

68. It is estimated that the production of garments in 1946 exceeded 11,000,000, made up as follows :—

Clothing for Wear by—					Number of Garments.
Infants	..	..	..	..	712,000
Boys	..	..	..	..	1,178,000
Men	..	..	..	..	3,427,000
Girls	..	..	..	..	989,000
Women	..	..	..	..	4,970,000
Total garments of all kinds					11,266,000

The value of this production is estimated to be in the vicinity of £8,000,000.

SECTION 6.—BUREAU OF INDUSTRY

69. The following passages have been selected as the main features of a report for the year ended 31st March, 1947, which has been circulated to members of the Bureau :—

(a) GENERAL REVIEW

70. The Bureau of Industry, which was established under the Industrial Efficiency Act, 1936, has continued to deal with those industries brought within the licensing provisions of the Act. The post-war expansion which was noted in last year's report has continued, and the Bureau has had many applications for permission to extend premises and install additional plant and machinery. A new feature which has been brought about by the shortage of man-power and housing in the cities has been the opening of branch factories in the smaller towns, and the Bureau has given its approval to this where the circumstances have warranted this course.

71. A large number of applications have been received from discharged service personnel for new licences and for the transfer of existing licences, and these have all received the sympathetic consideration of the Bureau. In collaboration with the Rehabilitation Department, the Bureau has been instrumental in securing the transfer of existing licences to ex-servicemen where the licensees have been desirous of giving up their businesses.

72. The paua-shell industry, which was licensed towards the end of 1946, lends itself admirably as a means of rehabilitating disabled servicemen. The Disabled Servicemen's Re-establishment League is training disabled servicemen in this work and setting some of them up in business on their own, and licences have been granted to the trainees. In addition, licences are being granted to applicants who were engaged in the industry prior to licensing.

(b) PERSONNEL

73. Mr. G. W. Clinkard, Secretary of the Department, has been appointed a member of the Bureau, and Mr. A. Linton was appointed as one of the members to represent agricultural and pastoral industries in place of Mr. H. Morrison, who had resigned.

(c) LICENSING

74. There were 31 industries licensed as at 31st March, 1947. During the year it was decided that the time was opportune to delicense two industries—viz., manufacture of cement, and manufacture of gut. The Hon. the Minister delicensed the manufacture of cement by a notice gazetted on 11th April, 1946, and the manufacture of gut by a notice gazetted on 25th July, 1947. The paua-shell industry was declared a licensed industry by a notice under section 14 of the Act, gazetted on 14th November, 1946. Applications from three industries embracing the manufacture of non-ferrous products, televisions, and algin were declined.