

SECTION 3.—INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

(a) The Court of Arbitration

The work of the Court in making awards and in approving (for economic stabilization purposes) of industrial agreements may be summarized as follows :—

	Year ended 31st March,	
	1947.	1948.
Awards made	155	163
Industrial agreements approved	47	70
Amendments to existing awards or industrial agreements	30	472
Apprenticeship orders made	11	..
Amendments to existing apprenticeship orders	27	4
Miscellaneous (interpretations, enforcements, &c.) ..	54	52

There were in force on 31st March, 1948, 575 awards and industrial agreements. This figure shows a decrease of 8 on the total of 583 at 31st March, 1947.

(b) Conciliation Commissioners

The work performed by the three Conciliation Commissioners may be summarized as follows :—

Disputes where complete agreement reached	89
Disputes where substantial agreement reached	4
Disputes where partial agreement reached	36
Disputes where no agreement reached	1
Disputes where sittings were not complete or had been adjourned ..	12
Disputes where claims were withdrawn	3
Meetings of disputes committees set up under provisions of awards	45
Other conferences, &c.	16

(c) Registration of Industrial Associations and Unions

In previous years, reports (H.—11) of the Department of Labour have included as an Appendix a return showing the number of affiliated unions in each industrial association and the number of members in each industrial union. This return for the year ended 31st December, 1947, has been separately printed and copies are available from the Department or from the Government Printer. The following figures summarize this return :—

	31st December, 1946.		31st December, 1947.	
	Number.	Membership.	Number.	Membership.
Employers' associations	23	150	21	148
Employers' unions	275	16,033	278	16,922
Workers' associations	35	181	35	185
Workers' unions	377	247,498	373	260,379

The increase in membership in workers' unions has occurred mainly in engineering (3,200), railways (1,004), clerical workers (966 in Wellington and 544 in Auckland), freezing works (880 in Wellington and 459 in Auckland), tailoresses (717 in Auckland), and shop-assistants (440 in Wellington and 401 in Auckland).