

production of clothes than in any other group of industries, and were very badly affected both by the cessation of orders for expensive goods and the check in the purchasing of cheap clothes. Employment became very bad in the pottery district and in the lace industry of Nottingham, and in both is still far below normal. Both men and women, of all social classes, engaged in theatrical, musical, or other occupations for providing entertainment have had to face a greatly diminished demand. There was a sudden check in the employment of domestic servants. By October many of these industries had returned to a certain equilibrium; after the loss of about 10 per cent. of their men to the Army, the orders for business printing, for everyday clothes, &c., were enough to keep the reduced staff in moderate work. Government contracts were deliberately spread out so as to reach the partly employed wherever possible; and it was soon evident that a nation at war needs not only the metal-workers, the clothiers, and the preparers of food, but also the services of leather-workers, carpenters, packers, and a great number of other trades. By December there was only a relatively small body of men or women who failed to get work in their old trades, and some of these were able to adapt themselves to other work.

Persons engaged in providing the nation with its daily bread and other primary necessities—agriculturists, transport workers, dealers, and a proportion of a great number of other industries—have been throughout as busy as ever, since we have been on the whole rather better fed than usual, many of the workers are in the Army, and it has been difficult in some cases to catch up the time lost by the general disorganization of August.

The industries engaged in manufacturing for export were very badly hit. Of these the cotton manufacture is