

LABOUR GAZETTE

THE JOURNAL OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

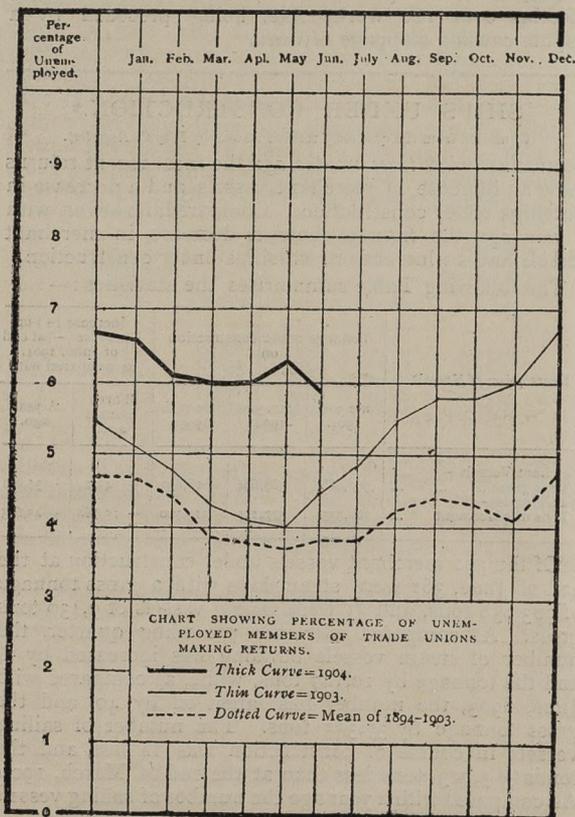
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JULY, 1904.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

EMPLOYMENT CHART.



STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN JUNE.

[Based on 4,680 returns, viz.: 3,219 from Employers, or their Associations, 1,370 from Trade Unions, and 91 from other sources.]

GENERALLY speaking, employment in June showed little change as compared with May. In the cotton trade less short time has been worked. As compared with a year ago employment still shows a decline.

In the 271 Trade Unions with an aggregate membership of 573,373 making returns, 34,066 (or 5.9 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of June, as compared with 6.3 per cent. in May, and 4.5 per cent. in June, 1903. The mean percentage of unemployed returned at the end of June during the ten years 1894-1903 was 3.8.

Employment in various Industries.—Coal Mining.—Employment in this industry during June showed little change compared with either a month or a year ago. At collieries employing 555,457 workpeople, the pits worked an average of 4.95 days per week, as compared with 5.09 in May. The number of workpeople employed at the pits respecting which returns have been received for both periods was 2.1 per cent. greater than a year ago.

Iron Mining.—Employment in this industry continued good. At the 129 mines and open works covered by the returns received from employers, the average number of days worked per week during the four weeks ended June 25th, was 5.90, as compared with 5.86 in May.

The number of workpeople employed was 1.3 per cent. less than a year ago.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment in this industry shows little change on the whole, as compared with a month ago, but continues worse than a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 112 ironmasters show that 305 furnaces were in blast at the end of June at works employing about 21,550 workpeople, as compared with 308 furnaces in May, and 321 in June, 1903.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Employment in the iron and steel trades showed little change as compared with the preceding month, but was not so good as a year ago. Returns furnished by employers and relating to 194 works, employing 73,906 workpeople, show the total volume of employment to have been 0.8 per cent. less than in the previous month and 2.9 per cent. less than in June, 1903.

Tinplate Manufacture.—Employment in the tinplate industry shows a decline as compared with May, but is better than a year ago. At the end of June 363 mills were working, as compared with 372 at the end of May and 351 a year ago. The estimated number of workpeople employed in June, 1904, was 18,200.

Engineering Trades.—Compared with the previous month employment on the whole is about the same. Generally it is dull, and worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members was 6.7 at the end of June, compared with 6.6 in May, and 3.9 in June, 1903.

Shipbuilding Trades.—Employment generally continues bad. It is very slightly better than a month ago, but is worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of June was 12.9, compared with 13.1 at the end of May and 9.4 per cent. at the end of June, 1903.

Building Trades.—Employment continues dull. Compared with a month ago it shows little change on the whole, but it is rather worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members among *Carpenters* and *Joiners* was 6.3 at the end of June, compared with 5.9 at the end of May and 3.4 a year ago. The percentage for *Plumbers* was 9.9 at the end of June, compared with 9.2 at the end of May and 7.6 a year ago.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment in these trades continued dull, and was about the same as a month ago, but worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of June was 5.5, as compared with 5.3 per cent. in May, and 3.1 per cent. a year ago.

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.—Employment in June continued slack. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of the month was 5.1, as compared with 5.6 in May, and 4.5 in June, 1903.

Employment in the **Papermaking** trade continued fair. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of June was 2.7, against 3.0 in May, and 2.8 in June, 1903.

Employment in the **Glass** trade continued moderate in the bottle-making branch, and slack on the whole in the flint-glass branch. In the **Pottery** trades, and in the **Brick and Tile** trades it was slack.

Cotton Trade.—Employment in both *spinning* and *weaving* has shown a considerable improvement. Returns from firms employing 47,900 workpeople in preparing

and spinning show that 42.7 per cent. were in mills working short time during the last week in June, compared with 56.1 per cent. during the last week in May and 38.5 per cent. in the last week in June, 1903. Of 89,800 workpeople in weaving and other departments 15.1 per cent. were in mills working short time during the last week in June, compared with 30.9 per cent. in May and 28.6 per cent. a year ago. The majority of the mills running short time worked 47½ hours, compared with 40 hours in the previous month.

Employment in the *Woollen* trade has been good on the whole; it is better than a year ago in England, but worse in Scotland. In the *Worsted* trade it shows some improvement, but it is still slack and is a little worse than a year ago.

Employment in the *Hosiery* trade continues bad, and is worse than a year ago. In the *Jute* and *Flax* trades it is moderate, and somewhat worse than a year ago.

Leather Trades.—Returns relating to these trades indicate that there is no improvement in the state of employment, which, generally, remains bad, and is worse than a month and a year ago, with much short time. The percentage of Trade Union members reported as unemployed at the end of June was 10.2, as compared with 9.5 at the end of May, and 6.0 in June, 1903.

Boot and Shoe Trade.—Employment continues bad. Returns from 633 firms, employing 76,652 workpeople, show, however an increase of 2.2 per cent. in numbers employed at the end of the month compared with a month ago (when the numbers were affected by the Whitsuntide holidays), but a decrease of 1.6 per cent. on the number employed at the end of June, 1903.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the *Tailoring* trade has been dull in London and worse than a year ago; it has been fair on the whole in the provinces. In the ready-made branch employment has been bad and worse than a year ago.

Employment in the silk and felt *Hat-making* trades is quiet. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of June was 3.4, as compared with 2.9 at the end of May and a year ago.

Agricultural Labourers were well employed during June. Day labourers were generally in full work, and with the commencement of the hay season the supply of extra men became insufficient in several districts.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—Employment during June remained moderate, showing little change as compared with a year ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves in London during the four weeks ended June 25th was 12,242, a decrease of 6.5 per cent. on the average for May, and of 1.1 per cent. on the average for June, 1903. The average daily number employed in June during the seven years 1897-1903 was 14,251.

Trade Disputes.—The total number of workpeople involved in disputes which began or were in progress during June, 1904, was 6,792, compared with 6,077 in May 1904, and 12,314 in June, 1903.

The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old, amounted to 81,300 working days, as compared with 73,300 in the previous month and 175,000 in the corresponding month of 1903.

Sixteen disputes began in June, involving 4,731 workpeople, compared with 22 in May, 1904, and 17 in June, 1903.

Definite results were reported during the month in the case of 17 disputes, new and old, affecting 2,405 workpeople. Of these disputes, two, involving 121 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; seven, involving 309 persons, were decided in favour of the employers; and eight, involving 1,975 persons, were compromised. In the case of two other disputes, terminating during the month, and involving 621 persons, certain points are still under consideration.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes in rates of wages reported during June affected nearly 14,700 workpeople, of whom nearly 7,700 received advances and

over 7,000 sustained decreases. The net effect of all the changes was a decrease of about £160 per week. The changes of the previous month affected about 113,900 workpeople, the net result being a decrease of about £2,800 per week. During June, 1903, the number affected was about 116,500, and the net result a decrease of about £6,500 per week.

The principal changes reported were increases affecting 6,850 blastfurnacemen in Cleveland and Durham, and in West Cumberland, and decreases affecting 1,250 blastfurnacemen and 5,000 iron and steel workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire. Six changes, affecting nearly 13,900 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. The remainder, affecting about 800 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, one of these changes, affecting over 100 workpeople, being preceded by a dispute causing stoppage of work.

SHIPS UNDER CONSTRUCTION.*

(Compiled from the quarterly returns issued by Lloyd's Register).

COMPARED with three months ago the most recent returns show an increase in merchant vessels and a decrease in warships under construction. Compared, however, with a year ago the figures show a decrease in merchant vessels and an increase in warships under construction.

The following Table summarises the statistics:—

Description of Vessels.	Tonnage under construction on			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) at end of June, 1904, as compared with	
	June 30th, 1904.	Mar. 31st, 1904.	June 30th, 1903.	Three months ago.	A year ago.
Merchant Vessels—					
Tons gross...	993,088	988,664	1,028,099	+ 4,424	- 35,011
War Vessels—					
Tons displacement ...	361,335	377,115	319,700	- 15,780	+ 41,635

Of the 392 merchant vessels under construction at the end of June, 361 were steamships with a gross tonnage of 983,658 tons, and 31 were sailing vessels of 9,430 tons gross. As compared with the preceding quarter, the number of steam vessels building has increased by 8, and the tonnage by 10,147 tons, while, as compared with June, 1903, the number has fallen off by 40, and the gross tonnage by 37,353 tons. The number of sailing vessels in course of construction was 14 less, and the tonnage 5,723 tons less than at the end of March, 1904. As compared with a year ago the number of sailing vessels was 6 more, while the tonnage was 2,342 tons more.

The following Table shows the gross tonnage of vessels, other than warships, under construction in each of the principal shipbuilding districts. The figures include nearly 97 per cent. of the total mercantile tonnage under construction:—

District.	Tonnage under construction on			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) at end of June, 1904, as compared with	
	June 30th, 1904.	Mar. 31st, 1904.	June 30th, 1903.	Three months ago.	A year ago.
Clyde ...	304,208	294,104	312,167	+ 10,104	- 7,959
Belfast...	168,660	193,633	195,648	- 24,973	- 26,988
Tyne ...	174,866	186,006	180,783	- 11,740	- 5,317
Wear ...	157,865	121,936	124,066	+ 35,929	+ 33,799
Hartlepool and Whitby ...	54,135	58,520	71,771	- 4,385	- 17,636
Middlesbro' and Stockton	84,535	69,455	69,914	+ 15,080	+ 14,621
Barrow, Maryport and Workington	18,050	33,420	28,840	- 14,770	- 10,190

It will be seen that an improvement is shown on the Wear, and in the Middlesbrough and Stockton district, while on the Clyde there is an increase as compared with the preceding quarter, but a decrease as compared with a year ago. The other four districts included in the Table show a decline, and the tonnage under construction is lower than a year ago.

* By "tonnage under construction" is meant the aggregate tonnage of the vessels when completed. As at any given time the ships are at various stages of completion, the "tonnage under construction" is not an exact measure of the work done or remaining to be done.

STRIKES AND LOCK-OUTS AND CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION BOARDS IN 1903.

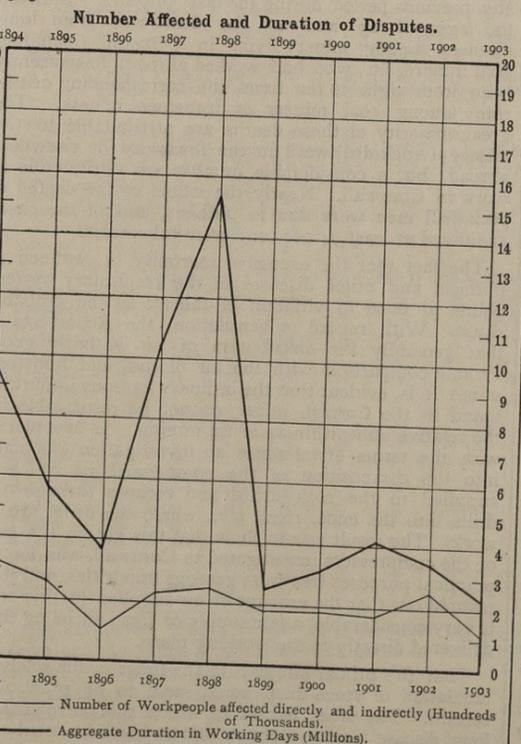
THE Sixteenth Annual Report on Strikes and Lock-outs and on Conciliation and Arbitration Boards* has recently been issued.

The year 1903 was, on the whole, comparatively free from industrial stoppages. For some years past the number of disputes has been steadily decreasing, and in 1903 there were only 387, the average for the five years, 1898-1902, being 632, and for the five years, 1893-1897, being 816.

The number of persons affected and the aggregate number of working days lost in 1903 were less than in any year for which figures have been recorded. The 387 disputes involved a total of 116,901 workpeople, and the aggregate duration of all disputes in progress during the year was 2,338,668 working days. The number of workpeople involved was about 1 per cent. of the industrial population of the United Kingdom, exclusive of agricultural labourers and seamen; and the amount of working time lost, if spread over the whole industrial population, amounted to less than one-fourth of a day per head during the year. The following Table summarises the figures for the five years 1899-1903:—

Year.	No. of Disputes beginning in each year.	No. of Workpeople affected by Disputes beginning in each year.			Aggregate duration in Working Days of all disputes in each year.†
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.	
1899 ...	719	138,058	42,159	180,217	2,516,416
1900 ...	648	135,145	53,393	188,538	3,152,694
1901 ...	642	111,437	68,109	179,546	4,142,287
1902 ...	412	116,824	139,843	256,667	3,479,255
1903 ...	387	93,515	23,386	116,901	2,338,668

The five years shown were free from large general disputes such as occurred in some of the earlier years not included in the Table. The greater amount of industrial disturbance in some of those years is shown in the following chart, which covers the ten years 1894-1903.



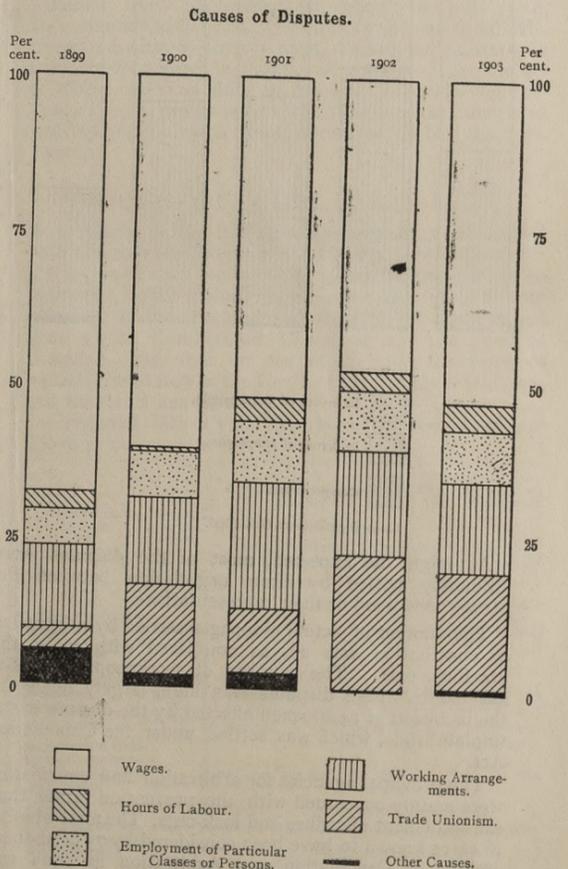
With reference to the chart, it may be mentioned that in 1894 there was a general dispute in the

*Cd. 2112. Eyre & Spottiswoode, Price 7d.
† Including time lost by workpeople indirectly affected.

Scottish coal mining industry, 1897 was the year of the engineering dispute, and 1898 of the Welsh coal miners' dispute.

Mining and quarrying, though less affected by disputes in 1903 than was the case in the preceding year, accounted for about a third of the total number of disputes, for more than half the workpeople affected, and for nearly three-fifths of the total working time lost through disputes. The dispute figures for engineering and shipbuilding, and tinplate manufacture, respectively, were higher than in any of the four years preceding, owing to a dispute affecting 5,000 engineers in the Clyde district, and the general dispute in the tinplate trade affecting 14,000 men. In the building and textile trades the number of persons involved and the aggregate duration, which have steadily diminished in recent years, reached a very low level.

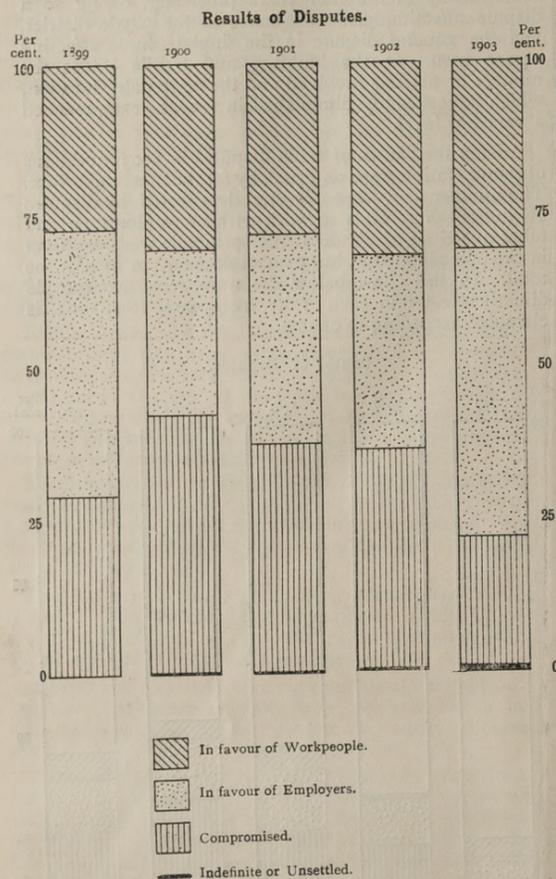
Among the causes of trade disputes in 1903, questions of remuneration were, as usual, by far the most important. The number of workpeople directly affected by disputes arising out of refusals to work with non-union men and other questions of Trade Union principle was less than in the preceding year, but comprised nearly a fifth of the total. In the chart below the number of workpeople directly affected in each of the five years, 1899-1903, is classified according to causes.



The results of the disputes of the year were, on the whole, distinctly in favour of the employers. Of the workpeople engaged in disputes as to wages only about 8 per cent. were entirely successful, while 71 per cent. were entirely unsuccessful, and compromises were arranged by 20 per cent. On the questions of hours of labour and working arrangements the balance of results was in favour of the workpeople, but disputes on the former point mainly resulted in compromises. On questions of trade unionism nearly the whole of the workpeople directly affected were successful.

Taking all disputes of the year without distinction of cause, it is found that the proportion of workpeople who were entirely successful was nearly 31 per cent. If, however, disputes between different classes of workpeople (e.g., between unionists and non-unionists) were excluded and the calculation confined to disputes solely between employers and employed, the proportion of successful workpeople would be materially lower.

In the following chart the results of all disputes are shown for each of the years 1899-1903:—



As might be expected, most of the disputes were ultimately settled by direct negotiation between the parties concerned or their representatives.

The number of actual stoppages settled by arbitration or conciliation was 26, as compared with 29 in the previous year. The number of workpeople (21,768) affected by these disputes was high, largely owing to the inclusion of 14,000 men affected by the dispute in the tinplate trade, which was settled under the Conciliation Act.

The principal agencies for arbitration and conciliation were mainly concerned with the prevention rather than the settlement of strikes and lock-outs. The total number of cases known to have been considered by 73 permanent Boards of Conciliation and Arbitration in 1903 was 1,633, as compared with 1,462 cases considered by 67 Boards in the previous year. Of the 1633 cases considered in the year under review, 785 were reported to have been withdrawn, referred back, or settled independently of the Boards, and 60 as still under consideration at the end of the year. The remaining 788 cases were settled, 506 by the Boards or Committees, and 282 by arbitrators or umpires appointed by them.

The cases varied very greatly in importance, and very few involved a stoppage of work. Thus the 372 cases settled by the Durham Joint Committees in the coal trade affected in most instances very few workpeople. On

the other hand, one case determined by the Conciliation Board for the coal trade of the Federated Districts of England and Wales affected 270,000 workpeople, and the changes in wages arranged by the Coal Trade Boards in Durham and South Wales affected 107,500 and 150,000 persons respectively.

The mining and quarrying group accounts for the great bulk of the cases, and most of the remainder were in the metal and clothing trades. The Northumberland and Durham Joint Committees in the coal trade contributed between them 441 cases, or rather more than half of the total settled; many of the cases relate to the adjustment of prices for particular work affecting only a very few men. The Boards in the engineering and ship-building trades settled 76 cases, the majority of these cases relating to the demarcation of work between different trades in this group. Nine permanent Boards dealing with questions of this nature are in existence. In the boot and shoe trade 59 cases were disposed of by Boards of Conciliation and Arbitration.

ROCK-DRILLS AND LUNG DISEASE.

It is stated in a Report recently issued* that the death rate among miners living in Cornwall, which has always been very high in the case of men over 40, has very greatly increased during the last few years among men of from 25 to 45 years of age. It is shown that the high death-rate is due entirely to lung diseases, and the recent increase is shown to be due to deaths of men who have worked rock-drills. The Report states that the predisposing cause of the present excessive mortality among metalliferous miners from lung diseases is evidently the inhalation of stone dust produced in the drilling of dry holes by rock-drills, in blasting, in handling the ore, and in other ways. Owing to the enormous increase during the last few years in the death-rate from lung diseases, particularly among younger men from about 25 to 45, the total death-rate at all ages from 25 to 55 is now far greater than at any previous period during the last 50 years. Between the ages of 25 and 45 the death-rate from lung diseases among miners living in Cornwall (including gold miners, &c., who had worked abroad) has recently been from eight to ten times the corresponding death-rate among coal miners or ironstone miners. The great majority of these deaths are attributable to the effects of rock-drill work in the Transvaal or elsewhere abroad; but a considerable number are attributable to work in Cornwall. Nearly the whole of the deaths of rock-drill men were due to phthisis, and of the cases examined at least 74 per cent. were tubercular.

The fact that the excessive mortality is confined to phthisis and other diseases of the respiratory system points at once to vitiation of the air as the probable cause. With regard to ventilation, the Report states that generally the distribution of air is fairly good. From a comparison with the air of coal and ironstone mines it is evident that the ordinary gaseous impurities found in the Cornish mines cannot be responsible for the relative unhealthiness of tin mining. In accordance with the terms of reference an investigation was made into the composition of the compressed air which is supplied to the rock drills, and escapes through the drills into the ends, rises, etc., where the drills are at work. The result was to show that this air, in the case of the compressors investigated in Cornwall, was for all practical purposes free from gaseous impurities, and it is pointed out that the amount of air supplied in this way is very considerable, a fair supply of fresh air being thus delivered directly to the working place.

That the primary injury to the lungs is due solely to inhalation of stone-dust would seem to be practically certain. The other causes to which the prevalence of lung disease among Cornish miners has been attributed do not explain the facts, while the stone-dust theory receives the strongest confirmation from the fact that the machine-drill men, who are far more exposed to dust

*Health of Cornish Miners. Cd. 2091. Eyre & Spottiswoode. Price 1s. 2d.

than any other class of miner, are also far more liable to lung disease. The stone-dust theory also receives the strongest support from what is known as to the prevalence of lung disease in other occupations, where men are similarly exposed (lead miners, quarrymen, potters, etc.).

The Report states that the dust produced by rock drills can easily be prevented by even a very small water jet. The dust from blasting in close ends can be laid by a powerful jet of water and air; and can in any case be avoided by the men. The inhalation of dust produced in blasting on the "stopes" can also to a large extent be avoided; while the dust produced in handling the ore can be mostly prevented by keeping the workings damp. It is recommended (1) that the use of percussion rock drills in hard stone without satisfactory precautions for preventing the dust being inhaled by the men be prohibited in all mines; (2) that special rules be established under the Metalliferous Mines Regulation Act by the management of every metalliferous mine in order to reduce to a minimum the inhalation of dust by the various classes of men employed.

PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.

I.—BREAD.

The returns as to the price of bread, furnished by the Local Correspondents of the Department, relate to London and 25 large Provincial Towns at the beginning of July, and of each of the twelve preceding months. Though it is not possible to state that the quality of bread referred to is in all cases the same, the figures for each place are believed to be, generally speaking, comparable over the whole period. Other qualities of bread are sold at both higher and lower prices than those quoted in the Table below. The prices selected represent, so far as can be ascertained, the prevailing prices paid at the various places by workpeople for 4 lbs. of ordinary bread of average quality.

Place.	1903.						Present Price, 1st July, 1904.
	1st July.	1st Aug.	1st Sept.	1st Oct.	1st Dec.*	1st March.*	
London ...	d. 4 1/2 & 5	d. 4 1/2 & 5	d. 5 & 5 1/2	d. 4 1/2 & 5			
Birmingham ...	4 1/2 & 5 1/2	4 1/2 & 5 1/2	5 & 6	5 & 6	5 & 6	5 & 6	5 & 6
Bolton ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Bristol ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Derby ...	4 1/2 & 5	4 1/2 & 5	4 1/2 & 5	4 1/2 & 5	4 1/2 & 5	4 1/2 & 5	4 1/2 & 5
Gateshead ...	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Huddersfield ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Hull ...	4 to 5	4 to 5	4 to 5	4 to 5	4 to 5	4 1/2 & 5 1/2	4 1/2 to 5 1/2
Ipswich ...	5	5	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Leicester ...	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Liverpool ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Manchester ...	4	4	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4
Middlesbrough ...	5 1/2	5 1/2	6	6	6	6	6
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Norwich ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Nottingham ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Oldham ...	4	4	4	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Plymouth ...	5	4 1/2	5	5	5	5	5
Potteries ...	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4
Wolverhampton ...	5	5	5 1/2	5 1/2	5	5 1/2	5
Aberdeen ...	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Dundee ...	5 1/2	5 1/2	6	6	6	6	6
Edinburgh ...	5 1/2	5 1/2	6	6	6	6	6
Glasgow ...	5	5	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Belfast ...	5	5	5	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Dublin ...	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6	5 1/2

As compared with a month ago, the price per 4 lbs. remained the same at all the towns given in the Table, except at London, Hull, and Manchester. In London there has been a considerable reduction in the number of shops selling at 5d. per 4 lbs; in Manchester the price has been reduced 1/2d.; and in Hull there has been a reduction of 1/2d. at some of the shops selling the higher priced bread.

* No change was recorded in any of the towns at 2nd November, 1903, or at 1st January, 1st February, 1st April, and 2nd May, 1904, except at Wolverhampton, where the price per 4 lbs. was reduced 1/2d. (5 1/2d. to 5d.) at 2nd November, 1903, and at Dublin, where the price was reduced 1/2d. at 1st April, 1904.

II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

The Table below gives the mean London Gazette price of British wheat, and the average declared value of the wheat and flour imports, for each of the months January, 1903, to June, 1904:—

Month.	British Wheat.		Imports.	
	Mean London Gazette Price.	Average Declared Value.	Wheat.	Wheat-meal and Flour.
	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.
January ... 1903.	5 10	6 8 1/2	6 11	9 2 1/2
February ...	5 10 1/2	6 11 1/2	6 11 1/2	9 2 1/2
March ...	5 10 1/2	6 11 1/2	6 11 1/2	9 2 1/2
April ...	6 0 1/2	6 8 1/2	6 8 1/2	9 2 1/2
May ...	6 5 1/2	6 9 1/2	6 9 1/2	9 3 1/2
June ...	6 5	6 9 1/2	6 9 1/2	9 3 1/2
July ...	6 1 1/2	6 10 1/2	6 10 1/2	9 4 1/2
August ...	6 1 1/2	6 10 1/2	6 10 1/2	9 4 1/2
September ...	6 6	6 9 1/2	6 9 1/2	9 4 1/2
October ...	6 0 1/2	6 9 1/2	6 9 1/2	9 4 1/2
November ...	6 2 1/2	6 9 1/2	6 9 1/2	9 4 1/2
December ...	6 2 1/2	6 8 1/2	6 8 1/2	9 4 1/2
January ... 1904.	6 3 1/2	6 9 1/2	6 9 1/2	9 5 1/2
February ...	6 3 1/2	6 10 1/2	6 10 1/2	9 5 1/2
March ...	6 7 1/2	7 1	7 1	10 1 1/2
April ...	6 5 1/2	6 11 1/2	6 11 1/2	9 11
May ...	6 3 1/2	6 10 1/2	6 10 1/2	9 5 1/2
June ...	6 2 1/2	6 10	6 10	9 7 1/2

The imports of wheat from foreign countries and the Colonies from September 1st, 1903, to June 30th, 1904, amounted to 77,015,600 cwts. (17,970,306 quarters), compared with 67,202,175 cwts. (15,680,508 quarters) in the corresponding ten months of 1902-3. The imports of wheat-meal and flour in the ten months September-June, 1903-4, amounted to 17,298,818 cwts., compared with 15,980,460 cwts. from September 1st to June 30th, 1902-3.

PRICES OF COAL AND IRON.

The results of the latest ascertainment of the selling prices of coal and iron are given in the Table below.

Compared with the previous ascertainment it will be seen that, while little change has taken place in the price of Northumberland coal, the price of pig iron has gone up in Cumberland, Cleveland, and the West of Scotland, and that on the other hand the price of manufactured iron in the North of England, the Midlands and Scotland has fallen.

Compared with a year ago there has been a general fall in prices.

Product and District.	Period covered by last Audit.	Ascertained average selling price per ton.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) of last Audit as compared with	
		Last Audit.*	Previous Audit.	A Year ago.	Previous Audit.	A Year ago.
Coal.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Northumberland:— (Average for all classes of coal at pit's mouth)	Mar.-May	6 4'00	6 4'45	7 0'64	- 0 0'45	- 0 8'64
Pig Iron.						
Cumberland ...	Apr.-June	53 11'44	53 1'71	58 3'56	+ 0 9'73	- 4 4'12
Cleveland ...	Apr.-June	43 1'19	42 3'30	48 4'74	+ 0 9'22	- 5 3'55
West of Scotland ...	Apr.-June	51 10'50	49 5'00	53 10'60	+ 2 5'50	- 2 0'10
Manufact'd Iron. (Rails, plates, bars, and angles)						
North of England:— (Rails, plates, bars, and angles)	Mar.-Apr.	119 10'16	120 6'17	123 4'71	- 0 8'01	- 3 6'55
Midlands:— (Bars, angles, tees, hoops, sheets, plates, and strips, &c.)	Mar.-Apr.	128 5'51	130 2'96	137 4'35	- 1 9'45	- 8 10'84
West of Scotland:— (Rounds, squares, flats, angles, tees, hoops, and rods)	Mar.-Apr.	116 2'11	117 1'81	125 1'70	- 0 11'70	- 8 11'59

Changes in wages resulting from the recent ascertainment have taken place in Cumberland and Cleveland, where the wages of blastfurnacemen have been increased by 1 per cent. on "standard." For further particulars regarding these changes see p. 220.

* Under the various sliding scale agreements, changes in wages, if any, resulting from these audits take place in the pig iron industry immediately after the period to which the audit relates, while in the manufactured iron trades they follow one month later. In Northumberland there is no sliding scale, but the ascertainment are taken into consideration by the Coal Trade Conciliation Board when determining the rate of wages of the miners.

MINES AND QUARRIES IN 1903.

A REPORT* recently issued by the Home Office gives statistics of the persons employed, output, and accidents at mines and quarries in the United Kingdom, arranged according to the Inspection Districts.

In 1903 the total number of persons employed in the United Kingdom at all mines and at quarries more than 20 feet deep was 970,044, an increase of 17,333, or 1·8 per cent., on the previous year. At mines under the Coal Mines Act the increase was 17,275 persons (2·1 per cent.), at mines under the Metalliferous Mines Act there was a decrease of 989 (3·2 per cent.), and at quarries under the Quarries Act an increase of 1,047 (1·1 per cent.).

The following Table shows the distribution of the numbers employed in 1903 and 1902:—

Class of Mine or Quarry.	Employed under-ground or inside Quarries.	Employed above ground or outside Quarries.	Total in 1903.	Total in 1902.
Under Coal Mines Act...	676,746	165,320	842,066	824,791
" Metalliferous Mines Act	17,571	12,252	29,823	30,812
" Quarries Act ...	62,921	35,234	98,155	97,108
Total in 1903 ...	757,238	212,806	970,044	—
<i>Total in 1902</i> ...	<i>743,865</i>	<i>209,846</i>	—	<i>952,711</i>

The numbers of females included in the surface workers were 5,380 (or 3·2 per cent.) at coal mines, and 268 (or 2·2 per cent.) at metalliferous mines. Of the underground workers at coal mines 45,234 (or 6·7 per cent.) were boys under 16.

The numbers employed at coal mines increased in every district, except Stafford and Ireland, where slight decreases took place.

The total output of coal during the year was 230,334,469 tons, an increase of 3,239,427 tons (or 1·4 per cent.) on the previous year. This figure includes over 10,000 tons obtained from open quarries, an amount, however, which does not appreciably affect the percentage increase. Taking mines under the Coal Mines Act it is seen that while the numbers employed underground increased by 2·1 per cent., the output of coal increased by 1·4 per cent. The fall in the average output amounted to rather more than 2 tons per person, the output per person employed underground being 340·4 tons in 1903, as compared with 342·6 tons in 1902.

The increase in the total output of coal was greatest in the Newcastle Inspection District, where it was 1,103,008 tons, or 4·4 per cent. The next highest percentage increases were in the East of Scotland and Southern Districts. The Inspection Districts showing a decrease of output were Stafford, Midland, Liverpool and North Wales, and Ireland.

Including minerals other than coal, the average output of mineral at mines under the Coal Mines Act was 359 tons per person employed underground, a decrease of 3 tons per man as compared with the average output in 1902. The output per person underground was 440 tons in the East of Scotland, 439 tons in the Durham district, and 422 tons in the West of Scotland. In the remaining districts it ranged from 368 tons in the Newcastle district to 294 tons in the Southern district, except in Ireland, where it was 186 tons.

The total output of iron ore was 13,715,645 tons, an increase of 289,641 tons, or 2·2 per cent., over 1902. As regards certain other minerals, the total output in tons was as follows:—oil shale, 2,009,602; clays and shale, 16,198,021; chalk, 4,469,974; limestone (other than chalk), 12,222,971; sandstone, 5,409,502; igneous rocks, 5,425,538; slate, 531,612; gravel and sand, 2,245,757; salt from brine, 1,719,223.

At coal mines in 1903, there were 1,036 separate fatal accidents, causing 1,072 deaths, an increase of 117 accidents and 48 deaths as compared with 1902. At metalliferous mines there were 25 deaths from accidents (a decrease of 4), and at quarries 95 deaths (a decrease of 24).

* Mines and Quarries: General Report and Statistics for 1903. Part I.—District Statistics. Cd. 2115. Eyre and Spottiswoode. Price 6d.

Of the 1,072 deaths at coal mines 917 were underground, and of these 567 were due to falls of ground, 69 to shaft accidents, 14 to explosions of firedamp or coal dust, 176 to haulage accidents, and the remainder to various other causes. Of the 155 deaths on the surface 81 were due to accidents on railways, sidings, or tramways.

The accident death-rate at mines under the Coal Mines Act in 1903 was 1·35 per 1,000 persons employed underground. The average rate for the preceding ten years (1893-1902) was 1·52; for the ten years 1883-1892 it was 2·01; and for the ten years 1873-1882 it was 2·57. These figures show a satisfactory decline in death rates.

At metalliferous mines the death-rate of the underground workers was 1·20 per 1,000, and at quarries, for workers inside the excavations, 1·34 per 1,000.

CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETIES.

Quarterly Returns of Sales.

Returns received from the four Co-operative Wholesale Societies in the United Kingdom for the first quarter of 1904 show total sales in their distributive departments amounting to £6,271,645, as compared with £6,099,028 in the corresponding period of 1903, an increase of £172,617, or 2·8 per cent., while compared with five years ago (*i.e.*, the corresponding quarter of the year 1899) the sales show an increase of 45·0 per cent.

The sales and transfers from the manufacturing to the distributive departments of the English and Scottish Wholesale Societies amounted to £1,318,017, as compared with £1,242,393 in the first quarter of 1903, an increase of £75,624, or 6·1 per cent., while compared with the corresponding quarter of 1899 an increase of 69·3 per cent. is shown.

The following Table shows separately the particulars returned by each Federation for the first quarter of 1904, together with the figures for the corresponding quarters of 1903 and 1899:—

Name of Societies and Nature of Business.	Sales.				
	In 1st quarter of			Percentage increase of 1904 as compared with	
	1904.	1903.	1899.	A year ago.	Five years ago.
ENGLISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY:—					
Distributive Departments ...	£ 4,644,798	£ 4,558,024	£ 3,131,585	1·9	48·3
Manufacturing " ...	856,323*	812,981*	446,018*	5·3	92·0
SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY:—					
Distributive Departments ...	1,578,437	1,497,579	1,167,024	5·4	35·2
Manufacturing " ...	461,694*	429,412*	332,366*	7·5	38·9
IRISH WHOLESALE SOCIETIES:—					
IRISH AGENCY—Distributive Departments†	14,037	14,863	12,457	5·6†	12·7
AGRICULTURAL WHOLESALE SOCIETY					
Distributive Departments ...	34,373	28,562	14,865	20·3	131·2
Totals—Distributive Depts. ...	6,271,645	6,099,028	4,325,931	2·8	45·0
" Manufacturing " ...	1,318,017	1,242,393	778,384	6·1	69·3
Grand Total ...	7,589,662	7,341,421	5,104,315	3·4	48·7

NOTE.—The English and Scottish Wholesale Societies are federations of co-operative societies engaged mainly in retail distribution, the English Society consisting of 1,147 societies, with an aggregate membership of 1,446,587, and the Scottish Society of 278 societies, with an aggregate membership of 308,234. The Irish Wholesale Society is a federation of 28 agricultural distributive societies with a membership of 3,406. The Irish Agency Society is a federation of dairying societies for marketing their produce, but has not supplied particulars as to its membership.

NEW BRUNSWICK LABOUR BUREAU.

IN April, 1904, an Act was passed by the New Brunswick Legislative Assembly to create a Bureau of Labour, the object of which will be "to collect, assort and systematize and publish information and statistics relating to employment, wages and hours of labour throughout the Province, co-operation, strikes, or other labour

* Sales and transfers from productive to distributive departments.

† Figures for butter-making not available.

‡ Decrease.

difficulties, trades unions, labour organizations, the relation between labour and capital, and other subjects of interest to working men and working women, with such information relating to the commercial, industrial, and sanitary condition of working men and working women, and the permanent prosperity of the industries of the Province as the Bureau may be able to gather."

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

THE following are among the more interesting legal cases reported in June, especially affecting labour. The accounts are based principally upon reports appearing in newspapers:—

(1) Workmen's Compensation Acts.

WHAT IS "SERIOUS AND WILFUL MISCONDUCT"? : DISOBEDIENCE TO RULE UNDER COAL MINES REGULATION ACT.

Compensation is not payable under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, if it is proved that the injury to a workman is attributable to the serious and wilful misconduct of that workman.

A man was employed by a colliery company as a driver and botmer. On June 10th, 1903, he drove a loaded hutch to a gate which fenced a seam from the shaft. He then unyoked the pony from the hutch and opened the gate, without signalling for the cage to be brought to the gate. The cage was not at the gate, but at another seam 20 fathoms deeper; the man, nevertheless, without ascertaining the position of the cage, pushed the hutch through the gate so that it fell down the shaft. He was drawn after it, and so badly injured that he died the next day. In opening the gate without signalling for the cage the man had broken a rule under the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1887. His father, who was partially dependent upon the deceased man, claimed compensation under the Act. The Sheriff-Substitute found that the deceased had contravened the rule, but was not guilty of serious and wilful misconduct, and awarded the claimant £60 compensation.

On appeal by the company, the Court of Session held that the contravention of the rule was serious and wilful misconduct, and that, therefore, the Sheriff-Substitute was wrong, and the father of the deceased was not entitled to compensation.—*M'Ghie v. United Collieries, (Ltd.), Court of Session, June 7th, 1904.*

"WHO IS A 'DEPENDANT'": WIFE SEPARATED FROM HUSBAND.

Where death results from an injury to a workman from an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, his "dependants" are entitled to compensation. To come under the description of a dependant, a person must have been wholly or in part dependent upon the earnings of the workman at the time of his death.

A man in the employment of a colliery company, married in the year 1889. A few months after the marriage, the husband and wife separated by mutual consent, and never afterwards lived together. The man after the separation lived with his four children by a previous marriage. His wife lived with illegitimate children she had had before her marriage by two different men. After the separation the husband never subscribed to the wife's support. They had only met upon three occasions, casually, and on each occasion the husband had given the wife 5s. The wife supported herself by laundry work, and by keeping house for one of her illegitimate sons. In September, 1903, the man died from the effects of an accident in the colliery.

His widow claimed compensation under the Act. At the time of her husband's death she was physically incapable of supporting herself, and was maintained in the house of one of her sons. Her claim for compensation came before the Sheriff, and the only question in dispute was whether the claimant was, as she alleged, wholly dependent upon the earnings of the deceased at the time of his death. The Sheriff decided that she was wholly dependent, and awarded her compensation on that basis. The colliery company appealed.

The Court of Session held that whether a person is or is not a dependant within the meaning of the Act is a question of fact. Here the woman was not being supported by the deceased, nor was she to any extent relying upon him for support. Therefore she was not in fact dependent upon him, and therefore she was not dependent upon his earnings within the meaning of the Act. The Sheriff therefore was wrong, and the claimant was not entitled to compensation.—*Gillies or Whitefield v. Turners (Ltd.), Court of Session, June 17th, 1904.*

FAILURE TO SUBMIT TO EXAMINATION BY MEDICAL REFEREE: SUSPENSION OF RIGHT TO COMPENSATION.

It is provided by the Act that a workman receiving weekly payments by way of compensation under the Act, shall, if so required by his employer, from time to time submit himself for examination by a medical practitioner provided and paid by the employer; but if the workman objects to an examination by that practitioner, or is dissatisfied by the certificate of that practitioner upon his condition when communicated to him, he may submit himself for examination to one of the medical referees appointed by the Home Secretary for the purposes of the Act, and the certificate of such medical referee as to the condition of the workman at the time of the examination shall be given to the employer and workman, and shall be conclusive evidence of that condition. If the workman refuses to submit himself to such examination, his right to such weekly payments is suspended until such examination has taken place.

A miner in the employment of a colliery company sustained an injury to his right eye on March 4th, 1902. The company by

agreement paid him compensation at the rate of 13s. 3d. a week. On February 21st, 1903, at the request of the company the man submitted himself for examination to a medical man provided and paid by the company. This medical man expressed his opinion that the man's left eye was perfect for work as a miner, and that his right eye might be regarded as permanently useless. This opinion he embodied in a certificate which was duly communicated to the man. The man was dissatisfied with this certificate, but did not submit himself for examination to one of the medical referees. On February 25th, 1903, the company ceased to pay any compensation. On June 4th, 1903, the man took proceedings to obtain an award of compensation. The company contended that the refusal of the workman to submit himself for examination to one of the medical referees suspended his right to compensation. The Sheriff-Substitute wished to make an award in the man's favour, but considered that the contention of the company was supported by the decisions of the Superior Courts. He accordingly refused to make an award.

The injured man appealed to the Court of Session. There had been inconsistent decisions by the Scotch Courts; but the First Division of the Court of Session now decided that the provision of the Act as to going before a medical referee was permissive, not obligatory, and that no penalty was incurred by not submitting to examination by such medical referee. The Court were willing to follow the English Court of Appeal in this decision. The appeal was therefore allowed, and it was held that the appellant's right to compensation was not suspended by reason of his failure to submit himself for examination to a medical referee.—*Stranigan v. William Baird & Co. (Ltd.), Court of Session, June 7th, 1904.*

WORKMAN IN AGRICULTURE: STEAM THRESHING MACHINE.

The benefits of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, are extended to workmen in agriculture by the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1900. It is also provided by the latter Act that where a contractor provides and uses machinery driven by mechanical power for the purpose of threshing, ploughing, or other agricultural work, the contractor, and he alone, is liable to pay compensation to any workman employed by him on such work.

The owner of a steam threshing machine, in the course of his business, threshed corn for various farmers by contract, sending his machine in charge of his own men from farm to farm. A contract at one farm had been completed on April 23rd, 1903, and two men were ordered by the owner to take the machine to another farm to perform there a similar contract to thresh corn. The threshing machine was taken along the high road, drawn by a steam traction engine, and in charge of two men, one of whom drove the engine while the other steered it. On the road, after a short stop, the steerer, in attempting to get upon the engine again after it had been restarted, fell, and was run over by the machine and very seriously injured. The injured man claimed compensation, and the only question was whether at the time of the accident he was engaged in work included under the term "agriculture." The Sheriff decided this question in favour of the injured man, and awarded him compensation.

On appeal the Court of Session upheld the decision of the Sheriff.—*Cumisky v. Proctor, Court of Session, June 21st, 1904.*

(2) Trade Union Acts.

ENFORCING RULES OF TRADE UNION: JURISDICTION OF COURT.

It is provided by the Trade Union Act, 1871, that nothing in the Act shall enable any Court to entertain any legal proceeding instituted with the object of directly enforcing any agreement between members of a trade union as such, concerning the conditions on which any members for the time being of such trade union shall or shall not sell their goods, transact business, employ or be employed, or any agreement for the payment by any person of any subscription or penalty to a trade union.

The United French Polishers' Society was a society registered under the Trade Union Acts. Rule 1 of the rules of the society, which dealt with the constitution and objects of the society, stated that the society was established (among other purposes) for the collection and circulation of information and trade matters generally, and to offer all legitimate resistance to encroachments upon the work and wages of its members, and for their legal protection when subject to unjust treatment on the part of employers, and for the establishment of funds for the support of members who were unemployed or in dispute. Rule 3, which related to the constitution and powers of the executive committee, provided that the executive committee should watch over all matters in the interest of the society or trade unionism generally, and should take such steps as they deemed necessarily conducive to the welfare of the society or the trade union movement.

In March, 1903, a number of members of this society were working for a certain employer. There was, however, one man working for that employer who was not a member of the society. This man was proposed as a member of another trade union, but was not elected. His fellow workmen thought he had been badly treated, and in spite of the strong objection and remonstrances of their society they continued to work with him. The executive committee held a meeting at which these members attended, and the committee decided that each of the members should pay a fine of 15s.

The members then brought an action in the Chancery Division, claiming an injunction to restrain the society from levying the fines. They complained that the fines were *ultra vires* and illegal, and also that they were unjust and oppressive, as the plaintiffs had not been guilty of any misconduct. The defendant society contended that they were acting within the authority of Rule 3, and further, that under the Trade Union Act, 1871, the court had no jurisdiction to entertain the claim of the plaintiffs.

The Judge was of opinion that the action was not maintainable. He said that the plaintiffs' case was that they had been improperly fined, and they were asking the court to free them from liability to pay these fines. That was asking the court to construe and enforce the rules of the society. The Act of Parliament forbade the court to entertain such an action, therefore judgment must be for the defendant society.—*Mullett and Others v. The United French Bakers' London Society, Chancery Division, June 21st, 1904.*

BAKERS' UNION; RIGHT TO USE UNION'S COPYRIGHT LABEL; INJUNCTION.

The East London Bakers' Union, which comprised 250 working bakers, were the proprietors of a copyright label, consisting of a picture and a motto. A master baker entered into and signed the following agreement with the union:—

"I, the undersigned, agree to accept the following terms of work as expressed in this agreement:—(1) A trade union label to be used on each loaf of bread (masters now using their own label can continue or cease from doing so as they please). (2) Twelve hours shall be recognised as a term of work every day, but on Thursday two hours extra. (3) No overtime shall be worked on ordinary days except the day before a holiday. (4) All overtime to be paid as per time and a half. (5) No man to be employed at baking at a wage less than 26s. as a minimum. (6) No master shall personally work as a baker, and one class of men shall not do the work of another class, higher or lower. (7) One full day rest in seven. (8) Only union men of the East London Bakers' Union shall be employed, and a delegate of the union shall at any time be permitted to enter the bakehouse for trade union business. I further agree that in case I receive an intimation from the secretary of the above organisation that I have broken one or any of the terms of this agreement, or if I am in dispute with the above organisation on any point, I have no right to use the trade union label on the bread baked by me. I further agree to pay to the above organisation the sum of 5s. per year for the use of the label. I also recognise that the trade union label is the property of the organisation mentioned above, and can only be used by me with their consent. If the union's label is to be taken away from me, the reason for so doing must first be submitted to arbitration. The arbitration is to deal only with the terms of this agreement."

Subsequently the union charged the master baker with selling bread at less than cost price, so as to ruin the trade of other bakers who were producing bread under trade union conditions. The union accordingly ordered him not to use the label. He refused to obey this order and continued to affix the label to his loaves. The union accordingly brought an action against him for an injunction to restrain him from using the label. The plaintiffs alleged that the defendant, besides signing the written agreement, had verbally agreed not to enter into unfair competition with bakers who were producing bread under trade union conditions; that he had broken this agreement and was underselling other bakers; and that the affixing of the union's labels to his loaves was a false representation to the public that his bread was made by members of the union. They also alleged that no members of the East London Bakers' Union were in the defendant's employment. The defendant denied that he had ever made any such verbal agreement and said that he was selling bread at the same price as the majority of bakers in the neighbourhood, and that he was always ready and willing to pay the rate of wages and observe all the terms of the written agreement.

A judge of the King's Bench Division refused an injunction to restrain the defendant from using the label till the trial of the action.

The plaintiffs appealed to the Court of Appeal. That court held that, as the injunction asked for would entirely destroy the defendant's trade, and as there was no promise in the written agreement not to compete unfairly with other masters, the court would not be justified in granting such an injunction. The appeal therefore was dismissed.—*East London Bakers' Union v. Goldstein, Court of Appeal, May 8th, 1904.*

(3) Industrial and Provident Societies Act.

ACTION BY SOCIETY AGAINST EX-MEMBER: JURISDICTION OF COUNTY COURT.

It is provided by the Industrial and Provident Societies' Act, 1893, Sec. 23 (1), that all moneys payable by a member to a registered society shall be a debt due from such member to the society, and shall be recoverable as such in a county court. (The ordinary jurisdiction of a county court only extends to debts not exceeding £50.)

A Society registered under the Act brought an action in a county court to recover from a person who had been at one time a member of the society, but who had ceased to be a member some 14 months before the action commenced, the sum of £136 11s. 11d. for arrears and fines alleged to have become due to the society from the defendant whilst he was a member of the society. Judgment was given for the society for £98 5s. 7d.

The defendant appealed on the ground that, as the defendant was not a member of the society at the time when the action was brought, Sec. 23 (1) did not apply to the proceedings, and as the claim was for more than £50, the county court had no jurisdiction to try the action. The High Court overruled this contention, holding that under the Act the fact that the defendant had ceased to be a member of the society did not affect the right of the society to sue him in the county court for moneys payable by him whilst a member.—*Gwendolen Land Society v. Wicks, King's Bench Division, June 20th, 1904.*

EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIES.

(Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31, Broadway, Westminster, S.W., from the latest official and other reports, newspapers, etc.)*

Canada.

Cases having recently come to the notice of the Emigrants' Information Office of persons having been induced to emigrate to Canada by false or extravagant statements made to them by interested agents or syndicates, all emigrants are strongly advised to apply for information to the Emigrants' Information Office, 31, Broadway, Westminster, or to the Canadian Emigration Commissioner (Emigration Branch of the High Commissioner's Office), 11 and 12, Charing Cross, London, W.C.

There is a good opening for agricultural labourers in Ontario, and this demand will be increased during the harvest. Ontario is the best province for new arrivals to go to. In Manitoba and the North-West the demand is now for the most part supplied. Sawmilling has been active throughout Canada, except in British Columbia. There has been plenty of work going on in railway construction, and in manufacturing such as in the building, metal, woodworking and printing trades, and unskilled labourers have been generally well employed. But at the present time the number of mechanics and labourers in Canada is quite sufficient (except that in Vancouver B.C. there is some demand for carpenters), and such persons (as well as miners) are recommended not to go there now, unless they go to friends or have sufficient means to live on for four or five months. Female servants are in demand. There are now reduced fares to all parts of Canada. All emigrants to Canada should remember that foreign ships are not protected by the British Board of Trade Regulations as to seaworthiness, sanitary condition, accommodation, food, medical attendance, &c., which apply to British vessels only, and are expressly intended for the benefit of emigrants.

Commonwealth of Australia.

There is practically no demand for more labour in the towns of Australia at the present time, or at the mines. Work in country districts has been more plentiful owing to the fine harvests this year: but there is a great tendency for men to leave country districts in search of work in the towns, which many are unable to secure. The strike at the coal mines in Victoria is now over, after lasting 16 months, and lower wages have been accepted.

New Zealand.

The building trades have been busy at Auckland, Napier, Wellington, Blenheim, Dunedin and Invercargill; the engineering trade at Blenheim, Nelson, Westport, Greymouth, Timaru, Dunedin and Invercargill; the boot trade at Wellington, Nelson, Westport, Hokitika, Timaru and Dunedin; and the clothing trade at Auckland, Hokitika, Oamaru and Dunedin. Coachbuilding has been busy at Auckland, Gisborne, Wanganui, &c.; sawmills and flaxmills at Invercargill, Greymouth, and some other places; bricklaying at Westport; agricultural implement making and woollen-milling at Christ Church; rope and twine making at Dunedin. Unskilled labourers have been generally well employed. There is the usual demand for female servants.

South Africa.

Emigrants are warned against going to any part of South Africa at the present time in search of work.

Cape Colony.—There is a considerable body of unemployed at Cape Town. Amongst these the most numerous are labourers; but there are also many bricklayers, clerks, carpenters, fitters, firemen, painters, seamen, and others. Government relief works are providing for the daily wants of over 800 of such men. At Port Elizabeth all trades are amply supplied, and many mechanics—especially those in the building trades—are unable to find work. At Kimberley and East London also the supply of labour is quite sufficient. There is a demand for female servants, but the assisted passages recently granted to them are now stopped.

* Handbooks with maps on the different Colonies may be obtained from the Emigrants' Information Office, at a penny each, post free.

Natal.—There is practically no improvement in the building or other trades, and those emigrants only, who have received nominated passages, are advised to go to Natal at the present time in search of work.

Transvaal.—No one can enter the Transvaal without a permit. The building trade at Johannesburg has been fairly busy, but almost every other branch of industry shows a condition of stagnation. A large number of mechanics at the present time are walking the streets for want of employment. The cost of living remains very high. Female servants and other women may procure assisted passages through the South African Colonisation Society, 47, Victoria Street, London, S.W. All other persons are warned against going to the Transvaal now in search of work.

Orange River Colony.—There is no demand for more labour in the Colony, except for female servants and other women, who can procure assisted passages through the South African Colonisation Society, 47, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

LABOUR ABROAD.

FRANCE.*

Employment in May.—The state of employment in the metal trades continued, on the whole, to improve during May. In the textile trades one or two days' idleness per week was again general in the cotton branch, but the woollen and flax branches were well employed. In the silk industry no change was reported, except for a slight improvement in the smaller weaving establishments at Lyons. Garment-making, and boot and shoemaking were at the height of their busy season, but a considerable number of hatmakers were reported as unemployed. Among agricultural labourers there was rather less employment than in April. Bark-stripping was commenced in woodland districts, and work upon the vines was pushed forward in the south in order to make up for lost time. Employment was satisfactory in the glass and pottery trades, except in the chinaware branch of the latter. In this branch the resumption of activity had not become general in every district. The printing and bookbinding trades were less active than in April. The slight improvement reported last month in the leather tanning and dressing trades was not maintained.

Of the 175,204 members of 1,016 Trade Unions (not including the unions of miners in the Nord and Pas-de-Calais departments) which reported to the French Labour Department as to the state of employment during May, 18,740, or 10.7 per cent. were unemployed on the 15th of the month, as compared with 10.0 per cent. in the previous month and 7.0 per cent. in May, 1903.

The following statement shows the percentages of members of Trade Unions reported unemployed in certain trades in May, compared with the corresponding figures for the previous month, and for May, 1903.

Trade Union.	Percentage reported Unemployed in the middle of		
	May, 1904.	April, 1904.	May, 1903.
Building Trades:—			
Carpenters and Joiners ...	7.0	11.6	8.0
Other Branches ...	14.1	11.7	9.0
Metal and Engineering Trades ...	7.2	6.9	5.0
Textile Trades ...	11.0	10.5	8.0
Clothing Trades (exclusive of Boot and Shoemaking) ...	3.0	7.1	9.0
Printing Trades:—			
Paris ...	2.9	4.3	7.0
Provinces ...	3.9	2.4	6.0
Leather and Fur Trades:—			
Tanning, Dressing, &c. ...	35.0	20.0	8.0
Boot and Shoemaking ...	4.9	14.0	11.0
Furniture and Upholstery Trades ...	13.0	13.0	6.0
Food Preparation Trades ...	17.0	16.5	10.0

Coal Mining in May.—The average number of days worked per week by miners employed underground in May was 5.82, as compared with 5.84 both in the preceding month and in May, 1903. Taking surface and underground workers together, 59.42 per cent. worked full time (6 days or over per week), and 40.13 per cent. from 5 to 6 days, the percentages in the previous month being 79.0 and 17.22 respectively. The foregoing particulars were supplied to the French Labour Department

* *Bulletin de l'Office du Travail* (Journal of the French Labour Department).

ment by the Committee of Coal Owners, and relate to more than 145,000 workpeople—over three-fourths of all employed in and about the mines.

Labour Disputes in May.—Ninety-three disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in May, as compared with 135 in the previous month, and 46 in May, 1903. The number of persons who took part in 85 of the new disputes was 13,236, as compared with 36,435 participants in 127 disputes in the preceding month, and 5,152 participants in the disputes of May, 1903. Eighty-seven new and old disputes were brought to an end during the month, 22 terminating in favour of the workpeople, 22 in favour of the employers, and 43 being compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in May.—Twenty-two cases of recourse to the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported to the French Labour Department in May, the initiative being taken in 12 cases by the workpeople or their Trade Unions, in 8 cases by the Justice of the Peace, and in 1 case by the employer. Information on this point is wanting in 1 case.

Committees of conciliation were formed in 13 cases, resulting in the settlement of 3 disputes. Of the 10 remaining disputes 3 were afterwards settled by arbitration, and 1 by a direct compromise between the parties, in 2 the workpeople eventually abandoned their demands, and in 4 cases the disputes were still in progress at the time of reporting.

GERMANY.

*Employment in May.**—According to the review of the state of employment, prepared by the German Labour Department, on the basis of reports obtained from various sources (including Employers' Associations, Chambers of Commerce, Public Labour Bureaux, and Sick and Invalidity Insurance Funds), the industrial labour market as a whole continued to maintain the improvement it had shown during the previous two months. The slackness in the coal-mining industry had not disappeared, but employment in the metal trades continued satisfactory. Except in a few establishments, employment was fairly good in the engineering trades, and the electrical and chemical trades were as actively employed as in the previous month. The textile industry was adversely affected by the fluctuations in the price of cotton, and in certain branches of the industry—notably at Crefeld—there was a decrease in employment. The demand for labour, as measured by the returns of the labour registries, was fairly brisk on the whole, the chief exceptions being in regard to painters, fitters, tailors, turners, and printers.

Labour Disputes in June.—The Berlin journal *Der Arbeitsmarkt* reports 67 disputes as having begun in June, as compared with 52 in the previous month. Of these 33 occurred in the building trades, 2 in mining and smelting, 11 in the metal and engineering trades, 1 in the textile trades, 3 in the clothing and cleaning trades, 3 in transport, 1 in the printing trades, 9 in the wood-working trades, 2 in the pottery trades, and 2 in the food preparation trades.

AUSTRIA.†

Employment in May.—According to the reports made to the Austrian Labour Department by public and private labour registries, relief stations and other agencies for procuring employment, the number of applications for employment per 100 situations offered was as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
May, 1904 ...	183	100	145
April, 1904 ...	188	107	149
May, 1903 ...	218	91	171

Labour Disputes in May.—Twenty-nine disputes were reported to the Austrian Labour Department as having begun in May, the number of workpeople taking part in 26 of these being about 13,150. (One of these disputes was a lock-out in the building trades of Lower Austria, in which about 10,000 workpeople participated.) Disputes in the mining industry (for which the returns are quarterly) are not included. Eleven of the disputes occurred in the building trades, 3 in the metal and engineering trades, 4 in the textile trades, 3 in the clothing

* *Reichs-Arbeitsblatt* (Journal of the German Labour Department).

† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Austrian Labour Department.

and cleaning trades, 2 in the woodworking trades, 4 in the chemical, glass and pottery trades, and 1 each in the transport and food preparation trades. In 21 cases the results of the disputes were ascertained; in 5 cases they terminated in favour of the workpeople, in 6 in favour of the employers, and in 10 in a compromise.

BELGIUM.*

Employment: February-April.—The proportion of their total membership reported as unemployed by the Trade Unions which made returns to the Belgian Labour Department for April was 2.5 per cent., as compared with 2.9 per cent. in March, and 3.7 per cent. in February. The Unions reporting numbered 130 (with 27,849 members) in April, 117 (with 25,037 members) in March, and 132 (with 28,660 members) in February. The returns do not include any figures as to miners, home workers, or agricultural labourers.

Labour Disputes: February-April.—Twenty-eight disputes, affecting about 4,300 workpeople (3,000 directly and 1,300 indirectly), were reported to the Belgian Labour Department as having begun in the period February-April. Of these 3 occurred in mining and quarrying, 12 in the textile trades, 2 each amongst brick-makers, hide and skin workers, and ragpickers, and 1 each among metal workers, hatters, printers, cabinet-makers, glass workers, sack makers, and diamond workers. Twenty-five disputes were reported as having terminated within this period. Of these 15 (with 787 participants) were decided in favour of the employers, and 7 (with 950 participants) in favour of the workpeople, 2 (with 20 participants) being compromised. Sufficient details were not given on this point with regard to the remaining dispute.

Addition to List of Trades classed as Dangerous, &c.—By a Royal Decree, dated March 21st, 1904, establishments in which are carried on processes of disinfecting, burning refuse, or the treatment of sewage have been added to the list of establishments classed as dangerous, unhealthy, or offensive, and accordingly subject to inspection.

THE NETHERLANDS.

AMSTERDAM CONSULAR DISTRICT.

In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated July 1st, Sir H. Howard, H.M. Minister at the Hague, transmits the report from H.M. Consul at Amsterdam on labour in that district during the quarter ended June 30th.

H.M. Consul reports that the dispute in the diamond trade at Amsterdam between the Jewellers' Association and the General Netherlands Diamond Workers' Union, which began about four months ago (see GAZETTE for April, p. 106), has now been settled, the employers having succeeded in obtaining the revocation of the exclusion of apprentices, and the workmen getting shorter hours and better wages.

It has been decided to admit 500 apprentices immediately and to replenish this number on January 1st, 1906, with new apprentices in the places of those who have been lost to this industry through death or other causes.

For the future a committee, half of whose members are employers and the remainder workmen, will have to provide not only for new apprentices in the places of those who have left the trade, but also for a greater number when the condition of the diamond industry renders it necessary to increase the number of workmen.

NORWAY.†

Employment in April.—Out of 9,001 members of 118 Trade Unions which made returns to the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, 357, (or 4.0 per cent.) were out of work at the end of April, as compared with 3.8 per cent. reported out of work by the same Trade Unions at the end of March, and 4.4 per cent. at the end of February.

* Revue du Travail (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department).

† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics.

The following statement shows, by trades, the percentage reported unemployed by the same 118 Unions at the end of each of the three months under review.

Occupation.	Total Membership of the Unions reporting in April.	Percentage of Membership reported unemployed at the end of		
		Feb., 1904.	Mar., 1904.	Apr., 1904.
Masons and Bricklayers	205	35.0	28.7	23.4
Stonecutters	166	—	—	—
Painters	380	31.4	13.3	4.7
Iron and other Metal Workers (except Moulders)	4,499	1.6	1.5	1.2
Moulders	722	2.2	5.9	2.5
Miners and Smelters	109	10.2	10.2	9.2
Railway Servants	319	—	—	—
Sawyers, Planers and Building Yard Employees	358	0.3	0.6	25.1
Road and Railway Labourers	194	3.0	1.0	—
Bakers	514	8.6	8.2	6.4
Printers	1,020	6.1	5.5	6.5
Others	515	6.6	5.1	4.1
All the above Trades	9,001	4.4	3.8	4.0

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

NEW YORK CONSULAR DISTRICT.

In despatches to the Foreign Office, dated June 10th and 28th, Sir P. Sanderson, H.M. Consul-General at New York, reports upon two labour disputes at that place.

A strike of all firemen engaged on vessels belonging to the coasting lines of steamers was ordered on June 8th. The objects of the strikers were to obtain a new scale of wages, the abolition of the "crimping system," and the employment of none but members of the Union. The dispute was still in progress on June 28th.

A strike of tailors was reported as having begun on June 26th on the East side of New York. This is stated to be the largest strike which has yet occurred in this trade, and is directed entirely against the employment of non-union labour, no demand for any increase of wages being made. It arose out of a declaration of the National Association of Clothiers that they would not restrict employment to Union men. This declaration affected the cutters, who obtain direct employment, but they have on this occasion induced the tailors, who are employed by contractors, to make common cause with them. The strike occurs at the busiest season.

CHICAGO CONSULAR DISTRICT.

The following is based on a series of despatches to the Foreign Office from Mr. T. Erskine, Acting British Consul at Chicago, commencing June 2nd and ending July 13th.

State of Employment.—On June 10th, Mr. Erskine reported that a great many men were out of employment in Chicago, and that there was an over-supply of labour in all trades.

Labour Disputes.—The strike of masters and pilots on the Lake vessels, which began on May 12th (see MAY GAZETTE, p. 139), was still in progress, between 100,000 and 150,000 men being affected. The lumber vessels have all agreed to the Union's terms. The effect of this strike on Lake navigation was that less than 1,000,000 bushels of grain were received by lake carriage at Buffalo during the first five months of 1904, as compared with 31,657,000 bushels received during the corresponding period of 1903.

A strike of about 800 engineers is reported. The men asked for an increase of pay and Saturday half-holidays, but the employers' association have posted notices in their shops to the effect that the 10-hour day will be required from them at the old rate of pay instead of 9 hours.

Telegraphing on July 13th, Mr. Erskine reported a strike at all stockyards, 45,000 workpeople being concerned.

In Kansas City the meat-cutters have demanded that no girls be employed in any department where the knife or any steel is used, and that an increase of wages be granted, and the same wages be paid in all packing-houses in the United States for the same class of work.

[According to newspaper reports a meeting of the meat packers and their employees was arranged for July 14th, to settle the differences by arbitration if possible.]

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—BUILDING TRADES; COAL MINING.

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

BUILDING TRADES.

ACCORDING to returns supplied by 82 Employers' Associations whose members are estimated to employ about 92,500 building operatives of all classes, and by Trade Unions with an aggregate membership of about 194,700, employment in the building trades generally continued dull during June, and on the whole showed little change as compared with May. It was rather worse than a year ago.

With bricklayers employment is reported as dull, but better than a month ago, and much the same as a year ago. Employment with masons is fair in England, dull in Scotland and Ireland.

With carpenters and joiners employment is dull. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union carpenters and joiners was 6.3 at the end of June, compared with 5.9 in May, and 3.4 a year ago.

Employment with painters generally has been dull, and rather worse than a month or a year ago. It has been dull also with plasterers and plumbers. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union plumbers was 9.9 at the end of June, compared with 9.2 in May and 7.6 a year ago. Slaters and tilers report employment as dull in England and Ireland, fairly good in Scotland.

The Table given below shows the proportion of unemployed carpenters and joiners and plumbers in the principal districts according to the returns of certain Trade Unions.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of June, 1904.*	Percentage of Members of Unions returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage for June, 1904, as compared with a	
		June, 1904.	May, 1904.	June, 1903.	Month ago.	Year ago.
CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.						
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
London	7,125	7.9	7.1	4.9	+ 0.8	+ 3.0
Northern Counties and Middlesbrough	6,008	9.4	9.1	5.4	+ 0.3	+ 4.0
Lancashire and Cheshire	10,213	5.4	6.1	2.5	- 0.7	+ 2.9
Yorkshire	5,217	6.8	7.5	1.7	- 0.7	+ 5.1
East Midlands	2,986	4.7	4.3	3.7	+ 0.4	+ 1.0
West Midlands	4,657	4.9	5.1	2.7	- 0.2	+ 2.2
Eastern Counties	1,066	5.9	5.7	2.1	+ 0.2	+ 3.8
S. and S.W. Counties	6,320	3.6	3.6	2.7	...	+ 0.9
Wales and Monmouth	1,808	3.4	3.8	3.8	- 0.4	- 0.4
Other Districts	619	4.2	5.4	0.7	- 1.2	+ 3.5
SCOTLAND	5,184	7.2	5.5	1.3	+ 1.7	+ 5.9
IRELAND	4,539	7.3	4.5	8.2	+ 2.8	- 0.9
UNITED KINGDOM	55,749	6.3	5.9	3.4	+ 0.4	+ 2.9
PLUMBERS.						
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
London	1,172	9.3	9.3	8.7	...	+ 0.6
Northern Counties and Middlesbrough	1,625	9.2	8.4	5.4	+ 0.8	+ 3.8
Lancashire and Cheshire	2,658	10.5	9.4	6.2	+ 1.1	+ 4.3
Yorkshire	1,199	10.8	9.8	5.8	+ 1.0	+ 5.0
East Midlands	426	10.6	9.7	7.4	+ 0.9	+ 3.2
West Midlands	250	11.2	8.3	7.1	+ 2.9	+ 4.1
Eastern Counties	110	2.7	7.0	1.6	- 4.3	+ 1.1
S. and S.W. Counties	440	5.5	6.1	5.1	- 0.6	+ 0.4
Wales and Monmouth	280	6.4	7.9	7.9	- 1.5	- 1.5
Other Districts	30	6.7	6.7	8.1	...	+ 1.4
SCOTLAND	1,927	10.3	10.8	5.1	- 0.5	+ 5.2
IRELAND	636	11.6	8.4	29.6	+ 3.2	- 18.0
UNITED KINGDOM	10,753	9.9	9.2	7.6	+ 0.7	+ 2.3

The returns received from Employers' Associations, show that employment generally was dull, except in the Eastern Counties, where it was fair, and in Wales and Monmouth, where it was fairly good on the whole.

London.—Employment in London shows a slight improvement as compared with both a month and a year ago. All branches of the trade, however, are slack and some short time is being worked. In a few districts there has been some improvement.

Returns received by the Trade Correspondent from 81 employers show that in the last week of June they paid wages to 19,699 workpeople of all classes, as compared with 19,250 in May, and 19,552 in June, 1903.

* Exclusive of Superannuated Members.

Northern Counties.—Employment generally in this district has been dull. On the Tyne it has been fair with stonemasons, but other branches report it as bad. On the Wear it has been slack generally, but with slaters and tilers there has been a slight improvement. The dispute in the Tees and Hartlepoons district still continues, and employment has been affected on this account.

Lancashire and Cheshire.—Employment generally continues dull, but improvement is reported in some districts.

Yorkshire.—Employment continues quiet, and shows little change compared with a month ago. At Leeds painters have been fairly well employed, but employment in other branches has been bad. At Hull employment with masons has been good; with painters fair; with other trades slack. At Sheffield employment is affected by the stonemasons' dispute. In the Bradford and Huddersfield district employment has been very quiet.

East Midland Counties.—Employment throughout this district continues dull and shows no improvement compared with a month ago.

West Midland Counties.—Employment shows little change compared with a month ago, and is generally bad. In the Birmingham and Wolverhampton districts, however, it has been fair with painters.

Eastern Counties.—In Norfolk and Cambridge employment continues slack. In Suffolk and Essex it has been fair on the whole.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—Employment generally in this district has been moderate, and much the same as a month ago.

Wales and Monmouthshire.—In North Wales employment generally has been quiet. In South Wales and Monmouthshire it has been fair on the whole.

Scotland.—Employment generally is dull or quiet. With slaters, however, it has been fairly good.

Ireland.—Employment has been dull or bad generally, and shows no improvement compared with May.

COAL MINING.

[NOTE.—The following figures only show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal was hewn and wound at the collieries included in the returns received. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed at these collieries worked the whole number of days.]

EMPLOYMENT in this industry, after allowance is made for time lost through holidays in the June periods, shows little change on the whole as compared with either a month or a year ago.

The number of workpeople employed at collieries which furnished returns was about the same as in May, and 2.1 per cent. greater than a year ago.

Returns received relating to 1,364 pits, employing 555,457 workpeople show that the average number of days worked per week by the collieries during the four weeks ended June 25th was 4.95, as compared with 5.09 in May, and 4.64 in June, 1903. In the 1903 period the occurrence of the Whitsuntide holidays reduced the possible working time by nearly half a day per week, while the possible working time in June, 1904, was also slightly reduced by holidays in connection with the Miners' Demonstrations.

In Northumberland and Durham and in Yorkshire, after making allowance for the time lost through the Miners' Demonstration, employment showed little change as compared with a month ago. In other districts in England and Wales, however, it declined. In Scotland on the other hand, time lost through holidays being taken into account, an improvement is shown.

Of the 555,457 workpeople included in the returns, 342,612 or 61.7 per cent. were employed at pits working 20 or more days during the four weeks ending June 25th, 1904.

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—COAL AND OTHER MINING, AND QUARRYING.

In the Table below the average time worked by the pits in the various districts is shown for the three periods specified:—

District.	No. of workpeople employed in June, 1904, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average No. of Days worked per week by the Collieries in four weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in June, 1904, as compared with	
		June 25th, 1904.	May 21st, 1904.	June 27th, 1903.*	A month ago.	A year ago*
ENGLAND & WALES.		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ...	40,235	5'30	5'40	5'15	- '10	+ '15
Durham ...	101,236	5'31	5'35	5'03	- '04	+ '28
Cumberland ...	6,614	5'25	5'71	4'88	- '46	+ '37
Yorkshire ...	80,270	4'57	4'89	4'21	- '32	+ '36
Lancashire and Cheshire...	50,257	4'51	4'79	4'14	- '28	+ '37
Derbyshire ...	35,774	3'98	4'19	3'94	- '21	+ '04
Nottingham and Leicester	26,619	3'89	4'02	3'65	- '13	+ '24
Staffordshire ...	28,194	4'51	4'69	4'11	- '18	+ '40
Salop, Worcester, and Warwick ...	10,156	4'51	4'75	4'31	- '24	+ '20
Gloucester and Somerset...	8,711	4'41	4'86	3'97	- '45	+ '44
North Wales...	11,169	4'74	5'07	4'72	- '33	+ '02
South Wales and Mon. ...	116,674	5'64	5'86	5'14	- '22	+ '50
ENGLAND & WALES ...	815,909	4'94	5'08	4'60	- '14	+ '34
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland ...	18,629	5'05	5'02	5'02	+ '03	+ '03
The Lothians ...	4,641	5'58	5'38	5'08	+ '20	+ '50
Fife ...	15,637	5'02	5'35	5'24	- '33	- '22
SCOTLAND ...	38,907	5'10	5'19	5'11	- '09	- '01
IRELAND.						
... ..	641	4'90	5'30	4'89	- '40	+ '01
United Kingdom ...	855,437	4'95	5'09	4'64	- '14	+ '31

Reports received from Local Correspondents and others show that in Northumberland steam coal pits worked an average of rather more than 5½ days per week, and house coal pits an average of nearly 5 days per week. In Durham house, manufacturing gas, and coking coal pits, averaged over 5 days per week. In the Leeds district employment in house coal pits has fallen off to 3 or 4 days per week. Pits in the Sheffield, Barnsley, and Rotherham district worked an average of 4'38 days per week.

In Lancashire employment is slack generally, and rather worse than a month ago.

In Nottinghamshire employment with miners is moderate. Employment in Leicestershire is slack, and worse than a month or a year ago. In the Cannock Chase district employment is bad. In South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire 4 to 4½ days per week have been worked. In the Shropshire pits employment was quiet.

In the Forest of Dean employment continues bad, only an average of three days per week being worked. In the Bristol coalpits it was moderate; in the Radstock district about 5 days per week were worked.

Employment at pits in North Wales generally has been slack. A number of men are affected by disputes.

In Lanarkshire and Ayrshire a large number of men have been working short time. Employment has been slack in Dumbartonshire, and quiet in Stirlingshire. In the Lothians much short time has been worked. In Fifeshire the average time worked has been reduced by holidays.

The Exports of coal, coke, and patent fuel during June amounted to 4,423,358 tons, as compared with 4,223,808 tons in May, and 3,829,293 tons in June, 1903.

OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING. INFORMATION has been received from 74 firms employing over 18,000 workpeople, from 6 Employers' Associations, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment in June continued good in iron and shale mines. It was fairly good in lead, tin and copper mines, slate and limestone quarries, and with settmakers and china clay workers.

Mining. *Iron Mining.*—Employment in this industry continued good. The average time worked shows a slight increase as compared with both a month ago and a year

* This column is affected by the Whitsuntide holidays.

ago. The number of workpeople employed was 1'3 per cent. less than a year ago. During the four weeks ended June 25th, the average number of days worked per week by the 129 mines and openworks covered by the returns received from employers was 5'90, as compared with 5'86 in May, and 5'69* a year ago.

The following Table summarises the returns received:—

Districts	No. employed in June, 1904, at the Mines included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Mines in 4 weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in June, 1904, as compared with	
		June 25th, 1904.	May 21st, 1904.	June 27th, 1903.*	A month ago.	A year ago*
ENGLAND—		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	4,610	5'95	5'95	5'72	... ..	+ 0'23
Cleveland ...	7,070	5'93	5'96	5'74	- 0'03	+ 0'19
Lincolnshire and Leicestershire ...	914	5'69	5'48	5'73	+ 0'21	- 0'04
Northamptonshire	588	5'74	5'69	5'60	+ 0'05	+ 0'14
Staffordshire and Shropshire ...	980	5'86	5'56	5'08	+ 0'30	+ 0'78
Other places in England...	129	5'93	5'73	5'61	+ 0'20	+ 0'32
Total, England	14,291	5'91	5'88	5'68	+ 0'03	+ 0'23
SCOTLAND ...	1,091	5'73	5'57	6'00	+ 0'16	- 0'27
IRELAND ...	122	6'00	5'95	5'94	+ 0'05	+ 0'06
Total and Averages	15,504	5'90	5'86	5'69	+ 0'04	+ 0'21

Of the 15,504 workpeople covered by the returns, 14,922, or 96·2 per cent., were employed in mines working 22 or more days during the four weeks ended June 25th, 1904, as compared with 89·2 per cent. a month ago, and 86·8 in June, 1903.

Shale Mining.—Employment with shale miners continued good. Returns received relating to 24 mines show that in June 2,730 men were employed, as compared with 2,693 a month ago, and 2,700 in June, 1903. The average number of days worked by the mines in the four weeks ended June 25th was 5'74 per week, as compared with 5'69 in May, and 5'81 a year ago.

Lead, Tin, and Copper Mining.—Employment in the tin and copper mines in Devon and Cornwall continued fair generally, except in the Calstock district where it was quiet. In North Wales employment with lead miners continued good. In the Weardale district lead-ore miners were fully employed.

Quarrying. *Slate.*—Employment with slate quarrymen continued good in North Wales. It was moderate in Argyllshire. In Devon and Cornwall it was fair.

Limestone.—Employment was fairly good in the Upper Weardale district, and at Westgate (Durham), the quarrymen working full time. At Stanhope (Durham) it was fair. It was moderate in Derbyshire, and quiet in the Somerset blue lias quarries. It was moderate in the West of England, and good in North Wales.

Granite.—Employment with granite quarrymen continued fairly good in Leicestershire, dull generally in Devon and Cornwall, and good in North Wales. In Aberdeenshire and Kincardineshire it was fair.

Other Stone.—Employment with stone quarrymen in the Gateshead district was good, and in the Blackburn and Burnley district they were fully employed. In the Sheffield district quarrymen employed on street work continued busy. At Barnsley employment was moderate; at Normanton full time was worked; and at Wickersly grindstone makers were fairly busy. Chert quarrymen in Derbyshire were fully employed. At the building and grindstone quarries in the Rowsley district employment was bad. In the Cleve Hill (road material) quarries and in the North Wales sandstone quarries it continued good. It was moderate in the "Bath" stone quarries in the Bristol district. Quarrymen in the pennant stone quarries of Gloucester and Somerset were fully employed. With quarrymen in Forfarshire employment was bad and short time was worked.

* This column is affected by the Whitsuntide holidays.

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—QUARRYING; PIG IRON; TINPLATE; IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

Settmaking.—Employment with settmakers in the Cleve Hill and Sheffield districts, and in North Wales, continued good. In Scotland it continued fair at Airdrie and good in Aberdeenshire, and in the Edinburgh district it was good. It continued fair in the Belfast district.

China Clay.—Employment with china clay workers in the St. Austell and Lee Moor (Devon) districts was fairly good.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

RETURNS have been received from Employers, from a Trade Union, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment in this industry shows little change on the whole, as compared with a month ago. In Derbyshire two furnaces, and in Lancashire one, were damped down or blown out during June. In England and Wales generally employment continues to be worse than a year ago, but in Scotland an improvement is shown.

Returns relating to the works of 112 ironmasters show that 305 furnaces were in blast at the end of June as compared with 308 in May, and 321 in June, 1903. The number of workpeople employed at the works included in the returns is estimated at about 21,550.

The following Table shows by districts the furnaces in blast at the works included in the returns in the three periods specified:—

Districts.	Number of Furnaces, included in the returns, in Blast at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in June, 1904, as compared with	
	June, 1904.	May, 1904.	June, 1903.	A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES—					
Cleveland ...	77	77	80	... ..	- 3
Cumberland & Lancs...	33	34	39	- 1	- 6
S. and S.W. Yorks...	13	13	16	... ..	- 3
Derby & Nottingham	36	38	38	- 2	- 2
Leicester, Lincoln, and Northampton	25	25	26	... ..	- 1
Stafford & Worcester	31	31	33	... ..	- 2
S. Wales & Monmouth	13	13	16	... ..	- 3
Other districts ...	6	6	7	... ..	- 1
Returned from England & Wales	234	237	285	- 3	- 21
RETURNED FROM SCOTLAND ...	71	71	66	... ..	+ 5
Total furnaces included in returns ...	305	308	321	- 3	- 16

TINPLATE WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT in the tinplate industry shows a decline as compared with May, but is better than a year ago.

At the end of June, 363 mills were working, as compared with 372 at the end of May, and 351 a year ago. At the 74 works open, 54 had all their mills in operation, while the remaining 20 works had 86 mills going out of a total of 126. The estimated number of workpeople employed at the 363 mills was 18,200.

The following Table shows the number of mills at the works which were giving employment, full or partial,* at each of the three periods:—

	No. of Works open.	No. of Mills in such Works.		
		Working.	Not Working.	Total.
Works giving full employment ...	54	277	... ..	277
Works giving partial employment ...	20	86	40	126
Total at end of June, 1904*	74	363	40	403
<i>Corresponding Total for May, 1904*</i>	<i>74</i>	<i>372</i>	<i>35†</i>	<i>407†</i>
<i>Corresponding Total for June, 1903†</i>	<i>73</i>	<i>361</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>414</i>

* It will be understood that, in addition to the works returned as giving full or partial employment, a certain number of tinplate works were wholly idle at each of the dates to which the returns relate. † Revised figures.

The Exports of tinplates and blackplates from the United Kingdom in the months covered by the above Table are summarised below:—

	Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets (Iron or Steel).			Black Plates for Tinning (Iron or Steel).		
	June, 1904.	May, 1904.	June, 1903.	June, 1904.	May, 1904.	June, 1903.
To United States ...	Tons. 7,268	Tons. 6,647	Tons. 4,370	Tons. 7	Tons. 14	Tons. 148
Other Countries ...	23,235	25,400	18,241	6,279	6,332	5,308
Total ...	30,503	32,047	22,611	6,286	6,346	5,456

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.*

EMPLOYMENT in June showed little change as compared with the preceding month, but was not so good as a year ago. Returns furnished by employers and relating to 194 works show that 73,906 workpeople were employed during the last week of June, an increase of 256 as compared with the previous month, but a decrease of 898 as compared with June, 1903. The total volume of employment, as shown by the estimated number of shifts worked was 0'8 per cent. less than in May, 1904, and 2'9 per cent. less than in June, 1903.

Number Employed.

The following Table shows the changes in the numbers employed in England and Wales, and in Scotland:—

District.	Numbers employed in week ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in June, 1904, as compared with	
	June 25th, 1904.	May 21st, 1904.	June 27th, 1903.	A month ago.	A year ago.
England and Wales ...	61,825	61,597	62,771	+ 228	- 946
Scotland ...	12,081	12,053	12,033	+ 28	+ 48
Total ...	73,906	73,650	74,804	+ 256	- 898

Weekly Number of Shifts Worked.

The Table below relates to the number of shifts worked by 90 per cent. of the workpeople referred to in the preceding Table. The average number of shifts worked per man in the week ended June 25th last was 5'29, as compared with 5'35 in the previous month, and 5'38 in June, 1903.

Number of Shifts worked.	Percentage of workpeople who worked the shifts stated in the first column during the week ended		
	June 25th, 1904.	May 21st, 1904.	June 27th, 1903.
Under 5 per week ...	18'7	15'1	10'7
5 per week ...	27'5	31'1	34'7
5½ per week ...	1'7	1'7	3'4
6 per week ...	51'9	50'9	50'3
Over 6 per week ...	0'8	1'2	0'9
Total ...	100'0	100'0	100'0

On the basis of the above Table the total number of shifts worked by all workpeople covered by the returns may be approximately estimated at 390,810 in the last week of June, 1904, as compared with 393,960 in the last week of the previous month, and 402,670 in the corresponding week of June, 1903.

The following reports relating to the different branches of the iron and steel manufacturing industry have been furnished by the Local Correspondents and others:—

Tyne and Wear District.—Employment has been fair generally with steel smelters. Plate mills at Consett and Newburn have been well employed, bar and angle mills fairly so. At finished iron and steel works employment is reported as fairly good; with forge furnacemen on the Wear it has been fair.

Tees and Hartlepoons.—At Hartlepool employment was good at iron, steel and metal expansion works, moderate at rail mills, fairly good at pipe and chair foundries.

South Yorkshire.—At Sheffield employment with steel smelters and steel workers was slack. It was also slack at

* Including iron puddling and rolling and steel making and rolling.

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—IRON AND STEEL WORKS; ENGINEERING.

Rotherham and Parkgate with ironworkers, and quiet at Masbro'. Steelworkers at Rotherham were slack; at Parkgate fairly well employed. Employment with railway spring-makers was slack, with tyre and axle-makers it was quiet. With steelworkers in the Leeds district it continued very quiet; at Scunthorpe it was fair.

Midlands.—Employment with steel smelters in South Staffordshire continued quiet, with ironworkers it had declined. In steel works in Shropshire full time was worked; with iron workers, however, employment was not so good as a month ago. With iron workers at Smethwick and West Bromwich it was quiet, and some short time was worked; employment in steel works showed no improvement.

South Wales.—Employment in this district was good throughout the month.

Scotland.—Employment with steel smelters was good generally during June.

ENGINEERING TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from 6 Employers' Associations, 2 large Companies, 26 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment generally is dull and worse than a year ago. Compared with the previous month it remains substantially the same.

Returns relating to branches of Trade Unions with 143,039 members show that 9,568 (or 6.7 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of June, as compared with 6.6 per cent. at the end of May, and 3.9 per cent. in June, 1903.

The percentage of unemployed is greatest in the East of Scotland; the Oldham, etc., Glasgow, North-East Coast and West Riding districts come next in order. Apart from the South Coast, the lowest percentages are shown in the London, Birmingham, etc., and South Wales districts.

As compared with a month ago very little change is indicated except on the North-East Coast, where a considerable falling-off is shown. Compared with a year ago every district, except the South Coast, shows a decline in employment, the falling-off being most marked in Scotland and Lancashire.

The percentages for the various districts are shown in detail in the following Table:—

District.	No. of Members of Unions at end of June, 1904, included in the returns.*	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in percentage unemployed for June, 1904, as compared with a	
		June, 1904.	May, 1904.	June, 1903.	Month ago.	Year ago.
North-East Coast	13,803	8.4	5.2	7.4	+ 3.2	+ 1.0
Manchester and Liverpool District	18,020	7.0	7.1	3.2	– 0.1	+ 3.8
Oldham, Bolton, and Blackburn District	11,268	10.5	11.3	4.9	– 0.8	+ 5.6
West Riding Towns	11,501	8.4	8.9	5.2	– 0.5	+ 3.2
Hull and Lincolnshire District	3,415	6.3	6.3	2.5	...	+ 3.8
Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Coventry District	6,080	4.3	4.9	2.1	– 0.6	+ 2.2
Notts, Derby, and Leicester District	4,111	6.4	5.8	3.4	+ 0.6	+ 3.0
London and Neighbouring District	12,471	4.2	4.0	3.0	+ 0.2	+ 1.2
South Coast	3,950	1.5	1.7	1.6	– 0.2	– 0.1
South Wales and Bristol District	6,245	4.5	4.8	2.3	– 0.3	+ 2.2
Glasgow and District	13,106	9.6	9.3	4.8	+ 0.3	+ 4.8
East of Scotland	3,674	11.2	10.9	6.0	+ 0.3	+ 5.2
Belfast and Dublin	3,466	7.2	6.5	5.4	+ 0.7	+ 1.8
Other Districts	5,526	4.8	6.6	3.3	– 1.8	+ 1.5
United Kingdom (Including certain Unions for which district figures are not available)	143,039	6.7	6.6	3.9	+ 0.1	+ 2.8

The following is a summary of the reports received from all sources as regards the principal districts:—

North-East Coast.—Employment is worse than a month ago, and is quiet generally. In the Newcastle and Gateshead district it is fairly good with iron turners and machine-men, declining with fitters. It has been affected to some extent by the race-week holidays. At

* Exclusive of Superannuated Members.

Jarrow and Sunderland it is bad, at Howdon and Wallsend good, in the Tees district moderate. With ironfounders employment is good at Newcastle, Shields, Stockton and Middlesbrough, bad at Blaydon, Wallsend and Jarrow. With brassfinishers it is fair generally. Bridge builders are well employed.

Manchester and Liverpool District.—Employment continues very dull, and considerably worse than a year ago. At Manchester machine workers and smiths and strikers are fairly well employed; coremakers report employment as improving. Patternmakers report employment as fair at Birkenhead, quiet at Manchester. With ironfounders employment is moderate at Wigan, improving at Salford, but bad elsewhere. Boilermakers are slack. Short time continues at Crewe. Coachmakers report employment as slack at Newton Heath, moderate at Openshaw.

Oldham, Bolton, Blackburn and District.—Employment is slightly better than a month ago, but is still bad and much worse than a year ago. It is, however, moderate generally at Rochdale, Bury, Preston and Burnley. Short time is reported at Oldham and Bolton. With ironfounders it is good at Rochdale and Burnley, moderate at Preston, bad elsewhere. Boilermakers are slack generally, but moderately employed at Dukinfield.

West Riding Towns.—A slight improvement is shown, but generally employment is very dull and considerably worse than a year ago. At Leeds it has fallen off and is bad except with textile machinery workers, with whom it is fair. It is moderate at Bradford, Huddersfield, and Wakefield. At Halifax it is very bad. Ironfounders and boilermakers are slack generally.

Hull and Lincolnshire District.—Employment on the whole is the same as a month ago, and considerably worse than a year ago. Generally it is bad at Hull, where short time is reported, and moderate elsewhere. With ironfounders employment is good at Lincoln and Gainsborough, bad at Grantham; with boilermakers it is slack at Doncaster and Grantham, moderate elsewhere.

East Midlands.—Employment continues considerably worse than a year ago. Generally it is moderate at Leicester, bad at Derby and Nottingham. In the latter town it is fairly good with bobbin and carriage makers, fair with lace and hosiery machine builders, moderate with cycle and motor cycle makers. At Long Eaton it is bad with lace machine builders. Railway carriage and wagon makers at Derby are fairly well employed.

West Midlands.—Employment is rather better than a month ago, but generally it continues quiet and worse than a year ago. At Wolverhampton and Rugby it is fair. With ironfounders it is declining at Birmingham; fairly good elsewhere. Boilermakers are moderately employed. At Birmingham, Coventry, and Redditch employment is quiet with cycle makers, fairly good in the motor section; at Wolverhampton both sections are steadily employed.

London and Neighbouring District.—Employment generally continues quiet, and worse than a year ago. With coppersmiths it is fair; with instrument makers bad. It is moderate generally at Chatham, Sheerness, and Enfield, and with some London branches. With ironfounders it is fair on the whole, except at Chatham, Erith, and Greenwich, where it is dull.

South Coast.—Employment on the whole shows little change as compared with a month and a year ago. Generally it is moderate. At Weymouth it is good. Ironfounders report employment as very good, except at Southampton.

South Wales and Bristol District.—Employment shows little change, and is still very dull generally, and worse than a year ago. With ironfounders it is fair. At Swindon it is moderate with engineers, fair with coachmakers, slack with boilermakers.

Glasgow and District.—Employment generally continues bad, and worse than a year ago. It is moderate at Clydebank, Johnstone, and Renfrew. With pattern

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—ENGINEERING; SHIPBUILDING; MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

makers it is moderate. Brass moulders and iron, steel and brass dressers report it as fair.

East of Scotland.—Employment generally continues dull and considerably worse than a year ago. At Dundee machine-making shops are fairly well employed. At Edinburgh and Leith pattern-makers report employment as improving, blacksmiths as fair. With iron-moulders it is bad. At Falkirk short time is reported.

Belfast and Dublin.—Employment is bad and worse than a month and a year ago. At Belfast it is moderate with ironfounders, fair with brassfounders and machine workers. At Dublin it is moderate with boilermakers and smiths.

Other Districts.—At Barrow employment continues moderate generally, and worse than a year ago; ironfounders report it as very bad. At Lancaster employment is moderate with engineers, coachmakers, and ironfounders. In the Eastern Counties it is fair generally. At Stoke it is moderate with engineers, bad with boilermakers. It is moderate at York, and Worcester; bad at Stafford and Cork.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from 6 Employers' Associations, 2 large Companies, 6 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents.

The information thus obtained shows that the general state of employment continued bad. It was very slightly better than a month ago, but was worse than a year ago.

Branches of Trade Unions with 55,987 members had 7,225 (or 12.9 per cent.) unemployed at the end of June, as compared with 13.1 per cent. at the end of May, and 9.1 per cent. at the end of June, 1903. The districts in which the percentage of unemployed was greatest were the East of Scotland, the Bristol Channel Ports, the Mersey, and the Humber, while it was lowest on the South Coast, at Belfast, and on the Wear.

As compared with a month ago some improvement is shown on the Humber, Wear and Tees, and a decline on the East Coast of Scotland and the Mersey. As compared with a year ago, there is a decline in all districts except the Wear, the decline being most marked on the East Coast of Scotland, at the Bristol Channel ports, and on the Humber.

The following Table shows percentages of unemployed Trade Union members in the various districts:—

District.	No. of Members of Unions at end of June, 1904, included in the returns.*	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in Percentage for June, 1904, as compared with a	
		June, 1904.	May, 1904.	June, 1903.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Tyne and Blyth	8,877	11.9	10.6	11.7	+ 1.3	+ 0.2
Wear	4,520	9.5	14.5	16.2	– 5.0	– 6.7
Tees and Hartlepool	5,022	11.1	14.4	10.9	– 3.3	+ 0.2
Humber	2,500	15.0	21.7	4.5	– 6.7	+ 10.5
Thames and Medway	4,079	12.0	10.5	5.3	+ 1.5	+ 6.7
South Coast	4,005	4.7	6.5	4.0	– 1.8	+ 0.7
Bristol Channel Ports	2,727	22.6	23.8	12.0	– 1.2	+ 10.6
Mersey	3,436	17.5	11.3	11.4	+ 6.2	+ 6.1
Clyde	12,189	14.4	15.8	8.4	– 1.4	+ 6.0
Dundee, Leith, and Aberdeen ...	2,211	27.7	20.6	15.7	+ 7.1	+ 12.0
Belfast	2,516	8.9	7.9	4.3	+ 1.0	+ 4.6
Other Districts	3,229	7.0	5.1	3.4	+ 1.9	+ 3.6
United Kingdom (Including certain Unions for which district figures are not available)	55,987	12.9	13.1	9.1	– 0.2	+ 3.8

The following is a summary of the reports received from all sources as regards the principal districts:—

Employment on the *Tyne* continues dull. It is rather worse than a month ago, but about the same as a year ago. With shipsmiths it continues to improve. With riveters and caulkers and shipwrights it is described as fair generally, but at Jarrow and Shields it is bad.

On the *Wear* a considerable improvement is shown, both as compared with a month ago and a year ago. Employment is fair with shipwrights, and good with drillers. Shipjoiners, however, report it as bad.

* Exclusive of Superannuated Members.

In the *Tees* and *Hartlepool* district some improvement is shown as compared with a month ago. Employment is fair at Middlesbrough and moderate generally at Stockton and Hartlepool. On ship-repairing at Hartlepool employment is good.

On the *Humber* employment continues bad, and much worse than a year ago, but there is a considerable improvement as compared with a month ago. Some short time is still being worked. At Grimsby employment is moderate with iron shipbuilders.

On the *Thames* and *Medway* employment continues slack, and is much worse than a year ago. With iron and steel shipbuilders it is fair at Chatham and Sheerness; with shipwrights it is good at Chatham, moderate at Sheerness.

On the *South Coast* there is a slight improvement as compared with a month ago, and employment is fair generally. At Southampton it is dull with shipwrights and bad with iron shipbuilders. At Devonport it is good generally.

Bristol Channel Ports.—Employment in these ports continues bad, and much worse than a year ago, but it is fair with shipwrights at Bristol.

On the *Mersey* employment is bad, and much worse than a month ago and a year ago.

On the *Clyde* employment is bad. It has improved slightly during the month, but it is still much worse than a year ago. It is fair generally at Clydebank and Dumbarton, moderate with steel shipbuilders at Whiteinch and shipwrights at Renfrew.

Dundee, Leith, and Aberdeen.—Employment is very bad. It has declined during the month, and is very much worse than a year ago.

Belfast.—Employment continues dull, and is much worse than a year ago.

Other Districts.—At Barrow employment remains good with shipwrights, and moderate with iron shipbuilders. It is bad at Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth, and fair generally at Ipswich, Dublin, and Cork.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from 3 Employers' Associations, 22 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents. Compared with a month ago employment shows a slight improvement, but it is not quite so good as it was a year ago.

Brasswork, Bedstead Making, etc.—Employment continues bad in the brass trade generally, but is better than a month ago, and worse than a year ago, with some short time. Wolverhampton is the only exception, and returns employment as fair. At Birmingham in the fender, fire brasses, and bedstead trades employment is bad, most of the fender shops being on short time.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, etc.—The nut and bolt makers report employment as moderate at Birmingham and Smethwick, and in the Black Country generally; as good in South Wales. In Birmingham machine-made rivet makers report employment as moderate, and worse than a month ago; wire and cut nail makers as fair. In the Wolverhampton district, malleable nail and protector makers are quiet, and employment is slack with makers of spike nails, rivets, and wrought nails in the Halesowen district.

Tubes.—In South Staffordshire employment is bad in the tube trade generally, and is worse than a month and a year ago, with some short time. In Birmingham the cased and brass brazed tube makers are moderately, the copper brazed tube makers, fairly, employed. In South Wales employment has been good.

Chains, Anchors, Anvils, Vices, etc.—In the Cradley district employment is reported as quiet with chain makers and strikers, and makers of side-welded and block chains. At Pontypridd employment has improved during the month; on the North-East Coast chain makers and strikers report employment as good. With anchor smiths employment is quiet at Cradley, but has slightly improved during the month at Pontypridd.

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES; COTTON TRADE.

With anvil and vice makers at Dudley employment is reported as about the same as a month ago and better than a year ago; but there is some short time. Axle makers at Birmingham and West Bromwich report employment as good, as also spring makers at West Bromwich. At Wednesbury railway spring, axle, and carriage workers have no change to report. Stampers and piercers are moderately employed at Walsall. Employment is slack with makers of bits, stirrups, case hames and cart gear.

Locks, Keys, and General Hardware.—Employment continues bad in the lock, key and latch trade in Wolverhampton and Willenhall, and there is an increase in the proportion of short time worked. Hollow-ware makers at Birmingham and West Bromwich report employment as quiet, with some short time at the latter place. Employment is moderate at Wolverhampton with hollow-ware tanners and turners, galvanizers and jappers; good with galvanizers in South Wales; slack with hollow-ware stampers at Sheffield. In the Wolverhampton district, makers of Brazil and plantation hoes report employment as good; makers of iron hurdles and fences, as moderate; trap makers, fork drawers, and spade finishers at Stourbridge as quiet.

Files, Edge Tools, etc.—In Birmingham file cutters report employment as bad. In Sheffield the file trade reports employment as moderate in some sections, slack in others. In Warrington file smiths are slack. Edge tool makers are moderately employed at Birmingham; slack at Wolverhampton and at Sheffield.

Cutlery, etc.—In Sheffield the cutlery trades show no improvement, the reports from the various branches ranging from moderate to bad. At Oughtibridge workers in the different branches of the sheep shear trade report employment as good. At Redditch employment is now quiet both in the needle and fish hook trades, and is slack with needle makers at Nottingham.

Stoves, Grates, etc.—From most centres employment in this branch is reported as slack, except on the North East Coast, where it is reported as brisk.

Sheet Metal, etc.—In London workers on sheet metal generally report employment as bad, with some short time. In Birmingham the workers on tinplate report employment as moderate, iron-plate workers as quiet. It is moderate with tin-plate workers in the Wolverhampton district; bad with iron-plate workers. Employment for tinplate workers is good at Exeter, fair at Edinburgh, Aberdeen, and Dublin. Reports from other centres show employment to be quiet. Nickel, copper and spelter workers in South Wales have been well employed during the month.

Gold, Silver, Britannia Metal, etc.—In London silver spoon and fork makers report employment as still quiet, but better than a year ago; spoon and fork finishers as very fair; small-silver workers as quiet; silver-plate polishers as bad with short time; silversmiths as fair; electro-platers as moderate; goldsmiths and jewellers as bad, but a little better than a month or a year ago, though there is still short time; diamond workers as fair, and better than a month and a year ago; gold beaters as fair. In Birmingham these trades are quiet; in Sheffield the platers and gilders are well employed; other sections are slack. The Coventry watch trade reports employment as slack, especially in the hand-made section.

Wirework.—Wire drawers report employment as steady at Halifax, moderate at Sheffield, slack elsewhere. Brass and copper wire drawers in Birmingham as good. Weavers as very good at London and Glasgow; moderate at Birmingham. Employment with wire workers is reported as good at Glasgow, slightly improving at Manchester, bad with short time in London.

Farriers.—Employment generally is reported as quiet, but there are exceptions locally, as on the North East Coast where it is good, and at Nottingham, Leicester, Dundee, Aberdeen, Dublin, and in Suffolk and Essex, where it is reported as fair.

COTTON TRADE.

INFORMATION as to the state of employment in the different branches of the cotton trade during the last week in June has been received through the Trade Correspondent to the Department from 521 firms employing 137,656 workpeople.

Returns relating specially to the employment of women in the cotton trade during the month of June have also been received from women Correspondents with regard to spinning and weaving factories usually employing about 120,000 women and girls. Information has also been received from the Local Correspondents.

The general result of the information thus obtained shows that there was an improvement in the spinning branch, although owing to the continuance of organised short time the percentage of operatives in mills working short time was still considerable; the amount of time lost was, however, generally speaking, only 8 hours a week instead of 15½ as in May and the earlier part of June.

In the weaving branch also an improvement was apparent, but there was nevertheless a considerable amount of slackness and short time during the month.

In the following Table the workpeople included in the employers returns are shown separately for the preparing, spinning, weaving, and other departments, together with the percentage increase apparent compared with a month ago and a year ago:—

Departments.	Number of Workpeople Employed in last week in			Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in number employed in last week of June, 1904, as compared with	
	June, 1904.	May, 1904.	June, 1903.	A month ago.	A year ago.
Preparing ...	19,074	18,990	18,808	+ 0.4	+ 1.4
Spinning ...	28,814	28,499	27,811	+ 1.1	+ 3.6
Weaving ...	75,830	75,441	73,619	+ 0.5	+ 3.0
Others... ..	13,938	13,877	13,812	+ 0.4	+ 0.9
Total	137,656	136,798	134,050	+ 0.6	+ 2.7

It appears from the above Table that the number of persons employed by the 521 employers sending returns increased in every department compared with a month ago and a year ago.

SPINNING.

The following Table shows the percentage of the total number of workpeople covered by the returns who were employed in mills working short time during the last week of the months June and May, 1904, and June, 1903. It also shows the percentage of spindles working during the last week of those months:—

District.	Percentage of Total Number employed who were in Mills working short time in Preparing and Spinning Departments.			Spindles Working per cent. of Total Number of Spindles.		
	June, 1904.	May, 1904.	June, 1903.	June, 1904.	May, 1904.	June, 1903.
Ashton	51.1	57.0	25.3	91.3	92.0	94.8
Stockport, Glossop, and Hyde	34.2	56.4	37.6	97.9	94.2	86.4
Oldham	67.0	68.7	44.9	94.7	91.8	96.2
Bolton	7.2	52.6	14.4	99.2	97.8	99.0
Wigan	26.3	51.6	39.1	95.8	95.4	90.1
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Todmorden and Walsden	55.2	62.1	51.6	95.7	96.4	98.3
Preston, Chorley, and Lancaster	5.1	13.7	25.4	95.5	95.8	72.8
Blackburn, Accrington, and Darwen	13.3	41.7	40.1	98.8	91.8	93.4
Burnley, Padiham, Bacup, Clitheroe, Colne and Nelson	35.5	50.1	74.8	100.0	99.9	99.8
Manchester	61.0	44.3	50.3	98.7	93.5	97.9
Total	42.7	56.1	38.5	95.8	94.4	94.1

The diminution of short time is not fully represented in the above Table. As reported in the June LABOUR

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—COTTON TRADE.

GAZETTE, the Federation of the Master Cotton Spinners' Associations on June 14th, recommended a continuance of short time working at the rate of 47½ hours per week instead of 40 hours. This recommendation was largely adopted by firms working short time, and the increase in employment is therefore considerably greater than would appear from the above figures, especially in districts like Oldham and Ashton where a higher percentage of operatives have been working short time. In Oldham also it may be noted that a smaller percentage of spindles were standing. The only district showing no improvement in the percentage working short time is the Manchester and neighbourhood district, which shows an increase from 44.3 per cent. to 64.0 per cent. compared with the end of May.

Compared with the corresponding week a year ago the percentage working short time shows an increase, but it was only on the last day of that week (June 27th, 1903) that organised weekly short time came into operation.

Of the 37,800 women and girls included in the returns for June from women correspondents, 11,000 were in the Bolton and Leigh district, in which Egyptian cotton is largely used; of these 71 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the month, compared with 61 per cent. during May, and 85 per cent. during June, 1903. Of the 26,800 included in the returns for the remaining districts, 44 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the month, compared with 36 per cent. of those covered by the returns during May, and 19 per cent. during June, 1903.

WEAVING.

The following Table shows the percentage of the total number of workpeople covered by the returns who were employed in mills working short time during the last week of June and May, 1904, and June 1903; it also shows the percentage of looms working during the last week of those months.

District.	Percentage of Total Number employed who were in Mills working short time in Weaving and other Departments.			Looms working per cent. of Total Number of Looms.		
	June, 1904.	May, 1904.	June, 1903.	June, 1904.	May, 1904.	June, 1903.
Ashton	37.0	63.2	40.1	71.2	60.3	81.1
Stockport, Glossop, Hyde and Denton	15.4	46.6	52.9	95.6	98.5	70.9
Oldham	48.7	69.8	22.6	75.4	77.3	82.2
Bolton	13.2	36.0	10.6	99.4	99.2	99.3
Wigan	42.7	83.3	53.5	91.1	92.9	93.3
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Todmorden and Walsden	33.1	52.9	59.1	86.4	84.2	89.0
Preston, Chorley & Lancaster	9.7	10.2	16.1	93.8	94.7	93.0
Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen	1.7	19.7	19.8	96.9	96.0	91.6
Burnley, Padiham, Bacup, Clitheroe, Colne & Nelson	5.0	16.5	17.6	98.0	97.5	97.1
Manchester	39.7	41.7	46.4	93.8	93.5	94.7
Total	15.1	30.9	28.6	94.2	94.0	94.4

Compared with a month ago every district shows a decline in the percentage of operatives working short time; the number of looms standing is practically the same. Compared with a year ago the percentage working short time has decreased generally, but has greatly increased in the Oldham district; the number of looms standing shows a slight diminution on the whole, but there is an increase of such slackness in the Ashton, and Stalybridge, Oldham and neighbourhood, Bury and Rochdale, and Wigan districts.

Of the 85,700 women and girls included in the returns from women correspondents 57 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment throughout the month, compared with 48 per cent. during May and 38 per cent. a year ago.

PRICES OF RAW COTTON.

American Cotton.—During the month of June the average price of raw cotton "middling American" at

Liverpool was 6.46d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 6.90d. and the lowest 6.04d. For the period from 1st to 11th July, the average price of "middling American" was 6.14d. per lb.

Egyptian Cotton.—The price of "good fair Egyptian" during June averaged 6.95d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 7.16d. and the lowest 6.6d. For the period from 1st to 11th July the average price of "good fair Egyptian" was 6.69d. per lb.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following Table shows the number of bales of cotton imported, forwarded from ports to inland towns, and exported:—

	Month of June.			Six months ended June.		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Imported	Bales. 114,661	Bales. 117,337	Bales. 120,837	Bales. 2,022,978	Bales. 1,951,536	Bales. 1,627,531
Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns	201,641	176,206	209,403	1,636,366	1,712,325	1,373,746
Exported	44,535	40,992	28,565	217,922	237,734	231,733

Particulars of the various descriptions of cotton forwarded from ports to inland towns are given below:—

Description of Cotton.	Month of June.			Six Months ended June.		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
American	Bales. 159,122	Bales. 142,916	Bales. 173,225	Bales. 1,332,623	Bales. 1,423,977	Bales. 1,084,852
Brazilian	13,451	11,899	2,054	76,857	74,944	42,339
East Indian	1,131	6,165	9,697	7,352	31,163	56,343
Egyptian	22,300	11,790	21,960	177,700	150,645	68,112
Miscellaneous	5,628	3,436	2,467	41,824	31,599	22,218
Total	201,641	176,206	209,403	1,636,366	1,712,325	1,373,746

The quantity of all kinds of American cotton forwarded from English ports to inland towns during the first six months of 1904, was 1,084,852 bales, or 339,125 bales less than in the same period in 1903. The corresponding figures for Egyptian cotton are 168,112 in 1904, and 150,645 in 1903.

The visible supply of American cotton for the United Kingdom on 8th July was estimated by the Liverpool Cotton Association to be about 367,820 bales, compared with 408,600 bales at the corresponding date a year ago.

The following Table shows the quantities and average declared values of exported cotton yarn and cotton piece goods in June, 1904, and in the corresponding months of 1902 and 1903. The declared value of the cotton yarn and twist exported during June averaged 14.10d. per lb., as compared with 11.56d. per lb. in June, 1903, an increase of about 22 per cent. The corresponding value for May, 1904, was 14.50d. per lb. The increase per yard in the value of exported cotton piece goods amounted to about 8 per cent., the value being 2.79d. per yard in June, 1904, as compared with 2.58d. in June, 1903. The declared value in May, 1904, was 2.76d. per yard:—

	Quantities exported.			Average Value in Pence.		
	June, 1902.	June, 1903.	June, 1904.	June, 1902.	June, 1903.	June, 1904.
Cotton Yarn & Twist—Grey	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	per lb.	per lb.	per lb.
	7,625,000	7,882,600	9,446,100	11.38	11.36	14.21
Bleached and Dyed..	2,888,700	2,135,700	2,010,900	11.29	11.31	13.56
	Total	10,513,700	10,018,300	11,457,000	11.35	11.56	14.10
Cotton Piece Goods—Grey or Unbleached	yds.	yds.	yds.	per yd.	per yd.	per yd.
	163,350,800	138,880,600	148,891,300	2.01	2.04	2.23
Bleached	94,717,700	88,945,200	101,668,500	2.50	2.57	2.65
	70,425,200	69,061,000	83,761,200	2.68	2.76	2.92
Dyed or Manufactured, of Dyed Yarn	64,682,500	62,639,100	74,580,600	3.47	3.60	3.96
	Total	393,376,200	359,525,900	408,901,600	2.49	2.58	2.79

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES; OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from the Trade Correspondent of the Department based on information supplied by 242 firms employing 72,392 workpeople, from women correspondents with regard to factories in Yorkshire usually employing about 31,200 women and girls, and from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and the Local Correspondents.

The number paid wages by the firms making returns at the end of June was 72,392, compared with 71,334 at the end of May, and 72,992 at the end of June, 1903, an increase of 1.5 per cent. compared with a month ago (when the numbers were diminished on account of holidays), and a decrease of 0.8 per cent. compared with a year ago.

From the following Table it will be seen that the slight increase compared with a month ago was general in the worsted trade, and was a considerable one in the woollen trade in Yorkshire, which also showed an increase compared with a year ago. In the woollen trade in Scotland employment shows a decline compared with a year ago.

Trade and District	Number of workpeople employed by firms making returns at the end of			Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on	
	June, 1904.	May, 1904.	June, 1903.	May, 1904.	June, 1903.
Worsted—					
Bradford	22,049	21,634	22,401	+ 1.9	- 1.6
Other Yorkshire Districts	19,823	19,691	19,922	+ 0.7	- 0.5
Other Districts	1,850	1,847	1,887	+ 0.2	- 2.0
Total	43,722	43,172	44,210	+ 1.3	- 1.1
Woollen—					
Yorkshire	10,365	10,087	10,285	+ 4.7	+ 2.7
Scotland	7,630	7,681	8,094	- 0.7	- 5.7
Other Districts	3,788	3,776	3,781	+ 0.3	+ 0.2
Total	21,983	21,544	22,160	+ 2.0	- 0.8
Woollen and Worsted (not separated)	6,687	6,618	6,622	+ 1.0	+ 1.0
Total Woollen and Worsted	72,392	71,334	72,992	+ 1.5	- 0.8

In the next Table it is seen that the increase compared with a month ago was apparent in every branch, being most marked in the Weaving branch. Some of the increase is due to the diminution in numbers at the end of May on account of the holidays. Compared with a year ago employment still shows a decline in most branches; in the Spinning branch in Yorkshire some improvement is apparent.

District and Branch of Trade.	Number of workpeople employed by firms making returns at end of			Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on	
	June, 1904.	May, 1904.	June, 1903.	May, 1904.	June, 1903.
Sorting and Combing—					
Yorkshire	6,166	6,088	6,308	+ 1.3	- 2.3
Scotland	375	376	384	- 0.3	- 2.3
Other Districts	380	375	368	+ 1.3	+ 3.3
Total	6,921	6,839	7,060	+ 1.2	- 2.0
Spinning—					
Yorkshire	23,324	23,051	23,020	+ 1.2	+ 1.3
Scotland	2,294	2,326	2,428	- 1.4	- 5.5
Other Districts	1,858	1,848	1,873	+ 0.5	- 0.8
Total	27,476	27,225	27,321	+ 0.9	+ 0.6
Weaving—					
Yorkshire	17,729	17,092	18,110	+ 3.8	- 2.1
Scotland	3,751	3,751	3,974	...	- 4.2
Other Districts	1,689	1,688	1,678	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
Total	23,169	22,511	23,762	+ 2.9	- 2.2
Other Departments—					
Yorkshire	9,207	9,195	9,076	+ 1.1	+ 1.4
Scotland	3,900	3,941	4,100	- 1.0	- 4.9
Other Districts	1,719	1,713	1,733	+ 0.4	- 0.8
Total	14,826	14,759	14,909	+ 0.5	- 0.6
TOTAL FOR ALL BRANCHES—					
Yorkshire	56,426	55,316	56,514	+ 2.0	- 0.2
Scotland	10,320	10,391	10,826	- 0.7	- 4.7
Other Districts	5,646	5,624	5,652	+ 0.4	- 0.1
Total, Woollen and Worsted	72,392	71,334	72,992	+ 1.5	- 0.8

Of the 31,200 women and girls in the Yorkshire factories reported on by women correspondents, 72 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment during the month, compared with 61 per cent. in May (exclusive of annual holidays), and 80 per cent. in June, 1903 (exclusive of annual holidays); 17 per cent. were employed in factories running full time, but giving only partial employment; and 11 per cent. in factories running short time.

The following is a summary of the reports received from all sources as regards the principal districts:—

Bradford District.—Employment in the worsted trade shows a slight improvement. Wool sorters report it as still bad, but with fewer unemployed; wool combers as fairly good; in the spinning and weaving branches improvement is reported. Of the 10,300 women and girls usually employed in the factories reported on by women correspondents, 60 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment during the month, compared with 47 per cent. in May; 18 per cent. were in factories running full time, but giving only partial employment, and 22 per cent. were in factories working short time.

Keighley District.—Wool sorters report employment as slack, but in other branches employment continues fairly good.

Halifax District.—Employment has improved, fewer operatives working short time, but it is still quiet, and considerable slackness is reported.

Huddersfield District.—In the worsted trade the numbers employed by the firms making returns show an increase compared with a month ago, and are the same as a year ago. Employment in Huddersfield is reported as moderate, with one or two firms working overtime, but with several looms stopped in one large firm. The improvement in the woollen trade has been maintained; some firms continue to work overtime, and one or two in the Colne Valley are running night and day.

Leeds and Wakefield District.—Employment in the Leeds mills generally has been only quiet, being affected by the slackness in the ready-made clothing trade. In the blanket trade manufacturers are busy, one firm running two shifts. At Wakefield spinning and weaving factories are on short time.

The Heavy Woollen District (Dewsbury, Batley, Ossett, etc.).—Firms employing 3,150 workpeople show an increase of 11.7 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago and of 8.8 per cent. compared with a year ago. A few firms report short time, but most of the operatives reported on have worked in mills giving full employment, and in several cases overtime is reported.

Scotland.—Employment shows a slight decline and is worse than a year ago. In Hawick it continues bad, short time and slackness prevailing. In Galashiels a slight decline is apparent, and employment is worse than a year ago. In Selkirk employment continues good, and is about the same as a year ago.

Other Districts.—Employment in the Trowbridge district continues good in all branches. Full time is being worked in Wales, at Newtown and Llanidloes. At Rochdale and Milnrow employment is reported as slack; at Stockport it continues moderate.

OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.

Jute and Flax Trades.

ACCORDING to information received from two Employers' Associations, from one Trade Union, and from Local Correspondents, employment in the jute and flax trades continues moderate in Scotland, and shows little change compared with a year ago. In Ulster employment is reported as good in spinning mills; in weaving factories it is worse than a year ago.

In Dundee employment continues moderate. Information has been received with regard to jute and flax

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—OTHER TEXTILES; TAILORING TRADE.

factories, employing about 8,800 men and boys, and 20,900 women and girls. From this it appears that out of 38 spinning mills, 2 worked short time, and 4 gave only partial employment. Out of 32 weaving factories 1 worked short time, and 3 gave only partial employment. The Trade Union operatives in Forfar and Brechin report employment as moderate.

In Ulster the Employers' Association reports employment in the spinning mills as good. In Belfast the Trade Unions report employment as bad with beetlers and power loom tenters; dull with power loom yarn dressers; moderate with flax dressers and flax roughers; fairly good with hackle and gill makers; good with linen lappers. The women's Trade Union reports it as bad.

At Barnsley employment in the linen trade for export is moderate, for home trade quiet.

Hosiery Trade.

According to information received from correspondents of the department, one Employers' Association, and one Trade Union, employment in the hosiery trade continues bad, and is worse than a year ago.

Leicester District.—Returns received through the Local Correspondent from hosiery manufacturers employing 9,855 workpeople in their factories at the end of June show an increase of 4.9 per cent. on the number employed a month ago (when the numbers were diminished owing to holidays), but a decrease of 2.5 per cent. on the number employed a year ago. Of the total number of operatives, 45 per cent. were employed by firms reporting short time in some departments during the month, compared with 54 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in May. In Leicester employment continues bad, and is worse than a year ago. In Loughborough it is slightly brisker on seamless hose, but still very slack generally. In Hinckley employment is very quiet.

Nottingham and Derby District.—Employment is reported as bad, and short time is general. In the country districts it is reported as exceptionally slack.

Scotland.—In Hawick employment continues bad, and is worse than a year ago. In Selkirk it continues fairly good, and is much the same as a year ago.

Lace Trade.

According to information received from one Employers' Association and the Local Correspondent employment in the Nottingham lace trade is still bad, and shows a further decline in the minor sections of the trade since last month; it is decidedly worse than a year ago. Employment in the plain net branch, however, is reported as fairly good. It is reported as bad in the levers branch, as quiet in the curtain branch. At Beeston and Bulwell employment is slack; at Kimberley and Stapleford it is moderate. At Long Eaton it is reported as still bad; at Ilkeston over 50 per cent. are working short time. In Glasgow employment is bad and much short time is reported.

Carpet Trade.

According to information received from employers through the Trade Correspondent of the Department, from one Trade Union, and from Local Correspondents, employment in the woollen carpet trade is slack in England, good generally in Scotland.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making returns at the end of June was 5,339, compared with 5,329 at the end of May, and 5,286 at the end of June, 1903, an increase of 0.2 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 1.0 per cent. compared with a year ago.

At Kidderminster employment is slack, the mills averaging 4 days a week. At Bridgnorth it is fair. In Midlothian employment with carpet weavers continues good, and is better than a year ago. In the Glasgow district employment is reported as good, with 10 per cent. of the operatives working overtime.

Printing, Dyeing, Bleaching, and Finishing.

Information has been received from three Employers' Associations, from two Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment with woollen and worsted dyers in the West Riding is reported as quiet, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. With cotton dyers employment, although still only moderate, is reported as slightly better than a month ago, and better than a year ago; but in Bolton it is bad, and worse than a year ago. The calico printers in Manchester are working short time; at New Mills they report employment as fair; calico printers' engravers at Dinting report it as good. Employment with hosiery dyers and trimmers is reported as bad in Leicestershire generally, but the Trade Union again reports a slight improvement in Leicester. It is moderate with dyers at Nottingham, and slightly better than in May with hosiery trimmers at Bulwell and Basford. With bleachers at Basford it is slack. In the Glasgow district employment is reported as dull with calendermen; as fair with calico printers; as bad with block printers. In Dundee with finishers and dyers it is reported as worse than a month ago and a year ago, short time being worked in some departments.

TAILORING TRADE.

INFORMATION has been received from Employers, Local Correspondents, and Trade Unions.

Employment in the *bespoke* branch in London has been dull, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In the provinces, it has been fair on the whole. In the *ready-made* branch employment, on the whole, has been bad, although slightly improved in some centres; it is worse generally than a year ago.

Bespoke Branch.—Returns have been received from London firms employing 906 workpeople on their premises and 1,466 outworkers.* According to these returns employment with inworkers was good during the month in firms employing 16 per cent. of the total number, moderate in firms employing 58 per cent., and bad in firms employing 26 per cent. With outworkers* it was good with firms employing 19 per cent., moderate with firms employing 65 per cent., and bad with firms employing 16 per cent. Employment with inworkers was worse than a month ago and a year ago. With outworkers it was much the same as a month ago, and worse than a year ago. The West-end branch of the Trade Union reports employment as bad, and worse than a month ago. A year ago it was described as bad. In Liverpool, Manchester, and Glasgow, employment is reported as fair; in Edinburgh as bad; in Dublin as dull; in Belfast as good.

Ready-made Branch.—In London employment has been moderate, and better than a month ago. Compared with a year ago, it is worse. The Trade Union cutters report employment as bad.

In Leeds employment has been bad, and worse than a month or a year ago. According to returns received from ready-made tailoring manufacturers, employing about 9,100 workpeople in their factories in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops, employment during June was good or fair in firms employing 8 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns, moderate in firms employing 39 per cent., and bad in firms employing 53 per cent. Compared with May, firms employing 36 per cent. report employment as improved, firms employing 11 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 53 per cent. as worse. Compared with a year ago, firms employing 26 per cent. report it as improved, firms employing 6 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 68 per cent. as worse. The Trade Union operatives report employment as bad, with few factories working full time. In Manchester employment is dull, and worse on the whole than a month ago and a year ago; the Jewish tailors are reported as working short time in most establishments. In Bristol employment remains bad

* The numbers may include the same outworkers more than once, and do not include persons employed by outworkers.

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—TAILORING, BOOT AND SHOE TRADES.

and is worse than a year ago. At Stroud an improvement is reported, the operatives working full time. In Staffordshire employment is moderate, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Employment has been fair at Norwich and Colchester, moderate at Ipswich. In Glasgow employment has continued fairly good, but it is not so good as a year ago.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

(For Leather Trades see page 215.)

RETURNS have been received from the Trade Correspondent of the Department based on information supplied by 633 firms employing 76,652 workpeople. Reports have also been furnished by Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.

The number (76,652) employed by all firms making returns at the end of June shows an increase of 2.2 per cent. on the number (75,035) employed by these firms at the end of May, but a decrease of 1.6 per cent. in the number (77,910) employed a year ago. Of the total number of operatives 59 per cent. were employed by firms working full time in all departments throughout June, compared with 74 per cent. of those from whom returns were received for May (except during Whitsun holidays).

The numbers employed alone, however, do not show the full fluctuation in the volume of employment. Accordingly 504 firms, employing 63,602 workpeople, have been good enough to supply returns of the aggregate amount of wages paid on the last four pay days in June, in addition to particulars of the number employed.

The following Table shows the number employed and wages paid in the principal districts, together with the increase or decrease in each compared with a month and a year ago:—

District.	No. of firms making returns of both no. employed and of wages paid.	Workpeople.				Earnings.			
		No. employed at end of June, 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Aggregate amount of wages paid on last four pay days in June, 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with			
			A month ago.	A year ago.		A month ago.	A year ago.		
ENGLAND & WALES.			Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.		
London ...	57	3,796	+ 0.8	+ 3.9	18,982	+ 1.9	+ 7.8		
Leicester ...	74	12,863	+ 6.4	- 3.8	49,801	+ 6.7	+ 4.6		
Leicester Country District	32	3,168	- 0.7	+ 8.0	10,502	+ 4.4	+ 17.7		
Northampton ...	57	7,996	+ 2.6	- 3.2	30,876	+ 10.6	+ 9.0		
Kettering ...	20	2,593	+ 6.7	- 4.4	10,481	+ 17.1	+ 5.9		
Northampton Country District	82	8,660	+ 1.3	- 4.0	29,894	+ 15.7	+ 5.7		
Stafford and District	16	2,514	+ 3.1	- 1.7	8,708	+ 9.7	+ 12.3		
Norwich and District	24	4,050	+ 1.3	- 0.4	13,213	+ 6.8	+ 6.6		
Bristol ...	18	2,332	+ 10.5	- 4.1	8,115	+ 13.1	+ 4.1		
Kingswood ...	24	2,546	+ 3.4	+ 9.1	9,344	+ 19.8	+ 25.4		
Leeds and District ...	36	3,212	+ 1.1	- 7.4	11,631	+ 14.9	+ 5.1		
Manchester and District	10	1,792	+ 3.9	+ 10.9	6,276	- 8.2	+ 23.7		
Birmingham and District	6	893	+ 1.0	- 3.4	2,914	+ 9.3	+ 9.9		
Other parts of England and Wales	22	2,803	- 2.5	+ 2.7	8,471	+ 21.8	+ 18.8		
Total, England and Wales	480	59,218	+ 3.1	- 1.3	219,208	+ 9.7	+ 8.5		
SCOTLAND ...	22	4,066	- 1.2	- 2.2	15,453	- 1.3	- 5.9		
IRELAND ...	2	318	+ 1.9	+ 8.2	944	+ 4.5	+ 6.1		
Total UNITED KINGDOM	504	63,602	+ 2.8	- 1.4	235,605	+ 8.9	+ 7.4		

Compared with a month ago, fourteen districts show an increase from £193,882 to £213,876 in the amount of wages paid by 472 firms making returns, and two show a decrease from £22,597 to £21,729 in the amount paid by 32 firms making returns. The increase is partly due to the inclusion of Whitsuntide in the returns for May. The percentage increase was highest in the miscellaneous group of districts (21.8 per cent.) Kingswood (19.8), Kettering (17.1), Northampton country district (15.7), and Bristol (15.1). There was a decrease of 8.2 per cent. in the Manchester district and of 1.3 per cent. in Scotland.

The net result was an increase of 2.8 per cent. in the

number employed by 504 firms at the end of the month compared with a month ago, and an increase of 8.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid during the month compared with a month ago.

Compared with a year ago, except in Scotland, every district shows an increase in the amount of wages paid, the increase being partly due to the inclusion of Whitsuntide in the figures for June, 1903. The percentage increase was highest in Kingswood (25.4 per cent.), Manchester and district (23.7), the miscellaneous group (18.8), and Leicester country district (17.7). In Scotland there was a decrease of 5.9 per cent. The net result was a decrease of 1.4 per cent. in the number employed at the end of the month, and an increase of 7.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid during the month.

The following is a summary of the reports received from all sources as regards the principal districts:—

London.—Employment continued dull, the slight increase shown in the returns being less than the decrease in the previous month. The operatives' Trade Union report it as quiet and about the same as a month ago and a year ago. The clickers, pressmen and machine-men report it as dull. One branch of handsewn boot-makers reports it as bad with much short time, another branch as fair.

Leicester and District.—The Trade Union lasters and finishers report employment as bad and slightly worse than last month at Leicester, Hinckley, Barwell, and Earl Shilton. The Trade Union clickers and pressmen at Leicester report it as bad.

Northampton, Kettering and District.—The firms making returns show an improvement at Northampton during the month and a marked improvement at Kettering; the decline of 12.5 per cent. in wages paid, shown in the country districts during May was followed by an increase of 15.7 per cent. during June; but throughout the county much slackness is reported. The Trade Union lasters and finishers report employment as still very quiet at Northampton, Kettering, Rushden, Wellingborough and Desborough; as fairly good at Daventry. The Trade Union clickers and pressmen report employment as very slack. Short time is general with army bootmakers.

Stafford and District.—Employment, although still fairly good, is beginning to show a decline and some slackness is reported.

Eastern Counties.—Employment is fairly good at Norwich, but not so good as before Whitsuntide. It is fair at Colchester.

Bristol and Kingswood.—The firms making returns show an improvement in Bristol, but the Trade Union lasters and finishers and clickers report employment as still bad. In Kingswood employment has improved.

Leeds and District.—Employment remains bad. The Trade Union lasters and finishers report it as unchanged; the Trade Union clickers and pressmen report it as still quiet but improved, and the returns from employers show an improvement.

Other Districts in England.—Employment in the Manchester district shows a decline. The Trade Union lasters and finishers report employment as bad in Newcastle and Chesterfield; as slack at Mansfield and Wolverhampton; as moderate at Kendal and Bishop Auckland; as fair at Nottingham, Derby, Liverpool and Plymouth.

Scotland.—Employment shows a slight decline compared with a month ago, and is worse than a year ago. The Trade Union lasters and finishers report it as very slack in Glasgow; as moderate and improved at Maybole; as bad at Kilmarnock; as very quiet at Edinburgh and Dundee. Employment with handsewn shoemakers is good at Edinburgh and Aberdeen.

Imports and Exports.—The following Table gives the quantities and the values of the boots and shoes

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—BOOT AND SHOE TRADE; HAT TRADE; OTHER CLOTHING TRADES; PRINTING, BOOKBINDING AND PAPER TRADES.

imported and exported during the undermentioned periods:—

		Month of June.			Six months ended June.		
		1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Imports	Dozen pairs...	16,954	19,170	16,822	141,937	127,200	116,457
	Value £ ...	63,008	78,216	56,198	500,044	516,646	428,905
Re-Exports	Dozen pairs...	1,973	1,552	892	9,582	11,098	10,185
	Value £ ...	5,607	4,265	2,616	26,487	29,233	26,124
Exports (British and Irish)	Dozen pairs...	54,899	58,001	43,948	334,666	396,519	293,124
	Value £ ...	130,164	126,453	102,995	813,706	939,477	681,429

HAT TRADE.

RETURNS have been received from three Employers' Associations, and from two Trade Unions. Employment shows a decline, and short time is reported in several branches. Trade Unions with 5,319 members have 179 (or 3.4 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 2.9 per cent. at the end of May, and a year ago.

With silk hatters, employment in London is reported as fair, and better than a year ago, but 1½ hours a day short time is still being worked. In Denton employment is again reported by the Trade Union as quiet, and worse than a month ago and a year ago, with much short time. In Glasgow it is reported as very quiet for the season; in Edinburgh as good. The Trade Union silk hatters have 8.2 per cent. of their members unemployed, compared with 7.6 per cent. a month ago, and 7.5 per cent. a year ago.

With felt hatters, employment at Denton is still quiet, and worse than a month ago and a year ago, with about 75 per cent. of Trade Union members on short time. At Stockport it is moderate, and better than last month. At Hyde and Failsworth it is reported as moderate, and better than a month ago and a year ago. At Bury it is fair, and at Bredbury moderate, and rather better than last month at both places. In Warwickshire employment is reported as better than a month ago, and about the same as a year ago. The Trade Union felt hatters have 2.6 per cent. unemployed, compared with 2.2 per cent. at the end of May, and 2.1 per cent. a year ago.

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

INFORMATION has been received from Employers, Local Correspondents, and Trade Unions, and from three Employment Bureaux in London.

Employment in the dressmaking trades, although still fair, shows a decline and is worse than it was a year ago; in the shirt and collar trade it is quiet and worse than a year ago; in the corset trade the number employed has increased compared with a month ago, but has decreased compared with a year ago.

Dress, Millinery, and Mantle Trades.—In London returns from retail firms, chiefly in the West-end district, employing 1,725 dressmakers at the end of June show a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 2.9 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment is fair. Court dressmakers employing 1,699 workpeople at the end of June show a decrease of 5.3 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 6.6 per cent. compared with a year ago; dressmakers employing nearly one-third of the workpeople covered by the returns report employment as quiet or bad at the end of the month; employment with the remaining two-thirds is fairly good. In the wholesale mantle and costume trades employment has been moderate; some firms report it as better than a year ago, but generally it appears to be worse. With mantle makers in retail firms the number employed has declined, compared with a month ago and a year ago. Manufacturers of blouses, aprons, and underclothing report employment as bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In retail firms the number of milliners employed is about the same as a month ago, and shows an increase compared with a year ago; employment is fairly good; in the wholesale branch it is moderate.

Returns from three Employment Bureaux show a decline in the demand for dressmakers and milliners during June, compared with a month ago and with a year ago.

In Manchester employment with mantle makers has been moderate, and worse than a year ago. In the costume and skirt trade employment has been fair; firms employing 1,966 workpeople at the end of June show an increase of 5.3 per cent. on the number employed at the end of May, and of 3.1 per cent., compared with a year ago.

In Glasgow employment in the mantle trade has been fair, and better than a month ago, showing little change compared with a year ago.

Shirt and Collar Trade.—Returns received from shirt and collar manufacturers in England, Scotland, and Ireland, employing 8,896 workpeople in their factories at the end of June show no change in the number employed at the end of June compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 3.3 per cent. compared with a year ago. Firms employing 33 per cent. of the total number report employment as good or fair, and firms employing 67 per cent. as quiet or bad, to be compared with 58 per cent. and 42 per cent. respectively at the end of May.

Corset Trade.—Returns received from corset manufacturers employing 4,323 workpeople in their factories at the end of June, show an increase of 2.5 per cent. on the number employed at the end of May and a decrease of 4.1 per cent. on the number employed a year ago. Firms employing 61 per cent. of the total number included in the returns report employment as good or fair, and firms employing 39 per cent. as quiet or bad, to be compared with 72 per cent. and 28 per cent. respectively at the end of May.

PRINTING, BOOKBINDING, AND PAPER TRADES.

RETURNS have been furnished by 16 Employers' Associations, by 95 Employers in England and 33 in Scotland, by Trade Unions with nearly 55,000 members, and by Local Correspondents.

PRINTING AND BOOKBINDING TRADES.

Employment remains slack. It is rather better than a month ago, but not quite so good as a year ago. In letterpress printing Trade Unions with 39,063 members had 4.9 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 5.4 per cent. in May, and 4.3 per cent. in June, 1903. In lithographic printing Trade Unions with 6,502 members had 4.8 per cent. unemployed, against 4.9 a month ago, and 4.3 a year ago. Lithographic artists are fairly well employed. The process trade is busy. With bookbinders employment remains bad, the percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of June being 6.6, against 7.5 a month ago, and 6.0 a year ago.

In the following Table are shown the percentages unemployed in certain Trade Unions in the Printing and Bookbinding Trades in the principal districts, compared with those for a month and a year ago:—

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of June, 1904, included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		June, 1904.	May, 1904.	June, 1903.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London ...	22,929	4.8	5.7	4.7	- 0.9	+ 0.1
Northern Counties ...	1,455	4.0	5.1	4.9	- 1.1	- 0.9
Lancs. and Cheshire...	6,796	7.9	7.7	5.8	+ 0.2	+ 2.1
Yorkshire ...	4,158	4.7	5.5	4.1	- 0.8	+ 0.6
East Midlands ...	1,999	4.7	4.3	4.5	+ 0.4	+ 0.2
West Midlands ...	2,455	7.5	6.6	4.9	+ 0.9	+ 2.6
Eastern Counties ...	381	1.3	1.8	0.8	- 0.5	+ 0.5
S. & S. W. Counties...	2,626	2.6	2.8	3.0	- 0.2	- 0.4
Wales and Mon. ...	798	3.0	2.8	3.8	+ 0.2	- 0.8
Scotland ...	6,336	3.4	4.0	3.4	- 0.6	...
Ireland ...	2,616	7.1	8.7	7.9	- 1.6	- 0.8
United Kingdom ...	52,550	5.1	5.6	4.5	- 0.5	+ 0.6

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—PRINTING, BOOKBINDING AND PAPER TRADES; FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

The following is a summary of the reports received from all sources as regards the principal districts:—

London.—Employment has somewhat improved, compared with a month ago, but shows little general change as compared with a year ago. Trade Unions of letterpress printers with 17,130 members had 4.2 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 4.8 per cent. a month ago and 4.1 per cent. a year ago. In the lithographic trade employment is slack with printers and good with artists, the percentage of unemployed Trade Union members being 5.7 at the end of June, against 6.7 in May and 5.5 a year ago. With bookbinders employment remains bad. Of 3,775 Trade Union members in this section, 7.5 per cent. were unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 9.3 per cent. in May, and 6.9 in June, 1903.

Northern Counties.—Employment is quiet generally, but good with letterpress printers at Darlington and lithographic printers at Carlisle.

Lancashire and Cheshire.—Employment is bad generally, but good at Bolton and Newton-le-Willows. Lithographic artists are fairly well employed.

Yorkshire.—Employment is quiet generally, but with letterpress printers at Scarborough and Wakefield and lithographic printers and bookbinders at Bradford and Huddersfield it is fair; with letterpress printers at York and lithographic printers at Hull it is good.

East Midland Counties.—Employment is bad at Nottingham; fair at Northampton and Lincoln; good at Derby. At Leicester it is moderate with letterpress printers; fair with lithographic printers; good with bookbinders.

West Midland Counties.—Employment is quiet at Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Hanley, and Coventry; fair at Walsall, West Bromwich, and Stafford; good at Shrewsbury.

Eastern, Southern and South-Western Counties, and Wales.—Employment is fairly good generally, but slack with letterpress printers at Cardiff, Bath, and Portsmouth.

Scotland.—At Edinburgh employment is fair with printers; dull with bookbinders. Employment remains quiet at Glasgow and Aberdeen; good at Dundee.

Ireland.—Employment continues dull generally, but is reported as fair with letterpress printers at Dublin, and good at Londonderry.

PAPER TRADES.

Employment in these trades remains fair. Branches of Trade Unions with 2,414 members had 2.7 per cent. unemployed at the end of June, as compared with 3.0 per cent. at the end of May, and 2.8 per cent. a year ago. Returns received from 28 employers in Scotland show that 4,548 workpeople were employed by them at the end of June, as compared with 4,532 at the end of May, and 4,498 at the end of June, 1903. Employment in Scotland, though still fairly good, was rather worse than a month ago and a year ago.

A return for May which has recently been received from the Papermakers' Association of Great Britain and Ireland relates to 95 paper mills in England, viz.: 47 machine mills in the North, 25 machine and 5 hand mills in the South, and 18 machine mills in the Midlands. The total number of persons employed at 94 of these mills at the end of May, 1904, was 14,612, as compared with 14,374 at the end of May, 1903. The return shows that in the Northern district employment was reported as good or fairly good at 56 per cent. of the mills, and fair at 23 per cent. In the Midlands 47 per cent. were reported as good or fairly good and 41 per cent. as fair, while in the South 80 per cent. were good or fairly good and 10 per cent. fair. At the other mills employment was reported as quiet or slack. Employment with makers of writing papers was fairly good in May, 1904, and much the same as in May, 1903. With makers of printing and newspapers it was good, and better than a year ago. With makers of brown and grocery papers it was fair.

Some short time has been worked at a few of the mills during 1904.

FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

INFORMATION has been received from 4 Employers' Associations, from 36 Trade Unions with 33,603 members, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment continued dull during June, and was about the same as a month ago, but worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members in the furnishing and woodworking trades at the end of June was 5.5, as compared with 5.3 per cent. in May, and 3.1 per cent. a year ago.

Millsawyers and Woodworking Machinists.

Employment generally with millsawyers and wood-working machinists was quiet, about the same as a month ago, but worse than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 4,826 show 2.0 (or 4.6 per cent.) unemployed at the end of June, as compared with 4.7 per cent. at the end of May, and 2.7 per cent. a year ago. Reports show that employment was bad at Plymouth, Gloucester, Birmingham, Hull, and Dundee; dull at Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Dublin; slack in London, and in the Tees and Hartlepool district; quiet at Grantham, Sheffield, and Liverpool; moderate at Bristol, Leicester, and Nottingham; unsettled in the Tyne district; fair in Suffolk and Essex, and at Northampton and Aberdeen; and good at Lincoln, in the South Wales district, and at Cork.

Furnishing Trades.

In the furnishing trades employment was bad, and worse than both a month ago and a year ago. Sixteen Trade Unions, with a membership of 13,091, show 1,044 (or 8.0 per cent.) unemployed at the end of June, as compared with 6.9 per cent. at the end of May, and 2.5 per cent. a year ago. According to the reports received, employment with cabinet makers was bad in London, and at Birmingham, Leicester, and Nottingham; slack at Hull, Accrington, Warrington, and Manchester; quiet at Sheffield, Rotherham, Liverpool, and Edinburgh; moderate at Bath; fair in Suffolk and Essex, and at Haslingden, Burnley, Dundee, and Aberdeen; improving at Leeds; and good in the South Wales and Tees and Hartlepool districts. With upholsterers employment was dull at Liverpool; quiet in London, and at Nottingham, Edinburgh and Belfast; fair at Manchester, Glasgow, and Dublin; busy at Barnsley; fairly good in the Wear district; and good in the Tyne district, and at Aberdeen. With French polishers it was bad in London and at Belfast; dull at Liverpool; quiet at Edinburgh; and fair at Manchester and Glasgow.

Coopers.

Employment with coopers was dull, but better than a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 5,181 report 222 (or 4.3 per cent.) as unemployed at the end of June, as compared with 5.6 per cent. at the end of May, and 4.9 per cent. a year ago. Reports received show that it was bad at Birmingham, Burton-on-Trent, Liverpool, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Greenock; dull at Bristol and Belfast; slack at Manchester; moderate in London and at Cork; fair at Nottingham, Hull, and Dublin; fairly good in the Tyne district; and good in the Peterhead and Fraserburgh districts.

Coachbuilding.

In the coachbuilding industry employment was moderate, and about the same as a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions of coachmakers, wheelwrights, smiths, &c., with a membership of 8,114, report 230 (or 2.8 per cent.) as unemployed at the end of June, the same percentage a month ago, and 2.6 per cent. a year ago. Employment was slack at Hull, quiet in London and at Birmingham and Belfast; moderate at Exeter, Gloucester, Leicester, Nottingham, Liverpool, Manchester, and Cork; fair at Plymouth, Swindon, Derby, Sheffield, Edinburgh, Dundee, and Dublin; and good at Northampton, Leeds, and Glasgow.

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES; GLASS, &c., TRADES; LEATHER TRADES; AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

Miscellaneous.

Brushmakers.—Employment generally with brush-makers was slack, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions, with a membership of 1,695, report 98 (or 5.8 per cent.) as unemployed at the end of June, as compared with 4.7 per cent. at the end of May, and 3.6 per cent. a year ago. Employment is reported as bad at Hull; slack at Leeds; quiet in London and at Belfast; moderate at Leicester and Nottingham; fair at Plymouth and Norwich; and good at Bristol, Glasgow, and Dublin.

Other Trades.—Employment with packing-case makers was bad at Birmingham, dull in London and at Glasgow, quiet at Belfast, and fair at Bolton; with basket makers it was bad at Nottingham, moderate at Leicester, fair in London, and good at Glasgow; with stick makers and mounters it was bad in London; with lath-renders it was bad in London and in the Tyne district, quiet at Dundee, fair at Hull, and good at Edinburgh; with wood-turners it was good at Glasgow; with carvers it was bad at Birmingham; with gilders it was slack in London and quiet at Glasgow; with bobbin and shuttle makers it was moderate at Dundee and busy at Barnsley; with organ builders it was fair in London and good at Sheffield; with pianoforte and American organ makers in London it was bad.

GLASS, POTTERY, AND BRICK AND TILE TRADES.

INFORMATION has been received from 12 Employers' Associations, 11 Trade Unions in the Glass Trade with 5,026 members, 1 Trade Union in the Brick Trade, Local Correspondents, and 1 firm of employers.

Employment in the Glass trade continued moderate in the bottle-making branch, and slack on the whole in the flint-glass branch. In the Pottery trades, and in the Brick and Tile trades, it continued slack.

Glass Trades.—Employment with glass-bottle makers is reported as bad at Canning Town, Bristol, Barnsley, Mexboro', and Leeds; dull at St. Helens, Newton-le-Willows, and Dublin; slack in the Wear district and at Seaham Harbour; moderate at Wakefield; and quiet at Castleford. With makers of medicine bottles at Rotherham employment was quiet. Flint-glass makers report employment as bad at Gateshead and Edinburgh; slack at Glasgow and Stourbridge; and fair at Birmingham. Flint-glass cutters report it as bad at Wordsley, Edinburgh, and Glasgow; and moderate at Birmingham. Employment with flint-glass workers at Barnsley continued moderate. With sheet-glass flatteners at St. Helens it was fair; with pressed-glass workers it was bad at Gateshead and dull at Glasgow; with plate glass bevellers and silverers at Birmingham it continued fair; and with decorative glass workers at Liverpool it was good. With glass blowers in London employment showed a slight improvement.

Pottery Trades.—In Staffordshire employment was slack with hollow-ware and sanitary pressers, china and earthenware decorators, printers and transferers, ovenmen and kilnmen, cratemakers and packers, with much short time in all branches. It was also slack with china potters at Longton. With hollow-ware and sanitary pressers at Swadincote (Derbyshire) and Newcastle-on-Tyne employment was bad. It was moderate on the whole with earthenware workers in the Woodville district. Employment with potters was good in the Rotherham district, and in the Bridgwater district. In Devonshire it was quiet at Kingsteignton, and fair at Barnstaple and Kingskerswell.

In Scotland employment was good, and better than a month ago. In the Glasgow district it was dull with tobacco-pipe makers and finishers, fair with stoneware throwers, and bad with white hollow-ware potters.

Brickmaking.—Reports show that employment continued bad in the Birmingham, West Bromwich, and Glasgow districts, and at Nottingham. It was slack in North Wales; steady at Cambridge, Norwich, and Wroxham;

quiet at Calstock; moderate at Plymouth, Bradford, and in the Tees and Hartlepool district; fair at Oldham and in the South Staffordshire district; busy at Exeter and Newton Abbot; and good in Suffolk and Essex, the Market Harborough district, and in South Wales. In the Bristol district employment improved, and at Bridgwater it was good.

LEATHER TRADES.

(For Boot and Shoe Trades see p. 212.)

RETURNS have been received from 2 Employers' Associations, 23 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents. These returns indicate that there is no improvement in the state of employment, which generally remains bad, with a large amount of short time. The percentage of Trade Union members reported as unemployed at the end of June was 10.2, as compared with 9.5 in May, and 6.0 in June, 1903.

Skinner, Tanners, Curriers, Dressers, etc.—In these branches employment generally shows no improvement, and is worse than a month and a year ago. The exceptions are skinner and grounders at Leeds and in London, who report a slight improvement. There is also some improvement with shavers at Leeds, and in the Bolton and Wigan district. At Bristol employment is fair.

Saddle and Harness Makers, etc.—In London employment is bad and worse than a month ago. At Walsall gig saddlers report a slight improvement, but work generally is slack, with much short time. At Nottingham saddlers are busy, and at Glasgow, Aberdeen, and Dublin they are fairly employed. Horse collar makers report employment as fair in London, Manchester, and Birmingham, and slack elsewhere.

Miscellaneous Leather Workers.—Pocket-book and leather case makers, and portmanteau and leather trunk makers in London, and portmanteau makers in Manchester report employment as bad and short time general.

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

INFORMATION as to the condition of employment in agriculture in England was received from 205 correspondents in various parts of England. The reports show that the weather during June was very favourable for agricultural purposes, and, except for a few showery days in the south-western counties in the early part of the month, farm-work proceeded without interruption. Owing to the late spring and the early hay crops, work was everywhere plentiful. The supply of day-labourers was generally about equal to the demand; but in the latter part of the month the supply of such labour for haymaking and hoeing was insufficient in several districts.

Northern Counties.—According to reports from Durham, Cumberland, and Westmorland, employment was regular during June. Day-labourers were, generally speaking, in full work, and towards the end of the month there was some scarcity of labour for hay-making and turnip-hoeing. Men for permanent situations were in some cases difficult to obtain, even at increased wages. In Lancashire day labourers were generally in full work; the supply of this class of man was about equal to the demand. Reports from Yorkshire show that employment was plentiful, haymaking having commenced during June. There was a good deal of work also in hoeing mangolds, swedes, potatoes, &c. The supply of extra men for this work was insufficient in several districts and Irish migratory labourers were in request. A correspondent in the Scarborough Union mentions a scarcity of men for tending cattle and of boys for ploughing.

Midland Counties.—Correspondents in Cheshire and Derbyshire state that employment in agriculture was regular, and the supply of odd men for haymaking and hoeing was about equal to the demand. Farm labourers in Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire were in regular work during June. The supply of casual labour was rather better than a year ago, and men for permanent situations were a little more plentiful. In Staffordshire and Shropshire work among the root crops was retarded owing to

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR; SEAMEN; DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

dry weather, and in certain districts day-labourers were not fully employed, but generally speaking, farm labourers were fully occupied in haymaking, hoeing, &c. The root crops were also backward in *Worcestershire* and *Warwickshire*, and there was not much hoeing to be done. There was, however, a good demand for extra men for haymaking. The supply of such men was generally fair, but a scarcity is reported in the Stratford and Warwick Unions.

Regularity of employment is reported in *Northamptonshire*. Day labourers were in demand for hoeing and haymaking. The supply, however, is said to have been sufficient. A correspondent in the Wellingborough Union writes:—"A good many casuals are seeking employment, but they do not belong to the agricultural class." Farm labourers were in full work in *Oxfordshire* and *Buckinghamshire*, the haymaking absorbing all available labour in most districts. Men for permanent situations were in demand, but are difficult to obtain. In *Hertfordshire* and *Bedfordshire* employment was regular in haymaking and weeding, and with manure-carting on any showery days. The supply of extra men was rather greater than the demand, but some of the applicants are said to have been unsuitable for haymaking. Men for permanent situations are in demand. A correspondent states that many men seem to prefer being day labourers to taking regular work as stockmen, horsemen, &c.

Eastern Counties.—Reports from *Huntingdonshire* and *Cambridgeshire* state that farm labourers were fully employed during June. There was a demand for day labourers, but the supply was generally sufficient. Good men for permanent situations were in request. A difficulty in obtaining boys for farm work is mentioned by a correspondent in the Thrapston Union. In *Lincolnshire* farm work is reported to have been plentiful on account of the early hay and clover crops, and the demand for extra men was rather greater than the supply. A correspondent in the Lincoln Union states that much corn has to go unweeded, owing to scarcity of labour. Lads for yearly situations are said to be difficult to obtain, and many such situations are unfilled. Reports from *Norfolk* show that agricultural labourers were regularly employed in haymaking and turnip-hoeing. The demand for odd men was in most districts about equal to the supply. In *Suffolk* and *Essex* employment was regular during June, and there was abundant work in haymaking and hoeing. There was a good demand for extra men, but the supply was generally sufficient. A correspondent in the Wangford Union (*Suffolk*) states that town labourers who usually find employment in agricultural work at this season have had some difficulty in obtaining employment.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—Agricultural labourers in *Kent* were, for the most part, fully employed during June, and good progress was made with haymaking. The supply of day labourers was generally sufficient, but a scarcity is reported in certain districts. Reports from *Surrey* and *Sussex* show that the forward state of the hay and root crops furnished plenty of employment. Day labourers were in full work, and in some districts the supply was not sufficient. Regularity of employment is reported in *Hampshire* and *Devonshire*. There was an ample supply of day labourers in most districts, but there was plenty of work in haymaking, hoeing mangolds, &c. Men for tending cattle (involving Sunday work) are said to be difficult to obtain.

In *Wiltshire* and *Dorsetshire* men employed on piece-work lost a little time in the early part of June through bad weather. The supply of day labourers was scarcely equal to the demand in most districts, men being in request for hoeing and haymaking. Farm labourers in *Somersetshire* were regularly employed on the whole. The supply of extra men was equal to the demand in most of the districts reported on. In *Herefordshire* and *Gloucestershire* employment was a little interfered with in the beginning of June by changeable weather, but later in the month the haymaking provided abundant work.

Day labourers were in demand in hop gardens for washing the bines, but the supply of men was sufficient. Men for permanent situations were scarce, and in some districts many cottages are said to be unoccupied. Agricultural work was plentiful in *Devonshire* and *Cornwall*, hoeing potatoes and mangolds, sheep-shearing, and haymaking giving full employment to all farm labourers. There was considerable demand for extra men, and the supply during the latter part of June was in many parts insufficient. Men for permanent situations are said to be a little more plentiful, being more willing to go to farms where good cottages with gardens are provided.

SEAMEN SHIPPED IN JUNE.

(Data supplied by the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.)

RETURNS received from certain selected ports (at which 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the Foreign Trade is entered and cleared) show that, during June, 38,507* seamen were shipped on foreign-going vessels, an increase of 1,638 on the number shipped during June, 1903.

The supply of seamen is stated to have been in excess of, or equal to, the demand at the ports included in the returns.

During the first half-year of 1904, 212,825* seamen were shipped, of whom 32,978 (or 15.5 per cent.) were foreigners. During the corresponding period of 1903, 204,610* seamen were shipped, of whom 32,350 (or 15.8 per cent.) were foreigners.

Lascars who are engaged in Asia are not included in these figures.

Table showing the number* of persons shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom in June, 1904 and 1903 respectively, together with the number* shipped in the six months ended June in each of these years:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Persons shipped in June, 1904.*			Total in June, 1903.*	Total number* shipped in six months ended June, 1904.		1903.
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in June, 1904.*		1904.	1903.	
ENGLAND AND WALES.							
East Coast.							
Tyne Ports	90	3,026	3,116	3,227	16,836	16,376	
Sunderland	18	558	576	379	3,231	2,139	
Middlesbrough ... ..	...	309	309	211	1,406	1,197	
Hull	42	1,048	1,090	998	6,105	6,001	
Grimsby ... ..	...	131	131	87	374	564	
Bristol Channel.							
Bristol	12	750	762	706	3,858	3,785	
Newport, Mon.	35	855	890	771	4,610	4,357	
Cardiff	100	4,555	4,655	4,266	27,432	26,504	
Swansea	47	443	490	438	2,381	2,899	
Other Ports.							
Liverpool	193	14,215	14,408	13,562	76,077	71,349	
London	243	5,528	5,771	6,227	36,050	36,711	
Southampton ... ..	...	2,163	2,163	1,813	13,112	11,962	
SCOTLAND.							
Leith, Kirkcaldy, Methil, & Grangemouth ... ..	...	496	496	584	3,142	2,950	
Glasgow	55	3,203	3,258	3,255	16,364	15,700	
IRELAND.							
Dublin ... ..	...	80	80	102	471	652	
Belfast	23	289	312	253	1,576	1,464	
Total, June, 1904	858	37,649	38,507	...	212,825	...	
Ditto, June, 1903	707	36,162	...	36,869	...	204,610	

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

RETURNS as to the employment of this class of labour in the Port of London have been received from the dock companies, the owners of the principal wharves, the Shipping Federation, and from Trade Unions. Information respecting other principal ports has been supplied by Superintendents of Mercantile Marine, by Trade Unions, and by Local Correspondents of the Department.

Employment during June remained moderate, showing little change on the whole as compared with a year ago.

London.

The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves during the four weeks

* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, not of separate individuals.
† Including Avonmouth and Portishead.
‡ Including Barry and Penarth.

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR; FISHING.

ended June 25th was 12,242, a decrease of 6.5 per cent. on the average for May, and of 1.1 per cent. on the average for June, 1903. The average daily number employed in June during the seven years, 1897-1903, was 14,251.

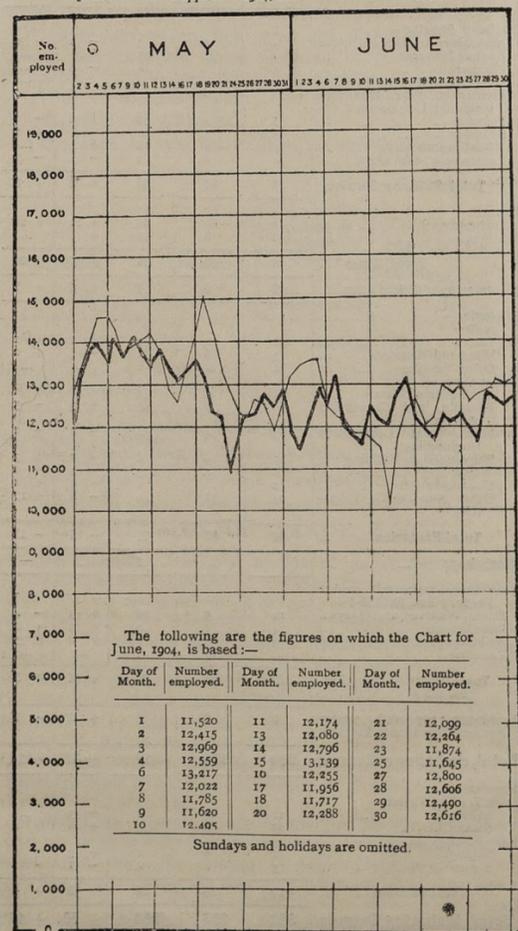
(1) *Weekly Averages.*—The following Table shows the estimated average number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily in each of the four weeks ended June 25th:—

Period.	Labourers employed in Docks			Labourers employed at 115 Wharves making Returns.	Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended June 4th	4,355	2,448	6,803	5,553	12,356
" " " 11th	4,596	2,262	6,858	5,361	12,219
" " " 18th	4,416	2,632	7,048	5,276	12,324
" " " 25th	5,410	1,602	7,012	5,021	12,033
Average for 4 weeks ended June 25th, 1904	4,663	2,264	6,927	5,315	12,242
Average for May, 1904	5,203	2,240	7,443	5,653	13,096
Average for June, 1903	5,168	2,123	7,291	5,102	12,393

(2) *Daily Fluctuations.*—The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed by all the docks and principal wharves is shown on the Chart below. The numbers in June ranged from 11,520 on the 1st to 13,217 on the 6th. During June, 1903, the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed ranged from 13,579 on the 4th to 10,074 on the 15th.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 115 of the principal Wharves, for each day during the months of May and June, 1904. The corresponding curve for May and June, 1903, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1904, and the thin curve to 1903.]



Employment was moderate with workers in mid-stream, stevedores, coal porters, corn porters and winchmen. With deal porters, lightermen and lumpers it was fair. With fruit porters in Thames-street it was moderate, the average daily number employed being 269, as compared with 292 in May, and 295 a year ago.

Of the 3,577 "free labourers" on the register of the Shipping Federation in the Port of London during June, 1904, 71 per cent. were, on the average, employed by the shipowners to whom the office supplies labour, as compared with 73 per cent. in the previous month, and 61 per cent. in June, 1903.

Other Ports.

North-East Coast.—Employment has been moderate at Newcastle; fair at South Shields; good at Sunderland. On the Tees it has been moderate.

Hull, Goole, and Grimsby.—Employment at Hull and Grimsby has been fair; at Goole slack.

Norfolk and Suffolk.—Dock and riverside labourers are fairly well employed.

Southampton and Plymouth.—Employment has been fairly good.

Bristol Channel Ports.—Employment was fairly good at the principal ports, and was better than a year ago.

Liverpool and Manchester.—Employment at Liverpool is reported as dull generally. Dock labourers at Manchester report it as fair.

The Clyde.—Employment at Glasgow is reported as bad.

East of Scotland Ports.—Employment remains fairly good at Leith, and moderate at Aberdeen. At Dundee it is reported as fair.

Irish Ports.—Employment at Dublin was fair and better than a month ago. At Belfast it was moderate; at Cork it remained fairly good.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

REPORTS have been received from Collectors of Fishery Statistics for England; from the Fishery Board for Scotland; from the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland; and from Local Correspondents.

The following Table gives the quantity and value of fish landed in Scotland and Ireland in June, 1904, and June, 1903, respectively. The figures for England and Wales were not available at the time of going to press:—

	Quantity.		Value.	
	June, 1904.	June, 1903.	June, 1904.	June, 1903.
Fish (other than Shell):	Cwts.	Cwts.	£	£
Scotland	806,253	703,855	227,632	247,693
Ireland	125,840	121,445	37,637	44,280
Total	932,093	825,300	265,269	291,973
Shell Fish	—	—	8,963	9,807
Total Value	—	—	274,232	301,870

From the Tyne and Wear it is reported that good supplies of white fish were landed by the trawl boats and that the herring boats landed moderate supplies.

Employment at Hull is reported as moderate generally. At Grimsby it is reported as fair, but worse than a month or a year ago. At Yarmouth it was good with fishermen, moderate with fish dock labourers, and fair with persons employed in fish curing. At Lowestoft it was fair with fishermen and fish dock labourers, and moderate with persons employed in fish curing.

Off the South-western coast trawlers and hookers landed good catches during the last three weeks of the month. Drifters landed fair catches, and mackerel and the

smaller hook and line boats good catches. Fish curers, carters and packers were well employed.

At Cardiff, Milford, and Cardigan good catches were landed by the trawlers.

Employment in all branches was good at Aberdeen and Peterhead, and fair at Fraserburgh and Macduff. At Peterhead, Fraserburgh, and Macduff it was better than a month ago and a year ago. At Arbroath and Montrose fishing was interfered with by bad weather, but the catches were fair.

Off the South and South-Western coast of Ireland the deep sea fishing was fair during the month.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

DURING June 41 cases of lead poisoning, and 6 cases of anthrax were reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act. No cases of mercurial, phosphorus, or arsenic poisoning were reported. The number of deaths was 4, all due to lead poisoning.

During the six months ended June the number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax was 305 as compared with 316 in the corresponding period of 1903. The number of deaths was 14, being 5 less than in 1903, this decline being more than accounted for by the lesser number of deaths from anthrax.

[Cases include all attacks, fatal or otherwise, reported to the Home 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.]

Disease and Industry.	CASES.		DEATHS.	
	6 months ended June,		6 months ended June,	
	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.
Lead Poisoning—				
Smelting of Metals	5	14	12	—
Brass Works	1	4	8	—
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping	2	4	5	—
Plumbing and Soldering	—	10	11	—
Printing	2	9	6	—
File Cutting	3	15	15	—
Tinning and Enamelling of Iron Hollow-ware	—	7	5	—
White Lead Works	10	44	53	—
Red and Yellow Lead Works	—	7	4	—
China and Earthenware*	4	57	50	—
Litho-transfer Works	—	2	1	—
Glass Cutting and Polishing	—	—	1	—
Enamelling of Iron Plates	—	—	1	—
Electrical Accumulator Works	1	8	12	—
Paint and Colour Works	1	10	16	—
Coach Making	6	25	38	—
Shipbuilding	3	24	10	—
Paint used in other Industries	1	11	19	—
Other Industries	2	19	10	—
Total Lead Poisoning†	41	270	277	4
Mercurial Poisoning—				
Barometer and Thermometer making	—	1	2	—
Furriers' processes	—	—	1	—
Other Industries	—	1	2	—
Total Mercurial Poisoning	—	2	5	—
Phosphorus Poisoning	—	1	—	1
Arsenic Poisoning—				
Paints, Colours and Extraction of Arsenic	—	2	3	—
Other Industries	—	2	1	—
Total Arsenic Poisoning	—	4	4	—
Anthrax—				
Wool Sorting	—	2	4	—
Wool Combing	3	6	13	—
Handling of Horsehair	1	7	2	—
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.)	2	7	6	—
Other Industries	—	6	5	—
Total Anthrax	6	28	30	1
Grand Total	47	305	316	4

* Of the four persons affected in the china and earthenware industry in June, 1904, one was a female.

† House Painters and Plumbers.—In addition to the cases included in the Table 14 cases of lead poisoning (including 4 deaths) were reported during June, among house painters and plumbers. The number of such cases reported during the six months ended June, 1904, was 83 (including 20 deaths), and for the corresponding period of 1903, 84 (including 18 deaths).

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN JUNE.

(Based on information supplied by the Home Office and the Board of Trade.)

EXCLUSIVE of seamen, the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during June, 1904, was 230, or 35 more than in May, and 11 more than in June, 1903. The mean number for June in the years 1899 to 1903, was 214, the maximum year in this period being 1902, with 227 deaths, and the minimum year 1899, with 191 deaths.

The number of fatal accidents to seamen in June, 1904, was 73. The numbers reported in June of the years 1899-1903 varied from 56 to 127, the mean for the five years being 90.

In the classes of industries in which the number of persons employed is approximately known, viz., Railway Service (exclusive of contractors' servants), Mines, Quarries, Shipping, Factories, and Laundries, the number of workpeople reported as killed was 269, as compared with 254 in the corresponding period of 1903. The approximate number of workpeople employed in these industries according to the latest returns was about 5,800,000.

In the following Table the accidents reported in June are classified by the trades in which they occurred, and comparative figures are given for the preceding month and for the corresponding month of last year.

SUMMARY.

Trade.	Number of Workpeople killed during			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in June, 1904, as compared with a	
	June, 1904.	May, 1904.	June, 1903.	Month ago.	Year ago.
	Railway Service—				
Brakemen and Goods Guards	1	2	3	— 1	— 2
Engine Drivers	1	1	1	—	—
Firemen	—	1	—	— 1	—
Guards (Passenger)	—	—	—	—	—
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	11	6	4	+ 5	+ 7
Porters	5	3	6	+ 2	— 1
Shunters	3	3	1	—	+ 2
Miscellaneous	12	9	12	+ 3	— 1
Contractors' Servants	—	2	1	— 2	— 1
Total Railway Service	33	27	28	+ 6	+ 8
Mines—					
Underground	82	69	62	+ 13	+ 20
Surface	12	8	12	+ 4	—
Total Mines	94	77	74	+ 17	+ 20
Quarries over 20 feet deep	9	5	7	+ 4	+ 2
Factories—					
Textile—					
Cotton	2	1	1	+ 1	+ 1
Wool and Worsted	3	6	1	— 3	+ 2
Other Textiles	1	1	1	—	—
Non Textile—					
Extraction of Metals	4	4	3	—	+ 1
Founding and Conversion of Metals	10	7	15	+ 3	— 5
Marine and Locomotive Engineering	3	4	4	— 1	— 1
Ship and Boat Building	11	9	8	+ 2	+ 3
Wood	1	4	3	— 3	— 2
Chemicals, &c.	2	—	1	+ 2	+ 1
Other Non-Textile Industries	23	31	40	— 8	— 17
Total Factories	60	67	77	— 7	— 17
Workshops	—	—	1	—	—
Accidents reported under Factory Act, Ss. 103-5—					
Docks, Wharves, and Quays	12	9	16	+ 3	— 4
Warehouses	4	1	2	+ 3	+ 2
Buildings to which Act applies	13	5	8	+ 8	+ 5
Laundries	—	—	—	—	—
Total under Factory Act, Ss. 103-5	29	15	26	+ 14	+ 3
Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	5	4	6	+ 1	— 1
Total, exclusive of Seamen	230	195	219	+ 35	+ 11
Seamen—					
On Trading Vessels—					
Sailing	11	14	11	— 3	—
Steam	57	35	53	+ 22	+ 4
On Fishing Vessels—					
Sailing	2	5	1	— 3	+ 1
Steam	3	4	4	— 1	— 1
Total Seamen	73	58	69	+ 15	+ 4
Total, including Seamen	303	253	288	+ 50	+ 15

TRADE DISPUTES IN JUNE.*

Number and Magnitude.—Sixteen new disputes began in June, 1904, compared with 22 in May and 17 in June, 1903. By the 16 disputes 3,142 workpeople were directly and 1,589 indirectly affected, and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople affected by old disputes which began before June, and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 6,792 workpeople involved in trade disputes during June, 1904, compared with 6,077 in May, 1904, and 12,314 in June, 1903.

New Disputes in June, 1904.—In the following Table the new disputes in June are summarised by trades affected:—

Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople affected.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building	4	284	7	291
Coal Mining	7	2,704	1,368	4,072
Engineering and Shipbuilding	2	48	12	60
Carpet Manufacture	1	90	200	290
Other Trades	2	16	2	18
Total, June, 1904	16	3,142	1,589	4,731
Total, May, 1904	22	3,983	460	4,443
Total, June, 1903	17	4,661	1,040	5,601

Causes.—Of the sixteen new disputes, six arose on demands for increased wages, one on objection to reduction, five on other wages questions, two on questions of hours of labour, and two from other causes.

Results.—Definite results were reported in June in the case of eleven new disputes, affecting 2,208 workpeople, and six old disputes, affecting 197 workpeople.

Of these seventeen new and old disputes, two, involving 121 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; seven, involving 309 persons, were decided in favour of the employers; and eight involving 1,975 persons, were compromised.

In the case of two other disputes terminating during

the month, and involving 621 persons, certain points are still under consideration.

Aggregate Duration.—The aggregate duration in June of disputes that commenced or were settled in that month was 37,000 working days. In addition, 44,300 working days were lost in June, owing to disputes that began before that month, and at the end of the month were still unsettled. Thus the total duration in June of all disputes, new and old, was 81,300 working days, which compares with 73,300 in the previous month, and 175,000 in the corresponding month of 1903.

Summary for the First Six Months of 1903 and 1904†.—Summarised by trades, the number of disputes, the number of workpeople affected, and the aggregate duration in working days for the six months January-June, 1903 and 1904, respectively, were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January to June,					
	1903.			1904.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople affected.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople affected.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.
Building	29	3,719	79,700	25	2,784	66,800
Mining and Quarrying	55	22,987	838,800	46	14,445	218,100
Metal, Engineering, and Shipbuilding	28	8,723	241,700	33	5,512	97,300
Textile	29	4,524	33,200	19	3,383	60,100
Clothing	15	1,915	66,800	9	268	3,900
Transport	6	907	7,300	3	830	20,800
Other Trades	12	1,937	33,500	20	1,604	38,200
Total	174	43,812	1,301,000	155	28,826	505,200

Principal Disputes.—Particulars of the two principal disputes which began during June are given below. The details of the other disputes in progress during June are not separately stated in this Table, but they are included in the preceding statistics.

Principal Trade Disputes.

Occupation.†	Locality.	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.†	Result.†
		Di-rectly.	Indi-rectly.†				
Putters, Hewers, &c. ...	Morpeth ...	71	1,225	6 June	4	Alleged grievance as to wages	Putters, who had left work without notice, agreed to pay damages.
Hewers, Shiftmen, Surface Hands, &c. ...	Whitehaven ...	1,672	—	27 June	—	Against proposed alteration in system of working	No settlement reported.

* 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 exceeded 100 days.

† In making up the totals for the several months of 1904 the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information. ‡ The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly affected," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the dispute occurred, but not themselves on strike or locked-out. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 20 of the principal railway companies of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended July 2nd amounted to £7,427,493, an increase of £45,952 (or 0.6 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. The receipts from passenger traffic were £3,615,362, an increase of £34,250. The receipts from goods and mineral traffic amounted to £3,812,041 in the four weeks, or an increase of £11,702. Of the £3,812,041 received under this head, £2,482,804 was received by the Northern lines of England, showing an increase of £446 on the corresponding four weeks in 1903. The Southern and Western lines and those in Scotland and Ireland together received £1,329,237, an increase of £11,256.

Bankruptcies.—The bankruptcies gazetted during June numbered 367, being 34 more than in June, 1903. During the six months ended June 1904, the number of bankruptcies gazetted was 2,284 as against 2,095 in the first six months of 1903. The 2,284 bankruptcies in 1904 included 170 builders, 77 bakers, 52 boot and shoe manufacturers and dealers, as compared with 169, 72 and 62 respectively in the six months ended June, 1903.

INFORMATION FOR INTENDING EMIGRANTS.

The free quarterly circulars of the Emigrants' Information Office were issued on 1st July, and contain information useful to intending emigrants as to the demand for labour, rates of wages, and cost of living. Particulars are also given as to the cost of reaching the various colonies, the arrangements at each for receiving emigrants, and as to various other matters of interest to emigrants.

A bound volume has also been issued by the office containing handbooks, with maps, of the twelve British Colonies, together with a Professional Handbook showing the necessary qualifications in these colonies for railway servants, and the various professional classes, and an Emigration Statutes and General Handbook dealing with all British Statutes on Emigrants' Ships and Emigration, with lists of Emigration Societies, &c.

Copies of the circulars can be obtained free, and of the bound volume of 14 handbooks on payment of 2s., on application to the Chief Clerk, Emigrants' Information Office, 31, Broadway, Westminster, S.W.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.*

WAGES.

Changes Reported in June.—The net effect of all the changes in wages reported in June was a decrease of £162 per week, as compared with a decrease of £2,846 in May, and a decrease of £6,492 in June, 1903. The number of workpeople affected was 14,692, of whom 7,672 received advances amounting to £174 per week, and 7,020 sustained decreases amounting to £336 per week. The total number affected in May was 113,926, and in June, 1903, 116,525.

The principal changes reported were increases affecting 6,850 blastfurnacemen in Cleveland and Durham and in West Cumberland, and decreases affecting 1,250 blastfurnacemen and 5,000 iron and steel workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire.

Six changes affecting 13,882 workpeople (all in the iron and steel trades) took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting 810 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople or their representatives, one of these changes, affecting 120 workpeople, being preceded by a dispute causing stoppage of work.

Summary for the first Six Months of 1904.—For the six months, January—June, 1904, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) respecting whom wages changes have been reported was 275,227, as compared with 325,892 in the corresponding period of 1903. The changes arranged give 6,652 workpeople a net increase amounting to £555 per week, and 261,958 a net decrease of £13,593 per week, whilst the remaining 6,617 have had upward and downward changes which have left their wages at the same level as at

beginning of the year. The net effect of all the changes reported was a decrease of £13,038 per week, compared with a decrease of £10,354 per week in the corresponding period of 1903.

Summarised by trades, the number of workpeople affected by the changes reported during the six months, January—June, 1903 and 1904, respectively, and the net results of the changes on their weekly wages were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January—June.			
	1903.		1904.	
	No.	£	No.	£
Building	2,405	+ 160	2,972	- 159
Coal Mining	216,400	- 5,954	152,690	- 5,955
Iron Mining	7,161	- 174	10,663	- 530
Quarrying	2,012	- 75	2,449	- 84
Pig Iron Manufacture	10,186	- 104	11,181	- 571
Iron and Steel Manufacture	8,706	- 177	51,156	- 2,732
Engineering and Shipbuilding	65,618	- 3,745	29,748	- 2,522
Textile Trades	591	+ 30	2,457	- 75
Class Trades	5,030	- 357	4,403	- 660
Other Trades	5,592	- 3	3,548	- 50
Employees of Local Authorities	2,191	+ 45	3,960	+ 298
Total	325,892	-10,354	275,227	-13,038

HOURS.

The changes in hours of labour reported during June, 1904, affected 1,274 workpeople, whose aggregate working time in a full week was reduced by 3,136 hours. During the six months January—June, the total number of workpeople reported as affected by changes in hours of labour was 6,096, the reduction in their working hours being 10,535 per week.

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which Change takes effect in 1904.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by	Particulars of Change.	
				Increase.	Decrease.

I.—CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN JUNE, 1904.

BUILDING TRADES.		Decreases—Nil.	
Barry	Plumbers	1 June	18 ...
Advance of 3d. per hour (8½d. to 9d.).†			
QUARRYING.		1 Decrease—120 Workpeople.	
Thornhill, Dumfries-shire	Quarrymen, Enginemen, &c.‡	9 May	120 ...
Decrease of 3d. per hour (6½d. to 6d.) to Quarrymen, and of from 2s. to 2s. 6d. per week to Enginemen and others.			
IRON, STEEL, AND COPPER MANUFACTURE.		3 Decreases—6,900 Workpeople.	
Cleveland and Durham	Blastfurnacemen	2 July	5,500 ...
Advance of 1 per cent. under sliding scale, making wages 13½ per cent. above the standard of 1879.			
West Cumberland	Blastfurnacemen	7 July	1,350 ...
Advance of 1 per cent. under sliding scale, making wages 14½ per cent. above the standard of 1889.			
Ulverston	Blastfurnacemen	3 July	132 ...
Advance of 1 per cent. under sliding scale, making wages 12½ per cent. above the standard.			
Barrow-in-Furness	Rail, Wire, and Hoop Millmen	6 June	650 ...
Decrease of 1½ per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 9½ per cent. above the standard.			
South Wales and Mon.	Blastfurnacemen	1 July	1,250 ...
Decrease of 4 per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 2½ per cent. above the standard of 1895.			
Llanelli	Iron and Steel Workers	1 July	3,000 ...
	Copper Works—Refinery Men	May	7 ...
	Cranemen		
Labourers	26 ...	5 ...	Advance of 4d. per day (3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d.).
Advance of 2d. per day (3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.).			
PRINTING AND ALLIED TRADES.		Decreases—Nil.	
Dunfermline	Compositors and Machinemen†	16 May	24 ...
Advance of 1s. 6d. per week (27s. to 28s. 6d.).			
EMPLOYEES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES.		Decreases—Nil.	
Newcastle	Gardeners, Labourers, and Park Keeper	30 May	23 ...
Advances of 3s. per week to 2 men; of 2s. to 2; and of 1s. to 19 men.			
Leeds	Labourers (Electric Lighting Department)	1 June	19 ...
Advance to a rate of 5½d. per hour.			
Sheffield	Stokers at Destructor	9 June	18 ...
	Chargemen at Destructor		
Advance of 2s. per week (28s. to 30s.).			
Manchester	Paviors†	5 May	69 ...
	Flag Layers;		
Change from a weekly rate of 40s. for leading men and 36s. for ordinary men to rates of 10½d. and 9½d. per hour respectively.			
Hackney	Flag Dressers;	April-June	36 ...
	Road Cleaners and Repairers, Artisans, &c.,		
Change from a weekly rate of 37s. for Flag Layers and 35s. for Flag Dressers, to a rate of 9½d. per hour.			
Dublin	Labourers in employ of Port and Docks Board	16 May	207 ...
Advances of 1s. to 25 men; of 2s. to 28; of 2s. 6d. to 2; of 2s. 9d. to 1; of 3s. to 58; and of 4s. to 94 men.			
Advances of 6d. per week to 8 men; of 1s. to 4; of 2s. to 190; of 2s. 6d. to 4; and of 3s. to 1 man.			

* Based on information obtained from all available sources verified and corrected by direct application to the Employers, Trade Unions, and other parties concerned. It will be understood that increments accruing under scales of pay, as in the case of policemen, some municipal employees, and many railway servants, &c., are not recorded here. The same remark applies to the changes in pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c. † Exclusive of agricultural labourers, seamen and fishermen and railway servants. In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information. ‡ See also under Changes in Hours of Labour.

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which Change takes effect in 1904.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by	Particulars of Change.	
				Increase.	Decrease.

II.—CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN JUNE, 1904.

Manchester	Paviors, Flag-layers and Dressers, Labourers, &c.*	5 May	1,160	Decrease of about 3 hours per week.
Dunfermline	Compositors and Machinemen	16 May	24	Decrease of 2½ hours per week (53½ to 51.)
Thornhill, Dumfries-shire	Quarrymen*	9 May	90	Increase of 5 hours per week (50 to 55.)

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM. The following statement has been communicated to the LABOUR GAZETTE by the Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade:—

Summary for June.

The trade returns for June, 1904, show an increase in the value, as compared with the corresponding month of 1903, of the Imports into the United Kingdom, and of the Exports of British produce, but a decrease in the value of the Exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

The value of the Imports in June, 1904, was £43,196,784, an increase of £1,901,234, or 4.6 per cent., as compared with those in June, 1903, whilst the total Exports amounted to £29,728,729, showing a total increase of £1,605,917. The Exports of British produce alone show an increase of £1,797,810, or 8.1 per cent., as compared with June, 1903, whilst there is a decrease of £191,893, or 3.2 per cent., in the Exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

Imports.—The following Table shows the value of the Imports for June, 1904, as compared with the corresponding months of 1903 and 1902, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

	Month of June.			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1904 as compared with	
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1902.
	I.—Food, Drink and Tobacco.	£17,926,235	£18,339,916	£18,828,246	+ 488,330	+ 902,011
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured.	12,129,898	12,024,404	12,796,472	+ 772,068	+ 666,574
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured.	10,437,211	10,756,552	11,410,926	+ 654,374	+ 973,715
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post).	171,971	174,678	161,140	- 13,538	- 10,831
Total value of Imports	£40,665,315	£41,295,550	£43,196,784	+1,901,234	+2,531,469

Exports.—The following Table shows the value of the Exports of British produce for the month of June, 1904, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1903 and 1902, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

	Month of June.			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1904 as compared with	
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1902.
	I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco.	£1,056,881	£1,224,117	£1,154,541	- 69,576	+ 57,660
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured.	2,803,385	2,799,691	3,100,902	+ 301,211	+ 297,517
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured.	17,066,915	17,942,135	19,497,737	+1,555,602	+2,430,822
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post).	285,202	306,017	316,590	+ 10,573	+ 31,388
Total value of Exports of British produce	£21,282,383	£22,271,960	£24,069,770	+1,797,810	+2,817,387

Tonnage of Ships entered and cleared with Cargoes.—The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the month of June, 1904, amounted

* See also under Changes in Rates of Wages. † The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or, when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods. ‡ The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

to 3,543,199 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 4,313,183 tons, as against 3,630,312 tons entered, and 3,946,189 tons cleared, in the month of June, 1903. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during June, 1904, amounted to 2,624,097 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,617,893 tons, as against 2,661,884 tons entered, and 2,644,265 tons cleared in June, 1903.

EMIGRATION AND ALIEN IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during June was 37,128 as compared with 37,643 in June, 1903. During the six months ended June, 1904, the number of passengers was 187,278 being 36,541 (or 16.3 per cent.) less than in the corresponding period of 1903.

British and Irish.—Of the 37,128 passengers in June, 22,019 were of British or Irish origin, an increase of 2,407 compared with a year ago. For the six months ended June, 1904, the number was 115,125, as compared with 123,239 in the corresponding period of 1903, a decrease of 8,114, which is more than accounted for by a decrease of 12,591 in the number of passengers to British South Africa. The number proceeding to British North America shows an increase of 4,222.

The following Table gives the number of British and Irish passengers in the different periods:—

Destination. (Country in which passengers contracted to land.)	Six months ended			
	June, 1904.	June, 1903.	June, 1904.	June, 1903.
British Empire:				
British North America	7,911	5,231	39,694	35,472
Australia and New Zealand... ..	990	664	5,023	4,589
British South Africa	1,702	4,264	11,288	23,879
India (including Ceylon)	200	115	1,603	1,494
Other British Colonies and Possessions	196	206	1,767	1,822
Total, British Empire	10,999	10,480	59,375	67,256
Foreign Countries:				
United States	10,741	8,887	53,276	53,670
Other Foreign Countries	279	245	2,474	2,313
Total, Foreign Countries	11,020	9,132	55,750	55,983
Grand Total	22,019	19,612	115,125	123,239

Foreign.—The remainder of the 37,128 passengers in June, viz., 15,109, were foreigners, or other persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being 2,922 less than in June, 1903. For the six months ended June, 1904, the number of such passengers was 72,153, of whom 53,009 were bound for the United States, 12,984 for British North America, and 2,660 for British South Africa. In the corresponding period of 1903, the number was 100,580, of whom 67,760 were bound for the United States, 23,979 for British North America, and 5,421 for British South Africa.

Alien Immigration.—During June, 17,059 aliens arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent. Of these, 7,956 were stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to places out of the United Kingdom, a decrease of 5,688 as compared with June, 1903. Those not stated to be on their way to places out of the United Kingdom numbered 8,074 (exclusive of seamen), or 2,258 more than a year ago. For the six months ended June, 1904, the number of aliens stated to be en route to America or elsewhere was 46,939, and the number not so stated, 32,150 (exclusive of seamen), compared with 77,602 and 31,772 respectively in 1903. The figures for June, 1904 and 1903, and also for the six months ended June, 1904 and 1903, are as follows:—

	Total for six months ended			
	June, 1904.	June, 1903.	June, 1904.	June, 1903.
Aliens not stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to other countries	1,029	1,204	6,407	7,150
Seamen	8,074	5,816	32,150	31,772
Others	7,956	13,644	46,939	77,602
Aliens stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to other countries				
Gross Total	17,059	20,664	85,496	116,524

PAUPERISM IN JUNE.

(Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland, and Ireland.) THE number of paupers relieved in 35 selected Urban Districts of the United Kingdom on one day in June was 363,794 (viz., 155,629 indoor and 208,165 outdoor paupers), corresponding to a rate of 212 per 10,000 of the estimated population of these districts in 1904.

Compared with May the number of persons relieved has decreased by 3,101, and the rate per 10,000 by 2. This decline is entirely due to a decrease in the number of indoor paupers. Decreases are shown in twenty-four districts, the rate of decrease being greatest in the Cork, Waterford, and Limerick District (14 per 10,000), Central London (11 per 10,000), and Galway (9 per 10,000). Slight increases are shown in ten districts, while in one district no change is indicated.

Compared with June, 1903, the number of persons relieved has increased by 20,965 and the rate per 10,000 by 10. The number of indoor paupers shows an increase of 9,509 (or 6.5 per cent.), and outdoor paupers of 11,456 (or 5.8 per cent.). Thirty districts show increased rates, the advance in the rate being greatest in Leicester district (33 per 10,000), North Staffordshire (32 per 10,000), East London (24 per 10,000), and Bolton, &c. district (22 per 10,000). In four instances the rate has decreased, the falling off being most marked in two Irish districts. In the remaining district no change is indicated.

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of June, 1904.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.		A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.*						
Metropolis.						
West District	10,736	3,282	14,018	170	- 3	+ 4
North District	15,139	8,432	23,571	221	- 2	+ 10
Central District	6,693	2,837	9,530	478	- 11	+ 6
East District	14,331	6,206	20,537	286	- 2	+ 24
South District	23,309	18,299	41,608	229	- 4	+ 2
Total Metropolis	70,208	39,056	109,264	236	- 4	+ 7
West Ham	3,820	10,007	13,827	214	+ 3	+ 22
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District	1,957	4,810	6,767	160	- 1	+ 11
Stockton & Tees District ...	1,206	3,929	5,135	241	+ 2	+ 10
Bolton, Oldham, &c.	4,067	9,262	13,329	176	+ 1	+ 22
Wigan District	2,022	6,461	8,483	215	- 3	+ 9
Manchester District	9,344	9,144	18,486	199	- 1	+ 21
Liverpool District	11,331	8,996	20,327	201	- 1	+ 14
Bradford District	1,561	2,748	4,309	119	- 1	+ 4
Halifax & Huddersfield ...	1,280	3,790	5,070	139	- 2	+ 7
Leeds District	2,248	6,145	8,393	179	+ 1	+ 8
Barnsley District	720	3,032	3,752	158	+ 1	+ 11
Sheffield District	3,014	3,957	6,971	162	+ 1	+ 13
Hull District	1,433	5,172	6,605	246	- 3	- 1
North Staffordshire	2,179	7,885	10,064	272	...	+ 32
Nottingham District	1,979	5,622	7,601	189	+ 2	+ 19
Leicester District	1,250	4,030	5,280	237	+ 1	+ 33
Wolverhampton District ...	3,504	13,959	16,563	269	+ 1	+ 1
Birmingham District	4,678	3,555	8,233	144	- 4	+ 9
Bristol District	2,715	6,768	9,483	248	- 2	+ 3
Cardiff & Swansea	1,797	7,785	9,582	261	- 3	+ 4
Total "Other Districts" ...	58,283	116,150	174,433	198	...	+ 13
SCOTLAND.*						
Glasgow District	4,711	17,607	22,318	234	- 1	+ 15
Faisley & Greenock District ...	645	2,470	3,115	180	- 4	+ 8
Edinburgh & Leith District ...	1,633	5,478	7,111	179	- 2	...
Dundee & Dunfermline	1,024	2,859	3,883	196	- 1	+ 5
Aberdeen	642	2,927	3,569	220	- 3	+ 9
Coatbridge & Airdrie	321	1,400	1,721	184	+ 3	+ 6
Total for the above Scottish Districts	8,976	32,741	41,717	211	- 1	+ 10
IRELAND.†						
Dublin District	6,540	5,008	11,548	300	- 5	- 1
Belfast District	3,286	252	3,538	90	- 4	+ 1
Cork, Waterford & Limerick District	4,045	4,658	8,703	354	- 14	- 18
Galway District	371	293	664	186	- 9	- 10
Total for the above Irish Districts	14,342	10,211	24,553	231	- 7	- 6
Total for above 35 Districts in June, 1904	155,629	208,165	363,794	212	- 2	+ 10

* Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small Pox 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 Deaf and Dumb, &c., who are classified as not able-bodied.

LABOUR BUREAUX IN JUNE.

At eleven Bureaux which furnished returns for both June, 1904 and 1903, 2,829 fresh applications for work were registered during June, 1904, as compared with 2,496 a year ago. During June these Bureaux found work for 1,186 persons, of whom 991 were engaged by private employers. During June, 1903, work was found for 960 persons, of whom 788 were engaged by private employers. The number of persons remaining on the registers at the end of the month was 2,458, as compared with 2,827 a year ago.

Returns were also received from two other Bureaux not in operation a year ago. At the thirteen Bureaux included in the Table below 3,322 fresh applications for work were registered, and work was found for 1,260 persons. The work procured for 338 of these persons was stated to be of a more or less permanent character, while, in the case of 922, temporary employment only was found. Of the 1,260 persons, 1,063 were engaged by private employers, 11 by Local Authorities, and 186 by the Salvation Army. At the end of June, the total number of persons remaining on the registers was 3,014, viz., 2,580 men and boys, and 434 women and girls.

Weekly returns which have been received from the Fulham Municipal Labour Bureau show that, during the four weeks ended July 2nd, 147 fresh applications for work were registered and 42 persons found work through the agency of the Bureau.

(I.) Work done in June.

Name of Labour Bureau.	No. of Fresh Applications by Workpeople during		No. of Situations offered by Employers during		No. of Workpeople found by Bureau during	
	June, 1904.	June, 1903.	June, 1904.	June, 1903.	June, 1904.	June, 1903.
London.						
Battersea (Lavender Hill, S.W.) ..	132	116	28	29	28	29
Salvation Army (Whitechapel Rd, E.)	1,080	708	520	235*	706	373
St. Pancras (Crownale Rd., N.W.)	270	150	78	70	65	39
Southwark (Borough Road, S.E.) ...	86	137	10	10	6	3
Hammersmith (St. Church Lane, W)	31	47	12	13	8	10
Finsbury (Rosebery Avenue, E.C.)...	299	200	127	87	58	40
Westminster (Caxton Hall, Caxton Street, S.W.)	146	309	134	269	49	139
Provincial.						
Ipswich (Fore Street)	34	37	34	37	23	25
Plymouth (Basket Street)	122	162	64	104	60	96
Liverpool (Dale Street)	168	213	1	2	1	2
Glasgow (158, George Street)	461	417	503	614	182	204
Total of 11 Bureaux	2,829	2,496	1,511	1,470	1,186	960
London.						
Kensington (Lancaster Road, W.)† ...	156	...	22	...	44	...
Provincial.						
Wigan (Library Street)†	337	...	30	...	30	...
Total of 14 Bureaux	3,322	...	1,563	...	1,260	...

(II.) Employment found for Workpeople during June, 1904.

Capacity in which employed.	No. permanently engaged.	No. temporarily engaged.	Total.
Engaged by Private Employers.			
Men:—			
Building Trades	18	43	61
Carmen, Stablemen, Horsemen, &c. ...	29	8	37
Porters and Messengers	36	39	75
Bill Distributors ... ..	...	514	514
General Labourers ... ..	...	15	15
Other Occupations	40	11	51
Lads and Boys	80	21	101
Women and Girls:—			
Domestic Servants	74	26	100
Charwomen, daily work, &c.	2	63	65
Other Occupations	40	4	44
Total engaged by Private Employers ...	334	729	1,063
Engaged by Local Authorities.			
Men, Lads, and Boys	4	7	11
Women and girls ... ..	...	...	...
Engaged by Salvation Army.			
Men ... ..	...	186	186
Grand Total of 13 Bureaux ...	338	922	1,260

* Revised figure.
† Bureau not in operation in June, 1903.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN JUNE.

DURING June 631 fresh applications for work were registered by seven Bureaux furnishing returns, and 589 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 194 persons, of whom 100 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 194 situations found for applicants, 128 were of a more or less permanent character, while 66 were temporary only.

Compared with the previous month the number of fresh applications for domestic servants fell from 480 to 398, and the number of servants applying fell from 364 to 327; the number permanently engaged fell from 90 to 75. The demand for dressmakers, milliners, etc., fell from 131 to 64, and the number requiring such situations rose from 43 to 49; the number engaged through the Bureaux was 32, compared with 38 in May.

The Returns for the Manchester, Liverpool, and Edinburgh Bureaux are for the present grouped together in the following Table, which shows the work done by the Bureaux during June compared with a month ago and a year ago:—

WORK DONE IN JUNE.

Name of Bureau.	No. of Fresh Situations offered by Employers.	No. of Fresh Applications of Workpeople seeking Situations.	No. of Workpeople engaged by Employers.	
			Permanently.	Temporarily.
Summary by Bureaux.				
Central Bureau— 9, Southampton-street, W.C. ...	88	85	29	4
Society for Promoting Training and Employment— 22, Berners-street, W.	31	31	6	22
Y.W.C.A.— 26, George-street (1)	358	385	67	21
Hanover-square, W. (2)	69	79	12	13
Other Bureaux	43	51	14	6
Total of 7 Bureaux	589	631	128	66
Irish Central Bureau*, Dublin ...	21	33	2	—
Summary by Occupations.				
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc. ...	13	53	6	1
Shop Assistants ... ..	...	5	—	—
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc.	64	49	11	21
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists	27	55	6	15
Apprentices and Learners	26	20	19	—
Domestic Servants	398	327	75	25
Miscellaneous	61	122	11	4
Total Number in June, 1904	589	631	128	66
Total Number in May, 1904	786	639	137	90
Total Number in June, 1903	638	638	105	77

HOME OFFICE ORDER.

Special Exceptions: Meal Hours: Iron and Steel Foundries.

By Section 33 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, it is provided that with respect to meals the following regulations shall (save as in the Act specially excepted) be observed in a factory and workshop:—(1) All women, young persons and children employed therein shall have the times allowed for meals at the same hour of the day; and (2) a woman, young person or child shall not, during any part of the times allowed for meals in the factory or workshop, be employed in the factory or the workshop, or be allowed to remain in a room in which a "manufacturing" process or handicraft is then being carried on. By Section 40 (4) power is given to the Home Secretary to extend by special order certain exceptions to this provision to any class of factories or workshops, or parts thereof, where it is proved to his satisfaction that it is necessary, by reason of the continuous nature of the process, or of special circumstances affecting that class; and also that the extension can be made without injury to the health of the women, young persons, and children affected by such Order.

In pursuance of this power, by an Order† dated June 23rd, 1904, and to come into operation on July 1st, 1904, the Home

* In operation since November, 1903.
† Statutory Rules and Orders, 1904. No. 1220. (Eyre & Spottiswoode. Price 1d.)

Secretary has directed that the following special exceptions namely:—

- (a) An exception permitting young persons employed in a factory or a workshop to have the times allowed for meals at different hours of the day; and
- (b) An exception permitting young persons during the times allowed for meals in the factory or workshop to be allowed to remain in a room in which a manufacturing process or handicraft is being carried on;

shall extend to young male persons employed in iron and steel foundries.

The order dated July 14th, 1903, extending similar exceptions to male young persons in Scotland only is repealed.

INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN JUNE.

(Based on information supplied to the Department by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.)

(1) REGISTERED.

THE total number of Industrial Unions and Societies registered in June, was as follows: Under the Trade Union Acts, 2; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 24; under the Friendly Societies Act, 63 (including 32 branches of existing societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 4; in all, 93.

Among the new Societies registered in June, were the following:—

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—2, viz., United Kingdom Male and Female Streetsellers' and Hawkers' Union, Royal Oak, New Road, Woolwich, S.E.; Sheffield Wool Shear Makers', Grinders', Finishers', and Benders' Trade Union, 33, Wood Road, Hillsbro', Sheffield. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—England and Wales.—*Co-operative Societies mainly for Distribution.*—4, viz., Templecombe and District Co-op. and Industrial Soc., (Ltd.), Stock House, Templecombe, Bath; Ilfracombe Industrial Co-op. Soc., (Ltd.), 37a, Fore St., Ilfracombe; Garden City Co-operators, (Ltd.), 63, Radcliffe Road, Hitchin; Aldershot District Industrial Soc., (Ltd.), 1, Victoria Villas, Canning Road, Aldershot. *Co-operative Societies mainly for Production.*—2, viz., Progressive Press, (Ltd.), 69, Evelyn St., Deptford, S.E.; New Pioneer Publishing Soc., (Ltd.), 28, Dover-st., Leicester. *Co-operative Agricultural Societies.*—2, Dulas Agric. Co-op. Soc., (Ltd.), The Stores, Dulas, Amlwch, Anglesey; Wold Newton Poultry Soc., (Ltd.), Wold Newton, Hunmanby, Yorks. *Miscellaneous Societies.*—Working Men's Clubs, 6; others, 5. *Scotland.*—*Co-operative Society mainly for Distribution.*—Inverness Co-op. Soc., (Ltd.), 40, Academy St., Inverness. *Ireland.*—*Co-operative Society mainly for Distribution.*—Newry and District Co-op. Soc., (Ltd.), Trades Council Hall, The Mall, Newry, Co. Down. *Co-operative Agricultural Societies.*—3, viz., Cooraclare Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., (Ltd.), Cooraclare, Co. Clare; New Buildings Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., (Ltd.), Ederney, Co. Fermanagh; North Kildare Farming Soc., (Ltd.), Naas, Co. Kildare.

Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—25, viz., Merthyr Tydvil and Dist. Progressive Money Soc., Merthyr Tydvil; Stage Carriage Servants' Orphan and Benevolent Soc., Victoria-street, S.W.; St. George's Working Men's Club, Derby; Amethyst Working Men's Club and Inst., Stoke Newington, N.; Abbey Wood Working Men's Club and Inst., Plumstead, S.E.; Nottingham and Dist. Clarion Working Men's Fellowship Club, Nottingham; Uxbridge Working Men's Club and Reading Room, Heanesford, Staffs; Coventry Working Men's Club and Inst., Coventry; Strichley Working Men's Club, Birmingham; Highgate Lane Working Men's Club and Inst., Rotherham; Cockermouth Dist. Branch of the Independent Order of Oddfellows, Manchester; Unity Past Grands Lodge Friendly Soc., John-street, Maryport; Spennymoor Equalised Workmen's Benefit Friendly Soc., Spennymoor; Dedham Loyal Reliance Juvenile Oddfellows Friendly Soc., Colchester; Bingham Beattie P.S.A. Brotherhood Tontine Soc., Liverpool; Huskisson Friendly Tontine Soc., Liverpool; Brothers of Israel Tontine Soc., Liverpool; Leyland Mutual Benefit Soc., Liverpool; Shepherd's Bush Benefit and Divisional Soc., W.; Ezra and Jacob Friendly Benefit Soc., Commercial-road, E.; Camberwell Brotherhood Sick and Sharing-Out Soc., S.E.; Dr. Max Nordau Friendly Benefit Soc., London, E.; Bentinek Road Sick and Annual Soc., Nottingham; Loyal Queen Alexandra Lodge Juvenile Oddfellows Friendly Soc., Lowestoft; Independent Bohemians Friendly Soc., Eastbourne; Voel Arthur Friendly Soc. of Independent Shepherds, Hendre, Mold. *Scotland.*—2, viz., St. Ninians and Dist. Juvenile Foresters' Sick and Funeral Soc., Stirling; Patriotic Collecting Soc., Glasgow. *Ireland.*—4, viz., Athlone Trade and Labour Friendly Soc., Athlone, Westmeath; Ormond Loan and Investment Soc., Dublin; Middletown Agric. Credit Soc., Middletown, Armagh; Ashford Agric. Credit Soc., Ashford, Wicklow.

(2) DISSOLVED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies reported as having commenced to "wind up," or as having registration cancelled in June, was as follows:— Under the Trade Union Acts, 3; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 10; under the Friendly Societies Acts, 82 (including 49 branches of Societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 10; in all 105.

NOTE.—In the above statement a Co-operative Society is entered under the heading (distribution, production, &c.) which appears from the information in the possession of the Board of Trade to represent its principal object.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING JUNE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Mines and Quarries. General Report and Statistics for 1903. Part I. District Statistics. [Cd. 2115: pp. 47: price 6½d.] See notice on page 198.

Reports of Mining Inspectors for 1903:—West Scotland District. [Cd. 2119-I: pp. 33: price 5d.]; Midland District. [Cd. 2119-VII: pp. 55: price 7d.]; Stafford District. [Cd. 2119-VIII: pp. 65: price 1s. 1d.]; Cardiff District. [Cd. 2119-IX: pp. 45: price 5d.]; Swansea District [Cd. 2119-X: pp. 28: price 3d.]; Southern District. [Cd. 2119-XI: pp. 59: price 7½d.]

Health of Cornish Miners. Report to the Secretary of State for the Home Department, by Dr. Haldane, and Messrs. J. S. Martin and R. A. Thomas. [Cd. 2091: pp. 107 with plans: price 1s. 2d.] See notice on page 196.

Report on the Construction, Arrangement, and Fencing of Hoists and Teagles, by W. Sydney Smith, one of H.M. Inspectors of Factories. Report, showing points in construction, arrangement, and management which are necessary for the safety of workpeople. [Cd. 2051: pp. viii. + 30, with xii plates: price 5s. 6d.]

Savings Banks and Friendly Societies. Return for year ended 31st December, 1903, showing interest accrued and paid by Commissioners of National Debt for Post Office, Trustee and other Savings Banks, and Friendly Societies. [H.C. 210: pp. 3: price ½d.]

Twenty-eighth Annual Report of H.M. Inspectors of Explosives for 1903. Manufacture, storage, packing and conveyance of explosives; statistics of accidents due to explosives, with comparative table; permitted explosives in coal mines, &c. [Cd. 2116: pp. 236: price 1s. 11d.]

Crofters' Commission. Report by the Crofters' Commission to the Secretary for Scotland as to the Proceedings for 1903. Fair rents fixed, applications for increased holdings, &c. [Cd. 2076: pp. vii + 63: price 8½d.]

Fishery Board for Scotland. Twenty-second Annual Report, 1903. Part II. Report on Salmon Fisheries. [Cd. 2088: pp. xii. + 119: price 1s. 5d.]

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland. Banking and Railway Statistics, Ireland. Report for half-year ended 31st December, 1903. Continues history of Co-operative Credit Associations in Ireland, showing transactions of these institutions for the years 1898 to 1902. [Cd. 2109: pp. 67: price 7½d.]

Return of Prices of certain classes of Irish Agricultural Products and Live Stock for the year 1903. Returns of average prices in each quarter of 1903 compared with 1902; summary table of average annual prices since 1884. [Cd. 2072: pp. 49 with 18 diagrams: price 1s. 2d.]

Labourers' Cottages (Ireland). Return for year ended 31st March, 1904, showing the number of labourers' cottages (a) built, (b) in course of construction; amount of Loans (a) sanctioned, (b) received; amount of Exchequer contribution, &c. [H.C. 188: pp. 16: price 2d.]

BRITISH INDIA AND BRITISH COLONIES.

East India.

Moral and Material Progress and Condition of India during the year 1902-3. Includes statistics of textile factories, paper mills, coal and other mines; statistics of factory inspection during 1902, showing number of six and seven-day factories, average number of hands employed, accidents, &c. [H.C. 186: pp. iii. + 191: price 1s. 7d.]

British South Africa.

Correspondence relating to the proposed introduction of indentured Asiatic (Chinese) Labour into Southern Rhodesia. [Cd. 2028: pp. iv. + 34: price 4d.]

South African Mines (Mortality). Return of the numbers and rate of mortality from accident and other causes among all classes of workers in the Rand, Rhodesian and Kimberley Mines during the last 12 months for which statistics are available. [H.C. 205: pp. 14, with diagrams: price 1s. 10d.]

(All the above-mentioned Reports may be obtained direct from Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode, East Harding-street, Fleet-street, E.C., or ordered through any bookseller.)

New Zealand.

Particulars relative to Labour Bureaux for 1902-3. Number of bureaux, salaries, cost, &c. (p. 1: price 3d.)

Cancellation of unions registered under the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act during the last ten years. Names of such unions, showing reasons for cancellation, length of time registered, and number of members. (pp. 2: price 3d.)

Correspondence respecting the working of the Labour Department of New Zealand, 1903. (pp. 2: price 3d.)

Cost of Arbitration Court and Boards of Conciliation for 1902-3. (p. 1: price 3d.)

(The above New Zealand Returns are published by John Mackay, Government Printer, Wellington, N.Z.)

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

United States.

Wisconsin. Fourth Biennial Report of the State Board of Arbitration and Conciliation of the State of Wisconsin. September, 1900, to September, 1902. Reports upon disputes during the period, showing action taken by the State Board; synopsis of Arbitration Laws of other States of the Union. [Madison, Democrat Printing Company, State Printer: pp. 100.]

Germany.

Annual Report of Munich Municipal Labour Bureau for 1903: [Munich, 1904: pp. 49.]

Annual Reports for 1903 of Prussian Industrial and Mines Inspectors—Imperial Home Office—[Berlin: R. von Deckers Verlag, 1904: pp. lx. + 769.]

Tables and Diagrams of Workmen's Insurance in the German Empire. Supplement to Journal of German Labour Department for June, 1904.—Imperial Statistical Department—[Berlin: Carl Heymanns Verlag, 1904: pp. ix + 38 and diagrams: price 6d.]

Guide to the Workmen's Insurance of the German Empire. Revised edition for the St. Louis Exhibition. Compiled by Dr. Zacher. [Berlin: A. Asher & Co.: pp. 32 and tables: price 3d.]

The German Workmen's Insurance as a Social Institution. Parts II., III., IV. Compiled by order of the Imperial Insurance Department for the St. Louis Exhibition. [Berlin: 1904.]

Austria.

Report of Proceedings at 17th Session of Austrian Labour Council, 25th January, 1904.—Austrian Labour Department—[Vienna: k. k. Hof und Staatsdruckerei, 1904: pp. 90.]

Italy.

Proceedings of Higher Council of Labour, March, 1904: [Rome: Tipografia Nazionale di G. Bertero & Co., via Umbria, 1904: pp. 133 + 94.]

Reports by Italian Labour Department upon (1) *Labour of Women and Children* (2 reports); (2) *Industrial Arbitration.* [Rome: Tipografia Nazionale di G. Bertero & Co., 1904.]

Denmark.

Report of Danish Council for Workmen's Insurance, Fisheries Department, 1903. [Copenhagen: Universitetsboghandler, G. E. C. Gad, 1904: pp. 33.]

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Spain.

Reports by Spanish Labour Department (Instituto de Reformas Sociales) on (1) *Mines at Viscaya*, (2) *Selection of Prize Essays on the Agrarian Problem in the South of Spain*, (3) *Proposed Modifications in Law as to Industrial Accidents.* [Madrid: M. Minuesa de los Rios, 1904.]

Consular Reports. Foreign Office Annual Series. No. 3180. Trade of Denmark for the year 1903. Statistics of Danish Co-operative Societies, &c. [Cd. 1766—114: pp. 18: price 1½d.]

No. 3186. Trade of Consular District of Hamburg for 1903. Gives number of industrial establishments in Hamburg, with numbers employed in 1903. [Cd. 1766-120: pp. 68: price 3½d.]

No. 3193. Trade of Stockholm and Eastern Coast of Sweden, 1903. Refers to cost of living and rents in Stockholm. [Cd. 1766-127: pp. 32: price 2d.]

No. 3196. Trade of the Grand Duchy of Baden, 1903. Gives average rates of wages at a large agricultural machinery establishment in the Duchy. [Cd. 1766-130: pp. 8: price ½d.]

Miscellaneous Series, No. 610. Report on the Industrial Development of Italy. Review of principal Italian industries; statistics of various groups of industries showing number of establishments, quantity and character of motive power, production, and number of persons employed. [Cd. 1767-14: pp. 19: price 1½d.]

(The Consular Reports may be obtained direct from Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, E.C., or ordered through any bookseller.)

NOTE.—In addition to the above-mentioned publications, copies have been received of the official journals issued by the Labour Departments of Canada, New Zealand, France, Germany, Austria, Belgium, Norway, and Sweden.

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