

THE Board of Trade LABOUR GAZETTE.

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[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

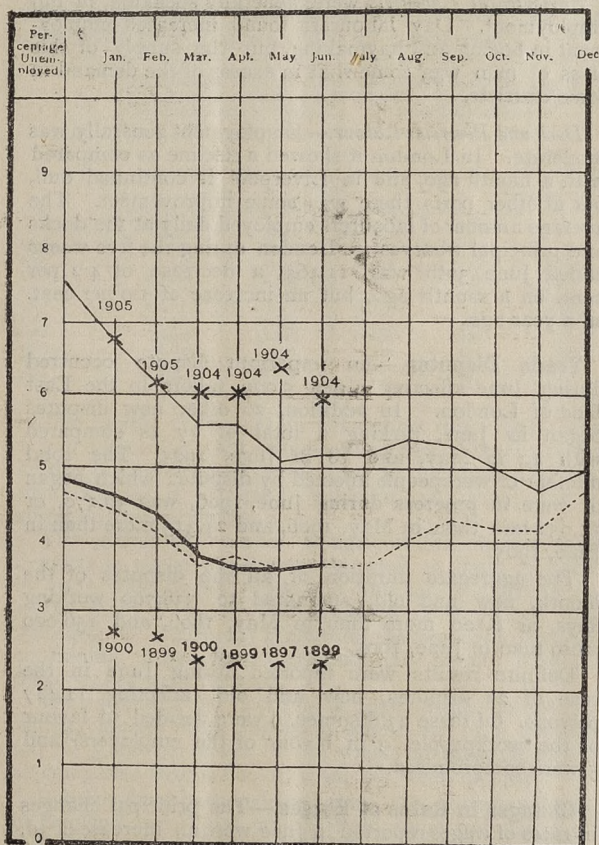


CHART SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

Thick Curve=1906. Thin Curve=1905.
Dotted Curve=Mean of 1896-1905.

The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed during the past ten years, with the dates thereof.

STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN JUNE.

[Based on 7,971 returns, viz.: 3,846 from Employers and their Associations; 3,629 from Trade Unions; 401 from Local Correspondents; and 95 from other sources.]

EMPLOYMENT on the whole showed no marked change as compared with the previous month. The iron and steel and engineering trades continued to improve. There was some decline in the tinsplate, boot and shoe, and woollen and worsted trades.

As compared with a year ago all the principal industries showed an improvement.

In the 272 Trade Unions, with an aggregate membership of 593,830, making Returns, 21,785 (or 3·7 per cent.)

were reported as unemployed at the end of June, as compared with 3·6 per cent. at the end of May, and 5·2 per cent. at the end of June, 1905.

Building Trades.—Employment in the building trades continued dull. With bricklayers, however, there was an improvement, and painters were well employed generally. Compared with a year ago, employment was better on the whole.

Coal Mining.—Employment in this industry was fairly good. It showed some decline compared with the previous month, but was better than a year ago.

Iron Mining.—Employment was good and generally better than a month ago and a year ago.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment in this industry during June continued good, but showed some decline as compared with May. It was considerably better than a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters employing about 24,300 workpeople, showed that 338 furnaces were in blast at the end of June, a decrease of 4 as compared with the previous month, but an increase of 15 as compared with June, 1905.

Iron and Steel Works.—Employment at iron and steel works showed some improvement in June, and was considerably better than a year ago. The volume of employment at 201 works from which Returns have been received was 1·2 per cent. greater in the week ended June 23rd, 1906, than in the week ended May 26th, 1906, and 8·5 per cent. greater than a year ago.

Tinsplate and Steel Sheet Manufacture.—Employment during June was worse than a month ago and much worse than a year ago. According to Returns received, 391 tinsplate and sheet mills were working at the end of June, 1906, as compared with 415 in the previous month and 431 a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at the 391 mills at work was about 19,500.

Engineering Trades.—Employment generally continued good. It showed little change on the whole compared with the previous month, but was much better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members returned as unemployed at the end of June was 2·4 as compared with 2·5 in May, and 5·0 in June, 1905.

Shipbuilding Trades.—Employment continued good in the principal shipbuilding centres, showing little general change compared with the previous month. It remained considerably better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of June was 6·4, as compared with 6·0 at the end of May and 11·5 at the end of June, 1905.

Cotton Trade.—Employment continued very good, and was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 129,573 workpeople in the week ended 23rd June, showed a decrease of 0·5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 6·7 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Woollen Trade.—Employment showed a slight decline as compared with a month ago; it was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 26,619 workpeople in the week ended June 23rd showed a decrease

of 2.2 per cent. in the wages paid as compared with a month ago, but an increase of 3.3 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Worsted Trade.—Employment was fairly good, though not so good as a month ago. Returns from firms employing 46,347 workpeople in the week ended June 23rd showed a decrease of 1.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, but an increase of 3.5 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Flax (Linen) Trade.—Employment in this industry continued fairly good, but showed a slight decline compared with the previous month. It was, however, better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 47,105 workpeople in the week ending June 23rd showed a decrease of 1.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago, and an increase of 4.3 per cent. as compared with the corresponding week in 1905.

Jute Trade.—Employment in this trade continued good, and much better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 19,448 workpeople in the week ending June 23rd showed a decrease of 0.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with May, and an increase of 8.8 per cent. as compared with June, 1905.

Silk Trade.—Employment in this trade was slightly worse than in May, but was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 8,552 workpeople showed a decrease of 0.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with May, and an increase of 3.2 per cent. as compared with June, 1905.

Lace Trade.—Employment in this trade continued fairly good, and was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 9,467 workpeople in the week ending June 23rd, showed a decrease in the amount of wages paid of 2.5 per cent. as compared with May, and an increase of 18.1 per cent. compared with last year.

Hosiery Trade.—Employment generally was fairly good in England and good in Scotland. It was slightly worse than a month ago but better than a year ago. Firms employing 16,265 workpeople in the week ended June 23rd, showed a decrease of 2.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, but an increase of 5.6 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Tailoring Trade.—Employment in the *bespoke* branch was moderate in London; good in the Provinces. In the *ready-made* branch there was a seasonal decline, but employment was better than a year ago.

Hat Trades.—Employment during June in the *Silk Hat* branch showed a decline as compared with a month ago; in the *Felt Hat* branch it was rather better than a month ago. It was worse generally than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members returned as unemployed at the end of June in the *Silk Hat* trade was 11.8 compared with 10.7 at the end of May, and 11.2 a year ago. The corresponding figures for the *Felt Hat* trade were 3.5, 4.0 and 2.4.

Boot and Shoe Trade.—Employment underwent a considerable decline in June, but showed little change compared with a year ago. Returns from firms employing 65,015 workpeople in the last week of June showed a decrease in the amount of wages paid of 5.3 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 0.4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Other Leather Trades.—Employment showed some improvement compared with a month ago, and considerable improvement compared with a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 4,553 had 5.0 per cent. unemployed at the end of June, compared with 5.3 per cent. in May, and 7.2 per cent. in June, 1905.

Paper-making Trades.—Employment was good in these trades, showing little change compared with a month ago and a year ago.

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.—Employment continued quiet, but showed an improvement as compared with May. It was better than a year ago. In the printing trades the percentage of Trade Union members

unemployed at the end of June was 4.1 as compared with 4.7 in May, and 5.1 in June, 1905. In the bookbinding trades the percentages were 5.7 for June, 1906; 5.1 for May, 1906; and 7.6 for June, 1905.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment continued fair, but was rather worse than a month ago. It was slightly better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of June was 4.1, as compared with 3.6 at the end of May, and 4.4 a year ago.

Glass Trades.—Employment generally was moderate, and showed some decline as compared with a month ago and a year ago.

Pottery and Brick and Tile Trades.—In the *Pottery* trade employment continued fairly good in England; in Scotland it was fair. In the *Brick and Tile* trades employment was moderate, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

Agricultural Labourers were, generally speaking, in full employment. Day labourers found increased employment in hoeing and haymaking, but the supply of this class of men was somewhat in excess of the demand in some districts.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—Employment generally was moderate. In London it showed a decline as compared with a month ago, and in Liverpool it continued dull, but at other ports there was some improvement. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves in London during the five weeks ended June 30th was 11,464, a decrease of 4.2 per cent. on a month ago, but an increase of 1.0 per cent. on a year ago.

Trade Disputes.—An important dispute occurred during June affecting about 5,000 tailors in the East End of London. In addition, 26 other new disputes began in June, making a total of 27 as compared with 42 in May, and 18 in June, 1905. The total number of workpeople affected by disputes which began or were in progress during June, 1906, was 36,170, or 11,952 less than in May, 1906, and 24,315 more than in June, 1905.

The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old, amounted to 338,700 working days, or 8,200 more than in May, 1906, and 156,000 more than in June, 1905.

Definite results were reported during June in the case of 23 disputes, new and old, affecting 11,447 persons. Of these 23 disputes, 9 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 9 in favour of the employers, and 5 were compromised.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The principal changes in rates of wages reported in June were an increase of 3d. per ton to puddlers and of 2½ per cent. to millmen, affecting 20,000 workpeople in the Midlands, and increases varying from 6d. to 1s. per week affecting 30,000 flax spinners, reellers, preparers, &c., in the north of Ireland. The total number of persons affected by all changes reported was 62,150, and the net effect was an increase of about £2,350 per week, 61,400 workpeople having received advances amounting to £2,370 per week, and nearly 750 having sustained decreases amounting to £20 per week. The changes of the previous month affected nearly 170,800 workpeople, the net result being an increase of £4,100 per week. During June, 1905, the number of workpeople affected was about 12,700, and the net result a decrease of over £70 per week.

One change, affecting about 60 workpeople, was settled by arbitration, and five changes, affecting about 23,200 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting nearly 38,890 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople or their representatives, four of these changes, affecting about 30,600 workpeople, being preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

CHANGES IN WAGES OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

England and Wales.—The rates of wages of farm labourers in England and Wales showed, on the whole, a very slight downward tendency in 1905, but in the great majority of Rural Districts there was no change. In Scotland the reports received show a rather more marked downward movement than in the case of England and Wales, while in Ireland there was, generally speaking, no appreciable change.

So far indicated by reports received during the current month, agricultural wages in England and Wales have remained practically stationary in 1906 (apart from seasonal changes customary in some Districts).

Information has been obtained, mainly from the Chairmen of Rural District Councils, as to the current rates of weekly cash wages in January and June, 1905, and 1904 of ordinary agricultural labourers in most of the Rural Districts in England and Wales.

In the following table the changes in wages disclosed by these returns are given in combination with the estimated number of agricultural labourers in the Rural Districts affected*. The corresponding figures for the nine years 1896-1904 are added for comparison.

Year.	Total number of Labourers in Districts in which the predominant Rates of Wages.		Computed amount of change in Weekly Cash Wages of the Labourers in Districts affected.		
	Increased.	Decreased.	Increase.	Decrease.	Net Increase (+) or Decrease (-)
1895 ...	No. 52,721	No. 36,676	£ 1,858	£ 1,513	+ 345
1897 ...	74,559	4,340	2,234	110	+ 2,122
1898 ...	183,987	2,350	6,227	47	+ 6,180
1899 ...	163,960	203	5,438	4	+ 5,434
1900 ...	230,635	...	8,150	...	+ 8,150
1901 ...	127,565	10,469	3,559	398	+ 3,161
1902 ...	51,949	41,795	1,609	1,297	+ 312
1903 ...	51,095	24,953	1,440	893	+ 546
1904 ...	23,779	9,560	1,032	451	+ 581
1905 ...	6,659	12,438	252	442	- 190

* The figures show that in the period 1897-1901 there was a decided upward movement in agricultural wages. In the three following years (1902-4) the upward movement was far less marked, while in 1905 there was a slight downward tendency.

The estimated number of agricultural labourers in districts in which wages were reported to have changed in 1905 was 19,097, while the number in districts in which rates of wages were reported as unaltered was 292,446. Of the 19,097 labourers, the wages in districts containing 12,438 were increased, and in the case of 6,659 wages were reduced.

The estimated net decrease in 1905, in the districts in which changes were reported, amounted to a general fall of £190 per week in the wages of those affected, as compared with a rise of £581 per week in 1904.

Returns have been received from 180 correspondents in England and Wales which afford some indication of the course of agricultural wages in the present year. The Returns give a comparative statement of the rates of wages most generally paid to ordinary agricultural labourers in June, 1906 and 1905 in the Poor Law Unions in which the correspondents reside. Of the 180 Returns 162 show no change in 1906, 10 show a downward tendency (chiefly in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire) and 8 an upward tendency (chiefly in the Midland and Eastern Counties).

Scotland.—Information as to the rates of wages agreed upon at hiring fairs in Scotland in 1905 was obtained by the Department from a correspondent who made special inquiries on the subject.

The correspondent reported that while at the hirings held from August to December, 1904, there was a downward tendency in the wages of male farm servants, which were generally speaking reduced by £1 to £2 for the half year, this tendency was checked at the spring hirings in 1905, yet only in exceptional cases were the

* Further particulars respecting the method of computing changes in agricultural wages are given in Report on Changes of Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour. Cd. 2,674 of 1905. Wyman and Sons, Ltd. Price 7d.

rates restored to the level of the previous year. At the hirings held in the latter half of 1905 the downward movement was resumed, and wages generally showed a fall of from £1 to £1 10s. per half year. In some cases, however, farm servants remaining in their places sustained no reduction.

In the north-eastern counties of Scotland, as a result of the fall in men's wages, those for lads also declined a little. There was some increase in the supply of female servants, but their rates of wages were, on the whole, well maintained.

Ireland.—Returns were received by the Department from 78 correspondents in various counties in Ireland, showing the rate of wages most generally paid to the several classes of agricultural labourers in 1905, in comparison with the corresponding rates in 1904. The great majority of the returns show that there was no change in rates of wages in 1905.

UNEMPLOYED IN NORWAY: NEW LEGISLATION.

ROYAL sanction was given on June 12th to two laws providing State aid for agencies for dealing with the unemployed in Norway. One of these laws relates to public labour registries and the other to unemployed benefit funds.

Public Labour Registries.

The first of the Acts referred to provides for the establishment of free public labour registries in all such towns and communes as shall be determined by Royal Decree. Each registry must be controlled by a Board consisting of employers and workpeople in equal numbers, together with a chairman not connected with any local industrial undertaking in either of these capacities. Persons elected as members of such boards are bound to accept office, and to serve for three years. All requisite stationery, forms, registers and printed matter will be provided by the State, which will also refund expenses incurred in using the telephone and telegraph. All other expenses must be defrayed by the local authority alone, except in the smaller towns and villages, that is to say those with 30,000 inhabitants or less. In such places the state will refund a certain proportion of the amount spent on the salaries of the registry officials, the proportion varying from one-tenth where the population is over 25,000 but not more than 30,000, to seven-tenths where the population does not exceed 3,000.

The public labour registries will continue their operations during strikes or lock-outs, but it will be free to either of the parties to a dispute, prior to the stoppage of work, to furnish the registry with particulars on the subject, and in that case the registry will draw up and post on the premises a notice announcing the date and cause of the stoppage and the occupations affected.

Unemployed Benefit Funds.

Under the second of the new laws, it is provided that any unemployed benefit fund which complies with certain prescribed conditions, shall have refunded to it by the State, one-fourth of the amount which it pays to its members in unemployed benefit. Of the total expense incurred by the State under this head in any given year, two-thirds must be refunded to it by the Local Authorities of the places in which the recipients of unemployed benefit last resided for a period of six consecutive months within the previous five years.

Among the conditions, subject to which an unemployed benefit fund is to be entitled to the State grant, are the following:—

No member may receive benefit unless he has belonged to the fund for the previous six months at least, and has paid his subscriptions for at least twenty-six weeks. The unemployment must have lasted at least three days before benefit can be paid. The benefit must not be at a rate exceeding half the average daily earnings in the trade at which the member works, nor may it be paid for more than ninety days in any twelve months. An unemployed member must accept the offer of any employment deemed suitable for him by the

executive of the fund. A person belonging to one such fund cannot draw benefit from another. Persons unemployed owing to strike, lock-out, sickness or infirmity, shall not receive benefit.

The law is to take effect from the first of next October and not to remain in force after December 31st, 1911.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION IN 1905.

THE Annual Return* for 1905 relating to Emigration and Immigration from and into the United Kingdom, recently issued shows that the total number of passengers proceeding either to European or non-European countries was greater in 1905 than in either of the two preceding years, but that the total number of passengers who arrived in the United Kingdom either from European or non-European countries was also greater. The total number of outward passengers in each of the three years was, in 1905, 1,204,492, in 1904, 1,172,437, and in 1903, 1,148,907. The total number of inward passengers was, in 1905, 1,055,756, in 1904, 1,044,845, and in 1903, 1,014,126. The net balance outward of 146,736 persons in 1905 was greater than in any other recent year.

Movement to and from places out of Europe.

In 1905 the movement outward was the largest yet recorded. The inward movement also, though smaller than it was in the year 1904, was larger than in any other previous year; and the net outward movement was larger than it has been in any year since 1888.

The following table shows for the years 1903-5, the number of inward and outward passengers, distinguishing British and Irish from foreigners:—

Year.	Passengers Outward.			Passengers Inward.		
	British and Irish.	Foreigners.	Nationality not distinguished.	British and Irish.	Foreigners.	Nationality not distinguished.
1903	259,950	181,539	7,517	112,914	82,390	4,381
1904	271,455	174,354	8,058	144,581	92,172	5,143
1905	262,077	188,122	9,163	122,712	77,908	4,573

Of the total number of British and Irish passengers outwards it appears that English passengers formed 65 per cent.; Scotch, 16 per cent.; and Irish, 19 per cent, as against 65, 14 and 21 per cent. respectively in the preceding year.

Of the British and Irish passengers outward 132,962, or 51 per cent., were proceeding to places within the British Empire, 31 per cent. going to British North America, 10 per cent. to British South Africa, 6 per cent. to Australia and New Zealand, 2 per cent. to British India and Ceylon, and the remainder to other British Colonies and Possessions. Of those going to foreign countries 95 per cent. went to the United States. The number of British and Irish passengers to South Africa was 26,307 as compared with 26,818 in 1904 and 50,626 in 1903. The number who proceeded to British North America was 82,437 as compared with 69,681 in 1904, a number itself in excess of any previous figures.

A decrease is shown in the numbers proceeding to the United States, the figures being 122,370 for 1905, and 146,445 for 1904.

Of the total number of passengers outward 62,193, or nearly 14 per cent. were children under 12 years, whilst of the adults 249,874 were males and 147,595 females. The relatively low proportion of children of Irish origin (8 per cent) continues to be a noticeable feature. The proportion of females amongst Irish emigrants continued high as compared with those of other nationalities, but the excess of females over males fell from 4,782 in 1904 to 134 in 1905.

Particulars are also given in the Report of the occupations to which the adult passengers outward belonged. Of British and Irish adult male passengers, 16 per cent belonged to the agricultural and 10 per cent. to the commercial and professional groups; 21 per cent. belonged to the skilled trade group, and 30 per cent were described as labourers.

* H.C. 149. Price 8d. Wyman & Sons, Ltd.

On comparing the number of passengers to places out of Europe with that of passengers therefrom it appears that in 1905, for every 100 passengers who departed from this country 45 arrived in it, the proportion being 47 per cent. in the case of British and Irish and 41 per cent. in the case of foreigners.

The net result of last year's passenger movement between this country and places out of Europe was an excess outward of 254,469, the movement of British and Irish showing an excess outward of 139,365. Of this number it appears that 55 per cent. were proceeding to British Colonies and Possessions and 45 per cent. to Foreign Countries.

Reviewing the whole passenger movement between this country and countries out of Europe the Report states the chief features of interest are the large British emigration to British North America and the large emigration both British and Foreign to the United States. The movement of British and Irish passengers between the United Kingdom and British South Africa, which resulted in 1904 in a small balance inward, in 1905 showed a balance outward of 3,221.

Movement to and from European Countries.

The movement both outward and inward was greater than in either of the two previous years. The net balance inward of 107,733 persons was some 23,000 above the 1904 figure. This inward balance is about 5,000 less than the recorded net balance outward of foreign emigrants from the United Kingdom to places out of Europe (112,570). With regard to this difference of 5,000 the Report states that the figure in question, owing to relatively slight errors which may have affected the large figures representing the total movement in each direction, cannot be regarded as altogether trustworthy.

Taking it as a rough index, however, of the general results of the passenger movement, it can probably be said with some degree of certainty that the alien population of the United Kingdom either decreased in 1905, or if it increased, it increased to a much less degree than in former years.

WORK OF THE CENTRAL (UNEMPLOYED) BODY FOR LONDON.

A PRELIMINARY report relating to the work of the Central (Unemployed) Body for London from the date of its constitution to May 12th, 1906, has been prepared by that committee at the request of the President of the Local Government Board. It is pointed out that the functions of the Central Body "are to superintend and co-ordinate" the action of the 29 Local Distress Committees in the various Metropolitan Boroughs and the City of London, which, together with the Central Body, form the organisation established under the Unemployed Workmen Act, 1905, "With a view to the provision of employment or assistance for unemployed workmen in proper cases" in London. The Central Body was further to aid the Distress Committees in the work of obtaining employment by collecting information or by establishing, taking over, or assisting, labour bureaux or employment exchanges. They were also empowered to assist applicants, recommended to them by the Distress Committees by aiding their emigration or migration, or by "providing" or contributing towards the provision of temporary work.

For these purposes the Central Body has control of a Central Fund consisting of two parts: (1) a Voluntary Fund supplied by voluntary contributions, (2) a Rate Fund supplied by contributions levied upon the Metropolitan Boroughs, the rate being limited to $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in the pound of rateable value in any one year, or with the consent of the Local Government Board to one penny. Out of the Rate Fund are payable the establishment charges of the Central Body and the Distress Committees and all expenditure upon Employment Exchanges and the collection of information; upon emigration and migration; and upon the acquisition of land. All other expenditure, including the provision of work, must be paid for out of the Voluntary Fund.

In the Report it is shown that up to May 12th the total receipts of the voluntary fund amounted to £55,264, of which amount £55,095 was received from the Queen's

Unemployed Fund, while a further sum of £8,000 had been promised by the committee of that fund. Of the £55,264 received £39,089 was expended on works, &c. for the relief of the unemployed. The remainder had been allocated to works, but not yet expended.

The expenditure on establishment charges up to May 12th was £7,148 and on emigration £3,549. These charges were borne by the Rate Fund.

Relief works were opened in the London area at Chingford, Long Grove, London County Council Parks and Royal Parks, and at Tooting, and in the country at Hollesley Bay, Osea Island, Letchworth, and Farnbridge. The number of men employed at these works was on 31st January 1,112, on 28th February 2,498, on 31st March 3,098, on 27th April 1,369, and on 11th May, 1,186. In addition work was provided locally in eight London Boroughs, on which a comparatively small number of men was employed. The number of persons assisted to emigrate up to 31st May was 1,191, representing 350 families. Only in a very few cases has the question of assisting persons to migrate from London to other towns in the United Kingdom had to be considered by the Committee.

As regards Employment Exchanges, the Central Body has decided to establish a separate Exchange in each Borough, with the possible exception of one or two of the smaller areas, where it may be found that a saving can be effected without loss of efficiency by covering two districts from one centre.

RECENT CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

Boot and Shoe Operatives, Leicester.

A difference having arisen at a meeting of the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Boot and Shoe Trade of Leicester as to the price to be paid for "tacking on by hand" apart from the provision made on the piecework statement for lasting machine workers, the matter was referred to the two arbitrators of the Board for settlement. They were, however, unable to agree upon a price, and on 18th June application was made to the Board of Trade for the appointment of an Umpire.

The Board of Trade appointed Alderman T. Smith, J.P., of Leicester, as umpire, and he issued his award on the 6th July. The operative clauses of the award are as follows:—

1. When a workman tacks on the soles by hand, and the same workman does not get his own work off, the price to be paid for the operation of tacking on shall be 6d. per dozen pairs.
2. When a workman tacks on the soles by hand, and also gets off his work, the price to be paid for the operation of tacking on shall be 5d. per dozen pairs.

The umpire further determined that his award should remain in force during such time as the piecework statement continues in operation.

Carpenters and Joiners, Coalville.

On 2nd April, 24 carpenters and joiners struck against a proposed reduction in wages from 8d. to 7½d. per hour. Work was resumed on 9th May on the understanding that the matter in question should be referred to arbitration. On 20th June an application was made to the Board of Trade by the Coalville Master Builders' Association and the Coalville Branch of the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners for the appointment of an arbitrator.

The Board of Trade on 26th June appointed Alderman T. Smith, J.P., of Leicester, to act in that capacity.

In his award issued 13th July the arbitrator decided that the present rate of wages, 8d. per hour, should continue to be paid in the district.

Linen Factory Operatives, Brechin.

On 7th June the operatives engaged in linen manufacture at a mill in Brechin ceased work in support of their demand for an advance in wages of 10 per cent. The owners of two other mills thereupon gave notice that unless the strike was terminated they would lock out their workpeople on 14th June. No settlement having been arrived at by that date the lock-out was enforced, the total number of workpeople thrown idle by the dispute amounting to 1,400.

On 30th June an application was made to the Board of Trade on behalf of both parties requesting the appointment of a representative to inquire into the question of the workers' wages in Brechin, with the view of bringing about a settlement of the dispute.

The Board of Trade on 3rd July appointed Mr. G. R. Askwith, barrister-at-law, to act in that capacity.

On 7th July Mr. Askwith effected an arrangement at Brechin between the employers and workers, under which both parties agreed that work should be resumed at all the mills on 12th July, that at a later date an enquiry should be held as to the wages of all classes of workers, and that, failing agreement, any differences that arose should be left to Mr. Askwith's decision.

MIDLAND IRON AND STEEL WAGES BOARD.

New Sliding Scale.

THE Sliding Scale, which was adopted by the Midland Iron and Steel Wages Board in 1889 to regulate the wages of iron and steel workers in the Midlands, terminated on 4th February, 1905, consequent on a notice to terminate the scale which was served by the operatives in September, 1904. At a General Meeting of the Board on 1st May, 1905, it was decided to appoint a Special Committee for the purpose of formulating the terms of a new Sliding Scale, applicable to the works included in, and affiliated with, the Midland Iron and Steel Wages Board, and to be independent of any Sliding Scale acting in other districts. It was also agreed that, during the time which would be taken up in formulating a new Scale, the rate of wages of ironworkers in the Midlands would be principally regulated by the Scale in operation in the North of England.

The settlements to 1st April and 3rd June, 1905, were made by the Standing Committee, and subsequent settlements by a small committee consisting of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and the two Secretaries.

A new Sliding Scale was approved and adopted by the Standing Committee on 14th June last. The number of firms whose books will be examined by the accountants for the purpose of preparing their ascertainment has been increased from 12, which was the number in the case of the previous Scale, to 17. The accountants are instructed to take out the weights and selling prices of all classes of iron, as rolled and delivered from the mills, sold and marketed, but excluding any which has been used up in other departments, and all steel, for every two months, commencing with the months of March and April, 1906, as the first bi-monthly period. This ascertainment is to be considered as regulating ironworkers' wages for the months of June and July, 1906, the Scale showing a similar advance to the return of the North of England.

Puddlers' wages are to be 2s. in excess of 1s. for each £1 sterling per ton in selling price, and the fractional parts will be regulated thus:

	Selling price difference.	Wages difference.
From over	2s. 6d. to 5s. ...	... 3d.
" "	5s. to 7s. 6d. ...	... 3d.
" "	7s. 6d. to 10s. ...	... 6d.
" "	10s. to 12s. 6d. ...	... 6d.
" "	12s. 6d. to 15s. ...	... 9d.
" "	15s. to 17s. 6d. ...	... 9d.
" "	17s. 6d. to 22s. 6d. ...	... 1s.

The rate of premium in the previous scale was 1s. 6d., as against the premium rate of 2s. now adopted.

Millmen's wages are to be advanced or reduced in the same ratio as heretofore, viz:—

For 1s. puddling ...	... 10 per cent. Millmen
" 9d. " ...	... 7½ " "
" 6d. " ...	... 5 " "
" 3d. " ...	... 2½ " "

The scale includes all claims for "Northern extras," and will continue in operation for two years certain, and after that period it will be subject to three months' notice to terminate from either side.

AGRICULTURAL SETTLEMENTS IN BRITISH COLONIES.

Report of Departmental Committee.

EARLY in 1905 the Secretary of State for the Colonies appointed Mr. Rider Haggard as a Commissioner to inspect and report upon the agricultural and industrial settlements established by the Salvation Army in the United States, the object of the inquiry being, that if these settlements were found to be successful, some analogous system might with advantage be applied in transferring persons from towns in the United Kingdom to different parts of the British Empire.

Mr. Rider Haggard issued his report in May, 1905,* and a Departmental Committee was then appointed, with Lord Tennyson as Chairman, to consider the suggestions made in it, and to advise the Government whether any steps could usefully be taken for promoting agricultural settlements in the British Colonies of persons taken from the cities of this country, and to express their views upon any questions or proposals of a practical nature relating to emigration.

The Report of the Committee † has now been issued.

For the purpose of the Report emigration is defined as the simple transfer of emigrants from the United Kingdom to a British colony, and colonisation as including the transfer of such persons, but also their direct settlement in groups upon the land in the country to which they go.

The Report contains a review of some of the principal efforts at colonisation and emigration during the nineteenth century, and shows that the committee failed to find a thoroughly successful instance of colonisation, and that in their opinion the arguments in favour of emigration as contrasted with colonisation are many and forcible.

As regards the utility of farm colonies in the United Kingdom in connection with the selection of suitable persons for emigration, and their preparation for colonial life, the Committee do not regard it as essential, nor in many cases even desirable, that an attempt should be made to provide instruction or training in agriculture in this country, owing to the different conditions of farm work in the colonies. They consider, however, that farm colonies may be useful in the case of persons, who, while otherwise suitable emigrants, could not be advantageously sent out without a period of physical training in the country; and also useful as affording means for subjecting applicants for emigration to a test of their willingness to work.

The Report goes on to consider the scheme proposed by Mr. Rider Haggard for the settlement of families on tracts of land in the Colonies. For the purposes of the scheme a large loan was to be raised, the repayment of it to be guaranteed by the Imperial Government, and the settlers to repay the capital in annual instalments of £6 per cent. The selection of suitable persons for colonisation was to be entrusted to the Salvation Army, or other approved organisation, as also the general work of conveying settlers to the Colonies, building of houses, purchase of stock, etc. An Imperial Officer was to be appointed to take charge of the funds, and to visit the Colonies periodically.

The Committee state that they cannot recommend that Mr. Rider Haggard's scheme should be adopted as (amongst other reasons) they consider the proposed Colony too large; the management by a religious body undesirable; the precedents he cites inapplicable; the suggestion that men going from English cities should take up land in Canada without previous Colonial experience unwise; the expense greater than he calculates; the prospect of the return of the money advanced uncertain; and the difficulty as to the selection of settlers serious, if not insurmountable.

The Report goes on to say:—

We have dealt with the question of the possibility of colonisation, either with or without Government aid, in other parts of the Empire than Canada, such as Rhodesia or Australia.

* Cd. 2562. Wyman & Sons, Ltd. Price, 8½d.
† Cd. 2978. Wyman & Sons, Ltd. Price, 5d.

We have stated the advantages which we consider may accrue from emigration at the present time; and have shown how circumstances have led to its being regarded more favourably now, both in the mother country and the colonies, than it was some years ago, and to fresh opportunities being afforded. We have explained that in our opinion the machinery by which emigration may best be carried out is supplied by the committees appointed under the Unemployed Workmen Act, the Emigrants' Information Office (strengthened and expanded in the manner we have indicated) and the various emigration societies.

We have suggested also that the question of the co-operation of the self-governing colonies in the matter of emigration should be a subject for discussion at the approaching Colonial Conference, and that any special arrangements for the emigration of discharged soldiers should be carried out through the same machinery as the emigration of persons nominated by distress committees.

We have also referred to juvenile emigration; and have stated that in our opinion the present system is working well, and that no immediate change is desirable; but that it might with advantage be more extensively carried out.

We, therefore, make the following recommendations:—

That no steps be taken by the Government at present to further any scheme of colonisation.

That a grant-in-aid should be given by the Imperial Government to the committees formed under the Unemployed Workmen Act, for the purpose of emigration.

That it should be made a condition of such grant-in-aid that the committees should accept the advice of the Emigrants' Information Office as to the colonies to which the emigrants should be sent, and that the actual work of emigration should be carried out by societies or organisations approved by that Office; and, further, that if the colony concerned so desire, each emigrant should be approved by its representative in England.

That, in the event of that proposal being rejected, an annual grant-in-aid for the term of five years should be made to the Emigrants' Information Office, to be expended by them in the emigration of suitable persons to the British Colonies through such emigration societies as they may select; each emigrant being approved by the representative of the colony to which he is going if the colony so desire; all details of the work, subject to these general principles, being left to the discretion of the committee of the Emigrants' Information Office; such annual grant being regarded as experimental; and annual reports showing the operation of the Office being presented to Parliament, besides a complete Report at the end of five years explaining fully the success or failure of the scheme.

That, should either of the courses above proposed be adopted, the name of the Emigrants' Information Office should be changed to "The Emigration Office," and the grant to that Office increased in proportion to the additional importance and extent of its functions.

That should any special fund be allotted for the purpose of assisting soldiers after their terms of service to emigrate to the British colonies, the arrangements should similarly be entrusted to the Emigration Office and to organisations chosen by it; each soldier emigrant, as in the other cases, being approved by the agent of the colony to which he is going, if the colony concerned so desire.

The Report is signed unanimously by the nine members of the committee, but two members add reservations respecting the proposed grant-in-aid by the Exchequer.

APPRENTICESHIP AND EMPLOYMENT OF GIRLS IN LONDON.

THE Second Annual Report has been published of the Central Industrial Committee appointed by the Central Bureau for the Employment of Women to act as an Agency for helping girls to enter skilled trades, and to secure thorough technical training in them [see BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE, April, 1905].

During the year 1905, twelve local agencies affiliated to the Central Committee, found work for 440 girls, of whom 204 were formally apprenticed. Of the 440 girls, 116 were found work in millinery, 103 in dressmaking, 13 in cap making, 17 in underclothing, 10 in tailoring, 8 in embroidery, and 13 in the clothing trades, 8 in upholstery, 10 in book sewing and folding, 4 in laundry work, 3 in artificial flower making, 2 in cigar

making, 35 in domestic service, 26 as clerks, 8 as shop or showroom assistants, and 64 in other (or undefined) occupations.

The local Committees having felt the importance of extending the work to boys, have, with the full approval of the Central Bureau for the Employment of Women, decided to form a separate Central Association, to be called "The Apprenticeship and Skilled Employment Association," to which all local Committees dealing with the industrial employment of boys and girls can become affiliated.

CIVIL EMPLOYMENT OF EX-SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

THE Committee appointed to consider and report on the position of the various associations which at present assist discharged soldiers and sailors to obtain employment, and upon the whole question of civil employment for men of both services, have just issued their Report.*

The first part of the Report deals with the co-ordination of the existing agencies for finding employment for ex-soldiers and sailors. While recording their high appreciation of the work done by these agencies the Committee refer to overlapping of work among the societies and express the opinion that it would be of great advantage, both to the men and to employers of labour, if one recognised association could be created to take the place of the existing separate societies. They recommend that this Association, which should consist of a Central Office in London and affiliated branches in counties and towns, should undertake all the work of employment now carried out by the War Office and by existing agencies, and should be under the guidance of an advisory council selected in the first instance from members of existing societies in London, representatives of London local authorities, employers of labour, including representatives of the War Office and Admiralty, and ex-soldiers and sailors who have achieved success in civil life after leaving the colours.

It is also recommended that the Association should be financially assisted by, but not under the control of, the Admiralty and War Office, that the Government subscriptions to existing Associations should cease, and an annual grant of £16,000 be made to the Association, and that funds should also be obtained by voluntary subscription.

The proposed Association would exist purely for the purpose of finding employment for men of good character and not in any sense as a charitable institution.

The second part of the Report deals with the improvement and extension of the existing means of employment, and the methods by which soldiers and sailors may be better fitted for civil life. As regards the improvement of existing means of employment, the Committee recommend that the Government should direct the various Public Departments to fill vacancies in certain appointments detailed in the Report, and any others which may be suitable, by ex-soldiers and sailors of good character; and that all future vacancies for Customs Preventive men, at least half the vacancies for out-door Customs Officers, the majority of the vacancies for assistant clerks, and all established messengerships, should be so filled. The Committee also recommend that county and borough councils should be urged to reserve a number of appointments for ex-soldiers and sailors, that the age limit in the case of ex-soldiers and sailors who are candidates for appointment to the Police should be raised to 32, and that an obligation should be placed on the Force to employ men of the two Services in preference to others.

From time to time attempts have been made to give some kind of technical instruction to soldiers; but hitherto, the Report states, without any marked success, owing apparently to the following causes—viz., the trade selected has frequently been one which required an apprenticeship; an erroneous selection of trades has

been made; and during service with the colours the soldier, as a rule, thinks but little of his future career, and up to the present steps have not been taken to turn his mind towards it or to stimulate him to efforts for self-improvement. The Report states that the ex-sailor has not so much difficulty as the ex-soldier in obtaining employment, the variety of the sailor's occupations affording him opportunities lacking to the soldier, and with a view to making the latter more of a "handyman," certain suggestions are put forward by the Committee.

It is recommended that every soldier should be taught some description of technical work during his military career, and be required to obtain a knowledge of at least one subject, such as the following: shorthand and typewriting, business correspondence and commercial bookkeeping, carpentering, shoeing and blacksmith's work, platelaying and trenching, railway signalling, saddlery, slaughtering sheep and cattle, telegraphy, electrical wiring, driving of motor vehicles, farm work and ploughing, driving and the care of horses and harness. It is also recommended that arrangements should be made with technical institutes in towns where soldiers are quartered for the tuition of the men in various trades and crafts, and that the endeavour should be made, by means of lectures, to bring clearly before the men the possibilities of their future civil career.

The Committee further recommend that ex-soldiers should be given facilities for emigration and for obtaining, whilst serving, a short course of training in work likely to be of use to them as emigrants; and that an employment gazette should be published by the suggested Association, giving particulars as to situations vacant, method of obtaining them, prospects offered by various classes of employment, &c.

Other recommendations deal with the improvement of the form of character given to the soldier on discharge or transfer, the encouragement of thrift, membership of friendly societies, and payment of pensions and reserve pay at more frequent intervals.

LABOUR DISPUTES IN HOLLAND IN 1905.*

The report on strikes and lock-outs in Holland just issued by the Dutch Central Statistical Bureau, shows that disputes, though more frequent, were on the whole far less extensive in 1905 than in 1904. Thus against 132 disputes recorded in 1905 there were only 102 in the previous year, but the number of workpeople directly affected was only 7,364 in 1905 as compared with 11,186 in 1904, while the aggregate number of working days lost by such workpeople was only 78,562 last year against 576,866 in 1904. The volume of the strikes in 1904 was, however, very largely contributed to by a strike of 6,391 workers in the diamond trades by whom 484,571 working days were lost; apart from this, the number of workpeople directly affected by disputes was greater in 1905 than in 1904, though the number of working days lost by the workpeople involved was not so great.

The following Table summarises for the principal groups of trades in 1904 and 1905 the number of disputes, the number of workpeople directly affected, and the number of days lost by such workpeople:—

Group of Trades.	Number of Disputes.		Number of work-people directly affected.		Number of Days Lost by work-people directly affected.	
	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.
Building, &c.	21	38	1,591	2,144	5,603	47,893
Textile	12	8	946	211	9,014	2,559
Transport	6	18	215	1,260	259	8,126
Chemical, Glass and Pottery	4	10	856	2,389	61,793	3,366
Food Preparation	28	29	292	509	6,501	9,736
Diamonds and Precious Stones	1	3	6,391	68	484,571	172
Other	27	16	1,115	783	9,125	6,690
Total	102	132	11,186	7,364	576,866	78,562

* Bijdragen tot de Statistiek van Nederland. LXIX—Werkstakingen en uitsluitingen in Nederland gedurende 1905. The Hague; Gebr. Belinfante, 1906. Price 2d.

In 1905, the groups of trades containing the largest numbers of workpeople directly affected were the chemical, glass, and pottery group, and the building group, in each of which over two thousand workpeople struck or were locked-out, 2,000 of the workpeople affected in the former group being, however, locked out for one day only. Again, leaving out of consideration the strike in the diamond working trade in 1904, we see that, measured by the number of working days lost by those directly affected, the disturbance caused by disputes was greatest in the building trades in 1905 (about 48,000 days lost) and in the chemical, glass and pottery group in 1904 (about 62,000 days lost).

Of the total number of disputes in 1905, 49 terminated in favour of the employers, 25 in favour of the workpeople, and 55 in a compromise, while in three cases the results were unknown. So far as the results are definitely stated, the workpeople were successful in 19 per cent. of the disputes in 1905 compared with 24 per cent. in the previous year, while the proportion of disputes ending in compromises increased from 30 per cent. in 1904 to 42 per cent. in 1905.

ILLINOIS FREE EMPLOYMENT OFFICES.

THE Illinois Free Employment Offices have issued the seventh annual report of their operations, and the record for 1905 shows an increase in number of positions filled of 7,874 as compared with 1904. The total number of applications for employment was 45,323, and altogether 39,598 persons were supplied with situations. There were 44,577 applications from employers for help, and of these 4,979 could not be met. Of those applying for employment 71 per cent. were males and 29 per cent. females. Of the applications for help 66 per cent. were for males and 34 per cent. for females. The percentage of situations secured was 70 for males and 30 for females. The number of applications registered is the highest which has been attained since the foundation of the offices, and the number of positions secured was only exceeded in 1902.

Taking the six years 1900-5, 233,472 persons have registered for work, or an average of 38,912 per year. The total number of places secured to those asking for employment was 204,714, being an average of 34,119 for each year. Of this total number 128,123 or 63 per cent. were males, and 76,591 or 37 per cent. were females. The highest percentage of positions secured for males was in the class of manual labourers; for females in that of domestic service. In 1905, of the number of men applying for work, 16,242 (or 50 per cent.) desired situations as labourers, of whom 15,722 (or 97 per cent.) were furnished with work.

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.

The exodus of native sons to the North-west and New Ontario has drained the older parts of Ontario of a large number of skilled agricultural workmen: new immigrants have taken their places, but many are not up to the work from a Canadian standpoint. The rates of wages continue high. There has been a great demand for agricultural labour in the North-west also; the season is getting late, so those going this year should not delay.

During May work of all kinds was plentiful in Canada. Several thousands were employed in the lumber camps and saw mills in the eastern provinces and in British Columbia. Miners were busy at the new mines at Cobalt in Ontario, and in the Slocan and Boundary districts of British Columbia. Coal miners were busy in Nova Scotia, and in British Columbia. Labour troubles caused a reduction in the output at Lethbridge in Alberta. Manufacturing trades were busy, especially

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

agricultural implements and other iron-working and hardware establishments, sash and door factories, cement mills, brick yards, carriage and wagon establishments, garment making and boot and shoe factories. Large numbers were employed on railway construction. The strike of printers against certain firms in Winnipeg was still in progress. There was a large demand everywhere for female servants on farms and in towns.

Commonwealth of Australia.

As a general rule a competent man who can make himself useful as a market gardener, or on a farm or sheep station, or in a dairy, or in a stable (liveried coachmen are rarely employed) can find work without difficulty. The best openings are for men who are experienced in agriculture and fruit-growing, in the drying and packing of fruits for export, in the management of irrigated and unirrigated orchards, in wine-making, in the manufacture and packing of butter and cheese, in ham and bacon-curing, or in horse breeding. Farmers, however, do not, as a rule, offer permanent employment, but only during the busy seasons. There is very little demand for more mechanics or miners.

New Zealand.

The New Zealand Government grants reduced passages to experienced farm labourers and female servants, for whom there is a good demand, but reduced passages for railway navvies are now stopped. The building trades have been busy almost everywhere, and in some places men have been wanted. At Wellington, however, the supply is plentiful, and at Dunedin very few stonemasons are employed. The engineering trade has been fairly busy also, except at Auckland and Wellington. The boot trade has been doing well, and there has been a demand in some places as Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Timaru and Dunedin for good bench hands, and especially female machinists. The clothing trade has been busy in many places, and at Wellington workpeople have been difficult to get. Flax mills and saw mills have been busy. Emigrants starting now will arrive at the beginning of the busy season.

South Africa.

Cape Colony.—The supply of labour in nearly all parts of Cape Colony is in excess of the demand, and no one should go there at the present time on the chance of getting work. At Port Elizabeth especially there is a continued excess of workers in every branch of trade.

At Cape Town there is an excess of carpenters, joiners, paper hangers, painters, boiler makers, machinists and fitters, but the following industries show an improvement—Wagon making, fibro-plaster working, printing, joinery, cardboard box making, tanning, harness-making, and biscuit and cake-making. There is a continued exodus of skilled artisans and others from South Africa to Great Britain and Australia.

An advance of pensions is allowed to Army Pensioners who are about to emigrate to become settlers in Cape Colony or other British possessions out of the United Kingdom; but no advance is allowed to a pensioner proceeding to a foreign country, or to a pensioner who returns to the United Kingdom and who wishes to go out again to a Colony.—Proof is required (1) that the advance is necessary and sufficient to enable him to emigrate, (2) that he is in good health and able to work, and (3) if the pensioner is married and leaves his wife and family behind, that he has made sufficient arrangements for her or their support.

Natal.—Emigrants should not go to Natal at the present time in search of employment. Many persons there are out of work. Three months' notice has been given at Durban of a reduction of 1s. a day in the case of carpenters and joiners, bricklayers and plasterers, and of 2s. a day in the case of plumbers. At Maritzburg the supply of labour is excessive.

Transvaal.—No one may enter the Transvaal without a permit. Trade continues to be very depressed, and emigrants are warned against going there in search of work. The number of unemployed, indeed, at Johannes-

burg is rather less than it was, but this decrease is chiefly owing to the exodus of a very large number of skilled artisans, especially of those who follow the building trades, in search of work elsewhere, and to the departure of others to Natal to assist in opposing the native rising. The cost of living remains very high. There is some opening for certain classes of wage-earning women, such as certificated teachers, trained nurses, cooks, cook-generals, etc., who may obtain assisted passages through the South African Colonisation Society, 47, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

Orange River Colony.—Permits are necessary for those entering the Colony. There is no demand for more labour.

LABOUR ABROAD.

(NOTE.—The following reports include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment in foreign countries, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in these countries are, however, not the same as those for the United Kingdom, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot be properly used with those on p. 193 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom and foreign countries. (See also p. 104 of Cd. 2337.)]

FRANCE.*

Employment in May.—In the building and allied trades employment was normal except at Paris, where a number of labour disputes occurred. Generally speaking it was satisfactory in the metal trades. In the textile trades employment declined in several districts of the Nord and at Rheims, but it was a little more plentiful at Rouen; in the Vosges it continued satisfactory. As regards silk manufacture, employment in ribbon factories at St. Etienne improved noticeably, but in the Lyons district it continued to decline with machine weavers and in the workshops of the town; with hand weavers in the country employment continued plentiful. Garment makers continued busy. In the printing and book-binding trades (other than at Paris) employment continued to decline. The end of the sheep shearing season caused considerable unemployment, especially at Graulhet. The proportion of unemployed in the vineyards of the south of France decreased slightly, but remained above the usual average for the season. Woodcutters found employment in bark-peeling. Gardeners at Paris were satisfactorily employed.

Out of 197,614 members of 1,071 Trade Unions which made Returns to the French Labour Department as to the state of employment of their members during May, 15,249, or 7.7 per cent. were described in the Returns as out of work in the month as compared with 8.5 per cent. in the previous month and 9.5 per cent. in May, 1905. Returns from the miners' Unions in the Pas-de-Calais and Nord departments are not included in these figures.

Labour Disputes in May.—The number of disputes reported to the French Labour Department as having begun during the month was 247, as compared with 222 in the previous month and 92 in May, 1905. In 226 of the new disputes 154,055 persons took part, as compared with 58,734 who participated in 189 of the April disputes, and with 14,453 who took part in the disputes of May, 1905. The very considerable increase in the number of disputes is apparently due to a strike movement affecting several groups of trades, as 65 disputes were reported in the building trades, 58 in the metal trades and 32 in the textile trades, all of these being in excess of the average. There were also 22 disputes in the woodworking trades, 12 in the printing and paper trades and 11 in the commercial and warehousing trades. Out of 237 new and old disputes which came to an end in May, 30 terminated in favour of the workpeople and 107 in favour of the employers, while 100 were compromised.

Coal Mining in May.—The average number of days worked per week by persons employed underground in coal mining in France during May was 5.41, as compared with 5.41 also in the previous month and with 5.88 in

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

May, 1905. Full time (6 days and over per week) was worked by 3.11 per cent., and from 5 to 6 days by 76.90 per cent. of all workpeople (whether surface or underground workers), the corresponding percentages for the preceding month being 62.0 and 24.5, and for May, 1905, 74.6 and 22.5 respectively. The above particulars were supplied to the French Labour Department by the Committee of Coal Owners and relate to about 146,000 workpeople, or three-fourths of all employed in and about the mines.

Conciliation and Arbitration in May.—Fifty-two cases of recourse to the law on conciliation and arbitration were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in May. In one of these—a strike of workmen in five branches of the building trades—5 conciliation committees were formed, on the initiative of the workmen in 1 case, and of the Justice of the Peace in 4 cases. These eventually settled the dispute. In a second dispute—a strike in four branches of the building trades in another locality—the initiative was taken by the Justice of the Peace and committees of conciliation were formed resulting in the direct settlement of the disputes in three branches; in the fourth the workmen returned to work under the old conditions. In 23 of the remaining 50 cases the initiative was taken by the Justice of the Peace, in 22 by the workpeople, in 1 by the employers and workpeople jointly, while in 4 cases it is not stated by whom the initiative was taken. In 32 cases committees of conciliation were formed, resulting in the direct settlement of 19 disputes (in one case before any cessation of work took place), while in two other cases the matters were referred to arbitration. In the 18 remaining cases no committees of conciliation were formed; in one of these the dispute was settled before a committee could have met, while in 14 cases conciliation was declined by the masters, in 2 by the workpeople, and in 1 by both parties.

GERMANY.*

*Employment in May.**—On the whole, employment continued favourable throughout the month of May, and except in a few trades which were affected by seasonal or local causes labour was in strong demand, both in industry and agriculture. The unusually extensive strike movement of March and April continued throughout May, but appeared to show some decline towards the end of the month. In most districts which were not disturbed by disputes, the building trades were fully employed. The coal-mining industry was fully employed except in a few districts, where there was a shortage of trucks. In the metal and engineering trades employment continued favourable though influenced to some extent by the strike movement among the foundrymen (See May GAZETTE, p. 131) which almost resulted in a general lock-out. Employment was unusually favourable in the textile, chemical and electrical trades. In agriculture there was the usual demand for labourers for the hay harvest. The commencement of the holiday season resulted in increased employment in the transport trades.

BELGIUM.†

Employment in May.—According to reports made to the Belgian Labour Department 140 Trade Unions with 30,958 members had 302 or 1.3 per cent. of their number out of work towards the latter part of the month, as compared with 1.5 per cent. in the preceding month, and 1.5 per cent. again in May, 1905. (As regards these figures, see note under "Labour Abroad" above). The figures do not include particulars relating to miners, home-workers or agricultural labourers.

Labour Disputes in May.—Twenty-two labour disputes were reported to the same department as having begun in May, involving approximately 1710 workpeople (1520 directly and 190 indirectly). In addition to these, 3 other disputes begun in March or April, and involving

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

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

379 workpeople (268 directly and 111 indirectly) were in progress during the month. In the preceding month 27 disputes began, involving 12,550 workpeople, while in May, 1905, there were 13 new disputes, in which approximately 4480 workpeople were involved.

The chief groups of trades affected by the May disputes were the textile (6 strikes, with 166 strikers) and the metal trades (4 strikes and 142 strikers).

Out of 17 disputes which came to an end in May, 3, directly affecting 223 persons, terminated in favour of the workpeople, 9, directly affecting 931 workpeople, in favour of the employer, and 5, directly affecting 228 workpeople, were compromised.

AUSTRIA.

*Dispute in the Building Trades at Vienna.**—On June 1st a lock-out was declared in the building trades in Vienna, in which about 20,000 men and 7,000 women, who acted as bricklayers' assistants, were directly involved. The number of workpeople indirectly affected in allied trades is stated to be probably not less than 25,000. The lock-out was due to demands for increased wages. Work was resumed on July 2nd under an agreement by which skilled workmen will receive 3s. 10½d. a day during 1906, and 4s. 6d. a day during 1907 and 1908. A commission of three workmen and three master builders, with an official of the Government of Lower Austria as chairman, has been formed to settle any disputes which may arise before the end of 1908, when the agreement expires.

ITALY.

Labour Disputes in May.†—One hundred and sixty-seven strikes were reported to the Italian Labour Department as having occurred during May, as compared with 98 in the previous month. The number of persons directly involved in 111 of these was 50,715, as compared with 9,985 who took part in 72 of the April disputes. Strikes were most frequent in the building, textile and metal trades, and among agricultural labourers, the numbers recorded being 28, 26, 18, and 18 respectively. So far as can be seen from the available data, the most extensive of the strikes were those in the textile trades and among agricultural labourers, some 17,000 workpeople being involved in 21 of the 26 strikes of textile operatives, and about 12,000 in 10 of the agricultural strikes. One lock-out (in the pottery trades) was also reported in May, the number of workpeople involved being 47.

Out of 165 strikes which came to an end in May, 28 terminated in favour of the workpeople and 18 in favour of the employers, while 70 were compromised. In 49 cases the results were not stated. The lock-out terminated in a compromise.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Carpenters' Dispute at New York.†—An agreement reached at the end of 1905 fixed the rates of wages of carpenters in New York and district, different scales being adopted for different parts of the City. The terms of this agreement were to hold good until July 1st, 1906. The Brooklyn carpenters demanded an advance before that date, and the arbitrator to whom the case was submitted, having decided that no change should take place before July, a strike was declared on May 28th. This strike was followed on June 6th by a lock-out of about 12,000 carpenters throughout the New York district. On June 15th a settlement of the dispute was reached, by which the wages of carpenters in Brooklyn have been raised from 16s. 8d. to 17s. 11d. per day from July 1st, and are to be further increased to 18s. 9d. per day on August 1st. On July 1st the wages of Manhattan carpenters, which were at the rate of 18s. 9d., were advanced to £1 a day.

* Based on despatches from H.M. Ambassador at Vienna.

† *Bollettino dell' Ufficio del Lavoro* (Journal of the Italian Labour Department).

‡ Based on despatches to the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul-General at New York.

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES

IN JUNE.

COAL MINING.

(Based on 525 Returns—454 from Employers, 54 from Trade Unions, and 17 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry remained fairly good during June. It again showed some decline as compared with the previous month, but was better than a year ago.

Returns relating to 1,365 pits employing 587,424 workpeople show that the average number of days worked per week during the four weeks ended June 23rd, 1906, was 4·84 as compared with 5·37 in May, 1906, and 4·59 in June, 1905. Time lost by holidays amounted in June, 1906, to an average of 50 days per week, and in June, 1905, to 0·39 days. Making allowance for holidays, employment was not quite so good in June, 1906, as in May, but was better than in June, 1905.

Of the 587,424 workpeople covered by the Returns, 367,920 (or 62·6 per cent.) were employed at pits working 20 or more days during the four weeks ended June 23rd, and of these 66,349 (or 11·3 per cent. of the whole) worked 22 days or more.

In the following Table the average time worked by the pits is shown for the three periods specified:—

Districts.	No. of Workpeople employed in June, 1906, 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, 1906, as compared with	
		June* 23rd, 1906.	May 26th, 1906.	June* 24th, 1905.	A m'nth ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.						
Northumberland ...	39,457	5·19	5·38	5·00	-·19	+·19
Durham ...	106,548	5·31	5·47	5·17	-·16	+·14
Cumberland ...	7,658	5·03	5·31	4·60	-·28	+·43
South Yorkshire ...	62,404	4·90	5·69	4·57	-·79	+·33
West Yorkshire ...	21,445	4·32	5·06	3·65	-·74	+·67
Lancashire and Cheshire ...	54,467	4·40	5·07	4·23	-·67	+·17
Derbyshire ...	38,297	4·07	4·69	3·68	-·62	+·39
Nottingham and Leicester ...	28,999	3·71	4·59	3·24	-·88	+·47
Staffordshire ...	27,141	4·14	5·03	3·72	-·89	+·42
Warwick, Worcester, and Salop ...	8,682	4·09	4·85	3·91	-·76	+·18
Gloucester and Somerset ...	8,146	4·17	4·95	3·85	-·78	+·32
North Wales ...	10,814	4·95	5·52	4·44	-·57	+·51
South Wales and Mon. ...	121,099	5·17	5·60	5·14	-·63	+·03
ENGLAND & WALES...	585,157	4·81	5·36	4·85	-·58	+·26
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland ...	24,443	5·21	5·34	4·97	-·13	+·24
The Lothians ...	5,914	5·50	5·66	5·31	-·16	+·19
Fife ...	21,185	4·99	5·50	4·91	-·51	+·08
SCOTLAND ...	51,570	5·16	5·45	4·98	-·29	+·18
IRELAND.						
United Kingdom ...	697	3·88	4·26	5·30	-·38	+·14
United Kingdom ...	587,424	4·84	5·37	4·69	-·53	+·25

The average number of days lost by holidays in June ranged from 0·6 of a day per week in West Scotland, to 8·1 of a day in South Yorkshire.

In the *Northern Counties* employment continued good, except in West Yorkshire, and Lancashire and Cheshire, in which two counties over half of the men were employed at pits working less than 18 days during the four weeks.

In the *Midlands* employment was dull and distinctly worse than in May. Over 70 per cent. of the men worked less than 18 days during the four weeks.

In *Wales* employment continued good generally, but in North Wales there was some decline as compared with a month ago.

In *Scotland* it was fairly good on the whole, but showed some falling off in West Scotland and the Lothians.

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

* Whitsuntide holidays are included in this period.

employing 189,184 workpeople more than one description of coal was produced.

For each of the periods under review, manufacturing, steam and coking pits worked a higher number of days than the general average, while pits producing house and mixed coal worked less than the general average. The falling off in employment as compared with May is most noticeable in the case of the house coal pits, where the decline (including holidays) amounted to three-fourths of a day.

Description of Coal.	No. employed in June, 1906, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in four weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in June, 1906, as compared with	
		June 23rd, 1906.*	May 26th, 1906.	June 24th, 1905.*	A m'nth ago.	A year ago.
Anthracite ...	6,569	5·76	5·64	4·33	-·48	+·83
Coking ...	28,822	5·45	5·56	5·33	-·11	+·12
Gas ...	39,726	5·09	5·31	4·81	-·24	+·28
House ...	77,931	4·11	4·86	3·82	-·75	+·29
Manufacturing and Steam ...	245,192	4·98	5·54	4·83	-·56	+·15
Mixed ...	189,184	4·79	5·33	4·48	-·54	+·31
Total ...	587,424	4·84	5·37	4·69	-·53	+·25

The Exports of coal, coke, and manufactured fuel in June, 1906, amounted to 4,417,254 tons, as compared with 5,544,521 tons in May, 1906, and 3,992,727 tons in June, 1905.

IRON, SHALE, AND OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.

(Based on 89 returns—71 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 4 from Trade Unions, and 14 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was good in iron mines, and was generally better than a month ago and a year ago. In shale mines employment was fair, but worse than a month ago and much worse than a year ago.

Employment continued to improve in tin and copper mines and it continued good in lead mines.

In quarries employment showed little change, compared with a month ago, and was fair generally, but slack in slate quarries.

Mining.

Iron Mining.—During the four weeks ended June 23rd, the average weekly number of days worked by all mines and open works included in the Returns was 5·71, as compared with 5·79 a month ago and 5·62 in June, 1905. The figures for June, however, are affected by Whitsuntide holidays to the extent of 0·22 of a day in 1906 and 0·24 of a day in 1905.

The following Table summarises the Returns received:—

Districts.	No. employed in June, 1906, at all Mines included in the Returns.	Average Number of Days worked per week by Mines in 4 weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in June, 1906, as compared with	
		June 23rd, 1906.*	May 26th, 1906.	June 24th, 1905.*	A month ago.	A year ago.
Cleveland...	7,192	5·71	5·70	5·71	+ 0·01	...
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	4,926	5·73	5·94	5·57	- 0·21	+ 0·16
Scotland...	1,008	5·83	5·67	5·56	+ 0·16	+ 0·27
Other Districts ...	2,919	5·60	5·78	5·48	- 0·18	+ 0·12
Total and Averages	16,105	5·71	5·79	5·62	- 0·08	+ 0·09

Of the total number of workpeople covered by the Returns 92·5 per cent. were employed in mines working twenty-two or more days during the four weeks ended June 23rd, as compared with 86·0 per cent. a month ago, and 74·6 per cent. a year ago, the June figures, as stated above, being affected by Whitsuntide holidays.

Shale Mining.—At the mines respecting which Returns have been received 3,080 workpeople were employed in the four weeks ended June 23rd, as compared with 3,103 in May, and 3,055† a year ago. The average weekly number of days worked during the four weeks ended June 23rd was 5·42, as compared with 5·53 a month ago, and 5·82† a year ago.

* Whitsuntide holidays are included in this period. † Revised Figures.

Tin and Copper Mining.—Employment continued to improve in Cornwall, especially in West Cornwall, and a demand for experienced miners is reported.

Lead Mining.—Employment continued good in Denbighshire and Flintshire, and it was fair in Derbyshire. In Weardale only five days a week were worked.

Quarrying.

Slate.—Employment generally was slack in North Wales, and a slight decline from a month ago was shown in the Festiniog district. It continued quiet in the Ballachulish (Argyllshire) quarries.

Granite.—Employment in Aberdeenshire on the whole was moderate. In Devonshire and Cornwall it continued bad generally. It continued fair in Leicestershire, and was fair also in North Wales.

Limestone.—Employment in Cumberland and South Durham was good, the same as a month ago and better than a year ago. In Weardale and in Derbyshire employment was fair. It was dull in Somerset blue lias quarries. In the Plymouth district employment continued quiet, a slight decline from a month ago being shown.

Other Stone.—Employment was fair in the Newcastle and Gateshead district. In the Sheffield district employment was good in some branches, quiet in others. It was slack in all branches at Barnsley; at Normanton full time was worked. In the Bath stone quarries employment was moderate, and it was moderate also in sandstone quarries in the Forest of Dean; in the Gloucester red stone quarries it was good. Employment in the Clee Hill road material quarries continued moderate. In Forfarshire employment continued bad with much short time.

Sett-making.—In Aberdeenshire employment was fair. Employment at Glasgow and Edinburgh was good and the same as a month ago. At Airdrie it was good and better than a month ago. It continued good at Stoney Stanton, and moderate in the Clee Hill district. At Rowley Regis employment was fair but not so good as a month ago.

China Clay.—Employment was good at Lee Moor and in the St. Austell district, in which district the demand for labour is reported to have exceeded the supply.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

(Based on 114 Returns—108 from Employers, 1 from a Trade Union, 4 from Local Correspondents, and 1 other.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry in June continued good, but showed some decline as compared with the previous month. It was considerably better than a year ago.

Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters showed that the total number of furnaces in blast at the end of June was 338, being four less than at the end of May, but 15 more than at the end of June, 1905. One furnace was blown out in each of the following districts:—Cleveland, Northamptonshire, Monmouthshire, and Glamorganshire, and two were blown out in Staffordshire. A furnace was re-lit in each of the counties of Flint and Glamorgan. The number of workpeople employed at the works included in the Returns is estimated at 24,300.

District.	Number of Furnaces, included in the Returns, in Blast at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in June, 1906, as compared with	
	June, 1906.	May, 1906.	June, 1905.	A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES—					
Cleveland ...	84	85	85	- 1	- 1
Cumberland & Lancs. S. and S.W. Yorks.	37	37	35	...	+ 2
Derby & Nottingham	16	16	15	...	+ 1
Leicester, Lincoln, and Northampton }	42	42	37	...	+ 5
Stafford & Worcester	28	29	27	- 1	+ 1
S. Wales & Monmouth	33	35	31	- 2	+ 2
Other districts ...	15	16	15	- 1	...
Returned from England & Wales }	262	266	251	- 4	+ 11
Returned from Scotland ...	76	76	72	...	+ 4
Total furnaces included in returns	338	342	323	- 4	+ 15

The Imports of iron ore in June, 1906, amounted to 603,586 tons, or 20,480 tons more than in June, 1905, and 88,680 tons more than in June, 1904.

The Exports of pig iron from the United Kingdom during June, 1906, amounted to 157,788 tons, as compared with 95,056 tons in June, 1905, and 72,778 tons in June, 1904.

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

(Based on 218 Returns—201 from Employers, received partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent; 4 from Trade Unions, and 13 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works showed some improvement in June, and was considerably better than a year ago.

The total volume of employment (i.e., numbers employed multiplied by the number of shifts worked) during the week ended June 23rd, 1906, at the 201 iron and steel works from which Returns were received, was 1.2 per cent. greater than during the week ended May 26th, 1906, and 8.5 per cent. greater than a year ago.

The aggregate number of shifts worked during the week by all the workpeople included in the Returns was about 521,100, as compared with 514,900 a month ago, and 480,100 a year ago.

Compared with a month ago, there was an increase of 6.2 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed. At steel forging and pressing, however, the number employed decreased by 10.8 or 3.8 per cent. The only districts in which decreases occurred were Cleveland, Yorkshire (other than the Sheffield and Rotherham district), and Scotland.

The number of workpeople employed was greater than a year ago in every district and in every department except in iron forging, crucible furnaces, and Bessemer converting departments.

Table with 7 columns: Departments, Number of Workpeople employed by firms making Returns, Average Number of Shifts worked per man, In week ended June 23rd, 1906, Increase (+) or decrease (-) as compared with A month ago, A year ago, In week ended June 23rd, 1906, Increase (+) or decrease (-) as compared with A month ago, A year ago.

Steel workers as a whole worked just over half a shift more than iron workers. There was little change generally compared with a month ago, but at Bessemer converting departments there was an increase of 0.43 of a shift.

Compared with a year ago there was a general improvement, especially at Bessemer converting departments (0.38 of a shift), and puddling forges (0.34 of a shift). In the Cleveland district there was an average increase of half a shift per man per week, while in Cumberland, Lancashire and Cheshire, and in Staffordshire, the increase amounted to about a quarter of a shift. In Wales and Monmouth there was a slight decline in the number of shifts worked.

TINPLATE WORKS AND SHEET MILLS.

(Based on 55 Returns—51 from Employers, 1 from a Trade Union, and 3 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during June was worse than a month ago, and much worse than in June, 1905. A considerable amount of short time was worked.

At the works covered by the Returns, 338 tinplate mills were working at the end of June, as compared with 361 in the previous month, and 379 in June, 1905; the number of sheet mills for the corresponding periods was 53, 54, and 52 respectively. The number of workpeople employed at the 391 mills at work was about 19,500.

The following Table shows the number of tinplate and sheet mills working at each of the three periods:—

Table with 6 columns: June, 1906, May, 1906, June, 1905, Number of Works open, Number of Mills in operation, Number of Works open, Number of Mills in operation, Number of Works open, Number of Mills in operation.

With one or two exceptions the figures as to tinplate and sheet mills relate to firms in the South Wales and Monmouthshire district.

The Exports of tinplates and tinned sheets and blackplates for tinning are given in the Table below for the periods stated. Of the total exports of tinplates and tinned sheets during June, 4,192 tons went to the United States, 2,931 tons to the British East Indies, 2,207 tons to France, 2,612 tons to Germany, 1,950 tons to Australia, and 1,517 tons to the Netherlands. Of the blackplates for tinning, 1,522 tons went to Russia, and 1,435 tons to Germany.

Table with 6 columns: To United States, To Other Countries, Total, Tons, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with June, 1906, Six Months ended June 30th, 1906, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in 1905, 1904.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

(Based on 345 Returns—9 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 320 from Trade Unions and their Branches, and 16 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued good in the principal ship-building centres, showing little change compared with the previous month, and a considerable improvement compared with a year ago.

Branches of Trade Unions with 57,851 members had 3,678 (or 6.4 per cent.) unemployed at the end of June, as compared with 6.0 per cent. at the end of May, and 11.5 per cent. at the end of June, 1905.

Compared with a month ago, increases in the percentages unemployed were shown in seven districts, and decreases in five districts.

Compared with a year ago, all the districts (with one exception) showed an improvement in employment.

Table with 7 columns: District, No. of Members of Unions at end of June, 1906, included in the Returns, Percentage returned as unemployed at end of June, 1906, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage for June, 1906, as compared with a Month ago, Year ago.

United Kingdom ... 87,851 6.4 6.0 11.5 + 0.4 - 5.1

Employment on the Tyne and Wear was good generally, especially on the Wear, where many men from other districts found work. In the case of shipwrights, however, some men who have recently returned from the government yards were reported as unemployed. On the Tees employment was fairly good, but no improvement was reported in repair work. Employment on the Humber was moderate on the whole with shipwrights, fairly good with iron and steel shipbuilders, some overtime being worked. On the North-east coast generally, employment continued much better than a year ago.

In the Thames and Medway district, employment continued slack, but showed a slight improvement on new work. On the South coast it was fair. At the Bristol Channel Ports it was fair during the first part of the month, with some overtime, but subsequently declined. On the Mersey employment was dull, but much better than a year ago.

Employment on the Clyde continued good, and overtime was frequent. It was better than a month ago and considerably better than a year ago. Repair work, however, was quiet. At Dundee employment improved and was good. At Leith and Aberdeen it was moderate on the whole. At Belfast it was fair but fell off somewhat at the end of the month. Employment was moderate at Barrow-in-Furness and Ipswich, good at Great Yarmouth, fair at Lowestoft, bad at Cork.

TONNAGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

According to Lloyd's quarterly return for June, 1906, there is an increase in the tonnage of merchant vessels under construction of 7,574 tons gross, or 0.5 per cent., as compared with March, 1906, and of 107,999, or 8.3 per cent., as compared with a year ago. With regard to war vessels, the figures show a decrease of over 28,000 tons displacement as compared with the March quarter and of over 8,000 compared with June, 1905.

The district figures are given below:—

Table with 7 columns: District, Merchant Vessels (June 30th, 1906, Mar. 31st, 1906, June 30th, 1905), War Vessels (June 30th, 1906, Mar. 31st, 1906, June 30th, 1905), Tons Gross, Tons Displacement.

* Exclusive of Superannuated Members.

† Revised figures.

Merchant Vessels.—Compared with March, 1906, increases are shown in the Tyne and Barrow districts, but in the Clyde, Belfast, Wear, Hartlepool, and Middlesbro' districts, there were decreases.

As compared with June, 1905, the Clyde, Tyne, Wear, Hartlepool, Middlesbro', and Barrow districts show increases, but in the Belfast district a decrease is shown.

War Vessels.—An increase is shown in the Tyne district, but decreases are shown in the Clyde and Barrow districts compared with March, 1906. Compared with a year ago increases are shown in the Clyde and Barrow districts, and a decrease in the Tyne district. The tonnage under construction at the Royal Dockyards is the same as at the end of March, and shows an increase as compared with a year ago.

ENGINEERING TRADES.

(Based on 911 Returns—13 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 863 from Trade Unions and their branches, and 35 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during June generally continued good, but on the whole showed little change compared with a month ago. It was much better than a year ago.

In the Belfast district, owing to special causes, employment showed a considerable decline as compared with a month ago. In other districts the changes were not so marked, a slight decline being shown in a few districts, while in others an improvement has taken place. In all districts employment was better than a year ago.

Returns relating to 151,791 members of Trade Unions show that 2.4 per cent. were unemployed at the end of June, as compared with 2.5 per cent. at the end of May, and 5.0 per cent. at the end of June, 1905.

The percentage unemployed was lower than in any month since June, 1900.

The percentages for the various districts are shown below:—

Table with 7 columns: District, No. of Members of Unions at end of June 1906, included in the returns, Percentage returned as unemployed at end of June, 1906, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed for June, 1906, as compared with a Month ago, Year ago.

United Kingdom (Including certain Unions for which district figures are not available) 151,791 2.4 2.5 5.0 - 0.1 - 2.6

On the North-East Coast generally, employment was fairly good on the whole, and showed little change compared with a month ago. At Wallsend district there were some suspensions from want of material. Overtime and night work still continue on the Wear.

At Middlesbrough employment has been affected to some extent by the moulders' dispute. At Hartlepool employment was moderate.

In Lancashire generally, employment continued good. In Manchester overtime was reported as general with engineers, iron founders and machine workers. At Liverpool employment with brass founders was bad, with coppermiths moderate, with engineers and iron founders fair. At Preston, Blackburn, Burnley, Oldham

* Exclusive of Superannuated Members.

and Bolton, employment was good, and rather better than a month ago. In the Wigan district employment was fair. At Barrow it was good.

At Sheffield employment was good generally, but engineers were not quite so fully employed as a month ago. At Rotherham employment was good with engineers and moulders; at Barnsley it was moderate. At Bradford employment was fairly good, and rather better than a month ago. At Halifax, Huddersfield, and Keighley it continued good. At Leeds employment with engineers continued good, and with boilermakers there was an improvement. At Stanningley it was good with engineers, moderate with boilermakers; at Wakefield engineers were steadily employed.

At Hull employment continued good, overtime still being worked; pattern makers, however, reported employment as dull throughout the district. At Grimsby employment with engineers declined; but with other branches it continued good. At Beverley and Goole employment continued good. At Doncaster it was moderate, and rather worse than a month ago, short time being worked in some branches.

At Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry employment with engineers and tool makers continued good. There was some falling off in the cycle industry, but in the motor industry overtime still continued. Engineers in the safe-making industry at Wolverhampton reported a slight falling off. At West Bromwich employment was good, but rather worse than a month ago.

At Derby employment with boilermakers was good; with ironfounders it was rather better than a month ago; with engineers it was fair. At Burton-on-Trent there was a decline. At Leicester employment with engineers and toolmakers continued good; with ironfounders it was moderate; with boilermakers bad. Electrical engineers reported some improvement. At Northampton employment with engineers and ironfounders was good. At Rugby it was good with engineers, and rather better than a month ago.

At Nottingham employment declined in the cycle and motor industry. In other sections of the engineering trade it was fairly good, but with ironfounders and boilermakers it was bad. At Lincoln and Newark employment continued to improve, but at Grantham there was a falling-off.

In the Potteries employment generally was good, and rather better than a month ago.

In the Eastern Counties employment generally was good; with boilermakers there was some decline at Ipswich.

In the London district employment was fair generally and rather better than a month ago.

On the South Coast employment, on the whole, was slightly better than a month ago. It was good at Southampton. It was bad with engineers at Plymouth and moderate at Devonport. With boilermakers it was fair.

In South Wales employment with engineers was fair, and better than a month ago, while with ironfounders it was good. At Bristol it was good with engineers, moderate with ironfounders, improved with brassmoulders and finishers. At Gloucester and Swindon it was moderate.

In the Clyde district employment was good generally, with some overtime; pattern makers were not quite so busy as a month ago.

At Edinburgh employment with heavy ironmoulders was good; in all other sections it was fair. At Aberdeen and Dundee it was good generally.

In the Belfast district employment was not so good as a month ago, more especially with engineers and boilermakers. The decline was mainly attributed to the completion of work for several large steamships, and to other work not being sufficiently advanced. Pattern makers reported employment as dull. In Dublin and Cork districts employment continued slack.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

(Based on 51 Returns—3 from Employers' Associations, 26 from Trade Unions, and 22 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in these trades continued fair generally. Eighteen Trade Unions with a membership of 15,252 had 353 (or 2·3 per cent.) unemployed at the end of June, compared with the same percentage for the previous month, and 2·7 per cent. at the end of June, 1905.

Tubes.—In the tube trade employment remained fair. In South Wales it continued good, with overtime in some departments.

Chains, Anchors, Springs, etc.—At Cradley Heath employment was good with block chain makers, fair with cable, side-welded and dollyed chain makers; with anchor smiths it continued slack. In the Tyne district employment was good. In South Wales it continued fair. Employment remained good with spring and axle makers in the Birmingham, West Bromwich and Wednesbury districts, and with anvil and vice makers at Dudley, Stourbridge and Birmingham. At Walsall employment remained fair among buckle, chain and cart gear makers. It continued good upon railway ironwork at Wednesbury.

Sheet Metal, etc.—In London employment with tin and iron plate workers was fair, and better than a month and a year ago, with some overtime. With zinc workers in London it continued fair. Employment with sheet metal workers was good at Oldham, Leeds, Aberdeen and Dundee; it was fair at Manchester, Bristol, Glasgow, Edinburgh and on the Tyne; moderate at Hull; not so good at Nottingham. At Birmingham employment with iron plate workers remained quiet and was worse than last month.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, etc.—With nut and bolt makers employment was fair at Winlaton and in South Wales; at Darlaston it continued good. With nail and rivet makers it continued fair at Birmingham. At Blackheath employment with rivet makers was slack.

Wire.—Employment in this trade continued good in the important centres. Wire weavers in Glasgow were, however, quiet.

Locks, Keys and General Hardware.—At Wolverhampton employment in the lock and latch trades continued bad, short time being general. With makers of hollow-ware and of iron fences and hurdles it was good. Employment with hollow-ware makers continued slack at Sheffield, while at Birmingham and West Bromwich it improved.

Stoves, Grates, etc.—Employment in these trades was good at Bolton, Bury, Edinburgh, and Falkirk; fair at Glasgow and Mansfield; moderate at Rotherham, Leicester, and Ipswich; bad at Leeds, where short time was worked.

Brasswork, Bedsteads, etc.—Employment in Bolton, Bury, Wigan, and Nottingham was good; in London and Leeds it was dull; it was rather quiet in Birmingham, where among bedstead makers it was bad. In other places it was fair.

Cutlery, Tools, etc.—At Sheffield employment continued slack among cutlers generally; with sawmakers it was still fair. In the file trades it remained good at Sheffield, fair at Wolverhampton, and moderate at Birmingham. In the edge-tool trades employment continued fair with grinders, and moderate with makers at Sheffield; at Birmingham and Wednesbury it was fair. At Redditch employment in the needle trade continued good.

Gold, Silver, Britannia Metal, etc.—In London employment with goldsmiths and jewellers continued fair and was better than a month and a year ago. With silver-smiths and electroplaters it was fair in London and Birmingham and rather better than a month ago. Employment with britannia metal workers at Birmingham was fairly good. With jewellers it was quiet, with some improvement at the end of the month. At Coventry employment with watchmakers was quiet.

Farriers.—Employment was fair in most districts and better than a month ago.

COTTON TRADE.

(Based on 544 Returns—450 received from Employers, partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 86 from Trade Unions, and 8 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued very good, and was better than a year ago.

The price of "middling American" cotton in Liverpool was 0·6d. per lb. less in June than in May, and 1·20d. higher than a year ago. The price of "good fair Egyptian" was 0·5d. higher in June than in May, and 3·16d. higher than in June, 1905.

Firms employing 129,573 workpeople have stated the amount of wages paid on one pay day in each of the periods under review. Compared with a month ago, the number employed by these firms showed a decrease of 0·1 per cent., and the amount of wages paid a decrease of 0·5 per cent. Compared with a year ago, the number employed showed an increase of 1·4 per cent., and the amount of wages paid an increase of 6·7 per cent.

Analysis by Departments and Districts.

Compared with a month ago, the spinning departments showed a slight improvement; the weaving and preparing departments showed a slight decline. Compared with a year ago all departments showed an improvement.

Compared with a month ago, seven districts showed a decline in the amount of wages paid, while five districts showed an improvement. The greatest change occurred in the Manchester district, where there was a decrease of 3·6 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and of 5·0 per cent. in the wages paid.

Compared with a year ago, every district showed an increase in the wages paid. There was, however, a decline in the number of workpeople employed in the Bolton and Manchester districts, and "other Lancashire towns."

Departments.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	No. employed on pay day in week ended 23rd June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last full week of		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay day in week ended 23rd June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last full week of	
		May, 1906.	June, 1905.		May, 1906.	June, 1905.
Preparing	14,121	+ 0·1	+ 0·2	12,770	- 0·1	+ 3·5
Spinning	25,119	+ 0·9	+ 2·5	24,564	+ 0·3	+ 3·6
Weaving	61,781	- 0·5	+ 0·9	57,288	- 1·1	+ 8·1
Other	1,426	+ 0·4	+ 2·3	13,133	+ 0·0	+ 6·4
Departments not specified	17,126	+ 0·0	+ 1·8	18,339	- 0·3	+ 6·8
Total	129,573	- 0·1	+ 1·4	126,994	- 0·5	+ 6·7
Districts.	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Ashton District	8,770	- 0·1	+ 0·9	8,634	- 0·3	+ 5·4
Stockport, Glossop, and Hyde	7,037	+ 0·6	+ 2·1	6,854	+ 1·1	+ 0·0
Oldham District	15,156	+ 1·6	+ 2·2	15,691	+ 1·1	+ 5·9
Bolton and Leigh	14,654	- 0·3	+ 3·6	14,975	+ 0·1	+ 7·1
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden, & Todmorden	9,937	+ 0·1	+ 0·7	9,567	- 0·5	+ 8·4
Manchester District	9,851	- 3·6	- 1·4	7,716	- 5·0	+ 2·2
Preston and Chorley	9,534	- 0·2	+ 0·7	8,697	- 1·5	+ 7·7
Blackburn, Accrington, & Darwen	19,311	+ 0·0	+ 1·4	19,407	- 0·4	+ 7·1
Burnley, Padiham, Colne, and Nelson	20,124	+ 0·2	+ 1·1	23,447	- 1·0	+ 8·7
Other Lancs. Towns	4,366	+ 0·1	- 0·4	3,061	+ 0·3	+ 5·6
Yorkshire Towns	5,893	+ 0·2	+ 8·8	5,857	- 1·4	+ 12·8
Other Districts	4,950	+ 0·7	+ 19·7	3,288	+ 2·6	+ 21·3
Total	129,573	- 0·1	+ 1·4	126,994	- 0·5	+ 6·7

Raw Cotton.

American Cotton.—During the month of June the average price of raw cotton "middling American" at Liverpool was 6·09d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 6·19d., and the lowest 5·99d. The price for May was 6·15d., and for June, 1905, 4·89d. per lb. For the period from 1st to 10th of July the average price of "middling American" was 6·09d. per lb.

Egyptian Cotton.—The price of "good fair Egyptian" during June averaged 10·05d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 10·1d., and the lowest 9·7d. The price for May was 10·0d., and for June, 1905, 6·89d. per lb. For the period from 1st to 10th of July the average price of "good fair Egyptian" was 9·74d. per lb.

The visible supply of American cotton for the United Kingdom on July 6th, 1906, was estimated by the

Liverpool Cotton Association to be 638,540 bales, as compared with 858,270 bales on July 7th, 1905.

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

Description of Cotton.	Month ended June 30th, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with June,		Six months ended June 30th, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in	
		1905.	1904.		1905.	1904.
		Bales.	Bales.		Bales.	Bales.
American	215,340	- 45,895	+ 42,375	1,555,941	- 31,360	+ 471,089
Brazilian	13,495	+ 10,980	+ 11,441	104,146	+ 83,308	+ 61,927
East Indian	5,639	+ 3,785	- 4,058	36,600	+ 29,757	- 19,725
Egyptian	10,895	- 13,632	- 11,065	191,208	+ 12,843	+ 23,096
Miscellaneous	5,371	+ 2,214	+ 2,904	45,926	+ 27,071	+ 23,708
Total	150,940	- 42,748	+ 41,537	1,933,821	+ 112,610	+ 560,075

Exports of Cotton Goods.

The following Table shows the quantity of exported cotton yarn and cotton piece goods for the periods stated:—

Description.	Month ended June 30th, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with June,		Six Months ended June 30th, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in	
		1905.	1904.		1905.	1904.
		1000's lbs.	1000's lbs.		1000's lbs.	1000's lbs.
Cotton Yarn and Twist—	1000's lbs.	1000's lbs.	1000's lbs.	1000's lbs.	1000's lbs.	1000's lbs.
Grey	11,818	- 179	+ 2,372	85,141	+ 6,940	+ 22,706
Bleached and Dyed	3,084	+ 221	+ 1,073	20,005	+ 339	+ 5,872
Total	14,902	- 400	+ 3,445	105,146	+ 7,279	+ 28,578
Cotton Piece Goods—	1000's yds.	1000's yds.	1000's yds.	1000's yds.	1000's yds.	1000's yds.
Grey or Unbleached	163,138	- 22,396	+ 15,247	1,189,960	+ 62,574	+ 284,998
Bleached	117,152	- 16,843	+ 15,483	832,770	- 866	+ 130,655
Printed	85,438	- 5,191	+ 1,677	538,104	+ 39,384	+ 39,251
Dyed or Manufactured of Dyed Yarn	80,612	- 12,497	+ 6,031	535,870	+ 10,161	+ 68,316
Total	446,340	- 56,927	+ 38,438	3,116,704	+ 111,833	+ 523,220

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

(Based on 435 Returns—428 received from Employers, partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, and 7 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the Woollen and Worsted trades was not quite so good as in May; it was better than a year ago.

Woollen Trade.

Employment showed a slight decline as compared with a month ago, but was better than a year ago.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making Returns for the week ending June 23rd was 31,742, a decrease of 0·2 per cent. in the number employed by them compared with the last week in May, and an increase of 2·1 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Firms employing 26,619 of these operatives have stated the wages paid in the periods under review.

Departments.	Workpeople covered by returns.			Earnings.		
	Number employed in week ended 23rd June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Aggregate amount of Wages paid in week ended 23rd June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with	
		A month ago.	A year ago.		A month ago.	A year ago.
Departments.	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Wool Sorting	568	+ 0·7	- 1·2	523	- 4·7	- 3·1
Spinning	5,011	- 0·5	+ 4·4	4,345	- 0·6	+ 5·4
Weaving	10,327	- 0·5	+ 2·3	6,299	- 3·4	+ 2·9
Other Departments	6,925	- 0·1	+ 2·7	7,136	- 2·3	+ 4·1
Unspecified	3,288	- 0·3	+ 0·8	2,852	- 0·2	+ 0·3
Total	26,619	- 0·2	+ 2·7	24,155	- 2·2	+ 3·3
Districts.	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Huddersfield District	3,968	- 0·9	+ 0·3	4,232	- 0·6	+ 3·6
Leeds District	3,118	- 0·3	+ 6·3	2,847	- 0·8	+ 9·5
Dewsbury & Batley District	3,210	- 0·3	+ 2·5	3,127	- 2·3	+ 6·1
Other Parts of West Riding	2,265	+ 0·5	+ 0·7	2,070	- 0·8	+ 2·4
Total West Riding	12,561	- 0·3	+ 2·4	12,276	- 1·1	+ 5·3
Scotland	8,021	- 0·2	+ 1·4	7,058	- 4·9	- 8·3
Other Districts	6,037	- 0·3	+ 5·3	4,821	- 1·0	+ 8·6
Total Woollen	26,619	- 0·2	+ 2·7	24,155	- 2·2	+ 3·3

Compared with a month ago, the number employed by these firms showed a decrease of 0.2 per cent., and the amount of wages paid a decrease of 2.2 per cent. Compared with a year ago, the number employed showed an increase of 2.7 per cent., and the amount of wages an increase of 3.3 per cent.

In Huddersfield employment was good, though not quite so good as a month ago. Several firms still worked overtime and night shifts. In Leeds employment was reported as good, much overtime being worked. In the blanket trade employment was quiet.

In Scotland there was a slight decrease in employment. It was reported as fairly good in most districts.

Worsted Trade.

Employment was fairly good, though not so good as a month ago.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making Returns for the week ending June 23rd was 60,178, a decrease of 2.2 per cent. in the number employed by them in the last week in May, and an increase of 0.2 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Firms employing 46,347 of these operatives have stated the wages paid in the periods under review. Compared with the last week in May the number employed by these firms showed a decrease of 2.9 per cent., and the amount of wages paid a decrease of 1.0 per cent. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 3.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

In the Bradford district employment showed a falling off; in Halifax there was a slight decline. In Keighley employment continued good in all branches. In the Huddersfield district employment was not quite so good as a month ago.

Departments.	Workpeople covered by returns.				Earnings.			
	No. employed in week ended 23rd June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with		Aggregate amount of Wages paid in week ended 23rd June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with		Per cent.	Per cent.
		A month ago.	A year ago.		A month ago.	A year ago.		
Wool Sorting & Combing...	5,283	- 0.6	+ 5.0	5,242	- 0.9	+ 8.9		
Spinning ...	24,239	- 4.5	+ 2.4	13,916	- 0.5	+ 5.1		
Weaving ...	8,917	+ 1.9	+ 0.5	7,858	- 2.3	- 0.2		
Other Departments ...	5,839	+ 0.7	+ 0.5	5,528	- 0.4	+ 0.3		
Unspecified ...	2,369	- 3.9	+ 2.1	1,839	- 0.7	+ 4.1		
Total ...	46,347	- 2.9	- 0.5	34,363	- 1.0	+ 3.5		

Districts.	Workpeople covered by returns.				Earnings.			
	No. employed in week ended 23rd June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with		Aggregate amount of Wages paid in week ended 23rd June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with		Per cent.	Per cent.
Bradford District ...	19,861	- 6.5	- 2.4	14,307	- 1.7	+ 3.1		
Keighley District ...	6,169	- 0.5	- 0.5	4,499	+ 0.2	+ 3.7		
Halifax District ...	6,005	+ 0.1	+ 0.7	4,689	- 1.1	+ 4.2		
Huddersfield District ...	6,262	- 0.2	+ 1.3	5,661	- 1.3	+ 1.9		
Other Parts of West Riding ..	4,452	...	+ 3.9	2,885	+ 0.9	+ 8.9		
Total West Riding ...	42,753	- 3.2	- 0.5	32,041	- 1.1	+ 3.7		
Other Districts ...	3,594	+ 0.3	- 0.2	2,322	+ 0.2	+ 1.5		
Total Worsted ...	46,347	- 2.9	- 0.5	34,363	- 1.0	+ 3.5		

Prices of Raw Material.

Prices were scarcely so high as a month ago; they were much higher than a year ago.

	June, 1906.	May, 1906.	June, 1905.
Average Prices			
Lincoln Hogs ...	14 1/2	14 1/2	13 1/2
40's Crossbred tops ...	18 1/2	18 1/2	16 1/2
60's Super Botany tops ...	28 1/2	29	25 1/2
Course of Prices:			
Lincoln Hogs ...	14 1/2 to 14 1/2	14 1/2	13 to 13 1/2
40's Crossbred tops ...	19 to 18 1/2	18 1/2 to 19	16 to 16 1/2
60's Super Botany tops ...	29 to 28	28 1/2 to 29	25 1/2 to 25 1/2

Imports and Exports.

The following Table shows the quantities of imported and exported raw wool, and of British and Irish exports of woollen, worsted, and alpaca and mohair yarn, and of woollen and worsted piece goods for the periods stated:—

Description.	Month ended June 30th, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with June.		Six Months ended June 30th, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with corresponding period in	
		1905.	1904.		1905.	1904.
		1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.		1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.
Raw Wool (SHEEP OR LAMBS')						
Imports (less Re-Exports)	19,368	+ 10,841	+ 2,187	279,888	+ 46,738	+ 61,045
British Exports	1,409	- 1,502	- 727	13,848	- 768	- 1,735
British and Irish Manufactures Exported.						
Woolen ...	171	- 36	- 36	1,122	+ 19	+ 153
Worsted ...	4,067	+ 330	- 150	26,081	+ 3,456	+ 1,404
Alpaca and Mohair	1,362	+ 220	+ 298	7,878	+ 1,016	+ 1,562
Total ..	5,600	+ 514	+ 112	35,081	+ 4,491	+ 311
Piece Goods:						
Woolen ...	6,549	+ 1,224	+ 1,215	37,215	+ 3,231	+ 8,400
Worsted ...	8,460	- 885	- 644	51,523	- 1,278	+ 790
Total ...	15,009	+ 339	+ 571	88,738	+ 1,953	+ 9,190

FLAX (LINEN) TRADE.

(Based on 138 Returns—131 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 1 from a Trade Union, and 6 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good in this trade. It was slightly worse than a month ago, but considerably better than a year ago.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making Returns was 54,363, a decrease of 1.4 per cent. as compared with May, and an increase of 1.1 per cent. as compared with a year ago. Returns were also obtained as to wages paid by firms employing 47,105 workpeople. These Returns show that there was a decrease of 1.7 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed as compared with May, and an increase of 0.7 per cent. as compared with a year ago. The amount of wages paid in week ending 23rd June, showed a decrease of 1.5 per cent. as compared with May, and an increase of 4.3 per cent. as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

These Returns are summarised in the following Table. The decreases of 8.6 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed and of 11.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, recorded in "other places in Scotland," are mainly due to a dispute in Brechin, which led to a lock-out of about 1,400 of the workpeople employed in the linen manufacture in that town. (For particulars as to this dispute and the subsequent settlement, see p. 197.)

Departments.	Workpeople covered by Returns.				Earnings.			
	Number employed on pay day in week ended 23rd June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with a		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay day in week ended 23rd June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with a		Per cent.	Per cent.
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.		
Preparing ...	5,976	- 0.4	- 1.3	3,092	+ 2.7	+ 1.6		
Spinning ...	10,467	+ 0.1	- 0.4	4,728	+ 2.8	+ 3.6		
Weaving ...	17,016	- 1.2	+ 4.2	10,762	- 1.9	+ 8.9		
Other ...	6,749	- 0.7	+ 4.1	5,234	+ 1.5	+ 6.1		
Departments not specified	6,297	- 8.1	- 7.5	3,613	- 12.0	- 6.8		
Total ...	47,105	- 1.7	+ 0.7	27,429	- 1.5	+ 4.3		

Districts.	Workpeople covered by Returns.				Earnings.			
	No. employed on pay day in week ended 23rd June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with a		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay day in week ended 23rd June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with a		Per cent.	Per cent.
Belfast ...	16,437	- 1.0	+ 1.7	9,753	+ 1.0	+ 7.2		
Other Places in Ireland	15,950	- 0.3	+ 2.5	8,486	+ 0.2	+ 6.2		
Ireland ...	32,437	- 0.7	+ 2.1	18,239	+ 0.7	+ 6.7		
Flifeshire ...	7,368	- 0.6	+ 3.5	4,675	- 1.1	+ 7.4		
Other Places in Scotland	5,575	- 8.6	- 8.9	3,427	- 11.9	- 9.8		
Scotland ...	12,943	- 4.2	- 2.2	8,102	- 5.9	- 0.7		
United Kingdom* }	47,105	- 1.7	+ 0.7	27,429	- 1.5	+ 4.3		

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following Table shows the quantities of imported flax, and of British and Irish exports of linen yarn and manufactured goods for the periods stated:—

* Including 7 Returns from England.

Description.	Month ended June 30th, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with June.		Six months ended June 30th, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in	
		1905.	1904.		1905.	1904.
		1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.		1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.
Imports:						
Flax (Dressed and Undressed, Tow or Codilla) Tons	5,279	- 2,071	+ 833	58,677	- 4,572	+ 7,292
Exports:						
Linen Yarn 100 Lbs.	12,656	+ 1,535	+ 1,070	73,433	+ 1,609	- 5
Linen Piece Goods 100 Yds.	142,608	+ 8,264	- 1,448	963,049	+ 53,069	+ 131,753

JUTE TRADE.

(Based on 48 Returns—41 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 1 from a Trade Union, and 6 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continued good, and was much better than a year ago. The total number of workpeople employed by firms making Returns was 23,587, a decrease of 0.5 per cent. as compared with May, and an increase of 4.2 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Firms employing 19,448 workpeople supplied particulars of the wages paid, as well as of the numbers employed. The number of workpeople employed by these firms showed a decrease of 0.3 per cent. as compared with May, and an increase of 5.8 per cent. as compared with a year ago. The amount of wages paid showed a decrease of 0.1 per cent. as compared with May, and an increase of 8.8 per cent. as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

The following Table summarises these Returns, and shows that the improvement as compared with a year ago was greatest in the weaving and spinning departments, where the increases in the amount of wages paid were 10.5 per cent. and 9.9 per cent. respectively:—

Departments.	Workpeople covered by Returns.				Earnings.			
	Number of workpeople paid Wages on pay day in week ending 23rd June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with a		Aggregate amount of Wages paid on pay day in week ending 23rd June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with a		Per cent.	Per cent.
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.		
Preparing ...	4,271	- 0.2	+ 4.9	2,711	- 1.1	+ 7.2		
Spinning ...	5,369	- 0.4	+ 7.7	3,163	- 0.2	+ 9.9		
Weaving ...	6,556	- 0.4	+ 5.4	4,743	+ 0.6	+ 10.5		
Other ...	2,011	+ 0.6	+ 6.7	1,948	- 0.1	+ 8.3		
Departments not specified	1,241	+ 0.6	+ 1.1	895	- 1.2	+ 2.1		
Total ...	19,448	- 0.3	+ 5.8	13,460	- 0.1	+ 8.8		

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The quantities of imported jute and of British and Irish exports of jute yarn and manufactured goods for the periods stated were as under:—

Description.	Month ended June 30th, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with June.		Six months ended June 30th, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in	
		1905.	1904.		1905.	1904.
		1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.		1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.
Imports:						
Jute ... Tons	8,933	+ 4,826	+ 6,407	170,629	+ 31,341	+ 18,692
Exports:						
Jute Yarn 100 Lbs.	36,209	+ 10,561	- 7,825	216,539	- 2,417	+ 2,720
Jute Piece Goods 100 Yds.	144,258	+ 9,232	- 38,682	828,834	+ 33,052	- 196,251

LACE TRADE.

(Based on 102 Returns—97 from Employers, 1 from Trade Unions, and 4 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good in this trade, and was better than a year ago.

Firms employing 9,467 workpeople, and paying in wages in the week ending June 23rd, £9,415, made Returns, from which it appears that there was a decrease of 0.8 per cent. in the number of employed, as compared with May, and an increase of 5.7 per cent. as compared with last year. In amount of wages paid there was a decrease of 2.5 as compared with May, and an increase of 18.1 as compared with last year.

In the Levers branch employment was fairly good, but was slightly worse than a month ago, but better than a year ago. As compared with a month ago, in all the districts concerned there was a very slight decline in the number employed in the curtain department. In Long Eaton the wages paid were 32.7 per cent. higher than in June, 1905.

Branches.	Workpeople.				Earnings.				
	No. employed on pay day in week ending 23rd June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay day in week ending 23rd June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Per cent.	Per cent.	
		May, 1906.	June, 1905.		May, 1906.	June, 1905.			
Levers ...	2,768	- 0.3	+ 7.9	3,762	- 0.2	+ 27.0			
Curtain ...	3,040	- 1.4	- 0.2	2,760	- 5.6	+ 13.9			
Plain Net ...	2,753	- 0.9	+ 8.9	2,251	- 2.3	+ 10.2			
Others ...	906	- 0.4	+ 10.5	642	- 3.0	+ 17.6			
Total ...	9,467	- 0.8	+ 5.7	9,415	- 2.5	+ 18.1			
Districts.									
Nottingham City ...	3,009	- 1.5	+ 4.9	2,831	- 7.1	+ 20.6			
Long Eaton and other outlying districts	1,513	+ 1.7	+ 15.1	2,094	+ 0.4	+ 32.7			
Other English districts	2,992	- 0.7	+ 5.8	2,738	- 1.8	+ 14.1			
Scotland ...	1,953	- 1.4	+ 0.8	1,752	+ 0.8	+ 6.1			
Total ...	9,467	- 0.8	+ 5.7	9,415	- 2.5	+ 18.1			

HOSIERY TRADE.

(Based on 107 Returns—101 from Employers, 1 from a Trade Union, and 5 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT generally was fairly good in England and good in Scotland. It was slightly worse than a month ago, but better than a year ago.

Firms employing 16,265 workpeople, and paying £12,841 in wages in the week ending June 23rd, made Returns, which are summarised in the Table below.

From these it appears that there was a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 4.3 per cent. in the number employed, and of 5.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

In Leicester employment continued fairly good, and was better than a year ago. At Hinkley and Loughborough it was good. In Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire employment was not quite so good as a month ago, but better than a year ago. In Scotland employment was good, and better than a year ago.

District.	Workpeople.				Earnings.			
	Number paid wages on pay-day in week ended 23rd June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) compared with		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay-day in week ended 23rd June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) compared with		Per cent.	Per cent.
		May, 1906.	June, 1905.		May, 1906.	June, 1905.		
Leicester ...	7,594	- 0.3	+ 3.1	6,092	- 1.8	+ 3.1		
Leicester County District ...	2,667	- 0.6	+ 4.1	2,380	- 1.9	+ 5.5		
Notts. and Derbyshire ...	2,838	- 0.2	+ 1.3	2,16				

Returns it appears that there was a decrease of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed as compared with May, and an increase of 2.3 per cent. as compared with a year ago. In the amount of wages paid there was a decrease of 0.1 per cent. as compared with May, and an increase of 3.2 per cent. as compared with June, 1905.

The Returns are summarised in the following Table:—

Branches.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	No. employed on pay day in week ended 23rd June 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay day in week ended 23rd June 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with	
		May, 1906.	June, 1905.		May, 1906.	June, 1905.
Throwing	1,157	- 0.1	+ 1.3	535	+ 0.2	+ 1.9
Spinning	2,454	- 1.3	+ 1.5	1,795	- 1.9	+ 4.2
Weaving	3,522	+ 0.2	+ 1.1	2,360	+ 0.5	+ 1.0
Other	1,065	...	+ 10.5	863	+ 2.7	+ 7.2
Departments not specified ...	254	+ 1.6	+ 0.8	161	- 0.6	+ 8.1
Total	8,552	- 0.2	+ 2.3	5,714	- 0.1	+ 3.2
Districts.						
Lancashire and W. Riding of York	2,991	- 0.3	+ 0.3	2,261	- 1.1	+ 3.0
Macclesfield, Congleton and District	950	- 0.2	+ 4.1	610	+ 2.3	+ 3.4
Leek	494	+ 0.8	+ 5.8	349	- 2.8	+ 3.3
Eastern Counties	2,367	- 1.3	+ 3.2	1,410	+ 2.0	+ 1.6
Other Districts, including Scotland	1,750	+ 1.0	+ 2.9	1,054	- 1.0	+ 5.4
Total	8,552	- 0.2	+ 2.3	5,714	- 0.1	+ 3.2

Imports and Exports.

The imports of raw and thrown silk, and of spun silk yarn, and the exports of thrown silk and yarn, and of silk broad-stuffs are shown in the Table below for the periods specified:—

Description.	Month ended June 30th, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with June,		Six Months ended June 30th, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in	
		1905.	1904.		1905.	1904.
		lbs.	lbs.		lbs.	lbs.
Imports:—						
Raw Silk	40,458	- 55,890	- 55,442	435,304	- 119,991	- 212,171
Thrown Silk	44,868	- 3,882	- 290	284,719	+ 6,252	- 665
Spun Silk Yarn	23,458	+ 4,346	+ 2,825	144,193	- 44,406	+ 60,064
Exports:—						
Thrown Silk, Twist & Yarn	72,779*	+ 8,547	+ 44,856	441,920	- 13,713	+ 124,591
Silk Broad-stuffs	522,179	+ 5,367	+ 141,011	3,723,365	+ 383,246	+ 1,578,181

OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.

Printing, Dyeing, Bleaching, and Finishing.

(Based on 17 Returns—2 from Employers' Associations, 5 from Trade Unions, and 10 from Local Correspondents.)

Woolen and Worsted Dyers.—Employment in the West Riding was reported as fair, about the same as a month ago, and slightly better than a year ago. About two-fifths of the Trade Union dyers worked short time, and about one-fifth worked overtime.

Cotton Dyers.—Employment on the whole was fairly good.

Silk Dyers.—Employment was reported as bad at Macclesfield.

Calico Printers.—Employment at New Mills was very good, and better than a month ago; with calico printers at Dinting it continued fair. At Glasgow it was reported as good with calico printers, fair with printers' engravers and block printers.

Hosiery and Lace Dyers, Trimmers, etc.—At Leicester employment continued to improve; at Loughborough it was fair, but not so good as a month ago. At Nottingham employment was good with bleachers, and fair with dyers, and hosiery trimmers; it was good with bleachers, and fair with hosiery trimmers at Basford and Bulwell.

Calenderers, etc.—In Glasgow employment continued good. In Dundee employment was reported as fair with calender and bleachfield workers.

* Yarn, 71,606 lbs. † Yarn, 405,259 lbs.

TAILORING TRADE.

(Based on 140 Returns—111 from Employers, 3 from Trade Unions, and 26 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the *bespoke* branch was moderate in London; good in the Provinces. In the *ready-made* branch there was a seasonal decline, but employment was better than a year ago.

Bespoke Branch.

London.—Employment showed a seasonal decline as compared with a month ago, and was not so good as a year ago.

Firms paying £13,625 to their workpeople during the four weeks ended June 23rd showed a decrease of 7.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the four weeks ended May 26th, and a decrease of 1.0 per cent. compared with the four weeks ended June 24th, 1905.

Other Centres.—Employment was reported as good in Liverpool, Nottingham, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Belfast.

Ready-made Branch.

London.—Employment was fairly good, and about the same as a year ago. The Trade Union cutters reported it as fair on contract work, normal on stock and shipping work.

Leeds.—Employment during the month showed a decline, but was better than a year ago. According to Returns received from firms employing about 10,000 workpeople in their factories, in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops, employment was good with firms employing 50 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns, moderate with firms employing 46 per cent., and bad with firms employing 4 per cent. Compared with a month ago, firms employing 23 per cent. reported employment as improved, firms employing 26 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 9 per cent. as worse. Compared with a year ago, firms employing 65 per cent. reported employment as improved, firms employing 26 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 9 per cent. as worse. The Jewish operatives reported employment as good.

Other Centres.—Employment in Manchester was good, and about the same as a month ago and a year ago. In Bristol it was moderate, but was better than a year ago. In the Midlands and the Eastern Counties it was reported as good. In Glasgow it continued good, and was better than a year ago.

HAT TRADE.

(Based on 15 Returns—3 from Employers' Associations and 12 from Trade Unions.)

In the *Silk* hat trade the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of June was 11.8, compared with 10.7 at the end of May, and 11.2 a year ago. In London a slight decline was reported compared with a month ago, but employment was about the same as a year ago. In the *Felt* hat trade the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of June was 3.5, compared with 4.0 at the end of May, and 2.4 a year ago. Employment showed a decline at Denton compared with a month ago; it continued quiet in the remaining districts.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

(Based on 589 Returns—575 received from Employers, partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 4 from Trade Unions, and 10 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the boot and shoe trade underwent a considerable decline during June. Compared with a year ago, little change was shown.

The number employed in the last week of June by 575 firms making Returns was 77,100, a decrease of 1.5 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 0.8 per cent. compared with a year ago.

In addition to supplying particulars of numbers employed, 485 firms, employing 65,015 workpeople, stated the amount of wages paid in the periods under review. These Returns showed a net decrease in the amount of wages paid of 5.3 per cent. compared with

a month ago, and of 0.4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Compared with a month ago, fourteen of the sixteen districts showed a decrease in the total wages paid, the greatest falling off being in the Leicester district, where it amounted to 10.1 per cent. Compared with a year ago, nine districts showed an improvement, and six a decline, one district showing no change.

District.	Workpeople covered by the Returns.			Earnings.		
	No. employed on last pay day in June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with last full week of		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on last pay day in June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with last full week of	
		May, 1906.	June, 1905.		May, 1906.	June, 1905.
ENGLAND & WALES.		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
London	2,823	- 6.3	- 0.2	3,606	- 9.3	...
Leicester	13,103	- 2.3	- 1.1	13,446	- 10.1	- 4.5
Leicester Country District	3,451	- 1.8	+ 1.7	3,162	- 6.6	+ 9.9
Northampton	8,933	- 2.3	- 0.9	8,463	- 4.5	- 3.4
Northampton Country District	9,290	- 2.0	+ 2.8	8,516	- 4.6	+ 1.0
Kettering	3,115	- 1.5	+ 2.8	3,216	- 2.3	+ 3.7
Stafford & District	2,377	- 0.9	- 0.3	2,173	- 5.2	+ 3.7
Norwich & District	4,306	- 1.6	+ 2.5	3,692	- 3.1	+ 1.3
Bristol & District	2,140	+ 0.7	+ 5.8	1,980	- 1.7	+ 6.2
Kingswood	2,519	+ 1.1	+ 1.2	2,258	- 0.6	- 3.2
Leeds & District	2,604	+ 0.4	- 5.2	2,422	+ 3.4	- 3.6
Manchester & District	2,034	- 1.0	+ 2.7	1,930	- 7.9	+ 6.7
Birmingham & District	1,062	- 0.5	- 2.1	845	- 3.8	- 1.5
Other parts of England and Wales	3,004	- 1.4	- 2.8	2,442	- 4.4	+ 1.3
England and Wales	60,761	- 1.8	+ 0.2	58,151	- 5.7	- 0.4
SCOTLAND	3,951	- 0.6	- 0.5	3,739	+ 0.5	- 0.7
IRELAND	303	- 0.7	+ 3.8	245	- 0.8	+ 7.4
UNITED KINGDOM	65,015	- 1.7	+ 0.3	62,135	- 5.3	- 0.4

Imports and Exports.—The following Table gives the quantities and values of the boots and shoes imported, exported, and re-exported during June, 1906, and the six months ended June 30th, 1906, together with the increases or decreases, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1905 and 1904:—

Description.	Month ended June 30th, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with June,		Six months ended June 30th, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with corresponding period in	
		1905.	1904.		1905.	1904.
Imports						
Dozen pairs	12,904	- 5,257	- 3,918	110,071	- 8,342	- 6,386
Value	£ 55,431	- 16,357	- 7671	444,573	- 29,442	+ 15,668
Re-Exports						
Dozen pairs	1,036	+ 121	+ 144	8,239	+ 1,124	- 1,946
Value	£ 3,214	+ 8	+ 598	23,624	+ 5,225	- 2,500
Exports (British and Irish)						
Dozen pairs	52,749	- 2,175	+ 8,801	373,579	+ 20,440	+ 80,455
Value	£ 129,930	- 4,579	+ 26,935	911,697	+ 73,776	+ 230,268

OTHER LEATHER TRADES.

(Based on 44 Returns—2 from Employers' Associations, 27 from Trade Unions, and 15 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during June continued to show some improvement in most branches, and was considerably better than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 4,553 had 5.0 per cent. unemployed at the end of June, compared with 5.3 per cent. in May, and 7.2 per cent. in June, 1905.

Skinners, Tanners, Curriers, Dressers, etc.—Employment continued to improve during June, and was better than a year ago. In South Lancashire and at Bristol, Edinburgh, and Glasgow it was good; in Yorkshire and at Walsall and London, fair on the whole; at Northampton and Wellingborough the improvement reported last month was maintained.

Saddle and Harness Makers, etc.—Employment remained fairly good on the whole, and was better than a month and a year ago. At Walsall it had improved to some extent, though short time was still being worked, and it was slack in South Wales and at Bristol.

Miscellaneous Leather Trades.—Employment with fancy leather workers remained fair; with portmanteau makers it was good, and better than a month and a year ago.

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

(Based on 203 Returns—193 from Employers, 2 from Trade Unions, and 8 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the dressmaking trades in London was fair. There was an improvement in Court dressmaking, and a decline in other retail dressmaking, as compared with a year ago; in the wholesale millinery trade in London there was a decline. Employment in the shirt and collar trades was fair, and slightly better than a year ago. In the corset trade it was fairly good, and better than a year ago.

Dressmaking, Millinery, and Mantle Trades.—Returns from retail firms in London, chiefly in the West-end district, employing 1,610 dressmakers in the last week in June, showed a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 4.7 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fair, but showed a decline as compared with a year ago. Court dressmakers, employing 1,564 workpeople, showed a decrease of 3.9 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 4.4 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was good, and better than a year ago. In the wholesale mantle, costume and blouse trades, firms employing 3,218 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) during the last week in June showed a decrease of 11.4 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 4.0 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was moderate. Firms employing 1,251 milliners showed a decrease of 11.7 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 1.0 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Returns from two Employment Bureaux showed a decrease in the demand for, and a slight increase in the supply of dressmakers and milliners compared with a year ago, the demand being much greater than the supply in both periods.

In Manchester employment with mantle makers was fair, and better than a year ago. In the costume and skirt trade employment during the month was fair, and better than a year ago; firms employing 2,272 workpeople in the last week of June showed a decrease of 0.6 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 6.8 per cent. compared with a year ago.

In Glasgow employment in the mantle trade was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

Shirt and Collar Trade.—Returns received from shirt and collar manufacturers in England, Scotland, and Ireland, employing 7,253 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers), and paying £4,867 in wages during the week ending June 23rd, showed a decrease of 3.9 per cent. compared with a month ago in the amount of wages paid, and an increase of 0.9 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment was fairly good in London, Manchester, Taunton, and Belfast; good in Glasgow; moderate in Londonderry.

Corset Trade.—Returns were received from corset manufacturers who employed in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the last week of June 4,055 workpeople. This number shows a decrease of 1.6 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 4.4 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fairly good. Compared with a year ago, firms employing 40 per cent. reported employment as improved, firms employing 46 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 14 per cent. as worse.

PAPER, PRINTING AND BOOK-BINDING TRADES.

(Based on 457 Returns—143 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 294 from Trade Unions, and 20 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT remained good in the paper trades. In the printing and bookbinding trades it continued quiet, showing little general change compared with a month ago, and an improvement compared with a year ago.

PAPER TRADES.

Employment remained good in these trades. Returns received from firms employing 20,372 workpeople at the end of June showed that there was a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the total number of workpeople employed as compared with May, and an increase of 0.4 per cent. as compared with June, 1905.

	Number of Workpeople paid Wages in last week of June, 1906, by firms making Returns.	Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in No. of Workpeople as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
Machine-made Paper and Milled Boards:			
Northern Counties	5,908	- 2.6	- 1.1
Midlands, Wales, and Ireland...	2,286	+ 0.7	- 0.6
Southern Counties	6,417	- 0.0	- 0.2
Scotland	4,851	+ 0.7	+ 3.4
Total Machine-made Paper, &c. ...	19,462	- 0.6	+ 0.3
Hand-made Paper	910	+ 0.1	+ 1.4
Total	20,372	- 0.5	+ 0.4

Trade Unions in the machine-made paper trade with 1,716 members had 2.2 per cent. unemployed at the end of June, the same percentage as at the end of May. For June, 1905, the percentage unemployed was 2.1.

PRINTING TRADES.

Employment was moderate on the whole, and better than a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions of letterpress printers with 40,811 members had 4.0 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 4.6 per cent. in May, and 5.2 per cent. in June, 1905. Employment in the lithographic trade remained fair with artists and quiet with printers, Trade Unions with 6,548 members having 4.6 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 4.8 per cent. in May, and 5.0 per cent. in June, 1905.

The following Table shows by districts the percentage unemployed in certain Trade Unions in the Printing Trades:—

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of June, 1906, included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a		
		June, 1906.	May, 1906.	June, 1905.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	19,259	3.5	3.6	5.1	- 0.1	- 1.6
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	5,203	5.8	6.5	5.1	- 0.7	+ 0.7
Lancs. and Cheshire...	6,475	4.0	6.2	5.3	- 2.2	- 1.3
East Midland and Eastern Counties	2,353	4.1	3.5	5.4	+ 0.6	+ 1.3
West Midlands	2,370	5.4	5.9	6.6	- 0.5	- 1.2
S. & S. W. Counties and Wales	3,740	3.1	3.5	3.3	- 0.4	- 0.2
Scotland	5,493	3.2	3.9	4.1	- 0.7	- 0.9
Ireland	2,456	7.9	8.0	8.2	- 0.1	- 0.3
United Kingdom	47,359	4.1	4.7	5.1	- 0.6	- 1.0

London.—Employment with letterpress printers continued fairly good, and was better than a year ago, Trade Unions with 17,294 members having 3.2 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 3.4 per cent. in May, and 5.0 per cent. in June, 1905. With lithographic printers employment remained quiet.

Other Centres.—Employment with letterpress printers was quiet generally. At Edinburgh, however, it was fairly good and rather better than in May. It was good also at Manchester, Dundee, Derby, Oxford and Bristol. With lithographic printers employment was moderate on the whole, and rather better than a month ago and a year ago. At Manchester it was good; at Belfast bad and worse than in May.

BOOKBINDING TRADES.

Employment in these trades remained quiet in London, short time being frequent. Elsewhere it was fairly good, except at Liverpool and Newcastle, where it was slack. Compared with a month ago a slight decline was shown on the whole. Compared with a year ago there was an improvement, especially in the Provinces. At Manchester and Newcastle however, employment was reported as not so good as a year ago.

	No. of Members of Unions at end of June, 1906, included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		June, 1906.	May, 1906.	June, 1905.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	3,665	7.1	6.4	8.4	+ 0.7	- 1.3
Other Districts	3,321	4.2	3.7	7.4	+ 0.5	- 3.2
United Kingdom	6,986	5.7	5.1	7.6	+ 0.6	- 1.9

BUILDING TRADES.

(Based on 1,843 Returns—126 from Employers and Employers' Associations received through the Trade Correspondent, 1,685 from Trade Unions, and 32 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in these trades was on the whole dull and about the same as a month ago. With bricklayers, however, there was an improvement, and painters were well employed generally. Compared with a year ago employment was, on the whole, better.

London.—Employment on the whole showed a decline as compared with a month ago, and was rather worse than a year ago. Returns received through the Trade Correspondent from 50 London employers show that in the last week of June they paid wages to 8,855 workpeople of all classes, as compared with 9,112 in May, and 10,947 in June, 1905.

The percentage of Trade Union carpenters and joiners unemployed in London during June was 9.4, as compared with 8.2 in May, and 8.8 a year ago. With plumbers the percentage unemployed was 13.9, as compared with 13.7 a month ago, and 11.7 in June, 1905. In both trades the percentage unemployed in London was higher than in any other district. With painters employment was fairly good; with masons it was moderate; with bricklayers dull; with plasterers bad.

The Provinces.—The returns received from 74 Employers' Associations in towns outside of London show that employment in these towns was quiet generally.

The following statements relating to employment in the provinces of England and Wales and in Scotland and Ireland are based on returns received from the General Secretaries of Trade Unions and from Trade Union reports:—

Employment with bricklayers was dull generally, but showed some improvement compared with a month ago. With carpenters and joiners it was slack, the percentage of Trade Union carpenters and joiners unemployed being 5.4 as compared with the same percentage in May and 6.7 a year ago. With plumbers it showed little change. The percentage of Trade Union plumbers unemployed was 8.0 in June, compared with 7.9 in May and 10.2 a year ago. With masons it continued slack. With plasterers it was bad, but slightly better than a month ago; in Scotland, however, it was worse. With painters it was not so good as in May. With slaters and tilers it was fairly good in Scotland.

The following statements are based on reports from the Branch Secretaries of Trade Unions and from Local Correspondents:—

Northern Counties.—On the North-east Coast employment with bricklayers and masons and joiners showed some improvement. With painters it was good.

Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cheshire.—In Sheffield employment on the whole was rather better than a month ago, except with plumbers and plasterers, with whom it continued slack. In Lancashire and Cheshire generally employment was fairly good.

Midlands and Eastern Counties.—At Wolverhampton employment was bad in all branches. At Nottingham employment generally was dull, but with bricklayers and labourers there was some improvement compared with a month ago. At Derby employment on the whole continued quiet. In the Potteries employment was slack. At Leicester and Northampton bricklayers and plumbers reported some improvement. At Norwich painters were well employed generally.

Southern Counties.—Employment on the whole showed little change compared with a month ago, except in the Plymouth district, where it was rather worse.

Wales and Monmouth.—Employment with bricklayers, masons, and plumbers was fair, and rather better than a month ago. With painters it was good.

Scotland.—At Glasgow bricklayers, joiners, masons, and slaters reported an improvement. With plasterers, plumbers, and painters it was not so good; painters, however, continued to work some overtime. At Edinburgh employment generally was fair. At Dundee employment with plasterers improved; slaters were well employed. At Aberdeen employment with masons was bad, but showed an improvement.

Ireland.—At Dublin employment generally improved. Plasterers, painters, and slaters were fairly well employed. At Belfast employment showed little change. At Cork employment with carpenters and joiners and painters improved; with stone-cutters it continued dull.

FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

(Based on 147 Returns—4 from Employers' Associations, 116 from Trade Unions, and 27 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during June continued fair, but was rather worse than a month ago. It was slightly better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of June was 4.1, as compared with 3.6 in May, 1906, and 4.4 in June, 1905.

Millsawyers and Woodcutting Machinists. Employment with millsawyers and woodcutting machinists was on the whole dull.

Trade Unions with a membership of 4,602 reported 199 (or 4.3 per cent.) as unemployed at the end of June, which is the same percentage as at the end of May, 1906, while the percentage for June, 1905, was 5.2. Employment was good at Birmingham, Aberdeen, Dundee, Bristol, and Darlington, and improving at Cork, and Hull. It was fair at Leeds, but bad at Liverpool.

Furnishing Trades.

In the furnishing trades employment was fair. It was worse than a month ago, but slightly better than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 14,100 reported 739 (or 5.2 per cent.) unemployed at the end of June, as compared with 4.0 per cent. at the end of May, 1906, and 5.3 per cent. at the end of June, 1905.

Coopers.

Employment with coopers showed general improvement compared with a month ago, and was slightly better than a year ago. It was dull at Birmingham, Edinburgh, Northwich, St. Helens, and Widnes.

Coachbuilding.

Employment in this industry continued on the whole good, being about the same as a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions of coachmakers, wheelwrights, smiths, &c., with a membership of 8,719, reported 137 (or 1.6 per cent.) unemployed at the end of June, as compared with 1.3 per cent. at the end of May, 1906, and 1.7 per cent. at the end of June, 1905.

Miscellaneous.

Brushmakers.—Employment with brushmakers, was good generally, though dull at Dublin. With ivory and bone brushmakers it was bad. Trade Unions with a membership of 1,728 reported 53 (or 3.1 per cent.) unemployed at the end of June, 1906, as compared with 2.9 per cent. in the previous month, and 5.3 per cent. a year ago.

Other Trades.—With packing-case makers trade was fairly good; with basket-makers it was good.

POTTERY, AND BRICK AND TILE TRADES.

(Based on 44 Returns—13 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 6 from Trade Unions, and 25 from Local Correspondents.)

In the Pottery trade employment continued fairly good in England; in Scotland it was fair. In the Brick and Tile trades employment was moderate, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

Pottery Trade.—In Staffordshire employment continued fairly good, and was better than a year ago. In Scotland it was fair generally. In North Devon it was fair, and better than a month ago. With tobacco pipe makers at Glasgow it was dull; at Gateshead good.

Brick and Tile Trades.—Employment was on the whole

moderate, but was good at Oldham and in Norfolk and Cambridgeshire. It was fair in the Tees and Plymouth districts, and in South Wales. In South Staffordshire it was bad.

GLASS TRADES.

(Based on 105 Returns—64 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 16 from Trade Unions, and 25 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was moderate generally, and was not so good as a month ago and a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 10,080 workpeople, and paying £11,598 in wages during the week ending June 23rd, showed that compared with a month ago there was a decrease of 1.7 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and of 4.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 2.2 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed.

Branches.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Number employed on pay-day in week ended June 23rd, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay-day in week ended June 23rd, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last full week of	
		May, 1906.	June, 1905.		May, 1906.	June, 1905.
Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.		
Glass Bottle	5,890	- 2.8	- 2.9	7,010	- 5.8	- 2.1
Plate Glass	181	- 1.1	+ 7.7	199	- 1.0	+ 2.3
Flint Glass Ware (not Bottles)	2,665	- 0.5	- 3.0	2,874	- 1.3	+ 4.0
Other Branches...	1,344	+ 0.5	+ 1.9	1,515	- 0.7	+ 2.3
Total	10,080	- 1.7	- 2.2	11,598	- 4.0	+ 0.2
Districts.			£			
North of England	1,683	- 2.5	- 6.3	1,618	- 5.1	- 6.6
Yorkshire	3,255	- 4.0	- 2.6	3,808	- 6.9	- 3.0
Lancashire	2,325	...	+ 2.8	2,776	+ 3.0	+ 5.7
Worcester and Warwick	1,742	+ 0.6	- 1.1	2,134	+ 0.0	+ 7.0
Scotland	801	- 1.0	- 8.1	972	- 2.4	- 5.6
Other parts of United Kingdom	274	- 0.4	+ 2.6	290	- 0.7	+ 7.4
Total	10,080	- 1.7	- 2.2	11,598	- 4.0	+ 0.2

In Lancashire, and at Worcester and Warwick, employment continued moderate. In Yorkshire, the North of England, and Scotland, there was a decline.

As compared with a year ago, there was a decline in the numbers employed in all the principal districts except Lancashire, where the numbers employed showed an increase.

Employment was reported as good with sheet glass makers and flateners at St. Helens, and with bottle makers at Bristol and Portobello. It was fair with glass blowers in London, and with glass bottle makers in the West Riding of Yorkshire, and at Glasgow and Dublin. It was also fair with flint glass makers and plate glass bevellers at Birmingham.

Imports and Exports.—The following Table shows the quantities of the various descriptions of Glass imported and exported during the periods mentioned:—

Description.	Month ended 30th June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with June,		Six months ended 30th June, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in	
		1905.	1904.		1905.	1904.
Imports:						
Window & German Sheet Glass, including Shades & Cylinders	100,594	+ 23,023	+ 14,165	727,643	+ 251,521	+ 83,320
Plate	31,093	- 6,710	- 13,368	185,345	- 47,937	- 64,872
Flint, plain, cut or ornamented and other manufactures of Flint Glass	56,926	- 3,368	+ 9,245	399,296	+ 43,178	+ 131,749
Manufactures, other sorts	3,703	- 3,553	- 22,528	23,664	- 21,004	- 111,663
Bottles	127,653	+ 962	- 36,537	764,742	- 8,500	- 98,826
Exports:						
Plate	10,879	+ 2,142	+ 6,557	67,356	+ 13,138	+ 29,647
Flint	4,984	+ 186	+ 733	27,941	- 3,391	- 3,465
Manufactures, other sorts	38,792	+ 8,932	+ 10,212	220,413	+ 48,175	+ 67,215
Bottles	60,780	+ 3,566	+ 8,026	567,240	+ 53,413	+ 10,191

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

(Based on 191 Returns from Correspondents in various parts of England).

FARM labourers were, generally speaking, in full employment during June. There was very little interruption of field work by rainy weather, and the hoeing of roots and (in the latter part of the month) haymaking afforded a good deal of employment for day labourers. In some districts, however, the supply of this class of men was somewhat in excess of the demand.

Northern Counties.—Reports from Northumberland, Cumberland and Westmorland show that farm labourers were fully employed during June. There was a good demand for day labourers towards the end of the month for hoeing and singling turnips, and other work. Employment was regular in Lancashire and the supply of labour was about equal to the demand. Regularity of employment was reported in Yorkshire as the weather was favourable, and turnip hoeing and (towards the end of the month) haymaking caused an increased demand for labour.

Midland Counties.—Farm labourers were in regular employment in Cheshire and Derbyshire. There was a good deal of outdoor work to be done, but generally speaking there was no lack of extra men. In Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire there was but slight interruption to work caused by unfavourable weather, and nearly all the day labourers could obtain full employment. Similar reports were received from Staffordshire and Shropshire. Some day labourers in Warwickshire and Worcestershire lost a few days at the end of the month owing to rain. The supply of this class of men was not quite equal to the demand in certain districts. Employment was, on the whole, regular in Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire, but some day labourers were not in constant work. This is said to be due in some districts in Northamptonshire to the supply of labour having been increased by men who have left town employments (e.g., boot and shoe manufacture). Farm labourers were, for the most part, fully employed in Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire, and there was a fairly good demand for day labourers.

Eastern Counties.—Regularity of employment was reported in Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire, except in the case of a small proportion of day labourers. In Lincolnshire there was, generally speaking, full employment for farm labourers. The supply of day labourers was sufficient, although there was an increase in the demand for extra men for hoeing and other work. Farm labourers in Norfolk and Suffolk were generally in regular employment. A number of day labourers were engaged for hoeing roots and, in the latter part of the month, for haymaking, but some men of this class were not in constant work, the supply being greater than the demand in several districts, owing partly to a light crop of hay. Similar reports were received from Essex. Correspondents in the Braintree and Ongar Unions in this county referred to a scarcity of cowmen and others who are required to work on Sundays.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—Regularity of employment was reported in Kent. Hoeing, haymaking and treating hops for blight provided a good deal of extra work, but the supply of day labourers was in excess of the demand. In the West Ashford Union a scarcity of labour for sheep-shearing was reported. In Surrey and Sussex there was full employment in the latter part of the month, but in the earlier part some day labourers were in irregular employment. Farm work in Hampshire and Berkshire proceeded with little or no interruption from unfavourable weather. There was an increased demand for day labourers, but the supply was quite sufficient on the whole. Farm labourers in Wiltshire and Dorsetshire were, for the most part, in full employment during June. There was an ample supply of extra men for hoeing roots and haymaking. Employment was good with agricultural labourers in Somerset, Herefordshire and Gloucestershire, and some scarcity of extra men for hoeing, &c., was reported in certain districts, particularly in Somerset. Regularity of employment was reported in Devonshire and Cornwall.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

(Based on 132 Returns, 107 from Employers, 9 from Trade Unions, and 16 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT generally was moderate. In London it showed a decline as compared with a month ago, and in Liverpool it continued dull, but at other ports there was some improvement.

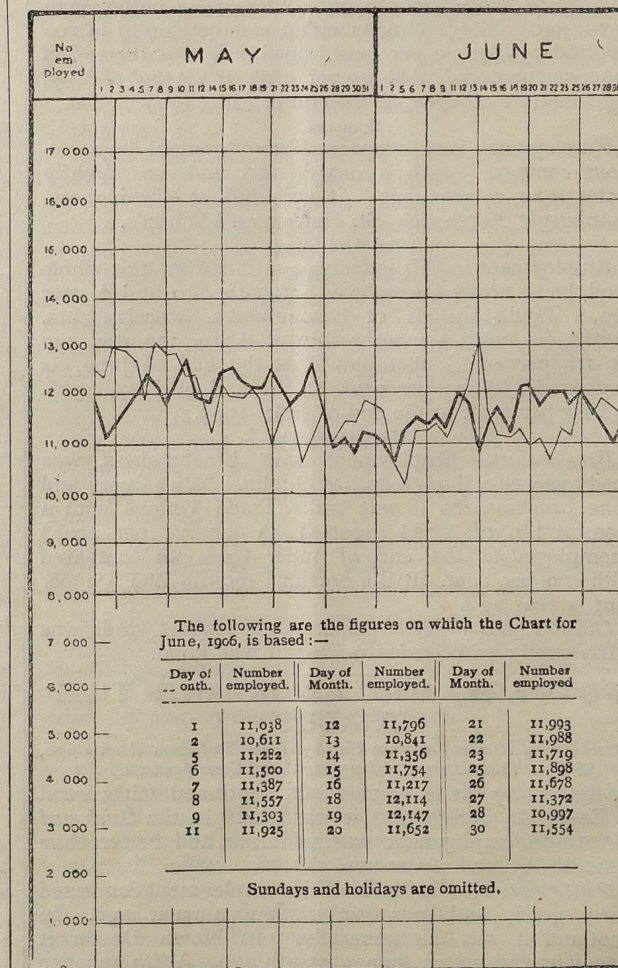
London.*—Employment generally was moderate, and not quite so good as in May. Wool sales took place in May, but not in June. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves during the five weeks ended June 30th was 11,464, a decrease of 4.2 per cent. on a month ago, but an increase of 1.0 per cent. on a year ago.

The daily numbers in June ranged from 10,611 on the 2nd to 12,147 on the 19th. During the corresponding period of 1905, the numbers ranged from 10,130 on the 6th to 13,092 on the 14th.

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves.				
	In Docks*			Total Docks and Principal Wharves.	
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		At 107 Wharves making Returns.
Week ended June 2nd	5,877	1,694	5,871	5,120	10,991
" " " 9th	4,190	1,959	6,149	5,257	11,406
" " " 16th	4,278	2,056	6,336	5,146	11,482
" " " 23rd	4,591	2,279	6,970	4,965	11,935
" " " 30th	4,276	2,121	6,397	5,103	11,500
Average for 5 weeks ended June 30th	4,264	2,086	6,350	5,114	11,464
Average for May, 1906	4,668	2,085	6,603	6,368	11,971
Average for June, 1905	4,388†	1,779‡	6,167†	6,178‡	11,341†

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 107 of the principal Wharves, for each day during the months of May and June, 1906. The corresponding curve for May and June, 1905, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1906, and the thin curve to 1905.]



* Exclusive of Tilbury. Revised figures.

The mean daily number employed at Tilbury Dock was 1,030 in June, as compared with 1,173 in May, a decrease of over 12 per cent.

In Liverpool employment with dock labourers and quay and railway carters continued dull.

Other Ports.—Employment generally was fairly good, and better than a month and a year ago. It was, however, slack at Llanelly, quiet at Plymouth, and slow at Harwich.

SEAMEN SHIPPED IN JUNE.

(Based on 27 Returns from 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 39,483* seamen, of whom 5,255 (or 13.3 per cent.) were foreigners, were shipped on foreign-going vessels. In 8 ports there were increases, and in 9 there were decreases as compared with a year ago, the net result being an increase of 1,849 on the number shipped in June, 1905. The principal increases were at Liverpool, Cardiff, the Tyne Ports, and London, and the principal decreases at Swansea, Bristol, and Newport (Mon.).

During the six completed months of 1906, 224,947* seamen were shipped, of whom 30,568 (or 13.6 per cent.) were foreigners. Compared with the corresponding period of 1905, the only considerable decrease was at Swansea, the net result for all the selected ports being an increase on the number shipped of 10,082 (or 4.7 per cent.). The principal increases were at Liverpool, Glasgow, Southampton, Hull, and Cardiff.

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

Table showing number* of persons shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom during the periods mentioned:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in					
	June,			Six months ended June,		
	1905.	1906.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1906.	1905.	1906.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1906.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
East Coast.						
Tyne Ports	2,679	3,079	+ 400	15,922	16,205	+ 284
Sunderland	471	461	- 10	2,485	2,455	- 30
Middlesbrough	331	283	- 48	1,479	1,406	- 73
Hull	1,207	1,322	+ 115	6,086	7,240	+ 1,154
Grimsby	184	77	- 107	521	543	+ 22
Bristol Channel.						
Bristol	822	690	- 132	3,442	3,928	+ 486
Newport, Mon.	1,000	868	- 132	5,603	5,357	- 246
Cardiff	3,931	4,695	+ 764	27,353	28,507	+ 1,154
Swansea	583	450	- 133	2,922	2,414	- 508
Other Ports.						
Liverpool	13,831	14,738	+ 907	79,810	83,144	+ 3,334
London	6,304	6,506	+ 202	34,877	35,905	+ 1,028
Southampton	1,923	1,882	- 41	11,346	12,531	+ 1,185
SCOTLAND.						
Leith	367	326	- 41	2,384	2,816	+ 432
Kirkcaldy, Methil, and Grangemouth	206	276	+ 70	1,201	1,243	+ 42
Glasgow	3,556	3,474	- 82	17,557	19,278	+ 1,721
IRELAND.						
Dublin	37	125	+ 88	395	666	+ 271
Belfast	202	231	+ 29	1,482	1,368	- 114
Total	37,654	39,483	+ 1,840	214,865	224,947	+ 10,082

FISHING INDUSTRY.

(Based on 22 returns—2 from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 10 from the Collectors of Fishery Statistics for England and Wales and the Fishery Board for Scotland, 1 from the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, and 9 from Local Correspondents.)

THE fish landed during June shows a considerable increase both in quantity and in value, as compared with a year ago, as will be seen from the following Table:—

* 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.

	Quantity.		Value.	
	June, 1906.	June, 1905.	June, 1906.	June, 1905.
Fish (other than Shell):				
England and Wales	Cwts. 912,031	Cwts. 776,742	£ 486,464	£ 475,894
Scotland	1,259,520	873,803	353,546	264,464
Ireland	129,518	82,904	34,853	28,013
Total	2,301,069	1,733,449	874,863	768,371
Shell Fish	—	—	36,353	33,768
Total Value	—	—	911,216	802,139

Employment at the principal ports was good on the whole, and better than a month ago and a year ago. Off Plymouth and the South-Western coast, however, fishing continued slack, and at Harwich it was only moderate. At Cardiff, Swansea and Milford it was not so good as in May, but off the South coast of Ireland it was much better.

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.

WHEN SHOULD PROCEEDINGS FOR COMPENSATION BE TAKEN?

QUESTION ARISING BETWEEN PARTIES.

It is provided by the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, that if any question arises in any proceedings under the Act as to the liability to pay compensation or as to the amount or duration of compensation, the question if not settled by agreement shall be settled by arbitration in accordance with the Act. No compensation is payable unless the injury disables the workman for a period of at least two weeks from earning full wages, and compensation for total or partial incapacity is to be a weekly payment during the incapacity after the second week. Any workman receiving weekly payments may be required by the employer to submit himself to medical examination. Weekly payments may be reviewed at the request of either the employer or the workman, and on such review may be ended diminished or increased.

A workman in the employ of a shipbuilding company was injured by accident, and his employers paid him compensation at the rate of half his weekly wages for several months. The employers then told him that he should look out for work as he had recovered, and they stopped payment. The man then presented a petition to the Sheriff's Court for an award of compensation; and the Sheriff-Substitute made an award for the payment of compensation at the rate previously paid. The employers appealed.

The Court of Session held that in the circumstances at the time of the petition no question had arisen within the meaning of the Act, and that the employers ought to have made the first move by requiring the workman to submit to medical examination. The petition ought, therefore, to have been dismissed by the Sheriff-Substitute, and the award must be set aside.—*Sweeney v. Gourlay Bros. & Co., Ltd., Court of Session, June 26, 1906.*

In another case a workman in the employment of a shipbuilding company was injured on 14th October, 1905. On the 2nd November he presented a petition to the Sheriff's Court for an award of compensation. Compensation was awarded and the employers appealed. The Court of Session held that as no compensation was payable till 4th November no question had arisen between the parties nor any agreement effected upon 2nd November. If either party attempted to rush into arbitration before any such question had arisen, or before the other party had full opportunity of settling by agreement, the petition was premature; and therefore, in this case the petition ought to have been dismissed and the award must be set aside.—*Kennedy v. Caledon Shipbuilding and Engineering Company, Ltd., Court of Session, June 26th, 1906.*

RIGHT TO COMPENSATION: FUTILE ACTION FOR DAMAGES:

DEDUCTION OF COSTS FROM COMPENSATION.

It is provided by the Act that if an action is brought for damages for injury caused by accident, and it is determined in the action that the injury is one for which the employer is not liable in the action, but that he would have been liable to pay compensation under the Act, the action shall be dismissed; but the Court, if the plaintiff so choose, shall assess such compensation, and shall be at liberty to deduct from such compensation all the costs which, in the judgment of the Court, have been caused by the plaintiff bringing the action instead of proceeding under the Act.

A workman employed by a colliery company was injured by accident and brought an action, against his employers for damages at common law and under the Employers' Liability Act. The jury found for the defendants. The plaintiff then applied to the Court to assess compensation under the Act. The defendants had al

along admitted liability under the Act, and now tendered 12s. a week, which was accepted. The defendants then applied to the Court to order that their costs of the trial, amounting to £187, should be deducted from the compensation. The plaintiff opposed this application, pointing out that it would take six years at 12s. a week to pay the costs. The Court decided that the costs must be deducted from the compensation, as there were no grounds for bringing the action and putting the employers to such needless expense.—*M'Kenna v. United Collieries, Ltd., Court of Session, June 27th, 1906.*

LIMITATION OF TIME FOR CLAIM: NECESSITY FOR WRITING.

When a workman is injured by accident, proceedings to recover compensation under the Act are not maintainable unless the claim for compensation has been made within six months from the occurrence of the accident, and in case of death, within six months from the time of death.

A workman by accident received an injury to his head in November, 1902. He was away from work for a month, and when he returned to work in December, 1902, his employers paid him a sum of money, for which he gave a receipt, £2 of which was said to be by way of compensation for the accident. He worked for his employers for about six months after returning in December, 1902, and then was dismissed on account of a change in the nature of the trade. Subsequently the man became insane, and had to be detained in a lunatic asylum. A claim was then made against his employers by his wife for compensation under the Act. The County Court judge, however, refused to award compensation, on the ground that there was no evidence that the injured man had made any claim for compensation within six months as required by the Act. The claimant appealed.

The Court of Appeal held that it was not necessary that a claim for compensation should be made in writing; that the fact that the man had been paid £2 by way of compensation, was an admission by the employers of a claim having been made; and that therefore the County Court judge was wrong in refusing compensation on the grounds stated. *Lowe v. Myers & Sons, Court of Appeal, reported 2nd June, 1906.*

ENGINEERING WORK: REPAIR OF MACHINERY: INJURY CAUSED BY MACHINE BEING REPAIRED.

The Act applies to employment by the undertakers on, or in, or about engineering work. "Engineering Work" is defined to include work for the construction, alteration, or repair of which machinery driven by steam, water, or other mechanical power is used.

A workman was sent by his employers to repair a lift moved by hydraulic power. In the course of the work he used that power to move the lift, in order to do the necessary repairs, and to ascertain whether he had properly done them. The lift moved unexpectedly and injured him. He claimed compensation.

It was held by the Court of Appeal that he was entitled to compensation; for the machinery mentioned in the Act includes not only that supplied by the contractors or "undertakers," but also machinery which is actually part of the machine or work on which the workman is engaged at the time of the accident.—*Tulloch v. Waygood & Co., Court of Appeal, reported June 2nd, 1906.*

EMPLOYMENT TO WHICH ACT APPLIES: TRIPE DRESSING: NON-TEXTILE FACTORY.

The Act applies to employment in a factory, and "factory" has the same meaning as in the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901. By the last mentioned Act a "non-textile factory" includes any premises wherein or within the close or curtilage or precincts of which any manual labour is exercised incidental to the adapting for sale of any article, and wherein or within the close or curtilage or precincts of which steam, water or other mechanical power is used in aid of the manufacturing process carried on there.

A workman in the employ of a tripe dresser was killed in the course of his employment by falling into a copper full of boiling water. The premises consisted of a shop, behind which was a parlour, and behind that a yard. In this yard was a shed containing tanks and a copper, in which the tripe was prepared. In one corner of the shed was a boiler in which steam was generated, and whence the steam was carried to pipes coiled round the bottom of the copper to heat the water in the copper. The boiler was also supplied with cold water from time to time by an injector worked by steam from the boiler.

The widow of the deceased workman claimed compensation, but the employer resisted the claim on the ground that the Act did not apply to the employment. The County Court judge awarded the claimant compensation, and the employer appealed.

It was held by the Court of Appeal that having regard to the use made of steam in the process of adapting the tripe for sale; the premises were a non-textile factory, and that the claim for compensation was therefore enforceable.—*Doswell v. Cowell, Court of Appeal, 1st June, 1906.*

DIMINUTION OF COMPENSATION ON REVIEW: NEW CIRCUMSTANCES: INCREASE ON SECOND REVIEW.

Where a weekly payment is awarded under the Act by way of compensation to an injured workman, such payment may be reviewed at the request, either of the employer or the workman, and on such review may be ended, diminished or increased.

A workman in the course of his employment received injuries to one of his eyes and was awarded compensation in a County Court at the rate of 15s. a week. Some time later he returned to work at 30s. a week, the full wages he was earning before the accident, and on a review the compensation was reduced to 1s. a week. Having worked at full wages for a considerable time, the eye became painful, and under medical advice the man agreed that it should be

removed. After having it removed he was unable to find employment, and applied to the County Court Judge to have the original award of 15s. a week put in force again. As there was no evidence that he was in any worse physical condition for work than he was in when the payments were first reviewed, the Judge decided that he had no power to increase the payments, there being no change in the circumstances.

On appeal the Court of Appeal held that this decision was wrong, that the Judge should not have regarded himself as bound by the earlier hearing, but should have taken the new facts into consideration. The matter was therefore sent back to the County Court Judge for re-consideration.—*Gear v. Thomas and Evans, Court of Appeal, June 1st, 1906.*

(2) Trade Union Acts.

COMBINATION OF EMPLOYERS: PROCURING DISMISSAL OF WORKMAN: CONSPIRACY.

The manufacturers of Aerated Waters in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, formed an association for the mutual protection of their trade interests. A great part of their retail business is done by men who take goods about with a van, act as salesmen, and obtain orders. These men in the course of their rounds, acquire a knowledge of their employer's customers, and often form valuable personal connections with them. In view of this state of things, and to prevent unfair competition and the enticing away by one firm of another firm's employees, the association made a rule forbidding any member to employ any person to sell such member's goods, if that person had been within six months employed as salesman by any other member, without the consent of the last-mentioned member.

A man employed in this way as lorryman and salesman by a member of the association, had a regular beat, and was paid wages and a small commission on sales. He left this employment and immediately entered the service of another member of the association in a similar capacity. The association thereupon called upon this second member to dismiss the man in accordance with the rules; and after considerable pressure had been brought to bear upon the member, the man was dismissed. The man then brought an action against the association, as a trade union of employers, claiming damages against them for conspiring to bring about his dismissal, and for illegally and maliciously causing him to be dismissed.

It was held by the Court of Session that the association had not acted illegally in taking the steps they did to enforce their rules, and that no action lay against them. Judgment was therefore given for the defendants.—*Nisbet v. Edinburgh and District Aerated Water Manufacturers' Association, Court of Sessions, June 28th, 1906.*

ACTION BY UNION IN NAME OF WORKMAN: AGREEMENT TO INDEMNIFY: MEANING OF "BENEFIT."

By the Trade Union Act, 1871, it is provided that nothing in the Act shall enable any court to entertain any legal proceedings instituted with the object of directly enforcing or receiving damages for the breach of any agreement for the application of the funds of a Trade Union to provide benefits to members.

A workman who was injured by an accident in the course of his employment, was in the employment of a company which had provided a scheme for compensation for their workmen, duly certified under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, and substituted for the provisions of that Act. The scheme was under the management of the officials and committee of an accident society of the company. The injured man was paid a weekly sum by the accident society for about two months when further payment was refused.

He was a member of a trade union which made him a weekly allowance after the society stopped paying, nominally as "strike pay." The trade union then caused proceedings to be taken in a County Court in the workman's name against the accident society for further allowances, the union impliedly undertaking to pay the costs. These proceedings failed, and the taxed costs of the accident society were paid by the union.

An appeal was then brought to the High Court against the decision of the County Court, and the appeal was dismissed and the plaintiff ordered to pay a sum of over £80 in costs. These costs the union refused to pay. One of the objects of the union as stated in their rules was "To try to obtain compensation in all cases of accident where employers are liable." The workman then brought an action against the union for a declaration that they were bound to indemnify him against liability for these costs and for an order that they should pay the costs to the accident society.

In defence it was denied that there was any implied contract of indemnity; and it was further contended that the plaintiff was seeking to enforce a "benefit" within the meaning of the Act, and therefore the action could not succeed.

It was held that the plaintiff was entitled to recover, as the union had impliedly agreed to be responsible for costs, and that the relief he sought did not come within the meaning of the word "benefit" as used in the Act. Judgment was therefore given for the plaintiff.—*Lees v. The Lancashire and Cheshire Miners' Federation and others, King's Bench Division, June 19th, 1906.*

(3) Truck Acts.

DEDUCTION OF FINE FROM WAGES: BONUS TO SECURE PUNCTUALITY.

By the Truck Act, 1896, it is provided that an employer shall not make any contract with any workman for any deduction from the sum contracted to be paid as wages for or in respect of any fine, unless a contract containing the particulars of such fine and embodying certain prescribed conditions is made as provided by the Act. It is further provided that an employer shall not make any such deduction except in pursuance of such contract.

A manufacturing company had for some years been in the habit of paying their reeler at the rate of 1s. 4d. a day or 8s. a week of 55½ hours; but in order to secure punctuality and regular attendance at the mills, they paid an additional 2s. a week to each reeler who had attended every day and all day during the week. This was called a "bonus" and was not paid to any reeler who was absent for even one quarter of a day during the week. A notice to this effect was posted in the mills. In the week ending 10th February, 1906, a reeler was absent for a quarter of one day, and at the end of the week she received as wages the sum of 7s. 8d. only, a deduction of 4d. being made for the quarter day and the bonus of 2s. being withheld. A factory inspector then took proceedings against the employers for illegally fining the girl, the terms of the Act not having been complied with. The magistrates dismissed the charge on the ground that the 2s. so withheld was not wages within the Act, but merely a premium paid for punctual attendance.

On appeal to the High Court this decision was approved of, the Court holding that the 2s. was not earned any more than was the 4d. for the quarter day the girl was absent, and that the employers were justified in this mode of securing punctual attendance.—*Dean v. Wilson, King's Bench Division of Ireland, June 27th, 1906.*

PRICES OF COAL AND IRON.

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

Product and District.	Price according to last Audit.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) of last Audit as compared with	
	Period covered by last Audit.	Ascertained average selling price per ton.	Previous Audit.	A Year ago.
Coal.	1906.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Northumberland:— (Average of all classes of coal at pit's mouth)	Mar.-May.	6 7'08	+ 0 3'66	+ 0 6'32
Pig Iron.				
Cleveland	April.	50 10'95	+ 0 6'4	+ 3 10'1
Cumberland	June.	64 4'64	- 2 2'59	+ 7 8'84
Manufact'd Iron.				
North of England:— (Rods, plates, bars, and angles)	Mar.-Apr.	129 1'38	+ 2 6'08	+ 11 4'94
Midlands:— (Bars, angles, tees, hoops, sheets, plates, and strips, etc.)	Mar.-Apr.	138 3'17	+ 5 7'6	*
West of Scotland:— (Rounds, squares, flats, angles, tees, hoops, and rods)	Mar.-Apr.	123 7'21	+ 2 6'62	+ 7 7'89

Coal.—The average price of Northumberland coal for the three months, March-May, 1906, was 6s. 7'08d., which showed an advance of about 3½d. per ton, as compared with the previous audit, and of 6½d. on that of March-May, 1905. In connection with this ascertainment it was decided at a meeting of the Northumberland Conciliation Board, on 7th July, to advance the wages of underground workers and bankmen by 3½ per cent., and of other surface workers by 3 per cent. on standard rates.

Pig Iron.—The net average invoice price of No. 3 Cleveland pig iron for the three months, April-June, 1906, was 50s. 10'96d. per ton. This shows an advance on the price of the previous three months of 6½d., and of 3s. 10d. on that of April-June, 1905. The price of Cumberland pig iron in the same period of 1906 was 64s. 4'64d., being 2s. 2½d. less than in the previous quarter, but 7s. 9d. higher than a year ago. As a result of these ascertainment the wages of blastfurnacemen in the Cleveland district were advanced ¾ per cent. on the standard, while those of blastfurnacemen in West Cumberland were reduced 3 per cent. on the standard. In his report on the audit for February-April, 1906, relating to the ascertained selling price of Scotch pig iron, the accountant stated that there had been no transactions in Scotch pig iron warrants for these three months.

Manufactured Iron.—In the North of England the ascertained selling price of specified classes of manufactured iron in March and April was 129s. 1'38d., which was 2s. 6d. higher than for the previous audit, and 11s. 5d. higher than a year ago. In the West of Scotland for the same period of 1906 the price was 123s. 7'21d., or 2s. 6½d. higher than the previous audit, and 7s. 8d. higher than that of a year ago. In the Midlands, where a new sliding scale has been adopted (*See p. 197*) two

* No ascertainment was published for the months of March and April, 1905.

ascertainties have been recently published by the Midland Iron and Steel Wages Board, which show that the selling price in March and April, 1906 was 138s. 3'17d., or 5s. 7½d. higher than for the previous two months. As a result of these ascertainment the wages of puddlers and millmen in the above districts were advanced by 3d. per ton and 2½ per cent. respectively.

PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.

I.—BREAD.

The Returns as to the price of bread per 4 lbs., as furnished by the Local Correspondents of the Department, relate to London and 26 large Provincial towns at the beginning of July.

As compared with a month ago, no change in price took place at any of the towns shown in the Table.

As compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 1d. at Middlesbro', and increases of ½d. at Newcastle-on-Tyne and Gateshead. In 4 towns (2 in England, 1 in Scotland, and 1 in Ireland) the price is now ½d. per 4 lbs. less than a year ago.

Place.	Predominant Price at 2nd July, 1906, of quality* of bread most generally consumed by work-people in each town.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Last Change.	
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Date.	Am't. per 4 lbs.
London	d.	d.	d.	d.	Jan. '06	+ ½
Birmingham	5	...	...	...	Aug. '04	- ½
Bolton	4½ & 5½	...	...	...	'04	...
Bristol	5	...	...	...	Oct. '05	- ½
Cardiff	5	...	...	...	'05	...
Derby	5	...	...	...	Feb. '05	- ½
Gateshead	4½ & 5	...	...	...	May, '06	+ ½
Huddersfield	5	...	...	...	'05	...
Hull	4½ & 5	...	...	...	Feb. '04	+ ½
Ipswich	5	...	...	...	Aug. '03	+ ½
Leicester	4½	...	...	...	'05	...
Liverpool	5	...	...	...	June '03	+ 1
Manchester	4½	...	...	...	Mar. '05	+ ½
Middlesbro'	5	...	...	...	Jan. '06	- 1
Newcastle-on-Tyne	6	...	...	...	May, '06	+ ½
Norwich	4½	...	...	...	July '04	- ½
Nottingham	5	...	...	...	'05	...
Oldham	5	...	...	...	Sept. '03	+ ½
Plymouth	4½	...	...	...	Feb. '05	- ½
Potteries	5	...	...	...	Mar. '03	+ ½
Wolverhampton	4½	...	...	...	April, '06	- ½
Aberdeen	5	...	...	...	Nov. '05	- ½
Dundee	5 & 6	...	...	...	Jan. '06	- ½
Edinburgh	6	...	...	...	April '05	- ½
Glasgow	5½	...	...	...	May '05	- ½
Belfast	5½	...	...	...	June '05	- ½
Dublin	5½	...	...	...	Dec. '05	- ½

II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

The Table below gives the mean *London Gazette* price of British wheat, the average declared value of wheat and flour imports, and the market price of London flour (Town Households) for the periods stated:—

Month.	British Wheat. Mean London Gazette Price (England and Wales).	Imports. Average Declared Value.		Average Monthly Price of London Flour (Town Households) ex Mill for cash.
		Wheat.	Wheat-meal and Flour.	
	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.
June ... 1905	7 4½	7 3½	9 11	10 2½
May ... 1906	7 0½	7 2	9 7½	9 8
June ... 1906	7 1	7 0½	9 5½	9 6

The imports of wheat from foreign countries and the Colonies from September 1st, 1905, to June 30th, 1906, amounted to 74,997,422 cwts., or 9,410,088 cwts. less than in the corresponding period of 1904-5. The imports of wheat-meal and flour during September-June, 1905-6, amounted to 12,375,700 cwts., or 2,890,676 cwts. more than during September-June, 1904-5.

* Though it is not possible to state that the quality of bread referred to is in all cases the same in the different towns, the predominant prices quoted for the several towns are believed to be, generally speaking, comparable with those for a month and a year ago for the same towns. The prices selected represent so far as can be ascertained, the prevailing prices (not the average price of all bread sold) paid at the various places by workpeople for 4 lbs. of ordinary bread of average quality.

CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETIES.

Quarterly Returns of Sales.

Returns received from three Co-operative Wholesale Societies in the United Kingdom for the first quarter of 1906, show total sales in their distributive departments amounting to £6,878,828, an increase of 5.8 per cent. on the corresponding period of 1905, and of 26.2 per cent. on the corresponding period of 1901 (i.e., five years ago).

The sales and transfers from the manufacturing to the distributive departments of the English and Scottish Wholesale Societies, amounted to 1,563,701, an increase of 13.2 per cent. on the first quarter of 1905, and of 51.0 per cent. on that of 1901.

The following Table gives details for the three Societies:—

Table with columns: Names of Societies and Nature of Business, Sales (In 1st quarter of 1906, 1905, 1901), Percentage increase in 1906 as compared with 1905, and 1901. Rows include English Wholesale Society, Scottish Wholesale Society, and Irish Wholesale Societies.

ANNUAL CO-OPERATIVE CONGRESS.

The Thirty-eighth Annual Co-operative Congress was held at Birmingham on Whit Monday and two following days.

The Congress, which was attended by 1,320 delegates from co-operative societies, is convened by the Co-operative Union of Great Britain and Ireland, a federation of 1,230 co-operative societies with an aggregate membership of 2,115,995.

Mr. J. C. Gray, J.P., General Secretary of the Union, presided over the Congress, and delivered an inaugural address, in the course of which he advocated the amalgamation of all co-operative societies into one National Society to be managed by a Central Council, the existing societies to be managed as branches by committees composed of local members.

The Report of the Central Board submitted to the Congress, stated that returns for the year 1905 had been received from 1,609 societies, with an aggregate membership of 2,259,479, a total share capital of £29,042,020, sales during the year amounting to £94,197,514, and a profit of £10,458,163, these figures being exclusive of the Agricultural and Dairy Societies of Ireland, which had not furnished returns.

Deputations were received from the Co-operative organisations of France, Germany and Austria, and from the Trade Union Congress and the National Union of Teachers.

Special papers were read and discussed on "Overlapping. Its Perils and Remedies," and upon

* Sales and transfers from productive to distributive departments. † In 1901 this department was carried on exclusively by the English Wholesale Society. ‡ No particulars are available for the Irish Agency.

"Co-operation in its Relation to Industrial Developments at Home and Abroad." The next Congress will be held at Preston in Whit. week, 1907.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

Summary for June. IMPORTS.*

Table showing imports for June 1904, 1905, and 1906, categorized by I. Food, Drink and Tobacco; II. Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured; III. Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured; IV. Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post).

EXPORTS OF BRITISH PRODUCE.†

Table showing exports of British produce for June 1904, 1905, and 1906, categorized by I. Food, Drink, and Tobacco; II. Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured; III. Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured; IV. Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post).

The re-exports of foreign and colonial merchandise amounted to £5,658,959 in June, 1904; £6,399,164 in June, 1905; and £7,252,029 in June, 1906.

RAILWAY GOODS AND MINERAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

The goods and mineral traffic receipts of twenty of the principal railways during the four weeks ended June 30th, 1906, amounted to £3,840,472, an increase of £152,515 (or 4.1 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1905.

During the twenty-six weeks ended June 30th, 1906, the total amount was £26,722,869, an increase of £1,046,925 (or 4.8 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1905.

Table showing railway goods and mineral traffic receipts for 4 weeks ended June 30th, 1906, and 26 weeks ended June 30th, 1906, categorized by English Lines, Scottish Lines, and Irish Lines.

* 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. † Raw cotton, wool, wood and timber, metallic ores, oils and oil-seeds, hides and skins, &c. ‡ Yarns and textile fabrics, manufactures of metal and leather, chemicals, &c. †† 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. ‡ Coal, wool, oil seeds, hides and skins, &c. ††† Yarns, textile fabrics, and apparel, metal manufactures, machinery, chemicals, &c.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during June was 60, consisting of 53 cases of lead poisoning and 7 of anthrax. Three deaths were reported, two due to lead poisoning and one to anthrax.

During the six months ended June, 1906, the total number of cases of poisoning and anthrax was 342, as compared with 309 in the corresponding period of 1905. The total number of deaths during the same period was 28 in 1906, as compared with 20 in 1905. The number of deaths directly or indirectly attributed to lead poisoning rose from 12 in 1905 to 18 in 1906, and those due to anthrax from 8 in 1905 to 10 in 1906.

(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.)

Table showing cases and deaths of diseases of occupations in factories and workshops, categorized by Disease and Industry, with columns for Month of June, 1906, and Six Months ended June, 1906.

CONVENTION BETWEEN FRANCE AND BELGIUM CONCERNING INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

By the terms of a convention concluded between the French and Belgian governments, and promulgated on June 14th last, subjects of either country who sustain accidents whilst working in the territory of the other, are to be entitled to compensation under the laws of the latter country. Where, however, the alien, at the time

* Of the 7 persons affected in the china and earthenware industry in June, 1906, 3 were females. † House Painters and Plumbers.—In addition to the cases included in the Table, 17 cases of lead poisoning (including 4 deaths) were reported during June, 1906, among house painters and plumbers. The number of such cases reported during the six months ended June, 1906, was 82 (including 21 deaths), and for 1905, 69 (including 13 deaths). ‡ Copy enclosed in a despatch, dated June 15th, from H.M. Ambassador at Paris, addressed to the Foreign Office.

of the accident, has been residing in the country for less than six months, and is in the employment of a firm whose headquarters are in his own country, the present convention does not apply, nor does it apply to persons engaged in the transport services between the two countries. The convention entered into force on July 14th.

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, 1906, was 237, an increase of 31 as compared with May, and of 20 as compared with June, 1905. The mean number for June in the years 1901-1905 was 220, the maximum year in this period being 1904, with 230 deaths, and the minimum year 1901, with 206 deaths.

The number of fatal accidents to seamen reported in June, 1906, was 62. The number reported in June of the years 1901-1905 varied from 69 in 1903 to 127 in 1902, the mean for the five years being 95.

Table showing fatal industrial accidents reported in June, categorized by Trade, with columns for Number of Workpeople killed during June, 1906, and Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in June, 1906, as compared with 1905 and 1901.

Return of Deaths of Seamen.—A copy of a monthly Return showing names of seamen whose deaths have been reported to the Marine Department of the Board of Trade may be seen at any Free Library, Mercantile Marine Office, or Sailors' Home throughout the country

* Now included under Factories.

TRADE DISPUTES IN JUNE.*

Number and Magnitude.—An important dispute occurred during June, affecting about 5,000 tailors in the East End of London. In addition, twenty-six other new disputes began in June, 1906, making a total of 27, which compares with 42 in May, 1906, and 18 in June, 1905. By the 27 disputes 8,908 workpeople were directly and 1,012 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 36,170 workpeople involved in trade disputes during June, 1906, compared with 48,122 in May, 1906, and 11,855 in June, 1905.

New Disputes in June, 1906.—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.
Coal Mining	3	300	142	442
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	7	1,327	270	1,597
Cotton	4	388	56	444
Linen	1	1,578	521	2,099
Tailoring	5	5,000	...	5,000
Boot and Shoe	2	48	...	48
Other Trades	5	267	43	310
Total, June, 1906	27	8,908	1,012	9,920
Total, May, 1906	42	49,840	18,108	41,948
Total, June, 1905	18	4,596	1,645	6,081

Causes.—Of the 27 new disputes, 13 arose on demands for increased wages, 3 on objections to reduction, and 5 on other wages questions, 3 on questions of the employment of particular classes or persons, 1 on a demand for reduction in hours of labour, and 2 on other questions.

Results.—Definite results were reported in June in the case of 18 new disputes, affecting 7,826 workpeople, and 5 old disputes, affecting 3,621 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 9, involving 2,319 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople;

9, involving 2,182 persons, in favour of the employers; and 5, involving 6,946 persons, were compromised. In the case of 2 other disputes, involving 1,507 persons, work has been resumed pending consideration of certain points.

Aggregate Duration.—The aggregate duration in June of disputes that started or were settled in that month was 247,900 working days. In addition, 90,800 working days were lost during June owing to disputes which began before that month, and at the end of the month were still unsettled. Thus the duration in June of all disputes, new and old, was 338,700 working days, as compared with 330,500 in the previous month, and 182,700 in the corresponding month of 1905.

Summary for the First Six Months of 1905 and 1906.—Summarised by trades, the number of disputes, the workpeople affected, and the aggregate duration in working days for the six months January-June, 1905 and 1906, respectively, were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January to June.					
	1905.			1906.		
	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	19	6,089	250,900	11	967	34,000
Mining and Quarrying	45	20,307	258,400	33	17,858	451,300
Metal, Engineering, and Shipbuilding	31	4,803	212,900	56	14,532	195,900
Textile	27	9,722	101,200	55	56,329	592,700
Clothing	18	2,567	66,700	25	6,593	77,700
Transport	6	1,554	9,600	4	269	4,700
Other Trades	13	2,521	50,600	22	1,028	15,700
Total	159	47,563	930,300	206	97,176	1,372,000

Principal Disputes.—Particulars of the principal disputes which began or were settled 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.

Occupations.†	Locality.	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.‡	Result.‡
		Directly.	Indirectly.				
Coal Mining— Colliers	Pontypool (near)	1,300	...	1905. 1 July	270	Claim for 'extra rate for raising bottom coal in certain seam	Modified advance of 1d. per ton granted.
Engineering and Shipbuilding— Iron Moulders, Coremakers, Dressers, and Labourers	Blackburn ...	510	220	1906. 27 June	4	For advance of 1s. per week on time, and of 2½ per cent. on piece rates	Advance granted.
Helpers and Platers	West Hartlepool	300	50	11 June	1	Refusal of firm to pay "sub money" to men who had lost time	Work resumed unconditionally.
Flax— Preparers, Weavers, Finishers, &c...	Brechin ...	1,400	...	7 June	30	Strike at one mill for advance in wages followed by lock-out at two other mills	Matter referred to Mr. (G. R. Askwith, appointed under the Conciliation Act, 1896. (For further particulars see p. 197)
Spinners, Reelers, Preparers, and Dressers	Ballymena, Co. Antrim	321	584	30 May	13	For advance in wages	Advance of 5 per cent. granted.
Reelers, Spinners, Preparers, &c.	Newry (near)	143	712	31 May	9	For advance in wages	Work resumed on old conditions.
Weft Winders, Winders, Warpers, Weavers, &c.	Coalisland, Co. Tyrone	30	308	11 June	4	For advance in wages	Work resumed on old conditions.
Tailoring— Tailors	London, E. ...	5,000	...	11 June	11	For reduction of working hours to 1c3 per day, abolition of piece-work system, and other matters	Reduction of hours and change to timework system conceded: other matters amicably arranged

* 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 the year 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.

INFORMATION FOR INTENDING EMIGRANTS.

The quarterly circulars of the Emigrants' Information Office dealing with the British Colonies were issued on July 1st, and contain information for intending emigrants as to the demand for labour, the 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.

Copies of the circulars can be obtained free 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 an increase of £2,349 per week, as compared with an increase of £4,097 per week in May, 1906, and a decrease of £73 per week in June, 1905. The number of workpeople affected was 62,150, of whom 61,409 received advances amounting to £2,370 per week, and 741 sustained decreases amounting to £21 per week. The total number affected in May, 1906, was 170,762, and in June, 1905, 12,673.

One change, affecting 58 workpeople, was settled by arbitration, and five changes, affecting 23,223 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting 38,869 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, four of these changes, affecting 30,597 workpeople, being preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

Summary for the Six completed Months of 1906.—The number of workpeople (separate individuals) whose wages were reported to have been changed since 1st January was 843,325, as compared with 305,338 in the corresponding period of 1905. The changes arranged gave 832,526 workpeople a net increase of £27,087 per week, and 6,669 workpeople a net decrease of £499 per week, while the remaining 4,130 had upward and downward changes, which left their wages at the same level as at the beginning of the year. The net effect of all the changes was an increase of £26,588 per week, as compared with a decrease of £9,803 per week in the corresponding period of 1905.

Summarised by trades the number of workpeople affected by these reported changes, and the net result on their weekly wages, were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January—June.			
	1905.		1906.	
	No.	£	No.	£
Building	3,584	— 351	2,640	— 132
Coal Mining	198,190	— 8,012	308,318	+ 5,708
Quarrying	7,092	+ 88	8,372	+ 576
Pig Iron Manufacture	4,329	+ 159	3,820	— 56
Iron and Steel Manufacture	14,469	+ 644	12,749	+ 93
Engineering and Shipbuilding	34,057	+ 3	49,295	+ 3,099
Other Metal Trades	34,704	— 2,493	83,302	+ 4,786
Textile Trades	480	— 47	10	+ 1
Other Trades	1,832	+ 52	370,036	+ 11,379
Employees of Local Authorities	2,905	+ 156	1,549	+ 125
	3,696	+ 316	3,234	+ 119
Total	305,338	— 9,803	843,325	+ 26,588

Hours.

The only change in hours of labour reported during June, 1906, affected 41 workpeople, whose aggregate working time was reduced by 103 hours per week. The total number of workpeople reported as affected by changes in hours of labour since 1st January last was 25,991, the net decrease in their working time being 41,771 hours per week.†

Principal Changes in Wages in June.

Particulars of the principal changes in rates of wages reported in June are given below. The details of the other changes reported are not separately stated in the Table, but they are included in the preceding statistics.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN WAGES REPORTED IN JUNE.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change takes effect in 1906.	Occupation.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Particulars of Change. (Decreases in Italics.)
				Increase.	Decrease.	
Pig Iron Manufacture	South Staffordshire	1st pay in June	Blastfurnacemen	1,000	...	Advance of 2½ per cent.
		21 May	Enginemen, Cranemen, &c., in Steel Works	308	...	Advance of 5 per cent.
Iron and Steel	Barrow-in-Furness	4 June	Rail, Wire and Hoop Millmen	620	...	Decrease of 1 per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 35 per cent. above the standard.
			Ironworkers: Puddlers	20,000	...	Advance of 3d. per ton (8s. 9d. to 9s.) under sliding scale.
	Midlands (including parts of S. Yorks and S. Lincs.)	4 June	Millmen ... ..	...	...	Advance of 2½ per cent. under sliding scale.
		4 June	Iron Puddlers, Iron and Steel Millmen, Enginemen, &c.	1,539	...	Advance of 2½ per cent.
Engineering	Bolton and District	9 June	Engineers	500	...	Advance of 1s. per week.
		2 June	Ironfounders	510	...	Advance of 5 per cent. on piece rates, and of 2s. per week on time rates in Textile Machine shops, and of 1s. per week in Engineering and Jobbing shops.
		9 June	Engineers	3,000	...	Advance of 2½ per cent. on piece rates, and of 1s. per week on time rates.
Textile	Rochdale	4 May	Ironfounders	180	...	Advance of 1s. per week.
		21 May	Ironfounders	130	...	Advance of 1s. per week.
		1st pay in June	Engineers	500	...	Advance of 2½ per cent. on piece rates, and of 1s. per week on time rates.
Glass	Aberdeen and Ayrshire	1 June	Iron Moulders	700	...	Advance of 3d. per hour to men paid under 83d. per hour, or of 1s. per week to men paid under 38s. per week.
		June	Power Loom Overlookers (Velvet Weaving)	190	...	Advance of 5 per cent.
Textile	North of Ireland	May and June	Flax Spinners, Reelers, Preparers, &c.	30,000	...	Advances varying from 6d. to 1s. per week.
		26 May	Flax Roughers	800	...	Advance of 5 per cent. Rate after change 2rs. 6d.
Glass	Belfast and District	26 May	Flax Dressers	800	...	Advance of 1s. per week (26s. to 27s.).
		21 May	Sheet Glass Makers	760	...	Advance of 5 per cent.

NOTE.—Northumberland Coal Mining.—Early in July it was arranged that the Northumberland miners' wages should be advanced 5½ per cent., making their wages 2½ per cent. above the standard of 1899. Full particulars will appear in the August GAZETTE.
* Based on information obtained from all available sources verified and corrected by direct application to the Employers, Trade Unions, and other parties concerned. 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.
† The following kinds of changes are not included in the statistics:—(1) Changes in wages affecting agricultural labourers, seamen, and railway servants; (2) Increments accruing under scales of pay, as in the case of policemen, some municipal employees, and many railway servants, &c.; (3) Changes in pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c.
‡ These particulars are exclusive of the change in hours of Tailors in the east end of London, which took effect in June.

ARBITRATION IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

The reports of the proceedings of the Court of Arbitration of Western Australia for 1905 are now complete. Out of 23 cases reported—disputes, breaches of award, &c.—8 were decided in favour of the Unions, 4 in favour of the employers, and in 11 cases the decisions were more or less a compromise between the claims of the two parties. This last class of cases is entirely composed of applications for the fixing of rates of wages, of number of working hours, and of other conditions of labour. In every case of this kind brought on, the Court made an award which differed in some important particulars from the demands of both parties.

The reports contain an account of the Arbitration Court proceedings, and also an account of two cases brought before the Supreme Court in which the conduct of the Arbitration Court was called in question. In both cases the action of the Arbitration Court was sustained largely on the ground that that Court had considered the question, and that the matter being one which it was competent to decide the Supreme Court could not under cover of mandamus or prohibition cancel a decision of the Arbitration Court, freedom from Appeal being one of its statutory privileges. The only occasion on which the Supreme Court will interfere with a decision of the Arbitration Court is an excess of jurisdiction.

PAUPERISM IN JUNE.

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

The number of paupers relieved in the 35 selected Urban Districts named below on one day in June, 1906, corresponded to a rate of 213 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Compared with May, 1906, the total number of paupers relieved decreased by 9,006 (2.4 per cent.) and the rate per 10,000 by 5. There was a decrease of 4,487 (2.7 per cent.) in the number of indoor paupers, and of 4,519 (2.1 per cent.) in the number of outdoor paupers.

Compared with June, 1905, the total number of paupers relieved decreased by 8,163 (2.1 per cent.), and the rate per 10,000 by 7. There was a decrease of 967 (0.6 per cent.) in the number of indoor paupers, and of 7,196 (3.3 per cent.) in the number of outdoor paupers.

Table with 5 columns: Selected Urban Districts, In-door, Out-door, TOTAL, Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population. Rows include ENGLAND & WALES, Metropolitan, West District, North District, Central District, East District, South District, Total Metropolitan, West Ham, Other Districts, Glasgow District, Paisley & Greenock District, Edinburgh & Leith District, Dundee & Dunfermline, Aberdeen, Coatbridge & Airdrie, Total for the above Scottish Districts, IRELAND, Dublin District, Belfast District, Cork, Waterford, & Limerick District, Galway District, Total for the above Irish Districts, Total for above 35 Districts in June, 1906.

Table with 5 columns: Name of Labour Bureau, Applications by Workpeople during June 1906, June 1905, Situations offered by Employers during June 1906, June 1905, Workpeople found Work during June 1906, June 1905. Rows include London (Finsbury, Hammersmith, Hampstead, Islington, St. Pancras, Salvation Army, Westminster), Provincial (Coventry, Dudley, Glasgow, Ipswich, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Wigan), Total of 15 Bureaux, London (Lewisham, Poplar), Provincial (Birkenhead, Croydon, Edinburgh, Halifax, Hove, Northfleet, Nottingham, Reading, Salford, Sunderland, York), Total of 28 Bureaux.

Table with 5 columns: Name of Labour Bureau, Applications by Workpeople during June 1906, June 1905, Situations offered by Employers during June 1906, June 1905, Workpeople found Work during June 1906, June 1905. Rows include London (Lewisham, Poplar), Provincial (Birkenhead, Croydon, Edinburgh, Halifax, Hove, Northfleet, Nottingham, Reading, Salford, Sunderland, York), Total of 28 Bureaux.

Table with 5 columns: Name of Labour Bureau, Applications by Workpeople during June 1906, June 1905, Situations offered by Employers during June 1906, June 1905, Workpeople found Work during June 1906, June 1905. Rows include London (Lewisham, Poplar), Provincial (Birkenhead, Croydon, Edinburgh, Halifax, Hove, Northfleet, Nottingham, Reading, Salford, Sunderland, York), Total of 28 Bureaux.

Table with 5 columns: Name of Labour Bureau, Applications by Workpeople during June 1906, June 1905, Situations offered by Employers during June 1906, June 1905, Workpeople found Work during June 1906, June 1905. Rows include London (Lewisham, Poplar), Provincial (Birkenhead, Croydon, Edinburgh, Halifax, Hove, Northfleet, Nottingham, Reading, Salford, Sunderland, York), Total of 28 Bureaux.

* 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 blind, Deaf and Dumb, &c., who are classified as not able-bodied.

LABOUR BUREAUX IN JUNE.

TWENTY-EIGHT Bureaux furnished Returns, of which fifteen can be compared with similar Returns for a year ago. The remaining thirteen were either not established in June, 1905, or the figures are not available for that date.

(I.) Work done in June, 1906.

Table with 5 columns: Name of Labour Bureau, Applications by Workpeople during June 1906, June 1905, Situations offered by Employers during June 1906, June 1905, Workpeople found Work during June 1906, June 1905. Rows include London (Finsbury, Hammersmith, Hampstead, Islington, St. Pancras, Salvation Army, Westminster), Provincial (Coventry, Dudley, Glasgow, Ipswich, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Wigan), Total of 15 Bureaux, London (Lewisham, Poplar), Provincial (Birkenhead, Croydon, Edinburgh, Halifax, Hove, Northfleet, Nottingham, Reading, Salford, Sunderland, York), Total of 28 Bureaux.

Table with 5 columns: Name of Labour Bureau, Applications by Workpeople during June 1906, June 1905, Situations offered by Employers during June 1906, June 1905, Workpeople found Work during June 1906, June 1905. Rows include London (Lewisham, Poplar), Provincial (Birkenhead, Croydon, Edinburgh, Halifax, Hove, Northfleet, Nottingham, Reading, Salford, Sunderland, York), Total of 28 Bureaux.

(II.) Employment found for Workpeople during June, 1906.

Table with 4 columns: Capacity in which employed, No. permanently engaged, No. temporarily engaged, Total. Rows include Engaged by Private Employers (Men, Women and Girls), Engaged by Local Authorities (Men, Lads and Boys), Engaged by Salvation Army, Total of 27 Bureaux.

(III.) Occupations of the Workpeople on the Registers of 28 Bureaux at the end of June, 1906.

Table with 7 columns: Name of Bureau, Building Trades, Engineering Trades, General Labourers, Porters, Messengers, &c., Other Occupations, Lads and Boys, Women and Girls. Rows include London (Finsbury, Hammersmith, Hampstead, Islington, Lewisham, St. Pancras, Salvation Army, Westminster), Provincial (Birkenhead, Coventry, Croydon, Dudley, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Halifax, Hove, Ipswich, Liverpool), Total of 28 Bureaux.

* Including 7 men who emigrated.

Occupations of the Workpeople on the Register of 28 Bureaux at the end of June, 1906.—(Continued.)

Table with 7 columns: Name of Bureau, Building Trades, Engineering Trades, General Labourers, Porters, Messengers, &c., Other Occupations, Lads and Boys, Women and Girls. Rows include Manchester, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Northfleet, Nottingham, Reading, Salford, Sunderland, Wigan, York, Total.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN JUNE.

DURING June 632 fresh applications (310 from domestic servants, &c.) for work were registered by 8 Bureaux furnishing returns, and 651 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 201 persons, of whom 112 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 201 situations found for applicants, 111 were of a more or less permanent character, while 90 were temporary only.

The work done by the Bureaux during June is shown in the following Table.

WORK DONE IN JUNE.

Table with 4 columns: Applications by Workpeople during June 1906, June 1905, Situations offered by Employers during June 1906, June 1905, Number of Workpeople engaged by Employers (Permanently, Temporarily) June 1906, June 1905. Rows include Central Bureau, 9 Southampton St., W.C., Y.W.C.A., 25, George Street, (1) Hanover Sq., W. (2) Other Bureaux (Liverpool, Manchester, Watford, Edinburgh and Dublin), Total of 8 Bureaux.

Summary by Bureaux.

Table with 7 columns: Bureau Name, Applications June 1906, June 1905, Situations June 1906, June 1905, Permanently June 1906, June 1905, Temporarily June 1906, June 1905. Rows include Central Bureau, 9 Southampton St., W.C., Y.W.C.A., 25, George Street, (1) Hanover Sq., W. (2) Other Bureaux, Total of 8 Bureaux.

Summary by Occupations.

Table with 7 columns: Occupation, Applications June 1906, June 1905, Situations June 1906, June 1905, Permanently June 1906, June 1905, Temporarily June 1906, June 1905. Rows include Superintendents, Forewomen, etc., Shop Assistants, Dressmakers, Milliners, etc., Secretaries, Clerks, Typists, Apprentices and Learners, Domestic Servants, etc., Miscellaneous, Total.

PROPOSED HOME OFFICE REGULATIONS. Manufacture of Paints and Colours: Use of Dry Carbonate of Lead and Red Lead.

The Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, gives the Home Secretary power to certify any manufacture to be dangerous to health when he is satisfied that it is so dangerous, and thereupon to make such regulations as appear to him reasonably practicable and to meet the necessities of the case. Before making any such regulations the Home Secretary is required to publish notice of the proposal to make the same and of the place where copies of the draft regulations may be obtained, and to give persons affected opportunity of objecting to the proposals.

The manufacture of paints and colours in which dry carbonate of lead or red lead is used has been certified to be dangerous. There are in existence special rules for processes in the manufacture of paints and colours. Now, however, the Home Secretary proposes to make regulations to supersede such special rules. He accordingly, as required by the Act, gives notice of such intention, and that copies of the draft regulations proposed may be obtained on application to the Factory Department, Home Office, London. Notice is also given that any objection with respect to the draft regulations by or on behalf of any person affected thereby must be sent to the Home Secretary within 40

days from July 9th, 1906; and that every such objection must be in writing, and must state (a) the draft regulations or portions of draft regulations objected to; (b) the specific grounds of objection; and (c) the omissions, additions, or modifications asked for. The Home Secretary is required by the Act to consider any such objections sent to him within the required time.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING JUNE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Mines and Quarries, 1905. Part I. District Statistics. Statistics of the persons employed, output, and accidents at Mines and Quarries in the United Kingdom, arranged according to Inspection Districts. [Cd. 2974: pp. 48: price 7d.] Mines and Quarries, 1905. Reports of H.M. Inspectors, East Scotland District. [Cd. 2910: pp. 49: price 10d.] Cardiff District. [Cd. 2910-ix: pp. 59: price 8d.] Manchester and Ireland District. [Cd. 2910-v: pp. 58: price 1s. 3d.] Liverpool and North Wales District. [Cd. 2910-vi: pp. 68: price 8d.] Southern District. [Cd. 2910-xi: pp. 85: price 9d.] Railway Accidents. Returns of Accidents and Casualties during the Three Months ending 31st December 1905. Part II. Reports on Accidents. [Cd. 2969: pp. 126: price 1s.] Merchant Seamen's Fund. Account of Receipt and Expenditure under the Seamen's Fund Winding-up Act, from 1st Jan. to 31st Dec. 1905. [H.C. 176: pp. 4: price 1d.] Report on the Emigrants' Information Office for Year ended 31st Dec. 1905. [Cd. 2976: pp. 10: price 1d.] Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. Annual Reports of Proceedings under Diseases of Animals Acts, &c., for the year 1905. [Cd. 2893: pp. 108: price 1s.] Agricultural and Technical Instruction Schemes (Ireland.) Return showing moneys contributed by County Councils and other Local Bodies in Ireland for the purposes of schemes under the Agricultural and Technical Instruction (Ireland) Act, 1899. [H.C. 170: pp. 5: price 1d.] Report of the Departmental Committee appointed to consider Mr. Rider Haggard's Report on Agricultural Settlements in British Colonies. Volume I. Report. [Cd. 2978: pp. iii. + 41: price 5d.] Volume II. Minutes of Evidence. [Cd. 2979: pp. iv. + 381: price 3s. 1d.] Foreign Trade (Comparative Growth). Return showing the Total Imports and Exports (special trade), for each of the years 1854, 1864, 1874, 1884, 1894 and 1904, of the following 12 Countries: 1. France; 2. German Zollverein and German Empire; 3. Belgium; 4. Holland; 5. Russia; 6. Austria-Hungary; 7. Denmark; 8. Sweden and Norway; 9. Spain; 10. Portugal; 11. United States; 12. United Kingdom. [H.C. 192: pp. 3: price 4d.] Annual Statement of Trade, 1905. Volume II. Abstract and Detailed Tables of Trade with each Country and at each Port, and miscellaneous Tables. [Cd. 3022: pp. xii. + 511: price 4s. 2d.] Index to Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Representatives Abroad on Trade and Subjects of General Interest, 1905. [Cd. 3013: pp. 289: price 1s. 3d.]

BRITISH COLONIES.

Report of the Royal Commission on the Navigation Bill of the Australian Commonwealth, 1904. Decrease in number of British seamen, suggested remedies, deck and load line, training ships, &c. [Cd. 3023: pp. 62: price 6d.] Correspondence relating to the complaint of certain Printers who were induced to emigrate to Canada by false representations. [Cd. 2980: pp. iv. + 27: price 3d.] (All the above-mentioned Reports may be obtained direct from Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C., or through any bookseller.) Canada.—The Labour Gazette, June, 1906. Contains articles on "Aciton by Parliament of Canada to prevent fraudulent representations being made to induce Working Men to come to Canada"; "Deputation re Employment of Prison Labour at Toronto." New Zealand.—Journal of the Department of Labour, May 10th, 1906. State of the Labour Market; disputes, agreements, &c., under the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act. Victoria.—27th Annual Report on Friendly Societies. Report of the Actuary for Friendly Societies for 1904, with Valuations, Numerical and Financial Summaries of the Returns furnished by the Secretaries, &c. [Melbourne: R. S. Brain, Government Printer: pp. xx. + 66.] Statistical Register of Western Australia for 1903 and previous years, 1905. Part VI. Statistics of Industrial establishments (exclusive of mines) in Western Australia, collected under the Industrial Statistics Act; number of persons employed, hours of labour worked, plant, output, wages paid, &c. [Perth, W. A.: A. Curtis, Acting Government Printer.] Western Australia. Reports of Proceedings before the Boards of Conciliation and the Court of Arbitration, 1905. Volume IV. Parts iv, v, & vi. Perth, W. A.: A. Curtis, Acting Government Printer.]

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

United States. Labour Bulletin of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, No. 41. May, 1906. Five years' strikes in Massachusetts; half-yearly record of strikes and lock-outs; the Fall River Sliding Scale of Wages, &c. Ninth Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labour and Industrial Statistics for the State of Nebraska, 1903-1904. Labour laws of Nebraska; child labour; strikes; census of manufactures, &c. [Lincoln, Neb.: pp. 204.]

Nebraska. Bulletin of the State Bureau of Statistics. No. 8. April, 1906. Western Nebraska.

37th Annual Report of the Board of State Charities and Correction of Rhode Island, 1905.

Seventh Annual Report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics of the Illinois Free Employment Offices for the year ended Oct. 1st, 1905. Number of applicants for employment, with their trades, positions secured &c. [Springfield (Ill.): Illinois State Journal Co., State Printers: pp. 79.]

France.

Report of Commission of Inquiry into the Textile Industry. Volumes III. (Lyons district) and IV. (Normandy, Vosges, Fourmies, St. Quentin, Rheims). Chamber of Deputies, Session of 1904, No. 1922. [Paris, 1906: pp. 438 and 552 respectively.]

Journal of the French Labour Department, May, 1906. Contains article on strikes and lock-outs in 1905.

Germany.

Statistical Year Book of Wurtemberg, 1905, Parts I. and II. Wurtemberg Statistical Office. Contains articles on industrial statistics of Wurtemberg in 1905, and population of Wurtemberg in 1903. [Stuttgart: W. Kohlhammer, 1906: pp. 229 and 192 respectively.]

Agencies and Methods for Insuring against the Results of Unemployment in Germany and other Countries. 3 Volumes. Imperial Statistical Office. [Berlin, 1906: pp. 698+468+291: price 27s.]

Journal of the German Labour Department, June, 1906. Contains articles on strike movements in Germany, and the Cologne Unemployment Insurance Fund in the winter of 1905-1906.

Austria.

Report on Work of Austrian Labour Department for the Year 1905. [Vienna, 1906: pp. 30.]

The Forestry Workpeople of the Austrian Ministry of Agriculture, by Dr. Adolf Stengel. Austrian Labour Department. [Vienna, 1906: pp. 111.]

Conditions of Labour in the Clothing Trades (not including Boot and Shoemaking). Austrian Labour Department. Contains particulars as to wages and hours of labour. [Vienna, 1906: pp. 102.]

Italy.

Journal of the Italian Labour Department, May, 1906. Contains statistics of strikes and lock-outs in Italy in 1902 and 1903.

Reports of the Department of Credit and Thrift. Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce. Contains figures relating to co-operation in Germany and Hungary, 1885-1902. [Rome, 1906: pp. 449: price 4s.]

Conditions of Labour in Italian Rice Fields. Italian Labour Department. Contains particulars as to hours of labour and wages of persons employed. [Rome, 1906: pp. 211: price 2s.]

Savings Banks in Italy from 1822 to 1904. Historical reports presented to Milan Exhibition of 1905. Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce. [Rome, 1906: pp. 641.]

Belgium.

Statistical Year-book of Belgium, 1905. Ministry of the Interior. Contains tables dealing with miners' insurance funds, friendly societies, hours of labour, wages, &c. [Brussels, 1906: pp. lxx.+447.]

Journal of the Belgian Labour Department, June 15th. Contains text of convention between France and Belgium, whereby Belgian workmen in France, and French workmen in Belgium shall be eligible for compensation for industrial accidents under the laws of the countries in which they are respectively working.

Holland.

Strikes and Lock-outs in Holland in 1905. Forms part lxxix. of series—"Statistics of the Netherlands." Central Statistical Bureau. [The Hague, 1906: pp. xi.+65: price 2d.]

Switzerland.

Reports of Federal Factory Inspectors of Switzerland for 1904 and 1905. Swiss Industrial Department. [Aarau: H. R. Sauerlander & Co: pp. 300: price 3s.]

Denmark.

Statistics of Denmark, Series IV., Volume 20. Danish Statistical Bureau. Contains article on wages of farm servants and agricultural labourers in 1905. [Copenhagen, 1906.]

Spain.

Journal of the Spanish Labour Department, May, 1906.

Consular Reports. Annual Series. No. 3627. *Trade of Consular District of Hamburg for the year 1905.* Notes on shipbuilding and other industries; effects of the Westphalia coal strike, &c. [Cd. 2682-152: pp. 86: price 4½d.]

No. 3635. *Trade of Peru for the year 1905.* Notes on the supply of labour, immigration, cost of living, &c. [Cd. 2682-160: pp. 38: price 2½d.]

No. 3625. *Silk Industry of Lyons and St. Etienne, and Trade of Grenoble for the year 1905.* Output, number of looms, &c. [Cd. 2682-150: pp. 15: price 1d.]

No. 3622. *Trade and Agriculture of the Consular District of Chicago for the year 1905.* Wages and cost of living in the State of Missouri; strikes, &c. [Cd. 2682-147: pp. 99: price 5½d.]

No. 3624. *Trade of Denmark for the year 1905.* Chart showing bacon prices during 1905, &c. [Cd. 2682-149: pp. 23: price 4½d.]

No. 3647. *Trade of Lombardy for the year 1905.* Silk and cotton industries and trade, number of mills, persons employed, &c.; statistics of the industries of Lombardy; strikes in Milan in 1905, &c. [Cd. 2682-172: pp. 29: price 2d.]

Consular Reports. Annual Series. No. 3610. *Trade of Consular District of Rostov-on-Don for the year 1905.* Effect of the strikes in the Azov ports; production and consumption of coal and coke, &c. [Cd. 2682-135: pp. 33: price 2½d.]

Miscellaneous Series. No. 652. *Agriculture in the Rhenish Province.* Action of the Chamber of Agriculture in supplying farmers with labour; census of live-stock; agricultural banks, &c. [Cd. 2683-126: pp. 50: price 3d.]

No. 651. *French Mercantile Marine Laws.* Laws of 1881, 1893 and 1902 and their results: new Law of 1906. [Cd. 2683-15: pp. 12: price 1d.]

(The Consular Reports may be obtained direct from Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C., or through any bookseller.)

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, 1; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 9; under the Friendly Societies Act, 40 (including 21 branches of existing Societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 3; in all 53.

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

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—1, viz., London Bus, Tram and Motor Workers' Union, 44a, Clerkenwell Green, E.C.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—England and Wales.—8, viz., Co-op Soc. mainly for Distribution: 1, viz., Borough of Hemel Hempstead Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Hemel Hempstead. Co-op. Agric. Socs.: 3, viz., Walkden and Dist. Farmers' Milk Supply Assoc., Ltd., Manchester Road, Walkden; Padiham and Dist. Farmers' Trading Soc., Ltd., 25, Whalley Road, Padiham, Burnley; Geenby and Dist. Agric. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Burgh, Lincs. Misc. Socs.: 4, viz., 2, Working Men's Clubs and 2 others. Ireland.—1, viz., Co-op. Agric. Soc.: Outrath Co-op. Poultry Soc., Ltd., Outrath, Cahir, Tipperary.

Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—18, viz., Roundabout Sick and Dividing Soc., High Wycombe; Bud of Hope Friendly Soc., Holbrook, Derby; Cross Keys Sick and Dividend Soc., Wednesbury; West Birmingham Friendly Sick and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; Bridge Sick and Dividend Soc., Nechells, Birmingham; St. Paul's Sick and Dividend Soc., Balsall Heath, Birmingham; Triumphant Collecting Soc., Leeds; Easby Soc., Leeds; Thornton (Bradford) Free and Independent Foresters, Thornton, Bradford; Tryddyn Tontine Benefit Soc., Tryddyn, Mold; South Wales Equitable Friendly Collecting Soc., Cardiff; Bristol and Suburban Permt. Money Soc., Hanham, Bristol; Kettering and Dist. Permt. Money Soc., Kettering; Rose and Crown Loan Soc., Croydon; Nuneaton Permt. Money Soc., Nuneaton; Cambrian Mutual Investment and Loan Soc., Cardiff; Borough of Hemel Hempstead Liberal Working Men's Club and Inst., Hemel Hempstead; Greenwich Park Working Men's Club and Inst., East Greenwich, S.E. Ireland.—1, viz., Glanmire Credit Soc., Glanmire, co. Cork.

(2) SOCIETIES AND UNIONS CEASING TO EXIST.

	Notices Received in June of		Registry Cancelled.
	Commencement of Dissolution or Winding-up.	Termination of Dissolution or Winding-up.	
Trade Unions ... ..	...	2	...
Industrial and Provident Societies	5	3	4
Friendly Societies... ..	...	3	...
Building " Branches ...	...	8	12
Building " " " " " "	2	4	...

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.

NOTICE.

Communications respecting the contents of the GAZETTE should be addressed to:—

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43, Parliament Street, London, S.W.

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