weeks of 1919, and to 17.1 tons in the four weeks ended May 24, during which period there were no holidays and few stoppages. For the last four completed weeks, excluding Whitsuntide, the output was 16.7 tons. Those last figures by themselves, of course, proved nothing, because there were factors operating from outside. But, as a result of those figures, there was no reason to doubt that there was still an unused capacity for output existing within the coal miners themselves, and that point was, he thought, fully conceded by a member, himself a miner, when he said that if there was a campaign to get an increase of work in the mines he was quite sure something would be done. This very wide range of causes in connection with the reduction of output was something which could not be put right at once, and something which no single man and no single body of men representing any one industry could put right by their own efforts. It must be a national effort to get this vital question of coal output put right.

Prices Compared

As a result of the reduction of output there must be some increase in price. The following figures showed where the money paid for coal at the pit-mouth went in 1913, and what consumers would have to pay after July 16, first of all per ton of coal raised, and secondly per ton of coal available for sale. The average pit price for coal per ton raised in 1913 at the pithead was 10s. $1\frac{1}{2}$d., and the corresponding figure to-day was 26s. $0\frac{1}{2}$d.; per ton sold the corresponding figures were 11s. and 29s. $3\frac{1}{2}$d. Those figures were made up as follows: The 10s. $1\frac{1}{2}$d. was made up of the following items: Labour in and about the mines, 6s. 4d.; timber and stores, 1s.; other costs, 11d.; royalties, $5\frac{1}{2}$d.; owner's profits, 1s. 5d. That was for 1913. The corresponding figures to-day were: Labour, 19s. $5\frac{1}{2}$d. as against 6s. 4d.; timber and stores 3s. $2\frac{1}{2}$d.; other costs, 1s. $2\frac{1}{2}$d.; royalties, $6\frac{3}{4}$d.; owner's profits, 1s. 2d.; compensation to owners for working, under the instructions of the Controller of Mines, mines which would not otherwise be worked, $3\frac{1}{4}$d.; and there was another penny required for administrative purposes in connection with coal, control, and the $1\frac{1}{4}$d. which we had as a surplus on the price. Now, taking the same things corresponding with per ton sold, because it was rather instructive to get these figures, the price in 1913 was 11s. Labour in that year was 6s. $10\frac{1}{2}$d.; timber and stores, 1s. 1d.; other costs, 1s.; royalties, 6d.; owners' profit, 1s. $6\frac{1}{2}$d. After July 16 the following would be the state of affairs: Labour per ton, 21s. $10\frac{3}{4}$d.; timber and stores, 3s. 7d.; other costs, 1s. $4\frac{1}{4}$d.; royalties $7\frac{1}{2}$d.; owners' profits, 1s. $3\frac{1}{2}$d.; compensation as before. It would be observed, then, that the increase of wages and reduction of output had resulted in two things—labour costs had increased by 13s. $1\frac{1}{2}$d. per ton raised, or 15s. per ton sold out of the total increase of 15s. 11d. per ton raised, or 18s. 3d. per ton sold. This included nothing but labour in and about the mines, actual labour associated with getting the coal. The figures were taken from the evidence given to the Sankey Commission by the Coal Mines Department. They were sifted by the Commission, and the actual figures were those for the September quarter of last year. To those figures had been added the necessary amounts to cover such increases as those resulting from the application of the Sankey wage and the increased cost resulting from the return of men to the mines, who, although back, were not sharing to the same extent as those who were there before in output. The other costs, timber stores, etc., were adjusted to the actual cost at the present time.

Tracing the Cost to the Consumer

Tracing the cost of coal through actually to the coal seller and consumer in London, and taking 29s. 3d. as the cost actually paid for the coal at the pit mouth, he found that the coal should be sold in London, and was sold in London, for 49s. 6d.; 20s. 3d. marked the increase on the cost, and that was distributed as follows: First of all, the pit price, 29s. 3d. The average railway rate to London was 6s. 4d.; wagon hire, 1s. 6d.; loaders' wages, 1s. 9d. per ton; carmen's wages, 1s. 10d. per ton; other cartage charges, 2s. 7d. per ton; loss on smalls, 7d.; sacks replacement, 5d. per ton; railway siding rents, demurrage, etc.. 1d. per ton; salaries, etablishment charges, and the various administrative costs in connection with the offices of the factors and retailers, 3s. 6d. per ton; and the profit distributed between the factor, which amounted to 4d. per ton, and the actual small retailer, or between two, or perhaps even three factors and the last man, 1s. 8d. per ton on the average. In 1913, for this particular coal, best Derbys, the pit price was 13s. and the London price 27s. The railway rate was exactly the same as to-day, 6s. 4d. per ton; wagon hire was 1s. against 1s. 6d. at present; loaders' wages $11\frac{1}{2}$d. against 1s. 9d.; carmen's wages $10\frac{1}{2}$d., against 1s. 10d.; other cartage charges 1s. $0\frac{1}{4}$d., against 2s. 7d.; loss on small. 4d. against 7d.; sacks, $1\frac{1}{2}$d. against 5d.; railway siding rents, demurrage, etc., exactly the same, 1d.; salaries, establishment charges, 2s. 4d. against 3s. 6d.; and the profit $10\frac{3}{4}$d., against 1s. 8d. That profit, of course, excluded the 1s. 2d. fixed profit allowed to the coal owner. In the last group of figures, the price delivered to the consumer, there was as yet no allowance for any increase in carriage resulting from the various increases of costs by which the railways were faced, of which one, of course, was the increased price of coal. The present price of delivery in London, or in any town or port in Great Britain, was a subsidised price—the Government was subsidising the delivery. Moreover, the actual cost getting was subsidised still, and would continue to be, by the foreigner, because they were carrying into those figures still the subsidy derived from the export profits, and that subsidy was falling in amount day by day. If it disappeared altogether, the price of coal would be up another 1s. 4d. at once.

Everything Dearer.

Following from the increased cost of coal, we had at the present moment to face a rise in the price of our pig iron of anything from 15s. to 20s. a ton, perhaps more; in steel and finished iron, an increase of 25s. to 30s., perhaps more. Coke would be up 10s. a ton; spelter, £2 a ton; gas, 6d. to 9d. per 1,000 ft.; electric power, 0.2d. per unit; paper, 10s. a ton; glass, 5 per cent to 10 per cent; textiles about 4 per cent; bricks, about 5 per cent.; machinery, about 12 per cent.; chemicals generally, about 10 per cent.; some of them, such as caustic soda, sodium sulphide, and bleaching powder, from 20s. 30s. and 50s. a ton. This question of the increase of price in coal was of the most grave and serious nature for the whole nation. Not only were we losing our subsidy from export coal, but we were going to lose our national earnings from exports. Rails in Britain before the rise in coal cost £16 a ton; after the rise £17 10s. a ton; and in the United States