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STATE OF EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER.

I.—GENERAL SUMMARY.

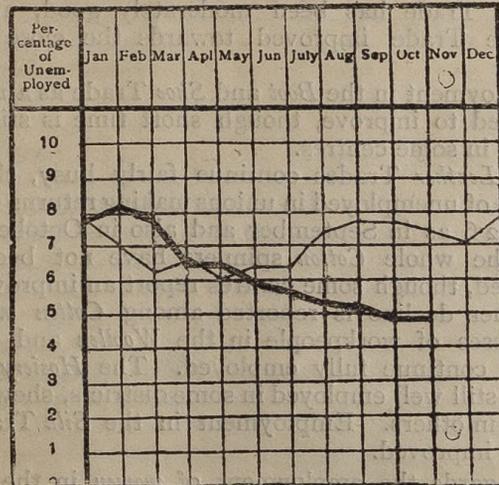
ON the whole there has been a very slight change in an upward direction in the state of employment during October. At the end of the month the dispute in the engineering and shipbuilding trades, which is described on pages 336-7, had not fully developed. The persons indirectly thrown out of work through this dispute are counted in the statistics given below, otherwise the state of employment would have appeared still more favourable.

In the 88 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 395,991 making returns, 19,294 (or 4·87 per cent.) are reported as unemployed at the end of October, compared with 4·93 per cent. in September, and with 7·4 per cent. in the 57 unions, with a membership of 358,507, from which returns were received for October 1894.

The following chart enables a comparison to be made with last year:—

Chart showing the percentage of unemployed members of the trade unions making returns at the close of each month of 1894 and of each completed month of 1895.

[The thick line applies to 1895, the thin line to 1894.]



The proportions of unemployed in the 88 unions making returns may be classified as follows:—

	Unions.	Members.
Under 3 per cent.	48	163,935
3 and under 5 per cent.	16	49,418
5 and under 7 per cent.	12	102,428
7 and under 10 per cent.	4	18,005
10 per cent. and upwards	8	62,205

Employment in Various Industries.—Coal Mining.—

The average number of days worked at 931 pits in the United Kingdom from which returns have been received, and at which 245,450 workpeople are employed, was 5·03 days per week in October, compared with 4·80 days in September. The proportion of unemployed miners in the trade unions in the North of England fell from 2·3 per cent. at the end of September to 1·9 per cent. at the end of October.

Iron Mining.—At 102 iron mines and open works, employing 12,803 persons, the average number of days worked was 5·59 per week, or exactly the same as in September.

In the *Pig Iron* Industry the 106 ironmasters making

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (continued).

Comparison of the number of furnaces in blast at end of October 1895 with the number in blast at end of October 1894, and at end of September 1895, so far as included in the returns made to the Department:—

Districts.	Present time compared with a year ago.			Present time compared with a month ago.		
	Oct. 1895.	Oct. 1894.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Oct. 1895.	Oct. 1895.	Sept. 1895.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Oct. 1895.
ENGLAND & WALES—						
Cleveland ...	92	95	-3	92	90	+2
Cumberland & Lancs.	40	36	+4	40	39	+1
S. and S.W. Yorks...	9	10	-1	9	8	+1
Lincolnshire ...	14	14	...	14	14	...
Midlands ...	76	73	+3	76	74	+2
Glamorgan and Mon.	17	18	-1	17	17	...
Other districts ...	9	7	+2	9	8	+1
Total England and Wales...	257	253	+4	257	250	+7
SCOTLAND ...	54	43	+11	54	53	+1
Total furnaces included in returns ...	311	296	+15	311	303	+8

The monthly circular issued by the Cleveland Ironmasters' Association gives the following particulars respecting the state of the pig iron industry in Cleveland:—

Production.—During October 251,435 tons of pig iron were produced, as compared with 234,721 tons in the previous month and 262,309 tons in October, 1894.

Stocks.—These amounted to 267,270 tons on October 31st, being 11,856 tons less than on September 30th, but 70,396 tons more than at the end of October 1894.

Shipments.—The quantity of pig iron shipped coastwise or foreign from Middlesbrough during the month was 91,625 tons; during September, 95,310; and in October 1894, 80,253 tons.

The quantity of pig iron shipped to foreign countries and British possessions from all ports in the United Kingdom was 87,630 tons in October 1895, 78,185 tons in October 1894, and 89,928 tons in October 1893.

(d) EMPLOYMENT AT STEEL AND TINPLATE WORKS, PUDDLING FURNACES, AND ROLLING MILLS IN OCTOBER.

Returns received from 174 employers show that they had 61,978 workpeople in their employment at the end of October, or 587 more than at the corresponding date last year. In England alone there was a decrease of 563, but this was more than counterbalanced by an increase of 1,150 in Scotland.

The decrease in England and Wales is due chiefly to the falling-off in the number of seel workers in Lancashire and Cumberland. In the tin-plate trade the number employed is less by 232 than in October 1894, the decrease in South Wales and Monmouth, the principal district, amounting to 304, or 27 per cent.

Returns from 32 tinplate manufacturers state that they had 157 mills in operation in the last week of October, the same number as in September, but 4 less than in October 1895.

Table showing the number of persons employed* in the under-mentioned occupations at the end of October 1895 and 1894, respectively, by 174 employers making returns:—

Occupation.	Number Employed.					
	England and Wales.		Scotland.		United Kingdom.	
	Oct. 1895.	Oct. 1894.	Oct. 1895.	Oct. 1894.	Oct. 1895.	Oct. 1894.
Steel Making, Casting, Melting, Rolling, and Forging	21,641	22,114	4,617	3,602	26,258	25,716
Iron Puddling and Rolling	10,452	10,417	3,279	3,190	13,731	13,607
Tinplate Workers ...	11,545	11,777	—	—	11,545	11,777
Other workpeople who cannot be separately classified as above*	9,440	9,333	1,004	958	10,444	10,291
Totals ...	53,078	53,641	8,900	7,750	61,978	61,391

* The table does not include workpeople engaged in machining or other engineering or constructive processes.

(e) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN OCTOBER. ENGLAND.

THE Agricultural Correspondent to the Department, on the basis of returns from 135 correspondents in different parts of the country, and from one Agricultural Labourers' Union, reports as follows:—

Generally speaking employment was fairly regular during the month of October, as threshing and the getting in of the root crops and potatoes were the means of giving continuous work in many districts.

In the *Northern Counties* work is generally reported as regular. In the *Midland Counties* very little irregularity is reported, but some is referred to in the Bridgnorth Union of Shropshire, and in the Southwell Union of Nottingham. In parts of the Alcester Union of Warwickshire extra labour was difficult to obtain. Reports from the *Eastern Counties* are on the whole favourable. In some parts of South Lincolnshire extra labour was rather scarce. In the Lincoln Union some irregularity of work is reported. On the whole the reports from Norfolk and Suffolk are not unsatisfactory. Some irregularity of work is reported from the Colchester, Braintree and Halstead Unions of Essex. Favourable reports come from 9 Unions in Cambridgeshire, and of these, two in the North refer to the demand for labour being rather greater than the supply. Wages changed from summer to winter rates in October in the Lincoln Union, in parts of Suffolk, Norfolk, and Cambridgeshire. In the *Home Counties* some irregularity of work is referred to in reports from the Wantage Union of Berkshire, the Bedford Union of Beds, the Rye and Battle Unions of Sussex, the Godstone Union of Surrey, and the Faversham and Sevenoaks Unions of Kent. Changes in October from summer to winter wages are reported in districts in the counties of Oxford, Bedford, Sussex and Kent. In the *Western Counties* some irregularity of work is reported from the Hartley Wintley and Kingsclere Unions of Hampshire, the Blandford Union of Dorset, the Warminster Union of Wiltshire, the Wellington Union of Somerset, and the Great Torrington Union of Devonshire. Changes in October from summer to winter wages took place in districts in the counties of Dorset, Wilts and Gloucester.

Northern Counties.—Reports from *Northumberland, Westmorland* and *Cumberland* state that employment is generally regular. In *Lancashire* work is reported regular in the Unions of Lancaster, Garstang and Fylde, and in *Cheshire* in the Nantwich Union. Comparatively few men are said to be in irregular work in the Chester-le-Street Union of *Durham*. In *Yorkshire* reports state that employment is regular in certain districts in the Unions of Easingwold, Malton, Knaresborough, Great Ouseburn, Ripon, Scarborough and Croft in *Darlington*.

Midland Counties.—In *Shropshire* favourable reports come from the Market Drayton, Ellesmere and Whitchurch Unions. In the Bridgnorth Union it is estimated that about 7 per cent. were in irregular work. Work is reported regular in certain districts in the Belper Union of *Derbyshire*, and also in the Bashford Union of *Nottingham*. In the latter county it is reported that in the Southwell Union there is irregularity of work in a number of parishes. Reports from the Melton Mowbray Union of *Leicestershire* state that work has been plentiful during October. A favourable report is also given of certain parishes in the Harborough, and Billesdon and Blaby Unions. In the Oakham Union of *Rutland* the men are said to be fairly employed, though a few are reported as being in irregular work. In *Warwickshire* work is said to be plentiful in districts in the Unions of Stratford-on-Avon and Alcester. In the latter Union, in some parishes, extra men have been difficult to obtain. Reports from the Kettering and Brixworth Unions of *Northampton* and from the St. Neot's Union of *Hunts* refer to regularity of employment.

Eastern Counties.—In *Lincolnshire* favourable reports of employment come from certain parishes in the Unions of Brigg, Louth, Spilsby, Bourn, Newark, Sleaford and Stamford. But in the Lincoln Union a report from one parish states that about 10 per cent. of the labourers were in irregular work. In *Suffolk* reports have been received from the Unions of Cosford, Thingoe, Bosmere and Claydon, Risbridge, Ipswich, Stowmarket and Hartismere Unions, and on the whole they are favourable. In those

villages where irregularity is reported the numbers are estimated from 2 to 6 per cent. From *Norfolk* reports from districts in the Unions of Mitford and Launditch, Downham, and Forehoe, state that work is regular. In the Unions of Swaffham, and Loddon and Clavering, some slight irregularity is reported. In *Cambridgeshire* work is said to be regular in districts in the Unions of North Witchford, Peterborough, Ely, Caxton, Linton, Royston, and Chesterton, Wisbech and Whittlesey. In the last two Unions reports state that the demand for labour has been greater than the supply. In *Essex* favourable reports come from the Unions of Maldon and Tending; but in the Colchester Union about 5 per cent. are said to be in irregular work in some parishes and in the Braintree and Halstead Unions the numbers are rather larger at Bocking, Halstead, and the surrounding parishes.

Home Counties.—In *Berkshire*, in the Wantage Union, reports from two parishes state that employment is regular, but in certain other parishes this is not the case. In *Oxfordshire* several favourable reports of regularity of employment; come from the Thame and Abingdon Unions. In *Buckinghamshire* work is reported as regular in certain parishes in the Unions of Winslow, Newport Pagnell and Buckingham. In *Bedfordshire*, in the Bedford Union a report states that employment is fairly regular. A satisfactory report of employment comes from a district in the Luton Union. Reports from *Hertfordshire* from the Unions of Bishop Stortford, Buntingford and Hemel Hempstead state that employment is regular, but some are stated to be in irregular work at Harpenden, in the St. Albans Union. From *Sussex* favourable reports of employment come from the Unions of Battle and Chailey, with a few exceptions in the former district. In the Rye Union it is stated that about 10 per cent. are in irregular work in all parishes. Favourable reports come from the Farnham Union of *Surrey*; but at Crowhurst, in the Godstone Union, about 12 per cent. were said to be in irregular work. In *Kent* reports from six parishes in the Faversham Union state that employment is regular, and in several others it is estimated that 10 per cent. are irregularly employed. Regularity of work is reported from districts in the Hollingbourn and Milton Unions. About 10 per cent. of the labourers in a parish in the Sevenoaks Union are reported in irregular work.

Western Counties.—In *Hampshire* some irregularity of work is reported from districts in the Kingsclere Union. In the Hartley Wintley Union reports from five parishes state that work is regular, but at Hartley Wintley and Odiham a considerable proportion are stated to be in irregular employment. In the Dorchester Union of *Dorset* work on the whole has been fairly regular. There has also been some irregularity in some parishes in the Blandford Union, but at Shapwick and the neighbouring parishes work is reported as regular. In *Wiltshire* favourable reports come from the Unions of Pewsey, Wilton and Devizes. In the latter Union there has been rather a scarcity of labour in certain parishes. In the Warminster Union employment is said to have been scarce in some districts. Satisfactory reports come from *Gloucestershire* from the Barton Regis Union, from five parishes in the Cirencester Union, and from parishes in the neighbourhood of Toddington in the Winchcombe Union. Favourable reports come from the Bromyard and Leominster Unions of *Hereford*. In *Somersetshire*, in the Wellington Union, work is said to be regular in the district of Wellington, but some irregularity is reported in the Milverton district. Work is said to be regular in the Langport Union and in six parishes in the Wells Union. In *Devonshire* satisfactory reports come from the Unions of Crediton, St. Thomas, Tavistock, and Barnstaple. In the Great Torrington Union employment has generally been regular except in one or two parishes. Work is also reported regular from a district in the Truro Union of *Cornwall*.

IRELAND.—Dublin ... Belfast ...

SCOTLAND.—Leith, Kirkcaldy and Grangemouth Glasgow ...

ENGLAND.—East Coast. Tyne Ports ... Sunderland ... Middlesbrough ... Hull ... Grimsby ...

Bristol Channel. Bristol ... Newport, Mon. ... Cardiff ... Swansea ...

Other Ports. Liverpool ... London ... Southampton ...

Total Oct. 1895 ... Ditto, Oct. 1894 ...

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (continued).

Barry, where a similar scarcity was experienced during the last few days of the month. The rates of wages for seamen and firemen remained generally, during October, as in the previous month. Particulars of some few variations from the ruling wages are given in the table of Changes in Wages on page 351.

Table showing the number* of men, &c., shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom in October 1895 and 1894 respectively, together with the number* shipped in the ten months ended 31st October in each of these years:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Men, &c., shipped in October 1895.			Total in Oct. 1894.	Total number shipped in ten months ended October.	
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in Oct. 1895.		1895.	1894.
ENGLAND.						
East Coast.						
Tyne Ports ...	150	3,013	3,163	3,083	30,836	32,524
Sunderland ...	5	352	357	668	6,518	7,320
Middlesbrough ...	14	450	474	565	5,722	5,382
Hull ...	48	1,005	1,053	1,373	10,721	11,501
Grimsby ...	9	109	118	279	1,482	1,766
Bristol Channel.						
Bristol ...	6	174	180	212	1,973	2,566
Newport, Mon. ...	78	928	1,006	833	10,925	11,665
Cardiff ...	489	4,835	5,324	4,402	50,909	54,077
Swansea ...	109	546	655	387	6,291	6,127
Other Ports.						
Liverpool ...	368	9,089	10,327	9,466	97,470	97,785
London ...	391	5,767	6,158	5,703	56,011	57,473
Southampton ...	...	1,536	1,536	1,561	14,539	14,198
SCOTLAND.						
Leith, Kirkcaldy and Grangemouth	...	691	691	559	6,169	5,533
Glasgow ...	164	2,326	2,490	2,301	21,380	21,247
IRELAND.						
Dublin ...	...	39	39	86	387	686
Belfast ...	...	220	220	213	1,418	1,594
Total Oct. 1895 ...	1,840	32,176	34,016	...	322,831	...
Ditto, Oct. 1894 ...	1,877	29,722	...	31,599	...	332,444

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

(g) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN OCTOBER.

EMPLOYMENT for dock and wharf labourers in London in October was somewhat better than in the previous month. There was a slight falling off in the number employed by dock companies, but an increase in the number employed by shipowners, and at the wharves. In the case of the wharves the improvement was most noticeable on the north side. Corn porters were slack at Millwall Docks during the last week of the month. Deal porters are reported to have been busy and fruit porters to have had steady employment. The green fruit trade has not been up to the average for the time of year. Lightermen and stevedores have been fairly well employed. The average number employed in all the docks, and at 106 of the principal wharves, is estimated at 14,837 for the four weeks ending October 26th, as against 14,382 for the four previous weeks. The number was greatest in the first, and lowest in the third week of the month. The maximum number at work on any one day is estimated at 15,730 on September 30th, and the minimum number at 13,910 on October 22nd.

(f) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN OCTOBER.

(Data supplied by the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.) DURING October the number of seamen shipped from the principal ports of the United Kingdom, as the crews of foreign-going vessels, was 34,016, or 2,417 more than in the corresponding month of last year.

A comparison of the total number of seamen shipped during the first ten months of 1895 and 1894 shows a decrease of 9,613 during the current year.

The supply of seamen and firemen was generally stated to be equal to or in excess of the demand, the exceptions being at Leith, where some difficulty was experienced in completing crews of vessels; at Glasgow, where men were very scarce for sailing vessels, and at

Detailed Figures.—(1) The following table shows the estimated average daily number of dock and wharf labourers employed in each week of the month:—

Table showing the number* of men, &c., shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom in October 1895 and 1894 respectively, together with the number* shipped in the ten months ended 31st October in each of these years:—

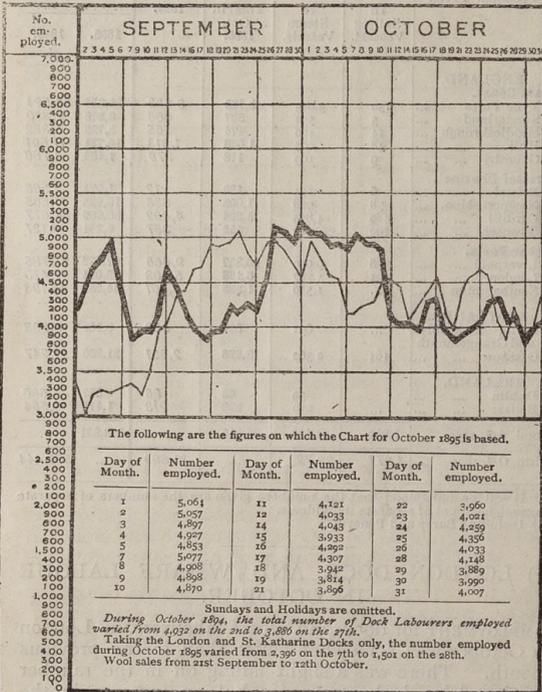
Period.	Labourers employed in Docks.			Labourers employed at 106 Wharves making Returns.	Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractor.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
1st week of October	8,039	1,596	9,635	5,789	15,424
2nd " " "	7,455	1,606	9,061	6,070	15,131
3rd " " "	6,764	1,392	8,156	6,160	14,316
4th " " "	6,965	1,162	8,577	5,900	14,477
Average for 4 weeks ending Oct. 26th ...	7,306	1,551	8,857	5,980	14,837
Average for 4 weeks ending Sept. 28th ...	7,395	1,288	8,683	6,699	14,382

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (continued).

(2.) The daily fluctuation in the number of dock labourers employed by the London and India Docks Joint Committee during September and October is shown on the chart below. The numbers in October varied from 3,814 on the 19th to 5,077 on the 7th.

Chart showing the total number of Dock Labourers employed by the Joint Committee at the London, St. Katharine, East and West India, Victoria and Albert Docks, and the Town Warehouses, for each day during the months of September and October 1895. The corresponding curve for September and October 1894 is also given for comparison. Dock Labourers employed by Shipowners direct, Stevedores, and Coal Porters are not included.

[The thick curve applies to 1895, and the thin curve to 1894.]



The returns received from shipowners and from the wharves do not give particulars of the number of labourers employed in October 1894, but for the Dock Companies the figures for October 1895 and 1894 are as follows:—

Period.	Labourers employed by Dock Companies directly or through Contractors.			
	1895.	1894.	Increase.	Decrease.
1st week of October	8,939	7,195	844	—
2nd " "	7,455	7,113	342	—
3rd " "	6,764	7,140	—	376
4th " "	6,965	7,054	—	89
Average for 4 weeks	7,306	7,126	180	—

It will be seen that employment was considerably better at the beginning of the month than a year ago, but was not so good at the end of the month.

Fruit porters are reported to have had steady employment, but the green fruit trade has not been up to the average for the time of year. The daily average number of fruit porters employed during October was 328, including the "orange gang," which consists of about 50 men.

These numbers are not included in the preceding tables. Lightermen and stevedores have been fairly well employed. Corn porters were slack at the Millwall Docks during the last week of the month, but deal porters are reported to have been busy.

(h) EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE TEXTILE AND HAT TRADES IN OCTOBER.

JUDGING from the returns received from women correspondents, the state of employment in October for women in the textile trades has been about the same as in September. The woollen and worsted trades continue fully employed. Information has been received with regard to the employment of women and girls in 391 cotton, woollen, worsted, and silk mills. In the case of 275 mills the numbers employed are known approximately. If the same average number be assumed to be employed in the remaining 116, as in those for the same trade for which numbers are known, the information may be summarised as follows:—

State of Employment.	Number of Mills.	Approximate Estimate of Women and Girls employed.		
		Number.	Percentage.	Percentage for Sept.
Full time	350	56,263	88	86
Ditto, but partial employment	27	3,062	5	6
Short time	13	2,771	4	4
Closed for repairs	3	—	—	—
" on account of disputes	2	—	—	—
" " bad trade	5	2,197	3	4
" for other reasons	1	—	—	—
Total	391	64,293	100	100

Cotton Trade.—According to this estimate the number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton mills reported on was 46,776. Of these 83 per cent. were employed in mills working full time (compared with 82 per cent. in September); 6 per cent. in mills running full time but giving partial employment; 6 per cent. in mills running short time, while mills employing 5 per cent. were closed during the whole or part of the month.

Woollen and Worsted Trade.—The number of women and girls employed in the woollen and worsted mills reported on is estimated at 16,092, all of whom were employed in mills working full time (compared with 99 per cent. in September).

Silk Trade.—The number of women and girls employed in the silk mills reported on is estimated at 1425. Of these 89 per cent. were employed in mills working full time, and 11 per cent. in mills working full time, but giving partial employment.

Felt Hat Trade.—About 460 women and girls in Denton were reported on, 48 per cent. of whom were employed in hat works working full time, and 52 per cent. in hat works working short time.

III.—DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.*

LONDON.

Employment in various Industries.—Almost without exception the reports received from the various trade unions show a further improvement in October upon that noted in September. Returns from 364 branches of 79 trade unions in the London district, with a membership of 65,218, show 2,303 (or 3.5 per cent.) unemployed at the end of October, compared with 4.5 per cent. last month, 4.7 per cent. for August, and 6.1 per cent. for October 1894.

The **Engineering Metal, and Shipbuilding** trades have slightly improved. Reports from 98 branches of 18 unions show that out of a membership of 19,400, 1,097 (or 5.7 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of October, compared with 6.2 per cent. in September, and 9.3 per cent. in October 1894.

On the whole the **Building** trades are well employed, though showing a slight seasonal falling off. Returns from 183 branches of 7 unions paying unemployed benefit, and having a membership of 12,632, show that only 221 (or 1.7 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of October, compared with 0.8 per cent. in September and 4.9 per cent. in October 1894. The bricklayers describe employment as good; the carpenters and joiners, masons and plasterers as fair; the painters and plumbers as moderate; and the mill-sawyers and stone carvers as quiet.

* When it is stated in these reports that "the carpenters," "the plumbers," &c. make certain reports, reference is usually made to the Unions connected with these trades, unless it is otherwise specified.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—DISTRICT REPORTS.—LONDON AND NORTHERN COUNTIES.

The **Furnishing and Woodworking** trades have still further improved, and are very well employed. Reports from 35 branches of 9 unions, with an aggregate membership of 5,421, show that 39 (or 0.7 per cent.) were unemployed, as against 1.5 per cent. last month and 6.4 per cent. in October 1894.

The **Coachbuilding** trades as a rule are fairly well employed, though short time is being worked in one branch. Reports from 8 branches of 6 unions, with an aggregate membership of 1,118, show that 46 (or 4.1 per cent.) were unemployed.

All branches of the **Printing and Bookbinding** trades have continued to improve during the month. Returns from 15 unions with an aggregate membership of 19,309, show that 529 (or 2.7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 5.3 per cent. in September and 4.6 per cent. in October 1894.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the wholesale clothing trade was fairly brisk during the month; the West-end tailoring trade was fair at the commencement and busy towards the close of the month; the East-end bespoke trade remains rather quiet; the hat trade is better than usual at this season of the year; the fur skin dressers remain very quiet; the furriers are still busy, overtime being worked. Returns from 4 unions paying unemployed benefit, and having a membership of 1,698, show that 164 (or 9.7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 13.7 per cent. in September.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—On the whole, employment in these trades is fairly good for the time of year. In the machine branch a large percentage are still only partially employed; the high-class bespoke branch has slightly improved; the slipper-makers are still well employed.

Employment in the **Leather Trades** continues good. Returns from 4 unions with an aggregate membership of 1,096 show that 13 (or 1.2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.8 per cent. in September.

Glass and Pottery Trades.—Employment in the glass trades has improved, but the pottery trades are slack. Returns from 5 unions with an aggregate membership of 1,477 show that 87 (or 5.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 6.9 per cent. in September.

Worshers in Fibre, Hair, &c.—These trades are considerably better employed. Returns from 5 unions with an aggregate membership of 906 show that 26 (or 2.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 5.0 per cent. in September.

The **Silver** trades continue fully employed, with a demand for men. Reports from 4 unions, with an aggregate membership of 232, state that only one was unemployed.

The **Tobacco** trades remain unchanged. Reports from two unions, with an aggregate membership of 1,929, show that 80 (or 4.1 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.0 per cent. in September.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment at the docks and wharves was somewhat better than last month. The estimated average daily number of dock labourers employed in all the docks and at 106 of the principal wharves was 14,837, as compared with 14,382 in September. Deal porters are reported to have been busy and fully employed, and fruit porters to have had steady employment. The green fruit trade has not been up to the average for the time of year. Lightermen and stevedores have been fairly well employed. Further details are given on p. 325.

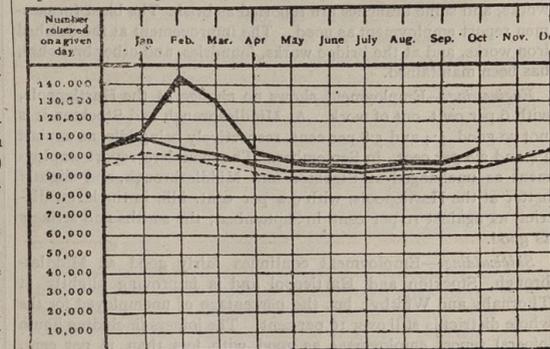
Disputes and Trade Movements.—Five small disputes have been reported as taking place during the month, only affecting, however, an aggregate of 78 men and 43 women and girls. Particulars are given on page 346.

Labour Bureaux.—Fresh applications were registered from 2,188 workpeople and 372 employers during October by the five labour bureaux furnishing returns. Private employers engaged 1,654 workpeople during the month, and 143 were employed by local authorities. Of the 1,797 persons who thus found work through the bureaux, 1,416 were stated to be only temporarily employed.

Pauperism.—The number of persons relieved in London on one day in the second week of October was 100,649, or 239 per 10,000 of the population in 1891. As compared with the corresponding day in the previous month, these figures show a seasonal increase of 2,371 paupers, or 6 per 10,000 of population. The increase is general in all districts, but is greatest in the Central district, where the proportion per 10,000 has risen from 416 to 429. Compared with a year ago, when the number relieved was 97,141, there has been an increase of 3,508 paupers. Of this increase 58 per cent. is in the Southern district and is principally in outdoor relief. The rate of pauperism in West Ham was 234 per 10,000 in the middle of October; 240 in September; and 224 in October, 1894.

The following chart shows the seasonal variations in the volume of pauperism in London at the middle of each month for the years 1893, 1894 and 1895:—

[The thick curve represents 1895; the thin curve 1894; and the dotted curve 1893.]



The number of vagrants relieved in London on the last day of the second week of October was 1,308.

ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES.

Tyne and Wear District.

Coal Mining.—Durham.—Employment has been busiest on gas and house coal seams. Twenty-two collieries, each producing various classes of coal, and employing 19,975 men and boys, have worked from 18 days to full time out of a possible 27 days. The number of miners unemployed owing to bad trade is 1,401, or 2.4 per cent., as against 2.9 per cent. in September. **Northumberland.**—The pits are moderately employed, especially in the case of steam collieries. Of the 20,113 Union members, 45, or 0.22 per cent., are unemployed, as against 0.27 in September.

Metal Mining.—Employment in the ironstone mines has been fairly regular. Lead miners continue indifferently employed.

Quarrying.—The freestone quarries in Gateshead and district are busy. Out of 318 Union members none are unemployed. The Weardale limestone quarries are better employed.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—On the Tyne.—Two shipyards are busy; in other yards, however, platers and riveters are only moderately employed. Repair work in the middle and lower reaches of the river continues quiet. At the Ordnance works briskness still prevails. The marine engine shops are not so busy. Locomotive building is slack; employment in electrical engineering works continues good. Of the 10,133 members (included in 48 returns) employed in these trades, 1,064, or 10.5 per cent., are idle as against 9.5 per cent. in September. Out of 2,381 joiners (house and ship) 3.5 per cent. are unemployed. **On the Wear.**—Three out of fourteen shipbuilding firms are busy. Marine engine shops maintain improvement, engineers being more fully employed. Out of 4,004 iron shipbuilders and engineers, 649, or 16.1 per cent., are out of work, as against 21.3 per cent. in September. Of the joiners 7.6 per cent. are idle, and of the shipwrights 10 per cent. The pattern makers on both rivers have 6.6 per cent. idle, as against 11.9 per cent. in September. The local steel plate mills and furnaces are reported as fully employed, the angle mills at one firm as partially stopped one week, and iron plate mills as working four shifts per week.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—Employment for trimmers and teemers has continued fairly good. Quayside labourers on the Tyne have been busy during the month. The wherry men report employment as above the average. Sea-going men have also been in better demand.

Building and Wood-working Trades.—All branches of the building trades continue well employed. The mill-sawyers and machinists are working full time, with 2 per cent. wholly idle. The factory and brewery coopers on the Tyne report continued improvement.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress printers on the Tyne are quiet, with 10.9 per cent. out of work, as in September. On the Wear they are better employed. Bookbinding has slightly fallen off. The paper mills are fairly employed.

Miscellaneous.—Pressed-glass makers are busy at two firms; of 348 members, 5 per cent. are unemployed, as against 6 per cent. in September. The bottle-makers report no change. The cokemen again report less than 1 per cent. idle. The chemical factories are busier. The cement and white-lead factories are working full time. Sailmakers on both rivers are still slack. The steam-packet and trawling industries continue good, with 1.5 per cent. wholly idle.

J. Ratcliffe.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (continued).—NORTHERN COUNTIES AND LANCASHIRE.

Middlesbrough, Stockton, and District.

Iron Mining.—Employment at the Cleveland mines continues good.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment continues good at the steel works, and some branches are reported as brisk. The blast furnacemen report employment as good. The improvement at the finished iron works, and at the bridge works, foundries, and other branches, has been maintained.

Engineering.—Employment shows no change at the Hartlepoons, with 6 per cent. out of work. At Middlesbrough and Stockton it is not so good, 5·4 and 5·8 per cent. respectively being idle, as against 3·4 and 2·8 per cent., in September. The moulders report employment as unchanged at Stockton and Middlesbrough, and slightly better at the Hartlepoons, with 9·2 per cent. idle in the latter district, as against 10 per cent. in September; the smiths and strikers as good.

Shipbuilding.—Employment continues fairly good at Middlesbrough, Stockton and Hartlepool and is improving slightly at Thornaby and Whitby; but the percentage of unemployed for the whole district is still over 10 per cent. The joiners (including house joiners) report employment as good, with less than 1½ per cent. idle; the shipwrights as fair, with few unemployed.

Building Trades.—These trades report employment generally as good. The bricklayers have none out of work at Middlesbrough and Hartlepool; the joiners have under 1½ per cent. unemployed. The mill sawyers report employment as fairly good, but declining.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Sailors and firemen report employment as improving at the Hartlepoons, and quiet at Middlesbrough. Dock labour is good at both towns; riverside labour is fair.

Miscellaneous.—The tailors report employment as slack; the printers as moderate. The salt industry is good.—*A. Main.*

LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.

Oldham and District.

Textile Trades.—Employment in cotton spinning remains unsatisfactory. Several mills are closed in Oldham, Stalybridge, Mossley, and Ashton, while short time is being worked at many others. In Stockport, however, one mill has been re-opened, and another has begun to work full time. In Rochdale, Oldham, Mossley, Stalybridge, Ashton, Dukinfield, and Stockport the spinners have 521 union members (or 5 per cent.) unemployed. The ring spinners and twiners are fully employed, but reelers are only partially so. In Oldham the card-room workers have 835 union members, or 7·4 per cent. unemployed. Calico weavers report employment as slack, and velvet weavers as moderate. Out of 202 union members, the power-loom overlookers have 3 unemployed. Woollen workers in Rochdale, Milnrow, and Stockport are fully employed.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers report employment as moderate, with 46 union members (or 2·2 per cent.) unemployed. The machine-makers (except in the mule department), boiler-makers, iron-founders, brassfinishers, and tinplate workers are fairly well employed. The spindle and flyer-makers and ring frame and throstle-makers report employment as brisk.

Building Trades.—These trades are fairly good throughout the district, and out of 750 members of unions none are unemployed.

Coal Mining.—There is no improvement among the coal miners, who are mostly working short time.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is slack in the tailoring trade, and fair in the printing trade; moderate with general labourers and brush-makers; good with millers.—*T. Ashton.*

Bolton and District.

Textile Trades.—At Bolton employment in the spinning branch of the cotton trade shows a very decided improvement, nearly all the mills on short time having now resumed full time, and many that had been stopped have re-started. The percentage on the out-of-work fund has been reduced from 2·1 to 1·8 per cent. The improvement at Bury is still maintained in all branches. At Chorley spinners are not well employed. Two mills are running on short time, and one is replacing machinery. Among the weavers there is much waiting for warps.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—At Bolton the engineers are still busy, one or two firms being exceptionally well employed, with good orders on hand. In the machine-making departments much activity prevails. The steel-smelting and allied trades continue moderately employed, last month's improvement being fairly well maintained. At Chorley the iron trades are good, with few unemployed. At Bury engineers are moderately busy, and machine-makers active. At Wigan employment is good, one large ironworks

having resumed operations. Steel smelters are better employed, and steel rollers are now on full time. The cycle trade is moderately busy.

Building Trades.—Employment is still fairly good, but has fallen off slightly at Chorley.

Coal Mining.—There has been a slight improvement in the Wigan district, some of the pits having shown increased activity owing to the approach of winter.—*R. Tootill.*

Burnley, Accrington, and District.

Cotton Trade.—During the past month more looms have been stopped in the Blackburn, Preston and Darwen districts, and a considerable number are temporarily stopped for want of warps. Employment in the hardwaste trade continues good, with some overtime. In the coloured goods trade work is again reported as bad, many looms being engaged on plain cloths only. In the sateen trade it shows a slight improvement. At Burnley in the looming and drawing department 5·8 per cent. of the union members are unemployed, and receiving out-of-work benefit. In a number of cases winders and beamers are working short time, whilst several are stopped altogether in consequence of the stoppage of looms. There is no improvement among spinners. In the Preston district 51 or 4·8 per cent. are unemployed; at Blackburn, 116 or 11 per cent.; at Burnley, 27 or 6·4 per cent.; at Accrington, 1·4 per cent. Many of these have exhausted their out-of-work benefit. The spinning and carding departments in the Darwen district continue slack, more members having exhausted their out-of-work benefit.

Building Trades.—Employment in the Darwen and Nelson districts continues brisk, but is less so in Accrington, through completion of contracts.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—The machine workers during the past month have been fairly busy, overtime having been worked to a large extent. The moulders, fitters, and smiths are fully engaged, as are also the tinplate workers.

Mining and Quarrying.—Coal miners are mostly on full time, though at a few pits the men are only working five days per week. The recent severe weather curtailed the hours of quarrymen.

Miscellaneous.—The calico printing and dyeing trades are not busy. The letterpress printing trades are brisk, chiefly through the municipal elections. The paper-making and paper-staining trades are only normal. A corn mill in the Accrington district and another in the Rawtenstall district have stopped.—*W. H. Wilkinson.*

Manchester and District.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers report trade as improving, with 5·6 per cent. unemployed. The steam engine-makers and other branches of the engineering trade report no change. The iron-moulders in Manchester and Macclesfield report trade as moderate, with 12½ per cent. unemployed. The brass-founders and finishers have 2 per cent. unemployed. The wire-weavers and wire-drawers in Warrington report no change.

Textile Trades.—Cotton spinning in Manchester is moderate, and improving with about 8½ per cent. unemployed. Only one mill remains closed, all others are running full time. In Stockport there has been a distinct improvement among cotton spinners. Thread-doublers and weavers continue brisk. In Macclesfield the cotton trade generally continues slack, the operatives working four days only, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The silk trade continues busy in all departments, the demand for weavers exceeding the supply. Fustian cutters are well employed. Dressers, dyers, and finishers, with 22 per cent. unemployed, report no improvement in trade.

Clothing Trades.—The bespoke department of the tailoring trade has improved. The wholesale clothing branch continues moderate, but shows a little improvement. Ready-made mantle-makers are busy, and working overtime; shirtmakers are busy; capmakers are moderately employed; waterproof garment-makers are quiet. The improvement in the umbrella trade has been maintained. Employment in the felt hat trade has been steady; the silk hat trade is improving.

Building Trades.—The bricklayers, stonemasons, and plasterers report employment as good in Manchester, as moderate in Stockport, Macclesfield, and Warrington; the joiners as good, with 1·3 per cent. unemployed; the painters as bad; the glass-painters, embossers, and fret-glass cutters as good.

Furnishing and Wood-working Trades.—The upholsterers report employment as moderate, with 4·6 per cent. unemployed; the coach-builders at the railway works as good, but those in private shops as moderate, with 5·6 per cent. unemployed; the cabinet-makers and coopers as fair.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (continued).—LANCASHIRE (contd.) AND YORKSHIRE.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Employment with letterpress printers in Manchester, Stockport and district continues bad. The bookbinders are slack, with 8 per cent. unemployed; the lithographic printers have 5 per cent. out of employment.—*G. D. Kelley.*

A report from Leigh states that few miners in the district are in receipt of stoppage pay. Employment in the textile trades continues irregular, several mills running short time. The engineers in Tyldesley are fairly well employed, some firms being exceptionally busy; the agricultural machine firms in Leigh are on short time. All branches of the building trades are active.

Barrow-in-Furness District.

Iron and Steel Trades.—The iron trade continues to be busy, and none are out of employment. Many steel-workers in Barrow have been unemployed, owing to the total stoppage of the works; in the other parts of the district they are fairly well employed.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Employment among marine engineers has slightly declined. In the engineering trade about 2 per cent. of the members are out of work. Shipbuilders are fairly well employed.

Building Trades.—All branches are fairly busy, bricklayers and joiners especially so. Plumbers, plasterers and slaters are well employed, but painters irregularly.

Shipping and Railways.—Shipping at the Barrow Docks has been dull during the month, but at Whitehaven, Workington and other small ports on the west coast it has been fairly busy, principally in the coasting trade. There is no improvement in railway traffic.

Miscellaneous.—Employment in the printing and kindred trades is moderate; in the tailoring trade it is rather dull and irregular. The millers are busy; bakers and confectioners moderately so. Pulp and paper-workers are well off for work. Jute workers are rather slack.—*J. D. Couper.*

Liverpool and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—The boiler-makers report a continued improvement in Birkenhead upon new work, but no change in repair work. The shipwrights report employment as fair in Birkenhead and on the upper reaches, but as slack on repair work in Liverpool; the ship painters as moderate. The steam engine makers report a small number unemployed. The engineers report employment as unchanged; the ironfounders as quiet.

Furnishing and Coachbuilding Trades.—The cabinet-makers continue well employed. The upholsterers and French-polishers improved slightly towards the end of October. The coachbuilders report no change.

Building Trades.—These trades show little change. The masons, bricklayers and plasterers report employment as full, the plumbers as moderate, with about 6 per cent. idle; the painters in one branch as fair, in another as declining.

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.—The letterpress printers report employment as decidedly improved; the lithographic printers as fair, with 4 per cent. idle. The bookbinders report a better demand for men.—*C. Rouse.*

Shipping, Dock and Riverside Labour.—Sailors and firemen are fairly well employed. Employment among ship and quay men shows a decided improvement. Coalheavers report no change. River flatmen are slightly busier; Dock Board employees remain moderately busy.

Other Transport Trades.—In the railway goods department employment with stagemen, yardmen, shunters, sheeters, vanmen and carters, continues to improve. Inland water carriers report a slight falling-off, several barges being tied up at Runcorn. Cross-city carriers are fairly busy.

Chemical Industry.—A slight improvement is reported, particularly in St. Helens, but there are still many chemical workers unemployed.

Coal Mining.—A decided improvement is reported, particularly in the St. Helens district, most of the collieries working five days per week.

Miscellaneous.—Employment has improved with gas-workers and tobacco-workers; it has declined amongst brickmakers.—*J. Sexton.*

A report from Winsford states that the salt industry has been moderate in that district, and good in Middlewich. Employment has improved in the chemical industry, and more men have been taken on. In the building trades employment is fair. The fustian-cutters are moderately busy.

YORKSHIRE.

Hull and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—The engineering departments are fairly well employed, but in the shipbuilding and repairing yards

employment is only moderate, with few additional orders placed. The iron and steel dressers report employment as good. Two societies of engineers with 6·8 per cent. unemployed, the ironfounders with nearly 6 per cent., the smiths and strikers with 5 per cent., the machinists workers with over 3 per cent., and the boiler-makers, all report employment as moderate; the shipwrights as slack, with 7 per cent. unemployed; the sail-makers with 25 per cent. unemployed, the shipyard, engineering and general labourers with a large percentage unemployed, as bad.

Building Trades.—Employment at Hull shows a slight falling-off. The bricklayers, plumbers, painters, and builders' labourers report employment as moderate. The building trades are reported as good at Doncaster and Selby, and as dull at Grimsby and Bridlington Quay. Stonemasons at the latter place are moderately employed.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment for sailors and firemen is moderate. The coal hoistmen and trimmers report employment as fair; the railway employes as good.

Fishing Industry.—At Hull the number of unemployed is normal. Both steam and sail trawling vessels have done better than in September, the fish having fetched better prices. The sailing vessels at Grimsby—where about 500 men, or 10 per cent., are partially or totally unemployed—have also done better. Employment on the pontoons has been fairly good.

Seed Crushing, Paint, Oil and Colour Trades.—Employment has been moderate in the seed-crushing mills, with a slight improvement at the end of the month. There is no change to report in reference to the paint and colour works, which continue fairly well employed.

Printing Trades.—The letterpress printers report employment as slightly better, but bad for the season of the year, with nearly 4 per cent. unemployed and over 10 per cent. only partially employed; the bookbinders and machine-rulers as moderate, with 1 unemployed and 3 partially employed.

Miscellaneous.—The flour mill workers report employment as good, with none unemployed; the tailors as fair; the brushmakers as bad, with over 18 per cent. unemployed and nearly 31 per cent. only partially employed; the cabinet-makers as moderate; the gas-workers as moderate, but improving, as is customary at this time of year.—*W. G. Millington.*

Leeds and District.

Metal Trades.—The engineers are not quite so brisk, and the number unemployed has slightly increased. The pattern-makers have 10·4 per cent. idle; the ironfounders in Leeds and Stanningley report employment as not so good. At Kirkstall employment is good, especially in the engine-shafting department. The boiler-makers show no improvement. The steel-workers continue busy. The white-smiths, with 7 per cent. idle, report employment as bad, but improving; the machine tool workers as quiet.

Clothing Trades.—The boot and shoe trade in Leeds has been fair, most shops working full time, and few finishers being unemployed. At Heckmondwike employment is brisk, and at Bramley and Barnsley overtime is being worked. The ready-made clothing trade is slack, the operatives reporting 2 per cent. unemployed. Bespoke tailoring is fairly good.

Textile Trades.—Employment is good in the blanket, flax, and linen trades, few being unemployed. The willeys and fettlers report employment as brisk, and the woollen mule spinners continue well employed. At Wakefield, Stanningley and Bramley the mills are busy, but at Yeadon employment has fallen off.

Leather Trades.—The leather shavers, with none on the out-of-work fund, report employment as still good; the curriers as fair. Many of the principal tanneries are on short time.

Building Trades.—These trades in Leeds have been well employed during the month, slackness being reported by the painters and plumbers only. Employment is fair at Wakefield, and quiet at Stanningley.

Glass Bottle Trade.—In Leeds this industry, except in the medical bottle branch, shows no improvement, and a number are still unemployed. At Castleford and Wakefield employment is better.

Coal Mining.—There has been an improvement in the Leeds district, and some of the pits are working full time. At Morley during the month 25 days have been worked at one seam, 15 days at another, and 14 days at a third. The pits around Wakefield, Normanton, Castleford, Hemsworth and Nostell have improved.

Miscellaneous.—The letterpress printers have 9·3 per cent. unemployed, and the lithographers 1·1 per cent. The cabinet-makers report employment as fair; the brushmakers as improved; the coachmakers as quiet. Paper mill workers and paper-stainers are busy.—*O. Connellan.*

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (continued).—YORKSHIRE AND MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Bradford, Huddersfield, and District.

Worsted Trade.—This industry is still busy. In Bradford the dyers report only 1 per cent. out of work. In the Worth Valley all workers are reported busy. In Huddersfield and Halifax employment is good, most firms being on full time, and one or two on overtime.

Woollen Trade.—In and around Huddersfield many firms are working overtime, and one or two all night. The heavy woollen trade is also in a good condition, overtime being prevalent in Dewsbury and Batley, with few unemployed.

Cotton and Silk Trades.—Employment in the cotton trade is reported as moderate; in the silk trade as a little better.

Metal Trades.—The metal trades in Bradford, Keighley, Halifax, Huddersfield and Dewsbury show an improvement. The engineers have 4·2 per cent. unemployed, and the ironfounders in Keighley and Huddersfield 1·1 per cent.

Building Trades.—These trades are fairly well employed throughout the district.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with the dyers and cabinet-makers is brisk; with the quarrymen fair; with the tailors and printers moderate.—A. Gee.

Yorkshire Mining Districts (except Cleveland).

Coal Mining.—The improvement continues, and many collieries are working better than for some time past. The men, however, still complain of the crowded condition of the pits. There are a considerable, though decreasing, number of men on the out-of-work fund.

Coke Trade.—The improvement in this industry still continues.

Engineering.—The engineers in the Barnsley district have about 10 per cent. unemployed.

Glass Bottle Trade.—This industry still continues depressed in the Barnsley district, including Stairfoot.

Building Trades.—Employment with the bricklayers continues brisk, and all are fully employed.

J. Wadsworth.

Sheffield and District.

Iron and Steel Industries.—There is an increased demand for pig iron for puddling and foundry purposes, and the blast furnacemen are fairly well employed; puddlers and shinglers are making better time. The merchant iron rollers report employment as good. Armour plate makers, hydraulic pressmen, Siemens steel smelters, planers, slotters and drillers are busy. The Bessemer steel trade is quiet, and at one large works the plant is stopped, but on the whole the steel workers are moderately employed. Forgemasters are fairly busy, but iron and steel tube workers are better employed, except on marine work. Boilermakers report employment as slack, with 3 per cent. unemployed and 5 per cent. on short time; the iron and steel-founders as moderate, with 9 per cent. unemployed, as against 11 per cent. in September. Makers of patent shot and shell are better employed, and there is a fair amount of work being done by the sword and bayonet makers. The rolling mills are making much better time. The wire-drawers report employment as good; the engineers as improving, with 5 per cent. unemployed as against 6 per cent. in September. Iron gate and palisade makers and gas and water meter workers are well employed. There is a fair amount of work in the locomotive department. The railway spring makers report employment as bad, although slightly improved. At Renishaw the blast furnaces are in full operation; the ironmoulders and pump fitters are all fully employed. At Dronfield employment is fair on tools and castings. At Staveley blast furnacemen and pipemakers are fairly well employed. At Rotherham there is a fair amount of work in steel forgings and railway materials. The brass trade is good.

Cutlery and Tools.—In the cutlery trade there is a decided improvement. Table and butcher blade grinders are busier, only about 1 per cent. being short of work. The engineers' tool makers report employment as good, with 1 per cent. unemployed, as against 3 per cent. in September; the edge tool grinders as moderate, with 5 per cent. unemployed; the razor grinders as improved, with about 6 per cent. unemployed. Improvement is also reported among scissor-makers and file cutters.

Other Metal Trades.—The silversmiths report employment as fair, the "putters together" having only 2 per cent. unemployed. The stampers make a similar report, and the finishers are busy. Employment with Britannia metal-workers is fair.

Building Trades.—These trades are beginning to decline. The

bricklayers have a few men on short time, and the joiners have about 1·5 per cent. unemployed. The plumbers are slacker.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress printers report improvement, with 5 per cent. idle, as against 15 per cent. in September. The bookbinders have 4 per cent. unemployed, as against 2 per cent. in September.

Miscellaneous.—The cabinet-makers continue fairly well employed. The railway carriage and wagon-builders at the principal works are on short time. Saddlers and harness-makers are slack.—S. Utley.

ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Derbyshire District.

Engineering and kindred Trades.—Out of 1,311 union members in these trades, 21 (or nearly 2 per cent.) are reported unemployed. Engineers at the locomotive works continue steadily employed on full time. Bridge, girder, and boiler yards are fairly well employed. The boiler-makers in Derby, Ilkeston and Burton-on-Trent report employment as moderate, with 2½ per cent. out of work. The ironfounders, with about 8 per cent. idle in all districts, report employment as bad in Derby and Codnor, improving at Butterley, and moderate in Chesterfield. The stove grate workers in Belper report employment as moderate; brass-moulders and finishers as fair in Derby; pattern-makers as moderate. Cycle works are fairly employed. The lace and hosiery machine builders in Long Eaton are fully employed.

Coal Mining.—Employment has considerably improved in all districts since September, and very few were out of work at the close of the month. In Clay Cross, house coal seams are working 5 days, gas coal seams 6 days; in Ripley, soft coal 5 days, hard coal 4 days; in Codnor district, soft coal 5 days, and in some cases 6 days; hard coal 4 days. In Denby and Chesterfield workmen are on full time. In Staveley from 5 to 6 days is the rule; in Alfreton district, hard coal 5 days, soft coal 4½ days, cannel coal 4½ days per week; in Ilkeston, 4 to 5 days; in West Hallam, 5 to 5½ days.

Quarrying.—The quarrymen in nearly all districts are fairly well employed.

Building Trades.—These trades continue fairly well employed, with exceptionally few unemployed for the time of year.

Textile Trades.—The lace trade in Long Eaton and Borrowash is still depressed, with many totally unemployed. The cotton trade is dull in Glossop, but fairly busy in Belper and Borrowash. The wool, silk and merino manufacturers in Lea and Holloway continue busy. The dyers in the Belper district are fairly well employed. The hand-frame knitters are slack.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is reported as improving by the tailors and dress and mantle makers, but is only moderate with the boot and shoe operatives.

Iron Trades.—Employment in the manufacture of pig iron continues to improve. One furnace has been put in blast during the month, and several more are being prepared.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The lithographic printers and bookbinders report employment as fair; the letterpress printers as somewhat dull, few being wholly unemployed.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—The railway carriage and wagon-builders in Derby are improving, and on October 14th commenced working five days per week. Coachbuilders in private shops are fairly well employed. The cabinet makers report employment as fair; sawyers and woodworkers' machinists as good; wagon builders as slack in Long Eaton, wagon repairers as improving.

Miscellaneous.—The millers and paper-makers report employment as moderate; the brushmakers and paper bagmakers as good; the bakers and confectioners as improving; the gasworkers as moderate. Shoeing and general smiths are fairly well employed. The tanners and curriers in the Chesterfield district report employment as fair, full time being worked. General labourers are slack.

C. White-Deacon.

Nottingham and District.

Lace Trade.—There is improvement in some branches, but reports from the warp lace branch and from the warpers, designers and curtain readers are unfavourable.

Hosiery Trade.—The improvement noted last month is well maintained. Elastic bandage makers continue busy. The circular hosiery branch remains quiet. The hand frame branch at Sutton is fairly brisk in silk lace goods, but dull in other work. Employment is not good at Kirkby, Mansfield, Carlton and Arnold. The wool-workers are fairly active at Hucknall Torkard.

Coal Mining.—Returns from 21 collieries show an improvement on September.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (continued).—MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Potteries District.

Pottery Trades.—All classes of operatives are well employed. The hollow-ware pressers have only ½ per cent. out of work; the sanitary pressers are exceptionally busy; the flat-pressers are busy, with 1½ per cent. idle; the printers and transferers are well employed at most factories; the women gilders and decorators, with 1 per cent. idle, report employment as busy at some firms, slack at others. The other branches send good reports.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Activity prevails in the mills and forges, and the operatives are now practically working full time. Pig-iron workers are well employed, and a blast-furnace at Silverdale, which had been standing for some time, has been blown in. In the steel department trade is improving, and no operatives are idle.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers, boiler-makers, ironfounders and machinists are busy at Stoke, none being unemployed. At Hanley and Burslem employment is declining, 6 per cent. being out of work. At Crewe employment is moderate, but orders have been issued affecting 3,000 workmen to recommence working on Saturdays. At Stafford employment is not so good, a small percentage being out of work; at Congleton it is bad. At Uttoxeter the agricultural engineers are busy. The copper works at Froghall and Oakamoor are not so busy, the wire mill operatives having been on three-quarter time since October 7th. The rolling and tube mills are working full time.

Coal Mining.—The miners are much better employed, from four to five days per week being generally worked, and fewer men being unemployed. In the Cheadle district a large number are still out of work. Colliery enginemasters are well employed.

Quarrying.—The stone quarrymen at Alton and Hollington are well employed.

Textile Trades.—At Leek the silk trimming weavers report employment as quiet, but with none totally unemployed. The silk trade generally is moderate. At Congleton silk dressers report employment as better, and the throwsters as busy, with none out of work; the trimming weavers as moderate. Fustian cutting remains good. At Cheadle and Tean the tape mills are running full time, with only a small percentage out of work. The corset-makers at Uttoxeter are busy.

Clothing Trades.—The tailors report employment as improved in the Potteries and in Stafford, but slack at Crewe. Shoemakers at Stafford report trade as falling off, most of the firms being on short time. At Stone the shoe trade is improving, but the introduction of machinery continues to displace hand-workers.

Building Trades.—In the Potteries bricklayers are busy, with no unemployed; the joiners have 5 per cent. idle. At Leek employment is moderate, with none out of work. At Stafford the stonemasons, bricklayers, plasterers and joiners are moderately employed, the painters have 2½ per cent. idle. At Crewe employment is moderate. Brick and tile-makers throughout the district are busy.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress printers in the Potteries have been better employed, and the improvement at Stafford has been maintained. The lithographic artists and printers report trade as fair, with none idle. The bookbinders report no change.

Miscellaneous.—Railway servants at Stoke are busy, at Stafford they are better employed, and from Crewe no change is reported. The brushmakers in the Potteries are not so busy, 2 per cent. being idle. The bakers report trade as somewhat better, with 5 per cent. out of work.—I. S. Harvey.

Wolverhampton and District.

Iron and Steel Trades.—The iron and steel trades of South Staffordshire have shown considerable improvement, puddlers, millmen and steel smelters being well employed. Improvement is also reported in South Shropshire. Wire rolling has not been quite so good, and there has been a slight decline in bridge and girder work.

Engineering and kindred Trades.—The constructive machinists and engineers, with less than 3 per cent. out of work, are better employed. In South Shropshire they are fairly busy. Boiler and tank makers, bridge and girder constructors, and gasometer erectors are fully employed throughout the district. Iron door and safe-makers are fairly busy, and heavy ironfounders moderately so. Tool makers and machinists have improved. The electrical trades are busy, one firm working double shifts and another overtime. The cycle trade is still active. Full time has been resumed by all branches at the railway sheds in Wolverhampton.

Hardware Trades.—Employment is reported as good with spring trap makers, makers of malleable castings, galvanisers, enamellers and japanners, tube-workers, edge toolmakers, chain and cable-makers, and iron fence and hurdle-makers; as improved with lock-

Engineering and Iron Trades.—There is a decided improvement in the engineering and machine building branches, lace machine builders working overtime. The hosiery machine branch is slack. Cycle makers are working overtime. The steam engine makers and iron and steel dressers report employment as moderate; the brassworkers and the boiler-makers as dull; the tool machinists as slack. Employment is good at Beeston. Employment with ironfounders and engineers is good at Mansfield, quiet at Retford and Newark. The boiler-makers are fairly busy at Newark. The engine repairers and fitters are well employed at Colwick. The blast furnacemen at Bulwell are busy, with no unemployed.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress printers report employment as moderate; the bookbinders as improving, with no unemployed; the lithographic printers as moderate.

Railways.—Employment is good in all grades at Colwick and Netherfield, fair at Worksop and Mansfield, brisk at Newark and Toton Sidings.

Building Trades.—Employment is good at Newark, Mansfield and Worksop, quiet at Retford, and fair at Hucknall Torkard, Bulwell and Arnold. Seventeen branches, with a total membership of 2,681, return 1·7 per cent. as unemployed.

Miscellaneous.—The wheelwrights and blacksmiths report employment as moderate; the tailors and the bakers as improved; the boot and shoe operatives as slack; the coachmakers, silkdressers, and female cigar-makers as moderate; the cotton-doublers, farriers, and gasworkers as busy.—W. L. Hardstaff.

Leicester and Northampton District.

Boot and Shoe Industry.—In Leicester a number of the operatives are working short time. At Northampton and Kettering also work is slacker. At Wellingborough, Rothwell, Daventry and Rushden the workpeople continue fully engaged. In the leather dressing, tanning and currying industry labour is still in good demand.

Clothing Trades.—The wholesale tailoring trade continues busy, and there is a slight improvement in the bespoke branch. Stay and corset-makers continue fully employed; mantle-makers, milliners, and dressmakers only moderately so. Hatters are busy in the ladies' felt branch; with silk hatters employment is moderate, but with capmakers fairly good.

Hosiery, Yarn and Spinning Trades.—Employment is good in the hosiery trade. The operatives engaged in the yarn and wool spinning industry are unusually busy. All branches of the dyeing and trimming trades continue in full work.

Elastic Web and Rubber Industries.—Employment is better in all branches of the elastic web trade. Workpeople engaged in the manufacture of rubber for webbings, cycle tyres and tennis shoes are generally well employed.

Engineering, Iron and Cycle Trades.—The main branches of the engineering trade report employment as regular. Electrical engineers are moderately busy. Work is good with hosiery machine builders, and improving among boot machinery makers. It is slacker with ironfounders, boiler-makers, fitters and turners. Cycle-makers in some branches are better employed.

Mining and Quarrying.—The miners in the South Leicestershire coalfields are more regularly employed. Ironstone workers are generally in full work, but stone quarrymen in the kerb and sett branches are not so busy.

Printing Trades.—Employment is fairly good with letterpress and jobbing printers, but at Leicester the percentage of unemployed has increased. In the lithographic branch work is full, and employment is improving with bookbinders.

Building Trades.—Employment generally remains good, the percentage entirely out of work being under the average for the season.

Furnishing and Coach-building Trades.—Cabinet-makers and French polishers show no change. Coachmakers and tramcar builders are fairly busy, and wagon-builders are better employed.

Railways.—The men engaged in the goods and mineral traffic are now fully employed; those in the passenger department are not so busy. In the fitting and repairing shops work is still improving. The men engaged in making the new railway are working full time.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is reported as good with brick, tile and drainpipe-makers, basket-makers, gaiter and legging-makers, cigar-makers, bone and glueworkers, and gas stokers; as moderate with wheelwrights, blacksmiths, saddlers, brushmakers, bakers and confectioners; as improving with paper box-makers and packing case-makers.—T. Smith.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (continued).—MIDLAND AND EASTERN COUNTIES.

makers, vice and anvil-makers, wrought nail makers, fender and fire-iron makers, hoe makers, spring hook, hame, chain and cart gear makers, and nut and bolt makers; as fair with casters of harness furniture, brassworkers and tinplate-workers; as declining with key-stampers, and as slack with makers of malleable cast nails, polishers and bobbers and anchor smiths. Odd work moulders are working five and six days per week, hinge-casters three and four days, and hollow-ware moulders four and five days. In Bilston the ironplate trade is moderate.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoemakers are busier, and full time is being generally worked; a few are unemployed. The tailoring trade is busier, with overtime in some cases.

Coal Mining.—There has been a considerable improvement in the Cannock Chase (house coal) district, and some pits are making full time; the number of unemployed has been reduced. On the Hednesford side of the Chase the pits are working about 3½ days a week. In the Black Country district the recent slight improvement has been maintained. In South Shropshire the demand has increased, and some collieries are on full time.

Building Trades.—These trades have been busy. At the end of the month painters and decorators, masons and brickmakers began to feel a decline. Bricklayers, slaters, plumbers and plasterers are fully employed; the carpenters have about 1 per cent. idle.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—The wheelwrights and smiths, cabinet-makers, upholsterers and polishers report employment as fairly good; the coachbuilders, coopers and casemakers as moderate. Wet cask coopers are busy. Mill sawyers and machinists are fully employed.

Miscellaneous.—The letterpress printing trade is much better, both at West Bromwich and Wolverhampton; bookbinding is moderate. Employment is reported as good with railway men, carters and carriers, oil, colour and varnish makers, flint glass makers and gas-stokers; as fair with rope and twine spinners; as depressed with glass bottle makers at Brierley Hill; as moderate with bakers and confectioners. Carpet-weavers in Kidderminster are slack, but the spinners are fairly well employed.—*W. F. Meo.*

Birmingham and District.

Engineering.—Five branches report employment as moderate and one as good. There are few working overtime, and 4·3 per cent. unemployed. General work is busiest, while cycle work has fallen off. The blacksmiths, with 2 per cent. on short time and none unemployed, report trade as moderate.

Brass and Copper Workers.—All branches of the brass trade are better than in September, some being exceptionally busy. Cabinet work, which was slackest, has improved. There are fewer unemployed than for some time past. Coppersmiths have experienced no decline. Brass and copper tube work is fairly good, all mills running full time.

Other Metal Trades.—Ironplate work is fairly good, the braziers being slackest. A few firms are working overtime. In bedstead work all branches are good, and there are but 15 unemployed. File-smiths report a decided improvement. The steel pen trade is fairly good. Metal rollers maintain the improvement of last month.

Jewellers, Silversmiths and Electro-platers.—The jewellery trade, especially in best work, is good, chain-work being the slackest. Overtime is being worked in many cases, and only a few workmen are unemployed. The silversmiths are still fairly busy. Electro-plating is good, and a number of firms are working overtime.

Building Trades.—Carpenters in 8 branches report employment as fair, and good; some are working overtime. There are none working short time, and less than 1 per cent. totally unemployed. The stonemasons report employment as bad, except on public buildings; the plasterers as good, with no overtime or short time, and none unemployed.

Other Trades in Birmingham.—The flint-glass makers report some improvement, and bevellers and silverers are fully employed. The letterpress printers, with 7 per cent. unemployed, report employment as moderate; coachmakers as slackening. The railway carriage and wagon builders at three large works in the Saltley district have full work for some months to come. Gas-workers now find employment good. Packing-case makers are busy, no union members being unemployed. The ivory button workers are better employed, making four days a week, instead of three as last month. Two societies of cabinet-makers report employment as fair and good respectively, with only four unemployed.

Trades in South Staffordshire.—The iron and steel workers again report employment as plentiful in all branches, and three large works have been re-started. The enamelled trade still continues good; vice and anvil work is improving. Chainmakers report em-

ployment as good, with only 1 per cent. unemployed; the nail-workers as decidedly improved. The Walsall trades are better; saddlery work is busy; two-thirds of the locksmiths are on short time.—*W. J. Davis.*

ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES.**Norfolk and neighbouring District.**

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—The engineers are slack at Norwich and Yarmouth, with several unemployed, and well employed at Melton Constable, Lynn, and Downham Market. Employment at Thetford is bad, and turners, smiths, foundrymen, pattern-makers, and carpenters on iron works are on three-quarter time; boiler-makers are on full time, and a few fitters are making overtime, but the rest are on short time. The electrical engineers at Norwich are busy. At Yarmouth and Lowestoft the shipwrights and mast and block-makers are fairly employed.

Textile Trades.—The silk and crape factories at Norwich and Yarmouth are working full time.

Clothing Trades.—At Norwich employment has slightly improved with the boot and shoe riveters and finishers; the sew-round department is busy. The clothing factories in Norwich are running full time. The tailors at Yarmouth are not very busy; at Norwich they are fairly brisk, with none idle.

Building Trades.—Throughout the district these trades have been busy. Painters in Norwich are still fairly well employed; at Yarmouth and Lowestoft they are slack, but with few unemployed.

Cabinet-makers and Coach-builders have been fairly busy at Norwich.

Printing Trades.—Employment has been dull at Norwich, with several idle.

Wire Weaving.—This trade is dull; all the men are employed on short shifts.

Fishing.—At Yarmouth and Lowestoft this industry has been active.

Dock and General Labour.—At Yarmouth and Lynn dock labourers are well employed, but at Lynn the demand is falling off, and several are standing idle. Navvies at Norwich are in full work.

Maltsters have been busy.—*G. Cleverley.*

Suffolk, Essex, and District.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Trades.—The engineers at Ipswich report a slight improvement; at one firm they are working five days per week, as against four for some months past. At Leiston employment is fair; at Bury St. Edmunds good; at Wickham Market slack, short time prevailing; at Colchester moderate; at Chelmsford brisk. The boiler-makers at Ipswich report employment as moderate; the moulders as good. The shipwrights are still dull.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the boot and shoe trade has been good at Colchester, but dull at Ipswich, short time prevailing in some shops. The wholesale tailoring trade is good at Colchester and Ipswich, and the bespoke branch is also busy. At Ipswich the stay and corset-makers report employment as fair, and at Sudbury as good.

Mat and Silk Trades.—The mat-weavers report employment as good at Long Melford and Lavenham, and moderate at Sudbury, Hadleigh and Glemsford. The silk industry continues good at Sudbury.

Printing Trades.—The letterpress printers at Ipswich report employment as moderate, with about 5 per cent. out of work; at Bury St. Edmunds as dull; and at Beccles and Colchester as good.

Building Trades.—These trades are good at Bury St. Edmunds, and moderate at Colchester and Chelmsford. At Ipswich the bricklayers report employment as moderate, with no unemployed; the stonemasons as bad; the carpenters, painters and plasterers as fair. At Sudbury the bricklayers and painters report employment as moderate; the carpenters as good.

Miscellaneous.—The leather trade is brisk at Colchester; the gas-workers are dull at Colchester, busy at Ipswich; the cigar-makers continue busy; coachbuilders are slack at Ipswich, busy at Beccles; dock and general labour remains depressed. At the Horticultural Works at Ipswich employment continues good, at Chelmsford slack.—*R. W. Mather.*

ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES.**Bristol, Somerset, and Gloucestershire Districts.**

General.—Returns received from 47 trade societies, with a membership of 10,283, show 342 (or 3 per cent.) to be totally unemployed at the end of October.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.).—S.W. COUNTIES, WALES & SCOTLAND.

WALES.**South Wales District.**

Coal Mining.—Employment has fallen off during October. In the Eastern and Western Valley districts, and the Western district of South Wales, there are many collieries where the miners have not worked 4 days a week. Two large collieries at Maesteg, employing upwards of 800 men, were closed at the end of the month for an indefinite period.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment has not been so good at Cardiff, Penarth and Barry. One dock company has placed nearly the whole of their day men, except the permanent way hands, on 34 hours a week. Newport and Swansea report shipping—both export and import—as moderate, but not so good as in September.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is moderate. In the towns there is a falling-off. In some of the country districts an effort has been made to complete work before the winter sets in. The carpenters and joiners report trade as bad, with 4 per cent. unemployed in Cardiff, and 3 per cent. in Newport. Plasterers, masons, and plumbers report employment as fair, with very few idle. Bricklayers are fully employed, but painters, paper-hangers and decorators are not so.

Ship-repairing and Engineering.—Employment has been bad throughout the month, especially at Cardiff. The engineers have 16 per cent. unemployed at Cardiff. Barry has an average of 14 per cent., Newport 8 per cent., and Swansea 13 per cent. unemployed. Several firms are working short time in the fitting shops. The boiler-makers report employment as bad; at Cardiff they averaged 40 per cent. unemployed throughout the month; at Newport 16 per cent., and Swansea 12½ per cent. The shipwrights have many unemployed throughout the South Wales ports. Moulders report employment as bad. A large percentage of the labourers depending upon the ship-repairing yards are out of employment.

Tin Plate Trade.—Nearly all the works on the more modern principles are running on the 1874 price list.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment in the iron trade is dull, but in the steel trade there is a steady improvement. The steel plate workers are fairly busy.

Miscellaneous.—The metallurgical industries, except steel smelting, are dull. The chemical works are also dull. The patent fuel trade is fairly brisk. Wagon-builders, springmakers, steam sawyers and lathrenders report employment as fair.—*T. Davies.*

A further report from *South Wales* states that the output of steam coal has not improved, but that house coal collieries are working nearly full time. At four collieries some 1,500 men have been thrown out of work.

SCOTLAND.**Edinburgh and District.**

Coal Mining.—The coal trade in the Lothians is, on the whole, good; in Mid and East Lothian the miners are generally working full time (five days per week), and in West Lothian from ten to twelve days per fortnight.

Mineral Oil Trades.—This industry continues brisk, and all sections of workers are fully employed. Of the men employed at 21 shale mines in Mid and West Lothian, 777 per cent. were at mines which worked full time during the four weeks ended October 26th. At 19 of these mines 2,827 men were employed, as compared with 2,478 in October 1894.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The iron-moulders in the Falkirk district report employment as good. In the Edinburgh district the light branches report employment as good, and the heavy branches as fair. The brass-founders and the range, stove and ornamental fitters report employment as good; the pattern-makers, blacksmiths, engineers, coppersmiths, horse-shoers, tinsmiths and gas-meter makers as fair. Returns from 16 branches show 3 per cent. unemployed.

Shipbuilding.—Employment continues dull at Leith, with more idle. The shipwrights return 20·2 per cent. unemployed, and the iron ship-builders 21 per cent. The ship-joiners also report employment as dull. In Kirkcaldy employment is reported as moderate.

Textile Trades.—In Midlothian the carpet weavers report employment as good. The rope workers in Leith are working full time. The linen industry in Dunfermline continues to improve. In Selkirk, Hawick, and Galashiels, the woollen and hosiery industries are busy, and the weavers, spinners, and frame-work knitters are fully employed. Dyers are busy.

Building Trades.—Twenty-one societies and branches, with a membership of 3,042, report 134 (or 4·4 per cent.) unemployed, as against 2·7 per cent. at the end of September. The bricklayers and masons report employment as moderate; the lathrenders and plumbers as good; the brickmakers as steady; the plasterers as fair; the carpenters and joiners as brisk; the painters and house decorators as slack.

Clothing Trades.—The Bristol boot and shoe industry is reported as quiet, with several of the factories on short time. Employment in the Kingswood district is fairly good. The bespoke tailors report trade as improving; the wholesale garment makers as declining.

Coal Mining.—The Bristol miners, with 2·1 per cent. idle, report a general improvement. Improvement is also reported in the Radstock district, and continuous improvement in the Forest of Dean.

Quarrying.—Employment is reported as fair in the Forest of Dean; in the East Gloucestershire district as slack.

Textile Trades.—Employment is reported as brisk at Wellington, dyers and worsted spinners working overtime.

Furnishing and Wood-working Trades.—The cabinet-makers and upholsterers report employment as greatly improved; the brush-makers and mill-sawyers and wood-cutting machinists as fair; the coopers as good; the box-makers as slack; the shop and bar-fitters as busy.

Printing Trades.—Of 605 members of societies in these trades, 27 (or 4·4 per cent.) were unemployed, as against 3·3 per cent. at the end of September. The letterpress printers report employment as fairly good; the lithographic printers as moderate; the bookbinders as dull.

Engineering and other Iron Trades.—Of 1,142 members of societies engaged in these trades 75 (or 6·5 per cent.) were unemployed, as against 5·8 per cent. at the end of September. The ironfounders and boiler-makers report employment as bad; the toolmakers and machinists as fair; the brassfounders and finishers as steady; the sheet-iron workers as moderate; the galvanizers as busy; the wagon and coachbuilders as improving. The engineers report employment as dull in Bristol, fair at Gloucester, and improving at Swindon.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment with sailors and firemen is reported as depressed; with all branches of dock labour as dull.

Miscellaneous.—The carriers report employment as fairly good; the railway servants as steady; the glass bottle makers as slack; the cocoa and chocolate workers as busy; the shipwrights as a little better; the general labourers as declining.—*J. Curle.*

Plymouth and South-Western District.

Mining, Quarrying and Clay Industries.—The metal mining industry in Cornwall remains unchanged. A new shaft is being sunk at one mine. Most of the men are at present employed in various ways outside the mines; some are leaving for South Africa, and a few have gone to excavating work at Belfast. The quarrying and clay industries continue fairly well employed.

Engineering and Ship-repairing.—Employment with the engineers is reported as good. The Plymouth and Devonport branches report all as fully employed. The ironfounders report employment as steady; the boiler-makers and moulders as fairly good.

Clothing Trades.—The ready-made tailoring trade has in some firms been quiet, in others fairly busy. The bespoke branch has improved generally, and trade is reported as fair. The boot and shoe operatives show an improvement, full time being worked generally. The hand-sewn branch has not shown much improvement.

Building Trades.—All branches of these trades continue well employed, except at Torquay, where, however, improvement is reported.

Dock Labour and Shipping.—The imports have not increased, and dock labourers have been badly employed. Seamen also report employment as quiet, with no improvement.

Printing Trades.—The letterpress printers again report employment as full. The lithographic printers are fairly busy.

Miscellaneous.—The coachbuilders, smiths and wheelwrights report employment as declining; the saddlers and furniture-workers as fair; the brushmakers as slack; the brickmakers as busy. The fishing industry is quiet. General labourers are still largely in excess of the demand. The bakers are endeavouring to secure the abolition of night and Sunday labour in their trade.—*J. Welland.*

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—DISTRICT REPORTS.—SCOTLAND (continued).

Building Trades.—The masons, bricklayers, plasterers, glaziers, slaters, and lathsplitters report employment as good; the joiners and plumbers as fair. A considerable number of painters are unemployed.

Furnishing and Wood-working Trades.—The coopers and saw-mill operatives report employment as good; the cabinet makers, brush makers and French polishers as fair; the coachmakers and carvers as dull. Returns from nine branches of unions show 19 per cent. as idle.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The sailors and firemen report a number out of work. Dock labourers and coal porters continue fairly well employed.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The typefounders continue to work only five days per week. The lithographic artists, press and machinemen, stereotypers and lithographic printers report employment as good; the compositors and bookbinders as not so good as usual at this season of the year. Returns from seven branches of unions show 2 per cent. unemployed.

Miscellaneous.—The saddlers, carriers, and stoneware throwers report employment as good; the glasscutters, shoemakers and settmakers as fair; the tailors and pipemakers as quiet. General labourers still continue to be fairly well employed.—*J. Mallinson.*

Glasgow and West of Scotland.

Shipbuilding.—The various branches of shipbuilding, engineering, metal and kindred trades have been much unsettled by the prospect of a stoppage among the engineers. Particulars with regard to this dispute will be found on page 346. Up to the end of October, to which the present report relates, no actual stoppage had occurred. In Govan the shipwrights and ship-joiners are much the same as in September, with a considerable number of both classes idle. The ship-riggers report employment as good. Employment in the shipyards at Port Glasgow is again reported as good. In Greenock and Dumbarton neither shipwrights nor ship-joiners have been busy.

Iron and Steel Trades.—In the West of Scotland trade is still good, with the men fully employed.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers here report employment as good, but unsettled during the month by uncertainty as to the threatened lock-out, and as fairly good in Govan, Dumbarton, Port Glasgow, Greenock, Paisley, Kilmarnock, and Motherwell. The blacksmiths report that the improvement has been fully maintained in Glasgow and surrounding districts. The ironmoulders again report employment as improving; the irondressers as very good; the pattern-makers with 5 per cent. idle, as somewhat unsteady; the range, stove and ornamental fitters as still good; the brassmoulders as good on the whole; the iron-grinders as good, with all members fully employed; the wire weavers as decidedly improved. Tinplate workers report a slight improvement on the month. Scale-beam makers are all well employed.

Mining.—The state of the coal trade for the month has been satisfactory, and at nearly all the collieries regular work has ruled. The movement started in September among the miners for a rise of wages has been allowed to drop, the men not having acted on the recommendation of the delegates.

Building Trades.—All branches of the building trades report full employment, except the painters, who show a falling-off. In Paisley employment with masons and bricklayers is busy, with plasterers and joiners fair, with painters dull. In Dumbarton work is plentiful.

Furnishing and Wood-working Trades.—The cabinet and chair-makers report only 16 per cent. unemployed; the upholsterers have 3 per cent. idle; the coachmakers 5 per cent. The wood-turners and carvers report no improvement, though turners are busy at Paisley. The cork-cutters report no members idle. Coopers, lathrenders, and sawmillers are busy.

Textile Trades.—In Glasgow and West of Scotland all branches of the weaving industry are still busy. In Greenock merino and woollen mills are fairly busy. Carpet-weavers and millworkers in Paisley, laceweavers in Glasgow and Ayrshire, dyers working for the home market, and power loom beamers are busy. Dyers for export are slack. Warpers have averaged 45 hours per week. Calendar makers are well employed.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors report employment as fair, especially in heavy garments; tailoresses, clothiers' operatives and shoemakers as good. The mantle trade is busy. The boot and shoe operatives report no unemployed. Bespoke shoemakers have been busy.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The sailors and firemen report employment as unaltered; sailmakers as good. Dock labourers have been fully employed. Harbour labour is reported as middling in Greenock.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress and lithographic printers report improvement, the latter having 3 per cent. idle, the former 6 per cent. as against 10 per cent. in September. The bookbinders are improving, with 4 per cent. idle. The stereotypers and electrotypers report employment as good.

Miscellaneous.—The tobacco pipe makers have none idle. Employment is reported as good by the saddlers, curriers, and brushmakers, and as fair by the calico engravers, hackney carriage drivers, potters, cigarette makers, and musicians. Plate glass workers report a slight improvement, and glass bottle makers a continued improvement. Bakers have many only partially employed as jobbers. Enginemen, firemen, and cranimen are still well employed. Horse-shoers are not so well employed.—*A. J. Hunter.*

Dundee and District.

Textile Trades.—Employment continues satisfactory. The linen trade is fairly active and the jute branches busy. The Fife linen trade is in much the same condition as in September.

Coal Mining.—Notwithstanding an improvement in shipments, there is still scarcely any apparent effect on the time worked by the men.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Work continues good in land engine and machine-making shops, but employment on the whole is only moderate. The engineers report employment as fair, with under 3 per cent. idle; blacksmiths as quiet, with about 5 per cent.; ironmoulders as fair, with a slightly diminished idle list. Work at shipyards is still slack. The boiler-makers and iron and steel shipbuilders report no improvement, many of their members having left the district for other centres. Shipwrights report trade as dull, with 18 per cent. unemployed.

Building Trades.—Employment continues fairly good in these trades. Masons and plasterers are fully employed. Joiners report employment as fair, with fully 4 per cent. unemployed. Plumbers, slaters, and painters are slack. Paviers are still dull.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors report employment as still quiet. Boot and shoe operatives are moderately busy.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress printers report employment as good, with 1 per cent. unemployed. The lithographers are fully employed, and bookbinders fairly busy.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Cabinet-makers report employment as fair; upholsterers as slack; sawmillers and wood-cutting machinemen as good.

Fishing Industry.—The weather having been favourable, fairly good catches have been obtained.

Dock and General Labour.—Employment at the docks has improved, probably owing to the arrivals of the first vessels of the jute fleet. General labourers continue well employed.—*P. Reid.*

Aberdeen and District.

Quarrying.—The quarrymen and settmakers report employment as good; monumental stonecutters and granite polishers as fair; granite hewers as busy.

Building Trades.—The masons, plasterers, slaters, and joiners report employment as good; the plumbers and painters as fair.

Fishing.—In October the trawl boats landed 33,938 cwts., realizing £26,384, and the line boats 9,459 cwts., realizing £6,246. The total quantity shows a decrease, and the value a large increase as compared with September.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—The boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders report employment as fair, but there are still 13.5 per cent. idle. The shipwrights report employment as fair; the ironmoulders as good, with none idle; the blacksmiths as good, with three idle; the pattern-makers as quiet, with two idle; the tinplate workers as moderate.

Textile Trades.—The woollen, flax and jute industries are fair. The cotton industry shows an improvement and the operatives are working full time. Rope and twine spinners and hemp dressers report employment as good, with none idle; carpet weavers as good.

Clothing Trades.—The tailors report employment as fair; boot and shoemakers as good.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress printers report employment as moderate, 6 per cent. being still unemployed; the lithographic printers, bookbinders and machine rulers as good; the paper-workers as fair.

Miscellaneous.—The cabinet-makers, chairmakers and wood-turners and bakers report employment as fair; the wood-carvers, upholsterers and corkcutters as dull; the sawmillers and woodcutting machinemen, coachmakers, combmakers, horse-shoers and railway servants as good; the saddlers as moderate; the general labourers as becoming dull.—*W. Johnston.*

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—DISTRICT REPORTS.—IRELAND.

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

General.—Employment in the building and food industries remains good, but is dull in the iron and printing trades. Of 16,428 members of 65 trade societies making returns, 1,538 (or 9.4 per cent.) were unemployed. Employment was described as good in 19 cases; in 11 as fair; in 6 as bad; in 5 as quiet; in 16 as dull; and in 2 as improving.

Building Industry.—The carpenters and joiners, brick and stone-layers, are still fairly employed, but painters, plumbers, slaters, sawyers, lathsplitters, glaziers and whiteners are dull. Employment is good with the builders' labourers, and with the paviers and paviers' labourers.

Iron Trades.—Work is dull with the engineers, boiler-makers, iron-founders, smiths, and brass-finishers, but is fair with tinsmiths.

Furnishing and Wood-working Trades.—The cabinet-makers and the upholsterers are fairly busy. The coachbuilders and coopers are active. The cart and wagon-builders are steadily employed.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Employment with the letterpress printers has somewhat improved. The number of members signing the unemployed roll for the four weeks was 293; the number receiving the out-of-work allowance for the same period was 130. The lithographers are quiet; the binders and machine rulers are steadily employed. The stereotypers report employment as fair, and the paper-cutters, despatch assistants, and bookfolders as quiet.

Clothing Trades.—Employment holds good in the tailoring and clothing trades generally, but is still dull in the boot and shoe trade, except for repairs. The dressmakers and the shop assistants and employees engaged in the drapery trade are experiencing an improvement.

Miscellaneous.—The basket-makers, cork-cutters, and brushmakers report employment as bad; the saddlers and harness-makers as still dull. The bottle-makers, organ-builders, and millers are fairly employed. Employment among the fishermen is still dull. The labourers employed at the grain and timber trade, and the coal and general labourers, fairly busy. The tram-men, stationary engine drivers, railway servants, horse-shoers and electricians report employment as fair; the carmen, tobacco-workers, seamen and firemen as quiet.—*J. P. Nannetti.*

Belfast and District.

General.—Returns received from 56 societies, with a membership of 19,157, show 3,947 (or 20.6 per cent.) to be unemployed at the end of October, as against 486 (or 2.5 per cent.) of the membership during September. The number given includes those affected directly and indirectly by the dispute in the engineering and shipbuilding trade.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Of the 8,507 union members engaged in those trades from which returns have been received, 3,475 (or 40.8 per cent.) are out of employment (mainly owing to the disputes of the engineers and the ironfounders), as against 114, or 1.3 per cent. of the membership at the end of September. Almost all the trades report work as unsettled.

Linen Trades.—Of the 4,259 members of societies engaged in these industries from which returns have been received 175 (or 4.1 per cent.) are stated to be unemployed at the end of October, as against 190, or 4.4 per cent. of the membership, at the end of September. The power-loom tenters, yarn-dressers, spindle and flyer makers report employment as dull; the hackle and gill makers as bad; the beetling enginemen, flaxdressers, and bobbin-turners as fair; the flax roughers as improving; the weavers and spinners as middling; and the yarn-bundlers and linen-lappers as good.

Clothing Trades.—Of the 678 union members of these trades 5 are stated to be unemployed. The tailors report employment as fair, and the boot and shoe operatives as good.

Building Trades.—Out of the 2,585 union members in these trades, 164 (or 6.3 per cent.) were out of work at the end of October, as against 40 (or 1.5 per cent. of the membership) at the end of September. The carpenters and joiners report employment as dull; the hodsmen, plasterers, mill-sawyers and machinists and painters as fair; the plumbers as good.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Out of 582 members of societies employed in these industries, 18 (or 3.1 per cent.) are stated to be out of work at the end of October, as against 33 (or 5.7 per cent. of the membership) in September. The brushmakers report employment as bad; the coachbuilders as dull; the upholsterers as quiet; the cabinet-makers as fair; the French polishers, packing-case makers and coopers as good.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The four societies comprising this group, with a membership of 823, report 38 (or 4.6 per cent.) to be unemployed, as against 42 (or 5.1 per cent. of the membership) at the end of September. The bookbinders and lithographic artists report employment as fair; the letterpress printers as improving, and the lithographic printers as good.

Miscellaneous.—In this group of 9 societies, with a membership of 1,723, 72 (or 4.2 per cent.) are reported as unemployed, as against 63 (or 3.7 per cent. of the membership) in September. The sail-makers report employment as bad; the carters as quiet; the bakers, hotel and club assistants and paviers as fair; the locomotive engine drivers, railway servants, tinplate-workers, and butchers as good. *R. Sheldon.*

Cork and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders in Limerick, Waterford, Cork and Passage West report employment as exceptionally dull in all branches, particularly with the shipwrights, who have at present more than 40 per cent. of their members unemployed. Ship-joiners report employment as fair, ship-painters, riggers, and sailmakers as dull.

Building Trades.—The various branches of these trades were exceptionally busy up to the end of the month, though in Limerick there was a slight falling-off.

Clothing Trades.—The tailors and boot and shoe operatives report employment as dull in Limerick, Cork and Waterford, while tweed, flax and feather operatives throughout the district continue to send in good reports.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress machinemen and compositors report employment as dull; stereotypers, lithographic printers and book-binders as moderate.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Cabinet-makers and upholsterers report employment as moderate; coachmakers, coach painters and trimmers as dull throughout the district; mill sawyers as good; coopers as bad.

Fishing Industry.—The mackerel fishery has been successful. A curing station has been opened on the island of Cape Clear, and has proved one of the most successful on the coast.

Miscellaneous.—Locomotive and stationary engine-drivers, railway porters, corporation employees, brewery workmen and farriers report employment as good; marine firemen, sailors and quay labourers as bad.—*P. O'Shea.*

LABOUR STATISTICS.

(Annual Report of the Labour Department.*)

THE Second Annual Report of the Labour Department of the Board of Trade (1894-95) with Abstract of Labour Statistics is now published. The Report deals in detail with the work of the Department during the past year. The Abstract of Labour Statistics, which is prefaced by an introduction, is in the form of 125 tables grouped under the following heads:—Trade Unions, Associations of Employers, Workmen's Co-operative Societies, Workmen's Clubs, Friendly Societies, Trade Disputes, Conciliation and Arbitration, Fluctuations in Employment, Labour Bureaux, Pauperism, Changes in Wages and Hours of Labour, Trade Union Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour, Average Rates of Wages in Various Industries, Profit-Sharing, Industrial Accidents, Industrial Prosecutions, Growth and Movement of Population, Foreigners in the United Kingdom, Housing of the People, Ages of the People, Occupations of the People, Conjugal Condition of Women Textile Workers, Education, Building Societies, Savings Banks.

Many of the tables are altogether new. Among these the most important are tables dealing with Federations of Trade Unions, Employers' Associations, Trade and District Boards of Conciliation and Arbitration, Fluctuations in Employment, Changes in Wages and Hours of Labour, Trade Union Rates of Wages, and Conjugal Condition of Women Textile Workers. There are also important alterations in the sections dealing with Co-operation, Trade Disputes, Industrial Accidents, Average Rates of Wages, etc.

The whole volume consists of about 200 pages, and may be obtained through any bookseller for 10s. 6d.

* Second Annual Report of the Labour Department of the Board of Trade, with Abstract of Labour Statistics. C-7,900 of 1895—Price 10s. 6d.

THE DISPUTE IN THE SHIPBUILDING AND ENGINEERING TRADES.

In the last number of the GAZETTE (p. 304) an account was given of the differences which had arisen between the engineers, iron-shipbuilders, and their employers at Belfast and on the Clyde, in regard to claims of the men for advances in wages. That account was brought up to October 14th. The following account refers to the period, October 15th—November 14th. The claims of the iron shipbuilders and of the engineers have been quite distinct, and it is desirable, so far as possible, to keep them separate in the present summary. As, however, the bulk of the engineers concerned are marine engineers, and are therefore closely connected with the shipbuilding industry, any cessation of their labour is bound, sooner or later, to affect all branches of iron shipbuilding.

Iron Shipbuilders.—As stated in the last GAZETTE, the executive of the Iron Shipbuilders and Boiler-makers Society had offered to accept 5 per cent. advance on piece-work prices and 1s. per week on time wages, commencing from the 1st January, as a compromise of their original demand. The employers offered the advance, to begin on March 2nd, with the proviso "if the state of trade warrants." On October 14th the executive of the men's society decided to recommend to their members an alteration of date for the advance to February 3rd. This led to a conference in Glasgow on October 24th between workmen's representatives and employers, at which a provisional agreement was arrived at, that the men's suggestion of February should be agreed to, with the addition of the employers' condition as to the state of trade. On October 25th a meeting of the Clyde Shipbuilding Employers' Association ratified this agreement, which was also submitted to the votes of the local branches of the Iron Shipbuilders' Society, with the result that it was carried by 19 out of 25 branches in the districts affected. So far, therefore, as the shipbuilders are concerned, the acute stage of the dispute is at an end.

Engineers.—The position of affairs in this dispute has become much more serious and complicated during the past month. As stated in the last GAZETTE, the engineers in Belfast struck work on October 11th. Not only the engineers in the shipyards and marine shops came out, but also those in the chief general engineering establishments. A few days later the iron-founders and brass-workers came out on strike to enforce demands of their own for an advance of wages. In view of the compact of September 18th, between the Employers' Associations on the Clyde and at Belfast, as to joint action, the Belfast employers declared that all subsequent negotiations must be carried on through the joint association, centred in Glasgow. The executive of the Amalgamated Engineers on October 16th, were informed that a joint committee were ready to meet them in conference, if required, with a view to arranging terms of settlement. The executive of the Engineers' Society, however, objected to discuss what they regarded as a purely Belfast question with Glasgow employers, at Glasgow, and, as the Association of Employers refused to hold any conference at Belfast, it was eventually arranged to hold a conference between the engineers' representatives and a joint committee of Belfast and Clyde employers, at Carlisle.

At this conference, which was held on October 23rd, there were present two employers from Belfast and four from the Clyde, the workmen being represented by the president and the general secretary of the Amalgamated Society, the two organizing delegates from the districts affected, and representatives of the two district Committees. It should be explained that "organizing delegates" are central officials responsible to the executive council, and in charge of various districts, while the district committees are locally elected bodies representing the members of the Union in the respective districts.

The wages question as affecting the Clyde district was first considered. It will be remembered that the employers' offer of ½d. per hour advance to all classes of men receiving less than 7d. per hour was accepted by

the men on October 4th. There was, however, a point outstanding with regard to the duration of this settlement and the length of notice required for future demands by either side. On this point the employers at Carlisle formulated the following proposition:—

"That the offer of the Glasgow district employers be confirmed subject to mutual adjustment of the condition already stipulated—namely, that any subsequent alteration be subject to certain notice on either side."

The Belfast dispute was next taken into consideration, and no satisfactory arrangement being arrived at, the employers put forward the following proposition, which, as will be seen, treats the Belfast and Clyde districts on identical terms, excepting that no immediate advance is offered in Belfast:—

"The Joint Committee, after carefully and seriously considering the position, resolved that any advance at Belfast is entirely unwarranted in the present state of trade; and while no present advance can be made in Belfast, the Joint Committee are prepared to recommend, provided that the men now on strike return to work within one week from this date, that on March 2nd next an advance of one farthing per hour be made to the fitters, turners, finishers, planers, borers, and slotters in the shops of the Associated Employers in the Belfast and Clyde districts, if the state of the trade then warrants it, and on condition that any change made in the rate of wages shall remain in force for six months, and that subsequent alteration on either side shall be subject to two months' notice."

These proposals were submitted to the members of the Amalgamated Engineers' Society in the districts concerned. At a mass meeting of those on strike at Belfast, held on October 25th, the following resolution was passed almost unanimously:—

"That having heard from our official representatives who attended the Carlisle conference the report of that meeting, and the suggestion made to them by the employers' representatives, we, the members of the Amalgamated Engineers' Society in Belfast, and kindred trades, declare that the suggestion made is no offer, and we further maintain that if the employers are anxious for an immediate settlement, which we are, they will need to submit to us an offer more appropriate to our just and legal demands."

As to the proposition made by the employers for the settlement of the wages question on the Clyde, it was decided by the district committee that the offer be accepted, provided only one month's notice of change was required, instead of two months. The employers, in reply, however, adhered to their proposal of a two months' notice, and declined to vary the terms of their Carlisle proposition as to Belfast. The joint committee of employers also decided that, in pursuance of the compact between the two districts, the members of the Amalgamated Engineers Society in the Clyde district should be discharged from their employment by the Clyde employers in the proportion of 25 per cent. each week, beginning on the 5th November. On this date the first discharge took place, the Associated Employers being unanimous in this respect, but the remainder of the men declined to await the result of this gradual process of lock-out, and in a few days came out voluntarily from the shops affected. Since then one firm has retired from the Employers' Association, and withdrawn the lock-out.

On November 14th the executive council of the Amalgamated Engineers held a Conference with representatives from Belfast and the Clyde, the following resolution being ultimately adopted:—

"That having heard the reports of the delegates from the Glasgow, Greenock and Belfast districts, this Council of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers hereby resolves to maintain the policy as laid down in its communications with Sir James Bell, Lord Provost of Glasgow,* and assure the men in the districts affected that all moral and financial support possible shall be rendered them until the dispute is brought to an honourable and satisfactory termination."

* See below.

On the same day the executive council issued a manifesto defining its position and policy.

Efforts at Mediation.—Since the dispute began various efforts have been made by the Lord Mayor of Belfast and the Lord Provost of Glasgow to mediate in the dispute. The Lord Mayor of Belfast formed a Conciliation Committee representing the leading

commercial men and the Trades Council, but the local employers refused to negotiate apart from those on the Clyde. On October 29th the lord mayor telegraphed to the secretary of the joint committee, suggesting as a compromise a grant of 1s. a week advance from December 1st without conditions as to trade, the men to return to work immediately. The proposal, however, was declined by the employers, who declared that the Carlisle offer (which was nearly identical with that accepted by the Shipbuilders' Society) was still open.

The Lord Provost of Glasgow has made several attempts to bring the parties together, but the executive council of the Engineers' Society have hitherto declined, on the ground that they have little or no dispute with the Glasgow employers, and must await a fresh offer with regard to Belfast before agreeing to a further conference. During November Sir Donald Currie has also been in communication with both sides, with a view to the arrangement of the dispute.

Numbers Affected.—An effort has been made by the Department to ascertain the extent to which the dispute has directly and indirectly affected the branches of industry involved. The number of trade union members in the various skilled branches of the engineering trade in Belfast which were directly affected by the dispute is about 2,850, and of these 1,280 were known to be unemployed at the end of October, of whom about 1,200 were directly on strike. The number of non-society men on strike cannot be definitely ascertained, but is estimated at 100. Thus the total number directly on strike is about 1,300, viz., 1,100 engineers, brass workers, machine workers, etc., and 190 iron moulders.

As to those indirectly affected, the number of iron shipbuilders, shipwrights, ship-joiners, pattern-makers, blacksmiths, and general labourers employed in engineering and shipbuilding works in the unions in the Belfast district is 5,600, and of these 2,170 were unemployed at the end of October. To these would have to be added an estimated number of non-unionists, giving a total of about 2,400 indirectly affected. This number includes those out of work in the ordinary way before the strike, but the proportion of these (as shown in last month's GAZETTE) was very small.

It appears, then, that the number affected by the strike at the end of October was about 3,700, viz., about 1,300 (directly) and 2,400 (indirectly). Since then it is reported that not less than 1,500 persons have been suspended from employment in the Belfast shipyards, raising the total directly and indirectly affected to about 5,200.

In the Clyde district the aggregate membership of the chief unions of the engineering trade in the Glasgow and other engineering centres of the Clyde is 6,702. There are, however, a large number of locomotive and general engineering and machine shops not affected by the lock-out or strike. The number of members of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers thrown out by the dispute is about 1,100, and the aggregate number of persons directly affected is estimated at about 3,500. Thus, taking the two centres together, the number directly involved in the joint dispute is about 4,800.

It is worthy of note that out of 6,720 members of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers in the two districts, only about 2,000 are on strike or locked out.

ARBITRATION AND CONCILIATION CASES.

Hand Loom Carpet Trade.

THE award of the arbitrator appointed to settle the matters in dispute in the hand loom carpet trade was issued on October 23rd.

This dispute began on August 1st. At the annual conference held on June 7th of the members of the English and Scottish Carpet Manufacturers' Association and delegates representing the United English and Scottish Carpet Weavers' Association, the employers brought forward a resolution passed at a special general meeting of the Manufacturers' Association to reduce the men's wages 10 and 20 per cent. according to class of goods woven, from the 1st July. The workmen's delegates objected to this resolution being brought forward, as

their Association had not received due notice of it, and ultimately it was withdrawn, to be raised again at a subsequent meeting, when the date of the proposed reduction was fixed for 1st August.

The employers maintained that the decrease was necessary to enable them to compete with a firm in Scotland which had enforced a similar reduction, and that their action was in accordance with a resolution passed in June 1889, when it was agreed that the price list then in operation should be maintained on the understanding that no firm should reduce the rates, and that the workmen should withdraw the men from any firm that should propose to do so. The workmen in the firm in Scotland could not be induced to stop work, and it was claimed that for some time none of the goods affected by the alteration had been made by the firm. As the employers would not withdraw their notice, a strike began on August 1st, which ultimately affected about 500 persons in Dewsbury, Spen Valley, Aberdeen, and other centres of the industry.

At a meeting between the employers and the carpet weavers' delegates the employers agreed to refer the question to arbitration, and the weavers subsequently accepted the principle and returned to work during the last week of September, the former rates being paid until the decision of the arbitrator was made known. Mr. Leuty, M.P., was agreed upon as arbitrator, and on October 23rd decided that no case had been made out sufficient to justify a reduction of wages.

Boot and Shoe Trade.

The General Joint Committee, acting under the Terms of Settlement arranged at the Board of Trade Conference on April 19th, 1895, between the representatives of the Federated Associations of Boot and Shoe Manufacturers and the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives, have settled the general principles on which piecework statements for machine workers are to be determined. The following is a copy of the agreement, which is dated November 4th, 1895:—

PIECEWORK STATEMENTS FOR LASTING AND FINISHING MACHINE WORKERS.

The General Joint Committee, in pursuance of Resolution 3 (a) of the Terms of Settlement, have determined the following principles and methods of arrangement and classification on which piecework statements for machine workers shall be based, viz.:—

1. That there shall not be more than two classes.
2. That classification shall be governed by the outside material of the uppers.
3. That when the capacity of an average workman is arrived at, the average present wage of the workmen on each operation in each district shall be ascertained and piecework prices based upon such average wage.

NOTE.—It is understood that in arriving at the average wage only those shops paying the recognised minimum wage or to a recognised statement and generally conforming to the recognised conditions shall be taken into consideration.

The above General Joint Committee has forwarded a copy of this agreement to the secretaries of the local Boards of Arbitration with a request that Joint Committees, in accordance with Resolution 3 (b) of the Terms of Settlement, be immediately called together to frame piecework statements for their respective localities.

RAILWAY SERVANTS' HOURS OF LABOUR.*

THE second annual report of the proceedings of the Board of Trade with regard to the hours of labour of the servants of railway companies under the Railway Regulation Act, 1893, states that the Board have inquired into 156 complaints made during the year ending the 27th July 1895, as compared with 72 in the preceding twelve months, namely:—

60	affecting the hours of signalmen.
22	" " drivers and firemen.
30	" " staff at stations.
25	" " guards and brakemen.
12	" " shunters.
2	" " gatekeepers.
2	" " wagon examiners.
3	" " other grades.

* Railway Servants' (Hours of Labour) Parliamentary Paper, 458—Sess. 2 of 1895.

The report states that "As a rule, the representations are not made by or on behalf of individuals, but affect a class, or classes, of servants on a section, or sections, of a company's line. It is impossible, therefore, to compute the number of servants whose hours of work have been dealt with, but it is, no doubt, very considerable. The results, which on the whole must certainly be considered satisfactory, have been attained by careful negotiation with the railway companies concerned, without recourse to the legal powers conferred by the Act."

No case in which the Board has maintained that the interest of the public safety was paramount has, it is stated, remained unsettled; while, as to the remaining cases which have come before the Board, "most of them have been settled in a spirit of compromise," and "in many instances considerable reductions in the hours of work have been obtained."

Reference is made to "the fact that certain classes of railway servants, notably drivers and firemen, seem to be opposed to drastic action being taken on their behalf. There are several reasons which may account for this hostility; but it will be sufficient to say that some men have found that a reduction in hours of labour has meant a falling off in pay, and especially the loss of the 'overtime' which, in many cases, has been found a valuable addition to the weekly wage."

The complaints and representations made during the second year of the working of the Act disclosed only one or two cases of extraordinary hours of work, such as those (34, 25½, 16¾ hours) to which attention was directed in the first report; "the effect of the Act, and following from it, of the good judgment of the companies on the subject, has been to make the 12 hour booked day the maximum on our railways."

CO-OPERATIVE CONTRACTS IN FRANCE.

In connection with an inquiry into the practice on the part of public authorities of giving out contracts, especially labour contracts, to co-operative associations, which is being made by the Department, the Foreign Office was requested to obtain, through H.M. Ambassador at Paris, information on this subject, so far as relates to France. In reply, the Foreign Office has forwarded certain details, received from the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, of which the following is a summary. The Ministry of Justice has had contracts during the last three years only with a co-operative association of house painters at Paris, the value of these contracts having been £21 in 1893, £116 in 1894, and being estimated for 1895 at about £340. As to the War Office, it is stated that the only workmen's association with which contracts have been made in regard to the Artillery is a Co-operative Ironworks Society* at Rugles, which, since 1892, has obtained the annual contracts for brass. For the Engineers building work has been done by workmen's associations at Toulouse and Lyons to the value of £11,640, exclusive of repairing contracts extending over a period of six years as yet unexpired, which have been entered into with co-operative societies at Lyons and Carcassonne to the annual value of £3,320.

With respect to the administrative departments of the War Office, the only one which has had contracts with co-operative societies is the clothing department, which has contracts extending over about six years with two associations, the one at Bourges, the other at Marseilles, of the aggregate minimum annual value of £24,160. The two societies just referred to and a Paris association* also obtained contracts in May last for certain articles required by the Army Clothing Department; and the same Paris association*, in January last, obtained a five-year contract for boots for the Paris Fire Brigade. In the Ministry of Instruction and Fine Arts, the department which most frequently employs co-operative societies is that which is concerned with school buildings and equipment; particulars are

* The French Co-operative Union states that this is not a workmen's co-operative association.

given of 22 contracts for the construction and repair of school buildings carried out by co-operative societies to the total value of £30,365.*

The Museum Department has occasionally entrusted small repairs to a co-operative association of gilders at Paris. With respect to the Church Fabric Department, on two occasions only have contracts (to the aggregate value of £986) been given to co-operative societies (one at Paris, the other at Cahors). The Central Administration of this Ministry gets painting work to a small amount done by the co-operative society of house painters at Paris, referred to above. A list of all the contracts with co-operative societies made by the Ministry of Public Works to the end of 1894 is given, showing the number of these contracts to be 99, and their aggregate value to be £36,052.†

EFFECT OF REDUCTION OF HOURS ON OUTPUT AND WAGES IN CERTAIN AUSTRIAN COAL MINES.

WITH reference to the effects produced by reduction of hours of labour in certain coal mines in Moravia, the details which follow have been furnished, through the courtesy of Dr. Stephan Bauer, the statistical expert of the Chamber of Commerce at Brünn. The length of the shift in these collieries was reduced from 11½ to 9 hours, with the results shown below, the figures relating to two periods of three years each, the one prior, the other subsequent to this reduction.

	1886-1888	1891-1893
Length of shift (including time occupied in descent, but excluding time occupied in ascent)	11½ hours	9 hours
Average Output per annum (total)	Tons. 635,196	825,165
" " " per Man	156'56	185'80
" " " shift	0'63	0'68
" " " Hewer	2'08	2'23
	d.	d.
Average Daily Earnings: Hewers	24'12	29'40
" " " Tramen	17'30	19'80
" " " Screeners	14'18	14'86

It will be seen that the output per shift per hewer under the short shifts exceeded that under the longer shifts by somewhat less than 8 per cent., while the daily earnings of these miners under the new system exceeded their earnings under the old by about 22 per cent.

The difference between these two rates of increase (say 14 per cent.) is ascribed to the fact that between the end of the first and the beginning of the second of the two periods above compared, the rate of wages of these men was increased by approximately this amount (14 per cent.)

With regard to the increase in output, it is observed that:—

(1.) The rate of output was, from 1886 to 1888, adversely affected by the employment, on the surface, and in subsidiary work underground, of a greater number of men than was requisite. The number of these workmen was considerably reduced in 1888 and 1890, the favourable result of this step upon the output per man per shift being felt in the period 1891 to 1893.

(2.) After the introduction of the 9-hours' shifts every effort was made to maintain, and, if possible, to increase the output of the men. For this purpose premiums on output were introduced, the staff of overlookers, &c., was strengthened, and those workmen whose age rendered them no longer entirely fitted for underground work were pensioned off or sent to the surface. Besides this, boring machines and improved working gear were introduced.

The object in taking triennial periods for comparison was to compensate for inequalities between one year and another in the extent to which the men were employed in the actual getting of coal and preparatory work respectively.

* Including work to the value of £2,790 carried out by certain ironworks at Levallois-Perret, which the French Co-operative Union states not to be a workmen's co-operative association.

† Including £1,680, value of a contract carried out by a joinery business at Paris, which the French Co-operative Union states not to have been a workmen's co-operative association.

LABOUR IN THE COLONIES AND IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC.

(Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31 Broadway, Westminster, S.W., from official and other reports, and newspapers, &c., mostly dated September and October last.)

Canada.—There is no demand for more labour at the present season of the year. In spite of the frequent warnings against the farm pupil system, which have been issued by this office, fresh instances have been reported in the Canadian newspapers of large premiums having been recently obtained by farm pupil associations from young Englishmen, on the pretence of their being taught farming in Canada. It is therefore necessary to repeat that no such payments should ever be made; in all cases they are a waste of money, and in some they are induced by fraudulent misrepresentations.

The new annual report of the Bureau of Industries in Ontario shows that there was, in 1894, a general decline throughout the Province, with the exception of the Northern districts, in the value of farm lands and the prices of stock. The values of farm buildings and implements had slightly risen.

New South Wales.—The Railway report for the year ending June last states that the net revenue was considerably larger than in 1893-4, and that the continuous decrease in the traffic since 1892 had at length been arrested. A strike has occurred at one of the collieries in the South, owing to a reduction in wages; and there is considerable distress at the Northern collieries, owing to the slackness of trade. At Sydney there are still many hundreds of persons for whom the Government is finding or making work in country districts, on the railways, at the goldfields, and in forest thinning. Altogether there is no opening at present for emigrants without capital. To emigrants with some small capital the new land laws of the colony give all possible facilities for settling on the land.

Victoria.—To meet the continued deficits in the railway revenue, the Railway Inquiry Board in their recent report recommend a large number of drastic changes, including a reduction in the staff and workshops, and a reduction in the wages of all employees who receive over 6s. a day. The Government are introducing a new Factory bill, which is especially aimed against Chinese competition in the furniture trade, and against sweating in the clothing and bootmaking trades. In spite of the efforts of the Government to promote, by reduced freights, &c., the local coal industry, recent tenders of local coal for the railways were still from 1s. to 2s. 6d. a ton more than those of New South Wales coal.

South Australia.—Under the new Railway Regulations which have recently been issued the wages of porters, enginemen, firemen, and cleaners are reduced. There are about 1,748 persons on the various village settlements established under the Act of 1893. There has been recently a good demand in the colony for single men and strong youths accustomed to farm work, but there is a plentiful supply of labour on the spot.

Queensland.—According to the Report of the Department of Agriculture for 1894, no one of the 12 groups formed under the Co-operative Land Communities Act of 1893 can be deemed a success. There is no demand in the Colony for emigrants without capital. The sugar industry continues to be prosperous.

Western Australia.—It may be noted as a proof of advancing prosperity that the balance due to depositors in the Savings Banks on 30th June last was half as much again as the balance due on June 30th 1894. The railways are being extended with the object of developing the goldfields, but there seems to be sufficient labour on the spot for the public works now on hand.

New Zealand.—The Gold Mining Industry on the Coromandel Peninsula, in the North Island, has absorbed the surplus labour of the district, and is causing activity in trade and business. The railway receipts in 1894-5 and the number of selections of Crown land were less than those in the previous year. A report from the country 100 miles north of Wellington states that shepherds are wanted, especially between the months o

August and December, and general female servants at all times. Work in August was dull throughout the Colony, as might be expected in winter, but in some places, as Hokitika, Wanganui, Nelson and Dunedin, mechanics were fairly busy; there was plenty of unskilled labour everywhere.

Cape Colony.—Recruiting in England for the corps of Cape Mounted Riflemen has recommenced. Candidates must apply to the Agent-General for the Cape, at 112 Victoria Street, London, S.W., and must deposit £27 6s. for their passage money. Special preference is given to strong men from 19 to 28 years of age who can ride and shoot well. In consequence of the continued exodus of persons for the goldfields of the Transvaal, waiters, shop assistants, and experienced clerks and telegraphists are said to be scarce at Cape Town, though as a rule the supply of such classes of labour is much greater than the demand. There is no opening whatever for general labourers. A strike is threatened among carpenters and joiners at Cape Town; they demand an increase in wages of 2s. a day, and a reduction of working hours from 50 to 48 a week, but this demand has not yet been granted.

British Bechuanaland.—An official report from Vryburg states: "There is no opening for immigrant labourers in this district; intending farmers, with a moderate amount of capital, might do well; the district is well adapted for cattle farming."

Matabelerland.—Men in the building trades are said to be busy at Buluwayo; wages are high, but the expense of living is very great. There is no opening in other trades. Trained miners find employment in exploration.

Natal.—The building trades in Durban and Pietermaritzburg continue to be brisk, several large buildings being in course of construction. Carpenters' and joiners' wages have been raised from 12s. a day to 13s.

South African Republic.—Newspaper advices report a good demand for skilled labour in the building trades at Johannesburg.

LABOUR ABROAD. FRANCE.

Employment in October*.—Work continues plentiful in many trades, and others are reviving. The proportion of unemployed members of trade unions making returns (470 unions with 110,000 members) is still, as in September, somewhat under 4 per cent.

Building Trades.—With the shorter days, and the advanced state of the buildings in progress in most of the towns, fewer operatives are being required. Stone cutters report fewer unemployed than in September, but painters, plasterers, carpenters and joiners show considerable increases in the proportion of unemployed.—**Metal Trades.**—Foundries, blastfurnaces and engineering works are busier than in September; tin-plate workers report 4 per cent. idle.—**Mining, &c.**—Miners are somewhat busier in the Nord and Centre districts, but the coal output remains small in parts of the Pas-de-Calais, Bouches-du-Rhône and Aveyron. Quarrymen are still busy.—**Textiles.**—All branches except dyeing continue well employed. Thirty-three per cent. of dyers are reported idle.—**Clothing Trades.**—Glovemakers continue in full work; hosiery workers report none idle; the proportion of unemployed boot and shoe operatives has risen; garment-makers are very busy, and hatmakers somewhat slack.

Labour Disputes in October*.—Twenty-one fresh disputes were reported in October, compared with 37 in September and 25 in October 1894. There was also 4 old disputes outstanding at the beginning of October. Eight of the fresh disputes were in the Textile Trades, 3 each in the Leather and Metal Trades, 2 each in the Building and Clothing Trades, 2 among porters and 1 among navvies. Twenty of the disputes as to which full particulars are available, affected, in all, 1,470 persons. The most serious was an unsuccessful strike of 500 textile operatives at a factory in Paris, which lasted from the 16th to the 28th of October. The strike of

* From information supplied by the Office du Travail.

glassworkers at Carmaux, reported in the last two numbers of the GAZETTE, continued throughout October, 1,100 operatives being still on strike at the end of the month. Eleven of the October strikes originated in questions of wages, 5 related to the discharge or reinstatement of workmen, and 5 had reference to questions of factory discipline, &c. The workpeople were successful in 5, partially successful in 7, and unsuccessful in 10 out of 22 disputes settled during October.

Conciliation and Arbitration.*—Six cases of recourse to the law on conciliation and arbitration are reported for October. Only one of these gave rise to conciliation proceedings before the *juge de paix*, the employers refusing mediation in four cases, while in the remaining case a settlement was arrived at by direct negotiation before the day appointed for the meeting of the Conciliation Board (this was the strike of Pamiers iron workers referred to in last month's GAZETTE.).

The one case which gave rise to conciliation proceedings had reference to a strike of 120 boot and shoe operatives at a factory in Fougères (department Ille-et-Villaine), and was settled in favour of the operatives. In 4 out of the 6 cases the proposals for conciliation were made by the workpeople, and in 2 by the *juges de paix*.

Legal Decision as to the Rights of Trade Unions.—In a dispatch dated November 7th, received through the Foreign Office from H.M. Embassy at Paris, attention is called to a judgment given on November 6th against the Trade Union of Iron Moulders by the Civil Tribunal of the Seine. In this case an iron-moulder, not belonging to the union, sought damages from that body for having obtained his dismissal from two different posts, and for having prevented his obtaining regular work for 17 months. The Court condemned the trade union to the payment of £120 damages and costs.

Similar decisions of French Courts have been reported in the June and July (1895) GAZETTES.

GERMANY.

Labour Disputes.—Six fresh disputes, and seven outstanding since previous months, were reported on in October in the *Deutscher Reichsanzeiger*. Two of the fresh disputes were in the Building Trades, 2 in Leather Trades, 1 among operatives engaged in the manufacture of pianos, 1 among those making military equipments, the last-named being the only one of these fresh disputes which was of general character. The only case in which the termination of a dispute is recorded is that of the journeymen painters and varnishers of Leipzig, who (as mentioned in the September GAZETTE) struck on August 26th for a nine hours day and minimum wages of 5'4d. per hour. The number of employers conceding the wages asked for by the journeymen having increased, and all the strikers having returned to work, this dispute has been virtually closed, but it is stated that some employers were breaking away from the agreement by paying less than the stipulated wages, and the resumption of the strike in the spring of next year has been resolved upon. Among the strikes which are reported as continuing is that of the Leipzig stone-setters, mentioned in the September GAZETTE.

Conciliation and Arbitration.—At Königsberg the Industrial Court intervened in a strike of tinsmiths which took place at the end of June and beginning of July last; and the parties to the dispute agreed to an arbitration, by which it was decided that the pay of the operatives should be by the hour, instead of by the day, that 3'24d. per hour should be the minimum wage, that 10 hours should constitute a day's work, and that overtime should be paid for at the rate of 1'2d. per hour in excess of the ordinary rate.

The employees of a Berlin firm of knapsack-makers having on September 2nd gone out on strike, the employers and employed agreed to refer the dispute (which was as to the piece-wage price to be paid for the work) to the Industrial Court of that city; and on September 21st a settlement, based upon lines laid down by that body, was arrived at between the parties. This is stated to be the first instance in which this Court, formed more than two years ago, has acted officially as a Court of Conciliation.—*Sociale Praxis*.

Sunday Labour on State Railways.—The movement in the direction of reducing Sunday labour in connection with goods traffic on German State Railways, which was referred to in the GAZETTE, April 1894, is stated to be breaking down, the provisions made for securing Sunday rest in relation to both the Prussian and the Württemberg State Railways having been withdrawn.—*Sociale Praxis*.

Municipal Labour Registries.—The Stuttgart Municipal Labour Registry is stated to have found employment in the first 6 months

* From information supplied by the *Office du Travail*.

of its existence for 5,177 persons (3,872 male, 1,305 female); while the Ulm registry, in existence for 7 months, has placed 2,028 persons. The registry at Frankfurt-on-Main found 806 situations in August, and 860 in September, for persons out of employment. In Württemberg preparations are being made, under the authority of the Ministry of the Interior, for the inauguration of a clearing-house system, focussing the public labour registries, with a central office at Stuttgart.—*Sociale Praxis*.

Accidents in the Mining and Cognate Industries in 1894.—The report of the Association of Employers (*Berufsgenossenschaft*) for accident insurance in the mining and cognate industries shows the total number of accidents in these industries, reported in 1894, to have been 38,241, of which 4,779 entailed compensation. A comparison of the 1894 figures with those of previous years shows that the number of fatal accidents has fallen from 853, or 2'48 per 1,000 insured, in 1886 to 786, or 1'84 per 1,000, in 1894; though there has been an increase in the total number of accidents reported entailing compensation, viz., from 2,265, or 6'59 per 1,000 insured, in 1886 to 4,779, or 11'20 per 1,000, in 1894. Of the accidents entailing compensation, 58'1 per cent. are ascribed to the inherent dangers of the occupation, 36'7 per cent. to the fault of the injured, 4'4 per cent. to the fault of fellow-workmen, and 0'8 per cent. to defective appliances, &c.

Strikes in 1894.—The organ of the Executive Council of Social Democratic Unions (*Gewerkschaften*) states that the number of strikes in which the central organization took part in 1894 was 131, involving 7,328 workpeople in 27 trades, as compared with 116 strikes, involving 9,356 workpeople in 26 trades, in 1893. Twenty-two of these strikes were among woodworkers and 22 among metal-workers. Sixty-one of the strikes are described as due to reduction of wages or extension of working hours, and 37 to demands either for increased wages or reduced hours. Of 124 strikes of which the results are recorded, 36 are described as wholly, 37 as partially successful, and 51 as unsuccessful.

SWITZERLAND.

The following is a summary of information supplied by the Swiss Workmen's Secretary, and transmitted by Mr. Angst, H.M. Consul at Zürich, on September 29th:—

Labour Disputes.—Two disputes have taken place in Zürich. One was a strike of 80 stove-setters for the nine-hours day and an improved wage-list. It had already lasted three weeks at the end of October. In the other, which had been in progress for four weeks, 100 glaziers were engaged. It was due to the establishment by the employers of a labour registry of their own in competition with that of the journeymen. The men state that their wages may suffer if they lose sole control of the labour agency. The glaziers, who are said to be the best organised trade in Switzerland, have prevented the importation of foreign labour.

Workmen's Chamber in Geneva.—The Cantonal Council of Geneva has passed a Bill for the establishment of a workmen's chamber at the public cost. Employers and workmen may use the institution as a labour bureau. In the Bill it is stated that the board of management consists of 15 members, of whom one is named by each of the 11 sections of the Industrial Tribunal (or Trade Board of Arbitration) and four by the Government of the Canton. The members of the board must be Swiss. The sum of £120 has been voted for fitting up, and £280 for rent, office expenses, and salary of a Workmen's Secretary. This is the first bureau of the kind in Switzerland.

Conference as to Factory Act.—A conference of employers and operatives belonging to trades in which work is continuous was recently convened by the Board of Trade, to examine the complaints of operatives, that the exemptions which the Factory Act allows to such trades in the matter of night work and Sunday work, are being abused. Fourteen employers, but only 7 operatives, attended the conference.

BELGIUM.

Labour Disputes.—Ghent remains the principal centre of labour disputes. The general lock-out of iron-workers, which began early in September, was still in progress on the 7th of November. The cause of the lock-out, as reported in the last number of the GAZETTE, was

* Zehnter Bericht über die Verwaltung der Knappschafts-Berufsgenossenschaft für das Jahr 1894. Berlin.

a strike for an advance of wages in one large factory. The strike committee, helped by the Socialists of the whole country, has been able to pay from 8s. to 10s. per week to all workmen affected by the dispute. At the end of October the governor of the province proposed arbitration to the strikers, but they refused to resume work till the lock-out had ceased, or at least till the result of arbitration was known. Under these circumstances no arbitration could take place. It seems probable that the dispute is now near its end, the employer affected by the strike having offered an immediate advance in wages to 60 workers (out of 350) to be chosen by himself, all others being promised an advance some months later. The strikers, who formerly claimed an immediate advance to all workers, now declare themselves satisfied if the advance be conceded to 100 of their number when work is resumed. This counter proposal has not yet been answered by the employer.

Further strikes of weavers and spinners took place in Ghent in October. In one case 800 men and women employed by a firm left their work for three or four days, protesting against the dismissal of a girl and claiming a reduction in hours of labour. Work was resumed on the 4th of November. The girl was not readmitted, but the hours of labour will be shortened within a fortnight.

In the beginning of November the printing trade at Ghent was disturbed by a strike of about 200 typographers for the introduction of a general wages list (such as exists in Brussels, where the Typographers' Union is strong, and wages higher than in Ghent). Several newspapers could not be printed during the strike, which has not yet ended. In other parts of the country trade was generally quiet, except in the district of Verviers, where the efforts made by the employers to introduce wool-weaving on two looms caused some trouble again. Two small strikes were reported, the result being the maintenance of the *status quo*.

Coal Mining Industry in Belgium in 1894.—Statistics of the mining and metal-working industries in Belgium for 1894 have been issued in October by M. Harzé, Inspector-General of Mines. The total production of coal mines in 1894 was 20,534,501 tons (of 2,204 lbs.), valued at 191,292,100 francs (£7,652,000). This production is the greatest ever reached in Belgium, exceeding that of 1893 by 1,123,982 tons, valued at 9,886,200 francs (£395,000); 9 per cent. of the coal extracted was used by the collieries for their own service.

The number of pits was 262 (268 in 1893), the average depth from which the coal was extracted being 426 metres (1,397 feet).

The total number of workers employed was 117,103, as follows:—

	Underground.	On the Surface.
Adult men (above 16 years old) ...	78,993	20,462
Boys (from 14 to 16) ...	4,367	1,459
Do. (from 12 to 14) ...	1,573	1,138
Women (above 21) ...	542	1,611
Girls (from 16 to 21) ...	1,076	3,703
Do. (from 12 to 16) ...	Not allowed	2,186
Total ...	86,551	30,552

These 117,103 workpeople worked altogether 34,907,686 days, giving an average number of 298 days per worker (or 5'73 per week). Wages paid in 1894 reached the sum of 110,169,800 francs (£4,407,000), the average wages of a worker being 941 francs (£37 12s. 8d.) per annum, 54 francs (£2 3s. 2d.) higher than in 1893.

During 1894, 257 accidents in coal mines were reported, whereby 190 persons were killed and 118 injured. The proportion of killed was 1'62 per 1,000, compared with 1'12 in 1893.

Enquiries by the Labour Department.—The Belgian *Office du Travail* has for some time been engaged on an inquiry into Sunday labour in Belgium and abroad, and has now begun another investigation, on the subject of institutions founded in Belgium by employers for the benefit of their workers. The inquiry relates to schemes for progressive wages (profit sharing, etc.); educational

institutions (industrial schools, libraries, etc.); workmen's dwellings, baths, etc.; insurance against accidents; private infirmaries; sanitary improvement of the workshops; help given to friendly societies, etc.

HOLLAND.

The following is based on information supplied by Mr. W. C. Robinson, H.M. Consul at Amsterdam, under dates of October 7th and 30th:—

Strike of Diamond Workers.—The diamond industry of Amsterdam has been almost entirely at a standstill for two months, in consequence of disputes between employers and employed, which culminated in a strike on September 27th, and lasted till October 25th.

It is difficult to ascertain the actual numbers involved, but it is generally asserted that there are about 7,500 diamond cutters and grinders, while some 4,000 or 5,000 others are indirectly engaged in the trade. The conditions under which the trade is carried on are various and complicated. There are, for instance, owners of mills who only let their space and machinery to workers, jewellers who are also owners of mills, jewellers who are only employers of labour, and workmen who manufacture on their own account.

The Diamond Workers' Union, in inaugurating the strike, aimed at a complete organisation of the conditions of labour. They claimed that all the workshops should become union shops (*bondsfabrieken*) paying the same rates of wages and subject to the same trade union laws, to be arranged by two boards—one of control and one of arbitration, the latter to consist of two representatives of the owners of workshops, two of the jewellers, and two of the workmen.

These claims have been met by counter proposals on the part of the employers. They agree to the settlement of the price and conditions of labour by a joint arbitrating body, but they object to the restriction of their liberty to employ non-members of the union. A compromise based on these counter proposals was arrived at on the 25th of October, and a joint committee of five members has been appointed to work out an agreement on these lines. The employers have prevailed in their insistence on their right to employ free labour, and work has been in the meantime resumed under an arrangement which is, however, stated to be as yet temporary.

The progress of the strike was quiet, except at the beginning of October, when some slight disturbances took place in connection with a demonstration organised by other trade unions in favour of the diamond workers and cigar makers.

An unsuccessful attempt was made by a lawyer of some standing in Amsterdam to bring about a settlement.

Cigarmakers' Strike.—The strike of cigarmakers in Amsterdam, reported on in the September GAZETTE, was still in progress at the end of October.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Labour Disputes.—Eight fresh disputes and 5 outstanding since previous months were reported on in Austrian labour papers during October. Three of the fresh disputes were in the Metal Trades, 3 among wood-workers, 1 in the Printing Trade, and 1 among workers connected with the manufacture of meerscham pipes.

Two of the fresh disputes were general, both of these occurring in Vienna, 1 among wood-working machinists and the other among meerscham-pipe makers. Three of the fresh disputes and 2 of those outstanding at the beginning of the month are reported to have terminated, the results being favourable to the workmen in 3 cases, but not being stated in the other 2. Of the disputes which ended with the success of the workmen, 1 (that occurring among Vienna stick-turners) was general.

In addition to the disputes between employers and employees above referred to, the manufacturers of dress-buttons, at Vienna, closed their workshops on October 7th, 1895, with a view to obtaining from the dealers a uniform price list. The operatives, of whom more than 500 have been thus thrown out of employment, are asking for a revision of the wage-scale, a nine hours working day and other concessions.

UNITED STATES.

CHICAGO CONSULAR DISTRICT.

The following is based on information supplied by Mr. A. G. Vansittart, H.M. Consul at Chicago, under date of October 24th:—

Labour Disputes.—A strike at the Aurora Cotton Mills was settled on October 4th, the working day being reduced from 11 to 10 hours without change in the wages of operatives paid by the day; the wages of the other operatives are to be readjusted to meet the new conditions. The following strikes and boycotts have been supported during October by the Chicago Trade and Labour Assembly:—(1) A strike of 220 reed and rattan workers at one factory against reduction of wages; with reference to this strike the assembly instructed its organisation committee to organise a union of machine wood workers of Chicago. (2) A strike of the Theatrical Stage Employees' Union and the Chicago Musical Society against several of the minor local theatres. (3) Boycotts against a publishing company of Akron, Ohio, by the International Typographical Union; against a company at Duluth (Minn.) by the Coopers' Union; and against a tobacco company, by the employees of the Detroit tobacco factories. The first two were due to the action of the companies affected in awarding contract work to firms employing non-union labour, while the tobacco company was boycotted for not using the union label.

Statistics of Strikes and Lock-outs.—From statistics contained in the 10th Annual Report of the United States Labour Commissioner, it appears that of the 10,482 strikes which occurred in the last seven and a half years, 7,295 were ordered by labour organisations, while of the 442 lock-outs of this period 81 were ordered by organisations of employers. Sixty-nine per cent. of the strikes and 76 per cent. of the lock-outs occurred in the five States of Illinois, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Massachusetts; Illinois taking the lead of all the States of the Union.

Supreme Council of Labour.—Steps are being taken for the formation of a "Supreme Council of Labour," by which it is intended to supersede the existing central labour organisations of Chicago, including the Trade and Labour Assembly and the Labour Congress.

Arbitration and Conciliation.—In their report for the year ending October 31st, 1894, the Board of Mediation and Arbitration for the State of New York state that they "received information of about 25 strikes and lock-outs occurring" in that State during the twelve months, and that "this is an increase of 25 per cent. over the number that took place in the preceding year. The majority of these strikes were not of long duration, and lasted only a few days at most, having been adjusted by mutual concessions. The principal seat of labour disturbance has been in the clothing trade in New York City and Brooklyn." It is stated that "during the past year this Board has heard argument as final arbitrator, and its decisions have been cordially acquiesced in by electrical workers, printers and clothing cutters on eight different occasions." The Board having, "under the law, no power of arbitration unless invited by the parties to a difference, its work has in the main been devoted to mediation by bringing the striker and his employer face to face."

ILLINOIS BUREAU OF LABOUR STATISTICS.

Thirteenth Annual Report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics, Illinois, 1894.—This volume contains the 11th annual report on the coal industry of Illinois, based on the reports of the State Mining Inspector. It shows the output of coal for the year ended July 1st 1894 to have been 17,113,576 tons, or 14 per cent. less than in the preceding year. The falling off is ascribed to general business depression and to the great coal strike, in which 277 of the mines in this State and over 25,000 men were involved.

The appendix contains an account of the coal miners' strike of last year in so far as it affected the State of Illinois, a summary of the statistics recently published by the Board of Trade on the world's coal production, and a list of persons holding certificates of competency and service in mining from the State Board of Examiners.

FOREIGN TRADE FOR OCTOBER.

Imports.—The total declared value of the imports for October was £36,854,168, or 3.3 per cent. in excess of the value for October, 1894. The corresponding figures for 1891, 1892, and 1893 were £36,873,829, £34,726,858, and £35,356,469, so that the past month is very nearly equal to the highest figure for October in the period 1891-95. The imports (£340,758,464) for the 10 completed months of the year are 0.1 per cent. more than in the corresponding period of 1894, but are below those of 1891 and 1892, when the figures for the 10 months were £348,607,110 and £347,138,626 respectively.

The following table shows the declared values of the imports, grouped in large classes, for the months ending October 31st, 1895 and 1894 respectively:—

Class of Goods.	Oct. 1895.	Oct. 1894.	Increase.	Decrease.
Food, Drink, and Tobacco ...	£ 16,508,151	£ 16,558,856	—	£ 50,705
Metals ...	1,647,954	1,575,963	72,001	—
Oils, Chemicals, Dyeing and Tanning Substances ...	1,169,068	1,149,591	19,477	—
Raw Materials for Manufacture...	8,570,661	8,494,788	75,873	—
Manufactured Articles ...	7,625,071	6,367,134	1,257,937	—
Miscellaneous ...	1,333,253	1,522,053	—	£ 188,800
Totals ...	£ 36,854,168	£ 35,668,385	£ 1,185,783	—

Among manufactured articles silk manufactures and woollen manufactures again show large increases of £406,831 and £263,247 respectively. Among raw materials for textile manufacture flax and cotton decreased, the latter by 183,007 cwts., of value £111,157. Other textile materials increased. Barley decreased in quantity by 721,158 cwts., and in value by £122,558. On the other hand wheat, while decreasing in quantity by 499,420 cwts., increased in value by £4,588.

British and Irish Exports.—The total declared value of the exports for October was £20,828,866, an increase of 8.8 per cent. on the value for October 1894. This figure is also in excess of the total for October 1892 (£18,725,460), and October 1893 (£18,179,792), but is below that of October 1891, when the exports were £21,166,113. For the completed period of the year the total is £187,449,303, which is in excess of the corresponding period of 1894 (£180,610,567), and of 1893 (£183,573,413), but is below 1892 (£189,206,248), and 1891 (£208,641,599).

The following table shows the declared value of the exports, grouped in large classes, for the months ending October 31st, 1895 and 1894, respectively:—

Class of Goods.	Oct. 1895.	Oct. 1894.	Increase.	Decrease.
Articles of Food and Drink ...	£ 1,227,198	£ 1,081,377	£ 145,821	—
Raw Materials ...	1,686,565	1,760,313	—	£ 73,750
Yarns and Textile Fabrics ...	8,822,486	8,239,374	583,212	—
Metals and Articles manufactured therefrom (except machinery) ...	2,764,583	2,595,735	168,848	—
Machinery and Mill Work ...	1,591,979	1,273,963	318,016	—
Miscellaneous ...	4,755,957	4,287,234	468,723	—
Totals ...	£ 20,828,866	£ 19,147,996	£ 1,680,870	—

Woollen and worsted tissues again account for a large portion of the increased value, the increase amounting to £508,761. Cotton piece goods, on the other hand, show a decrease of £269,153. The increase in metals is very general, but is especially marked in iron and steel, where there is an increase of £160,082. Mining, miscellaneous, sewing, and textile machinery all show increases, especially the first. Coal and patent fuel increased in quantity by 153,060 tons, but decreased in value by £118,586. The increase in articles under the head of miscellaneous was very widespread, there being hardly any decrease of any importance.

Re-Exports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.—For the month of October the value of these was £5,460,404, a decrease of £371,234 on the value in October, 1894.

Tonnage of Vessels entered and cleared.—The total tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom during October from Foreign Countries and British Possessions was 2,776,661 tons, as compared with 2,791,618 tons in October, 1894, a decrease of 14,957 tons. The tonnage of vessels cleared was 3,287,204 tons, as against 3,176,033 tons in the corresponding month of last year, an increase of 111,171 tons. The tonnage of vessels entered *Coastwise* amounted to 2,687,545 tons, as compared with 2,594,827 tons in October 1894, and of those cleared to 2,640,091 tons, as against 2,575,993 tons in October 1894.

Factory Inspectors: New Appointments.—Messrs. J. Law, H. Verney and W. S. Smith have recently been appointed H.M. Inspectors of Factories (present address—Home Office, Whitehall, S.W.). Mr. J. E. Ashworth has been transferred from Manchester to Wolverhampton. His new address is "Endcliffe," Tettenhall Road, Wolverhampton.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Cotton Statistics.—There is a falling off of 27,896 bales, or 12.4 per cent., in the imports of raw cotton during October, as compared with a year ago. The number of bales exported, and the number forwarded from ports to inland towns, also fell off. The falling off in the imports of Egyptian cotton noted last month is largely compensated for this month, the amount being about 2½ times as large as that imported in October last year. The imports for the first ten months of the year still show an increase on the amounts for the corresponding period of last year. The figures for the two periods are as follows:—

	Imports. Bales.	Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns. Bales.	Exports. Bales.
October 1895 ...	197,190	293,217	35,865
October 1894 ...	225,086	335,493	49,205
October 1893 ...	166,593	281,098	43,289
Total, 10 months of 1895 ...	2,758,256	2,625,914	365,172
" " " 1894 ...	2,576,157	2,702,847	412,867
" " " 1893 ...	1,942,088	2,335,832	388,643

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 21 of the principal railway companies of the United Kingdom amounted to £5,973,746 in the four weeks ended 26th October 1895, showing an increase of £225,576, or 3.9 per cent., as compared with the corresponding period in 1894. Of this increase, passenger traffic accounted for £127,907, and goods traffic for £97,669, the receipts from the two classes being £2,501,003 and £3,472,743 respectively.

Fishery Statistics.—The total declared value of the fish (including shell-fish) landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom during October was £678,137, an increase of £86,730, or 14.7 per cent., over the value of fish landed in October 1894. In England and Wales the declared value was £536,400; in Scotland, £102,652; and in Ireland £39,085, being increases over October 1894 of £57,174, £11,684, and £17,872 respectively.

British Corn.—The average price of British wheat per quarter was 7s. 10d. higher in the last week of October than in the corresponding week of October, 1894, and 2s. 5d. per quarter higher than in the last week of September of this year. Barley stood 1s. 8d. per quarter higher than in October of last year, and 8d. per quarter higher than last month. The price of oats shows a smaller increase, amounting to 4d. per quarter in excess of the price in October 1894, and 5d. per quarter more than last month. The prices of all three grains are still lower than the figures for 1893. The following table shows the average prices in the last weeks of October 1895 and 1894 respectively:—

	Average price per Quarter in—		
	Oct. 1895.	Oct. 1894.	Increase.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Wheat ...	25 5	17 7	7 10
Barley ...	25 4	23 8	1 8
Oats ...	13 7	13 3	0 4

Bankruptcies.—During October the number of bankruptcies gazetted was 10 less than in the corresponding month of 1894, 57 less than in October, 1893, and 27 more than in October 1892. The figures in the four periods referred to, and for the ten months ended October, are as follows:—

	1895.	1894.	1893.	1892.
October ...	385	395	442	358
Ten months ending October ...	3,661	4,023	4,095	3,792

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The total number of British and foreign passengers who left the United Kingdom during October for places out of Europe shows an increase of about 11½ per cent. over the number in October 1894, the figures for the two periods being 27,736 and 24,898.

British and Irish.—Of these 27,736 passengers 18,792 were British or Irish, an increase, as compared with a year ago, of 840. The passengers to South Africa more than doubled. On the other hand the number going to the United States showed a falling off. The figures are as follows:—

	October 1895.	October 1894.
United States ...	11,044	12,287
British North America ...	1,260	1,201
Australasia ...	1,664	1,496
South Africa ...	2,723	1,355
Other places ...	2,101	1,613
Totals ...	18,792	17,952

Foreign.—The remainder of the 27,736 passengers, viz., 8,944, were foreigners and others whose nationality was not distinguished. The corresponding figure for October 1894 was 6,946.

Alien Immigration.—The total number of aliens who arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent during October was 857 in excess of the number in October 1894, the figures for the two periods being 6,693 and 5,836 respectively. Nearly the whole of this increase was in the number stated to be *en route* to America. The number not stated to be *en route* to America amounted to 3,079 (including 758 sailors), as against 3,072 (including 818 sailors) in October 1894.

LABOUR CASES IN OCTOBER.

The following are among the legal cases of the month under various Statutes specially affecting labour, of which the Department has received information. The accounts are based principally upon reports appearing in local newspapers. The list is not intended to be in any way exhaustive of all such cases decided during the month. A general statistical account of prosecutions under the Factory and Workshop Acts, the Mines Regulation Acts, and the Merchant Shipping Acts, will be found on page 344.

(1) EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACT.

Liverpool County Court, Reported October 4th.—Two dock labourers brought actions against a stevedore for damages sustained while engaged in unloading cargo of timber from a ship. While some beams were being raised from the hold the rope of the sling broke and the timber fell on the plaintiffs and injured them. Plaintiffs alleged that the rope was insufficient to carry the weight put upon it; that the attention of the defendant, who was superintending, was called to the fact, and that the rope was not properly fastened to the hook. Defendant denied negligence, and alleged contributory negligence on the part of the plaintiffs. Judgment for plaintiffs. Damages £15 in one case and £7 in the other.

Bradford County Court, October 5th.—A dyer's labourer claimed damages for injuries sustained while attending to a padding machine. Plaintiff alleged negligence on the following grounds:—That a week before the accident he had received instructions to work the machine over the roller instead of smoothing the cloths from the under side, as he had been accustomed to do; further, that there should have been a screw sunk in the collar which kept the roller in position instead of the projecting nut, which caught the plaintiff when the roller was revolving. For the defence it was denied that the plaintiff had received instructions to work the machine as alleged, and that it was customary to have projecting nuts. Evidence of contributory negligence was given. Judgment for defendants.

Westminster County Court, October 7th.—An engineer sued contractors for damages for injuries sustained while attending to a "crab winch." There were two winches side by side, and while he was engaged with one the other started and caught his coat, dragging him between the cog-wheels. Plaintiff alleged negligence on the ground that there was no guard round the winch. For the defence it was stated that the winches were for pumping purposes and worked by steam, and that, as they were used for moving the pumps about, fencing could not be put round them as they were shifted so often. Contributory negligence was also alleged. The jury found that there was no contributory negligence, and expressed the opinion that the machinery should have been stopped while the men worked in the neighbourhood of the winches; that the cog wheels should have been covered; and that the foreman should have been near while plaintiff was working. Judgment for plaintiff. Damages, £60. Defendants had paid £20 into court. Notice of appeal was given.

Newcastle County Court, October 15th.—A joiner claimed damages against a firm of ship-builders for injuries sustained from falling into the hold of a ship owing to the defective lighting of the hatchway. Plaintiff, who needed some timber for the purposes of his work, was told by the foreman to go to the lower deck to get it. There was a temporary ladder from the upper to the lower deck, the foot of which rested on the hatchway that gave access to the hold. Plaintiff, in company with another workman, descended the ladder to get the timber, and was returning with it when he fell through the hatchway into the hold, fracturing his arm and sustaining other injuries. Plaintiff stated that the neighbourhood of the hatchway was dark, that the aperture was not visible, and that he did not know it was uncovered. For the defence it was asserted that there was sufficient light, as two lamps were burning at the ladder when the men went down, though after the men had descended, the lower one went out, and was being refilled at the time of the accident. Judgment for defendants, the judge holding that there was no negligence on their part.

Plymouth County Court, October 16th.—A labourer sued a builder for damages for injuries received while engaged in hoisting iron girders at a factory. A girder was being hoisted by Tangye blocks and chains. Plaintiff's case was that at request of a workman, alleged to be a foreman, he ascended the wall to guide it into the socket by means of a rope. The rope broke and plaintiff fell and injured himself. Plaintiff alleged that the rope was rotten and incapable of bearing the strain. For the defence it was stated that the workman referred to was not a foreman, but a labourer, with no authority to give orders. The judge held that the workman was not a person entrusted with "superintendence" within the meaning of the statute, and gave judgment for defendant.

Lambeth County Court, October 26th.—A carpenter sued a firm of builders for injuries sustained by a brick falling from the scaffolding above and striking him on the back while he was working in a well hole.

Manchester County Court, October 30th.—Widow of a button turner claimed £200 from a firm of button manufacturers as compensation for the loss of her husband, who died from the effects of injuries received from getting entangled in the shafting of the lathe at which he was working.

(2) EMPLOYERS AND WORKMEN ACT.

Aberdeen Small Debt Court, October 3rd.—A millworker sued a firm of millowners for 9s. wages earned by her for a week and two days previous to September 3rd. A rule of the mill was stated in effect to be—"No person employed in this mill can leave without giving or receiving a week's previous notice, and no notice can be given or received except on Saturday."

Barrow Police Court, October 7th.—A driller sued a Shipbuilding Company for 18s. for a week's wages, and 18s. in lieu of notice. Defendants counter-claimed £1 3s. 11d. for tools.

(3) FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS.

West Riding of York Court, Bradford, October 17th.—A woollen manufacturer was fined £1 and 16s. 6d. costs for failure to supply correct particulars of work contrary to section 24 of the Factory and Workshop Act 1891.

(4) FRIENDLY SOCIETIES' ACT.

Queen's Bench Division, October 26th.—An Order of Odd-fellows appealed against the decision of the County Court Judge making them responsible for the funeral benefits of an excluded member. Two years ago the executive required all the lodges to register as branches of the Order.

Health and Safety of Workers in Industrial Establishments.—Legislation in France and other Countries.

The Office du Travail has supplied a work of reference with regard to the legislative measures adopted in various countries in the interests of the health and safety of workers in industrial establishments. It does not claim to cover the whole field, it being proposed to deal later with the regulations specially framed for the protection of persons engaged in dangerous or unhealthy trades.

The period covered extends in most cases up to the end of 1894, and the record of subsequent legislation is to be continued in special supplementary volumes, as well as in the monthly "Bulletin de l'Office du Travail." The countries dealt with (besides France) are Great Britain, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Russia, Finland, British Colonies, and the United States.

INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN OCTOBER.

I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Table with 5 columns: Nature of Offence, Prosecutions, Convictions, Total Amount of Penalties, Total Amount of Costs. Rows include By Owners, Managers, &c.; By Workmen; By Parents.

II.—Under the Mines Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Table with 5 columns: Nature of Offence, Prosecutions, Convictions, Cases with- drawn, Cases dis- missed, Amount of Fines and Costs imposed on Defendants. Rows include By Owners, Managers, &c.; By Workmen.

III.—Under the Quarries Act.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nil.

IV.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

Table with 5 columns: Nature of Offence, Prosecutions, Convictions, Total Penalties, Total Costs. Rows include By Owners or Masters of Ships; By Seamen; By Boarding-House Keepers.

V.—Under Trade Union Acts.

(Supplied by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.)

Table with 5 columns: Nature of Offence, Prosecutions, Convictions, Total Penalties, Total Costs. Row: Trade Union neglecting to supply Annual Returns.

* In one case 10 days' imprisonment in default was awarded.

† Costs included in fine.

WORK OF LABOUR BUREAUX IN OCTOBER.

The 9 bureaux furnishing returns registered 2,781 fresh applicants for work during October. Work was found, during the month, by these bureaux, for 1,898 persons, private employers engaging 1,742, and local authorities 156.

Seven of the 9 bureaux also furnished returns for October 1894, and a comparison of the figures shows a decrease last month of 674 in the number of applicants.

(1) Work Done in October.

Table with 10 columns: Name of Labour Bureau, No. of Work-people on Register, No. of Fresh Applicants during Oct., No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureaux, Engaged by Private Employers, Engaged by Local Authority. Rows include London, Provincial, and Total.

(2) Previous Occupations of Applicants on Registers at end of October.

Table with 10 columns: Name of Labour Bureau, Building, En- gineering, and Metal Trades, Carpen- tery, Stable- men, Horse- men, &c., Clerks and Ware- house- men, Porters and Messen- gers, General Labour- ers, Other Occu- pations, Total Men. Rows include London, Provincial, Women and Girls, Grand Total.

* Particulars relating to men only have been furnished.

† These workpeople were all registered during October, applications previous to September 30th having been cancelled.

‡ Women and Girls are not at present registered at Salford and Plymouth.

§ Note.—A return furnished by the Hackney Vestry Labour Bureau (Old Town Hall, Hackney, N.E.), which was first opened on 17th January last, states that in nine months 2,829 persons were registered, and that work was found for 161 persons.

PAUPERISM IN OCTOBER.

(Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland, and Ireland.)

On one day in the second week of October the number of persons relieved in 35 selected districts of the United Kingdom was 324,792, or 222 per 10,000 of the population of those districts in 1891.

Compared with September these figures show a slight increase, the corresponding figures for that month being 322,950, or 221 per 10,000 of population. The districts in which the increase is most marked are the Central district of the Metropolis, where it amounts to 13 per 10,000, and Wolverhampton district, with an increase of 7 per 10,000.

Compared with October 1894, there has been an increase in pauperism of 7 per 10,000 of the population, the number relieved a year ago being 315,569. In several districts this increase has been considerable, being 29 per 10,000 in Paisley and Greenock; 27 in Coatbridge and Airdrie; 24 in Hull; 23 in Wigan; 21 in Aberdeen; 18 in Cardiff and Swansea; 16 in Leicester; and 13 per 10,000 in South London.

Table with 5 columns: Selected Urban Districts, Paupers on one day in second week of October 1895, Paupers on corre- sponding date in 1894, In-door, Out-door, TOTAL, Rate per 10,000 of Population,* Total Number, Rate per 10,000 of Population.*

Table with 5 columns: ENGLAND & WALES,† Metropolis, West District, North District, Central District, East District, South District.

Table with 5 columns: Total Metropolis, West Ham.

Table with 5 columns: Other Districts, Newcastle District, Stockton & Tees District, Bolton, Oldham, &c., Wigan District, Manchester District, Liverpool District, Bradford District, Halifax & Huddersfield, Leeds District, Barnsley District, Sheffield District, Hull District, North Staffordshire, Nottingham District, Leicester District, Wolverhampton District, Birmingham District, Bristol District, Cardiff & Swansea.

Table with 5 columns: Total "Other Districts".

Table with 5 columns: SCOTLAND,† Glasgow District, Paisley & Greenock Dist., Edinburgh & Leith Dist., Dundee & Dunfermline, Aberdeen, Coatbridge & Airdrie.

Table with 5 columns: Total for the above Scot- tish Districts.

Table with 5 columns: IRELAND,† Dublin District, Belfast District, Cork, Waterford & Limerick District, Galway District.

Table with 5 columns: Total for the above Irish Districts.

Table with 5 columns: Total for above 35 dis- tricts in Oct. 1895.

Table with 5 columns: Total in September 1895.

* Based on the populations in 1891, revised in accordance with subsequent changes in Poor Law areas.

† 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.

TRADE DISPUTES.

(Based on information obtained from Local Correspondents, Trade Union periodical returns, and newspaper reports. Application for particulars is made to the Employers and Trade Unions affected in each dispute, and the information so obtained up to the time of going to press is used.)

THE number of fresh disputes occurring in October was 77, as compared with 66 in September and 55 in October 1894. Particulars obtained with regard to 72 of these disputes show that 17,291 workpeople were affected. Twelve disputes took place in the building trades, 4 of which were due to wages questions, 3 to the employment of men on work alleged to belong to other trades, 4 to questions of working arrangements, the remaining dispute being caused by the employment of a non-unionist. Four of the 5 disputes in the engineering and shipbuilding trades 6 were chiefly due to wages questions, 2 to employment of non-unionists, 2 to questions arising out of working arrangements, 1 to the alleged excessive increase in the number of apprentices, and 1 to the discharge of a fellow-workman. Fifteen disputes occurred in the mining industry, 4 of which were chiefly due to wages questions, 5 to questions connected with the weighing of coal and the scales of deductions for dirt, 2 to questions of working arrangements, 2 to the alleged unfair dismissal of fellow-workmen, 1 to sympathy with men in another dispute, and 1 arose through the employment of non-unionists. Four disputes occurred in connection with seafaring and dock labour, 3 of which were due to wages questions and 1 to a change in working arrangements. Twelve of the 19 disputes in the textile trades were chiefly due to wages questions, 1 arose in defence as to material used, 2 to discharge of fellow-workmen, and 1 to a demand for an alteration of the pay-day. Five of the 10 disputes in the miscellaneous group of industries were chiefly due to wages questions, 1 arose in defence of discharged fellow-workmen, 2 on questions of working arrangements, and 1 on account of a man being employed at work alleged to be outside his own trade, full details of the cause of the remaining dispute being not yet to hand.

The geographical distribution of the 77 disputes was as follows:—Northern Counties, 30; Midland Counties, 2; Eastern Counties, 3; Western Counties and Wales, 14; London, 5; Scotland, 13; Ireland, 10.

Eighteen old disputes, involving 5,063 workpeople, were settled during October, and at the end of the month it was known that 21 new and 28 old disputes, affecting altogether about 7,150 workpeople, were still unsettled.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN OCTOBER 1895.

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Estab-lish-ments.	Work-people.	Com-mence-ment.	Termi-nation.	Result.
Building Trades.							
Building Trade	Plymouth	Refusal of employer to allow walking time	1	34	Oct. 10	Oct. —	Still unsettled.
Bricklayers	Gateshead	Against plasterers doing work alleged to belong to bricklayers	1	15	—	—	Ditto.
Ditto	Cromer	Against labourers laying bricks	1	11	21	—	Ditto.
Masons	Dewsbury	Against infringement of rule as to working hours, i.e., against alleged systematic overtime	3	10	1	—	Two employers agreed to observe the rule; the shop of the third employer has been blocked.
Ditto	Bradford	Against the employment of a non-unionist	1	6	—	—	Non-unionist discharged.
Carpenters	Bristol	Carpenters declined to complete a block-floor laid by labourers	1	9	3	—	Men obtained work elsewhere.
Ditto	Plymouth	Against refusal of an employer to pay the recognised rate of wages for country jobs	1	2	29	—	Still unsettled.
Joiners	New Dumbartonshire Railway	For an advance in wages of 3d. per hour (7½d. to 8d.), and for the payment of time and half for overtime	1	22	16	—	Hands replaced.
Plumbers	Oldham	Against being required to commence working winter hours on 15th October, instead of 1st November, contrary to existing bye-laws	15	50	22	31	New code of bye-laws signed.
Ditto	Leeds	Alleged breach of working rules (i.e., refusal to pay railway fare of men going away to a job)	1	3	19	—	Still unsettled.
Plasterers	Kilmarnock	Against a reduction in wages of 1½d. per hour	2	3	1	3	Reduction accepted of ¾d. per hour, to take effect from 1st January, 1896.
Labourers (building and sewerage works)	Felixstowe	For an advance in wages of 1d. per hour (4d. to 5d.)	6	35	1	—	Still unsettled.
Engineering & Ship-building Trades.							
Iron Moulders	Cardiff	Against alleged excessive increase in the number of apprentices	3	18	22	—	Still unsettled.
Range, Stove, &c., Fitters	Larbert	For an advance in wages of from 7½ to 20 per cent.	1	36	28	—	Ditto.
Ironfounders (in Engineering and Ship-building Works)	Belfast	For an advance in wages of 2s. per week	5	190	19	—	Ditto.
Engineers, Brass-workers, &c. (Shipbuilding and Engineering Shops)	Ditto	Ditto	4	1110	11	—	Still unsettled.
Fitters and Blacksmiths, &c.	Glasgow	For an advance in wages of 7 per cent.	1	23	14	Nov. 2	Work resumed at old rates.
	Dowlais	For reinstatement of a fellow-workman discharged for refusing to work overtime, as notices for an advance in wages had been given in	1	240	18	Oct. 19	The discharged workman reinstated, and work resumed on the understanding that the men work overtime if required.
Pattern Makers	Bedford	For an advance in wages and abolition of piece-work.	1	—	21	—	Still unsettled.
Riveters	West Hartlepool	Against the employment of 8 squads of riveters on the shell of vessel, as only 6 squads had hitherto been employed	1	24	2	17	Work resumed on employer's terms.
Riveters and Caulkers	Leith	Men desired a re-arrangement of working hours, involving an increase from 46½ to 54 hours per week in winter	1	74	25	Nov. 4	Work resumed on present system, with a promise of rearrangement of hours next winter.
Platers' Helpers	Thornaby-on-Tees	Against the employment of non-unionists	1	150 dir. & 27 indir.	2	Oct. 16	Work resumed unconditionally.
Holder-up	Aberdeen	For an advance in wages	3	94 dir. & 1700 indir.	23	31	Work resumed on old terms.
Shipyard Labourers	Belfast	Objection to work with non-unionists	1	342	3	5	Non-unionists joined the union.
Coal Mining.							
Hewers and Putters	Rowland's Gill	Against discharge of three hewers for the alleged offence of placing "two tokens on one tub"	1	150	21	—	Still unsettled.
Ditto	Chester-le-Street	To compel non-unionists to join the union	1	200	11	15	Non-unionists joined the union.
Surfacemen	Denaby Main	For return of a reduction alleged to have been wrongfully taken off, and for alteration in the system of fining	1	About 300 dir. & 1700 indir.	23	—	Still unsettled.
Coal Miners	Stanley, Wakefield	Refusal of the miners to "hole" the coal in the manner desired by manager	1	20	1	12	A concession granted to the men of 4 inches in the height allowed for holing.
Drivers	Bagillt, Flint	For an advance in wages	1	56 dir. & 450 indir.	21	22	41 resumed work at old rate of wages, 15 were replaced.
Miners, Hauliers, &c.	Near Port Talbot	Alleged unjustifiable dismissal of two fellow-workmen	1	220	8	12	Work resumed, the question in dispute to be decided by the miners' agent and committee.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN OCTOBER 1895—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Es-tab-lish-ments.	Work-people.	Com-mence-ment.	Termi-nation.	Result.
Coal Mining—contd.							
Miners and other workmen	Garw Valley	Alleged breach of customs by contractor who worked the pit	1	72	Oct. 28	Oct. —	Still unsettled.
Coal Miners	Blaina	Demands by the men of a scale of payment for clod, and the reinstatement of a fellow workman	1	About 3000	25	31	Dismissed man reinstated, and the clod scale to be settled by a joint committee of men and employers. Advance granted.
Hauliers	Ditto	For an advance in wages of 6d. per day	1	150 dir. & indir. 3500	28	31	Work resumed, the matter in dispute to be referred to the Sliding Scale Committee. Dispute amicably settled.
Coal Miners	Ebbw Vale, Mon.	Miners came out in support of men on strike for increased wages in a pit belonging to same firm (see October GAZETTE, p. 315)	1	—	8	8	Work resumed, the matter in dispute to be referred to the Sliding Scale Committee.
Ditto	Near Bathgate	Dispute as to the tare of the hutch and the scale of deductions for dirt	1	—	1	1	Dispute amicably settled.
Ditto	West Calder	For a modification of a new scale of deductions and for the reinstatement of men discharged for sending up "dirty" hutches	1	100	1	7	Men reinstated and the "dirt" scale modified.
Ditto	Rutherglen	Alleged excessive deductions for dirt in hutches	1	100	2	2	Work resumed on previous conditions. Amicable settlement arrived at.
Ditto	Coalburn	Objection to the introduction of a new system of weighing	1	200	26	Nov. 1	—
Ditto	Near Hamilton	Objection to the introduction of a new system of weighing	1	—	31	—	No details of settlement.
Textile Trades.							
Cotton Weavers	Blackburn	Alleged bad material	1	270	2	Oct. 4	Material complained of withdrawn. Dispute amicably arranged.
Ditto	Bury	Alleged unfair dismissal of a weaver	1	About 250	3	5	—
Ditto	Preston	Alleged underpaying and other grievances	1	260	10	11	Work resumed, causes of complaint being removed.
Ditto	Barnoldswick	Alleged refusal to pay up to list prices	14	275	16	Nov. 4	Work resumed on a promise to improve material.
Ditto	Blackburn	Alleged bad material	1	100	30	Nov. 5	Ditto.
Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	1	220	30	Nov. 5	Ditto.
Tenters and Piecers	Bury	Against proposed reduction by an overlooker of the wages of one of the back tenters	1	30	15	Oct. 15	Reduction not enforced.
Woolen Spinners, Doffers, and Jobbers	Oakworth	For an advance in wages	1	36	7	—	No details of settlement.
Worsteds Weavers and Spinners	Near Bingley	Ditto	1	170	28	—	Still unsettled.
Worsteds Spinners	Bradford	Ditto	1	60	10	14	Advance granted of 1s. per week (7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d.).
Piecers	Slaithwaite	For an advance in wages	1	130	26	Nov. 2	Work resumed, full details of settlement not yet to hand.
Piecers (Woolen)	Marsden	Ditto	1	—	22	Oct. 22	Work resumed, the employer promising increased wages to some of the strikers.
Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	1	—	22	—	No details of settlement.
Wyers	Ravensthorpe	For an advance in overtime rates	1	9	—	—	Hands replaced.
Dyers and Labourers	Leeds	Ditto	1	40	9	9	Twenty men obtained an advance of 2s. and twenty an advance of 1s. per week each.
Jute Spinners	Dundee	Dissatisfaction with dismissal of spinning foreman	1	160 dir. 140 indir. 200 dir. 300 indir.	2	2	Work resumed unconditionally.
Ditto	Ditto	Alleged bad material	1	—	23	24	Ditto.
Flax Dressers	Belfast	For a readjustment of piecework rates	1	24	12	16	Satisfactory readjustment arranged.
Linen Weavers	Ditto	For alteration of the pay day	1	About 150	21	21	Work resumed unconditionally.
Clothing Trades.							
Riveters and Finishers (Boot and Shoe)	Norwich	Against the introduction of the team system	1	400	26	28	Work resumed on old system, and the dispute referred to the Arbitration Board for settlement.
Web Hands (Circular Hosiery Trade)	Nottingham	Against a reduction in wages of about 25 per cent.	1	10	7	15	Work resumed at a reduction of 12½ per cent.
Stocking Knitters	Slaithwaite	For an advance in wages	1	5	26	—	Still unsettled.
Pressers (cloth)	Bristol	To obtain payment for damping coats	1	5	23	—	Hands replaced.
Machinists (females)	Holbeck, Leeds	Refusal to accept price offered for certain class of work	1	23	28	—	Still unsettled.
Seafaring, Dock, &c. Labour.							
Dock Labourers	Sharpness, Glos.	Against a master stevedore contracting to discharge a vessel at less than the usual port rate	1	44	7	27	Vessel discharged by imported labourers.
Ditto	Dublin	Refusal of employer to pay the alleged customary rate for working during dinner hour	1	32	14	14	Men's demands complied with.
Ditto	Liverpool	Men objected to an increase in the number of bags slung at a time	1	200	29	30	Men's objections sustained.
Firemen	Hull	Against a proposed reduction in wages	2	12	22	22	Men signed on at old rate of wages.
Miscellaneous Trades.							
Labourers (in cordite factory)	Arklow	For an advance in wages	1	200	4	—	Some of the men are stated to have returned to work at the former rate of wages.
Body Makers and other hands (coach-building)	Dublin	Against discharge of some of their fellow workmen	1	20	7	—	Still unsettled.
Coopers	London, S.E.	For increased piecework prices for certain work, and for reinstatement of discharged colleagues	1	14	15	—	Ditto.
Compositors	Dublin	Against stereotypy working at case	1	4	19	—	Ditto.
Cab drivers	London, W.C.	Refusal to be compelled to take out the cabs on Sundays	1	60	20	20	Work resumed on the voluntary system.
Carters	Chippenham	For an advance in wages	1	7	21	21	The employer promised to consider the men's demands.
Waitresses	London, W. and W.C.	Against a reduction in the rate of commission on takings	1	20	22	—	Hands replaced.
Pork-butchers	Cork	For an alteration in working hours	1	110	28	28	Men's demands acceded to.
Cigarmakers (Women)	London, E.	Against alleged underpayment and excessive number of apprentices.	2	23	—	—	Shops blocked to trade unionists.
Vanmen and boys (news-paper trade)	London, E.C.	Full details of cause not yet to hand	1	4	3 days in October	—	Demands stated to be granted.

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE OCTOBER, AND WERE SETTLED IN THAT MONTH.

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Es-tab-lish-ments.	Work-people.	Com-mence-ment.	Termi-nation.	Result.
Building Trades.							
Joiners	Swansea	For alteration in working rules, involving an advance in wages of 4d. per hour (8d. to 8½d.) and a re-arrangement of working hours	—	About 350	1 July	Oct. 15	Work resumed on old conditions by those strikers for whom places could be found.
Ditto	Falkirk and Grangemouth	To obtain a guarantee from the employers that the existing rate of wages should not be reduced before March 1896	—	140	22 July	2	Present state of wages to remain unchanged until 1st July 1896.
Plasterers	Sunderland	Against the employment of lathers to fix laths, work alleged to belong to plasterers	1	18	30 Sept.	19	Men's demands stated to have been conceded (dispute settled by arbitration).
Engineering Trades.							
Fitters, Turners, &c. (Railway Shops)	Liverpool	Against a reduction in wages of 2s. per week	1	16	16 Sept.	—	Places filled by non-unionists.
Machinists	Bury	For an advance in wages	1	56	30 Sept.	26	Hands replaced.

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE OCTOBER, AND WERE SETTLED IN THAT MONTH—(continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Es-tablish-ments.	Work-people.	Com-mence-ment.	Termi-nation.	Result.
Mining.							
Banksmen (Coal Mining)	Near Pontefract	Against reduction in the number of men employed on work at the pit's bank	1	600 dir. & indir.	1 Mar.	—	Work resumed, full details of terms of settlement not yet to hand.
Coal Miners	Near Castleford	Against alteration in the method of working, alleged to have the effect of reducing wages	1	1,000	1 June	29	Work resumed, the old method of working being retained for six months. Price list amicably arranged.
Coal Hewers, Putters, &c.	Willington	Dissatisfaction with prices offered for working a new seam	1	140	28 June	12	
Coal Miners	Near Rotherham	Against alteration in the method of working the coal	1	800	3 July	22	Work resumed on old terms, and a committee appointed to report on the question in dispute.
Shale Miners	Tarbrax and Cobbinshaw	For an advance in wages of rs. per day	1	305 dir. 145 indir.	28 Aug.	2	Work resumed at old rates of wages.
Coal Miners	Benbar	Objection to the use of a weighing machine alleged to be too small for accurate weighing	—	100	30 Sept.	1	Another machine substituted.
Putters	Wingate	Putters alleged that the overman refused them the proper measurements of their work	1	1,200 dir. & indir.	30 Sept.	7	Work remeasured.
Clothing Trades.							
Boot and Shoe Operatives	Near Stone	Against a reduction on the list of prices	1	20	23 Sept.	3	The list of prices adhered to.
Cloggers	Farnworth	For an advance in wages	—	30	26 Aug.	16	Advance granted; most of the employers granted the advance by the end of August.
Ditto	Rochdale	For an advance in wages of about 10 per cent.	20	50	23 Sept.	10	Demands partially conceded.
Tailors	Belfast	Refusal to work to a new list on day wages, with introduction of 2 women sewers to each man. Men also refused to leave their Trade Union	1	19	23 Sept.	28	Employer reverted to the union conditions for working, and dismissed the non-unionists who had replaced the society men.
Miscellaneous Trades.							
Printers and Trans-ferrers (Pottery Trade)	Burslem	For an increase in the price offered for a new pattern	1	64	30 Sept.	8	Employer's terms accepted.
Wool Comb Makers	Bradford	Refusal to work with non-unionists	1	10	22 June	17	Men agreed to work with non-unionists.

III.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE OCTOBER, AND WERE STILL UNSETTLED AT THE END OF THAT MONTH.

The following disputes reported in last month's issue as commencing in September are still unsettled:—Bricklayers, Glasgow; iron plate workers, The Lye; anchor smiths, Gateshead; cotton weavers, Astley, Leigh; cardroom hands and spinners, Wigan; fender fitters, Dudley.

The following, which commenced before September, are also still unsettled:—Glass bevellers, Leeds; tailors, Leeds; dyers*, Leeds; plumbers, Hull; bedstead-makers, Sowerby Bridge; bleachers and dyers, Stalybridge; coalminers, Rotherham; fitters, &c., Cardiff; woollen weavers, Delph; coopers, St. Helens; coal-miners, Cliviger; galvanisers, Halesowen; lace operatives, Nottingham (two disputes); bottle makers, Dublin; coal-miners, East Howley; curriers, Johnstone; spinners, Lees, Oldham; bakers, Ballymena; gasmeter-makers, London.

The following disputes commencing before October, of which information has only recently been obtained, are also still unsettled:—

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Establish-ments.	Workpeople.	Date of Commence-ment.
Plasterers	Chester	For an advance in wages of 1/4d. per hour and a code of working rules.	2	20	15 June
Coal Miners	Awsworth	Men refused to accept prices offered for getting coal and slack	1	280	4 July

*Last month only three were on strike pay.

CO-OPERATION IN OCTOBER.

England and Wales.—During October one new association for distribution has been registered, and five existing societies have opened new branches, and three others new bakeries. Two societies are winding up their affairs, and five branches have been closed.

Reports for the third quarter* of the year from 328 associations for distribution in England and Wales, with a total membership of 698,220, show total sales amounting to £4,710,329, and net profits † amounting to £653,766, or 13.9 per cent. on sales. Of 267 of the associations for which the figures for the corresponding period of 1894 are available, the total sales amounted to £4,508,683, as compared with £4,302,577 in 1894; 209 associations showing an increase and 58 a decrease in sales, the net increase being £206,106, or 4.8 per cent.

Three societies have during the month placed a limit upon the period during which members may continuously hold office in the society.

Scotland.—Three new associations for distribution have been registered during the month, and three existing associations have opened new branches or premises.

Reports for the third quarter* of the year from 111 associations for distribution in Scotland, with a total membership of 127,309, show total sales amounting to £1,353,409, and net profits † amounting to £211,801, or 15.6 per cent. on sales. Of 72 of the associations for which the figures for the corresponding period of 1894 are available, the total sales amounted to £1,238,565, as compared with £1,108,369 in 1894. Sixty-three of the associations show an increase and 9 a decrease in sales, the net increase being £130,196, or 11.7 per cent.

The half-yearly convention of Scottish Co-operative Societies was held in Edinburgh on October 5th, when reports were received from the various districts of Scotland showing the progress during

* In a few cases the report is for a half year.
† After allowing for interest on capital and depreciation of property.

the half-year. It was decided that the Scottish Festival of 1896 should be held in Edinburgh, and that the next meeting of the convention should be in Glasgow. A discussion afterwards took place upon the constitution of the Wholesale Society and its relation to societies in the poorer districts.

The committee recently appointed by several of the Scottish Co-operative Conference Associations to consider the desirability of undertaking co-operative coal mining, has reported in favour of such a project, the colliery to be in the neighbourhood of Glasgow, and to be managed by the Scottish Wholesale Society.

At the second annual meeting of the Scottish Co-operative Employees' Association, held in Glasgow on October 2nd, it was reported that the association now comprised 17 branches, with a total membership of 1,091. A list of minimum wages for employees in co-operative societies was submitted by the executive, and adopted after slight alteration, and instructions were given to the executive to add to the list a scale of wages for clerks in co-operative service.

A co-operative textile manufactory has just adopted a nine hours' working day. (See table of Changes in Hours of Labour, p. 352.)

Ireland.—One new association for distribution and two agricultural and dairying societies have been registered during the month.

TENEMENT HOUSES IN NEW YORK.

The act of the New York Legislature appointing a committee to examine into the tenement-house question in the city of New York became law on May 4th 1894. At the request of the Committee appointed under this law, the Department of State sent instructions to its Consular representatives in Berlin, Brussels, Glasgow, Liverpool, London and Paris to enquire into the laws or municipal ordinances regulating the construction and use of tenement houses, dwellings for artisans, houses in which three or more families reside, which are in force in these cities. The reports on these laws and their effects have been published at Washington in the volume of Consular Reports for July 1895.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN OCTOBER.

The number of workpeople of the undermentioned classes killed by accidents reported in October was as follows:—

	Railway Servants	Miners and Quarrymen	Factory and Workshop Operatives	Seamen.	Others (so far as reported)	Total
October 1895	38*	80	49	177	12	386*
October 1894	36	75	38	117	—	266

Of the 2,276 non-fatal accidents reported, 205* were to railway servants by movement of railway vehicles, 731 in mines and quarries, 968 in factories and workshops, and 372 to other workpeople.

Railway Servants.*

(Supplied by the Railway Department of the Board of Trade.)

Table showing the number of railway servants reported as killed or injured by accidents in which the movement of railway vehicles was concerned during the month of October 1895.

[The number of servants employed by the railway companies of the United Kingdom was 381,626 on 31st December 1889.]

Class of Service.	Number of Persons Injured, distinguishing Class of Accident.							Total of Injuries.
	Killed	Causing Amputations.	Dislocations and Fractures.	Contusions, Bruises, &c.	Cuts, Sprains, Burns, &c.	Unspecified and Miscellaneous Injuries.		
Brakemen and Goods Guards	3	3	2	6	10	18	39	
Engine Drivers	4	...	1	1	6	8	16	
Firemen	...	...	...	...	5	9	34
Guards (Passenger)	3	...	1	...	1	...	2	
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	9	1	...	...	...	1	2
Porters	3	1	2	13	5	14	35	
Shunters	3	...	4	13	9	12	38	
Miscellaneous (including Contractors' Servants)	12	1	...	10	5	23	39	
Total for October 1895	38	6	10	48	45	96	205	
Total for October 1894	36	9	102	144	255			

Miners and Quarrymen.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Table showing the number of persons reported as killed or injured in and about mines and quarries, during the month of October 1895.

[The number of persons employed in and about mines was returned as 739,097, and in and about quarries as 84,986, in 1894.]

Cause of Accident.	MINES.		QUARRIES.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
Underground:—				
Explosions of Fire-damp	5	28	...	7
Falls of ground	38	232	Explosives or Blast-ing	...
In shafts	7	13	Falls of ground	...
Miscellaneous	16	355	During Ascent or Descent	...
Surface:—			Miscellaneous	...
Miscellaneous	11	60	Miscellaneous	1
Total for Oct. 1895	77	688	Total for Oct. 1895	3
Total for Oct. 1894	75	377	Total for Oct. 1894	Act not in force.

Factory and Workshop Operatives.†

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Table showing the number of persons reported to H.M. Chief Inspector by Certifying Surgeons as killed or injured during the month of October 1895.

Class of Service.	Number of Persons Injured, distinguishing Class of Accident.							Total Persons Injured.
	Killed	Causing Amputations.	Fractures.	Injuries to Head or Face.	Loss of Sight of one or both Eyes.	Lacerations, Contusions, and other Injuries.		
Males.								
Adults (over 18)	37	79	31	48	3	337	498	
Young Persons	8	60	22	12	...	193	287	
Boys	...	2	4	1	...	17	24	
Total Males	45	141	57	61	3	547	809	
Females.								
Adults (over 18)	1	14	3	5	...	64	86	
Young Persons	3	18	4	5	1	39	67	
Girls	...	1	1	...	...	4	6
Total Females	4	33	8	10	1	107	159	
Total Males and Females for Oct. 1895	49	174	65	71	4	654	968	
Total for Oct. 1894	38	153	93	70	4	639	959	

* In addition to the above the companies have reported 7 servants killed and 361 injured by accidents occurring on the companies' premises, but in which the movement of vehicles was not concerned, making a total for the month of 45 killed and 566 injured from all causes.
† The classes of accidents reported are those specified in the LABOUR GAZETTE for July 1893, page 66.
‡ The classes of accidents reported under the Notice of Accidents Act, 1894, are those set forth on page 340 of the LABOUR GAZETTE for November 1894.
§ Authorised by any local or personal Act of Parliament.

Seamen.

(Supplied by the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen.)

Table showing the number of masters, seamen, and other persons forming the crews of vessels belonging to the United Kingdom, Isle of Man and Channel Islands, reported to the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen during the month of October 1895, as having lost their lives at sea, or in rivers or harbours, from the undermentioned causes. (Deaths on yachts and on vessels employed exclusively in rivers and inland navigation are not included.)

Class of Vessels.	Number of Deaths, exclusive of deaths from disease, homicide, suicide, and unknown causes.					
	By Wreck and Casualty.		By Accidents other than Wreck and Casualty.		Total.	
	Sailing.	Steam.	Sailing.	Steam.	Sailing.	Steam.
Vessels registered under Part I. of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894:						
Trading	39	38	25	36	64	74
Fishing	...	1	7	4	7	5
Vessels not so registered:						
Trading	2	...	...	...	2	...
Fishing	25	...	...	...	25	...
Total for Oct. 1895	66	39	32	40	98	79
Total for Oct. 1894	37	16	26	38	63	54

Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894.‡

(Supplied by the Railway Department of the Board of Trade.)

Table showing the number of separate accidents reported to the Board of Trade under the Notice of Accidents Act during the month of October 1895, and the number of persons killed and injured in such accidents.

Group.	Nature of Works, &c.	A.—DISTINGUISHING NATURE OF EMPLOYMENT.		
		Construction or Repair.		Use or Working.
		No. of Accidents.	No. of persons killed.	No. of persons injured.
I.	Bridge...	2	3	...
	Canal ...	1	1	28
	Dock ...	26	1	110
	Gaswork ...	5	2	10
	Harbour, Pier & Quay	10	10	9
	Railway	36	3	33
	Tramroad ...	...	...	...
	Tramway ...	2	2	5
	Tunnel ...	12	1	11
	Other Works§	22	1	21
II.	Buildings	10	...	13
III.	Traction or other steam engine or machine in the open air	Act does not apply.	1	...
Total		126	8	123

Nature of Injury.	B.—DISTINGUISHING NATURE OF INJURY.				
	Group I.		Group II.		Group III.
	Construction or repair.	Use or working.	Construction or repair.	Use or working.	Use or working.
Fractures	9	22	3	6	1
Dislocations	1	2	...	...	...
Ruptures or other severe injuries to body	12	23	...	4	...
Injuries to eye	4	...	...	7	...
Other injuries to head or face	19	9	...	6	...
Other injuries to arms or hands	31	22	4	40	...
Other injuries to legs or feet	31	68	4	18	...
Miscellaneous injuries	9	19	2	2	...
Total	110	165	13	83	1

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN OCTOBER.

(Based on information obtained from Local Correspondents, Superintendents of Mercantile Marine, and from Newspapers* and other sources, with corrections and additions supplied by many of the principal Employers' Associations and Trade Unions, and in some cases by the Employers concerned.)

THE increases in rates of wages reported during the month affected about 9,500 persons, and the decreases about 1,750.

The increases include 1,946 steel workers; 404 tinplate workers; 2,750 bedstead-makers in Birmingham and district who have received an additional 5 per cent., making their wages 25 per cent. above list prices; 200 small chain-makers in factories at Cradley Heath who have secured a 10 per cent. advance; 150 cloggers in the Oldham and Rochdale districts who have secured new and more favourable price lists; 1,116 textile workers; 913 corporation employees; and 200 crate-makers in the Potteries, who have obtained a 7½ per cent. advance.

Following upon the 2½ per cent. decrease in the wages of the Northumberland coal miners reported last month, the wages of the deputies, enginemen, and firemen have also been reduced. Particulars of these reductions, which affect 1,490 men, are given in the table.

NOTE.—It will be understood that increments accruing under scales of pay, as in the case of policemen, some municipal employees, and many railway servants, &c. are not recorded here. The same remark applies to changes in the pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c.

Main table for page 350 showing changes in rates of wages for various trades including Building Trades, Coal Mining, Steel Trade, Tinplate Trade, Other Metal Trades, Engineering, and Clothing Trades. Columns include Employment, Locality, Date of Change, Approximate Number of workpeople directly affected, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, and Increase or Decrease in a full week.

* In all cases the accuracy of newspaper reports is inquired into before the information is used here. † By this sliding scale an increase of ¼ per cent. is granted for every 1s. advance in the price of steel rails, the unit being £3 10s. per ton. When rails reach the rate of increase is 1 per cent. for every 1s. advance in prices. The price is to be ascertained every two months.

Main table for page 351 showing changes in rates of wages for various trades including Textile Trades, Corporation Employees, and Miscellaneous Trades. Columns include Employment, Locality, Date of change, Approximate Number of workpeople directly affected, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, and Increase or Decrease in a full week.

* The predominant wage, however, remained the same as in the previous month.

REDUCTIONS IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED DURING OCTOBER.

NEARLY 2,900 persons were affected by the 7 cases of reductions in hours of labour reported during October. Twelve hundred of these were coal miners in Nottinghamshire, whose recognised hours of labour for coal drawing have been reduced to 7½ per day. The remaining cases include the introduction of the eight hours day into the Birmingham waterworks for engine-drivers and stokers; a reduction from the 10 to the 9 hours day in a tweed cloth manufactory at Selkirk; and the adoption of the 12 o'clock Saturday for 1,200 wagon and coach-builders at Gloucester.

Employment.	Locality.	Date of change.	Approximate number of work-people directly affected.	Hours of labour in a full week (exclusive of overtime).		
				Before change.	After change.	Dec. per week.
Coal Miners ...	Hucknall Torkard	1st Nov.	1,200	42½	37½	5
Shipwrights ...	Lowestoft ...	11th Oct.	77	Per week of 5 days		
				Summer	59	56½	2½
Cloth Weavers, Warp-ers, and Warehousemen	Selkirk ...	28th Oct.	45 males 100 females	50	48	2
				56	51	5
Wagon and Coach Builders	Gloucester...	5th Oct.	1,200	54	53	1
Sawmill operatives	Tweedmouth	1st June	120	59	54	5
Waterworks— Engine Drivers } Stokers ... }	Birmingham and District	3rd Oct.	42	72	48	24
				54	72	48	24
Outfitters (shop assistants)	Dublin ...	2nd Nov.	40	58	56	2

* The hours given are for a week of six days. Sunday duty is paid for extra at the rate of time and a-half. See also the table of Changes in Rates of Wages.

Reversion from the Eight to the Nine Hours Day.—The proprietor of a silk mill in Renfrewshire commenced in April 1894 a four weeks' trial of the eight hours day for the workpeople in his employ—no alteration being made in the prices paid to piece-workers or in the weekly wages of the time-workers. [See GAZETTE for May, 1894, p. 145.] The experimental period was afterwards extended to 12 months. According to particulars furnished to the Department by the proprietor, there was a material reduction in the output under the shorter hours, resulting, as far as he could judge, in a decrease of 7½ per cent. in the average earnings of the piece-workers. He consequently felt compelled to abandon the shorter hours. The number of workpeople affected at the commencement of the experiment was 77, viz., 57 piece-workers and 20 time-workers.

Reduction in the Hours of Labour of Signalmen under the Railway Regulation Act, 1893.—Consequent upon representations to the Board of Trade under the above Act enquiry was made into the hours of labour of the signalmen employed at Perth general station. As it was found that reasonable ground for complaint existed, the committee of the railways concerned were required to submit a revised schedule of time for the duty of the men in question, and they have agreed to reduce those periods of duty which were considered by the Board to have been too long. Four cabins were affected.

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN OCTOBER.

(Supplied to the Department by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.)

THE summary given below of the changes in the Register of Industrial Organisations during October shows that 4 Trade Unions, 5 Co-operative Associations for Distribution, 3 Co-operative Associations for Production, 2 miscellaneous Co-operative Associations, 19 new Friendly Societies, and 41 new branches of existing Friendly Societies, have been added to the Register for the United Kingdom during the past month. Three Trade Unions have been dissolved during the month, and 2 Industrial and Provident Societies, and 11 Building Societies are returned as having ceased to exist, or to have commenced "winding up."

NEW ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

Trade Unions.—*England and Wales.*—Costermongers' and Street Vendors, St. John's Phoenix Hall, 41 Exmouth St., Clerkenwell Rd., E.C.; Hartlepool Builders' Labourers, Shakespeare Hotel, Brunswick St., West Hartlepool; United Kingdom

Soc. of Coach-makers, 47 Pembroke Place, Liverpool. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Belfast Street Metal Workers and Gasfitters, 17 College St., Belfast.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—(A) *Associations for Distribution.*—*England and Wales.*—St. Andrews (Watford) Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 58 Leavesdon Rd., Watford. *Scotland.*—Clyde Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 23 Plantation St., Glasgow S.S.; Hill of Beath Co-op. Soc., Ltd.; Hill of Beath, Fifeshire; Arbroath United Butchermeat Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 100 High St., Arbroath. *Ireland.*—The City of Derry Working Men's Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 1 London St., Londonderry.

(B) *Associations for Production.*—*England and Wales.*—None. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Longford Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Longford; the Irish Co-op. Embroidery and Needlework Soc., Ltd., Dalkey, co. Dublin; the Donaghpatrick Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Donaghpatrick, co. Meath.

(C) *Miscellaneous.*—*England and Wales.*—Bournemouth and Branksome Land Soc., Ltd., 5 Wootton Gardens, Bournemouth. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—The Co. Cork Co-op. Farmers' Soc., Ltd., Turner's Hotel, Cork.

Friendly Societies.—(A) *New Friendly Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—Ordinary Friendly, 4; Dividing, 2; Collecting, 1; Specially Authorised, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 7. *Scotland.*—Ordinary, 1; Juvenile, 1. *Ireland.*—Ordinary, 1; Specially Authorised, 1.

(B) *New Branches of Existing Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—I.O. Rechabites, 13; A.O. Foresters, 4; I.O. Oddfellows (Manchester Unity), 4; O. Sons of Temperance, 4; Various, 9. *Scotland.*—I.O. Rechabites, 2; Various, 2. *Ireland.*—B.O.A. Free Gardeners, 2; I.O. Rechabites, 1.

OLD ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

Trade Unions.—*England and Wales.*—Amal. Soc. of Journeymen Breakers' up of Clog Blocks, Pendarren, Merthyr Tydfil; Yeadon, Guiseley and District Fettle's Union, Yeadon; Smallbridge and Littleboro' Miners' Association, Come and Welcome Lodge, Littleboro', Manchester.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—*England and Wales.*—National Secular Hall Soc., Ltd., Old Street, E.C.; Metropolitan Equitable Co-op. Soc., Ltd., New Oxford Street, W.C. (both "winding-up" under Companies Acts).

Building Societies.—*England and Wales.*—Dissolved by Instrument, 3; Have sent notice of termination of dissolution, 8.

NEW JERSEY LABOUR BUREAU.

THE report of the Bureau of Statistics of Labour and Industries of New Jersey for the year ending October 31st, 1894, gives the results of an inquiry regarding the industrial depression of 1893-4, including a statistical account, based upon returns received from 252 establishments and relating to 42,000 employees, of the number of persons employed, and the wages paid in June 1892 and in June 1893 and each successive month up to and including May 1894, and of the value of the annual production for the years ending June 1893 and June 1894, and the changes in the wholesale market price of the goods produced, as between these two periods. Part II. of the Report continues the investigation commenced by the Bureau some years back into the effect of occupation on the health and duration of working life of workmen, the trades dealt with on the present occasion being various branches of the leather-working industry. The tabulated returns relate to 1,124 individuals. In Part III. statistics are given in regard to the retail prices of groceries and certain other articles, including meat, fish and coal, in 1894; while in the succeeding part statistics of occupations are given in regard to the state of New Jersey, based upon the returns of the United States Census of 1890. The Report also contains a full statistical statement of the position of the Co-operative Building and Loan Associations of New Jersey, and a chapter on recent laws and decisions of courts relating to the employment of labour and affecting the interests of wage-earners in that State.

NOTICE.

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