

Flax-milling.

Official statistics, year ended 31st March—	1931.	1932.	1933.
Establishments (number)	22	17	20
Employees (number)	177	135	213
Wages paid	£26,223	£13,198	£27,349
Value of output	£47,722	£33,878	£54,658
Value added by manufacture ..	£39,417	£24,399	£38,591

Rope and Twine Making.

Official statistics, year ended 31st March—	1931.	1932.	1933.
Establishments (number)	6	6	5
Employees (number)	225	205	214
Wages paid	£38,296	£35,304	£34,684
Value of output	£160,401	£121,732	£144,502
Value added by manufacture ..	£75,841	£64,831	£72,654

Substantial improvement is shown by the above statistics for the flaxmilling industry when compared with the two previous years. Exports also show an increase of 552 tons, secured, however, at lower prices, the total amount received being approximately the same as last year with a lower tonnage.

Export statistics—

Year.	Tons.	£
1927	19,600	535,526
1928	15,683	394,450
1929	14,720	379,942
1930	9,493	221,923
1931	2,398	38,407
1932	3,850	47,312
1933	4,402	47,632

Rope and twine making statistics show an improvement, and indications point to an increased turnover for the ensuing year.

Clothing.

Official statistics, year ended 31st March—	1931.	1932.	1933.
Establishments (number)	244	244	254
Employees (number)	7,690	7,155	7,616
Wages paid	£916,045	£784,668	£807,206
Value of output	£2,597,928	£2,153,467	£2,400,599
Value added by manufacture ..	£1,278,801	£1,109,276	£1,188,153

Imports, calendar years—

Apparel and ready-made clothing (including fur clothing)	£1,161,962	£846,030	£763,757
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A distinct improvement in number of employees, amount of wages paid, and value of output is a pleasing feature of the statistics for the 1932-33 period. A number of factories report improving conditions during the past year, with an increase in number of employees.

Agricultural and Dairy Machinery and Implement Making.

Official statistics, year ended 31st March—	1931.	1932.	1933.
Establishments (number)	32	32	37
Employees (number)	850	505	542
Wages paid	£179,137	£97,761	£97,094
Value of output	£574,721	£280,751	£329,476
Value added by manufacture ..	£301,722	£147,967	£171,475

A decided improvement in this industry is shown by the 1933 figures when compared with the previous years. Manufacturers report an increased demand for agricultural implements following increase in price of wool. The trade in spare parts has been a feature of trading conditions, farmers retaining old machines instead of purchasing new ones, which are urgently required in many cases.

Woollen-manufacturing.

Official statistics, year ended 31st March—	1931.	1932.	1933.
Establishments (number)	10	10	10
Employees (number)	2,237	2,216	2,349
Wages paid	£328,826	£300,399	£316,352
Value of output	£896,677	£802,105	£888,546
Value added by manufacture ..	£571,926	£541,044	£564,936

The figures for 1932-33 show an all-round increase. The number of employees increased by 133, wages paid by £15,953, and value of output by £86,441. As the period under review was one of low-priced wool and woollen products, the quantity of woollen goods produced was substantially in excess of the quantity produced in 1931-32 to provide the increase in total value.