to 1911, the aggregate expenditure on 80 commodities in 1911 is taken as base ( $=1000$ ), while for later years the aggregate expenditure on 92 commodities is taken.

