Board of Trade LABOUR GAZETTE.

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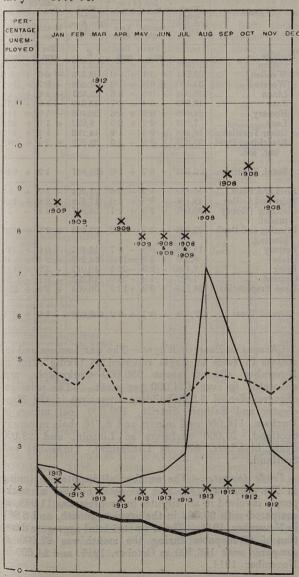
DECEMBER, 1915.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1905-14.



NOTE TO CHART.

The above Chart is based solely on Returns furnished direct to the Department of Labour Statistics by various Trade Unions which pay unemployed benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked-out, sick or superannuated, are excluded from the figures.

THE LABOUR MARKET.

In November the shortage of both skilled and unskilled labour became still more marked. To some extent women have been used to make good the deficiency, but there is room for further developments in this direction during the war. The number of women ordinarily employed is not, however, sufficient to meet all the demands of the situation created by the withdrawal of so many men from their usual occupations, and by the requirements of the Forces. A new supply of labour is therefore required, which, in the present circumstances, can only be drawn from among those women who have not hitherto been engaged in industry.

Employment in the coal mining industry continued very good; at iron mines it continued good, lead mines were busy, and shale mines were very active. In the quarrying industry employment was generally fair, except at slate quarries and china clay works.

In the pig iron industry employment continued good; it was very good in the iron and steel trades, and showed further improvement. The engineering and shipbuilding trades continued to work at high pressure, and a great scarcity of labour was reported. The other metal trades, with the exception of tinplate and steel sheet, continued very active, and much overtime was worked.

In the cotton trade employment showed a slight decline. The woollen trade was still brisk; the worsted trade continued good, though a slight falling off was reported in the weaving department. The hosiery trade also showed a slight decline; but employment was still very brisk, except in the fine branches of the trade. In the jute trade employment continued good, but the linen trade declined, and much short time was worked, especially in the Belfast district. Employment in the bleaching trade was fairly good; and there was an improvement in the dyeing and calico printing industries. The curtain and plain net branches of the lace trade continued well employed; in the levers branch an improvement was shown, but there was still much short time. Employment in the silk trade was fairly good; in the carpet trade it showed little change.

Employment in the boot and shoe trades continued brisk; it was good in the leather trades, except with saddle and harness makers. In the bespoke tailoring trade employment was slack, and in the ready-made branch there was a further decline; in dressmaking and millinery trades it was moderate. In the corset trade employment was good; it showed a seasonal decline in the wholesale mantle, costume and blouse trades. In the felt hat trade employment continued fairly good;

in the silk hat trade it was bad.

In the suk hat trade it was back.

In the building trades employment was quiet and showed a seasonal decline. Carpenters, bricklayers, and plumbers, however, remained well employed, and though building operations continued to be restricted, the general percentage of members unemployed remained small, owing to many men having enlisted or joined other trades. Employment was dull in the brick trade, but the cement industry continued very busy. The furnishing trade was fairly good and showed an im-

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provement; the woodworking trades remained good on the whole.

Employment in the printing and bookbinding trades was good, and showed a seasonal improvement; with paper makers it continued good.

The glass and pottery trades were well employed on the whole. The food preparation trades continued very busy, and much overtime was worked. In agriculture a scarcity of labour was again reported, and temporary labour, especially, was very difficult to obtain.

Employment with dock labourers continued good on the whole. The supply of seamen for mercantile ships was reported as equal to the demand at nearly all ports. Compared with November, 1914, employment showed a general improvement, which was particularly marked

in the industries engaged on war contracts.

TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

Trade Unions with a net membership of 938,171 reported 5,396 (or 0.6 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of November, 1915, compared with 0.8 per cent. at the end of October, 1915, and 2.9 per cent. at the end of November, 1914.

viersuchad endergre edt tid teat at te	Membership at end of Nov., 1915, exclusive of		oloyed ad of , 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage unemployed as com- pared with a			
Trade.	those serving with H.M. Forces.	Num- ber.	Per- cent- age.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
Building*	81,728	928	1.1	- 0.5	- 0.7		
Coal Miningt	132,077	66	0.0	- 0.1	- 1.6		
Iron and Steel	35,576	235	0.7	- 0.1	- 1.2		
Engineering	250,239	811	0.3	- 0.1	- 1.5		
Shipbuilding	73,650	242	0.3	- 0.2	- 2.3		
Miscellaneous Metal	35,748	49	0.1	do 1 bo	- 1.4		
Textiles†:-	97 030W 8	STERNE !	Soz	MAN . VES	4 82830		
Cotton	81,984	1,288	1.6	- 0.2	- 4.7		
Woollen & Worsted	8,454	36	0.4	- 0.8	- 4.7		
Other	49,658	187	0.4	- 0.1	- 6.1		
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper.	58,883	665	1.1	- 1.0	- 3.6		
Furnishing	16,936	377	2.2	- 1.2	- 5.8		
Woodworking	29,156	237	0.8	+ 0.1	- 1.4		
Clothing	70,556	77	0.1	000.235	- 1.2		
Leather	4,252	149	3.5	+ 2.1	+ 1.4		
Glass	814	9	1.1	- 1.0	- 0.9		
Pottery	6,192	7	0.1		0.3		
Tobacco	2,268	33	1.5	+ 0.3	- 5.0		
Total	938,171	5,396	0.6	- 0.2	- 2.3		

^{*} This percentage is based mainly on returns relating to carpenters and plumbers.

Revised figure.

UNEMPLOYMENT IN "INSURED TRADES."

The percentage of "insured" workpeople unemployed at the end of November, 1915, was 0.9, compared with 0.8 at the end of October, and 3.7 at the end of

Trade.	Number Insured, exclusive of those		ployed nd of er, 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in percentage unemployed on a		
distributed when	serving with H.M. Forces	Number	Per- centage	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Building	577,928	12,349	2.1	+ 0.4	- 38	
Construction of Works.	114,155	625	0.5	+ 0.1	- 1.9	
Engineering and Iron- founding.	804,002	2,717	0.3	- 0.1	- 2:0	
Shipbuilding	226,048	837	0.4	- elessio	- 2.2	
Construction of Vehicles.	174,139	1,022	0.6	1	- 2.7	
Sawmilling	8,566	53	0.6	- 0.1	- 1.6	
Other Insured Work- people.	47,222	121	0.3	Coans a	- 1.0	
All Insured Work-	1,952,060	17,724	0.9	+ 0.1	- 2.8	

EMPLOYERS' RETURNS: MINING AND METAL TRADES.

The following Table summarises the returns from firms employing 709,294 workpeople in November, 1915, in the industries mentioned:—

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for	November,	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a			
	November, 1915.	1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
		Days worked per week by Mines,	Days.	Days.		
Coal Mining	531,410	5.64	+ 0.01	+ 0.57		
Iron ,,	12,798	5.80	- 0.08	- 0.06		
Shale ,,	3,088	5.96	+ 0.21	- 0.01		
	10	Furnaces in Blast.	No.	No.		
Pig Iron	24,983	265	- 1	- 6		
Tinplate and Steel Sheet	26,568	Mills Working. 492 Shifts Worked	+ 3 Per cent.	+ 5 Per cent.		
Iron and Steel	110,447	(One Week). 640,753	+ 0.9	+ 17.9		

EMPLOYERS' RETURNS: TEXTILE AND OTHER TRADES. Returns from firms employing 639,160 workpeople in the week ended 27th November, 1915, showed a decrease of 0.7 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and of 1.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed, and of 17.5 per cent. in the wages paid.

	Numbe	r Emple	yed.	Wages Paid.			
Trade.	Week		+) or -) on a	Week	Inc. (Dec. (-		
	27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Textiles:—		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Cotton	210,548	- 1.4		223,717	- 2.2	+ 28.0	
Woollen	23,784	- 0.1	+ 1.0	26,533	- 0.2	+ 6.6	
Worsted	34,560	+ 0.2	- 1.9	31,806	- 0.3	+ 10.7	
Linen	38,004	- 0.4	- 8.6	25,333	- 1.6	+ 4.1	
Jute	13,590	- 0.4	+ 3.7	13,949	- 1.6	+ 33.5	
Hosiery	24,096	+ 0.3	+ 4.6	22,466	- 1.9	+ 14.0	
Lace	7,903	+ 0.2	+ 2.5	8,222	+ 1.0	+ 42.8	
Other Textiles	16,588	+ 0.4	- 1.9	14,292	- 1.1	+ 19.8	
Bleaching, Dye-	25,963	+ 0.8	+ 5.5	39,529	+ 2.4	+ 35.3	
ing, etc.	400						
Total, Textiles	395,036	- 0.7	+ 1.0	405,847	- 1.3	+ 23.0	
Boot and Shoe	56,889	- 1.2	- 2.6	71,024	- 1.3	+ 9.2	
Shirt and Collar	19,166	- 0.7	+ 1.0	13,678	- 2.6	+ 10.0	
Clothing (Ready-made).	33,981	- 3.8	+ 1.1	28,997	- 88	- 2.9	
Printing and Book- binding.		X	-11.2	33,964	+ 2.9	+ 1.7	
Pottery	18,346	- 0.4	- 4.7	19,583	- 0.0	+ 16.4	
Glass	9,200	+ 0.8	- 8.5	14,213	+ 2.5	+ 3.8	
Brick	7,108	- 2.9	-26.1	10,017	- 3.9	- 12.7	
Cement	7,627	- 1.4	-16.0	13,263	- 0.9	- 1.4	
Food Preparation	66,145	+ 0.9	+12.5	70,064	+ 2.6	+ 31.6	
Grand Total	639,160	- 0.7	+ 0.2	680,650	- 1.0	+ 17:5	
				1	1		

Changes in Rates of Wages .- The war bonuses and increases in rates of wages reported as taking effect in November affected about 330,000 workpeople, and amounted to over £24,000 per week. The principal changes affected 6,550 building operatives in the Manchester and Salford district, 120,000 coal miners in Durham, 114,000 coal miners and 8,710 shale miners in Scotland, 10,000 engineers at Lincoln, and 28,000 dyers, bleachers, &c., in Lancashire, Yorkshire, and

Trade Disputes.—The number of disputes beginning in November was 40, and the total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress was 11,988, as compared with 20,502 in the previous month, and 8,061 in November, 1914. The estimated total aggregate duration of all disputes during the month was 69,000, as compared with 156,700 in October, 1915, and 84,500 in November 1914.

Labour Exchanges .- The average weekly number of vacancies notified to all Labour Exchanges for the four weeks ended 12th November was 36,023, as compared with 34,838 in the five previous weeks, and with 31,932 in the four weeks ended 13th November, 1914. The average weekly number of vacancies filled for the same periods was 26,177, 25,398, and 24,220 respectively.

EMPLOYMENT IN GERMANY IN OCTOBER.*

pecember, 1915. THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

THE following is the general conclusion arrived at by the German Department of Labour Statistics as to the course of employment in Germany during the month of

"As German industry has adapted itself to the conditions created by the war, economic development proceeds on uniform lines, so that little alteration is to be perceived from month to month. Thus, industrial conditions during October were practically identical with conditions in the preceding months. With the exception of the textile industry and the building trades, employment during October, having regard to the difficulties created by the war, may be described as generally satis-

"As usual, the industry in which greatest activity was reported was that of mining; and most branches of the metal and engineering trades were well employed. In other industries conditions were not uniform; in all of them some establishments were reported to be actively employed, while, in others, conditions were stated to be not so satisfactory. Apart from those branches of the textile trades in which employment has declined, there were some in which an improvement was reported, as, for example, in the Crefeld velvet and silk industry.'

Returns from Trade Unions .- Returns relating to unemployment were furnished by 35 trade unions having an aggregate membership of 945,112, apart from those serving in the Army or Navy. Omitting branches which failed to make returns, the membership covered was 901,272, of whom 22,293, or 2.5 per cent., were unemployed at the end of October, as compared with 2.6 per ent. in the preceding month and with 10.9 per cent. in October, 1914.

Unions.		Member- ship reported on at end of October	Percentage of Membership reported as Unemployed at end of Month.			
		1915.	Oct., 1915.	Sept., 1915.	Oct., 1914.	
All Unions making Returns		901,272	2.5	2.6	10.9	
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:— Building trade operatives Painters Metal workers (Soc. Dem.)	: :	82,305 10,247 247,756	0·9 3·4 1·0	0·9 1·3 1·3	9.2 † 8·4	
Duncker) Metal workers (Christian) Textile workers (Soc. Dem.) Hat makers	(Hirsch	67,241 8,054	0.9 0.9 11.4 31.8 2.7	0.6 0.7 10.4 37.4 2.7	4·8 7·6 9·1 40·5 6·9	
Transport workers Printers (book and job) Lithographers Bookbinders		78,103 31,200 7,216 17,757	0·5 0·5 2·2 8·4	0·8 0·8 2·3 9·5	6·1 29·9 25·2 24·0	
Saddlers and bag makers Leather workers (Soc. Dem.) Woodworkers Soc. Dem.) Porcelain Workers Bakers		7,373 74,460	1.7 9.0 2.4 12.7	2·2 6·9 2·7 12·3 1·1	9·2 6·5 23·1 31·2 4·9	
Brewery and corn mill workers Tobacco workers Factory workers, irrespective o		22,397 19.489	0.7 0.6 0.9	0.6 0.6	1·5 5·0 6·9	
(Soc. Dem.) State and municipal workers	:: ::	88,131 27,066	0.5	0.2	1.2	

Among male members of trade unions the percentage unemployed at the end of October was 1.0, as compared with 1.2 at the end of the preceding month and with 9.9 in October, 1914. Among women members the percentage unemployed at the end of October was 10.0, as compared with 10.0‡ also in September and with 18.5 in

Returns from Labour Exchanges.—Returns relating to October were furnished by 900 Labour Exchanges, and howed the proportion of applications for work to every 00 situations registered as vacant to have been as

			October, 1915.	September, 1915.	October, 1914.
Males Females	 	 	 89	89	154
remaies	 	 	 182	170	191

* Reichsarbeitsblatt (the journal of the German Department of Labour latistics), November, 1916.
† No Return.
† Revised figures,

From these figures it appears that while the position in October remained as in the previous month in regard to men, it had deteriorated in the case of women, a greater proportion of whom had been registered at the Labour Exchanges as unemployed.

Returns from Sickness Insurance Societies.—Returns as to the situation at 1st November, 1915, showed that among male members there was a decrease of 76,691, or 1.69 per cent., and, among female members, an increase of 66,948, or 1.84 per cent., as compared with the 1st

RETAIL FOOD PRICES. UNITED KINGDOM AT 1st DECEMBER.

COMPARISON WITH 1ST NOVEMBER.

RETAIL prices of food rose less than 2 per cent. during the month. Flour, bread, milk, potatoes and chees showed advances of from 2 to 3 per cent. The price of eggs continued to rise, partly owing to seasonal causes. With these exceptions prices remained practically the same as a month ago.

COMPARISON WITH A YEAR AGO.

As compared with 1st December, 1914, there was an average increase of 24 per cent. Beef and tea were dearer at the later date by about 30 per cent. Mutton, flour, bread, butter, and eggs have advanced since a year ago to the extent of about 25 per cent. Milk, cheese, and bacon showed increases of about 20 per cent.; sugar and potatoes, 15 per cent. Fish was dearer to the extent of 50 per cent. The price of margarine showed an increase of 3 per cent. only as compared with a year

COMPARISON WITH JULY, 1914.

In the following Table is given a percentage comparison of the level of prices at 1st December, 1915, in relation to the normal prices of July, 1914, the month preceding the outbreak of war, figures for large towns and for small towns and villages being shown separately:-

	Increa	entage se since 7, 1914.			Percentage Increase since July, 1914.		
Article.	Large Towns.	Small Towns and Villages	Article.		Large Towns.	Small Towns and Villages	
Beef, British—	12 13	1 4 5	Bread		43	37	
Ribs		35	Tea		49	48	
Thin flank		40	Sugar (granulated)		97	89	
Beef, Chilled or Frozen			Milk		29	26	
Ribs		43	Potatoes		1*	13*	
Thin flank	. 68	56	Margarine		7 .	6	
Mutton, British-	-		Butter—	212	77		
Legs		29	Fresh		33	35	
Breast	. 48	34	Salt		31	34	
Mutton, Frozen—	45	70	Cheese		29	29	
Legs		37	Eggs (fresh)		102	112	
Breast		55	1 1 1	770	- TO THE REAL PROPERTY NAMED IN COLUMN TWO I	Residence .	
Bacon (streaky) .		27	ALL ABOVE ARTICI		5.00		
Fish		66	(WEIGHTED NET PI		10	10	
Flour (households) .	. 43	48	CENTAGE INCREA	SE)	46	42	

In most places the price of granulated sugar continues to be double that prevailing in July, 1914—i.e., 4d instead of 2d. per lb. Tea is about 50 per cent. dearer, an increase of 9d. per lb., 7d. of which is accounted for by increased duty. Fish is much dearer, with wide variations in different localities. British meat has increased nearly 40 per cent. in price on the whole, and imported meat about 50 per cent. Flour prices have advanced 45 per cent., and bread prices 40 per cent. Bacon, milk, butter and cheese are about 30 per cent. dearer. Margarine shows a very slight advance. Pota-

toes and eggs are affected by seasonal causes.

Taking the country as a whole, and making allowance for the relative importance of the various articles in working-class household expenditure, the average increase in the retail prices of food since the beginning of the war may be put at 44 per cent. This figure relates to food only, and in estimating the increased cost of living

[†] In the mining and textile industries a contraction in the demand for labour is usually met by short time working.

this increase must not be applied to the total family expenditure, but only to that proportion which is expended on food.

BERLIN

(a) Official Returns for October.

According to the returns published in the official journal Statistische Korrespondenz, retail food prices in Berlin showed an increase in October as compared with the preceding month in twelve out of the nineteen articles comprised in the Table below. The rises amounted to 29.1 per cent. for butter, 24.3 per cent. for lard, 23.5 per cent. for eggs, and 10.5 per cent. for bacon, while smaller increases were recorded in other cases, varying from 0.5 per cent. for pork to 7.9 per cent. for haricot beans. On the other hand, sugar and mutton became slightly cheaper in October, and bread, flour and potatoes showed no change. Taking all articles together and making allowance for their relative importance in working-class consumption, the net result arrived at is that food prices in general were 8.3 per cent. higher in October than in September.

Taking July, 1914, as a basis, every article of food in the Table showed an increase in price by October, 1915. Lard, eggs, bacon, rice, split peas and haricot beams cost at least three times as much, and butter and pork more than twice as much, as before the war. On the whole, the general level of food prices in October was 93 2 per

cent. higher than in July, 1914.

a conia bos	ticle.		well.	Increase in October, 1915, as compared with				
, dans red (A de			September, 1915.	July, 1914.			
freedor's and				Per cent.	Per cent.			
Rye bread				No change.	42.9			
Wheat bread		06.11	27.8	No change.	27.7			
Rye flour				No change.	60.0			
Wheat flour				No change.	28.6			
Butter			10.33	29.1	1135			
Lard				24.3	272.1			
ugar	0000	11000		1.6*	20.0			
Coffee				5.6	22.6			
Eggs	3	10001	1399	23.5	200.0			
Milk		6.57		7.1	36.4			
Beef	P.LE.	46.40	4.00	1.1	59.4			
Mutton	40. A			4.9*	51.5			
Veal				1.6	54.4			
Pork	07.88	程初發	08.88	0.5	145.7			
Bacon				10.5	203.6			
Potatoes	2000			No change.	25.0			
Rice				6.3	240.0			
Split peas				2.3	235.0			
Haricot beans			10000	7.9	200.0			
ALL ABOVE ARTI	CLES (WEIGI	ITED	8.3	93.2			

(b) Municipal Returns for November.

Certain figures compiled by the Berlin Municipal Statistical Bureau; showing the average prices of a somewhat different series of articles of food in November, 1914, and November, 1915, make it possible to calculate the changes in price as between these two periods. These are shown in the following Table:—

Articl	Increase in November, 1915, as compared with November, 1914.				
24 PA COLUMNIE					Per cent.
Butter				77.00	55-6
Cheese, 5 varieties		1.000	24.		52.3
Margarine					82.4
Wheat flour				1000000	19.5
SAME AND ADDRESS OF AN ADDRESS OF AN ADDRESS.			17. ·	1500	
Datmeal, 2 varieties					31.7
	1100	550.5	1000		105.9
Pearl barley					100.0
Sugar, white granulated		10 45 8	5 35.00	200.3	22.7
Peas, 4 varieties					24-4
Cinned meat					18.3
Sausage, 8 varieties	300000			20:00	
Ham and bacon, 3 varieties	LICENY.	500.00	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		98.2
	See. 1		60000		84 7
Potatoes	12.	433923	104500	2 300	No change.
Cabbage, 2 varieties	1				157:1
alt			1000	3(3)	2.5*
Manual de la companya del companya del la companya del companya de la companya del companya de la companya del la companya de la companya del la companya de	1366	2000	4/200	198.9	
Tornings	1	3000	4.4.3	2000	10 d d d 20 83·3
rerrings			200		102 8-

The average increase works out to about 61 per cent. between the two periods, or, in other words, if an equal quantity of each commodity (say, one lb.) were purchased in November of each year, the total cost in 1915 would be 61 per cent. greater than in 1914.

It should be observed that the percentages do not represent the rise as compared with normal prices (as they do in the foregoing Table for October), and hence the increase in the twelve months does not indicate the full rise in the cost of food during the war period. In November, 1914, as a matter of fact, the general level of retail food prices in Berlin was already about 21 per cent. above that of the latest normal month, viz., July, 1914 (see BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE, January, 1915, p. 5).

ITALY IN SEPTEMBER

The percentages in the following Table, showing the increase or decrease in retail food prices in September, as compared with the preceding month and with September, 1914, are based on index numbers published in the issue for 1st November of the journal of the Italian Labour Department (Bollettino dell' Ufficio del Lavoro), and relate to 45 towns in Italy. The method adopted by the Italian Department in constructing these index numbers was described shortly in the August issue of the BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE, p. 277.

		Aı	rticle.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in September, 1915, as compared with					
eradt .	Store Store	ifes				odej.	Aug.	, 1915.	Sept., 1914.
Wheat bre	and	ei.		Ban	10/1		Per	cent.	Per cent.
Wheat flo		-		-		-		1.5	+ 21.4
Macaroni,	etc.	SES	entity :	30000	1 618	200	SECTION AND PROPERTY.	1.9	+ 30.8
Roof					00.9	100	1	3.2	+ 25.8
Bacon	103.00	1,000	The same	1000	200		T	3.9	+ 52·1 + 27·7
Olive oil	-		d. no	93186	NE STA	200	Noo	hange.	+ 21.1
OHIVE OH			STATE OF THE PARTY.				1100	5·4	+ 4.2

Compared with corresponding figures for July, 1914, the prices for September show on the whole an advance of 26 per cent.

THE FOOD AND RAW MATERIAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE Dominions Royal Commission* under its terms of reference was charged with the duty (amongst others) of inquiring into the food and raw material requirements of the United Kingdom and the available sources of supply. When this part of the reference came under consideration it was found that, while some statistical publications dealt with imports and exports, and others with home production, no attempt had hitherto been made, on any considerable scale, to correlate the two sets of figures in order to ascertain what the requirements of the United Kingdom really are. The Commission accordingly caused statistical tables to be prepared in order to supply this deficiency, so far as the materials available permit, and in particular to indicate the share of the food and raw material needed for the United Kingdom which the Dominions and the rest of the Empire provide. These tables have now been published with an introductory memorandum.*

With regard to the question as to how far the Dominions are supplying the main requirements of the Mother Country, a general survey of the figures shows that there has been a decided tendency, during the period 1901-1913, for the United Kingdom to draw an increasing proportion of its food supplies from sources within the Empire, but no similar tendency is apparent in the case of raw materials.

I.-Food

The proportionate contribution from the Dominions and India to the total wheat requirements of the United Kingdom shows a very marked increase, having risen from 23.7 per cent. in the period 1901-5 to 39.5 per cent. in 1911-13. This large increase is to be mainly accounted for by the great extension of wheat cultivation in Canada since 1900.

As the United Kingdom is dependent for so large a proportion of its wheat supplies on the surplus of oversea countries, it is of material interest to examine whether this surplus is increasing, or whether the growth of popu-

lation is proceeding more rapidly than the extension of the wheat-growing area. The following Table, extracted from the memorandum, is based on estimates made by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries in 1912:—

Wheat-growing Countries.	Wheat	t Area.	Per- centage	Popul	Per-	
	1901.	1911.	In- crease.	1901.	1911.	In- crease.
British Empire (United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zea-	Thousand acres. 34,696	Thousand acres. 50,490	+ 45.5	Thou- sands. 283,385	Thou- sands. 302,154	+ 6.6
land and India) European countries Others	98,326 67,908	115,105 81,408	+ 17·1 + 19·9	291,685 139,927	337,181 168,818	+ 15.6 + 20.6

It is important to find that, while in foreign countries, both European and extra-European, the increase of wheat area is proceeding at practically the same rate as the increase of population, in the British Empire the wheat area is developing far more rapidly, so that the Empire as a whole is becoming more self-supporting. The total production of wheat within the British Empire, which in 1901 amounted to 227,500,000 cwts., had risen to 399,700,000 cwts. in 1911, thus showing an increase of no less than 75 per cent.

In the case of meat, an interesting feature is the almost complete diversion of the source of imported beef supplies of the United Kingdom from the United States of America to the Argentine Republic and Australia. This is to be explained by the fact that during the period 1901-1911 the meat-producing stock of the United States, with the possible exception of pigs, decreased, whereas the population there increased by over 16 millions, or nearly 21 per cent., and the surplus of meat on which the United Kingdom relied for its main overseas supply has now practically ceased to exist. The United States has, in fact, become an importer rather than an exporter of beef, and its competition with the United Kingdom for supplies from the meat-producing countries

Attention is drawn to the continued rise in the price of all kinds of meat, and to the apparent fact that, for the first time for many years, a higher level of prices cannot be relied on to draw at once additional supplies to the British market. It is also pointed out that the British consumer has been protected from a rise in the price of meat which would have made it a rare luxury for large masses of the community only by the policy which has maintained and encouraged the breeding and feeding of stock in the United Kingdom.

of the Southern Hemisphere will, in all probability,

II.—RAW MATERIALS.

The output of coal in the United Kingdom increased from 219 million tons in 1901 to 287 million tons in 1913. Of the latter quantity 98 million tons were exported, leaving 189 million tons available for home consumption, or an average of 4·12 tons per annum per head of population. It has been calculated that the actual reserve of coal in the United Kingdom amounts to 139,225 million tons, and that there is in addition a "probable and possible" reserve of 47,262 million tons. Similar calculations give the following figures as to reserves of coal in the Dominions:—

1 100 100				12		Actual Reserves.	Probable and Possible Reserves.
Canada Australia New Zealand	 	::			- :	Million Tons. 408,323 2,253 985	Million Tons. 806,661 160,702 2,348
- Dougland			••			300	2,040

It is stated that, though enormous supplies of iron ore exist in the Dominions, in many cases the development of the output has not been sufficiently great to justify any definite statement as to future ore tonnages or as to quality and grade. At present Newfoundland is the only British Possession from which the United Kingdom derives any appreciable amount of iron ore or pyrites. Though the deposits are very large and easily accessible, the ore obtained from them is not suitable for treatment by the acid process in the manu-

facture of steel. During the last ten years, however, the output of basic steel in the United Kingdom has increased more rapidly than that of acid steel, and accordingly it is probable that a steadily growing market will be provided for Newfoundland ore.

Exports of copper ore from Australia have shown signs of expansion, and with the provision of adequate transit facilities should increase further. Australian exports of silver-lead concentrates have gone in past years almost entirely to foreign countries, and there is an obvious opportunity for the diversion of a considerable amount of raw material to the United Kingdom. Australia also produces large quantities of zinc, a very considerable proportion of which was absorbed by Germany. As the output of zinc ore in the United Kingdom has of recent years shown a decided decrease, there is again an opportunity for a similar diversion of trade. As regards the rarer metals which are becoming of increasing importance in industry, and particularly in the manufacture of steel, Canada is one of the main sources of supply of nickel, and considerable supplies of tungsten ore are available from Australia and New Zealand.

MOBILISATION OF INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS IN ITALY.

A Decree published by the Italian Government on 22nd August makes provision for the organisation of industry for the purposes of the war. Seven District Committees are set up throughout the country, to act as centres of control over the industrial concerns mobilised for the supply of munitions of war, and to keep the War Office and the Admiralty informed of industrial conditions generally. Each consists of seven members-one representing the Army (or Navy), two civilian experts, two representatives of manufacturers, and two of labour, the last four, however, having only consultative status on the Committee. A Central Committee is constituted to examine and decide questions relating to industrial mobilisation, which may be referred to it either by the Ministries or by the District Committees. The Central Committee consists of nine members, comprising the Under-Secretary for Munitions of War (President), representatives of the Army, the Navy, the Cabinet, and the Treasury, also four civilian experts.

The Minister of War is empowered to declare by Decree what private industrial establishments or departments thereof which produce materials necessary for supplying the needs of the Army and Navy are to be recognised as establishments mobilised for the war. All the staff employed in such establishments or departments are subject to military jurisdiction, and the commanders of territorial divisions appoint officers to exercise disciplinary surveillance over the staff. Such surveillance may, however, be delegated to the local police. The declaration that an establishment is mobilised for the purpose of the war makes no alteration in the management either of men or machinery, and leaves unchanged the wages of all the workpeople employed. Resignations, discharges, or transfers of workmen from one mobilised establishment to another may not take place without the written consent of the District Committee, and workmen may not pass from one establishment to another situated in a different district except by previous agreement between the two District Committees concerned.

It is provided that contracts of service in force between manufacturers and workpeople, whatever may be the date fixed for their expiration, shall be held to be valid until the end of three months after the end of the war, "except for possible exceptions and modifications which may be found expedient."

All disputes as to working arrangements and as to wages that may arise between the employers and their workpeople must be referred without delay to the District Committees. If a dispute cannot be settled in an amicable way, the Committee has to decide the question at issue. An appeal against such decision is allowed only to the Central Committee, whose decision is final.

* Bollettino dell' Ufficio del' Lavoro (the Journal of the Italian Department of Labour), 1st October, 1915.

* Cd. 8123.

^{*} Decrease. † For the purpose of weighting, use has been made of consumption data from various German sources. , ‡ Published in Varwarts, 24th November.

INDUSTRIAL CANTEENS.

THE Health of Munition Workers Committee, appointed to consider and advise on questions of industrial fatigue, hours of labour, and other matters affecting the personal health and physical efficiency of workers in munition factories and workshops" have made a Report* on the question of Industrial Canteens.

Although workers are getting a better type of food than formerly, large numbers of both sexes do not obtain a proper dietary day by day such as to fit them for hard, long, or rapid work. The difficulties in the way of adequate feeding arise mainly where meals must be taken away from home, and these difficulties are now increased by the prevalence of night labour and the large number of men and women who come long distances to their work. Food brought from home to be consumed cold is limited in kind, and may get stale or undergo degeneration, if kept in a warm place. Food brought to be warmed up is not so nourishing as freshly cooked food, and it is difficult to deal with a large number of varying kinds of food; and if the worker is compelled to cook his own meal valuable time is lost.

The modern progress of factory management reveals a variety of efforts to solve the problem of supplying suitable food at a low price for large numbers of persons at specified times. There has been development in the provision of proprietary concerns, and philanthropic movements have been initiated with this purpose; but by far the most hopeful enterprise has been the establishment by employers of Industrial Canteens or workpeople's dining rooms, in or near the factory itself. Speaking generally, it may be said that the accommodation provided accords with one or other of the following types:—(a) An available room for the workers to eat their prepared food; (b) a room furnished with a "hot plate" or "warming cupboard," or provided with hot water; (c) a refreshment barrow to perambulate the workshops at appointed hours (particularly useful for light refreshments during long spells or night shifts); (d) a fixed refreshment bar or buffet; (e) a dining-room supplying cheap hot and cold dinners; and (f) such a dining-room associated with an institute or club, with facilities for rest and recreation. Some of these types may be suitably combined, and although arrangements indicated in (c) and (d) may prove sufficient and satisfactory in certain circumstances, the provision of proper meals seems obtainable only in the types (e) and (f).

In order to ensure effective results, the canteen must be conveniently situated and attractive, clean, warm, light and well ventilated. The Committee recognise that in certain districts, and in special circumstances, there may be a case for the establishment of "wet' canteens where alcoholic beverages may be obtainable. They point out, however, that such canteens would require particularly careful supervision, and that it might be necessary to impose restrictions in regard to the sale of intoxicants. Particulars are given in the Memorandum of the suggested form, construction and equipment of the premises, of the kinds and prices of food, of methods of securing prompt service, and of methods of payment and of management. As regards Controlled Munition Works, the Central Control Board (Liquor Traffic) is empowered to make grants in aid of capital expenditure for the erection of canteens approved

The Committee have been much impressed with the consensus of opinion which they have found as to the substantial advantages to both employers and workers following the establishment of an effective and wellmanaged canteen. These benefits have been direct and indirect. Among the former have been a marked improvement in the health and physical condition of the workers, a reduction in sickness, less absence and broken time, less tendency to alcoholism, and an increased efficiency and output; among the latter the greater contentment and the saving of the time of the workpeople, the salutary results of the brief change from

the workshop at mid-day, and the better ventilation obtainable thereby. The Committee are satisfied that the evidence of these results is substantial, indisputable, and widespread.

SUNDAY LABOUR IN MUNITION WORKS.

A MEMORANDUM on the subject of Sunday labour has recently been drawn up by the "Health of Munition Workers Committee." This Committee was appointed in September last to "consider and advise on questions of industrial fatigue, hours of labour, and other matters affecting the physical health and physical efficiency of workers in munition factories and workshops." In the course of their investigations the Committee have been so impressed with the urgency and importance of the problem of Sunday labour that they have made it the subject of an Interim Report without waiting until they were in a position to deal also with other questions covered by their terms of reference.

Evidence was taken in London and other important centres from employers, representatives of workers and other interested persons, and, in addition, a large number of factories and workshops in different parts of the country have been visited.

From the information thus collected the Committee found that the great majority of the employers consulted were unfavourably disposed to Sunday labour, although the practice has been widely adopted either on account of heavy demands of output or because employers have been forced into it by a desire of their workpeople to obtain the increased pay. The objections advanced by employers have been classified in the Report under the following three heads:—
(a) Administrative.—Supervision is difficult, and im-

poses a severe strain on the foremen, yet deputies are not

(b) Economic.—Sunday labour means high wages, often coupled with increased cost of running the works. Though attendance on Sundays is generally good, it is not always accompanied by a satisfactory individual output, while it is often associated with bad time keeping on other days of the week.

(c) Religious and Social.—There is a considerable feeling that the seventh day, as a period of rest, is good for body and mind.

The Report further states that there is undoubtedly already some tendency towards a reduction or discontinuance of Sunday labour. Many employers testified to the fact that seven days' labour only produced six days' output; that reductions in Sunday work have not involved any appreciable loss of output, and even the less observant of the managers seem to be impressed with the fact that the strain is showing an evil effect.

The evidence from the side of the employees would also seem to be in favour of the abolition of Sunday work. Though such labour may have been popular with the workers in the first instance, Trade Union officials seem clearly of opinion that the men are now feeling the need of more rest, to which need is attributed much of the lost time.

The Committee therefore strongly recommend that if the maximum output is to be secured and maintained for any length of time, a weekly period of rest must be allowed to all classes of workers, and they expressly extend this recommendation to the case of the foremen and the higher management, among whom they noted obvious signs of overwork. The Committee considers that, on economic and social grounds alike, this weekly period of rest is best provided on Sunday, and are accordingly of opinion that Sunday work should be confined :-

(a) To sudden emergencies, including the occasional making-up of arrears in particular sections; and

(b) To repairs, tending furnaces, &c. (the men so employed being given a corresponding period of rest during some other part of the week).

Further, the Committee suggest that, pending a general discontinuance of Sunday labour, there are various ways of mitigating the evil, among which may

(a) Where two shifts are worked, to discontinue the practice by which the change from one shift to the other is made by working continuously for a period and a half, instead of closing down on Saturday night or during the period of the day shift on Sunday.

(b) Where three eight-hour shifts are worked to omit

one or two shifts on Sunday.

(c) Where workers are employed only during the day with overtime, to reduce, as far as possible, the hours of

work on Sunday.

(d) To give all workers alternate Sundays off, or at the very least a Sunday off at frequent intervals. Various ways of giving effect to this last recommenda-

tion are suggested.

In conclusion, the Committee anticipate that if a large measure of reform is to be secured in regard to continuous labour and excessive hours of work, it may be necessary to impose certain restrictions on all controlled establishments, since competition and other causes frequently make it difficult for individual employers to act independently.

LABOUR IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES. GERMANY.

[Note.—As to employment in Germany during October, see

Labour Disputes in the Third Quarter of 1915.*—The number of disputes which began in the third quarter of 1915 was 33. In addition to these, 5 disputes which began before 1st July were in progress during the quarter. The total number of disputes which were in progress at some time during the quarter was therefore 38, as compared with 234 in the corresponding quarter of 1914. Of the total number of disputes 37 were strikes and one was a lock-out.

All the above-mentioned disputes terminated during the period under notice. The industries principally affected were building (794 workpeople directly involved), mining (320), and engineering (244). The total number of workpeople affected in all trades was 2,033, of whom 1,703 were on strike or locked and the contraction of the out, while 330 employed at the establishments concerned were indirectly involved, i.e., forced to cease work, but were not themselves on strike or locked out. Four of the disputes terminated in favour of the workpeople, and 21 in favour of the employers, the remaining 13 ending in compromises.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Employment in Austria in July.—The latest available official information concerning unemployment in Austria relates to July, and appears in the issue of Soziale Rundschau (the journal of the Austrian Department of Labour Statistics) for August-September. The figures are summarised in the Table below, particulars being given also for the previous month and for July,

Union.	Membership making Re- turns as to Unem-	Percentage reported un- employed at end of Month.			
couply Review of the Unit ceillen's gives a further cor			June, 1915.	July, 1914.	
All Unions Together	93,964	3.3	33	5.3	
PRINCIPAL UNIONS: Metal workers Textile Workers (Social Democratic) Do. (Christian) Printers and typefounders Lithographers Bookbinders Woodworkers Saddlers and leather workers Commercial and transport workers.	28,936 30,667 2,383 8,278 2,290 2,313 3,766 2,559 7,084	0.6 5.2 1.9 5.1 3.3 1.7 4.5 0.1 0.3	0.7 4.3 1.9 5.7 5.1 3.9 5.2 †	5·5 1·7 2·6 5·4 5·8 8·7 8·6 5·3 1·3	

The percentage of male members out of employment at the end of July was 2.4, as compared with 2.5 per cent. in June, and with 5.6 per cent. in July, 1914; among female members the percentages at corresponding dates were 6.5, 6.2 and 3.5.

NORWAY.*

Employment in October.—The following Table shows the percentage of members reported unemployed at the end of October in certain trade unions making returns to the Statistical Office of the Norwegian Department of Labour, Commerce, Industry and Fisheries, comparative figures being added for the previous month and for October, 1914:-

	N	Iembersh	ip.	Percentage Unemployed.		
Group of Trades.	31st Oct., 1915.	30th Sept., 1915.	31st Oct. 1914.	31st Oct., 1915.	30th Sept., 1915.	31st Oct. 1914
Bricklayers and Masons (Christiania)	773	776	638	0.4	0.3	0.9
Carpenters, &c Painters (Christiania)	1,683	1,651	1,430	0.2	0.1	2.5
Motel Workson	465	480	423	2.4	1.0	2.4
Boot and Shoe Makers	8,497 785	8,485 773	8,280	0.5	0.6	2.0
Wood Pulp and Papermakers	715	717	735 650	0.8	0.6	1.5
Printers	1,968	1.963	1.898	3:0	4-4	0·5 5·0
Bookbinders (Christiania)	644	634	587	0.9	2.1	3.7
Planers and Sawyers	422	415	355	11.6	5.3	11.0
Cabinet Makers	600	593	535	1.2	0.7	1.9
Bakers (Christiania)	445	440	450	5.2	3.2	11.3
Tinned goods (Stavanger)	575	605	481	10.3	7.4	4.6
TOTAL	17,572	17,532	16,462	1.5	1.5	2.9

ITALY.

Labour Disputes in September.—According to data published in the issue for 1st November of the Bollettino dell' Ufficio del Lavoro (the journal of the Department of Labour Statistics of the Italian Ministry of Agriculture. Industry and Commerce), 46 disputes took place during September, the number of workpeople taking part in 44 of these being 35,613. In the preceding month 34 disputes were recorded, in which 4,212 work-people took part; while in September, 1914, 39 disputes occurred, 6,433 workpeople taking part in 35 of these. The group of trades most seriously affected by disputes in September was the textile, in which no less than 32,329 workpeople were involved; 763 workpeople were directly affected by disputes in the metal trades and 700 in the transport. The above three groups of trades comprise 95 per cent. of the aggregate number of workpeople taking part in disputes.

In addition to the above industrial disputes two occurred in September among agricultural labourers employed in the rice-fields.

RUSSIA.+

Condition of Industry in 1914.—In a statement recently made by the Minister of Commerce in the Duma he thus describes the general condition of Russian industry in the year 1914:—" In the first half of 1914 industry showed an advance comparable with that of the year 1909. With the advent of war, however, a remarkable depression took place, which has shown itself in the reduced output of a number of factories and workshops which were not directly engaged on work required by the Government. This condition, however, did not long continue. After a few months a renewed demand for manufactured goods arose in connection with the increased Government contracts and also with the enhanced purchasing power of the people resulting from the prohibition of the sale of spirituous liquor. The cessation of imports of many products from abroad also led to new branches of manufacture being taken up. At the end of the year 1914 the number of workpeople occupied in the industrial establishments subject to inspection throughout the Empire (excluding the Kingdom of Poland) amounted to 1,960,860, as compared with 1,966,144 at the end of the year 1913. This represents a total decrease of 5,284 persons, or 0.3 per cent. The total number of industrial establishments subject to inspection

Reichsarbeitsblatt (the Journal of the German Department of Labour Adistics), November, 1415.

† Less than 0 05 per cent, unemployed.

^{*} Information furnished by the Statistical Office of the Norwegian Department of Labour, Commerce, Industry, and Fisheries.

⁺ Journal of the Central War Industry Committee, 6th October. Petrograd.

at the end of 1914 was 14,046, as compared with 13,683 at the end of the preceding year, an increase of 363, or 2.6 per cent."

UNITED STATES.

Employment in New York State in September .- The following statement, based upon returns from manufacturers in the State of New York, is taken from the second (November) issue of the new monthly Bulletin of the New York State Industrial Commission: -

The improvement in business which has been manifest all the summer continued throughout September, the number of factory employees in that month being 5 per cent. greater than in August, and the amount paid in wages being 4 per cent. greater. Although, in manufacturing, September is a more active month than August, the improvement in September of 1915 over August was more marked than the improvement during the same period in 1914. Further, whereas the actual trend of manufacturing activity from June to September of 1914 was downward, the general trend in the same period of 1915 was upward. In September the State's manufacturing establishments employed 5 per cent. more hands and paid out 9 per cent. more in wages than a

The greatest improvement was shown by the metal working industry; in each month from May to September that industry has shown increasing strength compared with the corresponding months of 1914. The largest increases were shown by concerns manufacturing firearms, automobiles and parts thereof, while rolling mills showed but slightly less important gains. The manufacture of brass, copper, and aluminium goods, although somewhat less active than in August, showed still in September far greater strength than a year ago. September showed marked improvement also among the group of concerns manufacturing typewriters, instruments and appliances. The only branch of the metal working industry which is not operating at least as actively as in 1914 is the manufacture of architectural and structural iron.

Next in importance to the metal working industry in extent of improvement, although employing but onefourth of the force of the metal group, is the fur and leather working industry, which has shown not only increases in the number of employees and wages paid from month to month, but also activity progressively greater from month to month compared with the corresponding months in 1914. The boot and shoe industry employed 11 per cent. more hands and paid out 20 per cent. more in wages in September than a year ago. The fur industry has all the summer shown greatly increased activity over 1914, especially in August; in September of this year there was a marked increase in this industry, largely seasonal.

The stone, clay and glass industry, although less active in September this summer than a year ago, showed a slight improvement in that month. Lime, cement and plaster mills especially were more active in September than in August.

The woodworking industry, as a whole, showed some improvement both in August and again in September, despite the fact that the lumber and planing mill industry has been less active than a year ago. The furniture industry and the piano industry showed improvement all through the summer.

The chemical industry, although slightly less active in September than in the previous month, sustained the ratio of improvement over 1914 shown in August.

The printing and paper working industry improved markedly in September; in that month for the first time this summer it was as active as in the corresponding month of 1914. The paper making industry, on the contrary, lost ground in September.

The textile industry exhibited greater activity in September than in July or August; although the gain over statistics, October, 1915.

1914 was less marked in September than in August, it was decidedly greater than the gain over one year ago shown in June and July.

Increased activity shown in the clothing industry in September was due largely to seasonal fluctuations, the industry as a whole being still below 1914 in volume of business. The improvement in September was largely in women's clothing and millinery.

The food, beverages, and tobacco group in general showed no changes in August or September, still standing somewhat below 1914, although improvement was shown in September in milling and among confectionery establishments. Tobacco manufacturers lost in September the slight gain recorded in August.

Labour Exchanges in the United States: Federal Organisation.—Under the Act of March 4th, 1913, creating the United States Department of Labour, the Division of Information was transferred to the new Department from the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalisation. Before that date the work of the Division had been almost entirely limited to securing positions for immigrant aliens, but under the Act referred to enlarged powers were given to it. The Federal labour exchanges, which work under the control of the Division throughout the States, are grouped into eighteen zones, in each of which there is a head office, with associated branch offices in important districts. Blank forms for the use of employers or workpeople in making application to the exchanges are obtainable at every post office throughout the States, and may be forwarded post free to the officer in charge of the zone in which the post office is situated. The services of the Division are free both to employers and workpeople. As regards the relation of these labour exchanges to those established by State or municipal bodies the Federal Secretary of Labour stated* that their purpose was not to supersede State or municipal agencies, but to supplement these and make their work more effective.

A résumé of the work of the Division from February onwards carried on through these national labour exchanges appears in recent numbers of the Monthly Review of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics, the following Table, showing the number of applications for employment and the number of places filled from February to September inclusive, being given in the November issue:

	Mo	nth.		No. of Applications for Employment.	No. of Situations Filled.	No. of Applications per 100 Situations Filled.	
February	, , , ,	V		19,474	307	6,343	
March			10000	17,780	849	2,094	
April		BESSET.	A	 12,587	1,536	819	
May				12,132	3,565	340	
June	NORTH T			 14,448	4,682	309	
July	900	0.0		18,061	6,035	299	
August			3530301	 17,827	6,767	264	
Septemb				 13,334	5,405	247	
	Total			 125,643	29,136	431	

Cost of Food in Working-Class Families in July. The October issue of the Monthly Review of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics gives a further series of data relating to retail prices of food in July in fortyfour important centres (for June figures see p. 397 of BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for November).

Average retail prices are shown for seventeen articles of food. Of these six showed a rise in July, 1915, as compared with July, 1914 (the greatest increases being 20 per cent. for wheaten flour and 17 per cent. for sugar), while eleven showed a drop in price (the greatest decreases being 21 per cent. for eggs and 22 per cent. for potatoes). On the whole, taking into consideration the average consumption of each article in working-class families, there was a fall of 1 per cent. in the general level of food prices in July as compared with the corresponding month of 1914.

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM DURING NOVEMBER.

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT was very good in November, and showed little change on the whole from the previous month. It was much better than a year ago as regards the number of days worked by the collieries, again showing an average improvement of more than half a day per week, or over 11 per cent. The number of workpeople employed, however, showed a decrease of 7.6 per cent. on the number in November, 1914. As compared with October, there was an increase in the number employed of 0.3 per cent. Of the 531,410 workpeople included in the returns 233,678, or 44 per cent., were employed at pits working 12 days* during the fortnight to which the returns relate, while a further 212,285, or 39.9 per cent., were employed at pits working 11 days, but less than 12 days. Thus 83.9 per cent. of the workpeople were employed at oits working 11 days or more during the fortnight.

The highest average number of days worked in the week ended 27th November were in Gloucester and North Wales (5:90 days), in Ireland (5:91 days), and in North Wales (5:90 days), and the lowest average was in

West Scotland (5.00 days).

Districts.	No. of Work- people employed in Nov., 1916,	work	e number ed per w collierie rtnight er	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Nov., 1915, on a		
	at the Collieries included in the Table.	27th Nov., 1915.	23rd Oct., 1915.	28th Nov., 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.
RNGLAND AND WALES. Northumberland Durham Cumberland South Yorkshire West Yorkshire Lancashire and Cheshire Derbyshire Nottingham and Lelcester Staffordshire Warwick, Worcester, and Salop Gloucester and Somerset North Wales South Wales and Mon ENGLAND AND WALES	40,151 87,052 7,242 61,772 24,100 47,011 33,721 34,726 25,383 8,427 6,193 9,522 103,816	Days. 6·42 5·53 5·72 6·88 5·59 6·79 5·45 6·45 6·82 5·76 5·97 6·90 5 68	Days. 6'48 5'48 5'81 5'87 5'77 5'75 5'45 5'81 5'82 5'95 5'72 8'66	Days. 4'05 4'62 5'56 5'42 4'90 5'12 5'39 4'94 5'62 5'56 5'13 5'92 5'41	Days 0 06 + 0.05 - 0.12 + 0.07 - 0.09 + 0.01 - 0.06 + 0.02 + 0.01 - 0.04 + 0.02	Days. + 1:37 + 0:91 + 0:17 + 0:089 + 0:69 + 0:61 + 0:20 + 0:21 + 0:84 - 0:02 + 0:27 + 0:60
SCOTLAND. West Scotland The Lothians Fite SCOTLAND UNITED KINGDOM	19,681 2,370 19,826 41,877 417 531,410	5·00 5·36 5·43 5·23 5·91 5·64	5·32 5·28 5·26 5·29 5·70 5·63	5·09 5·16 4·74 4·91 5·48 5·07	- 0.32 + 0.08 + 0.17 - 0.06 + 0.21 + 0.01	- 0.09 + 0.20 + 0.69 + 0.32 + 0.43 + 0.87

Employment in Northumberland and Durham continued good. In Cumberland it was very good, especially at steam and house coal pits, but showed a decline as compared with October. In West Yorkshire it showed no change from a month ago. In South Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire, and Derbyshire it was very good, and showed some improvement on a month ago. In Nottingham and Leicester it continued good. In North Staffordshire and in Warwick, Worcester and Salop it was very good, though it showed some decline in the latter district; scarcity of labour was reported. In the Bristol coalfield it was good, and in the Forest of Dean and North Wales it was very good; in North Wales the demand exceeded the output. In West Scotland employment was moderate, and showed a decline compared with a month ago, partly owing to shortage of railway waggons. In the Lothians it was good, and better than a month ago. In West Fife it showed an improvement. but in East Fife there was some slackness. Compared with a year ago employment showed a great improvement in every district, except in North Wales and in West Scotland, where there was a slight decline.

* The figures in this article and the following only show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal, iron ore or shale was got and drawn from the mines or open works included in the returns. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed worked every day that the mines or works were open.

The following Table shows the number employed and the average number of days worked per week, distributed according to the principal kind of coal produced at the pits at which the workpeople were engaged:

Description of Coal.	No. of Work- people employed in Nov., 1915, at the	worked	e number per weel in Forts ended	k by the	Dec. Nov.,	+) or (-) in 1915,
a constitution of the cons	Collieries included in the Table.	27th Nov., 1915.	23rd Oct., 1915.	28th Nov., 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Anthracite Coking	6,132 28,886 35,468 61,102 211,851 187,971 531,410	Days. 5 84 5.78 5.47 5.64 5.65 5.63	Days. 5.99 5.74 5.45 5.58 5.68 5.61 5.63	Days. 5.62 5.05 4.80 5.19 5.09 5.03	Days. - 0.15 + 0.04 + 0.02 + 0.06 - 0.03 + 0.02 + 0.01	Days. + 0·22 + 0·73 + 0·67 + 0·45 + 0·56 + 0·60

Compared with a month ago there was a slight improvement at pits producing all classes of coal, except at anthracite and steam coal pits. Compared with a year ago there was a great improvement at all pits, especially at coking and gas coal pits.

The exports of coal, coke and manufactured fuel in November amounted to 3,303,000 tons, a decrease of 468,000 tons on a month ago, and a small increase—23,000 tons—on a year ago. In November, 1913, nearly 6,000,000 tons were exported.

IRON, SHALE AND OTHER MINING, AND QUARRYING.

EMPLOYMENT continued good at iron mines. Shale mines were very active, an average of practically six days per week being worked. In tin mines employment was quiet; lead mines continued busy.

The depression in the North Wales quarries continued, and the china clay industry remained dull; otherwise, employment at quarries was generally fair.

MINING

Iron.—Returns received for each of the three periods named below, relating to the same mines and open works in each case, show that the number of workpeople employed in November, 1915, was 12,798, a decrease of 44 on a month ago, and of 1,011 (or 7.9 per cent.) on a year ago. This variation in the number employed should be borne in mind in connection with the following Table, which gives the number of days that the mines and works were in operation:-

A section of the confidence of	Work- people	work	Number ed per we Fortnig	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Nov 1915, on a		
Districts.	in Nov., 1915.	27th Nov., 1915.	23rd Oct., 1915.	28th Nov., 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Cleveland Cumberland and Lanca- shire	5,535 4,436	Days. 5.62 5.92	Days. 5.90 6.82	Days. 5.99 5.89	Days. - 0.28 + 0.10	Days. - 0.37 + 0.03
Scotland Other Districts	699 2, 128	6·00 5·97	5·62 6·01	5·09 5·69	+ 0.38	+ 0.91 + 0.28
ALL DISTRICTS	12,798	5.80	5.88	5.86	- 0.08	- 0.06

The weekly average number of days * worked by the mines and open works included in the returns was 5.80, compared with 5.88 a month ago and 5.86 a year ago. There was some decline in the Cleveland district compared with both a month ago and a year ago, but a marked improvement in Scotland compared with a year

Shale.—According to the returns received there were 3,088 workpeople employed in the fortnight ended 27th November, 1915, at mines which worked, on the average, 5.96 days per week, compared with 2,998 workpeople in October at mines working 5.75 days per week

* See * note in previous column.

and 3,393 workpeople a year ago at mines working 5.97 days per week.

Tin.—Employment was quiet generally in Cornwall, though a rise in tin prices tended to improve conditions at some mines. More miners would be employed if

Lead.—Employment continued good in Weardale and North Wales, and at Darley Dale (Matlock).

QUARRYING.

Slate.—The depression in North Wales continued, though some slight improvement was reported from the Festiniog district. At Delabole (Cornwall) short time was worked and employment continued bad.

Granite.—In Leicestershire employment was good, but not so good as a year ago. In the Aberdeen district it was dull and much worse than a year ago. In the Plymouth district there was a decline on both a month ago and a year ago.

Limestone.—In the Weardale district employment was fair, and about the same as a year ago. Cleveland district employment was good and better than a year ago. In the Buxton district it was fair; in the Plymouth district it continued quiet.

Other Stone.—The Bakewell chert quarries continued busy. In the Clee Hill road material (basalt) quarries employment continued good. At the Rowsley grindstone and building stone quarries it remained bad, and was worse than a year ago. The depression in Forfarshire continued.

Settmaking.—In Scotland employment was fair generally, though adversely affected by severe weather in certain districts. In Leicestershire it was also fair, but not so good as a year ago. In the Clee Hill district it continued very quiet. At Pwllheli the quarries are closed, but the workpeople are stated to have obtained employment elsewhere.

China Clay .- In the St. Austell district employment continued bad; at Lee Moor and Shaugh it was still fair.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT continued good; work was hindered by the shortage of all classes of labour. There was also great difficulty in obtaining coke for the furnaces, partly on account of the short supplies available, and partly owing to transport difficulties, such as shortage of waggons, etc. Supplies of ironstone, limestone and iron ore were said to be short in certain cases for similar reasons.

Returns received show that 265 furnaces were in blast at the end of November, compared with 266 a month ago and 271 a year ago. During the month one furnace in South Wales was damped down.

The following Table summarises by districts the returns received for November, and gives comparative figures for a month ago and a year ago:-

		f Furnaces rns in Blast	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Nov., 1915, on a		
District.	November, 1915.	October, 1915.	November, 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES:	03 003	CT	77		
Cleveland	67	67	73 26	••	- 6 + 3 + 1
Cumberland & Lancs.	29	29 11	10	-0000	+ 3
S. and S.W. Yorks	11 27	27	35		T 1
Derby & Nottingham					- 0
Leicester, Lincoln,	27	27	26	S 18 . (15)	+ 1
and Northampton Staffs & Worcester	31	31	29	Charles and the same	+ 2
S. Wales & Monmouth	10	11	8	- 1	+ 2
Other districts	5	5	4	47.7 6	+ 1
ENGLAND & WALES -	207	208	211	- 1	- 4
SCOTLAND	58	58	60	PER	- 2
TOTAL -	265	266	271	- 1	- 6

The imports of iron ore in November amounted to rather more than 500,000 tons, an increase of 100,000 tons on October and of 147,000 tons on a year ago, but less by 32,000 tons than the figure for November, 1913.

The exports of pig iron amounted to 86,000 tons in

November, 1915, compared with 79,000 tons a month ago and 50,000 tons a year ago. In November, 1913, the quantity was over 100,000 tons.

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works continued very good and showed a slight improvement on the previous month. It was much better than a year ago. A shortage of most kinds of labour was again reported.

According to returns relating to 110,447 workpeople the aggregate number of shifts worked during the week ended 27th November, 1915, was 640,753, showing an increase of 6,008 (or 0.9 per cent.) on a month ago, and of 97,412 (or 17.9 per cent.) on a year ago.

och the softers	empl	f Workp oyed by king retu	firms	Aggreg	Aggregate number of shifts worked.			
Avel of mark as	Week ended 27th	Inc. (Dec. (comp	-) as ared	Week ended 27th	Inc. (- Dec. (- compa	-) as		
L Best to the control of	Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
DEPARTMENTS. Open Hearth Melting Fur-	10,587	Per cent. + 0.8	Per cent. + 8.4	63,300	Per cent. + 1.1	Per cent. + 10.2		
naces Crucible Furnaces Bessemer Converters Puddling Forges Rolling Mills Forging and Pressing Founding Other Departments Mechanics, Labourers	561 1,491 6,953 31,230 5,507 17,895 15,424 20,799	+ 7·1 - 1·5 - 0·5 + 1·5 + 6·0 + 1·8 + 1·0 + 1·3	+ 22·8 - 17·0 - 6·4 + 3·0 + 13·8 + 43·4 + 8·7 + 23·6	3,387 8,223 36,309 169,757 31,542 114,351 89,357 124,527	+ 9.9 + 4.0 + 0.2 + 0.7 + 5.5 - 0.9 + 1.1 + 1.5	+ 52.9 - 13.6 + 1.8 + 7.7 + 16.3 + 56.7 + 8.7 + 26.4		
TOTAL	110,447	+ 1.8	+ 12.6	640,753	+ 0.9	+ 17:9		
DISTRICTS. Northumberland & Durham Cleveland Sheffield and Rotherham Leeds, Bradford, &c. Cumberland, Lancashire, and Cheshire Staffordshire. Other Midland Counties	11,983 9,501 28,300 3,916 8,365 9,406 5,499	+ 0.2 + 0.1 + 2.9 - 1.2 - 0.1 + 1.7 - 3.6 + 1.8	+ 11·0 + 31·6 - 4·0 - 8·4 + 10·2	68,543 55,373 174,942 22,219 46,946 51,989 30,601 69,549	+ 0·1 + 0·7 + 1·2 + 0·2 + 0·6 + 1·0 - 4·6 + 1·1	+ 10·5 + 11·4 + 41·9 + 0·9 - 4·7 + 1·8 + 15·3 + 10·5		
Wales and Monmouth TOTAL, England & Wales Scotland	12,601 89,571 20,876	+ 1.8	+ 11.2	520,162 120,591	+ 0.5 + 3.0	+ 16·4 + 24·9		
TOTAL	110,447	+ 1:	+ 12.6	640,753	+ 0.9	+ 17:9		

Compared with a month ago employment showed some improvement in every district, except "other Midland counties," where there was a decline. The improvement was most marked at crucible furnaces and in the forging and pressing department.

Employment in the Tyne and Wear district was good, except with forge and hammermen, with whom it was fair. It was also fair at Consett. Much overtime was reported as being worked on Government work at Wolsingham and on repairs and loading. In the Hartlepools employment was very good. In the Tees and Hartlepools district employment was uniformly good, except at pipe, chair, and general foundries, where it was only fair. At Sheffield and at Hull it was good, and at Rotherham, Mexborough, and Parkgate it was very good. At Leeds it was good, largely on the manufacture of rails for export. In the Wolverhampton and Birmingham districts it was good, and with steel smelters in North Staffordshire it was very good. In South Wales and in Scotland it was good, but short time was reported in the Clydesdale district, owing to some of the furnaces standing idle.

Compared with a year ago there were increases in the number of workpeople employed in every district except in the Leeds and Bradford and the Cumberland and Lancashire districts, which showed decreases, and in Staffordshire, where there was no change. As regards the aggregate number of shifts worked, every district showed an improvement except the Cumberland and Lancashire district, which showed a decline. The improvement was greatest in Sheffield and Rotherham, where it amounted to 41.9 per cent., in Scotland, and in the "other Midland counties" district, and chiefly affected foundries and crucible furnaces.

The imports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof during November totalled 95,000 tons, about the same as a month ago, and 40,000 tons more than a year ago, but not much more than 50 per cent. of the quantity in November, 1913. Compared with a year ago there were large increases in the imports of forge and foundry pig iron from Sweden, and in those of hoops and strips.

The exports (including pig iron, tinplates and galvanised sheets) amounted to nearly 176,000 tons, about the same as in the previous month, and 44,000 tons more than a year ago, but 30,000 tons less than in November, Compared with the latter month there were large decreases under the headings of railroad material and tubes, pipes and fittings. On the other hand there were greatly increased exports to France of plates and sheets and of steel bars, angle rods and shapes or

ENGINEERING TRADES.

GREAT scarcity of labour continued in the engineering

trades, and work proceeded at high pressure.

Trade Unions with 250,239 members (mostly in skilled occupations) reported 0.3 per cent. unemployed at the end of November, compared with 0.4 per cent. a month ago, 1.8 per cent. a year ago, and 2.1 per cent. at the end of November, 1913.

The number of workpeople (skilled and unskilled) in these trades insured against unemployment under the National Insurance Act was 804,002, of whom 0.3 per cent. were unemployed at the end of November compared with 0.4 per cent. a month ago, 2.3 per cent. a year ago, and 2.8 per cent. in November, 1913. In only two districts was the percentage unemployed in excess of 0.4, and most of the district figures showed a slight decrease compared with a month ago.

Division.		Number	Percentage of Unemployment Books lodged at			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1915, on a		
		Insured.	26th Nov., 1915.	Nov., Oct.,		Month ago.	Year ago.	
London Northern Counties North-Western North-Western Yorkshire East Midlands Eastern and S.E. Counties South-Western Wales Gotland Ireland		84,402 80,724 153,763 102,589 61,308 91,446 51,827 36,190 14,686 118,887 18,180	0.9 0.1 0.3 0.2 0.2 0.4 0.2 0.3 0.2 0.2 0.2 1.4	1.0 0.3 0.4 0.2 0.2 0.4 0.3 0.4 0.3 0.4 0.3	2.9 1.1 3.3 2.2 2.3 1.7 1.1 1.8 2.1 1.7 4.4	- 0·1 - 0·2 - 0·1 - 0·1 - 0·1 - 0·1 - 0·1	- 2:0 - 3:0 - 2:0 - 2:1 - 1:3 - 1:5 - 1:5 - 3:0	
UNITED KINGDOM -		804,002	0.3	0.4	2.3	- 0.1	- 2.0	

The principal exceptions to the general state of employment as described above were as follows:-

Employment was still reported as quiet with makers of textile machinery and tools at Oldham, Blackburn, Burnley, Leeds and Nottingham, some short time being worked. With ironmoulders employment was only fair, and worse than a month ago, on the Wear and at Chesterfield, while at Glasgow, though most of the men were well employed, a considerable number were still idle. With patternmakers, employment on the Tyne was reported as moderate, and at Preston, Bolton and Edinburgh as fair, while at Glasgow, Dundee and Hull employment, though good, showed some decline on a month

The imports of machinery during November were valued at £753,000, an increase of £232,000 on a month ago, of £336,000 on a year ago, and of £190,000 on two years ago. Compared with November, 1913, there were arge increases in the value of machine tools, typewriters and agricultural machinery imported.

The exports (British and Irish) of machinery were valued at £1,603,000, an increase of about £100,000 on a month ago, but a decrease of £137,000 on a year ago, and only about 50 per cent. of the value during November, 1913.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

In the shipbuilding trades employment remained very good, with a shortage of labour, and much overtime was

Trade Unions of iron and steel shipbuilders and of shipwrights with 73,650 members reported 0.3 per cent. unemployed at the end of November, compared with 0.5* per cent. at the end of October, and 2.6 per cent. at the end of November, 1914.

The percentage unemployed among the 226,048 workpeople in the shipbuilding industry who are insured under the National Insurance Act was 0.4 in both November and October, 1915, as compared with 2.6 in November, 1914.

Division.	Number Insured.		tage of nt Book at	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1915, com- pared with a		
6830 4 8043 -	insured.	26th Nov., 1915.	29th Oct., 1915.	27th Nov., 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London Northern Counties North-Western Yorkshire East Midlands West Midlands Eastern 43. E. Counties South-Western Wales Scotland Ireland	9,752 50,406 34,338 5,637 1,460 438 7,251 23,132 10,154 67,544 15,936	1·2 0·2 0·3 0·2 1·6 0·9 0·4 0·6 0·5 0·2 1·0	1·3 0·2 0·2 0·6 0·6 0·9 0·6 0·6 1·5 0·2 1·0	3·4 2·4 1·1·7 2·2 1 8·0 2·2 1·6 4·7 2·8 2·0 4·9	- 0·1 + 0·1 - 0·4 + 1·0 - 0·2 - 1·0	- 2·2 - 2·2 - 1·4 - 2·0 - 6·4 - 1·3 - 1·2 - · 4·1 - 2·3 - 1·8 - 3·9
UNITED KINGDOM	226,048	0.4	0.4	2.6		- 2.2

The principal variations as compared with the preceding month, or exceptions to the general state of employment as described above, were as follows:-

On the Clyde much time was lost owing to bad weather: with joiners employment was reported as only fair, though rather better than a month ago. In repair work at Hartlepool and Middlesbrough employment was again reported as only fair with iron and steel shipbuilders, and as moderate with joiners. With painters at Liverpool it was slack, and worse than a month ago.

TINPLATE, AND STEEL AND GALVANISED SHEET TRADE.

THE following Table shows the number of tinplate and steel sheet mills in operation at the end of November, 1915, and the increase or decrease on a month ago and a year ago. The works to which these figures relate are principally in South Wales and Monmouthshire, and employ about 26,568 workpeople.

	Numbe	er of Work	s open.	Number of Mills in operation.			
Works.	At end of	Inc. (Dec. (-	+) or -) on a	At end of	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
	Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago	Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Tinplate Steel Sheet	76 12	elizion	+ 6	409 83	+ 2 + 1	+ 21 - 16	
TOTAL	88	AND DELLA	+ 5	492	+ 3	+ 5	

TINPLATE.

Employment continued about the same as in October, and was considerably better than a year ago.

The demand for tinplates was good, and prices materially increased; but the high prices and scarcity of raw materials and the difficulties in regard to transport had an adverse effect. At many mills there was a scarcity of skilled workmen, especially of enginemen, cranemen, fitters, etc.; in the actual tinplate making women and boys were replacing men who have enlisted. Returns received show that 409 mills were in operation

at the end of November, an increase of 2 on a month ago and of 21 on a year ago.

The exports of tinned plates and shee's, and of black plates for tinning showed a decrease as compared with October. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease in exports of tinned plates and sheets, but an increase in black plates for tinning.

* Revised figure.

energhantsment to	a select	Oct.,	Nov.,	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
end out to do d	Nov., 1915.		1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
NA BUNGAL SUR		inned Plat	es and Tin	ned Sheets		
To United States	Tons. 64 1,620 5,493 2,606 882 2,587 1,403 2,311 1,005 1,544 115 229 5,697	Tons. 27 3,917 8,159 1,892 606 212 2,308 1,578 3,340 3,814 106 864 5,145	Tons. 431 6,637 1,202 1,996 7 1,502 408 497 3,031 4,931 1,114 154 9,032	Tons. + 37 - 2,297 - 2,666 + 714 + 276 6 + 2,375 - 905 + 733 - 2,335 - 2,270 + 9 - 635 + 552	Tons. - 367 - 5,017 + 4,291 + 610 + 875 + 1,085 + 1,916 - 2,026 - 3,387 - 999 + 75 - 3,335	
TOTAL	25,556	31,968	30,942	- 6,412	- 5,386	
		Black P	lates for T	inning.	THE PARTY OF	
TOTAL	5,328	7,781	1,105	- 2,453	+ 4,22	

440

STEEL AND GALVANISED SHEETS.

Employment in this section of the trade continued about the same as during the previous month, but was not so good as a year ago. An improvement was reported in the demand for sheets of the heavier gauges. Shortage of labour, however, prevented the restarting of a number of mills.

The number of sheet mills in operation at the end of November was 83, one more than a month ago, but

16 less than a year ago.

The *imports* of crude zinc amounted to just over 5,000 tons during November, compared with 3,624 tons a month ago, 6,432 tons a year ago, and nearly 13,000 tons in November, 1913. The total value, however, was £385,000 in November, 1915, or £116,000 more than in November, 1913, owing to increased prices.

The exports of galvanised sheets totalled nearly 17,000 tons in November, 1915, compared with 19,000 tons a month ago and 25,000 tons a year ago. Compared with two years ago there was a decrease of 52,000 tons.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

The great activity in these trades continued throughout November, and much overtime was worked, especially by brassworkers and sheet metal workers engaged on Government orders. Trade Unions with 35,748 members reported 0·1 per cent. unemployed at the end of November, the same as a month ago, compared with 1·5 per cent. a year ago.

Brasswork and Bedsteads.—Brassworkers continued very busy, and 70 per cent. were reported as working overtime. At Wolverhampton, however, employment was still reported as only fairly good. With bedstead workers at Birmingham it continued fair, and was better than a year ago.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails &c.—Nut and bolt makers at the principal centres continued well employed; at Blackheath and Halesowen nut, bolt and spike makers were not quite so fully employed as a month ago. Shoe rivet and wire nail workers were very busy at Birmingham and at West Bromwich.

Cutlery, Tools, Bits, Stirrups &c.—The cutlery trades at Sheffield continued very active, and in certain branches much overtime was worked. Grinders, scissor forgers, and saw makers and grinders reported employment as fair. Hand file cutters reported an improvement on a year ago. With edge tool makers employment continued fairly good at Birmingham and good at Wednesbury; with hoe makers at the latter town it was better than a month ago. At Walsall saddle and harness furniture makers continued busy; with bit and stirrup makers employment was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. At Redditch it was good with needle makers and in the fishing tackle trade; with fish-hook makers it was fair, and better than a month ago.

Tubes.—Employment was good generally, and much overtime was worked. With brass and copper tube makers it was very good at Birmingham, and a shortage of labour was reported.

Chains, Anchors, Springs &c.—Employment with chain makers at Cradley continued very good, but with anchor-smiths it was moderate, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Case hame and cart gear and motor chain makers continued well employed at Walsall. With axle and spring makers at Wednesbury and with makers of steel springs and small steel parts at West Bromwich and Redditch employment continued good. Anvil and vice makers at Dudley reported an improvement.

Sheet Metal Workers.—Braziers and sheet metal workers continued busy, and much overtime was worked at certain centres. At Edinburgh and Bolton, however, employment was only fairly good, and at Aberdeen, Nottingham, Blackburn, Actrington, Grimsby, and Warrington only fair. There was an improvement on a month ago at Exeter, but at Blackburn there was some decline. Employment was very good with ironplate workers at Birmingham and Wolverhampton and in the Lye district. It was also very good with aluminium workers at Stoke-on-Trent.

Wire.—Employment continued good, and was better than a year ago. Wire drawers reported it very good at Halifax and at Newport and Hadley; at Ambergate, Sheffield, and Warrington it was fairly good. With wire weavers it was fair at Norwich. With wire rope makers on the Tyne and Wear it was good, and, on the Wear, better than a year ago.

Locks, Hollow-ware &c.—At Wolverhampton and Willenhall employment continued good with lock and latch makers, and some overtime was worked. With cast iron hollow-ware makers it was fair at West Bromwich and at Wolverhampton; with tin and enamel hollow-ware makers and with stampers and piercers at Wolverhampton it continued good. Workers in the galvanised hollow-ware trades in the Midlands were very busy generally. Makers of builders' ironmongery at Wolverhampton reported an improvement, and employment was fair.

Stoves, Grates &c.—Employment in England continued fairly good generally, and some shortage of labour was reported. At Leeds and Luton employment was good; at Sheffield fair, and at Thornaby moderate. At Falkirk employment continued fairly good generally.

Jewellery, Plated Ware &c.—At Birmingham silversmiths, electro-platers and jewellers continued well employed and some overtime was worked. In London in the gold and silver trades employment was good, with much overtime; jewellers reported it as fair and much better than a year ago.

Farriers.—Employment was very good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. A shortage of labour was reported.

COTTON TRADE.

THERE was a slight decline in the cotton trade as compared with a month ago, but employment was above the level of November, 1914, especially in the weaving department.

The shortage of labour was felt very acutely, but the difficulty as to introducing female labour in spinning rooms has been partly overcome, and Joint Agreements have been come to between the Master and the Operative Spinners' organisations in the Oldham and Ashtonunder-Lyne districts.

The advances in the price of cotton are said to be interfering with business, and orders are only being placed for actual immediate requirements. During the month there was some activity in the demand from India, and coarse counts were in demand for the Continent. Some special contracts also have been arranged in heavy goods for the Government, and the home demand generally was good.

Returns from firms employing 210,548 workpeople in the week ended 27th November showed a decrease of 1.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Compared with a month ago there was an increase of 2.5 per cent. in the number employed, and of 28.0 per cent. in the wages paid.

	M	orkpeop	le.	Earnings.			
of the post of the	Week ended 27th	(-) on a ended		Week ended 27th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
early good general	Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.*	
DEPARTMENTS. Preparing	26,803 45,273 102,408 18,863 17,196	Per cent 0·1 - 0·7 - 0·5 + 1·0 - 12·0	Per cent. + 0·3 - 2·5 + 7·3 + 6·6 - 9·9	£ 26,370 48,826 104,034 24,375 20,112	Per cent 1.4 - 10.9 - 1.8 + 0.6 - 10.5	Per cent. + 16.4 + 19.4 + 24.5 + 9.5	
TOTAL	210,548	- 1.4	+ 25	223,717	- 2.2	+ 28.0	
Ashton Stockport, Glossop and Hyde Oldham Solton and Leigh Solton and Leigh Sory, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden and Todmorden Manchester Treston and Chorley Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen Burnley, Padilham, Colne and Nelson ther Lancashire Towns. Vorkshire Towns.	9,508 13,990 26,460 25,121 20,558 16,165 16,116 35,002 26,607 7,054 7,052 6,915	- 14 - 1·1 - 0·9 - 0·9 - 0·7 - 1·1 - 11·9 + 1·1 - 0·3 - 1·4 + 0·1 - 0·5	+ 3·3 + 2·3 + 0·9 - 3·0 + 0·8 - 2·9 - 14·7 + 13·5 + 17·7 - 4·0 + 4·1 + 0·4	9,656 13,169 32,056 24,893 22,157 15,590 15,993 37,911 32,566 5,905 6,991 6,825	- 0.5 - 5.3 - 0.5 - 0.8 - 1.1 - 3.6 - 12.5 + 1.1 - 2.9 - 2.0 - 1.4 + 1.3	+ 19:8 + 16:5 + 16:5 + 19:7 + 12:5 + 3:7 + 53:8 + 75:5 + 21:4 + 24:5 + 36:1	
TOTAL	210,548	- 1.4	+ 2.5	223,717	- 2.2	+ 28.0	

In the Oldham district, although a certain percentage of machinery was stopped for want of operatives, employment was good and much better than in November, 1914. In the Oldham, Ashton, Mossley and Stalybridge districts agreements have been drawn up permitting, on specified terms, the employment of females in the spinning rooms as piecers and creelers for the period of the war.

In the Bolton district employment was slack with cardroom workers and fair with spinners and weavers. The shortage of workers in the spinning department has had an adverse effect on the employment of cardroom workers; the shortage of juvenile labour is being slowly made good, but adult labour is growing scarcer owing to enlistments. In the Manchester district employment showed a slight decline in every department compared with a month ago, but was better than in November, 1914.

In the Blackburn district employment with weavers was slack; the average number of looms stopped each week was about 20,000, employing about 4,000 work-people. In the Darwen district about half a dozen mills were working short time to the extent of 15 hours per week, although some improvement was reported on the previous month.

In the Burnley district employment was reported as fair and much above the level of a year ago.

The exports of cotton yarn amounted to nearly 14½ million lb., an increase of about 1 million lb. compared with a month ago, and of almost 5 million lb. compared with a year ago. There were very large exports to the Netherlands and to France. Compared with November, 1913, there were marked increases in the quantity sent to Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands and France. The exports of cotton piece goods totalled 349 million yards during November, 1915, a decrease of 17 million on a month ago, but 42 million more than a year ago. The corresponding figure for November, 1913, was 564 million yards.

PRICES OF COTTON AT LIVERPOOL.

The price of American cotton was, on the whole, rather lower in November than in the previous month. Towards the end of the month, however, there was some recovery, and on 27th the quotation for "middling American" was 7.58d. per lb., which is higher than for any date since 1st July, 1914, when the price was 7.60d. The average price of "middling American" cotton during November was 7.06d. per lb., a decrease of 1.4 per cent. on a month ago, but an increase of 55.5 per cent. on a year ago.

The average price of "good fair Egyptian" cotton during November was 9.34d. per lb., a decrease of 2.1 per cent. on a month ago, but an increase of 37.4 per cent. on a year ago. The fluctuations during the month were very similar to those of American cotton, the quotations at the end of the month being considerably higher than those prevailing at the beginning.

Control of the same of the sam	November,	Inc. (+) or November	Dec. (-) in , 1915, on a
PERSONAL PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY O	1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.
MIDDLING AMERICAN:	Pence per lb.	Pence per lb.	Pence per lb.
Monthly average of Daily Quota-	7:06	- 0.10	+ 2.52
Highest price on any one day	7·58 6·83	+ 0.25	+ 2·78 + 2·43
GOOD FAIR EGYPTIAN: Monthly average of Daily Quota-	9:34	- 0.50	+ 2.54
tions Highest price on any one day	9.70	- 0.10	+ 2.70
Lowest , , , ,	9.05	- 0.15	+ 2.40

The following table shows the quantities of cotton forwarded from ports to inland towns at the undermentioned dates:—

Department of Cotton	Nov.,	Oct.,	Nov.,		on a	
Description of Cotton.	1915.	1915.	1914.	Month ago,	Year ago.	
American	Bales. 227,738 10,642 3,073 21,736 14,731	Bales. 233,038 7,555 3,102 14,239 14,599	Bales. 225,580 9,617 4,123 21,193 11,784	Bales 5,300 + 3,087 - 29 + 7,497 + 132	Bales. + 2,158 + 1,025 - 1,050 + 543 + 2,947	
TOTAL	277,920	272,533	272,297	+ 5,387	+ 5,623	

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

WOOLLEN TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in November continued brisk, especially with those engaged on blankets and flannels for Government purposes. The increase in wages as compared with a year ago was largely due to war bonuses.

Owing to further enlistments and the claims of munition factories, there was an increasing shortage of labour in some districts, but a large number of firms stated that the situation showed little change since October.

Returns from firms employing 23,784 workpeople in the week ended 27th November, showed a decrease of 0.1 per cent. in the number employed and of 0.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 1.0 per cent. in the numbers employed, and of 6.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. About 13 per cent. of the operatives were on overtime during the month, as compared with about 30 per cent. a year ago.

	W	orkpeop	le.		Earnings	
The Contract of the	Week ended 27th	Inc. (Dec. ((+) or -) on a	Week	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
out they use a	Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.*
DEPARTMENTS. Wool Sorting	533 5,792 9,472 6,185 1,802	Per cent 1·3 + 1·4 - 1·0 - 0·1 + 0·6	Per cent 0.9 + 4.8 - 0.4 + 1.1 - 2.1	£ 614 6,996 9,426 7,447 2,050	Per cent. + 2.5 + 3.6 - 2.4 - 1.4 + 1.4	Per cent. + 6.0 + 12.1 + 1.3 + 8.6 + 7.4
TOTAL	23,784	- 0.1	+ 1.0	26,533	- 0.2	+ 6.6
DISTRICTS. Huddersfield District Leeds District Dewsbury & Batley District Other Parts of West Riding	4,117 2,492 2,776 2,818	+ 1.8 - 2.7 - 1.1 + 1.2	+ 3.4 + 1.9 - 1.7 + 5.1	5,472 2,907 3,306 3,276	+ 1.6 - 2.7 - 3.2 + 2.0	+11.9 + 4.8 - 2.1 + 7.7
TOTAL, WEST RIDING Scotland Other Districts	12,203 5,332 6,249	+ 0·0 - 0·6 + 0·2	+ 2·3 - 4·8 + ·4·1	14,961 5,250 6,322	- 0·3 - 1·1 + 0·8	+ 6·2 - 2·2 + 16 0
TOTAL	23,784	- 0.1	+ 1.0	26,533	- 0.5	+ 6.6

* The comparison of wages with a year ago is affected by the war bonuses granted in April, 1915.

^{*} The comparison of wages with a year ago is affected by increases in rates of wages.

In the Huddersfield and Colne Valley district employment was still good, and slightly better than a month ago. In the heavy woollen district there was still great activity, though less work was being done on Government contracts, except as regards the production of blankets, which was giving full employment to all avail-

In the Leeds district fewer night shifts were worked, partly on account of the difficulty of getting sufficient men. Some mills were busy in meeting demands for home supplies, which had been postponed to meet Army requirements. In "Other Districts" (which includes Rochdale and other flannel centres) pressure is being put upon manufacturers to accelerate the output for Government purposes, and consequently the labour problem in these districts was acute, in spite of the influx of workers from the Isle of Man and from agricultural districts, and the engagement of numbers

In Scotland employment was fairly good, but not so good as a year ago, when 20 per cent. of the operatives were on overtime.

WORSTED TRADE.

There was little change in this trade during November, except in the weaving department, which showed a slight decline. The increase in wages, as compared with a year ago, was largely due to the payment of war bonuses.

Some firms reported an increasing shortage of labour of both sexes, but a considerable number stated that there was practically no change in the labour problem since last month.

Returns from firms employing 34,560 workpeople in the week ended 27th November showed an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed, and a decrease of 0.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 1.9 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 10.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. About 8 per cent. of the operatives were on overtime during the month, as compared with 17 per cent. a year ago.

dire bearques ar so	W	orkpeop	le.	100	Earnings.	
AGREEMAN AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND A	Week	Inc. (Dec. (-	+) or -) on a	Week ended 27th	Inc. (
udini ta egakuda g	27th Nov., 1915. Month Year ago. ago.	Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago*		
DEPARTMENTS. Wool Sorting & Combing Weaving Weaving Oto specified	4,329 16,787 7,910 3.573 1,961	Per cent. + 1·1 + 1·3 - 2·0 - 1·0 + 0·4	Per cent 2·1 - 1·7 - 0·7 - 3·4 - 4·1	£ 5,591 11,888 8,083 4,370 1,874	Per cent. + 1·5 + 1·5 - 4·7 + 0·1 + 2·2	Per cent. + 13.0 + 9.1 + 11.8 + 13.0 + 5.0
TOTAL	34,560	+ 0.5	- 1.9	31,806	- 0.3	+ 10.7
DISTRICTS. Bradford District	18.183 5,964 2,671 3,395 2,002	+ 0·3 - 0·3 + 0·2 - 1·9 + 2·4	- 09 - 3.7 - 3.5 - 3.9 + 4.2	17,133 5,324 2,257 3,430 1,671	- 0.6 - 1.5 + 3.9 - 2.4 + 2.9	+ 13·8 + 4·4 + 4·4 + 7·4 + 20·1
TOTAL, WEST RIDING Other Districts	32,215 2,345	+ 0.1 + 2.0	- 1·7 - 4·2	29,815 1,991	- 0.5 + 1.7	+ 10.8
TOTAL	34,560	+ 0.2	- 1.9	31,806	- 03	+10.7

Employment in the Bradford district was good, and the woolcombers reported a considerable amount of over-In Keighley employment was also good; the slight decline shown as compared with a month ago was in the weaving department. In Halifax there was an improvement in the spinning branch as compared with October. In the Huddersfield district there was some slackness with weavers; khaki and other contracts have been completed to a great extent, and the manufacturers have not fully resumed their ordinary trade.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The imports of wool (sheep's or lamb's) amounted to 24½ million lb. compared with 35 million lb. a month Compared with a year ago there were large declines in the imports from the Argentine and from New Zealand, but the quantity from the British East Indies showed a great increase. The November, 1913, figure

* The comparison of wages with a year ago is affected by the war bonuses in April, 1915.

was 15½ million lb. more than the total for November,

The exports of tops and woollen and worsted yarn amounted to 3,900,000 lb., an increase of 1,000,000 lb. on a month ago and of 3,300,000 on a year ago, but less than half the exports two years ago, owing, to a great extent, to the absence of the German demand. Compared with both a year ago and with two years ago there were large increases in the quantity of worsted yarn sent to Denmark and France. Compared with two years ago there was a considerable decrease in the quantity to Russia, Sweden, Norway, and the Netherlands. Exports of woollen tissues amounted to 10,000,000 yards, an increase of 6,000,000 yards on a month ago, and of nearly 7,000,000 yards on a year ago. Worsted tissues exported totalled just over 4,000,000 yards in November, 1915, 1914 and 1913.
PRICES OF WOOL AT BRADFORD.

Prices of wool at Bradford during November, 1915, were higher than during the previous month, Lincoln hoggs wool by 4d. per lb., 40's crossbred tops by 14d. per lb., and 60's super-Botany tops by 2d. per lb. Compared with a year ago the increases were more considerable, being 4d. (or 28 per cent.) for Lincoln hoggs; 41d. (or 22½ per cent.) for 40's crossbred tops; and 9½d. (or 31 per cent.) in the case of 60's super-Botany tops.

to the second control of		Nov., 1915	Oct., 1915.	Nov., 1914.
AVERAGE PRICES: Lincoln Hoggs 40's Crossbred tops 60's Super Botany tops	::	 Pence per lb. 18¼ 24½ 40	Pence per lb. 18 23 38	Pence per lb. 14 1/4 20 30 1/2
COURSE OF PRICES: Lincoln Hoggs 40's Crossbred tops 60's Super Botany tops		18. 18½ 23½, 25½ 38, 42	18 22½, 23½ 38	14½, 14 20 31, 30

LINEN TRADE.

THERE was some decline in this trade compared with a month ago, and much short time was worked, especially in the Belfast district. The shortage of labour, both male and female, continued.

Returns from firms employing 38,004 workpeople in the week ended 27th November, 1915, showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 1.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 8.6 per cent. in the number employed, but an increase of 4.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

	W	orkpeople	э.	1	Earnings.			
is fishinger now too	Week ended 27th	Inc. (+)	or Dec.	Week ended 27th	Inc. (+)	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
	Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
DEPARTMENTS. Preparing Spinning Weaving Other Not specified TOTAL	4,797 + 0·1 - 9,393 - 0·5 - 12,062 - 1·1 - 6,292 - 0·8 -		Per cent 5:4 - 5:4 - 12:4 - 7:6 - 9:0 - 8:6	£ 3,062 4,996 8,300 6,618 3,357	Per cent. + 0.9 - 0.7 - 3.0 - 2.1 - 0.7 - 1.6	Per cent. + 9·1 + 9·5 - 2·2 + 6·4 + 5·2 + 4·1		
DISTRICTS. Belfast	16,510 10,325	- 05 + 0·2	- 7·1 - 9·7	10,439 6,148	- 1.5 - 1.5	+ 3:1		
TOTAL, IRELAND	26,835	- 0.2	- 8.1	16,587	- 1.5	+ 1.3		
Fifeshire Other places in Scotland	5,043 5,565	- 2·1 + 0·5	- 13 9 - 6·1	3 629 4,673	- 1·7 - 2·7	+ 3.9		
TOTAL, SCOTLAND	10,608	- 0.8	- 10.0	8,302	- 2:2	+ 10.2		
England	561	- 4:1	- 7:3	444	+ 7.0	+ 8.8		
UNITED KINGDOM	38,004	- 0.4	- 8.6	25,333	- 1.6	+ 4.1		

At Belfast much short time was worked. There was a shortage of labour and a difficulty in obtaining sufficient raw material. Flax dressers reported employment as fair and a little better than a month ago. With flax roughers employment continued good, and overtime

was worked. In other parts of Ireland there was not much change.

At Brechin employment continued good generally. At Dunfermline the works were steadily employed, but were handicapped by shortage of labour and by the difficulty in obtaining certain dyes. At Barnsley employment continued slack.

The imports of flax and tow amounted to 5,716 tons compared with 10,139 tons a month ago, 1,657 tons a year ago, and 4,430 tons two years ago.

The exports of linen yarn were 658,000 lb., the same amount as a month ago, and about 130,000 lb. more than a year ago, but only 50 per cent. of the quantity exported in November, 1913. Exports of linen piece goods amounted to nearly 121 million yards, compared with 9½ million a month ago. In November, 1914, the quantity was 12½ million yards, and in November, 1913, rather more than 14¼ million yards.

JUTE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued good, and was better than a year ago. There was a shortage of both male and female operatives.

Returns from firms employing 13,590 workpeople in the week ended 27th November showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 1.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 3.7 per cent. in the number employed, and of 33.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. This large increase in wages is mainly due to war bonuses and to increases in rates of pay.

		V	Vorkpeop	ole.		Earnings.			
CONTRACTOR		Week		(+) or -) on a	Week	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			
		27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
DEPARTME	NTS.		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.		
Preparing		3 072 3 639	+ 0.3	+ 5.8	3,032	+ 0.0	+ 37.8		
Weaving	***	 4,830	- 0.6	+ 1.5	3,424 4,965	- 1.2	+ 33.6 + 35.4		
Other		 1,999	- 0.5	+ 6:3	2,528	- 2.7	+ 25.1		
TOTAL		 13,590	- 0.4	+ 3.7	13,949	- 16	+ 33.5		

In the Dundee district, in which are employed over 90 per cent. of the total number of workpeople reported on above, employment continued good, and there was a scarcity of workpeople in the preparing and spinning departments. Reports from Arbroath, Forfar and Kirkcaldy indicated that the mills continued busy.

The imports of jute in November, 1915, were very large and amounted to 52,000 tons, over double those a month ago. In November, 1914 and 1913, the imports were 21,000 tons and 44,000 tons respectively.

The exports of jute yarns amounted to 3,547,000 lb. an increase of 786,000 lb. on a month ago, of nearly 14 million lb. on a year ago, and of rather more than 500,000 lb. on November, 1913. Jute piece goods exported totalled about 6,000,000 yards, being only twothirds of the quantity a year ago, and less than half the amount two years ago.

LACE TRADE.

THE curtain and plain net trades continued well employed during November, but there was still much short time in the levers branch, although an improvement was shown as compared with a month ago. Employment generally was much better than a year ago, when short time was general in every branch.

In the curtain and plain net branches production was considerably interfered with by the shortage of male

Returns from firms employing 7,903 workpeople in the week ended 27th November showed an increase of 0.2per cent. in the number employed and of 1.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 2.5 per cent. in the number employed and of 42.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

	V	Vorkpeop	le.		Earnings	
odd ant tragegod and	Week ended 27th	Inc. (+) or -) on a	Week ended 27th	Inc. (Dec. (
	Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.
BRANCHES. Levers	1,795 2,253 2,756 1,099	Per cent. + 0.4 - 0.3 + 0.2 + 0.6	Per cent 3.2 + 3.0 + 6.7 + 1.2	£ 2,050 2,578 2,685 909	Per cent. + 5·2 - 1·1 + 1·2 - 2·5	Per cent. + 26·1 + 29·9 + 78·9 + 18·7
TOTAL	7,903	+ 0.2	+ 2.5	8,222	+ 1.0	+ 42.8
DISTRIOTS. Nottingham City Long Eaton and other outlying districts Other English Districts Scotland	3,102 745 2,525 1,531	- 09 + 3·0 + 1·0 - 0·4	+ 3·1 - 3·0 + 3·7 + 1·9	2,948 1,071 2,528 1,675	- 0.6 + 5.9 + 2.1 - 0.7	+ 37.6 + 40.4 + 68.8 + 23.8
TOTAL	7,903	+ 0.2	+ 2.5	8,222	+ 1.0	+ 42-8

At Nottingham the curtain and plain net branches continued well employed; in the levers branch there was much short time, but a tendency towards improvement was reported; on the whole unemployment was less than a year ago, due to increased trade, coupled with a shortage of labour.

At Long Eaton employment was better than a month ago and a year ago. In the West of England employment was fairly good, and much above the level of a year ago. In Scotland also employment was fairly good and much better than in November, 1914, when nearly half the operatives were on short time: at Newmilns the operatives were fully employed, and a quarter of them were working twelve hours per day instead of the usual nine.

The value of the imports of cotton lace during November, 1915, was nearly £95,000, as compared with £66,000 a month ago and £53,500 a year ago. For November, 1913, the value was £156,000.

The exports (British and Irish) were valued at £270,000, a decrease of £50,000 on a month ago, and of £127,000 on a year ago. In November, 1913, the value was £330,000.

HOSIERY TRADE.

THERE was a slight decline in this trade compared with a month ago, but employment was very brisk except in the fine branches of the trade. The increase in wages as compared with a year ago is largely due to war bonuses and changes in rates of wages.

There was little change in the labour problem since last month, production being still much affected by the shortage of both male and female operatives, especially in the Leicester district.

Returns from firms employing 24,096 workpeople in the week ended 27th November showed an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed and a decrease of 1.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Compared with a month ago there was an increase of 4.6 per cent. in the number employed and of 14.0 per cent. in the amount

	M	orkpeop	le.	6.00	Earnings.			
District.	Week ended 27th Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended	Inc. (Dec. (-	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			
	Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
Letcester Leicester Country District Notts and Derbyshire Scotland Other Districts TOTAL, UNITED KINGDOM	12.459 2,327 5,124 3,054 1,132 24,096	Per cent 06 - 06 + 18 - 02 + 5.7 + 0.3	Per cent. + 4·4 + 0·9 + 1·1 + 7·2 + 29·2 - + 4·6	£ 12,383 2,142 4,452 2,648 841 22,466	Per cent 1.9 - 0.4 - 3.8 - 1.2 + 1.1 - 1.9	Per cent. + 15 6 4 10 5 4 6 4 4 32 0 4 14 0		

Employment at Leicester remained very good, but roduction was much curtailed, owing to the shortage of both male and female labour. It was reported that if there was any further depletion of male labour many machines and even departments would be stopped. Manufacturers also complained of the bad railway delivery and the difficulty of getting goods dyed. At Hinckley and Loughborough the operatives were also In the Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire district employment was good with power-frame workers, but very bad with hand-frame operatives, who are engaged for the most part on fine goods. In the Nottingham district about 25 per cent. of the power-frame workers worked overtime to the extent of about 10 hours per week.

In Scotland employment continued good.

SILK TRADE.

In this trade employment continued fairly good. It showed a slight decline compared with a month ago, but was much better than in November, 1914.

A shortage of male and female labour was reported—the increasing shortage of female labour being partly due to workers leaving for munition work.

Returns from firms employing 9,623 workpeople in the week ended 27th November showed a decrease of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed and of 1.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 3.3 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 16.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

	W	orkpeop	le.		Earnings	as tests
no north planess made	Week	Inc. (Dec. (-		Week	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
a to by of silk oged	27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	27th Nov., 1915.	Month Yea ago. ago.	
BRANCHES. Throwing Spinning Weaving Other Not specified	1,367 2,122 3,720 1,317 1,097	Per cent 0.4 - 0.7 - 0.4 + 1.6 - 1.4 - 0.3	Per cent. + 1.8 - 11.4 - 2.8 + 0.2 + 2.0 - 3.3	£ 704 1,912 2,881 1,185 981 7,663	Per cent 4.9 - 1.5 - 1.6 - 0.8 - 0.5 - 1.6	Per cent. + 19.7 + 12.7 + 14.9 + 20.8 + 23.1 + 16.6
Lancashire and W. Riding of Yorkshire Macclesfield, Congleton and District Eastern Countles Other Districts, including Scotland	2,183 2,085 2,967 2,388	- 1.6 + 1.5 - 0.3 - 0.7	- 10 6 + 4·0 - 1·4 - 4·4	2,036 1,716 2,264 1,647	- 28 - 1.0 - 2.0 - 0.4	+ 69 + 23·6 + 18·2 + 20·9
TOTAL	9,623	- 0.3	- 3.3	7,663	- 1.6	+ 16.6

At Macclesfield employment with throwsters, spinners, power-loom weavers and those engaged in the knitting industry was good, several large firms being busy on Admiralty orders; with hand-loom weavers in factories it continued bad, and with outside hand-loom workers it was fair. At Leek and Congleton all branches were well employed.

In the Eastern Counties employment showed a slight decline compared with a month ago. It was reported as good at Braintree, Norwich and Yarmouth, and fair at Sudbury and Halstead, except with warpers at Halstead, with whom it was slack. In the West Riding employment was reported as fair in both spinning and weaving departments. At Coventry artificial silk workers reported employment as fairly good; with ribbon weavers it was very fair.

The *imports* of raw silk amounted to 74,000 lb. in November, 1915, compared with 135,000 lb. a month ago, 124,500 lb. a year ago, and 75,000 lb. two years ago. Silk yarns and manufactures were valued at £1,151,000, compared with £1,235,000 a month ago and £731,000 a year ago. In November, 1913, the value was

The exports (British and Irish) of silk yarns and manufactures were valued at £181,000, an increase of £18,000 on a month ago, and of £81,000 on a year ago.

CARPET TRADE.

THERE was little change in employment compared with a month ago, slackness in the regular carpet trade being compensated to some extent by full employment on military blankets. There was a decided improvement as compared with November, 1914, when 45 per cent. of the workers were on short time.

Returns from firms employing 6,965 workpeople and paying £6,629 in wages in the week ended 27th November showed an increase of 1.5 per cent. in the number employed and a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared

with a year ago there was an increase of 0.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 23.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

In the Kidderminster district employment in the regular carpet trade continued very slack, being hindered by difficulties with regard to labour and supplies; the spinning and blanket branches were busy, and would have been busier if more workers had been available. In the Halifax district employment was about the same as a month ago, but better than in November, 1914; overtime was worked on blankets for Government contracts. In Scotland employment continued good.

BLEACHING, PRINTING, DYEING AND FINISHING.

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good and was much better than in November, 1914. Compared with a month ago the slight improvement shown was mainly in the printing and dyeing sections.

There was little change in the labour situation since last month, employment being still affected by the scar-

Means bas dhee.	V	orkpeop	le.	2000/1	Earnings.	
10 Mg - 10 Mg 18 M	ended 27th Nov., Mo	Inc. (+	or Dec.	Week	Inc. (+)	
that lipsacoupers to		Month ago.	Year ago.	27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Bleaching	2,946 727 13,397 8,023 870	Per cent 1.0 + 1.1 + 1.5 + 0.2	Per cent 4.0 + 2.1 + 8.8 + 3.7 + 13.6	£ 3,313 1,104 23,451 10,368 1,293 39,529	Per cent 6·2 + 6·2 + 6·1 - 2·6 + 1·6 + 2·4	Per cent. + 11.4 + 39.7 + 44.8 + 24.2 + 41.5
DISTRICTS: Yorkahlre	25,963 13,184 7,652	+ 0·8 + 1·6 + 0·0 - 1·8	+ 5·5 + 10·1 + 5·2 - 10·0	23,341 10,098 2,127	+ 61 - 20 - 3·0	+ 46·1 + 27·5 + 5·2
Scotland	1,943 830 2,354 25,963	+ 0.4 + 0.6 + 0.8	- 10·6 + 3·9	693 3,270 39,529	+ 3.0 - 4.8	+35.3

Returns from firms employing 25,963 workpeople in the week ended 27th November showed an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the number employed and of 2.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 5.5 per cent. in the number employed and of 35.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Bleaching.—Employment with cotton bleachers in Lancashire was fair, but not so good as a month ago; it was better than a year age. At Basford there was an improvement in the lace section, while in the hosiery section some overtime was reported. In the Dundee district the operatives were fairly well employed.

district the operatives were fairly well employed.

Printing.—With machine calico printers in England employment was moderate, but better than a year ago; about 75 per cent. of the workers were on short time; there was also much short time with engravers, with whom employment on the whole was bad. In Scotland employment was reported as fair with machine printers and slack with engravers.

Dyeing.—Employment with woollen and worsted dyers in Yorkshire continued good and was better than a year ago; about 75 per cent. of the operatives were on overtime during the month. With cotton dyers in Lancashire and Yorkshire a considerable amount of overtime was also reported and employment was much better than a year ago. At Macclesfield and Leek employment with silk and cotton dyers was good; at Congleton it was moderate. Hosiery dyers at Nottingham, Basford and Bulwell were working overtime during the month.

Trimming, Finishing etc.—At Leicester employment with hosiery trimmers, etc., was good, but production was affected by a shortage of dye materials. At Hinckley and Loughborough employment was also good, but there was a shortage of suitable labour. At Basford, owing to a scarcity of labour, short time was worked in some departments. At Dundee calender workers and machinists were very busy on Government work—a shortage of labour and of raw materials were recorded.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued brisk, but was much affected in many districts by the labour problem, the situation being rather more acute than a month ago owing to further enlistments.

Returns from firms employing 56,889 workpeople in the week ended 27th November showed a decrease of 1.2 per cent. in the number employed and of 1.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 2.6 per cent. in the number employed and an increase of 9.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Workpeople.

District.	Week		(+) or -) on a	Week ended 27th	Inc. (Dec. (-	+) or -) on a	
	27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
ENGLAND & WALES. London Leicester Leicester Country District	1,969 11,266 2,848	Per cent. + 0.5 - 1.4 - 1.5	Per cent 2.6 + 2.2 - 6.5	£ 2,858 15,700 3,539	Per cent. + 1.9 - 2.1 - 3.3	Per cent. + 18·1 + 16·5 + 8·9	
Northampton – Northampton Country District	9,010 8,195	- 3·0 - 0·7	- 3·2 - 4·8	11,573 10,175	- 2·5 + 0·6	+ 7·6 + 3·9	
Stafford & District Stafford & District Norwich & District Bristol & District Bristol & District Kingswood Leeds & District Manchester & District Birmingham & District Other parts of England and Wales	2,897 2,153 3,579 1,328 2,198 1,764 3,691 718 2,235	- 2·3 - 0·3 - 0·3 - 0·4 - 0·9 - 1·8 + 0·8 + 1·3 - 0·6	- 4.9 - 3.9 - 5.3 + 10.4 + 5.2 - 8.1 + 3.2 - 2.7 - 6.7	3,638 2,621 3,739 1,543 2,473 2,143 4,257 791 2,304	- 2.6 + 1.1 - 4.5 + 1.3 - 1.1 + 0.7 - 0.9 + 19.7 - 0.3	+ 26 + 10·3 + 6·5 + 18·5 + 3·3 + 2·6 + 16·4 + 27·2 - 1·5	
england & wales	53,851	- 1.2	- 2.1	67,354	- 12	+ 9.5	
GCOTLAND	2,583 455	- 1·0 + 2·9	- 13·2 + 0·9	3 252 418	- 4·2 + 0·2	+ 3.8 + 9.7	
UNITED KINGDOM	55,889	- 1.2	- 2.6	71,024	- 1.3	+ 9.2	

In the Leicester district employment continued good, but it was reported that if there were much more enlisting among a certain class of skilled male machine-operators, some factories would be compelled to close down. Women workers generally were well employed, some having been temporarily transferred to male operations. In the Northampton district employment continued brisk, and there was an improvement as compared with a month ago with the Army bootmakers owing to new contracts. Great activity still prevailed at Stafford, Bristol and Kingswood, Norwich, and Leeds, although there was less pressure in the last-mentioned district owing to there being less demand for Army boots. In Scotland employment was not quite equal to last month, but still on the whole good. In all the principal districts the labour problem was the most prominent factor.

LEATHER TRADES.

APART from the saddle and harness trades employment continued good on the whole, with overtime at many places and some shortage of labour. With curriers in London and Edinburgh, however, employment was reported as quiet. With fancy leather workers it was better than a year ago.

In the saddle and harness trades employment remained quiet on the whole, and worse than a year ago, short time being worked at Walsall.

Trade Unions with 4,252 members, exclusive of those serving with the colours, reported 3.5 per cent. as unemployed at the end of November, compared with 1.4 per cent. at the end of October and 2.1 per cent. a year ago. Most of the workpeople returned as out of employment in November were saddlers at Walsall, of whom none were so returned a year ago.

none were so returned a year ago.

The *imports* of raw hides totalled nearly 80,000 cwts., a decrease of 31,000 cwts. on a month ago and of 20,000 cwts. on a year ago. For November, 1913, the figure was 104,000 cwts. Of the wet hides imported in November, 1915, over 50 per cent. came from the Argentine and Uruguay. Imports of leather amounted to 107,000 cwts., about the same as for the previous month, 79,000 cwts. less than a year ago, and 20,000 cwts. more than in November, 1913.

The exports (British and Irish) of leather in November, 1915, amounted to 13,751 cwts., compared with 12,485 cwts. a month ago and only 4,113 cwts. a year ago. In November, 1913, the total was 24,680 cwts. Exports of leather manufactures were valued at £233,000, compared with £129,000 a year ago and £198,000 two years ago. There was a great increase in the value of exported saddlery and harness.

HAT TRADE.

Silk.—Employment was bad in London and in the provincial centres and worse than a month ago—short time was general. Compared with November, 1914, there was some improvement.

Felt.—Employment in this branch continued fairly good; there was less unemployment than a year ago, owing to the number of enlistments. The percentage of trade union members unemployed at the end of November was 0·1, compared with 0·2 a month ago and 7·0 a year ago. At Denton there was much short time, through stocktaking and the closing of the ladies' felt hat season. At Stockport about 30 per cent. of the operatives were on short time and employment was reported as moderate. In Warwickshire employment was good and some overtime was reported.

TAILORING TRADE. BESPOKE

London.—During November employment was very slack, except with a few firms engaged on military and naval orders; it was slightly worse than a year ago. Returns from firms paying £9,348 to their workpeople (indoor and outdoor workers) during the four weeks ended 27th November showed a decrease of 0.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago and of 2.8 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Other Centres.—At Manchester and Glasgow employment was bad, and worse than a month ago; at Liverpool employment continued fair; at Belfast it was quiet. On the whole there was little change as compared with November, 1914.

READY-MADE.

In this branch employment was fair, and showed a further decline in all the principal districts compared with a month ago; it was not up to the level of a year ago, owing to the less widespread execution of Government contracts. There was still a shortage of cutters and machinists, though it was less felt in some districts owing to slackening of employment.

Returns from firms employing 33,981 workpeople in the week ended 27th November showed a decrease of 3.8 per cent. in the number employed and of 8.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 1.1 per cent. in the number employed and a decrease of 2.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. About 22 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns were on short time (partly due to a shortage of cutters) during the month, while about 15 per cent. were on overtime, whereas a year ago over 50 per cent. were working more than the usual hours.

	Indoor Workpeople.								
District.		Number	•	Earnings.					
	Week ended Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			Week	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a				
	27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.			
Crist que atien de	0.700	Per cent.		£	Per cent.	Per cent.			
Manchester Other places in York- shire, Lancs, & Cheshire	9,306 3,364 5,008	- 2·1 - 5·4 - 5·0	+ 0.9 - 1.7 - 2.4	7,836 3,349 3,993	- 9·2 - 7·5 - 3·5	- 4.9 - 2.3 - 7.8			
Bristol North and West Midland Counties (excluding	2,052 3,835	- 3·4 - 4·0	- 2·9 - 6·1	1,538 2,834	- 9·5 - 8·9	- 3·8 -16·0			
Bristol) South Midland & Eastern Counties	2,758	- 1.8	+ 6.4	2,142	-11:1	- 9.7			
London	3,538 1,527 2,543	- 4·5 - 9·0 - 4·0	+38·9 -15·3 - 4·6	4,141 1,395 1,769	-12·5 -14·1 - 3·6	+42·0 -18·4 - 6·6			
TOTAL, UNITED KINGDOM	33,931	- 3.8	+ 1.1	28,997	- 8.8	- 2.9			

The total amount of wages paid to outworkers by the above firms showed a decrease of 21 per cent. compared with a month ago and of 53 per cent. compared with a year ago.

At Leeds employment continued to fall off, and was not so brisk as a year ago. During the month about 22 per cent. of the workpeople were on short time (partly due to a shortage of cutters) and about 21 per cent. worked overtime, whereas a year ago about half the workers were on overtime, and no short time was reported. The Jewish operatives reported employment as quiet.

At Manchester employment on the whole was fair, but not so good as a month ago or a year ago. At Huddersfield and Wigan employment was moderate; at Hebden Bridge it was good and at Liverpool fair; some overtime was reported at the two last-mentioned places.

At Bristol employment on the whole was fair, with some short time; at Stroud it continued good. At Walsall, Tamworth, Plymouth, Colchester, and Norwich employment continued brisk.

At Glasgow employment was moderate, and below the level of a month ago and a year ago.

In London employment was fairly good, but not so good as a month ago. Compared with a year ago, the increase in the total amount paid to indoor workpeople was largely counterbalanced by a decrease in the amount paid to outworkers.

SHIRT AND COLLAR TRADE.

In this trade employment was fair and not quite so good as a month ago, although decidedly better than in November, 1914. There was little change with regard to the supply of labour since last month, there being still a shortage of men cutters and women machinists, especially in London and Manchester.

Returns from firms employing 19,166 workpeople in the week ended 27th November showed a decrease of 0.7 per cent. in the number employed and of 2.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 1.0 per cent. in the number employed and of 10.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. About 8 per cent. of the workers were on short time during the month.

	V	Vorkpeop	le.	Earnings.			
District.	Week Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			Week	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
	27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
London	4,029 3,041 2,076 2,319 1,481 2,531 1,953 1,187 549	Per cent 2.8 - 1.5 + 0.5 + 0.9 - 0.5 + 1.8 - 1.9 + 1.5 - 4.2	Per cent 0.7 + 8.2 + 7.1 - 3.3 - 4.7 - 4.6 + 11.0 + 13.0	£ 3,367 2,467 1,376 1,484 1,080 1,672 1,135 846 251	Per cent 3.6 - 3.8 - 1.4 + 2.2 + 0.4 - 6.9 - 1.8 + 0.2 - 7.0	Per cent. + 12·8 - 2·6 + 11·7 + 28·3 + 11·6 - 3·1 + 18·0 + 31·6 + 12·6	
TOTAL, UNITED KINGDOM	19,166	- 0.7	+ 1.0	13,678	- 2.6	+ 10.0	

In London employment was fair and not so good as a month ago, but better than in November, 1914. In Manchester there was also a slight decline as compared with October, and employment was not quite up to the level of a year ago, although still fairly good. In the South-Western Counties employment was fair, slightly better than a month ago and considerably better than a year ago; about 19 per cent. of the operatives were on short time; at Bideford, Barnstaple and Exeter employment in the collar and cuff factories was fairly good. At Glasgow employment was fair, but not so good as in October.

In Ireland employment continued fair generally, and was much above the level of a year ago.

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES. DRESSMAKING AND MILLINERY.

In London employment with dressmakers in retail firms was moderate and not so good as a month ago; compared with a year ago fewer workers were employed, but much less short time was reported, viz., 7 per cent., as compared with 55 per cent. in November, 1914. Returns from firms, chiefly in the West End, employing 1,952 dressmakers in the week ended 27th November showed a decrease of 4:0 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago and of 5:3 per cent. compared with a year ago. A scarcity of learners was reported.

With court and private dressmakers employment was slack and worse than a month ago; firms employing 892 workpeople in the week ended 27th November showed a decrease of 10.4 per cent. compared with October, and of 10.0 per cent. compared with November, 1914. About 30 per cent. of the workpeople were on short time during the month, as compared with 70 per cent. a year ago.

With milliners in the West End employment was moderate and worse than a month ago and a year ago.

MANTLE, COSTUME AND BLOUSE, ETC.

In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, underclothing and millinery trades, returns from firms in London employing 5,306 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended 27th November showed a decrease of 9.5 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 5.0 per cent. compared with a year ago. There was a seasonal slackness in some departments, especially in the millinery branch, but employment on the whole was fair.

At Manchester returns from firms employing 5,234 workpeople in the week ended 27th November in the costume, blouse, mantle, etc., trades showed a decrease of 1.3 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 6.4 per cent. compared with a year ago. About 8 per cent. of the workers were on short time during the month, and about 11 per cent. were on overtime; employment on the whole was fairly good and a shortage of machinists was still felt.

At Glasgow returns from firms employing 2,036 work-people in the week ended 27th November in the mantle, costume and underclothing trades showed a decrease of 3.4 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 6.3 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was fairly good.

CORSET TRADE.

Employment continued good at all the principal centres and was better than a year ago. Firms (mainly in England) employing 6,063 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers), in the week ended 27th November showed no change in the number employed since last month, and an increase of 12'4 per cent. compared with November, 1914. There was no change in the labour situation since October, the supply of women machinists and men cutters still being insufficient.

BRICK TRADES. BRICK TRADE.

The brickmaking industry continued quiet on the whole; there was some decline on the previous month,, and the number employed was far below the corresponding number last year. There was, however, a general shortage of male labour, and for the workpeople remaining in the trade employment was better than a year ago. Several reports mentioned reduction of output and short time working on account of bad trade, while other firms stated that they could employ more workpeople if such were available. Returns from firms employing 7,108 workpeople in the week ended November 27th, 1915, showed a decrease of 2.9 per cent. in the number employed and of 3.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there

was a decrease of 26.1 per cent. in the number employed and of 12.7 per cent, in the amount of wages paid.

	1	Workpeo7	ple.	Earnings.		
Districts.	Week ended 27th	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
	Nov., 1915.	Month Year ago.		27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Northern Counties, York- shire, Lancashire and Cheshire	2,830	Per cent.	Per cent.	£ 4,344	Per cent.	Per cent.
Midland and Eastern Counties	2,136	- 3.0	- 30.7	2,683	- 5.2	- 19.1
S. and S.W. Counties and Wales	1,603	- 60	- 30.8	2,263	- 8.6	- 20.0
Scotland Other Districts	399 140	- 4·8 - 8·5	- 30 6 - 45·1	546 181	- 3·4 - 10·8	- 21·7 - 37·6
TOTAL	7,108	- 2.9	- 26.1	10,017	- 3.9	- 12.7

Employment continued moderate in the Tees and Hartlepools district. In the Nottingham district much short time was worked, partly owing to bad weather; the sales showed a slight improvement, but these orders were delivered from stock. In the Stourbridge district employment continued very good and was better than a year ago. Makers of encaustic tiles at Tamworth were also busy. In Shropshire employment with makers of glazed bricks and pipes showed a decline and was only moderate. In the Birmingham district there was not much change. At Peterborough employment generally remained quiet; in the Eastern Counties in general it was dull. In the Plymouth district it was very quiet; several works remained closed. In North Wales employment continued slack and there was great difficulty in obtaining fuel.

CEMENT TRADE.

The shortage of labour was more pronounced than ever. Those still remaining in the industry were very busy and worked a great deal of overtime.

Returns from firms employing 7,627 workpeople in the week ended 27th November, 1915, showed a decrease of 1.4 per cent. in the number employed and of 0.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago the number employed decreased by 16.0 per cent., but the amount of wages paid declined only 1.4 per cent.

The exports (British and Irish) of cement amounted to 15,700 tons, compared with 22,000 tons a month ago and 35,000 tons and 49,000 tons in November, 1914 and 1913, respectively. There was a marked drop in the quantity sent to the British East Indies.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION OF WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT was quiet in November, and showed a seasonal decline compared with the previous month, especially affecting painters, plasterers and masons. With carpenters, bricklayers and plumbers there was little change, men in these occupations remaining well employed. Private building work was very quiet, but the general percentage unemployed remained small, and considerably below what it was a year ago, many men having enlisted or joined other trades. The lowest percentage for any occupation was for navvies (0.6). A shortage of workpeople was reported in many places.

The following Table shows the percentage unemployed among 692,083 workpeople insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act at the end of November, 1915:—

Occupations.		at chu oi		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2		November, 1915.	at end of November.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Carpenters Bricklayers Masons Plasterers Planters Plumbers Other skilled occupations Navvies Labouters ALL OCCUPATIONS		107,951 56,780 34,398 17,389 108,872 30,162 31,028 87,361 217,642	1-2 2-2 3-1 4-9 4-8 0-7 1-0 0-6 1-0	- 0·1 + 0·1 + 1·0 + 1·4 + 2·0 - 0·2 - 0·1 + 0·1 + 0·4	- 0.5 - 4.4 - 2.7 - 3.9 - 8.6 - 2.0 - 2.9 - 1.9 - 3.3	

The next Table shows in detail the percentage unemployed in the above occupations in each division. The highest percentages for all occupations taken together were still found in Ireland (6.1) and London (3.6), no other district having a higher percentage than 1.9, and that in five districts being less than 0.9. Except in London (where no change was shown) and in Wales (where there was a slight improvement) there was an increase in the percentage unemployed in every district. The greatest proportionate increase was in the North-Western district (Lancashire and Cheshire), where the general percentage unemployed was 1.9, compared with 0.8 a month ago. Taking the occupations separately, a general increase in the percentage unemployed is shown by painters, plasterers, masons, navvies and labourers, while little general change is shown by carpenters, bricklayers and plumbers. Compared with a year ago there were, with one slight exception, reductions in the percentages unemployed in every occupation in every district. The improvement was least marked in the case of carpenters, owing to the fact that in November, 1914, this trade was busy upon the erection of huts for the troops and upon other

Government v	work.	le le	Val.	010	орь апс	и ир	оп (otnei
Districts.	Number	Per- cent- age	Inc. Dec.	(+) on (-)	Number	Per- cent- age	Inc. (Dec. (+) or -) on
	Insured.	Un- em- pl'y'd.	M'nt ago.		Insured.	Un- em- pl'y'd.	M'nth ago.	Year ago.
		Carpen	ters.	10		Brickla	yers.	
London Northern Counties North-Western Yorkshire East Midlands West Midlands West Midlands South-Western Wales Southand Ireland	19,540 5,003 11,226 9,093 5,171 7,514 15,695 14,020 5,153 10,321 5,215	1.9 0.2 1.4 0.5 0.6 0.6 0.7 1.0 0.9 0.4 5.4	+ 0.3 + 0.3 + 0.1 + 0.1 - 0.2 - 0.6 + 0.6	- 0.9 - 1.3 - 1.4 - 1.2 - 0.9 - 0.3 - 0.1 - 0.8	2,889 6,219 4,980	5·9 0·2 1·5 0·6 0·5 0·4 2·0 1·6 0·7 0·8 8·9	- 0.7 - 0.1 + 0.7 - 0.2 - 0.2 + 0.1 + 0.3 - 1.1 + 0.2 + 1.8	- 6.0 - 3.8 - 6.4 - 5.0 - 4.7 - 3.3 - 4.2 - 2.8 - 1.8 - 4.1 - 0.2
CAN DIE		Mason	ıs.		14.37	Plaster	ers.	
London	2,138 1,923 2,787 4,125 866 851 1,030 7,554 4,627 6,425 2,072	0.8 6.6 1.2 2.0 1.3 4.0 2.3 1.1	- 0·3 + 0·6 + 4·6 + 0·3 + 0·3 + 0·4 + 1·6 - 0.2 + 2·2 + 3·1	- 3·3 - 2·2 - 2·2 - 6·1 - 2·5 - 2·7 - 4·6 - 1·8 - 1·2 - 2·8	4,034 731 1,754 1,322 420 904 1,574 1,973 1,454 1,978 1,245	9·5 1·9 4·1 2·0 2·4 2·5 5·7 4·1 1·5 1·8 7·3	+ 1·8 + 1·4 + 1·3 + 1·0 + 0·7 + 0·2 + 2·4 + 0·7 - 0·2 + 0·8 + 3·0	- 4·0 - 2·7 - 5·5 - 5·0 - 2·9 - 3·9 - 8·1 - 5·2 - 1·9 - 2·3 - 0·9
you Gil Harn	des and	Painters.			Aug.	Plumbe	ers.	Mari
London Northern Counties North-Western Yorkshire East Midlands West Midlands Eastern&S.E.Count. South-Western Wales Scotland Ireland	32,503 3,148 11,003 7,383 3,826 7,875 16,100 12,245 3,111 7,994 3,684	0.7 7.3 2.3 2.3 1.2 3.2 3.3 2.3 2.3 3.6	+ 0.8 + 0.4 + 5.9 + 1.3 + 1.8 + 0.5 + 1.4 + 1.2 + 2.1 + 8.8	-12·3 - 9·3 -10·0 - 9·2 - 8·6 - 6·4 - 6·8 - 5·2 - 1·8 - 5·7 - 4·2	5,992 1,474 3,902 2,752 1,132 1,962 3,020 3,128 660 5,067 1,093	0·1 0·8 0·4 0·5	- 0.6 - 0.1 - 0.5 + 0.1 - 0.1 + 0.2 + 0.1 + 0.3 - 0.1 - 0.7	- 4·1 - 0·5 - 1·9 - 1·9 - 2·2 - 1·6 - 1·7 - 1·2 - 0·8 - 1·1 - 1·2
dinoma Tas	Other S	killed V	Work	ers.		Navvie	8,	
London Northern Counties North-Western Yorkshire East Midlands West Midlands West Midlands Easternés, E. Count. South-Western Wales Scotland Ireland	7,603 2,065 3,597 2,235 1,310 1,976 2,090 2,257 1,120 5,743 1,032	0.5 1.3 0.4 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.5 0.7 0.3	- 0 6 + 0 2 + 0 2 - 0 1 - 0 2 - 0 3 - 0 1 - 0 3	- 6·5 - 0·8 - 2·4 - 2·8 - 2·1 - 2·4 - 1·0 - 2·1 - 0·7 - 1·0 - 2·1	8,517 6,074 15,471 10,409 4,594 5,851 8,560 7,452 8,666 10,120 2,147	0·1 0·5 0·3 0·5 0·3 0·6 1·1 0·1	+ 0·1 + 0·3 - 0·2 - 0·2	- 4·3 - 0·7 - 1·5 - 2·0 - 1·7 - 2·0 - 2·2 - 3·7 - 0·9 - 1·0 - 3·3
guidning add	L	abourer	s.		All	Occupa	tions.	
London Northern Counties North-Western Yorkshire East Midlands West Midlands Eastern&S. E. Count. South-Western Wales Counties Wales Counties Count	49,074 9,886 29,370 17,965 8,842 16,193 28,270 23,446 10,946 13,530 10,130	0.5 0.6 0.4 0.3 0.2 0.9 1.0 0.4 0.5	0·1 0·2 0·1 0·1 0·2 0·2 0·2 0·1	- 6 6 - 1·1 - 2·4 - 2·2 - 3·3 - 1·9 - 2·3 - 2·8 - 1·7 - 1·0 - 4·6	139,358 33,193 85,329 60,264 30,241 49,815 87,626 77,965 37,407 62,826 28,069	1.9 0.7 0.8 + 0.6 + 1.6 + 0.7 - 1.1 +	- 0·1 0·2 0·4 0·2 0·4 0·2 0·1 - 0·5 2·0 2·0 2·0 2·0 2·0 2·0 2·0 2·0 2·0 2·0 2·0 2·0 2·0 2·0 2·0 2·0 2·0 2·0	3·4 3·5 3·4 2·7 3·1 2·7

WOODWORKING AND FURNISHING TRADES. MILL SAWING AND MACHINING.

EMPLOYMENT continued good on the whole, and was better than a year ago. There was, however, a decline at Liverpool, where employment was only quiet. It was only fair also at Belfast, Oldham, Leicester, Northampton, the Potteries and Bristol. Overtime was again worked at some centres, and there was considerable shortage of certain classes of labour.

The percentage unemployed at the end of November among workpeople engaged in mill-sawing and insured against unemployment under Part II. of the National Insurance Act, was 0.6, compared with 0.7 in the previous month and 2.3 in November, 1914. Trade Unions with a membership of 8,253 showed 0.7 per cent. unemployed at the end of November, compared with 0.5 per cent. a month ago and 1.3 per cent. a year ago.

FURNISHING.

Employment was again fairly good, but showed some improvement on the previous month; it was better than a year ago. Trade Unions with 16,936 members reported 2.2 per cent. unemployed at the end of November, compared with 3.4 per cent. a month ago and 8.0

per cent. a year ago.
With cabinet makers employment continued very good, and overtime, largely on Government orders, was again reported at a number of centres. There was a slight decline in London, where, however, employment was still very good. It was good, with overtime, at Glasgow, Manchester, Plymouth, Norwich and Bedford. An improvement took place at Edinburgh. Employment was fair at Birmingham, Sheffield and the Potteries, and was moderate in the Tees and Hartlepools district. With upholsterers employment was fairly good and rather better than a month ago. Overtime was reported at Plymouth and Belfast. At Liverpool employment was quiet, and showed a decline. Employment was good with french polishers, and continued to improve. Overtime was worked at Plymouth, Nottingham and Edinburgh, but short time at Manchester.

COACH BUILDING.

Employment was fairly good on the whole, but again showed a slight decline on the previous month; it was better than a year ago. Overtime was reported fairly frequently, but short time also occurred in some centres, largely on private work. Employment was only fair at Manchester, Coventry and Glasgow, moderate at Liverpool and Dublin, and quiet at Saltley and Belfast. Trade Unions with 11,617 members reported 1.5 per cent. unemployed at the end of November, compared with 1.2 per cent. a month ago and 4.1 per cent. a vear ago.

COOPERS.

Employment generally was good, and better than a year ago; compared with a month ago there was a slight decline. Employment continued fairly good at Burton-on-Trent. Overtime was reported at Liverpool and Edinburgh. It was again slack, however, at Yarmouth.

Trade Unions with 4,018 members had 0.1 per cent. unemployed at the end of November, compared with practically none a month ago and 0.4 per cent. a year

MISCELLANEOUS.

Brushmaking.—Employment was good generally, and again showed little change on the previous month. It was better than a year ago. Overtime, largely on Government contracts, was reported at certain centres. Employment continued to improve in the painting brush section. Trade Unions with 1,347 members reported 0.1 per cent. unemployed at the end of November, compared with 0.7 per cent. a month ago and 0.4

per cent. a year ago.

Other Trades.—Employment continued fairly good on the whole with wheelwrights and smiths, and good with packing-case makers. Skip and basket makers were well employed at Oldham, Manchester, Leicester

PRINTING, BOOKBINDING AND PAPER TRADES. PRINTING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT was good on the whole and better than a month ago, little short time being reported, while a considerable amount of overtime was worked, especially in London. There was a scarcity of labour, especially of machinemen. Employment was much better than a year ago, when short time was common.

Returns from Trade Unions with a membership of 49,050 show that the percentage unemployed at the end of the month was 1.3, compared with 2.4 a month ago and 5.1 a year ago.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions		age Uner	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
	Nov., 1915.	Nev., 1915.	Oct., 1915.	Nov., 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	21,847 4,884	0.7	1.6 1.8	60	- 0·9 - 0·9	- 5·3 - 3·5
Lancs and Cheshire East Midland and Eastern Counties	6,395 2,426	1.6 1.0	30	5·1 3·6	- 1·4 - 0·8	- 3.5
West Midlands S. & SW. Counties and Wales	2,613 4,059	1·2 1·2	2·1 2·2	4·8 2·4	- 09 - 1·0	- 36
Scotland	4,632 2,194	1·9 5·8	2·2 10·9	35 9·1	- 0·3 - 5·1	- 1·6 - 3·3
UNITED KINGDOM	49,050	1.3	2.4	5.1	- 1.1	- 3-

According to returns received from firms employing 15,763 workpeople in the week ended 27th November the number of persons employed showed a decrease of 0.9 per cent. on a month ago, while the amount of wages paid increased by 2.5 per cent. Compared with a year ago there were decreases of 11.5 per cent. in the number employed and of 0.5 per cent. in the amount of wages

		Workpeop	le.	Earnings.			
Districts.	Week Inc. (+) or ended Dec. (-) on a		Week	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a			
	27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	27th Nev., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
London Northern Counties and	6,215 1,409	Per cent. + 0.0 - 4.0	Per cent. - 6.2 -15.8	£ 10,936 1,881	Per cent. + 1.7 - 0.1	Per cent. + 4·1 - 6·5	
Yorkshire Lancashire and Cheshire Midland and Eastern	1,801 2,481	- 0·3 - 0·9	-13·0 -14·8	2,649 3,536	+ 4·6 + 0·7	+ 1.0	
Counties Scotland Other Districts	2,217 1,640	+ 1·1 - 3·1	-18·2 -10·0	2,881 2,342	+11.6	- 9·4 - 3·0	
UNITED KINGDOM	15,763	- 0.9	-11.5	24,225	+ 2.5	- 0.5	

BOOKBINDING TRADES.

Employment was good and better than a month ago and a year ago, a considerable amount of overtime being worked, especially in London. A shortage of labour was reported.

Returns from firms employing 9,899 workpeople in the week ended 27th November showed an increase in the number employed of 0.6 per cent. compared with a month ago; the amount of wages paid increased by 3.9 per cent. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 10.7 per cent. in the number employed, but an increase of 7.7 per cent. in the amount of wages

Committee of the Commit	7	Workpeopl	e.	Earnings.			
Districts:	Week			Week ended	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
	27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	27th Nov, 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
London Northern Counties and	3,362 841	Per cent. + 04 - 0.9	Per cent. -10.1 -13.5	£ 4,145 761	Per cent. + 5.3 + 1.2	Per cent. +10.4 + 4.5	
Yorkshire Lancashire and Cheshire Midland and Eastern	1,563 1,155	+ 4.7	- 7·0 -14·8	1,426 971	+ 6.2 + 3.2	+ 8.4 + 3.9	
Counties Scotland Other Districts	2,10 7 871	- 0.8 + 0.1	-10 6 -10·8	1,740 696	+ 1.6 + 1.9	+10.1	
UNITED KINGDOM	9,899	+ 0.6	-10.7	9,739	+ 3.9	+ 7.7	

Trade Unions with a membership of 5,560 had 0.6 per cent. unemployed at the end of November, 1915, compared with 0.8 per cent. a month ago and 3.9 per cent. a year ago.

11 10 01 10	No. of Members of Unions		tage Uner			e (+) or se (-)
	at end of Nov., 1915.	Nov., 1915.	Oct., 1915.	Nov., 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Other Districts	2,881	0.3	0·3 1·2	4·1 3·7	- 04	- 38 - 29
UNITED KINGDOM	5,560	0.6	08	3.9	- 0.2	- 3.3

PAPER TRADES.

Employment continued good and was much better than a year ago; a shortage of labour was frequently reported. Returns from firms employing 14,281 workpeople in the last work of November 14,281 workpeople in the last week of November showed no change in the total number employed compared with a month ago; compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 3.1 per

a) 250 agric do debestul	Workpeople paid Wages in last week	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
Seffensant dez me)	of Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
MACHINE-MADE PAPER AND MILLED BOARDS: Northern Countles Midlands, Wales, and Ireland Southern Countles Southern Countles	4,102 870 5,279 3,670	Per cent 0.7 + 0.7 + 0.3 + 0.2	Per cent 0.6 - 1.4 - 3.5 - 4.8	
TOTAL MACHINE-MADE PAPER, &C. Hand-made Paper	13,921 360	::	- 2·9 - 10·0	
TOTAL	14,281		- 31	

Trade Unions in the machine-made paper trade with 3,839 members had 0.2 per cent. unemployed at the end of November, the same percentage as for September and October, 1915; for November, 1914, the percentage

The *imports* of wood pulp were 67,000 tons, a decline of 17,000 tons on October, of 5,000 tons on a year ago, and of 12,000 tons on two years ago. Imports of all kinds of paper amounted to 1,117,000 cwts., about the same amount as a month ago, and about 100,000 more than in either November, 1914 or 1913.

The exports (British and Irish) of paper were 242,000 cwts., compared with 253,000 cwts. a month ago, 239,000 cwts. a year ago, and 270,000 cwts. two years ago.

GLASS TRADES.

Employment continued good, partly owing to Government contracts; a scarcity of skilled labour was frequently reported. A shortage of boys also was reported in several cases, especially in the glass bottle trade.

Returns from firms employing 9,200 workpeople in the week ended 27th November showed an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, compared with a month ago, and an increase of 2.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 8.5 per cent, in the number employed, but an increase of 3.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

	"	orgheobi	0.	Earnings.			
e geografi a da seem a	Week ended	Inc. (Dec. (-	+) or -) on a	Week	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
ridoralizacis I alb	27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
ERANCHES. Glass Bottle	6,762 1,840 598	Per cent. + 1.6 - 0.4 - 4.5	Per cent 7.9 - 11.6 - 6.4	£ 11,013 2,449 751	Per cent. + 3·3 + 0·1 - 0·1	Per cent. + 39 + 3·3	
TOTAL	9,200	+ 0.8	- 8.5	14 213	+ 2.5	+ 3.8	
North of England Yorkshire Lancashire and Warwickshire Worcestershire and Warwickshire Other parts of the United	1,118 4,561 822 870 715 1 114	Per cent. + 0·1 + 1·1 + 2·1 + 0·2 - + 0·3	Per cent. - 22.4 - 4.6 - 6.6 - 12.2 - 22.9 + 7.1	£ 1,836 7,083 1,156 1,228 1,150 1,760	Per cent + 2.5 + 2.1 + 5.4 - 0.5 + 3.0 + 4.2	Per cent 9·3 + 6·2 - 0·2 + 8·3 - 7·3 + 20 4	
Kingdom TOTAL	9,200	+ 0.8	- 8.5	14,213	+ 2.5	+ 3.8	

Employment in the glass-bottle trade was good generally in Yorkshire and other centres. With flint-glass makers at Birmingham it continued good; with flintglass cutters it was fair and much better than a month ago, some men working overtime, owing to others being employed upon munition work. In the Wordsley and Stourbridge district men ordinarily engaged in the making of table glass were fairly well employed in making electrical apparatus. On the Tyne and Wear table-glass makers were well employed and pressed-glass makers reported a scarcity of labour. With sheet and plate-glass workers at St. Helens employment was only fair and worse than a month ago, some short time being reported by blowers and gatherers.

The *imports* of glass during November were valued at £226,000, compared with £187,000 a month ago and £68,000 a year ago. Sheet glass and flint glass and manufactures thereof showed a marked decline compared with November, 1913, when the total value of all glass imported was £280,000.

The exports of glass were valued at £83,000, compared with £101,000 a month ago, £126,000 a year ago, and £144,000 two years ago. The chief declines compared with November, 1913, were under the headings of plate glass and bottles.

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT was again good, showing little change on the whole compared with the previous month. It continued especially good in the manufacture of the cheaper grades of china and earthenware, but was less so in higher-priced grades. With makers of sanitary ware and tiles it was still quiet and showed little signs of improvement. A shortage of male labour was again everywhere experienced, and owing to the scarcity of skilled hands short time was worked in certain centres. Female labour also was said to be extremely scarce in some instances, and in a few cases transport difficulties

Returns from firms employing 18,346 workpeople in the week ended 27th November showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the numbers employed, and practically no change in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 4.7 per cent. in the numbers employed but an increase of 16.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

STATE OF THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NAMED IN COLUMN T	W	orkpeop	le.		Earnings		
dalesconto acerdonical	Week			Week	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		
mariants and and at	27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
BRANCHES, China Manufacture Earthenware Manufacture Other Branches (Including unspecified)	2,968 12,057 3,321	Per cent. + 2·4 - 0·3 - 2·8	Per cent. + 9·3 - 4·6 - 14 8	9·3 4·6 12,371 14 8 3,170	Per cent. + 5·3 - 1·5 - 0·6	Per cent. + 32.5 + 15.8 + 2.7	
TOTAL	18,346	- 0.4	- 4.7	19,583	- 00	+ 16.4	
DISTRICTS. Potteries Other Districts	13,750 4,596	- 0.6 + 0.3	- 3·0 - 9·6	13,616 5,967	- 0.5 + 1.1	+ 20 7 + 7·7	
TOTAL	18 346	- 0.4	- 4.7	19,583	- 0.0	+ 16.4	

In the porcelain and china section employment continued good, and was better than a month ago and a year ago in the Potteries and other principal districts; out some time was lost owing in part to the shortage of skilled male labour.

In the earthenware section employment generally was good, and showed little change on the whole compared with a month ago; it was better than a year ago.

The imports of china and earthenware amounted to 14,141 cwts., compared with 13,656 cwts. a month ago, 6,941 cwts. a year ago, and 77,649 cwts. two years ago. As compared with normal times there were marked

declines under all the principal headings.

The exports were 191,000 cwts., compared with 212,000 cwts. a month ago and 203,000 cwts. a year ago. Compared with November, 1913, there was a decline of 153,000 cwts.

FOOD PREPARATION TRADES.

THESE trades continued extremely busy, and there was a further increase in the numbers employed. Government orders continued, and the approach of Christmas also was responsible for some of the activity. Much overtime was worked, partly on account of the scarcity of labour.

Returns from firms employing 66,145 workpeople in the week ended 27th November showed an increase of 0.9 per cent. in the numbers employed and of 2.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with the previous month. As compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 12.5 per cent. in the numbers employed and of 31.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Many firms were handicapped by the shortage of male labour, especially of skilled men and of carmen, and in some cases female and boy labour was also reported as scarce. There were transport difficulties in certain instances, and it was again stated in some cases that the increased price of raw materials (sugar, cocoa, etc.) was affecting demand by making it necessary to raise the prices of finished articles.

	W	orkpeop	le.	Earnings.		
Trade.	Week ended	Inc. (+	or Dec.	Week Inc. (+)		or Dec.
	27th Nov., Month 1915. ago.		Year ago.	27th Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Sugar Refining, &c. Cocoa, Chocolate and Sugar Confectionery	5,167 33,992	Per cent 0.0 + 0.6	Per cent. + 2.7 + 11.8	£ 8,289 35,096	Per cent 1·1 + 1·1	Per cent. + 17.5 + 34.7
Biscuits, Cakes, &c. Jams, Marmalade, &c. Bacon and Preserved Meats Pickles, Sauces, &c	11,882 6,962 7,326 816	+ 1.5 + 1.2 + 2.1 - 2.2	+ 20.6 + 12.4 + 12.7 - 3.0	11,976 6,401 7,619 683	+ 7.8 + 6.9 + 3.7 - 3.7	+ 37·9 + 37·9 + 22·8 + 13·5
TOTAL	66,145	+ 0.9	+ 12.5	70,064	+ 2.6	+ 31.6

All departments showed a slight improvement on a month ago, and a very large improvement on a year ago, with the exception of sugar refining and pickle, sauce, etc., manufacture. The latter showed a considerable decline on the previous month, and the numbers employed were less than a year ago, though earnings showed an improvement. Sugar refining also declined as compared with the previous month, but showed an improvement on a year ago, especially in earnings.

Imports of raw cocoa, entered for home consumption in November amounted to 9,697,000 lbs., or nearly double the amount imported in November, 1914, and just double the amount imported in November, 1913. Imports of preparations of cocoa, including chocolate confectionery, entered for home consumption, amounted to 32,000 cwts., as compared with 12,000 cwts. a year ago, and 19,000 cwts. in November, 1913. Imports of confectionery, other than chocolate confectionery, entered for home consumption amounted to 5,861 cwts., as compared with 3,417 cwts. in November, 1914, and 6,846 cwts. in November, 1913.

Exports of biscuits and cakes amounted to about 28,000 cwts., as compared with 23,000 cwts. a year ago, and 44,000 cwts. in November, 1913. Exports of confectionery, jams, and preserved fruits amounted to 36,000 cwts., as compared with 30,000 cwts. a year ago, and 64,000 cwts. two years ago. Exports of pickles, etc., amounted to 44,152 gallons, as compared with 45,189 gallons in November, 1914, and 101,987 gallons in November, 1913.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT continued good on the whole and showed little change compared with a month ago.

East Coast.—At Hartlepool employment with fishermen continued very good; with fish curers it was slack and worse than a month ago. It was again reported as good with fishermen at Hull and Grimsby and with fish dock labourers at the former port. It was moderate with fish curers at Grimsby and declined during the month. At Yarmouth and Lowestoft employment with fishermen, fish dock labourers, and fish curers was re-

stricted to some extent by the reduced number of boats available. It continued slack at Brightlingsea, Harwich, and Southwold.

South Coast.—Fishermen at Plymouth and trawl fishers at Brixham were fairly well employed; employment generally was better than a month ago, but was hindered to some extent by stormy weather. It was fairly good with fish packers, carters, and curers.

Scotland.—With fishermen employment continued good at Aberdeen, fair at Peterhead and Macduff, and bad at Fraserburgh; with fish dock labourers and fish curers it was fair at Aberdeen, bad at Macduff and Fraserburgh, and almost or altogether suspended at Peterhead. At Dundee employment continued fair on the whole; it was fairly good at Arbroath and fair at Montrose.

The quantity of fish (other than shell-fish) landed in England and Wales in November, 1915, showed a decrease of 109,778 cwts. (or 14.5 per cent.) on November, 1914. Owing to higher prices, however, there was an increase in the value of the fish landed of £125,982 (or 18.4 per cent.).

FISH LANDED IN ENGLAND AND WALES IN NOVEMBER, 1915.

		Qua	ntity.	Value.		
		Nov., 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on Nov., 1914.	Nov., 1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) or Nov., 1914	
Fish (other than shell) Shell Fish		Cwts. 648,950	Cwts. - 109,778	£ 811,614 23,590	£ +125,982 + 43	
TOTAL VALUE			_	835,204	+126,025	

AGRICULTURE.*

THERE was a scarcity of agricultural labour nearly everywhere during November, and temporary labour especially was very difficult to obtain.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

In the northern counties the supply of labour was very deficient. At the Martinmas hirings few men were seeking places, and farmers were often left shorthanded. As a consequence wages were very high. There was an increased deficiency of labour in Yorkshire, all classes of workers being scarce. The supply of labour in Lancashire and Cheshire was sufficient for present requirements in a few districts, but, generally speaking, the supply was short and wages showed an upward tendency. There was a great deficiency of labour in Shropshire and Staffordshire, temporary help for turnip-lifting being almost unobtainable. In Worcestershire, Herefordshire and Clausestershire there was a great shorter. shire and Gloucestershire there was a general shortage of labour, and women were helping to pull mangolds in many places. The supply of labour in Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire continued to be very short, and the position as regards skilled men was becoming worse. A shortage of labour was reported from some districts of Lincolnshire, while in others there was just sufficient for present purposes. Labour was scarce in Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire, and root-lifting was delayed in consequence. In Warwickshire, Northamptonshire and Bedfordshire labour was everywhere reported to be deficient, both skilled and casual. Labour was generally deficient also in Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire, and casual labourers were practically unobtainable. In central Buckinghamshire stockmen were doing most of the work. The shortage of labour was increasingly felt in Essex, Hertfordshire and Middlesex, and was becoming a serious question in many districts. In Kent, Surrey and Sussex the supply of labour continued to decrease, and was very deficient in most districts, the scarcity of workers being most felt on dairy farms. There was an increasingly marked shortage of labour

in Hampshire, Wiltshire and Dorset, and temporary men were almost unobtainable. Labour was still deficient in Somerset, Devon and Cornwall.

In North Wales there was a scarcity of labour, but it was not much felt, as all work on the land, except manure carting, was stopped by snow and frost after the middle of the month. The supply of labour in Cardiganshire appeared sufficient for requirements, but in South Wales the supply was, with few exceptions, deficient generally.

SCOTLAND.

In Caithness-shire the demand for labour considerably exceeded the supply; there was a shortage of experienced men, and women workers were almost unobtainable. In Ross-shire the supply of labour was very defieient, experienced ploughmen and cattlemen being especially scarce. In Moray and Banffshire the number of unmarried farm servants available was much reduced by recent enlistments. Throughout Aberdeenshire there was a marked shortage of regular farm servants. It was, however, reported from the central and eastern parts of the county that there was a fair attendance of nen at the hiring fairs, and that in some cases men were left unengaged as they had failed to get the wages they asked for. In Forfarshire and Perthshire there was a general scarcity, many ploughmen having recently enlisted. In Roxburghshire and Selkirkshire, however, the supply of regular workers was still fairly adequate, in spite of numerous enlistments.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

THE demand for workers continued at London and employment was good at the other principal ports. There was an improvement at Liverpool, but elsewhere, on the whole, employment showed little change on a month ago.

LONDON AND TILBURY.

Employment continued good, showing little change on a month ago. It continued steady throughout the month; there was little or no congestion on the river.

The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves was 18,885, a decrease of 0.3 per cent. on a month ago, but an increase of 18.5 per cent. on a year ago.

C220 8 L 000 100 L 100	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.									
		In Docks								
Period.	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship- owners. Total.		At Wharves making Returns.	Total in Docks and at Principal Wharves.					
Week ended Nov. 6tl	7,538 7,362 7,598 7,446	3,440 3,451 3,136 3,073	10,978 10,813 10,734 10,519	7,931 8,017 8,196 8,352	18,909 18,830 18,930 18,871					
Average for 4 weeks ended 27th Nov., 191	} 7,486	3,275	10,761	8,124	18,885					
Average for Oct.,1915	7,631	3,357	10,988	7,961	18,949					
" " Nov., 1911	6,262	2,612	8,874	7,064	15,938					

The maximum employed on any one day during November was 19,961, an increase of 297 on the maximum for November, 1914. The minimum (16,060) showed an increase of 1,553 on that for November, 1914.

The numbers employed at the docks and principal wharves on each day* in November, 1915, were as follows:—

Day of Month.	Number Employed.	Day of Month.	Number Employed.	Day of Month.	Number Employed.
1 2 3	16,060 19,244 19,335	11 12 13	18,964 18,559 18,150	22 23 24	18,393 18,989 19,342
5 6 8 9	19,704 19,961 19,152 19,062 18,856 19,386	15 16 17 18 19 20	18,684 19,137 19,008 19,593 19,178 17,980	25 26 27 29 30	19,289 19,129 18,087 18,312 18,977

^{*} Sundays are omitted

Tilbury.—The mean daily number employed at the docks during November was 2,172, as compared with 2,423 a month ago and 1,732 during November, 1914.

OTHER ENGLISH AND WELSH PORTS.

East Coast.—Dock and quayside labourers were well employed generally on the Tyne, especially on imported cargoes of iron ore, grain, timber, and wood pulp. At Blyth employment was good and better than a month ago. It continued good at Hartlepools, and very good at Middlesbrough. With dock labourers employment was good at Hull and Grimsby and bad at Goole; it was moderate with coal workers at all three ports. At Yarmouth, Lowestoft, and Lynn employment was still slack, and worse than a year ago. It continued fair at Ipswich, and was slack at Harwich.

South and West Coasts.—Employment was again very good at Hayle and Dartmouth, and good at Falmouth; it was fair at Plymouth. It continued good at Bristol, and was good and better than a month ago at Gloucester. At Cardiff, Newport, and Barry employment with dock labourers was fairly good, and with coal trimmers very good. Employment was good generally at Liverpool and better than a month ago, although little overtime was reported.

SCOTTISH AND IRISH PORTS.

Employment was good at Leith and at Glasgow and the Ayrshire ports. It was fair and better than a month ago at Dundee. Employment was good at Belfast, bad at Londonderry, and fair at Cork and Limerick.

SEAMEN.

The supply of seamen for mercantile ships during November was again equal to the demand at nearly all ports. Some scarcity, however, was reported from the London Docks, except at Victoria docks, where the supply was in excess of the demand. Returns received from certain selected ports show that 30,186 seamen* shipped on foreign-going vessels during November, a decrease of 4,244 on October and of 4,873 on November, 1914. As compared with October the decreases were greatest at Liverpool, Southampton, and the London docks. At Newport (Mon.) and Cardiff there were considerable increases. Compared with a year ago there were decreases at most ports, those at Liverpool and Cardiff being most marked.

manus antiques	19.92	Numb	er of Sea	men* shij	pped in	
Principal Ports.		Inc. (+) or -) on a	Eleven months ended November.		
in state bookersi olgosqu snepšt	Nov., 1915.	Month ago.	Year ago.	1914.	1915.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1915.
ENGLAND & WALES: East Coast— Tyne Ports. Sunderland. Middlesbrough Hull. Grimsby	1,378 241 189 1,067 62	- 33 + 90 - 33 - 83 + 20	- 367 - 41 - 31 - 1 + 50	27,121 4,017 2,788 14,307 774	18,664 2,870 2,602 13,172 544	- 8,457 - 1,147 - 1,166 - 1,135 - 230
Bristol Channel— Bristol†	763 866 3,759 196	- 534 + 351 + 245 - 197	- 60 + 276 - 1,102 + 40	13,427 9,404 48,488 4,040	14,132 10,261 48,647 3,358	+ 705 + 857 + 159 - 682
Other Ports— Liverpool London Southampton	11,080 6,827 646	- 1,389 - 1,089 - 1,146	- 2,634 - 62 - 745	187,396 \$4,853 40,318	139,108 87,544 14,846	- 48.288 - 7,309 - 25,472
SCOTLAND: Leith	9 799	+ 57 - 2 - 473	+ 182 - 22 - 406	4,117 2,540 41,493	3,790 664 32,151	- 327 - 1,876 - 9,342
IRELAND: Dublin	108	+ 16 - 43	+ 19 + 31	820 1,958	794 4,581	- 26 + 2,623
TOTAL .	30,186	- 4,244	- 4,873	497,861	397,728	-100133

^{*} It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals.

^{*} Based on information supplied by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Board of Agriculture for Scotland.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

TRADE DISPUTES.*

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

DISPUTES IN NOVEMBER.

Number and Magnitude.—The number of disputes beginning in November was 40, as compared with 47 in the previous month, and 25 in November, 1914. In these new disputes 8,689 workpeople were directly, and 480 indirectly involved; and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople involved in disputes which began before November, and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 11,988 workpeople involved in trade disputes in November, 1915, as compared with 20,502 in October, 1915, and 8,061 in November, 1914.

New Disputes in November, 1915 .- In the following Table the new disputes for November are summarised by trades affected:-

Groups		No. of Workpeople involved			
of Trades.	No. of Disputes.	Directly.	Indirectly	Total.	
Building	::	7 6 3 2 3 3 3 5 5	769 5,563 683 107 90 488 300 275 147 267	11 294 60 — 50 48 — 17 —	780 5,857 743 107 140 536 300 292 147 267
TOTAL, NOVEMBER, 1915		40	8,689	480	9,169
TOTAL, OCTOBER, 1915	_	47	10,474	2,902	13,376
TOTAL NOVEMBER, 1914		25	4,665	427	5,092

Causes.—Of the 40 new disputes 18, directly involving 1,265 workpeople, arose on demands for advances in wages; 4, directly involving 507 workpeople, on other wages questions; 8, directly involving 5,688 workpeople, on questions of Trade Union principle; 6, directly involving 1,020 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; and 4 on other questions.

Results.—During the month settlements were effected in the case of 28 new disputes, directly involving 7,505 workpeople, and 6 old disputes, directly involving 1,266 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 12, directly involving 5,892 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 13, directly involving 1,662 persons, in favour of the employers; and 9, directly involving 1,217 persons, were compromised. In the case of 3 other disputes, directly involving 155 persons, work was resumed pending further negotiations.

Aggregate Duration.—The number of working days lost in November by disputes which began or were settled in that month amounted to 36,500. In addition, 32,500 working days were lost owing to disputes which began before November and were still in progress at the end of the month. Thus the total aggregate duration in November, of all disputes, new and old, was 69,000 days, as compared with 156,700 in the previous month, and with 84,500 in November, 1914.

DISPUTES IN THE FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS OF 1914 AND OF 1915.+

		Jan.	to Novem	ber, 1914	Jan. to November, 1915			
Groups of Trades.		No. of Dis- putes.	Number of Work- people involved.	Aggregat Duration in Work- ing Daye of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Work- people involved.	Aggregate Duration in Work- ing Days of all Disputes in progress	
Building Coal Mining Other Mining	and	174 144 18	37,859 270,781 1,323	3,210,700 3,712,700 61,700	56 72 4	14,649 295,205 215	112,200 1,644,600 7,200	
Quarrying Engineering Shipbuilding Other Metal Textile Clothing Transport Other Trades	::::::	85 86 53 93 43 50 197	18,458 18,018 13,600 21,740 3,768 13,637 44,597	948.000 120,000 290,200 702,100 59,200 93,200 673,100	91 44 42 62 36 72 149	22,659 6,781 11,294 32,169 5,035 24,330 24,437	201,200 48,800 57,300 355,900 22,500 153,700 262,800	
TOTAL		943	443,781	10,070,900‡	628	436,774	2,866,200	

PRINCIPAL DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN OR ENDED IN NOVEMBER.

Occupations and Locality.§	Number of Workpeople involved. Directly. Indirectly.		Date when Dispute	Duration in Working	Cause or Object.§	Result.§	
			began.	Days.			
Building:— Carpenters and Johners—Leeds	600	-	29th Nov.	ot pr	For advance in wages	No settlement reported.	
COAL MINING:— Miners, &c.—Rhondda	1 ,	802	29th Nov.	3	Refusal to work with non-unionists.	Non-unionists joined the Trad Union.	
	1 2	,000	30th Nov.	4	Refusal to work with non-unionists.	Non-unionists joined the Trad	
ENGINEERING:— Fitters, turners, drillers, &c., and other workpeople—Salford.	335	60	1st Nov.	5	Against employment of female labour.	Compromise effected.	
CLOTHING: Shirt and Collar workersLondon-derry.	200	in here	Nov.		For dismissal of a forewoman	No settlement reported.	

DISPUTES STILL IN PROGRESS.—17 disputes, involving about 5,000 workpeople, were in progress at the time of going to press.

* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration (i.e., number of workpeople multiplied by number of working days, allowing for workpeople replaced by others, etc.) exceeded 100 days.
† In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures have been amended in accordance with the most recent information.
‡ The aggregate duration in 1914 of the general dispute at Dublin (200,000 working days) is included in the total but not in the separate groups of trades.
§ The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly involved" (i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred but not themselves parties to the disputes). The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES.*

[Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.]

to the Department as taking effect in November affected over 333,000 workpeople and amounted to over £24,200 per week. Of this total coal mining accounted for over £16,000; the transport trades, engineering and shipbuilding, and the bleaching, printing, dyeing, and finishing of textile fabrics also showed considerable

Changes in January-November.—During the eleven months ended 30th November, 1915, the total number of workpeople whose rates of wages were reported to have been changed was over 2,930,000, and the net effect of the changes was an increase of over £564,000.

The amounts stated are exclusive of increased earnings due to overtime, and also of changes affecting agricultural labourers, seamen, railway servants, police, and Government employees. It is known, however, that the

THE war bonuses and increases in rates of wages reported | majority of workpeople in each of these occupations have received increases or war bonuses.

Group of Trades.		No. of Workpeople affected.	Amount of Increase per week.
Building	077300g	98,702	£ 12,657
(4 4 7 6 6 4		95/ 017	252,607
T. 0. 161.1		10.050	6,100
	-	11 051	1,261
Quarrying		97 010	7.215
Pig Iron Manufacture		00 750	22,187
Iron and Steel Manufacture			107.767
Engineering and Shipbuilding	ıg		
Other Metal			20,057
Textile			37,097
Clothing			10,743
Transport			37,049
Printing, Paper, &c			4,434
Glass, Brick, Pottery, Chem	ical, &c.	101,502	10,636
Other Trades			23,981
Employees of Local Authori	ties .	. 105,476	10,561
TOTAL		. 2,935,554	564,252

PRINCIPAL WAR BONUSES AND INCREASES IN WAGES TAKING EFFECT IN NOVEMBER, 1915.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected.	Particulars of Change.
Building	Manchester, Sal- ford and District	1 Nov. {	Bricklayers Masons Carpenters, and joiners Woodcutting machinists Hod carriers and general builders' labourers	1,500 250 3,000 300 1,500	Increase of ½d. per hour. Rates after change: bricklayers masons (banker hands), carpenters and joiners, and woodcutting machinists, 11d.; masons (fixers), 11½d. Increase of 1d. per hour. Rates after change: hod carriers, 8d.; general builders' labourers, 7½d.
	Northumberland	First pay in Nov.	Deputies	1,300 1,600 950 350	Increase of 10d. per day (8s. 1d. to 8s. 11d.). Increase of 10d. per day (6s. 11d. to 7s. 9d.). Increase of 10d. per day (7s. 8d. to 8s. 6d. for winding enginemen, 7s. 1d. to 7s. 11d. for others). Increase of 18 per cent.; making wages 83 per cent. above the standard of 1879.
Coal Mining	Durham	Nov.	Hewers, other underground workers, deputies, enginemen, boiler- minders, mechanics, cokemen and other surface workers	120,000	Increase of 6¼ † per cent , making wages 75 per cent. above the standard of 1879.
	Scotland	23 or 24 Nov.	Hewers and other underground workers Surfacemen, mechanics and boiler	93,000	Increase of 6¼ per cent., making wages 118¾ per cent. above the standard of 1888. Increase of 1d. per shift.
Iron Mining	North Lincolnshire		firemen Enginemen	3,000 900	Increase of 3d. per shift to winding enginemen and of varying amounts to others. Increase, under sliding scale of 11% per cent., making wages 26% per cent. above the standard of May, 1909.
Shale Mining	Scotland	25 Nov.	Miners and other underground workers Winding enginemen	4,900 } 750 {	Increase of 6¼ per cent. on basis rates of 1888. Increase of 3d. per shift Increase of 1½d. per shift.
Pig Iron Manufacture	North Lincolnshire	7 Nov.	Other surface workers Ollworkers	3,060	Increase of 1½d. per shift. Increase of 1½d. per shift. Increase under sliding scale of 11¾ per cent., making wage: 26¾ per cent. above the standard of May, 1909.
Iron and Steel	England and Scotland (cer- tain firms)	7 Nov. {	Steel melters, pitmen, etc Gas producemen and charge wheelers Iron puidlers	2,400 730	Increase, under stiding scale, of 6¼ per cent. Increase of 3⅓ per cent. Increase, under stiding scale, of 9d. per ton, making rate
	West Scotland	29 Nov. { 18 Nov.	Iron millmen Fitters, turners, smiths, machinemen, patternmakers, ironmoulders,	} 3,000 {	11s. 9d. pp. ton, plus bonus of 1d. per heat. Increase, under sliding scale, of 7½ per cent. Increase of 2s. per week on time rates.
Engineering	Luton	10 d	labourers, etc. Fitters, turners, smiths, machinemen, brassfinishers, coppersmiths, and patternmakers Fitters, turners, smiths and machine-	1,500	Increase of 1/4d. per hour on time rates, and of 21/2 per cent on piece rates.
	Swansea, Llanelly, and District	after 16 Nov. 1st pay after	men. Iron moulders	1,500	Increase of 1s. per week (43s. to 44s.).
Marine Engin-)		(31 Oct.	Engineers, machinemen, smiths and strikers, coppersmiths, electrical workers, ironfounders, brassfound- ers and finishers, patternmakers,		the state of the s
eering and Ship building	Belfast	* {	boilermakers, iron and steel ship- builders, shipwrights, ship joiners, ship painters, ship plumbers, cabi- net makers, upholsterers, helpers,	16,000	Increase of 2s. per week on time rates, and of 5 per cent. on piece rates.
(Yorkshire (certain firms)	1st pay in Nov.	and labourers Dyers, finishers, etc	8,000	Increase § on time rates of 3s. per week to men over 18 years of age, and 2s. per week to youths under 18 and to women and girls; and on piecework earnings of 10 per cent.
Textile	Lancashire, Cheshire, Derby- shire, and Scot- land (certain firms)	Nov.	Bleachers, printers, dyers, and finishers	20,000	Increase § to day workers of \$\frac{3}{4}\text{d}\$, per hour worked to men 18 years of age and over, \$I_0\text{d}\$, per hour worked to youths under 18 and to women and girls; and to pieceworkers of 3s. per week to men 18 years of age and over, and of 2s, per week to youths under 18 and to women and girls.
(West Hartlepool	1 Nov. {	Dock labourers engaged in dis- charging timber Labourers in pit prop yatds	} 1,000 {	Increase from daily rate of 8s. to hourly rate of 11d. Increase of 1d. per hour (7¾d. to 8¾d.) on time rates, and of 12¼ per cent. on piece rates.
Transport	Glasgow Belfast	1 Nov.	Carters employed by cartage con- tractors Carters, yardmen, and labourers	3,500 2,000	War bonus of 2s. per week, granted in April, 1915, increased to 5s. per week. War bonus of 2s. per week, granted in March, 1915, increased

Exclusive of changes affecting agricultural labourers, seamen, railway servants, police and Government employees.

[†] The nominal increase was 11¼ per cent., but 5 per cent. merged with the war bonus granted in May, 1915.

[‡] The increase was granted in November, but dated back to the first pay in October. These increases supersede war bonuses previously granted.

SLIDING SCALE CHANGES IN WAGES.

THE results of the ascertainments of the selling prices of coal and iron in various districts are given in the Table below:—

	Price accord Aud		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) of last Audit on			
Product and District.	Period covered by last Audit.	Average selling price per ton.	Previous Audit.	A Year ago.		
Coal. (Average of all classes of	1915.	s. d.	s d.	s. d.		
coal at pit's mouth.) Durham	July-Sept.	11 63/4	+ 0 9	+ 2 21/4		
Pig Iron. West of Scotland	Aug.—Oct.	71 23/4	- 0 11	+14 334		
Manufactured Iron. North of England (Rails, plates, bars, and	Sept.—Oct.	179 9	+ 1 01/2	+40 81/2		
angles.) Midlands (Bars, angles, tees, sheets,	Sept.—Oct.	203 9	+17 6½	+62 81/2		
West of Scotland :: (Runds, squares, flats, tees, angles, hops, and rods).	Sept.—Oct.	185 11¾	+15 2½	+50 5½		

Pig Iron.—The ascertainment of the selling price of pig iron resulted in no change in the wages of blast-furnacemen in the West of Scotland for the three months commencing the 31st October.

Manufactured Iron.—In the North of England the ascertainment of the selling price of the various specified classes of manufactured iron resulted in no change of wages, whilst in the Midlands there was an increase of 1s. per ton in puddlers' wages. The ascertainment in the West of Scotland involved an increase of 9d. per ton in the wages of puddlers and of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in millmen's wages.

DISTRESS COMMITTEES.

The total number of Distress Committees under the Unemployed Workmen Act, 1905, whose registers were open at the end of November, 1915, was 17, compared with 82 in November, 1914.

The total number of Lersons who received employment relief during November was 51, as compared with 8,000 a year ago, a decrease of 7,049 persons. Employment was also provided for 26 persons by arrangement with employers and local authorities.

The aggregate duration of employment relief decreased from 63,845 days in November, 1914, to 1,150 days in November, 1915, and the average duration of employment was 22.5 days, compared with 8.0 a year ago.

The total amount of wages paid in November, 1915, was £108, compared with £10,503 in November, 1914; the average earnings were 42s. 4d., compared with 26s. 3d.; those not on piecework received an average of 1s. 11d. per day.

Districts.	given I	No. of Applicants given Employ- ment Relief.		regate on of Em- nt Relief.	Total Amount of Wages Paid.		
Sil portu para da April da Para da Para da April da Para da Pa	Nov., 1915.	Nov., 1914.	Nov., 1915.	Nov., 1914.	Nov., 1915.	Nov., 1914.	
London: County	3	1,972 1,689	Days.	Days. 31,234 13 656	£ 6	£ 4 538 2,869	
Total, London Northern Counties Lance, and Cheshire Yorkshire Midlands Eastern Counties Southern Counties Wales and Monmouth		3 661 42 451 594 331 175 79 2,552	58 	44,890 - 248	6	7,407 41 500 387 550 312 190 900	
ENGLAND AND WALES Scotland Ireland	40	7,885	1,092	61,393	102	10,290 213	
UNITED KINGDOM	51	8,000	1,150	63,845	108	10,503	

PAUPERISM IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

[Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland and Ireland.]

The number of paupers relieved on one day in November, 1915, in the 35 urban districts named below corresponded to a rate of 164 per 10,000. Compared with October, 1915, the total number of paupers relieved increased by 944 (or 0.3 per cent.), the rate per 10,000 showing no appreciable change. The number of indoor paupers increased by 1,140 (or 0.8 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers decreased by 196 (or 0.1 per cent.). Five districts showed no change and 11 showed decreases, the greatest being in Coatbridge and Airdrie (6 per 10,000), and in Sheffield (4 per 10,000). In the remaining 19 districts the greatest increases were in the Edinburgh and Leith district and the Cork, Waterford and Limerick district (5 per 10,000).

Compared with November, 1914, the total number of paupers decreased by 47,537 (or 13.7 per cent.), and the rate per 10,000 decreased by 26. The number of indoor paupers decreased by 23,812 (or 14.4 per cent.) and the number of outdoor paupers by 20,111 (or 11.0 per cent.). There were decreases in all districts without exception. The largest was in the Central District of London (57 per 10,000). The total for the Metropolitan area was 34, and 5 other districts, all in England, showed decreases of over 30 per 10,000, while 11 others, all in England and Wales or Scotland, showed decreases of over 20 per 10,000.

broken palence		pers on week of			Inc. (Dec. (+) or -) in
Selected Urban Districts.	In- door.	Out- door.	TOTAL.	Rate per 10,000 of Esti- mated Popula- tion.	per 10, Popular compare s Month ago.	000 of tion as ed with
(Associate as a superior of						
ENGLAND & WALES.* Metropolis. West District	10,461 12,921 3,881 11,890 20,654	1,843 6,039 1,227 4,439 12,731	12,304 18,960 5,108 16,329 33,385	151 188 351 244 178	+ 2 + 1 - 2 + 2 + 1	- 27 - 38 - 57 - 49 - 28
TOTAL, Metropolis	59,807	26,279	86,086	191	+ 2	- 34
West Ham	4,467	9,887	14,354	191	+1	- 29
Other Districts. Newcastle District Stockton & Tees District Bolton, Othnam, &c. Wigan District Liverpool District Liverpool District. Bradford District. Halifax & Huddersfield Leeds District Barnsley District Sheffield District Sheffield District North Staffordshire Nottingham District Woverhampton District Bristol District Bristol District Cardiff & Swansea	2,097 1,126 3,944 1,926 8,887 9,981 2,036 1,153 2,436 841 1,767 1,767 1,767 1,767 1,839 1,294 1,202 2,211	4,084 3,286 3,510 4,564 5,984 10,747 1 603 2,483 2,913 2,913 3,036 3,397 5,018 4,643 3,686 4,693 3,686 5,564	6,181 4,412 7,454 6,490 14,871 20,728 3,609 3,636 5,349 3,877 6,224 6,674 5,687 3,669 9,813 10,948 7,775	129 177 92 149 146 183 97 112 127 217 166 123 166 142 129 164 176	+ 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 + 1 + 1 + 3 + 2 - 4 + 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1	- 27 - 27 - 26 - 32 - 27 - 13 - 15 - 21 - 21 - 24 - 39 - 39 - 36 - 27 - 36 - 27 - 36 - 22 - 22
TOTAL, "Other Districts"	258,655	82,105	140,760	142		- 20
SCOTLAND.* Glasgow District Paisley & Greenock District Edinburgh & Leith District Dundee and Dunfermline Aberdeen Coatbridge & Alrdrie	3,461 684 1,365 615 412 252	17,380 2,567 4,876 1,991 2,765 1,548	20,841 3,261 6,241 2,606 3,177 1,800	219 171 155 130 191 176	+2 -1 +5 -2 +1 -6	- 22 - 16 - 14 - 22 - 13 - 28
Scottish Districts	6,789	31,127	37,916	188		- 20
IRELAND.† Dublin District 2 Belfast District Cork, Waterford and Limerick District Galway District	5,484 2,567 3 228 288	4,962 883 4,095 158	10,446 3,450 7,323 446	255 81 295 129	+ 2 + 5 + 3	- 12 - 10 - 16 - 7
TOTAL for the above Irish Districts	11,567	10,038	21,665	194	+ 2	- 12
TOTAL for above 35 Dis- tricts in November, 1915	141,285	189,496	300,781	164	-	- 26

* Exclusive of Vagrants, of Patients in the Fever and Smellpox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards, and of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses.

† Excluding Casuals, but including persons maintained in Institutions for the

PRICES OF WHEAT, FLOUR, AND BREAD.

I.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

(a) Supplies.

Imports.—The quantity of wheat and wheat meal and flour imported into the United Kingdom during November, 1915, together with the increase or decrease compared with November, 1914 and 1913, is shown in the following Table:—

A SELECTION OF THE SELE	Quantity imported during	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) compared with		
evelor all grant enc	November, 1915.	November, 1914.	November 1913.	
WH	EAT.	A GLE		
From Russia ,, United States ,, British East Indies ,, Australia ,, Canada ,, Other Countries ,, Total	Cwts. 52,100 5,423,000 26,700 3,092,200 1,300 8,595,300	Cwts 124,327 + 2,037,944 - 989,200 - 276,600 + 272,300 - 1,500 + 918,617	Cwts 759,100 +2,434,924 - 671,800 - 598,549 + 561,200 - 228,100 + 788,575	
WHEAT MEAT	L AND FLOUR	.EACKE		
From United States	434,700 382,200 200	- 233,858 + 228,430 - 75,400	- 36,631 - 61,603 - 128,960	
Total	817,100	- 80,828	- 227,194	

During the first three months of the current cereal year 1915-16 (September—November) the imports of wheat totalled 20,151,000 cwts., compared with 29,125,325 cwts., and 24,645,643 cwts. in the corresponding period of the 1914-15 and 1913-14 seasons. The figures for wheat meal and flour were 2,314,900 cwts., 2,347,715 cwts., and 3,485,620 cwts. respectively.

cwts., and 3,485,620 cwts. respectively.

Deliveries of British Wheat.—In the following Table the deliveries of wheat by farmers at the various markets of England and Wales from which returns are received by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries are shown for the first thirteen weeks of the current cereal year, together with the increase or decrease compared with a year ago and with two years ago:—

	Quantity delivered.	Inc. (+) compa	or Dec. (-) red with
10 Tue 16 12 24	A Lacian	1914.	. 1913.
1915. Five weeks ended October 2nd Four " October 30th Four " ,, November 27th	Quarters. 287,681 334,266 350,991	Quarters 201,824 + 18,315 + 63,104	Quarters 67,300 + 83,088 + 133,826
Total	972,938	- 120,405	+ 149,614

(b) Prices.

In the following Table particulars are given of the average declared values and market prices of wheat and flour during November, 1915, with comparative figures for a month ago and for a year ago:—

	November,	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) compared with				
	1915.	October, 1915.	November, 1914.			
WHEAT:-	8. d.	8. U.	8. d.			
Imported, average declared value						
per 480 lb	51 10	+1 3	+ 8 11			
" spot price at Liverpool per						
480 lb.:-						
No. 1 North Manitoba: Average	55 11*	. 1 0*				
No. 2 Hard Winter (old): Aver-	00 11*	+1 0*	+ 8 5			
age price	59 5	+ 0 11	+ 12 9			
No. 2 Hard Winter (new):	00 0	+ 0 11	7 16 3			
Average price	54 2t	+1 9	+ 8 3			
Choice white Karachi: Average	,		1 0 0			
price	57 7	+2 4	+ 10 5			
British :- Gazette average price						
per 480 lb. (England & Wales)	53 0	+68	+ 12 8			
English white wheat per 504 lb.			F1075 - 215			
(London)	57 5	+ 5 10	+ 12 5			
FLOUR:						
Imported, average declared value	35 0	Sa sayone transport				
per ewt	15 9	+01	+ 3 5			
Town Households, London (ex						
mill, less usual discount), per	45 4	1 7 70	1 0 11			
sack of 280 lb.: average price	40 4	+ 1 10	+ 8 11			

* New wheat. Old wheat was quoted for 15 days of November, 1915, and averaged 59s. 3d. per 480 lb. compared with 49s. O.l. a year ago.
† No. 2 Hard Winter (New) Guif.

The prices of imported wheat rose towards the end of October, and, so far, this increase has been more than maintained during December. At the beginning of November the spot price at Liverpool of No. 1 Northern Manitoba (new wheat) was about 55s. per quarter; on 1st December the quotation was nearly 57s., and at the present date (13th December) the price is rather more than 59s. No. 2 Hard Winter (old wheat) has not varied so markedly, the price remaining at between 59s. and 59s. 6d. during practically the whole of November, but on five days in December the price has been nearly 61s. No. 2 Hard Winter (new Gulf wheat) dropped from 55s. on 1st November to about 54s. on 30th, but since then there has been a rise, the quotation for 13th December being about 56s. The Gazette price of British wheat has risen considerably, and at the beginning of December was 53s. 7d. per 480 lb., compared with 51s. 6d. at the beginning of November and 43s. 5d. at the beginning of October. The returns received in the week ended 11th December gave an average of 52s. 10d. Town household flour in London rose 1s. per 280 lb. early in November, and at the beginning of December the price was further increased

II.—BREAD.

The following information with regard to the prices of bread is derived from two main sources, (1) Master Bakers' Associations and (2) Co-operative Societies. Returns are also received from the local correspondents of the Department in industrial districts.

In the statistical Tables the predominant prices are utilised, i.e., the prices at which the bulk of the bread was sold, but it will be understood that bread was also sold at both lower and higher prices. The necessary allowance has been made for cases in which there has been reduction in the weight of the loaf instead of increase in price.

(1) Master Bakers' Associations, etc.

Returns received from 120 of the principal Master Bakers' associations and thirty returns received from other sources, are summarised in the following Tables. The first of these shows the mean predominant price in different parts of the country at 1st December as compared with a month earlier and a year earlier:—

	Mean Predominant Price per 4 lb.					
District.	1st Dec.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) compared with				
	1915.	1st Nov., 1915.	1st Dec., 1914.			
London:— N. & N.W. E. & N.E. S.E. S.W. W. & W.C. Northern Counties & Yorkshire Lancashire & Cheshire. Midlands. Eastern Counties Southern Counties Southern Counties South Western Counties & Wales	d 8¼ 8¼ 8¼ 8¼ 8¼ 8¼ 8¼ 8¼ 8¾ 734 734 8¼ 8¼ 8¾	d. +½ +¼ +¼ +¼ +¼ +¼ +¼ +¼	d. +2 +1¾ +2¼ +1¾ +1¾ +1¼ +1¼ +1¾ +1½ +1½ +1½			
GREAT BRITAIN	8	+1/4	+13/4			

During November there were a large number of increases, usually of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 4 lb., the average advance for Great Britain amounting to $\frac{1}{4}$ d. Increases were most frequent in London and the South-East of England; in the North of England, in Scotland, and in Wales there were very few changes in price. In London the usual prices are now 8d. and $8\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 4lb.; in the Southern Counties the average price is $8\frac{1}{2}$ d.; in three of the "Districts" shown in the Table the average price is $7\frac{3}{2}$ d. The usual range of prices is now from $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. to $8\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 4 lb.; a year ago it was from 6d. to 7d., the usual increase being either $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. or 2d. per 4 lb.

Of the prices at which bread was sold in each of the following towns, the predominant prices were as follows:—

Place.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

[Cases include all attacks, fatal or otherwise, reported to the Home Office [Casss Include all accesss, taken or otherwise, reported to the fitting office during the month and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. Deaths include all fatal cases reported during the month whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not.]

THE total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during November, 1915, was 36, of which 31 were due to lead poisoning and five to anthrax. Two deaths due to lead poisoning and three deaths due to anthrax were reported. In addition nine cases of lead poisoning (three of which were fatal) were reported among painters and plumbers. During the eleven months ended November, 1915, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported under the Factory and Workshop Act was 404, compared with 469 during the corresponding period of 1914. The number of deaths in 1915 was 29, as compared with 34 in 1914. In addition there were 115 cases of lead poisoning (including 33 deaths) among house painters and plumbers during the eleven months of 1915, as compared with 231 cases (including 37 deaths) during the corresponding period

* Entries in this column are exclusive of changes applying for a short time only, unless previous columns are affected by such changes.

Inc. (+) or ec. (-) as com pared with

d. +13/4

+03/4 +2 +11/2 +11/2

+1½ +1½

220.

+ ½: + ½: + ½: + ½: + ½: + ¾

+ 1/4

Predominant Price per 4 lb. on 1st Dec., 1915.

8 & 8 1/4

8 & 8½ 7½ & 8

8 & 8½ 7½ 7 to 8 8 & 8½

71/2 & 8

81/2

Last Change.*

Date. Amount per 41b.

Nov., '15

Nov., '15 June, '15 June, '15 Oct., '15 June, '15 Nov., '15 Nov., '15 Oct., '16 Nov., '15 June, '15 June, '15 Oct., '15 Oct., '15 Oct., '15 Oct., '15 Oct., '15 June, '15

May, '15 + ½ May, '15 + ½

(2) Co-operative Societies.

The following figures, based on Returns from 350 societies, show the level of prices at 1st December, as compared with that of three months ago and a year

e astrodistros pasta	Mean Pre	dominant Price p	er 4 lb. on
District.	1st Dec., 1915.	1st Sept., 1915.	1st Dec., 1914.
ENGLAND AND WALES. Northern Counties and Yorks. Lancashire and Cheshire N. Midland Counties W. do. do. S. do. do. Eastern Counties London South Eastern Counties South Western Counties, Wales & Monmouth	d. 8½ 8½ 8½ 8½ 8 1½ 8 8 8½ 8 7¾	d. 8½ 8½ 7½ 7½ 7½ 8 8 8	d. 7 6¼ 6 6¼ 6 6¼ 6½ 6½
ENGLAND AND WALES	8	8	61/4
SOOTLAND. Northern Counties	8¼ 8¾ 8 8¼	81/4 81/4 8 81/4	6½ 6¾ 6½ 6¾ 6¾
SCOTLAND	81/4	81/4	63/4
GREAT BRITAIN	8	8	61/2

The mean of the predominant prices on 1st December. 1915, was 8d. per 4 lb., thus showing no change as compared with 1st September, and an increase of 11d., compared with a year ago.

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION TO AND FROM THE UNITED STATES IN SEPTEMBER, 1915.

THE total number of immigrant aliens admitted into the United States in September, 1915, was 24,513, of whom 14,095 were males and 10,418 females. This is a considerable increase on the number admitted in August, but almost 5,000 less than the corresponding number in September, 1914, and only about one-sixth of the average for September in 1912 and 1913. The principal European countries of origin were the United Kingdom (2,954), Italy (2,030), Greece (1,676), and Portugal (1,261). In addition, 8,535 came from British North America, and 1,359 from the West Indies. A majority of the "occupied" immigrants were described as labourers (4,343), servants (2,700), or farm labourers (1,023). There were also, including women and children, 9,439 persons of no stated occupation.

The number of emigrant aliens departing from the United States in September was 22,156, of whom 19,635 were males, and 2,521 females. Of the total 15,839 were described as labourers, and 16,458 went to Italy.

ANALYSIS	BY	INDU	JSTRI	ES.		
		Cases.		Deaths.		
Industry.	Month		Months ied	Month		Months
they foliage stold to be sell to	Nov., 1915.	Nov., 1915.	Nov., 1914.	Nov., 1915.	Nov., 1915.	Nov., 1914.
			Lead Po	isoning		
MONG OPERATIVES ENGAGED IN— Smelting of Metals	3	47	33		1	3
Brass Works	-	- 3	6	-	_	_
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping Plumbing and Soldering	1 1	16		1	1	1 2
Printing	ī	25	25 23		1 3	1 1
File Cutting		1 3	11	-	-	1
Tinning of Metals White Lead Works	4	36	10 20			1
Red and Yellow Lead Works	2	8	20	- 1	-	-
*Pottery and Litho-Transfer Works	3	23	27	5-8	4	6
Glass Cutting and Polishing	-	-	2	-	- 3	1
Vitreous Enamelling	-	5	10	-	1	-
Vitreous Enamelling Electrical Accumulator Works Paint and Colour Works Coach and Car Painting	3	52 11	39 21	100	100	
Coach and Car Painting	4	38	56	1	5 2	4
Shipbuilding	-	17	29	-	2	4 4
Paint used in other Industries	3 6	14 43	39 50	TO THE	2	3
				300000		
OTAL IN FACTORIES & WORKSHOPS	31	347	408	2	20	27
TOUSE PAINTING AND PLUMBING	9	115	231	3	33	37
AND SECTION OF SECTION		Other	Forms	of Poiso	ning.	200
MERCURIAL POISONING-		3	4			1
Barometer and Thermometer Making	-	0	4			-
Making Furriers' Processes	-	-	2	-	_	-
Other Industries	- T	3	4	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	6	10	-	-	-
PHOSPHORUS POISONING	-	3	-	-	1	-
Paints, Colours, and Extraction		2	(1) may	100000	-	0.000
of Arsenic Other Industries		920	2		150000	1
	-		-			-
TOTAL	-	2	2			1
TOTAL "OTHER FORMS OF POISONING"		11	12		1	1
			Ant	hrax.		
Wool	3	26	25	2	3	5
Handling of Horsehair	- 2	1	4	-	-	-
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers &c.)	2	16	14	1	4	1
Other Industries	-	3	6	-	1	-
TOTAL ANTHRAX	5	46	49	3	8	6
TOTAL REPORTED UNDER FAC- TORY AND WORKSHOP ACT	36	404	469	5	29	34
GRAND TOTAL	45	519	700	8	62	71
THE PARTY OF THE P	The state of the s	No. of the last	1	1	1	The second

RETURN OF DEATHS OF SEAMEN.—A Return of Deaths of Seamen reported to the Board of Trade is issued by the Registrar-General of Seamen each month, and copies may be seen at all Free Libraries, Mercantile Marine Offices, and Sailors' Homes throughout the country.

* Of the three persons affected in the Pottery Industry one was a female.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

CASES REPORTED IN NOVEMBER, 1915. [Based on Home Office and Board of Trade Returns.]

The number of workpeople, exclusive of seamen, reported as killed in the course of their employment in November, 1915, was 284, an increase of 15 on a month ago and of 4 on a year ago. The mean number for November during the five years 1910-1914 was 283, the maximum being 306 and the minimum 269. Fatal accidents in the railway service during November, 1915, numbered 43, compared with 36 in October, 1915, and 41 in November, 1914.

The total number of fatal accidents at mines was 112, an increase of 11 on a month ago and of 3 on a year ago. There were 7 fatal accidents at quarries compared with 6 a month ago and 5 a year ago.

The total number of fatal accidents reported under the Factory and Workshop Act in November, was 118, a decrease of 6 on October, 1915, and on November, 1914.

The total number of fatal accidents to seamen during November, 1915, was 250, an increase of 107 on a month ago and on a year ago.

The following Table shows the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during November, 1915, October, 1915, and November,

Lie which it of	Numb	er of Work	rpeople	Inc. (+) (-) in 1915,	Nov.
Trade.	Nov., 1915.	Oct., 1915.	Nov., 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.
LWAY SERVICE-	-		6	+ 4	
rakesmen & Goods Guards	5 5	1 3	6 2 2	+ 2	+ 3
remen	4	ï	2	+ 4	+ 3 + 2 + 1
rmanent Way Men (not in-	3	6	iö	- 3	- 7
orters	7	3	7 6	+ 4	
unters	2	1			- 4 + 1
bourers	13	1 16	4 4	+ 1 3	- 2 + 9
ntractors' Servants	13				+ 9
TOTAL, RAILWAY SERVICE	43	36	41	+ 7	+ 2
ederground	96 16	96 5	93 16	+ i1	+ 3
TOTAL, MINES	112	101	109	+ 11	+ 3
arries over 20 feet deep	7	6	5	+ 1	+ 2
CORIES AND WORKSHOPS—			-	7.2	T 4
extile—				o coide	No. of Parties
Cotton Wool and Worsted	2 _	2 2	2 2	- 2	- 2
Wool and Worsted Other Textiles	2	2 3	2	- 2 - 1	+ 1
extraction of Metals	2 19	4 11	4 18	- 2 + 8	- 2 + 1
ounding and Conversion of Metals farine and Locomotive	1	6	5	- 5	- 4
Engineering Ship and Boat Building	5	11	15	- 6	- 10
as	3		5	+ 1	- 2
Wood	3 2	3 4	6 2	- 2	- 3
hemicals	8	12	2 7	- 4	+ 1
aundries	1 7	3	6	+ 1 + 4	+ 1
Orink	6 7	2	6 1	+ 4	
Prink Paper, Printing, &c. Other Non-Textile In-	19	3 27	18	+ 4	+ 6 + 1
TOTAL, FACTORIES AND	87	95	98	- 8	- 11
WORKSHOPS DENTS REPORTED UNDER		30	30	-	- 11
OTORY ACT, 88. 104-5.	10	10		1.0	
cks, Wharves, and Quays	18 2	16 2	14	+ 2	+ 4 + 2
ildings to which Act applies	11	11	12		- 1
OTAL UNDER FACTORY ACT,	31	29	26	+ 2	+ 5
ss. 104-5. cidents reported under		-			911915
tice of Accidents Act, 1894	4	2	1	+ 2	+ 3
TOTAL, EXCLUDING SEAMEN.	284	269	280	+ 15	+ 4
ten— Trading Vessels—	- Senis				
Sailing	17	33	17	- 26	- 10
Fishing Vessels—	204	56	35	+148	+169
	6	7	13	- 1	- 7
ailing	33	47	78	- 14	- 45

TOTAL, INCLUDING SEAMEN.

534

423

412

+122 +111

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IN NOVEMBER.* INSURANCE CLAIMS AND PAYMENTS.

THE total number of claims to unemployment benefit made at Labour Exchanges and other local offices of the Unemployment Fund during the four weeks ended 26th November, 1915, was 21,316, as compared with 27,195 during the five weeks ended 29th October, 1915, and with 76,530 during the four weeks ended 29th November, 1914. Of the total of 21,316 claims, 12,406 (or 58 per cent.) were claims for the direct payment of benefit, and 8,910 (or 42 per cent.) were claims for payment of benefit through associations of workpeople in the insured trades having arrangements with the Board of Trade under Section 105 of the National Insurance Act. The number of claims made during each of the four weeks was 5,436, 5,029, 5,449, and 5,402, the average being 5,329, as compared with 5,439 in the five preceding weeks and with 19,133 in November, 1914.

The average weekly amount of unemployment benefit paid during the four weeks ended 26th November, 1915, was £1,471, as compared with £1,344 per week in the five preceding weeks, and with £10,088 per week in November, 1914; 62 per cent. of the amount was paid direct and 38 per cent, through associations.

		verage Weekly No. of Claims Made. Average Weekly of Benefit Pa					
Districts		Nov., 1915.	Oct., 1915.	Nov., 1914.	Nov., 1915.	Oct., 1915.	Nov., 1914.
London South-Eastern South-Western West Midlands East Midlands Yorkshire North-Western Northern Scotland Wales Ireland		1,889 503 484 149 173 282 817 94 381 127 430	2,196 477 466 149 158 249 683 123 336 206 496	4,706 1,605 1,028 1,069 801 1,560 4,114 1,083 1,703 656 808	£ 549 145 139 33 32 52 141 28 82 38 232	### 487 138 129 27 30 54 101 41 89 39 209	£ 2,688 783 462 510 437 768 2,341 583 794 194 528
UNITED KING	DOM	5,329	5,439	19,133	1,471	1,344	10,088

The percentages unemployed in the Insured Trades will be found on pages and 447.

BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR EXCHANGES.

OUR WEEKS ENDED 12TH NOVEMBER, 1915. HE total number of workpeople remaining on the egisters† of the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges 93 in number) on November 12th was 116,250, as comared with 105,083 on October 15th and 133,215 on

ovember 13th, 1914.

Excluding cases in which persons were re-registered on gain becoming unemployed, there were on the Register some time or other during the period 352,447 workople (men 134,344, women 170,605,‡ boys 19,533 and rls 27,965), as compared with 384,465 in the previous ve weeks and 402,221 in the four weeks ended Novem-13th, 1914.

The number of vacancies filled was 104,706, a daily verage of 4,363, as compared with 4,233 in the previous ve weeks, and with 4,037 in the four weeks ended ovember 13th 1914

The following Table summarises the work of the xchanges during the period: -

The state of the same	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
On Register at beginning of period	38,246	53,716	4,666	8,455	105,083
Registrations during period	102,634 96,098	120,816 116.889	15,237 14.867	19,920 19,510	258,607 247,364
Re-registrations	6,536	3.927	370	410	11,243
On Register at end of period	34,960	67,960	4,337	8,993	116,250
Vacancies notified during period	77,593	42,591	12,170	11,738	144,092
Vacancies filled during period	54,336	33,297	8.695	8,378	104,706
Individuals placed	42,508	26,171	6,913	6,808	82,400
Applicants placed in other districts.	17,747	4,616	1,978	1,221	25,562

Excluding workmen in certain occupations of a more or less casual nature, dock labourers, cloth porters and cotton porters); these are dealt with in last paragraph but one. See note * on page 458.

In the following Table are shown, for men and women, e proportion of vacancies filled to vacancies notified, nd of vacancies filled to registrations (including those on the registers at the beginning of the period) in the principal groups of trades:-

neral Labourers ...

TOTAL __

Trades. Women Men. Women Insured Trades— Building, Construction of Works and Sawmilling Engineering, Shipbuilding and Construction of Vehicles. Per cent 69.1 97.8 47.7 83.1 Ininsured Trades— Textiles ... 34·0 15·5 20·1 50·5 39·8 29·9 76·4 86·0 82·0 80·3 85·2 85·7 41·1 14·4 42·6 24·5 21·4 33·9 Agriculture... Paper, Prints, &c... Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging Commercial... 71 0 56·4 72·4 15·7 20·6 31·4 71·0 68·8 13·9 22·5

The average daily numbers of registrations and vacancies filled, for the periods stated, are shown below:

38.5

70.0

		Ins	Insured Trades.			Uninsured Trades.			
District or Department.		4 weeks ended 12 Nov., 1915.	ended	4 weeks ended 13 Nov., 1914.	4 weeks ended 12 Nov., 1915.	5 weeks ended 15 Oc.t, 1915.	4 weeks ended 13 Nov., 1914.		
yah jarah Lamba dan	AND I	mate 1 Material	300 I	REGISTR	ATIONS.	*			
London South-Eastern South-Western West Midlands East Midlands Yorkshire North-Western Northern Scotland Wales Ireland		635 228 228 233 229 118 193 398 132 232 220 124	669 222 235 240 135 243 404 151 231 205 167	1,088 365 380 279 162 373 1,046 333 474 308 183	2,360 658 522 623 304 636 1,192 405 785 260 288	2,175 612 389 554 280 616 1,141 358 695 216 288	2,042 421 375 502 292 480 1,001 286 572 174 228		
Men Women Boys Girls		2,551 115 67 9	2,693 130 69 10	4,883 54 43 1	1,726 4,918 568 821	1,807 4,153 586 778	2,192 2,762 616 803		
TOTAL	50_300_	2,742	2,902	4,981	8,033	7,324	6,373		
.2/E0W/	180814	RUM	VA	CANCIES	FILLE	D. Sa	366		
London South-Eastern South-Western West Midlands East Midlands Yorkshire North-Western Northern Sectland Wales Ireland		253 131 121 177 74 152 197 102 200 152 20	234 125 125 175 80 194 178 108 186 141 23	227 179 315 102 80 122 139 146 160 173 29	969 212 198 230 103 213 351 104 276 68 60	1,021 191 165 181 98 192 345 96 249 65 61	680 165 219 184 118 216 310 104 243 69 57		
Men Women — Boys — Girls —		1,351 166 53 9	1,354 157 49 9	1,616 19 35 2	913 1,222 309 340	896 1,126 317 325	1,001 767 3 26 271		
TOTAL	-	1,579	1,569	1,672	2,784	2,664	2,365		

INSURED TRADES.+

Registrations.—The number of registrations effected during the period was 61,280 (men 56,753, women 2,745, boys 1,571, and girls 211). The total number of workpeople on the Register was 83,607 (men 76,221, women 4,744, boys 2,089, and girls 553). These figures exclude 4,538 cases in which persons were re-registered on again becoming unemployed during the period, and represent separate individuals.

Of the registrations among men 59.9 per cent. were in building and construction of works, 27.8 per cent. in mechanical engineering, and 9.2 per cent. in ship-

The number of workpeople remaining on the Register at November 12th was 21,185, as compared with 22,327 on October 15th and 62,318 on November 13th, 1914.

Vacancies Notified and Filled .- The number of vacancies notified to the Exchanges during the period was 51,383, a daily average of 2,141, as compared with 2,208 in the previous five weeks and 2,059 in the four

Including re-registrations of persons placed in vacancies through the exchanges during the period.

† The figures for these trades relate to workpeople who are insured against unemploynent under the provisions of Part II. of the National Insurance Act.

weeks ended November 13th, 1914. The number of vacancies filled was 37,885, a daily average of 1,579, as compared with 1,569 in the previous five weeks and 1,672 in the four weeks ended November 13th, 1914.

Building and construction of works account for 52-2 per cent. of the total vacancies notified for men, and 53.8 per cent. of the total vacancies filled by men, the corresponding figures for mechanical engineering and shipbuilding respectively being 36·1 and 10·0 per cent. of the total vacancies notified, and 33·6 and 10·9 per cent. of the total vacancies filled.

Uninsured Trades.

Registrations.—The number of registrations during the period was 186,084 (men 39,345, women 114,144. boys 13,296, and girls 19,299). The total number of workpeople on the Register at some time or other during the period was 268,840 (men 58,123, women 165,861, boys 17,444, and girls 27,412). These figures exclude 6,705 cases in which persons already placed in vacancies during the period were re-registered on again becoming unemployed, and represent separate individuals.

Among men 20.7 per cent. of the total registrations

were in the transport, &c., trades, and 32.1 per cent. as general labourers, while of the women registered 29.0 per cent. were in domestic offices or services and 6.9 per cent. in dress. Commercial occupations accounted for 8.7 per cent. of the registrations among men, and 6.8 per cent. among women.

The number of workpeople on the Register at 12th November was 95,065 (men 16,593, women 65,956,* boys 3,900, and girls 8,616), as compared with 82,756 on 15th October, and 70,897 on 13th November, 1914. Vacancies Notified and Filled.—The number of

vacancies notified during the period was 92,709, a daily average of 3,863, as compared with 3,598 in the preceding five weeks, and 3.263 in the four weeks ended November 13th, 1914. The number of vacancies filled was 66,821, a daily average of 2,784, as compared with 2,664 in the preceding five weeks, and 2,365 in the four weeks ended November 13th. 1914.

Of the vacancies notified for men, 22.6 per cent. were in conveyance of men, goods, &c., and 24'3 per cent. as general labourers. The corresponding figures for vacancies filled were 22'6 per cent. in the transport, &c., trades, and 25.9 per cent. as general labourers. Among women 42.1 per cent. of the vacancies notified, and 38.1 per cent. of those filled were in domestic offices or services, while dress accounted for 5.3 per cent. of the notifications and 6.0 per cent. of the vacancies filled.

Of the vacancies filled 5,794 (men 2,430, women 3,055, boys 110, and girls 199) were known to be for less than a week's employment, while of the 15,581 vacancies filled by boys and girls 3,798 (boys 1,682, and girls 2,116), or 24.4 per cent. were filled by applicants who obtained their first situations since leaving school.

CASUAL EMPLOYMENT.

The number of men who obtained casual employment through the Exchanges was 480, and the number of casual jobs found for them was 3,013, a daily average of 126, compared with 148 in the preceding five weeks, and 309 in the four weeks ended 13th November, 1914. Of the jobs given during the period 2,543 were for dock labourers, and 470 for cloth porters at Manchester. During the period there were also 1,946 cases in which men were given employment through the Clearing House system for dock labourers at Liverpool.

Unsatisfied Demand for Labour.

The shortage of agricultural labourers, builders' labourers, and navvies continued, and the unsatisfied demand, especially for fitters and turners, was still very general in the shipbuilding and engineering trades. In some of the large towns, railway workers and boys and girls for general work were difficult to obtain, and there were local shortages of chemical labourers, boot and shoe workers, and farriers. The demand for women in the textile trade was still unsatisfied, and there was a considerable shortage of domestic servants.

* A number of women on the Register, from 15 to 20 per cert., were known to be in employment, and a further 15 per cent: are reported to have never been in employment.

BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR EXCHANGES-FOUR WEEKS ENDED 12th NOVEMBER, 1915. A.-INSURED TRADES.

Registrations and Vacancies Filled in the Four Weeks ended 12th November, 1915,

er beeter torrespections and this tent district our	SECT OF	ADU	LTS.			JUVEN	TILES.	
the desperts from themetry. Astronomy states	RE	GISTRATION	vs.	VACAN- CIES.	RE	REGISTRATIONS.		
OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS.	On Register at Beginning of Period.	Registra- tions during Period.*	On Register at End of Period.	Filled during Period.	On Register at Beginning of Period.	Registra- tions during Period.*	On Register at End of Period.	Filled during Period.
Carpenters, Joiners, &c	2,427 1,631 701 2,702	7,902 3,142 1,257 8,507	2,032 1,244 727 4,088	4,638 1,210 166 1,727	4 - 3	24 1 2 1 20	7 - 1 3	18 — 7 20
Plumbers and Glaziers	378 784 1,868	1,045 1,581 7,353	321 762 1,663	319 347 3,271	7	1 37	7	61
Sonstruction of Works	1,329	5,910	1,034	5,775 213	2	10		25
Shipbuilding:— Platers and Riveters	433 119 489	1,834 978 2,833	308 83 384	1,148 779 1,608	27 3 25	48 8 105	20 7 28	30 8 94
Acchanical Engineering :— Moulders (Iron and Steel) Smiths Erectors, Fitters and Turners Metal Machinists Wiremen Other skilled occupations Labourers	543 224 1,465 551 201 700 1,980	1,048 543 4,949 1,892 671 2,128 5,763	387 216 1,378 521 203 713 1,457	376 217 3,175 1,240 267 817 4,800	10 1 241 96 13 25 34	32 16 657 286 48 78 177	4 5 226 47 10 18 35	35 23 394 252 44 92 131
laking of Vehicles	394 330	1,010 465	417 268	279 51	18	41	16	32
TOTAL WEMALES ‡	19,468	61,222 2,777	18,367 2,004	32,423	518	1,604 215	437 377	1,273
GRAND TOTAL	21,467	63,999	20,371	36,393	860	1,819	814	1,492

* Including cases in which persons who obtained employment during the period were re-registered on again becoming unemployed.
† Occupations are grouned according to the industry with which they are mainly connected.
‡ These figures are mainly in respect of the Engineering and Vehicle trades.

B.—UNINSURED TRADES.

Registrations and Vacancies Filled in the Four Weeks ended 12th November, 1915.

3 [3] 5	ADULTS.						JUVENILES.								
OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS.		n Register		Ragi	strations Period.			Register		Vacan	cies Filte Period.	d during	Vacano	eies Fille Period.	
The state of the s	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women	Total.	Men.	Women	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Mining and Quacrying Miscellaneous Metal Trades	124 335	3 441	127 776	316 692	1,116	321 1,808	132 178	5 403	137 581	117 473	17 713	134 1,186	21 209	416	23 625
Textile:— Cotton Wool and Worsted — Silk, Flax, Linen, &c	184 138 103	1,012 195 727	1,196 333 830	623 308 228	2,955 506 1,550	3,578 814 1,778	152 94 89	929 175 859	1,031 269 948	342 124 185	1,209 216 937	1,551 340 1,122	111 38 110	167 61 353	278 99 463
Dress:— Boot and Shoe Workers Tailors— Dressmakers and Milliners Others	132 228 — 61	63 748 959 1,449	195 976 959 1,510	285 380 — 133	265 2,378 2,207 3,248	550 2,758 2,207 3,381	116 212 — 66	78 1,003 1,168 1,450	194 1,218 1,168 1,516	114 26 — 35	198 379 337 842	312 405 337 877	35 13 — 35	53 148 192 251	88 161 192 286
Conveyance of Men, Goods, &c. On Railways On Roads, Seas, Rivers, &c.	169 2,886	} 801	3,856	{ 371 8189	} 3,083	11,643	{ 180 2,648		4,504	{ 745 4,202	} 785	5,732	{ 121 1,683	} 844	2,648
Agriculture Paper, Prints, Books and Stationery Wood, Furniture, Fittings, &c. Chemicals, Explosives, Oil, Grease,	409 207 275 1,401	1,263 400 100 8,030	1,672 607 375 9,431	746 316 441 2,137	1,173 993 261 19,763	1,919 1,303 702 21,900	342 157 221 1,577	831 445 97 15,509	1,173 602 318 17,036	284 112 173 928	1,229 554 167 2,689	1,513 666 340 3,617	129 122 202 1,225	63 507 97 416	192 629 299 1,641
&c. Brick, Cement, Pottery and Glass	85	170	255	112	355	467	58	151	209	43	102	145	56	66	122
Food, Tobsoco, Drink and Lodging:— Bread, Buscult, &c., Makers Wattresses Others (Jam, Cocoa, Tobacco, &c.,	95 110 146	97 1,206 815	192 1,316 961	158 253 223	403 2,226 1,487	566 2,479 1,710	71 100 113	116 1.036 780	187 1,136 893	46 62 224	366 474 1,030	412 536 1,254	49 25 110	118 24 370	167 49 480
manufacture) Skins, Leather, Hair. Feathers Precious Metals, Jewels, Watches,	97 139	184 74	281 213	223 195	517 149	740 344	67 142	203 67	270 209	102 42	311 146	413 188	51 95	169 142	220 237
Instruments and Games. Gas, Water, Electricity Supply and Sanitary Service.	64	52	116	148	92	240	57	55	112	226	16	242	9	-	9
Commercial and Clerical	2,936	4,814	7,750	3,598	8,069	11,667	2,608	6,161	8,769	1,026	1,793	2,819	771	862	1,633
Domestic:— Laundry and Washing Service Private Indoor Servants Other Indoor Servants Charwomen, Day Girls, Day Servants	1,036	920 1,792 3,971 8,627	16,483	1,773	1,937 3,920 8,256 19,872	36,007	1,005	864 1,751 3,870 8,479	16,093	579	1,149 1,127 2,982 5,865	11,740	211	96 210 213 1,036	1,778
Others. General Labourers Shop Assistants Government and Professional All Others	4,780 288 1,537 813	3.299 4,152 5,216	4,780 3,587 5,689 6,029	13,278 405 3,901 1,980	6,865 10,403 13,731	13,278 7,270 14,304 15,711	3,924 265 1,320 701	124 4,042 7,354 6,270	3.924 4,307 8.674 6,971	5,676 39 5,407† 581	702 1,480 1,474	5,676 741 6,887 2,055	96 171 1,724	12 - 434 275 562	530 446 2,286
TOTAL	18,778	51,711	70,495	41,412	118,039	189,451	16,593	65,956	82,849	21,913	29,327	51,240	7,422	8,159	15,581
Casual Employments	992	-	994	254	-	234	893	100 2000	893	3.013	F -	3,013	11 -	12-14	100+

Including cases in which persons who obtained employment during the period were re-registered on again decoming † Including 4,312 men provided for the Pioneer Battalions of the Royal Engineers, and for the Army Service Corps.

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FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

I.—IMPORTS IN NOVEMBER.

-Certain goods which, at the time of importation, were the property of overnment or of the Governments of the Allies, are not included in the .M. Gove

(a). VALUES.

The total value of the imports (less re-exports) in November, 1915, was £63,334,457, an increase of £13,459,304 (or 27 per cent.) compared with November, 1914, and of £2,868,001 (or nearly 5 per cent.) compared with November, 1915. The value of the net imports in November, 1915, was about £3,000,000 higher than in the previous month.

The figures for the four principal groups into which the imports are classified are shown below for November, 1915, with the increases or decreases compared with November, 1914 and

Groups,	Value of Imports (less	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in November, 1915, compared with			
(Iroups,	re-exports) in Nov., 1915.	November, 1914.	November, 1913.		
Food, Drink and Tobacco	£ 31,141,523 18,020,355	£ +2,107,364 +5,350,153	£ +5,883,405 -4,951,685		
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured Miscellaneous	13,987,355 185,224	+5,936,593 + 65,194	+ 988,893 - 52,612		
TOTAL	63,334,457	+13,459,304	+2,868,001		

(b). QUANTITIES.

The following Table gives the quantities of some of the principal articles imported during November, 1915, together with the increase or decrease compared with a year ago and with two years

Food, Drink and Tobacco:— Grain and Flour cwts. Dead Meat cwts. Butter and Margarine cwts. Cheese cwts. Eggs Great Hundreds (120's) Sugar cwts. Tea lb. Tobacco lb. Metals and Manufactures of Metal:— Iron Ore tons Other Metallic Ores tons Iron and Steel Manufactures tons Copper, Lead, Tin and Zinc tons Machinery tons Machinery tons Sike Broadstuffs, wholly of Silk yds. Sike Broadstuffs, wholly of Silk yds. Miscellaneous:— Wood, hewn, sawn or split loads Flax or Linseed qrs.	586,704	November, 1914.	November, 1913.
17		THE REAL PROPERTY.	
17			
Butter and Margarine cwts. Cheese cwts. Eggs Great Hundreds (120's) Sugar cwts. Tea lb. Tobacco lb. Metals and Manufactures of Metal: Iron Ore tons Other Metallic Ores tons Iron and Steel Manufactures tons Copper, Lead, Tin and Zinc tons Machinery tons Textiles : centals of 100 lbs. Sheep's or Lambs' Wool lb. Flax, Hemp and Jute tons Silk Broadstuffs, wholly of Silk yds. Miscellaneous: mixed materials yds. Miscellaneous: who wood who wood, hewn, sawn or split loads Flax or Linseed qrs.	8U8 001	+ 442,066	- 123,590
Cheese cwts. Eggs Great Hundreds (120's) Sugar cwts. Tea lb. Tobacco lb. Itohocco tons Other Metallic Ores tons Iron and Steel Manufactures tons Copper, Lead, Tin and Zinc tons Machinery tons Textiles: Raw Cotton centals of 100 lbs. Sheep's or Lambs' Wood lb. Flax, Hemp and Jute tons Silk Broadstuffs, wholly of Silk yds. "mixed materials yds. Miscellaneous:— Wood, hewn, sawn or split loads Flax or Linseed qrs.		+ 24,800	+ 139,242
Eggs Great Hundreds (120's) Sugar owts. Tea lb. dash Tobacco lb. dash Metals and Manufactures of Metal: Iron Ore tons Other Metallic Ores tons Iron and Steel Manufactures tons Copper, Lead, Tin and Zinc tons Machinery tons Textiles centals of 100 lbs. Sheep's or Lambs' Wool lb. Flax, Hemp and Jute tons Silk Broadstuffs, wholly of Silk yds. Miscellaneous:— Wood, hewn, sawn or split loads Flax or Linseed qrs.		+ 200,668	+ 168,179
Sugar cwta. Tea	2 . 1,000	- 14,099	- 88,887 -1.094,419
Tea		- 748,952 - 3.309,476	-1,191,842
Tobacco		- 3.309,476 + 3,908,783	+3,743,732
Metals and Manufactures of Metal: Iron Ore		- 3.046,932	-1,793,098
Iron Ore	000,002	- 0,040,002	-1,100,000
Other Metallic Ores tons Iron and Steel Manufactures tons Copper, Lead, Tin and Zinc tons Machinery tons Textiles: Raw Cotton centals of 100 lbs. Sheep's or Lambs' Wool lb. Flax, Hemp and Jute tons Silk Broadstuffs, wholly of Silk yds. "mixed materials yds. Miscellaneous:— Wood, hewn, sawn or split loads Flax or Linseed qrs.	501.144	+ 147,377	- 31,893
Iron and Steel Manufactures tons Copper, Lead, Tin and Zinc tons Machinery tons Textiles: Raw Cotton centals of 100 lbs. Sheep's or Lambs' Wool lb. Flax, Hemp and Jute tons Silk Broadstuffs, wholly of Silk yds. ", mixed materials yds. Miscellaneous:— Wood, hewn, sawn or split loads Flax or Linseed qrs.		+ 76,074	+ 26,550
Copper, Lead, Tin and Zinc . tons Machinery tons Textiles: Raw Cotton . centals of 100 lbs. Sheep's or Lambs' Wool . lb. Flax, Hemp and Jute tons Silk Broadstuffs, wholly of Silk yds. Miscellaneous:—		+ 37,399	- 87,360
Machinery		- 2,033	- 7,117
Textiles: Raw Cotton centals of 100 lbs. Sheep's or Lambs' Wool lb. Flax, Hemp and Jute 2 tons Silk Broadstuffs, wholly of Silk yds. "," mixed materials yds. Miscellaneous:— Wood, hewn, sawn or split loads Flax or Linseed qrs.		+ 3,488	+ 311
Raw Cotton centals of 100 lbs. Sheep's or Lambs' Wool lb. Flax, Hemp and Jute tons Silk Broadstuffs, wholly of Silk yds. Miscellaneous:— Wood, hewn, sawn or split loads Flax or Linseed qrs.			
Sheep's or Lambs' Wool lb. Flax, Hemp and Jute tons Silk Broadstuffs, wholly of Silk yds. ", mixed materials yds. Miscellaneous:— Wood, hewn, sawn or split loads Flax or Linseed qrs.		+ 481,575	-1,688,913
Flax, Hemp and Jute 2 tons Silk Broadstuffs, wholly of Silk yds. "," mixed materials yds. Miscellaneous:— Wood, hewn, sawn or split loads Flax or Linseed qrs.		- 12,512,520	-16,602,851
Silk Broadstuffs, wholly of Silk yds. 4 "mixed materials yds. 2 Miscellaneous:— Wood, hewn, sawn or splitloads Flax or Linseedqrs.		+ 29,254	+ 15,086
Miscellaneous:— Wood, hewn, sawn or split loads Flax or Linseed		+ 1,972,733	-1,314,010
Wood, hewn, sawn or split loads Flax or Linseed	,098,650	+ 307,560	+ 364,023
Flax or Linseed qrs.		100.010	05.070
		- 109,917	- 25,830
Petroleum 98 8 38		+ 86,658	- 5,420
Tonoing	644,780	- 26,608.961	-7,146,307
Hides, wet and dry cwts.		- 38,258 - 4,189	- 11,316 - 10,473
Wood Pulp tons	56,913	0 705	- 10,473 - 4,051
Rubber centals of 100 lbs.	56,913 67,162	+ 9,325	+ 33,341
Leather cwts Paper cwts. 1	56,913 67,162 33,655	+ 241,192	+ 148,069

Compared with November, 1914, the wheat imports from the United States and Canada showed an increase; in fact, practically the whole supply during November, 1915, came from these two countries. Short supplies from the same source also accounted for decreased imports of oats. Chilled and frozen beef increased, but mutton decreased by 70,000 cwts. Bacon from Denmark decreased over 100,000 cwts., but this was more than counterbalanced by an increase of over 140,000 cwts. from the United States. Butter from Russia increased sevenfold, and thus set off decreased receipts from Sweden, Denmark, France and New Zealand. Margarine from the Netherlands increased from 124,000 cwts. in 1914 to 238,000 cwts. in 1915. Imports of refined sugar from the Netherlands, the United States and Mauritius all increased, but not sufficiently to make up for decreased supplies from other sources, Java alone showing a drop of 650,000 cwts. As regards unrefined sugar there was also a decrease of over 2,000,000 cwts. from Java. Tea imports showed little change. Imports of iron ore from Spain increased by over 100,000 tons, and there was a considerable increase from other sources. Copper ore dropped by nearly 50 per cent., but manganese ore increased from 1,230 tons to 67,308 tons. Hewn and sawn wood from Russia dropped considerably, and there was a decrease of over 50,000 loads in imports of sawn and split fir from Sweden. Raw cotton from the United States and Egypt increased by a total of 500,000 centals. Under the heading petroleum only lubricating Compared with November, 1914, the wheat imports from the from the United States and Egypt increased by a total of 500,000 centals. Under the heading petroleum only lubricating oil showed an increase, the other classes, especially crude oil and

fuel oil, showing marked decreases.

Compared with November, 1913, there were large increases in the quantity of wheat imported from Canada and the United States, which more than accounted for the deficiency in supplies

from Russia, British East Indies and Australia. In November, 1913, nearly 1½ million cwts. of barley were received from Russia, as against nil in November, 1915. In the case of oats the absence of the Russian supply was made up by the receipts from the United States, but there was still a drop of over 400,000 cwts. in the total supply. Both bacon and hams from the United States increased substantially, but there was a marked drop in the imports from Denmark. Decreases in the amount of butter from Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands, Australia and New Zealand were more than compensated for by increases from Russia, the United States and France. The practical cessation in supplies of refined sugar from Europe were, to a great extent, made up for by imports from other places, more especially from the United States. Whereas in November, 1913, over 13 million cwts. of unrefined sugar came from Europe (mostly from Germany), in November, 1915, none was received. This lack of European supply was counterbalanced by large increases from Java, Cuba, and Mauritius. In the case of raw wool there was a marked drop in the receipts from the principal wool there was a marked drop in the receipts from the principal sources of supply. Imports of petroleum fuel oil were less than one-third of what they were in 1913. Rubber imports increased by some 18,000 centals.

II.—IMPORTS IN JANUARY-NOVEMBER, 1915.

II.—IMPORTS IN JANUARY-NOVEMBER, 1915.

During the eleven months ended November, 1915, the total value of the imports (less re-exports) was £691,845,715, an increase of £152,211,203 and of £93,852,975, compared with the corresponding period of 1914 and 1913 respectively. These increases were largely due to higher prices. Compared with 1914, the increases were most pronounced in grain and flour, meat, raw cotton and wool, and metal manufactures (other than those of iron and steel); there was a decrease in the case of woollen manufactures. Compared with 1913, there were large increases under grain and flour, meat, raw wool, oil seeds, &c., and metal manufactures (other than iron and steel). Yarns and textile manufactures, apparel, earthenware and glass and paper all decreased. all decreased.

III.—EXPORTS IN NOVEMBER.

(a). VALUES.

The value of the exports of produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom during November, 1915, amounted to £35,639,166, as compared with £32,000,000 in October. The figure for November represents an increase of £11,037,547 (or 45 per cent.) compared with November, 1914, and a decrease of £9,117,022 (or 20 per cent.) compared with November, 1915. The figures for the four principal groups into which the exports are classified are shown below for November, 1915, with the increases or decreases compared with November, 1914 and 1913.

Groups.	November,	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in November, 1915, compared with			
droups.	1915.	November, 1914.	November, 1913.		
Food, Drink and Tobacco	£ 2,193,956 4,468,522 27,586,570 1,390,118	£ + 164,240 +1,497,050 +8,488,780 + 887,477	£ 1,749,311 - 1,390,836 - 6,355,808 + 378,933		
Total	35,639,166	+11,037,547	- 9,117,022		

(b). QUANTITIES.

(b). Quantities.

Compared with November, 1914, the quantity of coal exported increased by just over 22,500 tons, but the total value showed an increase of £726,000. Exports of wool to the United States increased from only 12,000 lb. to over 3,000,000 lb. Pig iron exports increased considerably, practically the whole increase going to France, which country also took largely increased quantities of plates and sheets. The quantity of steel bars, angles, rods, &c., sent to France rose from 1,709 tons in 1914 to 46,447 tons in 1915. Under the heading of machinery there were marked decreases in rail locomotives and sewing machines. Cotton yarn exports increased from 9½ million lb. to 14½ million lb., the chief increases being in the quantity sent to the Netherlands, France and Bombay. Both woollen and worsted yarn showed large increases. Woollen tissues increased threefold, but worsted tissues showed a slight decline. Jute yarn increased from 2,000,000 lb. to over 3,500,000 lb., due to a fivefold increase in the quantity sent to Brazil. A decline of 3,800,000 yards in the exports of jute piece goods to the United States accounted for a drop of nearly 3½ million yards in the total exports.

exports.

Compared with November, 1913, the exports of steam coal were less by about 2,000,000 tons, and the declared value thereof dropped by about £1.000,000. Exports of sheep's or lambs' wool to the United States increased nearly fivefold. The quantity of forge and foundry pig iron exported decreased by 22,000 tons, but hematite increased by about 11,000 tons. Exports of rails dropped from 40,000 tons to just under 13,000 tons, but ship, boiler, bridge and other plates and sheets increased from 13,000 tons to over 33,000 tons, most of the increase being due to increased quantities sent to France. Tinned plates and tinned sheets declined from 44,000 tons to 25,500 tons, and tubes and pipes and fittings were only about 50 per cent. of what they were in November, 1913. Exports of steel bars, angles, rods, &c., increased more than threefold, the quantity sent to France having risen from practically nil in 1913 to 46,500 tons in November, 1915. The quantity of cotton yarn exported was 3½ million lb. less, but this was more than accounted for by the

lack of exports to Germany, which country in November, 1913, took over 4½ million lb. Exports of cotton piece goods to China and India decreased markedly. Woollen tissues declined by nearly 2½ million yards. Jute piece goods dropped by over 50 per cent., the quantity sent to the United States having decreased from 7,700,000 yards in November, 1913, to under 2,000,000 yards in November, 1915. Linen yarn exports also decreased by 50 per cent.

The following Table gives the quantities of some of the principal articles exported during November, 1915, together with the increase or decrease compared with a year ago and with

Principal Articles.	November,	Inc. (+) or (Dec. (- November, 1915, compared with			1915,	
Frincipal Articles.	1915.	November, N		No	Tovember, 1913.	
Coal and Metals and Metal Manufactures: Coal—Steam tons Other sorts tons	2,380,866 921,905	+•	37,998 15,387		1,941,596 669,037	
Total of Coal	3,302,771	+	22,611	-	2,610,633	
Iron and Steel and Manufactures	124 1000	Regi		-	A SHARE	
thereof: Pig Iron tons Railroad Materials tons	86,109 17,687	+-	36,443. 8,770. qunu	1 1	14,126 37,337	
Plates and Sheets (except galvanised and tinned) tons Galvanised Sheets tons Tinned Plates and Tinned	38,768 (16,824	+ -	25,492 8,671,	+-	17,791 52,632	
Sheets tons	25,556	-	5,386	-	18,761	
Tubes and Pipes and Fittings, wrought and cast tons	117,507	-	5,469	-	15,767	
Steel Bars, Angles, Rods and Shapes or Sections tons	(,58,121	+	43,530	+	40,189	
Other Iron and Steel Manufactures tons	43,697	-	10,374	-	34,644	
Total Iron and Steel and Manufactures thereof tons	304,269	+	66,795	-	115,287	
Copper and Manufactures thereof tons Lead. Tin and Zinc and	2,159	-	1	-	4,328	
Lead, Tin and Zinc and Manufactures thereof tons	4,815	+	1,427	-	646	
Cutlery and Hardware tons Machinery tons	42,184 28,010	+-	2,217 5,267	1 1	43,819 38,249	
Textiles: — Wool, Sheep's or Lambs' lb. Wool, Sheep's or Lambs' lb. Piece Goods yds Woollen Tissues yds. Worsted Tissues yds. Jute Piece Goods yds. Linen Piece Gools yds.	4,548,200 14,495,400 348,847,200 10,094,800 4,191,500 6,111,200 12,440,600	+4+4	4,140,200 4,947,500 2,180,600 6,940,900 145,100 3,477,700 67,300	+	1,984,400 3,762,200 214,802,900 2,436,500 197,100 8,432,800 1,909,80J	
Miscellaneous: Tobacco and Snuff Boots and Shoes dozen pairs Chemical Manures Painters' Colours	3,199,012 114,154 45,625 132,262 242,231	+++++	962,375 10,461 6,836 2,699 3,131	11111	154,999 22,279 14,564 64,182 27,623	

IV.-EXPORTS IN JANUARY-NOVEMBER, 1915.

During the eleven months ended November, 1915, the total value of the exports of produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom was £350,699,817, a decrease of £53,251,980 (or 13 per cent.) compared with 1914, and of £131,434,679 (or 27 per cent.) compared with 1913.

V.-EXPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL PRODUCE. During November, 1915, the value of the re-exports was £8,312,703, an increase of £2,669,726 compared with November, 1914, and of £312,084 compared with November, 1915. For the eleven months ended November, 1915, the total value was £91,095,222, an increase of £1,476,182 and a decrease of £8,831,973 respectively compared with the corresponding period.

£8,831,973 respectively compared with the corresponding period of 1914 and 1913.

CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETIES.

QUARTERLY RETURNS OF SALES.

	Sales* in	Third Qu	Percentage increase com- pared with		
Names of Societies and Nature of Business.	1915.	1914.	1910.	A Year ago.	Five Years ago.
ENGLISH WHOLESALE 80-	£	£	£		
Distributive Departments Productive ,,	10,347,812 3,111,671	8,182,136 2,280,276	6,397,796 1,618,332	26·5 36·5	61·7 92·3
SCOTTISH WHOLESALE 80- OIETY:— Distributive Departments Productive n	2,800,717 988,150	2,238,146 743,632	1,824,656 626,083	25·1 32·9	53·5 57·8
ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETIES' JOINT COMMITTEE:— Productive Departments	78,450	53,710	44,019	46.1	78.2
IRISH AGRICULTURAL WHOLE- SALE SOCIETY:— Distributive Departments	77,348	51,122	14,773	51.3	423.6
OTAL - Distributive Depart-	13,225,877	10,471,404	8,237,225	26.3	60.6
ments	4,178,271	3,077,618	2,288,434	35.8	82.6
ments	17,404,148	13,549,022	10,525,659	28.5	65.3

transfers to distributive departments

PASSENGER MOVEMENT TO AND FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM IN OCTOBER.

In October, 1915, the total number of passengers who landed IN October, 1915, the total number of passengers who landed in the United Kingdom from other countries was 45,524, and the number who embarked for other countries was 45,030; these numbers compare with 116,900 and 72,607 respectively in October, 1914. In the ten months ending October the passengers inward numbered 508,713, and the passengers outward 483,455, the inward being 772,885 and the outward 707,267 less than in the corresponding period of 1914.

The number of outward passengers to non-European countries in October was 13,889 in 1915 and 38,224 in 1914, these numbers including 12,156 and 28,374 British subjects respectively; the inward passengers from non-European countries in October numbered 12,102 in 1915 and 17,052 in 1914, of whom 11,076 and 14,585 respectively were British subjects. The numbers in the ten months ending October were 109,758 outward (including 91,262 British) and 124,143 inward (including 108,550 British), the number of British subjects being less by 180,881 and 87,630 respectively than in the first ten months of 1914. respectively than in the first ten months of 1914.

The total of passengers of British nationality in October in-The total of passengers of British hattorately in October includes 8,928 passengers outward, who were recorded as leaving permanent residence in the United Kingdom and intending to reside permanently in non-European countries; while 8,624 of the inward British passengers were recorded as having been resident in such countries and intending to reside within the United Kingdom. The British passengers who were so recorded to the countries are always as the second of the countries are considered to the countries and intending to reside within the United Kingdom. as changing their country of permanent residence during the ten months ending October numbered 67,465 outward and 76,635 inward, showing a decrease of 133,513 and 6,369 respectively on the corresponding figures for 1914. The distribution of the migratory movement of British subjects during October and the ten months ending October is shown below so far as the principal countries are concerned.

Migrants of British Nationality.*	Octo	ber.	Ten mo	
migrants of Dittish Nationality.	1914.	1915.	1914.	1915.
British North America	3,204 2,744 864 610 1,674 502	1,307 948 290 572 1,138 545	76,235 30,232 7,152 7,119 5,550 4,325	15,402 8,662 2,363 4,691 4,147 3,517 38,782
United States	8,484 821 18,903	3,738 390 8,928	64,614 5,751 200,978	25,866 2,817 67,465
IMMIGRANTS FROM— British North America	4,644 299 34 805 402 435 6,619 1,722 959 9,300	4,006 1,029 142 1,162 255 295 6,889 1,367 368 8,624	23,584 12,390 2,607 9,938 6,251 4,025 58,795 16,987 7,222 83,004	30,684 7,881 1,538 7,165 5,047 4,607 56,922 13,303 6,410 76,638
EXCESS OF RMIGRANTS	9,603	304	117,974	9,1701

If the figures for the ten months ended October, 1913, 1914 and 1915 respectively be examined, it will be found that the large decrease in emigration in 1914, compared with a year earlier, was accentuated in 1915 as a result of the European War. In the period January-October, 1913, the total number of male emigrants of 12 years of age and over of British nationality was 167,913 (of whom 87,836 went to British North America and 25,876 to Australia and New Zealand); the corresponding total for 1914 was 87,100 (of whom 31,717 went to British North America and 16,418 to Australia and New Zealand); and in 1915 the total had fallen to 27,904 (a decrease of 140,009 on 1913), and only 5,606 went to British North America and 3,247 to Australia and New Zealand. The number of statute adult male immigrants in the period January-October, 1915, was 37,873, compared with 40,626 and 33,330 respectively in the corresponding months of 1914 and 1913. The number coming from British North America rose from 9,811 in 1913 to 12,421 in 1914, and to 12,981 in 1915. The net effect of the change in the direction of the migratory movement of statute adult males was that, while in January-October, 1913, there was an excess of 134,583 emigrants over immigrants, in 1914 this excess was reduced to 46,474, and in 1915 the immigrants exceeded the emigrants by 9,969. If the figures for the ten months ended October, 1913, 1914 and

^{*} Exclusive of persons travelling vid Continental Ports. † Excess of Immigrants.

LEGAL CASES, OFFICIAL NOTICES, &c.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

(1) WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT.

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF EMPLOYMENT: WOUND FROM ENEMY'S SHELL: BOMBARDMENT OF TOWN.

An injured workman is entitled to compensation under the An injuried workman is entitled to compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, only where his injuries were caused by an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment. In December of 1914 Hartlepool was bombarded from the sea by German warships. An engine-driver in the employment of a railway company was on his engine in the course of his employment a short distance from the station when the ships because of his employment a short distance from the station when the a man. The engine-driver and his fireman thereupon left the engine and took shelter behind some trucks. After they got there, however, the driver remembered that he had not opened the injector, and that in consequence there was a danger of the boiler tubes being burnt. He therefore returned to the engine and opened the injector, and he was on his way beek to the and opened the injector, and he was on his way back to the shelter when he was struck by a splinter from another shell and

He subsequently claimed compensation under the Act, but the county court judge disallowed his claim on the ground that the accident did not arise out of the workman's employment, as he was not exposed to any greater risk than any other person in the town who was out of doors during the bombardment. The

The Court of Appeal said that it was clear the accident had arisen in the course of the man's employment, but the question was whether it had arisen "out of" that employment. It is not sufficient for a workman to say "I should not have been injured unless I had been where I was and doing the work I was employed to do." He must go further and prove that he was exposed by the nature of his employment to some special risk beyond other persons who were in the neighbourhood but otherwise employed. Most of the persons killed and injured in the bombardment were probably doing the work they were employed to do, but that work did not cause them to run the risk of from German shells. In this case it could not be said ne accident had arisen out of the employment. The appear was therefore dismissed.—Cooper v. North-Eastern Railway Company.—Court of Appeal.—25th November, 1915.

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF EMPLOYMENT: INJURY FROM CAUSE OUTSIDE EMPLOYMENT: FALL OF WALL.

A woman was employed by a firm of fish-curers in packing fish in boxes. She worked in a shed with brick walls and a corrugated iron roof. A building was in course of erection on adjoining land, not in the occupation of the employers, and in which they had no interest. On 26th January, 1915, a wall of this building had no interest. On 20th January, 1915, a wall of this building about 20 feet high fell, by reason of its own instability, and overwhelmed the shed in which the woman in question and others in the same employment were working. Three of the women were killed and others injured. The woman in question was seriously injured, and rendered totally incapable of work. She claimed compensation under the Act, and obtained an award in ther favour in the Sheriff's Court. The employers appealed, contending that the accident did not arise out of the employment.

The Court of Session held that the accident was not caused by anything connected with the nature of the claimant's employment, but by an entirely outside agency, and therefore the accident did not arise out of the employment and compensation was not payable. The appeal was therefore allowed.—Cooper v. Sinclair.—Court of Session.—10th November, 1915.

SEAMEN: FISHING VESSEL: MEMBER OF CREW REMUNERATED BY SHARE IN PROFITS OR GROSS EARNINGS : BONITS.

The Act applies to seamen, but not to such members of the crew of a fishing vessel as are remunerated by shares in the profits or the gross earnings of the working of such vessel.

A steam trawler disappeared, and was assumed to have been lost with all hands. The widow of the chief engineer claimed compensation under the Act, but the owners resisted her claim on the ground that the deceased was remunerated by a share in the gross earnings of the vessel, and that therefore the Act did the gross earnings of the vessel, and that therefore the Act did not apply. It was proved that the deceased was paid a fixed weekly wage of £2 5s., and received his board in addition, which was worth 7s. 6d. a week. When the gross earnings of the working of the vessel exceeded £100 for any one trip, the owners distributed £2 amongst the crew by way of bonus. If such gross earnings reached £175, the bonus was greater, but nothing higher was paid when the earnings exceeded £175. A trip usually lasted about a week.

On these facts the county court judge decided against the contention of the employers, and awarded compensation. The owners

appealed.

The Court of Appeal held that the bonuses received by the deceased were not a share either in the profits or in the gross earnings of the working of the vessel, but were additions to his wages determinable by the amount of the gross earnings. The appeal was therefore dismissed.—Newstead v. Owners of s.s. Labrador."—Court of Appeal.—4th November, 1915. ALLEGED AGREEMENT TO PAY COMPENSATION: RECEIPTS OF WEEKLY PAYMENTS: APPLICATION TO RECORD ALLEGED AGREEMENT

When the amount of compensation under the Act has been When the amount of compensation under the Act has been ascertained by agreement or otherwise, a memorandum of such agreement must be sent by any party interested to the registers of the county court, who, on being satisfied as to its genuineness, must record such memorandum in a special register, and thereupon the memorandum becomes for all purposes enforceable as a county court judgment. Where such a memorandum is received by the register, he must give the parties interested seven days notice before recording it. The judge has power at any time to receive the parties.

rectify the register.

A workman met with an accident on 4th December, 1914, which A workman met with an accident on 4th December, 1914, which caused injuries entitling him to compensation. His employers paid him voluntarily weekly sums equal to half his average weekly earnings before the accident. The workman then sought to have recorded an agreement which he alleged had been made to have recorded an agreement which he alleged had been made between his employers and himself that they should pay him compensation at the rate of half his average weekly earnings from 11th December, 1914, and continuing such payment until the same should be ended, diminished, redeemed or suspended under the Act. The employers denied that there was any such agreement, but they expressed themselves as willing to have reagreement, but they expressed themselves as willing to have recorded an agreement limited to total incapacity for work on the injured man's part. The only evidence the workman was able to put forward of the making of the alleged agreement was that payments were made to him weekly, and receipts were given for each weekly payment to the effect that he, through a named insurance company, had received the sums mentioned as weekly compensation to date under the Act, under which Act the work-

compensation to date under the Act, under which Act the workman elected to claim for personal injury by accident sustained by him on 4th December.

The workman contended that the effect of a number of these receipts, all given in identical terms, was that an agreement of the nature he alleged was implied between him and his employers. The county court judge, however, decided that no such agreement as set up by the workman could be implied from these receipts, that the parties had never agreed upon the terms of any agreement, and that there was a substantial difference between the agreement set up by the workman and the agreement, which the employers were ready to accent. He held there ment which the employers were ready to accept. He held, there fore, that there was no agreement to be recorded. The work

man appealed. Court of Appeal held that there must be real agreement The Court of Appeal held that there must be real agreement between the parties before an agreement can be recorded. Such an agreement may be found in writing or it may be inferred, but it must not lightly be inferred. The receipts did not constitute any binding agreement; they were merely acknowledgments of payments while the workman was totally incapacitated, and could not be construed as implying an agreement to pay compensation in the full terms of the Act. The appeal was therefore dismissed.—Madden v. Guest.—Court of Appeal.—1st November, 1915.

TRADE BOARDS ACT, 1909.

SUGAR CONFECTIONERY AND FOOD PRESERVING TRADE.

GREAT BRITAIN.

OBLIGATORY ORDER.

In pursuance of their powers under the above Act, the Board of Trade have made an Order, dated 8th December, 1915, making obligatory the minimum rates of wages for male and female workers, fixed by the Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade Board (Great Britain), which came into limited operation on 7th June, 1915.*

Any agreement for the payment of wages at less than the above-mentioned minimum rates, clear of all deductions (except those made in accordance with the National Insurance Acts), will henceforth be void. The penalty for paying wages after 8th December at rates less than those which have now been made obligatory by the Board of Trade is a fine not exceeding £20 for each offence. In certain circumstances, however, the Trade Board may, in the case of time-workers who are affected by infirmity or physical injury, grant permits exempting their employment from the operation of the minimum time-rates.

TAILORING TRADE.

TRELAND. VARIATION OF MINIMUM RATES OF WAGES.

At a recent meeting of the Tailoring Trade Board (Ireland) it was resolved to vary the minimum rates of wages for female workers in accordance with the notice of proposal issued on 22nd July, 1915.† The minimum rate for workers other than learners are also increased.

Eull particulars of the rates are variable to the particular of the rates for learners.

Full particulars of the rates as varied, which will come into force on 3rd January, 1916, may be obtained from the Secretary of the Trade Board, 5, Chancery-lane, London, W.C.

* See LABOUR GAZETTE for May, 1915, pages 192-193.
† See LABOUR GAZETTE for August, 1915, page 309.

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES.

I.—CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT, 1896, AND THE MUNITIONS OF WAR ACT, 1915.

COAL MINERS, SCOTLAND.

The Board of Conciliation for the Regulation of Wages in the Coal Trade of Scotland having failed to agree upon an application of the workmen for an increase in wages of 183 per cent. on the 1888 basis, it was decided to refer the matter for settleon the 1888 basis, it was decided to refer the matter for settlement to the Chief Industrial Commissioner as neutral Chairman. Sir George Askwith attended a meeting of the Board at Glasgow and issued his award on 25th November. He

lecided that the wages of underground workmen should be advanced by 64 per cent., the advance to take effect from 23rd November in collieries where that day was the beginning of a pay or the second week of a pay, and from 24th November in

St. Cuthbert's Co-operative Association, Ltd., Edinburgh.
A difficulty arose between St. Cuthbert's Co-operative Association, Ltd., Edinburgh, and the National Amalgamated Union of Warehousemen, Shop Assistants, and Clerks, in connection with certain employees belonging to another trade union (the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees). The Chief Industrial Commissioner, being notified that there was imminent prospect of a stoppage of work, invited both parties to the difficulty to meet him, and they agreed to refer to him for decision the following proposition: the following proposition :-

"That it be a condition of employment by St. Cuthbert's Co-operative Association, Ltd., that all distributive employees eligible for membership be members of their respective Trade Unions recognised by the Scottish Trade Union Congress.'

In his award, dated 27th November, Sir George Askwith decided that the proposition submitted to him for settlement under the reference had not been established.

GAS WORKERS, STOCKPORT.

In 1913 a strike occurred of the employees of the Gas Committee of the Stockport Corporation, and the terms of settlement provided, inter alia, that if it could be shown that in towns comparable with Stockport, wages were being paid in excess of those paid at Stockport, two practical persons should be appointed to examine and adjust the wages at Stockport so as to bring them into conformity with those paid elsewhere.

In August last the agreement was modified to provide for the appointment of an additional person by the Board of Trade, and application was daily made for each

appointment of an additional person by the Board of Trade, and application was duly made for such appointment in connection with an application of the workpeople for a revision of the rates paid to certain classes of the men.

Mr. Lynden Macassey, K.C., was accordingly appointed, and issued his award on 13th November, determining the rates of wages to be paid to certain grades of employees.

METAL MECHANICS, MANCHESTER.

METAL MECHANICS, MANCHESTER.

A dispute occurred between Messrs. Crossley Motors, Ltd., Manchester, and the National Brass Workers and Metal Mechanics as to the proper rate of pay for men employed by the company in bending and fitting certain pipes. The men claimed that they should be paid the same rate of wages as was paid to qualified coppersmiths, and negotiations between the parties having failed to effect a settlement, the matter was reported to the Department.

Mr. Charles Doughty was accordingly appointed arbitrator to decide the points at issue, and in his award dated 30th November he decided that the rate of wages at present paid by the company was the proper rate for the work in question.

STEEL, BAYONET AND MACHINE KNIFE WORKERS, SHEFFIELD. Application having been made by the National Amalgamated Union of Labour for a revised scale of overtime payment and in connection with the payment of a special war wage to work-people employed in the steel, bayonet and machine knife departments of a certain firm in Sheffield, and no agreement having been arrived at, the matter was brought to the notice of the Chief Industrial Commissioner. After lengthy negotiations, it was ultimately agreed between the parties to refer the matter to the decision of an arbitrator appointed by the Chief Industrial Commissioner.

Mr. Charles Doughty, the arbitrator appointed, issued his award on 16th November, determining the rates to be paid for overtime and deciding that the extra war wages paid by the firm should be calculated *pro rata* according as the number of hours worked were more or less than the normal hours of a week's work.

ENGINEERS, DALMUIR.

A stoppage of work having occurred in connection with a claim for the payment of a ls. per hour made by certain mechanics engaged by a firm at Dalmuir on work ordinarily performed in the tool shop, but which, owing to the accumulation of work in that shop, was required to be done on machines out of the tool shop, it was acroed between the position of the that shop, was required to be done on machines out of the tool shop, it was agreed between the parties on the same day that the men should resume work pending the reference of the matter to arbitration under the auspices of the Department.

Sir George Askwith accordingly heard the parties, and issued his award on 27th November, deciding that the men's claim had not been established.

SILICA QUARRY WORKERS, HOLYHEAD.

A dispute having arisen between the Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union and the owners of the Holyhead silica Quarries, regarding an application for an advance of wages, the men handed in notices to cease work. The matter was brought to the notice of the Chief Industrial Commissioner,

and arrangements were made for the notices to be withdrawn pending the reference of the matter to arbitration.

Mr. Charles Doughty, the arbitrator appointed, presided at a conference of the parties on 6th November, when a settlement was arrived at under which an increase of 5 per cent, was given on all piece work exemt coal discharging and increase of on all piece work except coal discharging, and increases of 1s. 6d. a week for dayworkers earning over 50s. a week, and for boys, and 2s. 6d. a week for dayworkers earning under 30s. a week. Mr. Doughty also granted increases in the case of some

SHIPYARD LABOURERS, LONDONDERRY.

A difference having arisen between the North of Ireland Shipbuilding Co., Ltd., Londonderry, and the National Amalgamated Union of Labour, with respect to a claim made by the Union for an advance of wages, and negotiations between the parties having failed to effect a settlement, the matter was brought to the notice of the Chief Industrial Commissioner, who has appointed Mr. Gerald Fitzgibbon, K.C., to act as arbitrator in the matter

ENGINEERS, SWANSEA.

ENGINEERS, SWANSEA.

The Anglo-French Nickel Co., Swansea, and the Amalgamated Society of Engineers having failed to agree regarding the wages to be paid to the engineers employed by the firm on the maintenance of plant, it was agreed to refer the matter to an arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade.

Mr. Charles Doughty was accordingly appointed, and at a meeting of the parties held under his chairmanship on 13th November, an arrangement was made whereby the firm agreed to pay the men in question the minimum wages of the district for engineers. Agreement was also arrived at on certain questions affecting the conditions of employment of such men.

WIRE ROPE WORKERS, MUSSELBURGH.

A firm of wire rope manufacturers at Musselburgh, and the National Amalgamated Union of Labour, having failed to arrive at a settlement in respect of a claim made by the latter for an advance of wages on behalf of the female workers in the firm's advance of wages on benaif of the female workers in the firm's employ, it was agreed to refer the matter for decision to an arbitrator appointed by the Chief Industrial Commissioner.

Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., has accordingly been appointed

to decide the points at issue.

PAINTERS, DUNDEE.

A dispute arose between the Associated Master Painters of Dundee and District and the Scottish Painters' Society as to the rate of wages to be paid in respect of painting, &c., a certain room, containing a steam turbine for driving a dynamo, at a jute works at Dundee. By agreement in the trade higher rates are paid for painting engine rooms, and the operatives claim that works at Dundee. By agreement in the trade higher rates are paid for painting engine rooms, and the operatives claim that the work done in the power-house in question should be paid for at the higher rates. The parties having agreed to refer the matter to arbitration, the Department have appointed Sheriff-Substitute A. J. Louttit Laing to decide the question.

PAINTERS, TEES-SIDE.

The operative painters in the Tees-side district made application to the Masters' Association for a "war bonus," and the parties, being unable to agree, applied to the Board of Trade for the appointment of an arbitrator to decide the matter. Sir Wm. J. Collins, K.C.V.O., has accordingly been appointed.

PAINTERS, SHEFFIELD.

On 16th November, joint application was made to the Board of Trade for the appointment of an arbitrator to decide certain questions in dispute between the masters and operative painters at Sheffield, and Mr. F. A. Greer, K.C., has been appointed accord-

SADDLERS, WALSALL.

A dispute having arisen between the Master Brown Saddlers Association and the Walsall New Brown Saddlers' Trade Protection Society Association and the Walsah New Brown Saddlers Trade Protection Society regarding the piece prices to be paid for the manufacture of certain Italian saddles, a stoppage of work occurred. On the matter being brought to the notice of the Chief Industrial

On the matter being brought to the notice of the Chief Industrial Commissioner, arrangements were made that work should be resumed pending the reference of the matter to arbitration.

Mr. F. A. Greer, K.C., was accordingly appointed, and issued his award on 9th November, deciding that the men were entitled to be paid in accordance with the price appearing in the piecework price list agreed between the parties in June, 1914.

Subsequently a disrupt agrees in connection with the interpret

Subsequently a dispute arose in connection with the interpreta-tion of the award, and a further stoppage of work took place. Mr. Greer again heard the parties, and issued a supplementary award setting out in detail the prices to be paid for particular items of the work.

FOUNDRY LABOURERS, MONIFIETH

A dispute having arisen at the works of Messrs. J. F. Low & Co., Ltd., Monifieth, in connection with an application for an advance of wages on behalf of a number of the labourers in the employ of the firm, and no settlement having been arrived at, the parties agreed to refer the matter to an arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade.

Sheriff-Substitute A. J. Louttit Laing has been appointed

CAULKERS, GLASGOW.

In October last the Boilermakers, Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society made application to Messrs. A. & J. Inglis for an advance of wages on behalf of caulkers in the firm's employ, and the parties being unable to come to a settlement, the Department have appointed Sheriff A. O. M. Mackenzie, K.C., to decide the matter

RIVETTERS, SCOTSTOUN.

A difficulty having arisen in respect of a claim made by the Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society for revised rivetting rates on work in connection with the building of "Chi...a war vessels" and gunboats by a firm on the Clyde, the Department have appointed Sheriff A. O. M. Mackenzie, K.C., to decide the question.

HAND GRENADE WORKERS, LUTON.

The Davis Gas Stove Company, Luton, and the Central Iron-moulders' Association being unable to come to any settlement regarding the prices to be paid to workpeople engaged in the manufacture of hand-grenades, it was agreed to refer the matter to the decision of an arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade. Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., has accordingly been appointed.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS, EDINBURGH DISTRICT.

In September last the Electrical Trades Union made application to the Electrical Contractors' Association for an advance of wages of $1\frac{1}{2}d$. per hour on behalf of their members employed in the Edinburgh District. This application was refused, and the parties being unable to come to an agreement, the matter was reported to the Board of Trade. After some negotiation rties agreed to remit the question to an arbitrator appointed by the Department.

Sheriff A. O. M. Mackenzie, K.C., the arbitrator appointed, issued his award on 27th November, and decided that the men were not entitled to an advance in their wages.

WIRE WORKERS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

In August last application was made by the National Union of Gas and General Workers for revised rates of wages for girls commencing work in the wire rope department of a certain firm at Willington Quay, near Newcastle-on-Tyne. The matter was brought to the attention of the Chief Industrial Commissioner, who entered into negotiation with the parties and eventually appointed Mr. Charles Doughty to inquire into the circumstances the dispute.

Mr. Doughty met the parties separately and together, with the result that the matter was amicably settled.

GASPRODUCERMEN, GLASGOW.

A dispute having arisen between the Steel Ingot Makers' Association and the Amalgamated Society of Steel and Iron Worker in connexion with the rate of wages of Gasproducermen employed by a steel company at Glasgow, and no settlement being arrived at, joint application was made by the parties to the Board of Trade for the appointment of an arbitrator. Sheriff A. O. M. Mackenzie, K.C., has accordingly been appointed.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE, ANSTEY.

The Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Boot and The Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Boot and Shoe Trade of Anstey, Leicestershire, having failed to agree on the question of the piecework rate of wages to be paid for lasting by hand, application was made to the Board of Trade for the appointment of Mr. Alderman T. Smith as umpire to

Mr. Smith was accordingly appointed, and issued his award on 18th November, fixing the rate to be paid.

HOSTERY WORKERS, LEICESTER.

On 2nd November joint application was made to the Board of Trade for the appointment of an arbitrator to decide a dispute that had arisen regarding the piece rates of wages paid by a firm of hosiery manufacturers at Leicester for winding certain varns.

Mr. Alderman T. Smith was accordingly appointed, and issued his award on 9th November, fixing the piece rates of wages to be paid in respect of the class of work in question.

COPPERSMITHS' LABOURERS, CLYDEBANK.

A dispute having arisen between the National Amalgamated Union of Labour and Messrs. John Brown & Co., Ltd., Clydebank, in connexion with a claim made on behalf of the coppersmiths' labourers in the firm's employ for an output bonus allowance, and no settlement having been arrived at, Sheriff A. O. M. Mackenzie, K.C., was appointed to decide the matter.

The arbitrator issued his award on 8th December, deciding that the claim had not been established.

CONTRACTORS' LABOURERS, TIPTON.

Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., the arbitrator appointed to deal with an application of the general labourers employed by a contractor in South Staffordshire for an advance of wages and alterations of working conditions (see Labour Gazette for November, page 424), issued his award on 9th November, granting an increase of wages of ½d. per hour and determining the rate of payment for overtime.

FLOUR MILLERS, CARDIFF.

Mr. Doughty, the arbitrator appointed to decide the questions Mr. Doughty, the arbitrator appointed to decide the questions in dispute between a Cardiff flour milling firm and certain of the workpeople employed in their shipping and engineering departments (see Labour Gazette for November, p. 424), issued his award on 20th November, substituting an increase of wages, together with a modified war bonus, in place of the war bonus previously paid by the firm, and settling other matters relating to the working conditions.

Dough Makers (or Mixers), Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society, Ltd., Woolwich.

A difference having arisen between the Amalgamated Union of Operative Bakers and Confectioners and the Royal Arsenal Cooperative Society, Ltd., Woolwich, in respect of a grade of employee termed dough-maker (or mixer), application was made to the Chief Industrial Commissioner for the appointment of an arbitrator.

arbitrator.

The Rt. Hon. Sir David Harrel, K.C.B., the arbitrator appointed, issued his award on 16th November deciding that where doughmen were working for some hours (as in this case) on their own responsibility and in the absence of a foreman or second hand, they should be placed on the same rates as second hands.

HOPPERMEN. TYNE DISTRICT.

A dispute arose between the National Amalgamated Union of Labour on the one hand and the Tyne Hopper Company and the Jarrow Hopper Company on the other regarding the rate of payment for overtime, and no settlement having been arrived at, the men came out on strike. The matter was brought to the the men came out on strike. The matter was brought to the notice of the Chief Industrial Commissioner, who communicated with the parties, with the result that the men resumed work pending the reference of the matter to arbitration.

Mr. Charles Doughty, the arbitrator appointed, issued his award on 30th November, fixing the overtime rate at time and a quarter for ordinary overtime and double time for Sundays, Christmas Day, Good Friday, and the usual Bank Holidays.

ENGINEERS, DEVONPORT.

In July application was made by the engineers employed by a firm of Admiralty contractors at Devonport for a war bonus of 3s. per week. The firm intimated that they were unable to accede to the application, and at the request of the parties the Chief Industrial Commissioner appointed an arbitrator to determine

Mr. W. W. Mackenzie, K.C., the arbitrator appointed, issued his award on 15th November, deciding that the men had not established their claim.

II.—COMMITTEE ON PRODUCTION.

II.—COMMITTEE ON PRODUCTION.

The Committee appointed by His Majesty's Government to inquire into the best steps to be taken to ensure the fullest productive power of employees in engineering and shipbuilding establishments, and whose reference was subsequently extended to deal with the avoidance of stoppages on work for Government purposes (see Labour Gazette for March, page 83, and August, page 280), have issued the following further decisions on cases referred to them. Where advances have been granted, "to be regarded as war wages," they are to be recognised as due to and dependent on the existence of the abnormal conditions now prevailing in consequence of the war. vailing in consequence of the war.

CHEMICAL WORKERS, MESSRS. SHARP & MALLET, LTD., COPLEY (ISSUED 1ST NOVEMBER).

The following finding is in respect of an application for an advance of wages and adjustment of working conditions made to Messrs. Sharp & Mallet, Limited, Copley, by the Workers' Union on behalf of their members engaged in the manufacture of picric acid. The matter formed the subject of negotiation between the parties, but no settlement was arrived at, and it was agreed to refer the question to the Committee on Production for decision. Representatives of the parties were accordingly heard on 4th November.

At the hearing, agreement was reached in regard to two of the points in dispute, viz.:—(1) that "picric" men who, having finished their day's work, are required by the firm to do "yard work" after 5 o'clock shall be paid at overtime rates for the time spent after 5 o'clock in doing "yard work"; and (2) this, when some men are absent, the remainder of the men do the work of a full geng on the basic of three paids are men the work of a full gang, on the basis of three pots per man, the firm will pay to the men at work the wages of the full gang.

In regard to the claim for increased rate of pay and increased "bonus," the Committee have given careful consideration to the arguments and statements of the respective representatives and to all the circumstances of the case, and their finding is that the rate of wages should be advanced to 7d. per hour and that the "bonus" should be 2s. 6d. for 54 hours worked between 6 a.m. Monday and midnight Sunday, 3s. 6d. for 57 hours, 5s. for 60 hours, and 7s. 6d. for 65 hours and over.

This finding is to come into force from the beginning of the

This finding is to come into force from the beginning of the first full pay following 4th November.

SHIPWRIGHTS, LEITH (ISSUED 10TH NOVEMBER).

The following finding is in respect of certain differences between the East of Scotland Association of Engineers and Ironfounders and the Shipwrights and Shipconstructors' Association regarding payment for Sunday docking, undocking, bilgeshoring and propeller staging, and payment for repairs on oil-carrying

vessels. The matter formed the subject of negotiations between the parties but no settlement was arrived at, and it was agreed to refer the questions to the Committee on Production for decision. Representatives of the parties were accordingly heard

At the hearing the following Memorandum regarding Sunday

docking was agreed upon :—
From 12 midnight Saturday to 6 a.m. Sunday to be paid

at the rate of 12 hours with 4d. allowance.

From 6 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. to be paid at the rate of 9 hours with 4d. allowance.

From 5.30 p.m. to 12 midnight to be paid at the rate of 12 hours with 4d. allowance.

Minimum of 4 Hours.

The parties undertook to meet and discuss outstanding ques-

The parties undertook to meet and discuss outstanding questions in relation to undocking, &c.

In regard to the claim for time and a quarter for repairs to oil-carrying vessels, the Committee's finding is that the rate now paid of 1d. per hour be not altered, but that such rate be paid on all repairs to the vessels, irrespective of the particular in the particular part of the ship. ob or the particular part of the ship.

CRANEMEN-NORTH BRITISH LOCOMOTIVE COMPANY, LTD. , ISSUED 11TH NOVEMBER).

The following finding is in respect of an application for an advance of wages made to the North British Locomotive Company, Ltd., by the British Steel Smelters' Mill, Iron, Tinplate and Kindred Trades Association on behalf of cranemen employed in the Queen's Park and Atlas works. The matter formed the subject of negotiations between the parties but no settlement was arrived at, and it was agreed to refer the question to the Committee on Production for decision. Representations of the parties were heard on 10th Navember tives of the parties were heard on 10th November.

The Committee have given careful consideration to the state.

ments and arguments of the respective representatives and to all the circumstances of the case. Their finding is that as from the beginning of the first full pay following 10th November cranemen in the employ of the company who are now in receipt of less than 63d. per hour should receive an advance of 4d. per hour, except in the case of men who have been in the employ of the company as cranemen for less than three months.

COPPERSMITHS-MESSES. R. & H. GREEN AND SILLEY WEIR, LTD. . LONDON (ISSUED 16TH NOVEMBER).

The following finding is in respect of an application for an advance of wages made to Messrs. R. & H. Green and Silley Weir, Ltd. (members of the River Thames Dry Dock Proprietors Weir, Ltd. (members of the River Thames Dry Dock Proprietors and Shipowners' Association) by the National Society of Coppersmiths, Braziers and Metalworkers. In common with other trades, the coppersmiths, shortly after the outbreak of war, received a "bonus" of 1½d. per hour on Government work, and subsequently, in March, 1915, also in common with other trades, an advance of 4s. per week was given on commercial work.

The coppersmiths' nominal working week is one of 54 hours. but in practice the working hours are 48 per week; the rate of wages is 48s. per week, apart from the "bonus" and advance above referred to, and the present claim is that the rate of wages be advanced to 54s, per week. The matter formed the subject

be advanced to 54s. per week. The matter formed the subject of negotiations between the parties, but no settlement was arrived at, and it was agreed to refer the matter to the Committee on Production for decision. Representatives of the parties were accordingly heard on 9th November.

The Committee have given careful consideration to the statements and arguments of the respective representatives and to all the circumstances of the case, and their finding is that the claim for a change in the present wages of the workpeople con-cerned is not established.

Engineers, Briton Ferry, &c. (Issued 16th November).

The following finding is in respect of an application made to the Welsh Engineers and Founders' Association by the Amal-gamated Society of Engineers for an advance of wages.

gamated Society of Engineers for an advance of wages.

In April, 1915, the men concerned received, by agreement, an advance of wages of 2s. per week, and in September a further advance of 1s. per week, which brought their rate up to 43s. per week. A reduction of working hours from 54 to 53 hours per week was also made. Subsequently, application was made on behalf of the men for a further advance of wages. A conference of the parties took place on 30th October, but no settlement was arrived at, and it was agreed to refer the matter to the Committee on Production. mittee on Production

The Committee heard representatives of the parties on 11th November, and have given careful consideration to the statements and arguments put before them and to all the circumstances of the case. Their finding is that the wages of the men concerned should be advanced from 43s. to 44s. per week, as from the beginning of the first full pay following 16th November.

ENGINEERS, LUTON (ISSUED 17TH NOVEMBER)

The following ing is in respect of an application made to the Bedfordshire Engineering Employers' Association by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers and Allied Trades for a "war bonus" on behalf of their members employed in the Luton

In 1911 an agreement fixing the rate of wages was made between the parties to terminate in October, 1916. In February last, however, following an application on behalf of the men for an advance of wages, an agreement was arrived at between the parties whereby the men received an advance of \$\frac{3}{4}d\$. per hour, or $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., on piece rates.

On 5th August application was made on behalf of the men for a "war bonus" of 2d. per hour. The matter was considered at a local conference of the parties on 30th August, and at central conference on 8th October, but no settlement was arrived at, and it was agreed to refer the matter to the Committee on Production

The Committee heard representatives of the parties on 3rd November, and have given careful consideration to the state-ments and arguments advanced before them and to all the circumstances of the case

Their finding is that the wages of the workpeople concerned should be advanced 4d. per hour on time rates and 2½ per cent. on piecework as from the beginning of the first full pay following 3rd November, 1915.

IRONFOUNDERS, BRISTOL (ISSUED 18TH NOVEMBER).

IRONFOUNDERS, BRISTOL (ISSUED 18TH NOVEMBER).

The following finding is in respect of an application for an advance of wages made to the West of England Engineering Trade Employers' Association by the Friendly Society of Ironfounders on behalf of ironfounders employed by the members of the Association at Bristol. On 26th March the Association agreed to give an advance of wages to engineers of 3s. per week at Easter and 1s. per week in September; on 1st April, after negotiations between the parties, the employers offered, and the Friendly Society of Ironfounders accepted, an advance of 3s. to ironfounders. In September the latter body applied to the Association for a further advance of 1s. per week. The matter was discussed at a conference between the parties but no settlement was arrived at, the employers holding that the state of ment was arrived at, the employers holding that the state of this branch of the trade did not warrant a further advance. It was agreed to refer the question to the Committee on Production, and representatives of the parties were heard on 10th November.

The Committee have given careful consideration to the statements and arguments of the respective representatives and to all the circumstances of the case, and their finding is that the claim to the advance of 1s. per week has not been established.

ENGINEERS, KILMARNOCK (ISSUED 19TH NOVEMBER).

The following finding is in respect of an application made to the Kilmarnock District Engineering Employers' Association by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers for a "war bonus" on

In February, 1915, as a result of negotiations between the parties, an agreement was arrived at providing for an advance of \(^3\)d. per hour, or \(^3\)s. per week (according to the practice of payment followed in the various shops) on time rates, and \(^7\)\/2 per cent. on piece rates, to take effect from the first full pay day after acceptance. In the case of men rated at \(^3\)ds. per week, the advance was 4s. per week.

Subsequently application was made on behalf of the men for a "war bonus" of 1d. per hour or 4s. 6d. per week. The matter was discussed at a local conference of the parties on 14th September, and at central conference on 8th October, but no settlement was arrived at, and it was agreed to refer the matter to the Committee on Production for decision of

to the Committee on Production for decision.

The intention of the parties was that the enhanced rates agreed upon in February should remain undisturbed for the duration of the war; but after hearing representatives of the parties on 2nd November, and having given careful consideration to the november, and having given careful consideration to the statements and arguments advanced before them, and to all the circumstances of the case, the Committee are of opinion that an advance of \(\frac{1}{4} \text{d}. \) per hour, or 1s. per week (according to the practice of payment followed in the various shops) on time rates and 2\(\frac{1}{2} \text{per cent.} \) on piece rates, should now be given, to take effect from the beginning of the first full pay following 2nd November

ENGINEERING LABOURERS, HALIFAX (ISSUED 19TH NOVEMBER).

The following finding is in respect of an application made to the Halifax District Engineering Employers' Association by the Workers' Union for an advance of wages on behalf of their

members.

In March, 1915, following an advance to the skilled men in the Halifax engineering trade, the employers gave the unskilled men a war bonus of 2s. per week. Some weeks later application was made on behalf of the men for an advance of 3s. per week, and after negotiation the employers conceded a further advance of 1s. per week. Subsequently application was made on behalf of the men for a standard rate of 27s. per week to shop labourers and of 28s. per week to foundry labourers. This application was considered at a local conference of the parties on 27th August, and at central conference on 8th October, but no settlement was arrived at, and it was agreed to refer the matter to ment was arrived at, and it was agreed to refer the matter to the Committee on Production for decision. The Committee heard representatives of the parties on 4th was arrived at, and it was agreed to refer the matter to

November, and they have given careful consideration to the statements and arguments advanced before them and to all the circumstances of the case. Their finding is that as from the beginning of the first full pay following 4th November, labourers rated at less than 25s. per week shall receive an advance of 1s.

Messrs. Harland & Wolff, Ltd., Belfast (Issued 19th November).

The Committee have had referred to them by the Minister of Munitions for settlement, in accordance with the provisions of the Munitions of War Act, 1915, a proposal for a change in the rates of wages of certain classes of persons employed by Messrs. Harland & Wolff, Ltd., Belfast. The change proposed is an advance of 2s. per week on time rates and 5 per cent. on piecework rates, to come into force as from the first pay in October, 1915, such proposed change having been arrived at after discussion between the firm and the representatives of the workpeople. The representatives of the workpeople agreed to accept this advance, and the firm agreed to recommend the advance for sanction by the Minister of Munitions.

sanction by the Minister of Munitions.

The Committee heard representatives of the firm and representatives of the workpeople on 18th November, and their finding is that the settlement arrived at between the parties, stated by both to have been a local adjustment of wages, namely, an advance of 2s. per week on time rates and 5 per cent. on piece rates, shall be consented to as a settlement of the matter.

ENGINEERS AND ALLIED TRADES, HALIFAX (ISSUED 19TH NOVEMBER).

The following finding is in respect of an application made to the Halifax District Engineering Employers' Association by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers and allied trade unions for a "war bonus" on behalf of their members.

In March, 1915, as a result of negotiations between the parties, the men concerned received an advance of wages of 2s. per week, and in May, 1915, a further advance of 1s. per week. Subsequently application was made on behalf of the men for a "war bonus" of 5s. per week. This application was considered at a bonus" of 5s. per week. This application was considered at a local conference of the parties on 22nd September and at central conference on 8th October, but no settlement was arrived at, and it was agreed to refer the matter to the Committee on Production for decision.

The Committee heard representatives of the parties on 4th November, and they have given careful consideration to the statements and arguments advanced before them and to all the circumstances of the case.

Their finding is that the claim for the "war bonus" has not been established.

ENGINEERING TRADES, PETERBOROUGH AND DISTRICT (Issued 19th November).

The following finding is in respect of an application for an advance of wages made by the Peterborough and District Engineering Allied Trades' Committee on behalf of the workmen employed by the following firms at Peterborough:—Messrs. Aublet, Harry & Co., Ltd., Messrs. Barford & Perkins, Ltd., Messrs. Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., Messrs. J. P. Hall & Sons, Ltd., and Messrs. Werner, Pfleiderer & Perkins, Ltd. In regard to Messrs. Peter Brotherhood, Ltd., a finding of this Committee, dated 15th March, 1915, awarded that the wages of mechanics should be advanced 3s. per week in the case of time workers and 74 per cent, in the case of piece workers, and

time workers and 7½ per cent. in the case of piece workers, and that the wages of labourers should be advanced 2s. per week. In regard to Messrs. J. P. Hall & Sons, Ltd., a finding of the Committee, dated 24th June, 1915, awarded that the wages prior to the alterations made in certain cases in March should be advanced 3s. per week in the case of mechanics and 2s. per week in the case of labourers. week in the case of labourers. Advances of wages were also given by the other firms concerned.

The present application for a further advance of wages 11d. per hour and corresponding increases of piece rates for all grades of labour formed the subject of negotiation between the parties, but no settlement was arrived at, and the matter was referred Committee on Production for decision.

The Committee heard representatives of the parties on the 17th November, and they have given careful consideration to the statements and arguments laid before them and to all the circumstances of the case. Their finding is that the claim for a further advance of wages on behalf of the skilled and semiskilled men has not been established, but that the wages of the unskilled men should be advanced 1s. per week as from the beginning of the first full pay week following 17th November.

MOULDERS, DEWSBURY DISTRICT (ISSUED 29TH NOVEMBER). The following finding is in respect of an application made to the master ironfounders in the Dewsbury district by the Friendly Society of Ironfounders for an advance of wages to their

In June, 1914, as a result of negotiations between the parties, the moulders in the Dewsbury district were given an advance of wages of 1s. per week, and in April, 1915, a further advance of 2s. per week, making the rate £2 per week of 53 hours. In October, 1915, application was made by the moulders for a further advance of 3s. per week. Negotiations took place in regard to this application, but no settlement was arrived at, and it was agreed to refer the matter to the Committee on Production for decision.

The Committee heard representatives of the parties on 24th November, and have given careful consideration to the statements and arguments advanced before them and to all the circumstances of the case. Their finding is that the wages of the men concerned should be advanced a further 1s. per week as from the beginning of the first full pay week following 24th November 1915

PLUMBERS IN ENGINEERING AND SHIPYARD ESTABLISHMENTS CLYDE DISTRICT (ISSUED 29TH NOVEMBER).

The following finding is in respect of an application made to the Clyde Shipbuilders' Association and the North-West En-gineering Trades Employers' Association by the United Operative Plumbers' Associations on behalf of their members for an advance of wages on the standard rate.

Prior to the outbreak of war the practice had been for the wages of the shipyard plumbers in the Clyde district to fluctuate with the wages of the house plumbers. In March, 1915, a find-

ing of this Committee awarded that "the wages of the workers ing of this Committee awarded that "the wages of the workers in the shipyard trades should be advanced 4s. per week in the case of time workers paid weekly, 1d. per hour in the case of time workers paid hourly, and 10 per cent. in the case of piece workers, the advances . . . to be regarded as war wages, and recognised as due to and dependent on the existence of the abnormal conditions now prevailing in consequence of the war." No application for an advance of wages was made at that time by the United Operative Plumbers' Associations, but the advance of 1d. per hour was given to their members in the shipyards by the employers. the employers.

increase in the wages of house plumbers in the Glasgow district took place at that time nor subsequently, until, as a result of a decision of the Lord Provost of Glasgow in August, 1915, of a decision of the Lord Provost of Glasgow in August, 1915, in a dispute between the West of Scotland Master Plumbers' Association and the United Operative Plumbers' Associations, house plumbers received an advance of ½d. per hour as from 1st September. The operatives' associations thereupon made application to the Clyde Shipbuilders' Association and to the North-West Engineering Trades Employers' Association for the payment of this advance of ½d. per hour.

No settlement was arrived at in regard to this application, and the metter was accordingly referred to the Committee on

and the matter was accordingly referred to the Committee on

Production for decision.

The Committee heard representatives of the parties on 26th November, and have given careful consideration to the statements and arguments advanced before them, and to all the circumstances of the case. Their finding is that the operatives have not established a claim to an alteration in the present rate of payment to their members in the shipyards.

This decision is given without prejudice to the question, should it be raised after the termination of the war, that the standard hourly rates for plumbers in the shipyards and house trade should coincide.

MESSES. SIR W. G. ARMSTRONG, WHITWORTH & COMPANY, LIMITED (ISSUED 1ST DECEMBER).

The following finding is in respect of an application made by the checkers employed at the Elswick and Scotswood works of Messrs. Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth & Company, Limited,

Messrs. Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth & Company, Limited, for an advance of wages.

Prior to the outbreak of war the men concerned were paid at the rate of wages of 26s. per week, and in March, 1915, they were given an advance of 4s. per week—the advance agreed upon for the engineering trades of the North-East coast. In October, 1915, application was made on behalf of the checkers for a further advance of wages. Negotiations took place between the parties, but no settlement was arived at, and it was agreed to refer the matter to the Committee on Production for decision

or decision.

Representatives of the parties were heard on 17th November, and the Committee have given careful consideration to the statements and arguments advanced before them and to all the circumstances of the case. Their finding is that the claim for a further advance of wages has not been established

ENGINEERING LABOURERS AND SEMI-SKILLED MEN, BURY (ISSUED

1st December).

The following finding is in respect of an application made to the Bolton and District Engineering Employers' Association by the National Union of Gasworkers and General Labourers and by the Amalgamated Union of Machine and General Labourers for revised evertime reter of navyment on babalt of their members. for revised overtime rates of payment on behalf of their members

employed at Bury.

The application made by the Unions was for overtime worked by the labourers and semi-skilled men to be paid at the rate of time-and-a-quarter for the first two hours, time-and-a-half for the following two hours, and double-time for all subsequent consecutive hours worked, each day to stand by itself; double-time also was claimed for work on Sundays, Good Friday and Christmas Day

Christmas Day.

A counter offer of the employers for the payment of A counter offer of the employers for the payment of time-and-a-half for work done on Sundays, Good Friday and Christmas Day was rejected by the men, and the question was discussed at a local conference of the parties on 29th September and at central conference on 12th November. No settlement was arrived at, and it was agreed to refer the matter to the Com-

arrived at, and it was agreed to refer the matter to the Committee on Production for decision.

The Committee heard representatives of the parties on 30th November, and have given careful consideration to the statements and arguments advanced before them and to all the circumstances of the case. Their finding is that the overtime rate of payment for labourers and semi-skilled engineering workers at Bury shall be time-and-a-quarter for the first two hours, and time-and-a-half for all subsequent consecutive hours worked and double time for work done on Sundays, Good Friday and Christmas Day.

This finding is to come into operation from the beginning of the first full pay week following 15th November.

ENGINEERING LABOURERS. KILMARNOCK (ISSUED 2ND DECEMBER).

ENGINEERING LABOURERS. KILMARNOCK (ISSUED 2ND DECEMBER).

The following finding is in respect of an application made to the Kilmarnock District Engineering Employers' Association by the Workers' Union for (1) an increase of 5s. per week to cranemen employed by Messrs. Glenfield & Kennedy, Ltd.; (2) an increase of 1s. per week to labourers employed by Messrs. Glenfield & Kennedy, Ltd., and by Messrs. Andrew Barclay, Sons & Co.; (3) the payment to cranemen and labourers of "time and a half" for overtime, with "double time" for Sundays; and (4) a minimum starting rate of 26s. per week for labourers.

The application was considered by the parties at a local con-

ference on 23rd September and at central conference on 12th November, but no settlement was arrived at, and it was agreed to refer the matter to the Committee on Production for decision. Representatives of the parties were accordingly heard on 30th

December, 1915. THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

November.

The Committee have given careful consideration to the arguments and statements laid before them, and to all the circumstances of the case, and their finding is: (1) That as from the beginning of the first full pay following 30th November the wages of cranemen employed by Messrs. Glenfield & Kennedy, Ltd., should be advanced 1s. per week; (2) that as from the beginning of the first full pay following 30th November the wages of labourers employed by Messrs. Glenfield & Kennedy, Ltd., and by Messrs. Andrew Barclay, Sons & Company should be advanced 1s. per week; (3) that overtime should be paid at "time and a half," with "double time" for work done on Sundays; and (4) that the claim for a minimum starting rate of 26s. per week for labourers is not established. 26s, per week for labourers is not established.

BOILERMAKERS-BILSTON, DARLASTON, DUDLEY, TIPTON, WEDNES-

BURY, AND WOLVERHAMPTON (ISSUED 3RD DECEMBER). *
The following finding is in respect of an application for an advance of wages made to the Midland Employers' Federation by the Boilermakers' and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society

on behalf of their members employed in Bilston, Darlaston, Dudley, Tipton, Wednesbury and Wolverhampton.

The application formed the subject of negotiations between the parties, but no settlement was arrived at, and it was agreed to refer the matter to the Committee on Production for decision.

Representatives of the neuties were accordingly beard on 10th. Representatives of the parties were accordingly heard on 19th

The Committee have given careful consideration to the arguments and statements of the respective representatives and to all the circumstances of the case, and their finding is that as from the beginning of the first full pay following 27th October the wages of the workpeople concerned shall be advanced 3s. per

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE TRADES (BRIDGE, GIRDER, CONSTRUCTIONAL AND BOILER TRADES, WAGON AND CARRIAGE, AND NUT AND BOLT TRADES) (ISSUED 3RD DECEMBER)

Bolt Trades) (Issued 3rd December).

The following finding is in respect of an application for an advance of wages in the above trades made to the Midland Employers' Federation by the Workers' Union, the Amalgamated Society of Gas, Municipal and General Workers, the National Union of Gasworkers and General Labourers, and the National Amalgamation of Enginemen, Firemen, Mechanics, and Electrical Workers. The application was intended to cover the bridge, girder, constructional and boiler trades, the wagon and carriage trade, and the nut and bolt trade in the South Staffordshire area, a district defined by agreement between the parties, and shown on an Ordnance Survey map deposited with the and shown on an Ordnance Survey map deposited with the

ommittee.
The application formed the subject of discussion between the parties, but no settlement was arrived at, and it was agreed to refer the matter to the Committee on Production for decision. Representatives of the parties were accordingly heard on 19th November, and the Committee have given careful consideration to the statements and arguments of the respective representatives and to all the circumstances of the case.

tives and to all the circumstances of the case.

As regards the wagon and carriage section (the Old Park Works of the Patent Shaft and Axle Tree Company), it is understood that the arrangement in force in this section in the Birmingham area, to which reference is made in the Committee's finding of 19th August, is also in force at the Old Park Works, together with a modification made subsequently by arrangement with the workpeople's representatives, and according to the Committee are of opinion that the decision circums in their find Committee are of opinion that the decision given in their find-ing of 19th August should apply in the case of those works. As regards the nut and bolt trade, an advance of 2s. per week on time rates and 5 per cent. on piece rates has been given

by the Darlaston employers as from October last, and the Committee's finding is that the advance thus given shall be applied to the nut and bolt trade in the South Staffordshire area, the advance to be payable as from the beginning of the first full pay

In the case of the bridge, girder, constructional and boiler trades the Committee's finding is that as from the beginning of the first full pay following 27th October the wages of the work-people concerned shall be advanced 2s. per week on time rates and 5 per cent, on piece rates.

APPOINTMENT OF CERTIFYING SURGEONS

)	
District.	Certifying Surgeon.	Place and time for examination.*
Dalmellington (Ayrshire)	W. R. Taylor, Doombank, Patna	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Kidderminster (Worcester)	O. C. P. Evans, 22, Church Street, Kidderminster	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Laurencekirk (Kincardineshire)	T. Buchan, 70, High Street, Laurencekirk	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Todmorden (Yorks. W.R.)	H. Thorp, North View, Tod-morden	Weekdays, except Tuesdays, 2-2.30 p.m.

NOTE.—Except where otherwise stated the place of examination is at the sidence of the Certifying Surgeon.

Of young persons and children from factories and |workshops in which less

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACTS, 1911 to 1915.

PART II.—UNEMPLOYMENT.

APPLICATIONS TO THE UMPIRE.

In pursuance of Regulations made by the Board of Trade and dated 26th day of March, 1912, notice is hereby given that the Umpire (Unemployment Insurance) has received application for a decision as to whether contributions are payable or not in respect of the following classes of persons:-

350. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of magnets (permanent), including the process of drilling, bending, grinding and magnetizing.

351. Lace curtain machine inside hands.

(This involves reconsideration of decision No. 797 published in the "Board of Trade Journal.")

552. Workmen engaged in making and finishing moulds or

patterns for shaping rubber, vulcanite, ebonite, &c., or

(This involves a reconsideration of Decision B. 932).

DECISIONS BY THE LIMPIRE

Pursuant to paragraph (5) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations, the Board of Trade hereby give notice of the following decisions by the Umpire on questions whether contributions are payable:

The Umpire has decided that contributions are payable in

1526. Workmen engaged in turning iron rolls for rolling brass, nickel-silver, or other metals.

1527. Workmen engaged in cutting or in machining copper rings for use as shell bands.

1528. Workmen engaged in filing dies and cutters for stamping table blades.

1529. Workmen engaged in making sword hilts, in fitting them to blades, or in making metal parts of scabbards

(excluding engravers).
1531. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making engine covers for motor boats.

The Umpire has decided that contributions are not payable in

respect of:—
1530. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making and finishing wooden lappet wheels for the textile trade. (Application 347.)

Note.—Where no reference is given to an application, the question has been decided by the Umpire, without notice, as a matter not admitting of reasonable doubt, in accordance with paragraph (2) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations.

Decisions relating to individual workmen which raise no qu tion of general interest, or which merely apply a principle laid down in a previous decision, are not published.

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING NOVEMBER.

[All the United Kinadom Official Publications, including Consular Reports, may be purchased either directly or through any Bookseller from Wyman & Sons. Ltd., Fetter Lane, London, E.C., and 54. St. Mary Street, Cardiff; H.M. Stationery Office (Scottish Branch), 28. Forth Street, Edinburah; pr F. Pansonby, Ltd. 116, Grafton Street, Dublin; or from the Colonial and Foreign Agencies of T. Fisher Univin. London, W.C.1

UNITED KINGDOM.

Clerical and Commercial Employments Committee. Report of Committee (Home Office) to consider the conditions of Clerical and Commercial Employment with a view to advising what steps should be taken, by the employment of women or otherwise, to replace men withdrawn for service in the Military Forces. [Cd. 8110: price 1½d.]

Shops Committee. Report of Committee (Home Office) to consider the conditions of Retail Trades which can best secure that the further enlistment of men or their employment in other national services may not interfere with the operations of that trade. [Cd. 8113: price 1½d.]

Annual Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops, 1914. Home Office. [Cd. 8051: price 1s. 2d.]

Rocket Life-Saving Apparatus. Report by the Board of Trade on the Life-Saving Apparatus on the Coasts of the United King-

on the Life-Saving Apparatus on the Coasts of the United Kingdom. Year ended 30th June, 1915. [Cd. 8088: price 3½d.]

Railway Accidents. Summary of Accidents and Casualties re-ported to the Board of Trade during the three months ended 30th

June, 1915, with reports upon certain Accidents which were inquired into. [Cd. 8114: price 7.d.]

Agricultural Statistics, 1914. Part III. Prices and Supplies of Corn, Live Stock and other Agricultural Produce in Enaland and Wales. Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. [Cd. 8112:

Annual Report on Sea Fisheries for the Year 1914. Parts I Annual Report on Sea Fisheries for the Year 1914. Parts I. and II. Number of vessels, number of men and boys employed. &c. Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. [Cd. 8102: price 84d.]

Increases in Rental of Small Dwelling Houses in Industrial Districts in Scotland. Report of Departmental Committee appointed by the Secretary for Scotland. [Cd. 8111: price 1d.]

Report on the Sea and Inland Fisheries of Ireland, 1914. Vessels and crews engaged, loans to fishermen, &c. Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland. [Cd. 8084: price 14d.]

BRITISH INDIA AND BRITISH DOMINIONS.

INDIA.—Monthly Statistics of Cotton Spinning and Weaving in Indian Mills, August, 1915. [Calcutta: Superintendent Government Printing.]

CANADA.—The Labour Gazette, October, 1915. Proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act during September; New Brunswick, Quebec and Alberta legislation affecting labour; prices, trade disputes and industrial accidents during September, &c. [Ottawa: J. de L. Taché, King's Printer.]—Census and Statistics Monthly, September, 1915. Field crops of Canada, prices of agricultural produce, field crops of the United States, 1915. [Ottawa: J. de L. Taché, King's Printer.]—Saskatchewan. The Public Service Monthly, October, 1915. Commonwealth of Australia.—Labour Bulletin, No. 9.

January-March, 1915. Wages, disputes, State free employment bureaus, prices, rents and cost of living, accidents, conciliation and arbitration, &c. Monthly Summary of Australian Statistics, July, 1915. Trade Unions, unemployment, changes in wages, disputes, purchasing power of money, &c. August, 1915. Prices, wages, trade unions, disputes, unemployment, &c. [Melbourne: McCarron, Bird & Co., Printers.]

VICTORIA.—Wages Board Determinations, 1915. Electrical installation, dated 15th September, cancelling that of the 7th February, 1912. Tentmakers, dated 24th September, cancelling that of 12th June, 1914. Country Wood Workers, dated 1st October, cancelling that of 27th September, 1912. Staters and Tilers, dated 7th October, cancelling that of 2nd April, 1913.

QUEENSLAND.—Industrial Peace Act Awards, 1915. Sawmilling Industry, Northern Division, dated 1st September, 1915, cancelling that of 12th September, cancelling that of 20th July, 1914. Carting Trade, Southern Division, dated 22nd September, cancelling that of 24th October, 1913. Sugar Refiners, dated 27th September. Mechanical Engineers, South-Eastern Division, dated 2nd October.

South Australia.—Report of Chief Inspector of Factories, 1914. List of Wages Boards, epitome of determinations in force,

dated 2nd October.

South Australia.—Report of Chief Inspector of Factories, 1914. List of Wages Boards, epitome of determinations in force, accidents, working hours and overtime, &c.

New Zealand.—Journal of the Department of Labour, September, 1915. Condition of trade and employment as at 31st August, current retail prices, war increases, persons assisted to employment, co-operative works, accidents, &c. [Wellington: John Mackay, Government Printer.]

—Awards, Agreements and Decisions under the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act. Vol. XVI. 1915. Parts 4 and 5. [Wellington: John Mackay, Government Printer.]

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

INTERNATIONAL.—Bulletin de l'Office International du Travail,
Nos. 5-6, 1915. [Paris: Berger-Levrault.]. Bulletin of the
International Labour Office. Nos. 8-12 of 1914. Nos. 1 and 2
of 1915. [The Pioneer Press, Ltd., 3, New Road, Woolwich.]
—Monthly Bulletin of Economic and Social Intelligence,
November, 1915. International Institute of Agriculture.
[Rome.]

[Rome.]
—Bulletin of Agricultural and Commercial Statistics. October and November, 1915. International Institute of Agricul-

—Bulletin of Agricultural and Commercial Statistics. October and November, 1915. International Institute of Agriculture. [Rome.]
—International Co-operative Bulletin. October, 1915. International Co-operative Alliance. [London: H. J. May.]

UNITED STATES.—Monthly Review of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics. November, 1915. Unemployment in certain cities in the United States, minimum-wage legislation, conciliation work, immigration, &c. Department of Labour Bulletins, 1915. No. 167. April. Minimum wage legislation in the United States and foreign countries. No. 168, April. Wages and hours of labour in the iron and steel industry, 1907 to 1913. No. 169, May. Decisions of courts affecting labour. No. 173, July. Index numbers of wholesale prices in the United States and foreign countries. No. 174, September. Subject index of the publications of the United States Bureau of Labour up to 1st May. No. 178, August. Wages and hours of labour in the boot and shoe industry, 1907-1914. No. 179, October. Industrial poisons used in the rubber industry. [Washington Government Printing Office.]
—Massachusetts. Labour Bulletin. No. 109, July, 1915. Wages

ment Printing Office.]

—Massachusetts. Labour Bulletin. No. 109, July, 1915. Wages and hours of labour in the manufacture of paper products in Massachusetts. No. 110, August, 1915. Labour legislation in Massachusetts, 1915. No. 111, September, 1915. Labour bibliography, 1915. Report of Retail Store Board. Statement and Decree concerning the wages of women in retail stores in Massachusets. [Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Co., State Printers.]

—Minimum, Wage Commission, Rulletin, No. 7. The effect

—Minimum Wage Commission. Bulletin No. 7. The effect of the Minimum Wage Decree on the brush industry in Massachusetts. No. 9. Wages of women in women's clothing factories in Massachusetts.

tories in Massachusetts.

—New York. Bulletin of the New York State Industrial Commission. Vol. 1, No. 1, October, 1915. Directory of the Commission, the labour market, &c. No. 2, November, 1915. The labour market, &c.

—Michigan. Thirty-second Annual Report of the Department of Labour, 1915. Free employment offices, employed and unemployed, vocational training and guidance, factory inspection, &c. [Lancing: Wynkoop Hallenbeck Crawford Co., State Printers.]

—Pennsylvania. Monthly Bulletin of the Department of Labour and Industry. August, 1915. [Harrisburg: W. Stanley Ray, State Printer.]

Ray, State Printer.]

—Texas. Third Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics, 1913-1914. Wages, labour organisations, factory inspection, accidents, &c. [Austin: Von Boeckmann-Jones Co.]

—Bureau of the Census. (1) Indian Population in the United States and Alaska, 1910. (2) Bulletin 130: The Blind Popula-

tion of the United States, 1910. (3) Assessed Valuation of Property and Amounts and Rates of Levy, 1860-1912. (4) Municipal Revenues. Expenditures and Public Properties, 1913. [Washington: Government Printing Office.]

France.—Bulletin du Ministère du Travail et de la Prévoyance Sociale. July-August, 1915. Activity in French industrial and commercial establishments in July, labour disputes in July and August, cooperative societies on 1st January, 1915 (conclusion), economic indices for 1st quarter of 1915. [Paris: Berger-Levrault: price 2d.]

operative societies on 1st January, 1915 (conclusion), economic indices for 1st quarter of 1915. [Paris: Berger-Levrault: price 2d.]

Germany.—Reichs-Arbeitsblatt. October, 1915. Employment in September and unemployment in 3rd quarter, co-operative societies during the war. Imperial Statistical Office, Department of Labour Statistics. [Berlin: Carl Heymann: price 1d.]

Austria.—Soziale Rundschau. August-September, 1915. Statistics of Socialist and Christian trade unions in 1914, trade union unemployment April to July, work of labour exchanges in May and June. Ministry of Commerce, Department of Labour Statistics. [Vienna: A. Hölder: price 4d.]

ITALY.—Bollettino dell'Ufficio del Lavoro. July, 1915. (Monthly Series.) Unemployment funds established by trade unions and other bodies in Italy, retail prices at co-operative stores in June, recent labour disputes (detailed reports). Fortnightly Series. 1st November, 1915. Labour disputes and retail food prices in September. Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce. [Rome: Fratelli Treves.]

—Bollettino dell'Ispettorato dell'Industria e del Lavoro. July-August, 1915. Labour Department, Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce. [Rome: Fratelli Treves: price 3d.]

Halland —Magnetschrift, van het Centraal Bureau voor de

3d.]
HOLLAND.—Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek. 30th October, 1915. Employment, labour exchanges and labour disputes in September, wholesale and retail prices, maximum prices fixed by Minister of Industry, &c., August, 1914, to 1st October, 1915, wages and hours on public contracts. Central Statistical Bureau. [The Hague: Gebroeders Belinfante:

price 2d.]
—Statistisch Jaarboek der Gemeente Amsterdam. Jaargang,
1915 (1912-1913). Wholesale and retail prices, unemployment,
industrial accidents, wages of metal workers. Municipal Statistical Bureau. [Amsterdam: Johannes Müller: price 3s. 4d.]
—Verzameling van Verordeningen en Regelingen vastgesteld
door het Gemeentebestuur van Amsterdam betreffende Arbeidszaken. Municipal Labour Bureau of Amsterdam, 1915.
[Amsterdam.] price 2d.]
—Statistisch

[Amsterdam.]

—Jaarverslag van de Vereeniging "Centraal Bureau voor Sociale Adviezen." 1st Juli, 1913, tot 30 Juni, 1915.

[Amsterdam.]

DENMARK.—Statistiske Efterretninger. 30th October and 17th November, 1915. Unemployment in August, retail prices in September, trade unions in 1914. Statistical Department. [Copenhagen: Gyldendalske Boghandel-Nordisk Forlag: price

[Copenhagen: Gyldendaiske Bognander-Fordisk Forlag. Price 1½d.]

—Social Forsorg. October, 1915. Unemployment in July. Danish Workmen's Insurance Council and the Unemployment Inspector's Department. [Hellerup: V. L. Faber.]

Norway.—Husholdningsregnskaper for Handelsfunktionærer, m.v. Central Statistical Bureau. 1915. [Christiania: H. Aschehoug: price 7d.]

Sweden.—Sociala Meddelanden. No. 10, 1915. Bill on obligations in the price of the pric

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Sweden.—Sociala Meddelanden. No. 10, 1915. Bill on obligatory accident insurance, labour exchanges and retail food prices in September. Department for Social Affairs. [Stockholm: P. A. Norstedt & Söner: price 2d.]

—Registrerade Sjukkassor. 1911 och 1912. Vol. I-Text. In surance Deparatment. 1915. [Stockholm: K. L. Beckman.]

Spain.—Boletin del Instituto de Reformas Sociales. October, 1915. Labour disputes in September. retail food prices. Spanish Labour Department. [Madrid: D. V. Suárez: price 2½d.]

Russia (Finland).—Arbetsstatistisk Tidskrift. No. 5, 1915. Industrial accidents in 1913, labour exchanges in 2nd quarter, retail prices in 2nd quarter and for certain articles up to September. Department of Industry. [Helsingfors: Kejserliga Senatens Tryckeri.] tember. Department Senatens Tryckeri.] ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—Boletin del Departamento Nacional del Trabajo. 31st July, 1915. Conditions of life and labour in the Chaco and Formosa territories. National Department of Labour. [Buenos Aires: A. Espinasse: price 1s. 10d.]
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