15 H.—35.

as the Unemployment Board, to do more than lay down broad conditions and to leave it to local officials, honorary or otherwise, to see that the spirit of such conditions are observed to the best

advantage of the unemployed and the relief funds.

From 1st June, 1931, the subsidy payable in respect of all new contracts or extensions of existing contracts under Scheme No. 4A was reduced to 5s. per week for youths aged eighteen or nineteen years, and to 10s. per week for other single men, and £1 per week for married men. In May, 1932, variations of the rates of subsidy were introduced, providing for weekly subsidies up to 10s. to single men and up to £1 5s. to married men according to individual responsibilities, and taking into consideration the additional wage (if any) paid by the farmer over and above the free board and accommodation supplied by the latter. Information extracted from the records show that the average weekly wage paid by the farmer over and above the Board's subsidy is 5s. 7d. for single men and 12s. 5d. for married men.

On 1st August, 1932, the basis of subsidy payable from the Unemployment Fund to married men engaged under Scheme No. 4A was altered to 15s., with the addition of 2s. 6d. for each child under the age of 16 years, but not exceeding a maximum weekly subsidy of £1 5s.

Expenditure by the Board on this scheme for the financial year ended 31st March, 1932, totalled £115,165. From the inception of the scheme in February, 1931, to the end of September, 1932, the expenditure totals £268,200, representing the cost of subsidies paid in respect of 33,231 individual engagements.

The number of men actually working on a subsidized basis through Scheme 4A at the end of each month from April, 1931, to September, 1932, inclusive, is quoted hereunder:—

			_			Number of Men.				
		End of M	onth.		Single.	Married.	Totai.			
_		1931								
April						1,887	635	2,522		
May	• •	• •				3,257	933	4,190		
June	• • •		, .	• •		3,768	970	4,738		
July	• • •	• • •	• •			4,466	1,125	5,591		
August						4,049	899	4,948		
September	• •					900	293	1,193		
October	• •					2,708	810	3,518		
November						3,456	958	4,414		
December		••				3,666	964	4,630		
		1932	-				:			
January						3,911	1,067	4,978		
February						4,272	1,176	5,448		
March	• •					5,082	1,409	6,491		
April						5,658	1,568	7,226		
May						6,303	1,896	8,199		
June						7,843	2,361	10,204		
July						8,875	2,693	11,568		
August						8,617	2,645	11,262		
September						7,472	2,307	9,779		

The average number of men engaged throughout the twelve months ended 30th September, 1932, was 7,310.

The distribution of the 9,779 men working at the end of September, 1932, according to amount of subsidy being paid, was as follows:—

Single me	n						
5s. or less				 	 		860
Over	5s. and und	er 10s.		 • •	 	• •	15
10s.	• •	• •	• •	 • •	 • •	• •	6,597
	Total	• •		 • •	 • •	•	7,472
Married m	nen—						
	or less			 	 		185
Over	15s. and un	der £1		 	 		196
£1				 	 		1,729
£1 2s	. 6d			 	 		76
£1 5s.		• •		 	 		121
	Total			 	 		${2,307}$
	Grand total			 	 		9,779