

Census of Production 1926

Preliminary Report No. 24

Laundry, Dyeing & Cleaning Trades

S A O R S T Á T É I R E A N N.

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE.

CENSUS OF PRODUCTION 1926.

PRELIMINARY REPORT NO. 24.

LAUNDRY, DYEING and CLEANING TRADES.

Under the Statistics (Census of Production) Orders (Statutory Rules and Orders No. 46, 1926 and No. 63, 1927) made under the Statistics Act 1926, Returns were received from 80 Establishments engaged in the Laundry, Dyeing and Cleaning Trades in the Saorstát in 1926. The Returns from 37 of these Establishments referred to Institutions (Convents, Penitentiaries, Female Industrial Schools, etc.). It was decided

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Establishments engaged in the Laundry, Dyeing and Cleaning Trades in the Saorstát in 1926. The Returns from 37 of these Establishments referred to Institutions (Convents, Penitentiaries, Female Industrial Schools, etc.). It was decided to exclude from the following tables the figures given on the Returns relating to this type of establishment. The amounts charged to customers in 1926 for laundry work done by such Institutions amounted to £97,325.

Private laundries attached to Hospitals, Asylums, Hotels, Boarding Schools, etc., and not working for the general public were not required to furnish Returns. The value of work done at Army Laundries is not included in the following tables but will be included in a later Report which will deal with the Industrial Output of Government Departments.

According to the Census of Population (1926) Returns 4,025 persons described themselves as following the occupation of "Laundry Worker". The total number of persons, including those on the 37 Institution Returns referred to above, who were stated

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According to the Census of Population (1926) Returns 4,325 persons described themselves as following the occupation of "Laundry Worker". The total number of persons, including those on the 37 Institution Returns referred to above, who were stated

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on the 80 Returns received in connection with the Census of Production, to be "Industrial Workers at the Laundry, Dyeworks, etc." or "Storekeepers, Packers, Porters, Carters, etc." as distinct from the Clerical and Managerial Staff was 3,500. Making an allowance for those who were described as "Laundry Workers" but who were employed as such in Hospitals, Hotels, Boarding Schools, etc., it would appear that the Returns received covered practically the whole of the Laundry, Dyeing and Cleaning Establishments in the Saorstát. While the returns included all the Steam Power Laundries, etc., there was undoubtedly a small amount of hand laundry work done in respect of which figures are not available, as it was not possible to include, in the list of persons to whom Schedules were sent, those working on their own account or with one or two helpers.

GROSS OUTPUT:

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The following table shows the value of work done in the 43 Establishments whose Output is included in this Report. The value of work done represents the actual amounts charged to Customers for work done in the year 1926. The cost of delivery, however, was not included unless the goods were delivered by employees (vanmen, etc.) of the firm itself.

(1)

Kind of Work Done	Value of Work Done in 1926.
	£
Laundry Work:-	
(a) Fully finished	342,593
(b) Semi-finished	14,768
(c) Wet Wash	13,322
Dry Cleaning or Dyeing	99,793
Total Value of Work Done in 1926	£470,476

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MATERIALS etc., USED IN 1926:

In order to ascertain "Net Output" (i.e., the value of the industrial process) the following four sets of Costs (A), (B), (C) and (D) must be subtracted from the value of the "Gross Output" or value of work done as measured by the charges made to Customers.

(2)

(A) Materials used	Quantity	Cost
		£
Water, if purchased	(cost)	4,672
Dyes	23 tons	6,981
Benzine	-	2,672
Soap	243 tons	8,992
Starch and Blue	(cost)	3,712
Alkalis	(")	2,074
Blanketing and Machine Covering ..	(")	2,986
All other materials	(")	5,710
Total Cost of (A) Materials used in 1926		£37,429

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Add other materials	
Total Cost of (A) Materials used in 1926	£37,429

The quantities and cost of fuel, purchased electricity, gas, oils, etc., used in the Laundries, Dyeing and Cleaning Establishments in 1926 for heating, lighting, transport, driving engines, etc., are shown in the next table.

(3)

(B) Fuel, etc., used in 1926	Quantity	Cost £
Coal	13,307 tons	28,465
Lubricating and other Heavy Oils ..	16,358 galls.	1,288
Petrol and other Light Oils	38,661 "	2,582
Electricity purchased	198,241 units	2,166
Gas purchased	(cost)	3,145
Other Fuel	(")	597
Total Cost of (B) Fuel etc.		£38,243

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(C) The estimated cost of purchased bags, cases, paper, etc., and other purchased packing materials sold with the goods, the cost of replacing tools and the cost of materials for repairs to plant executed by the firms' own workpeople in 1926 was £11,212.

(D) The amounts paid to other firms for work given out to them in 1926 was £5,559.

NET OUTPUT:

It is now possible to calculate the "Net Output" of the 43 Establishments in the Laundry, Dyeing and Cleaning Trades whose Output is shown in Table (1) as follows:-

(4)

I.	Gross Output	£	470,476
II,	Cost of Materials, etc., used:-							
	(A) Materials	£	37,429)
	(B) Fuel, Oils, etc.,		38,243)

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I,	Gross Output	£	470,470
II,	Cost of Materials, etc., used:-		
	(A) Materials	37,429	92,443
	(B) Fuel, Oils, etc.,	38,243	
	(C) Purchased bags, cases etc.	11,212	
	(D) Amounts paid to other firms, etc.	5,559	
	Net Output, i.e., I minus II		£378,033

SALARIES and WAGES:

The following were the total amounts paid in salaries and wages in 1926 by the 43 Establishments whose Output is included in Table (1):-

	£	<u>As percentage of Total Net Output</u>
Salaries	48,641	12.9
Wages and Earnings	<u>192,775</u>	<u>51.0</u>
Total Salaries and Wages	241,416	63.9
Remainder of Net Output	<u>136,617</u>	36.1
Total Net Output shown above	<u>£378,033</u>	<u>100.0</u>

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PERSONS EMPLOYED IN 1926:

The following table shows the number of persons engaged on the 16th October, 1926 in the Establishments whose Output is included in this Report:

(5)

Description of Occupation.	Males		Females		Total
	Under 18	Over 18	Under 18	Over 18	
Administrative, Clerical & Technical Staff -					
(a) Proprietors working in the business	-	9	-	9	18
(b) Clerks and all other salaried employees	-	57	18	245	320
<u>Total (a) and (b)</u>	-	66	18	254	338
Wage Earners -					
(c) Industrial Workers at the Laundry, Dyeworks, etc.	13	164	192	1,422	1,791
(d) Storekeepers, packers, carters, etc. .	121	191	52	166	530
<u>Total (c) and (d)</u>	134	355	244	1,588	2,321
<u>Total Persons engaged (a), (b), (c) and (d).</u>	134	421	262	1,842	2,659

The following table shows the number of wage earners - corresponding to (c) and (d) above - who were employed in the mentioned weeks:-

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(6)

Week	Week
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The following table shows the number of wage earners - corresponding to (c) and (d) above - who were employed in the under-mentioned weeks:-

(6)

Week ended	Males	Females	Total	Week ended	Males	Females	Total
Jan. 16th	472	1,765	2,237	July 17th	469	1,809	2,278
Feb. 13th	468	1,766	2,234	Aug. 14th	482	1,865	2,347
Mar. 13th	473	1,790	2,263	Sept. 18th	485	1,840	2,325
Apl. 17th	480	1,844	2,324	Oct. 16th	489	1,832	2,321
May 15th	489	1,857	2,346	Nov. 13th	485	1,817	2,302
June 12th	487	1,850	2,337	Dec. 18th	478	1,814	2,292

It will be noted that female labour predominated in this industry; females accounted for over 79 per cent of all persons employed.

TIME IN OPERATION:

Of the 45 Establishments whose returns were used in compiling the foregoing tables 33 stated that work was carried on by them continuously during the whole year; of the remainder 4 were at work from 250 to 290 days, and the other 6 worked less than 250 days the year. The number of hours normally worked per week by wage earners

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was as follows, 48 hours and over at 10 Establishments; a 47-hour week at 13 Establishments; 44 to 46 hours at 14 Establishments and less than 44 hours at the remaining 6 Establishments.

CAPACITY OF ENGINES:

The following table shows the effective Horse Power of Prime Movers, the kilowatt capacity of Electric Generators and the rated horse power of Electric Motors (exclusive of Converters or Transformers) as returned on the Schedules for the firms whose Output is included in the preceding tables.

(7)

	<u>Effective Horse Power</u>
<u>Prime Movers:-</u>	
<u>Steam Engines:-</u>	
Reciprocating	995
Internal Combustion Engines using:-	
Gas	144
Heavy Oils	150
Other Prime Movers:-	
Water Wheels	60
Other	40

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reciprocating	144
Internal Combustion Engines using:-	
Gas	159
Heavy Oils	
Other Prime Movers:-	60
Water Wheels	40
Other	
<hr/>	
	<u>Kilowatt Capacity</u>
<u>Electric Generators:-</u>	
Driven by Steam Engines:-	48
Reciprocating	
Driven by Internal Combustion Engines using:-	33
Gas	63
Driven by other Prime Movers	
<hr/>	
	<u>Rated Horse Power</u>
<u>Electric Motors (exclusive of Converters or Transformers) driven by:-</u>	
Purchased Electricity	301
Electricity generated in own works	40

Copies of this Memorandum can be obtained from the Statistics Branch, Department of Industry and Commerce, Lower Castle Yard (South), Dublin.

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