TRADE UNION OFFICERS

A Study of Full-Time Officers, Branch Secretaries and Shop Stewards

By
H. A. CLEGG, A. J. KILLICK
and
REX ADAMS

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The problems of trade union officers have attracted considerable attention in recent years. It is often suggested that changes in our educational system have cut off the supply of able candidates for full-time posts, whilst attractive offers from nationalized and private industries have drained away existing talent. Trade Union officers are said to be badly paid and overworked. Meanwhile much of the power of the unions is alleged to have passed to the shop stewards, about whose duties and characteristics relatively little is known.

This study is based upon an investigation into the records of eighteen major unions, upon local surveys, and upon the answers to questionnaires distributed nationally.

The findings of these inquiries establish firm evidence in a number of areas where previously only guess-work was available, and upset a number of popular prejudices about British trade unions. Having set them out, the authors are able to throw new light upon the structure of union bureaucracies, and upon the supply and selection of union officers, their pay and conditions of work, and their education and training.

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TRADE UNION OFFICERS

A Study of Full-Time Officers, Branch Secretaries and Shop Stewards in British Trade Unions

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CONTENTS

PART I: INTRODUCTORY

CHAP.		PAGE
1.	THE NATURE OF THE INQUIRY	3
2.	UNIONS AND UNION TYPES	7
	The 'Big Six'	7
	The Transport and General Workers' Union	7
	The Amalgamated Engineering Union	9
	The National Union of General and Municipal Workers	10
	The National Union of Mineworkers	11
	The National Union of Railwaymen	12
	The Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers	13
	Trade Union Types	14
	General Unions	14
	Single-Industry Unions	15
	Skilled Unions	16
	Ex-Craft Unions	17
	White Collar Unions	17
3.	TYPES OF UNION OFFICER	19
	Full-Time Officers and Staff	19
	Full-Time Branch Secretaries	21
	Branch Secretaries	23
	Shop Stewards and Others	24
	Other Union Officers	26
4.	THE METHODS	27
	Union Records	27
	Local Surveys	28
	Questionnaires	28
	Other Methods	34

PART II: RESULTS

5.	FULL-TIME OFFICERS	37
	Total Numbers	37
	Differences between Unions	39

CHAP.		PAGE
	Major Duties	42
	Origins	47
	Selection	51
	Salaries	55
	Collective Action	61
	Hours of Work	63
	Other Conditions, Cars and Expenses	66
	Promotion Prospects	67
	Attitudes	71
	Turnover	74
	Assessments	86
	Summary	89
6.	Full-Time Branch Secretaries	92
	Numbers	92
	Characteristics	95
	Summary	102
7.	Trade Union Staffs	103
	Numbers	103
	The 'Administrative' Grades	106
	Staff Salaries and their Settlement	108
	Summary	112
8.	Branch Secretaries	113
	Numbers	113
	The Nature of the Job	117
	Origins	125
	Selection	126
	Remuneration	132
	Promotion	138
	Attitudes	142
	Turnover	145
	Summary	147
9.	Shop Stewards	149
	Numbers	149
	The Nature of the Job	154
	Origins	161
	Selection	162
	Remuneration	165
	Promotion	167
	Attitudes	171

CHAP.		PAGE
	Assessment	173
	The Position of the Steward in Industry	174
	Numbers of Full-Time Convenors	177
	Summary	180
	PART III: PROBLEMS	
10.	Top Leadership	185
11.	The Structure of Union Bureaucracies	188
12.	Supply and Selection	199
	Sources of Supply	199
	Selection of Full-Time Officers	202
13.	Pay	208
	Voluntary and Part-Time Officers	208
	Full-Time Officers	209
14.	Conditions of Work	217
	Professionalism	217
	The Hours of Work of Full-Time Officers	220
	The Job of the Branch Secretary	224
15.	Education and Training	228
16.	Postscript	232
	Appendices:	
	1. Questionnaires:	
	A. Full-Time Officers	233
	B. Full-Time Branch Secretaries	236
	C. Branch Secretaries	240
	D. Shop Stewards	243
	E. Personnel Officers	247
	2. Membership of British Trade Unions	250
	3. Categories of Trade Unions	251
	4. Numbers of Full-Time Officers by Union	254
	5. Branch Book-keeping Systems	255
	6. Trade Union Growth	260
	7. Trade Union Aims	262
	Index	265

TABLES

Chapter 4

		PAGE
1.	Distribution of sample of shop stewards by union	29
2.	Distribution of sample of branch secretaries by union	30
3.	Distribution of sample of union officers by union	31
4.	Geographical distribution of samples	32
5.	Distribution of samples by union group	33

Chapter 5

6.	Estimates of total numbers of full-time officers	38
7.	Member/Officer ratios	40
8.	Full-time officers: Ranking of Member/Officer ratios	41
9.	Full-time officers: Importance of main duties	44
10.	Full-time officers: Average ages on entry	47
11.	Full-time officers: Last school attended	49
12.	Full-time officers: Previous occupation	50
13.	Full-time officers: Voluntary posts held immediately prior to full-time work	51
14A.	National Union of Railwaymen: Candidates for the post of Organizer 1948–1959	53
14B.	Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers: Candidates for inclusion in panel of prospective officers	54
15.	Full-time officers: Salaries in certain unions	56
16.	Hours worked by full-time officers	63
17A.	Full-time officers: Evenings worked	64
17B.	Full-time officers: Week-ends worked	65
18A.	Full-time officers: Promotions	68
18B.	Full-time officers: Promotion by union	69
19.	Full-time officers: Family reaction to union work	74
20.	Full-time officers: Turnover	75
21.	Full-time officers: Reasons for leaving	76
22.	Full-time officers: Turnover corrected for potential years of service	78
23.	Full-time officers: Reasons for leaving	79
24.	Full-time officers: Subsequent posts of resigned officers	85
25.	Full-time officers: Assessment by pairs of unions	87

CHAPTER 6

		PAGE
26.	National Union of Mineworkers: Full-time branch secretaries	93
27.	Full-time branch secretaries: Main duties	95
28.	Full-time branch secretaries: Reasons for leaving	102

CHAPTER 7

29.	Trade union staffs: Numbers	104

CHAPTER 8

30A.	Branch size: Comparison between unions	113
30B.	Branch sizes: Proportions in sample compared with all unions	114
31.	Branch membership: Proportion of women	116
32A.	Branch secretaries: Main duties by union group	118
32B.	Branch secretaries: Secretarial work by unions	118
33.	Branch secretaries: Time spent on union business	120
34.	Branch secretaries: Comparison of time spent per member in branches with and without treasurers	123
35.	Branch secretaries: Contact with full-time officers	124
36.	Major unions: Ratios of full-time officers to branch secretaries	125
37.	Branch secretaries: Availability of replacements	127
38.	Recruitment of branch officers	128
39.	Branch secretaries: Payments	133
40.	Branch secretaries: Payments by unions and union groups	134
41.	Branch secretaries: Prescribed payments, 1938 and 1958	135
42.	Branch secretaries: Jobs and desire for full-time posts	141
43.	Branch secretaries: Social status	143
44.	Branch secretaries: Assessment of status and earnings of full-time officers	144

CHAPTER 9

45.	Shop stewards: Size of constituencies	150
46.	Shop stewards: Constituencies by unions and union groups	150
47.	Shop stewards: Size of constituencies in Oxford	152
48.	Shop stewards: Size of undertaking	154

		PAGE
49.	Shop stewards: Importance of main duties	157
50.	Shop stewards: Minutes per member and size of constituency	159
51.	Shop stewards: Proportion collecting union contributions	160
52.	Shop stewards: Re-election and the incidence of opposition	163
53.	Shop stewards: Service on higher committees	168
54.	Shop stewards: Desire for full-time office	169
55.	Shop stewards: Job and desire for full-time post	169
56.	Shop stewards: Assessment of status and earnings of full-time posts	172
57.	Shop stewards: Social status	173
58.	Shop stewards: Assessment by pairs of unions	174

CHAPTER 10

59.	Membership of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress	187

CHAPTER 11

60.	Some measures of union structure	189

CHAPTER 15

61.	Full-time officers and full-time branch secretaries: Educational activities since leaving school	229
62.	Full-time officers and full-time branch secretaries: Preference among subjects for training	230
63.	Lay officers: Preference among subjects for training	231

APPENDIX 4

64.	Number of full-time officers by union	254

APPENDIX 5

65.	Frequency of branch returns	256

APPENDIX 7

66.	Trade union aims	262
67.	Trade union aims: White Collar and other unions compared	264

INDEX

Notes: 1. Trade unions are in alphabetical order of their full titles.
2. Chapter summaries are not indexed.

ACCOUNTING METHODS IN TRADE UNIONS, 225f, Appdx. 5.
AGE OF TRADE UNION OFFICERS
Branch secretaries, full-time, 32, 95.
" " , part-time, 125f.
Shop stewards, 162.
Trade union officers, full-time, 31, 47f.
ALLEN, V. L., 50n.
AMALGAMATED ASSOCIATION OF CARD, BLOWING AND RING ROOM OPERATIVES, 15, 60.
AMALGAMATED ENGINEERING UNION, 7, 9f, 16f, 19, 33, 178, 213f, 219, 250, 260f.
Branch finance, 256ff.
" secretaries, 30, 115.
" " , duties, 118, 120f, 122, 124f, 255ff.
" " , promotion, 138.
" " , recruitment, 127ff.
" " , remuneration, 134ff.
" size, 113f, 209.
Collection of contributions, 159ff, 255.
Convenors, 178f.
Officers, full-time, 31, 254.
" " " , age, 47.
" " " , duties, 46.
" " " , hours of work, 64.
" " " , numbers, 40ff, 191ff.
" " " , promotion, 69.
" " " , quality, 86f, 204.
" " " , salaries, 56, 59, 61, 67, 216.
" " " , turnover, 78ff, 82.
Personal assistants, 107.
Shop stewards, 9, 24f, 29, 153.
" " , duties, 156f.
" " , loss of earnings, 166.
" " , numbers, 150f, 153n.
" " , promotion, 167, 169.
" " , quality, 173f.
" " , selection, 162ff.
Staff, 104f, 109f, 216f.
Structure, 189, 191ff, 196.
AMALGAMATED ASSOCIATION OF OPERATIVE COTTON SPINNERS AND TWINERS, 16.
AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF WOODWORKERS, 16f, 27n, 191, 260.
Branches, 113.
Examination of officers, 51.
Officrs, full-time, turnover, 79, 82.
Staff, 104.
Structure, 191, 193.
AMALGAMATED UNION OF BUILDING TRADE WORKERS,
Branches, 113.
Officers, full-time, 40f, 191, 193, 254.
" " " , age, 47.
" " " , salaries, 57ff.
" " " , turnover, 78f, 82.
Shop stewards, 153n.
Staff, 103ff, 110, 191, 193.
AMALGAMATED UNION OF FOUNDRY WORKERS, 17, 152

Amalgamated Weavers' Association, 15.
Officers, full-time, 40f, 254.
" " " , age, 47.
" " " , promotion, 69.
" " " , salaries, 60, 208.
" " " , turnover, 78f, 82.
Staff, 104, 191.
Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, 13, 16, 179.
Association of Engineering and Shipbuilding Draughtsmen, 18, 149, 255f.

Beard, Wilfrid, 3.
Bevin, Ernest, 8, 63n, 185f.
Branch Secretaries, 23, Ch. 8.
Age, 125f.
Attitudes, 142ff, 262ff.
Availability of candidates, 126ff, 136f, 145f, 224.
Duties, 116ff, 124f, 129, 137f, 154, 158f, 165, 220, 225.
Education, 126.
Full-time officers acting as, 23, 45, 116, 126, 224, 226.
Numbers, 116.
Occupations, 126.
Promotion, 138ff.
Remuneration, 132ff, 208f.
Sample, 30, 32f.
Selection, 126.
Social standing, 142ff.
Turnover, 145ff, 222.
Branch Secretaries, Full-Time, 21ff, Ch. 6., 226f.
Age, 32, 95, 97.
Attitudes, 101, 262ff.
Duties, 95ff, 190.
Equipment, 100.
Hours of work, 100.
Income, 21, 98ff.
Numbers, 92ff, 189n.
Previous occupations, 97.
Promotion, 100f.
Sample, 31ff, 132.
Selection, 97.
Training, 228ff.
Turnover, 101.
Branch Size and Numbers, 30, 113ff, 129, 137, 193f, 209.
Branch Treasurers, 116f, 119, 122f, 226, 255, 258.
British Iron, Steel and Kindred Trades Association
see Iron and Steel Trades Confederation.
Building Unions, *see also* Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers, Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers and National Federation of Building Trade Operatives, 130f, 193ff.
Branches, 114.
Branch secretaries, 118ff, 122, 124f, 127ff, 134, 199.
Officers, full-time, 31, 65, 223.
Shop stewards, 164.
Bullock, A., 63n.

Carron, W. J., 9, 153n, 216n.
Categories of Trade Unions, 14ff, 251ff.
'Check-off', 96f, 130, 160, 224f, 255, 260.
Citrine, N. A., 62n.
" , Lord, 185f.
Civil Service Clerical Association, 18.
Branches, 113.

Civil Service Clerical Association—*continued*
Officers, full-time, 254.
" " " , age, 47.
" " " , numbers, 40f, 192, 194.
" " " , promotion, 69.
" " " , salaries, 58n.
" " " , turnover, 78f, 81f.
Clerical and Administrative Workers' Union, 18, 62, 107, 108ff.
'Closed Shop', 72, 96, 130f, 225, 260, 262ff.
Collecting Stewards, 159f, 255.
Communists, 8, 10, 12ff, 88f, 177f.
Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions, 28n.
Convenors of Shop Stewards, 24f, 149f, 217.
Duties, 154, 156ff, 177, 190.
Numbers, 177ff, 149, 150.
Payment, 25.
Privileges, 25, 177f.
Corresponding Members (Draughtsmen), 149f.
Cousins, Frank, 8.

Deakin, Arthur, 8.
Dukes, Charles, 197.

Economist, The, 4f.
Education, 3, 200f, 206.
Branch secretaries, 126.
Officers, full-time, 4f, 47ff, 206f, 228ff.
Shop stewards, 161.
Trade union, Ch. 15.
Electrical Trades Union, 17, 219, 260f.
Branches, 113, 115.
Officers, full-time, 86ff, 205.
" " " , age, 47.
" " " , numbers, 39ff.
" " " , promotion, 69.
" " " , salaries, 57ff.
" " " , turnover, 77ff.
Shop stewards, 152f, 173f.
Ex-craft Unions, 14, 15, 16, 17, 27, 33, 251.
Branches, 113.
Branch secretaries, 118, 120ff, 124, 127, 134.
Collection of contributions, 160.
Officers, full-time, 44ff, 48ff, 50, 63, 73, 218, 223.
Shop stewards, 150f, 152, 157, 163, 168ff.
Staff, 105.

Family Attitudes to Trade Union Work, 73f, 145, 221.
Father of the Chapel, 24f, 149f, 151.
Full-time Officers
see Trade Union Officers, Full-Time, and under separate unions.

General Unions, 14f, 17, 27, 33, 252.
Branch secretaries, 118, 120ff, 124f, 127ff, 134ff.
Branches, 113.
Collection of contributions, 160.
Officers, full-time, 44ff, 48ff, 63ff, 70, 218, 223.
Shop stewards, 150f, 157, 163, 168f.
Staff, 105.

HOURS OF WORK
Branch secretaries, 120ff, 129, 221.
„ „ , full-time, 100.
Officers, full-time, 45, 63ff, 140, 220ff.
Shop stewards, 154, 158f, 165, 221.

INDEPENDENT LABOUR PARTY, 13.
IRON AND STEEL TRADES CONFEDERATION, 15, 177, 250.
Branches, 113, 115f.
Officers, full-time, 39, 254.
„ „ „ , age, 47.
„ „ „ , numbers, 40ff, 191f.
„ „ „ , promotion, 69.
„ „ „ , turnover, 77ff, 82.
Staff, 104.

LOCAL DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES (Railways), 149f, 153, 164n, 178f.

NATIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS ASSOCIATION, 7, 18, 20.
Branches, 113, 255ff.
Officers, full-time, 62, 215n, 254.
„ „ „ , age, 47, 191ff.
„ „ „ , numbers, 40f.
„ „ „ , promotion, 69.
„ „ „ , salaries, 57n.
„ „ „ , turnover, 78f, 81f, 219.
NATIONAL COAL BOARD, 22, 84n, 212f.
NATIONAL COAL BOARD LABOUR STAFF ASSOCIATION, 84n.
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF LABOUR COLLEGES, 228f.
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF BUILDING TRADE OPERATIVES, 28, 33n, 37, 103.
Officers, full-time, 47f, 77ff, 82.
Staff, 103f.
NATIONAL SOCIETY OF PAINTERS, 109.
NATIONAL UNION OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS,
Branches, 113, 115, 227.
Collectors, 107f, 222f, 226.
Officers, full-time, 39, 62, 254.
„ „ „ , age, 47.
„ „ „ , duties, 45f, 222f.
„ „ „ , numbers, 40ff, 194.
„ „ „ , promotion, 69.
„ „ „ , salaries, 60, 209.
„ „ „ , turnover, 77ff, 219.
Staff, 111.
Structure, 194.
NATIONAL UNION OF BOOT AND SHOE OPERATIVES, 15, 21.
Branch secretaries, full-time, 94, 115.
Branches, 113ff.
Officers, full-time, 254.
„ „ „ , age, 47.
„ „ „ , numbers, 40ff, 191f.
„ „ „ , promotion, 69.
„ „ „ , turnover, 77ff, 115.
Staff, 104f.
NATIONAL UNION OF DYERS, BLEACHERS AND TEXTILE WORKERS, 15.
NATIONAL UNION OF GENERAL AND MUNICIPAL WORKERS, 7, 9ff, 14f, 19f, 260f.
Branch finance, 255ff.
„ secretaries, 30, 115.
„ „ , duties, 118ff, 124f, 255ff.
„ „ , recruitment, 127f, 130.
„ „ , remuneration, 98, 134ff.

NATIONAL UNION OF GENERAL AND MUNICIPAL WORKERS—*continued*
Branch secretaries, full-time, 21f, 32, 96, 99ff, 115.
„ „ „ „ , age, 95.
„ „ „ „ , duties, 122f.
„ „ „ „ , numbers, 92.
„ „ „ „ , selection, 98.
„ „ „ „ , turnover, 101f.
„ size, 113ff, 227.
Collection of contributions, 159f, 255f.
Officers, full-time, 31, 52, 61, 89, 207n, 222, 254.
„ „ „ , age, 47.
„ „ „ , attitudes, 71, 219.
„ „ „ , duties, 46.
„ „ „ , hours of work, 64.
„ „ „ , numbers, 39ff, 191, 194ff.
„ „ „ , promotion, 69f, 219f.
„ „ „ , quality, 86f, 204.
„ „ „ , turnover, 77ff, 82.
Recruitment officers, 197.
Shop stewards, 10, 29f, 153.
„ „ , duties, 157.
„ „ , loss of earnings, 166.
„ „ , numbers, 150f.
„ „ , promotion, 169.
„ „ , quality, 173f.
„ „ , selection, 163f.
Staff, 104ff, 110.
Structure, 189, 191, 194ff.
NATIONAL UNION OF MINEWORKERS, 7, 11f, 15, 19f, 28, 113n, 250, 260f.
Branch finance, 255ff.
„ negotiators, 25, 149ff, 153, 158, 163f, 168.
„ secretaries, 30, 115.
„ „ , duties, 118ff, 124f.
„ „ , promotion, 139ff.
„ „ , recruitment, 127ff, 224.
„ „ , remuneration, 134ff.
„ „ , full-time, 22f, 31f, 96, 115.
„ „ „ „ , age, 95, 101f.
„ „ „ „ , duties, 122f.
„ „ „ „ , numbers, 92ff.
„ „ „ „ , payment, 22f, 99f.
„ „ „ „ , selection, 97.
„ „ „ „ , status, 100.
„ size, 113f.
'Check-off', 96f, 130, 160, 224f, 255, 260.
Compensation secretaries, 107.
Officers, full-time, 31, 39, 68f, 88, 219, 254.
„ „ „ , age, 47f.
„ „ „ , numbers, 39, 40f, 43, 191ff.
„ „ „ , salaries, 60f, 67.
„ „ „ , turnover, 78f, 82, 84.
Staff, 103ff, 110.
Structure, 189, 191ff.
Workmen's inspectors, 108n.
NATIONAL UNION OF PRINTING, BOOKBINDING AND PAPER WORKERS, 17, 190, 260f.
Branch finance, 255ff.
„ secretaries, full-time, 21, 32, 39, 100, 115, 190.
„ „ „ „ , age, 95.
„ „ „ „ , numbers, 92.
„ „ „ „ , salaries, 98.
„ „ „ „ , selection, 97.

National Union of Printing, Bookbinding and Paper Workers—*continued*
Branch secretaries, full-time, turnover, 101f.
„ size, 113, 115.
Officers, full-time, 61, 254.
„ „ „ , age, 47.
„ „ „ , numbers, 39ff, 191f.
„ „ „ , promotion, 69.
„ „ „ , turnover, 78f, 82.
Staff, 104, 191.
National Union of Public Employees, 15, 218f, 260f.
Branches, 113.
Officers, full-time, 62, 204, 206f, 254.
„ „ „ , age, 47f.
„ „ „ , numbers, 40ff, 191.
„ „ „ , promotion, 69.
„ „ „ , turnover, 78ff, 219.
Staff, 104, 191.
National Union of Railwaymen, 7, 12f, 15, 19, 168, 178, 190, 194, 260.
Branch finance, 255ff.
„ secretaries, 30.
„ „ , duties, 118ff, 122, 124f, 255ff.
„ „ , promotion, 139ff.
„ „ , recruitment, 127ff.
„ „ , remuneration, 134ff.
Branch size, 113ff.
Officers, full-time, 31, 39, 88, 254.
„ „ „ , age, 47.
„ „ „ , examinations, 51ff, 206.
„ „ „ , numbers, 40ff, 104, 191ff.
„ „ „ , promotion, 69.
„ „ „ , recruitment, 53f, 199.
„ „ „ , salaries, 57ff, 61, 216.
„ „ „ , turnover, 77ff, 82.
Staff, 39, 104f, 107, 110.
Structure, 189, 191, 193ff.
National Union of Seamen, 15, 21.
National Union of Teachers, 7n, 18.
National Union of Vehicle Builders, 17, 255ff.
Nationalization,
and appointments of trade union officers, 3, 84f, 212.

Office Equipment, 46, 100, 223.
Oxford Survey, 28, 117, 134n, 145, 151f, 155, 177n.

Personnel Officers, 81n, 83, 173ff.
Assessment of full-time officers, 33f, 86ff, 204.
„ „ shop stewards, 173f.
Post Office Engineering Union, 206f.
Printing and Kindred Trades Federation, 28n.
Promotion Prospects,
Branch secretaries, 138ff.
„ „ , full-time, 100f.
Officers, full-time, 67ff, 219f.
Shop stewards, 167, 200.

Research Methods, 5f, 19, Ch. 4, 131f.
Roberts, B. C., 82, 153n, 188, 191f.
Ruskin College, 29, 200, 229.

Selection
Branch secretaries, full-time, 97.
„ „ , part-time, 126.
Shop stewards, 162-5.
Trade union officers, full-time, 47f, 51-5, 88f, 203-7.
Shop Stewards, 24f, Ch. 9, 224.
Age, 162.
Attitudes, 170ff, 262ff.
Availability of replacements, 164f.
Collection of contributions, 159f, 225.
Duties, 24f, 154ff.
Education, 161.
Numbers, 4, 149ff.
Occupations, 162.
Position in industry, 174ff, 224.
Promotion, 167ff, 176, 200.
Quality, 173f.
Remuneration, 165, 208.
Sample, 29, 32f, 149f, 154.
Selection, 162ff.
Social standing, 171ff.
Victimization, 175f.
Single-Industry Unions, 14f, 17, 27, 33, 252.
Branch secretaries, 118, 120f, 124, 127ff, 134.
Branches, 113.
Collection of contributions, 160.
Officers, full-time, 44ff, 48ff, 63, 67, 70, 223.
Shop stewards, 150f, 157, 163, 167ff.
Staff, 105.
Skilled Unions, 14, 16, 27, 251.
Branch secretaries, 118ff, 122, 124, 127f, 131, 134.
Branches, 113.
Collection of contributions, 160.
Officers, full-time, 44ff, 48ff, 63, 67, 70, 218.
Shop stewards, 150ff, 157ff, 161n, 163f, 168ff.
Staff, 105.
Social Standing of Union Officers, 211f, 217f.
Branch secretaries, 142f.
Officers, full-time, 72f, 142ff, 171ff, 218.
Shop stewards, 171ff.

Thorne, Will, 10.
Tillett, Ben, 7.
Trade Union Education Departments, 4f, 52, 106f, 201, 214.
Trade Union Growth, 218f, Appx. 6.
Trade Union Membership, 7, 37ff, 103ff, 130f, 190ff, 250.
Trade Union Officers, Full-time, Ch. 5.
Age, 31, 47f.
Attitudes, 71ff, 262ff.
Conditions, 4, 66f.
Definition, 5, 19f.
Duties, 4f, 19f, 42ff, 65f, 205.
Education, 4f, 47ff, 206f, 228ff.
Family attitudes, 73f, 221.
Hours of work, 45, 63ff, 140, 220ff.
Numbers, 4, 37ff, 103f, 191ff, 254.
Office equipment, 46, 223.
Organization, 61ff, 220.
Previous occupations, 49f.
Professionalism, 217ff.
Promotion, 61ff, 219f.

TRADE UNION OFFICERS' FULL-TIME—*continued*
Recruitment, 3, 47f, 51ff, 81, 83, 88f, 139f, 168ff, Ch. 12., 220.
Remuneration, 4, 55ff, 66f, 140, 209ff.
Secretarial assistance, 46, 222f.
Serving as branch secretaries, 23, 45f, 116, 126, 196f, 220.
Turnover, 74ff, 213.
TRADE UNION OFFICERS, LAY,
(*see also* Branch secretary, Branch treasurer, Collecting steward, Convenor, Corresponding member, Father of the Chapel, Shop steward), 26, 120n, 128ff, 267f, 176, 200f, 208f, 230ff.
TRADE UNION STAFFS, Ch. 7.
Administrative grades, 106ff.
Constitutional limitations, 111f.
Definition, 5, 19f.
Duties, 19f, 190.
Numbers, 103f, 191.
Salaries, 108ff, 214ff.
TRADES UNION CONGRESS, 3, 7, 28, 103, 108n, 153n, 250.
Educational courses, 229.
General Council, 186.
Staff, 214.
TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS' UNION, 7ff, 14f, 20, 213f, 260f.
Branch finance, 255f.
Branch secretaries, 30.
" " , duties, 118, 120, 122, 124f.
" " , full-time, 94.
" " , promotion, 139.
" " , recruitment, 127f, 130, 136.
" " , remuneration, 133ff.
" size, 113f.
Collection of contributions, 159f.
Officers, full-time, 31, 48, 50, 52, 61, 219, 254.
" " " , age, 47f.
" " " , attitudes, 71, 219.
" " " , duties, 45f, 94, 196, 222.
" " " , hours of work, 64.
" " " , numbers, 40f, 43, 191, 194ff.
" " " , promotion, 69f, 219f.
" " " , quality, 86f, 204.
" " " , turnover, 77ff, 82, 84.
Shop stewards, 29f, 153n, 178f.
" " , duties, 157.
" " , loss of earnings, 166.
" " , numbers, 150f.
" " , promotion, 169.
" " , quality, 173f.
" " , selection, 163ff.
Staff, 104f, 110.
Structure, 189, 191, 193, 195f.
TRANSPORT SALARIED STAFFS' ASSOCIATION, 13, 18, 179.
Branch secretaries, 138.
Branch size, 113.
Officers, full-time, 39, 179, 254.
" " " , age, 47.
" " " , numbers, 40f, 104, 191.
" " " , occupations, 50n.
" " " , promotion, 69f.
" " " , turnover, 78f, 80.
Staff, 104, 191.
Structure, 193.

TURNOVER,
Branch secretaries, 145ff, 222.
" " , full-time, 101.
Officers, full-time, 74ff, 213.

UNION OF POST OFFICE WORKERS, 15.
UNION OF SHOP, DISTRIBUTIVE AND ALLIED WORKERS, 7, 15, 20, 260f.
Branch finance, 255ff.
" secretaries, 30, 116, 258.
" " , duties, 118, 120f, 122, 124f.
" " , recruitment, 127, 129ff.
" " , remuneration, 134ff.
" size, 113f.
Collector-canvassers, 107f.
Officers, full-time, 31, 39, 50, 62, 111, 254.
" " " , age, 47.
" " " , attitudes, 71, 219.
" " " , duties, 45f, 196, 222.
" " " , hours of work, 64.
" " " , numbers, 40ff, 43, 189, 191, 193, 196f.
" " " , promotion, 69f, 219f.
" " " , recruitment, 34, 51ff, 199, 203.
Shop stewards, 153.
Staff, 103ff, 110f.
Structure, 189, 191, 193, 196f.
UNITED PATTERNMAKERS' ASSOCIATION, 16.
UNITED SOCIETY OF BOILERMAKERS, SHIPBUILDERS AND STRUCTURAL WORKERS, 16.

VOLUNTARY ACTIVITIES OF BRANCH OFFICERS, 120n.

WEBB, S. and B., 51n, 220.
WHITE COLLAR UNIONS, 14, 17f, 27, 33, 207, 252, 264.
Branch secretaries, 118ff, 124ff, 127ff, 132, 134ff.
Branches, 113.
Collection of contributions, 256.
Officers, full-time, 48f, 70, 81, 215n, 219, 223.
Shop stewards, 150n, 153n, 158f, 161, 168.
Staff, 105f.
WHITLEY COMMITTEES, 149f.
WOMEN OFFICERS, 31, 33.
trade union members, 116, 129f.
WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION, 228f.
WORKPLACE ORGANIZATION 130, 192, 196.
WORKS COUNCILS, 24, 156.