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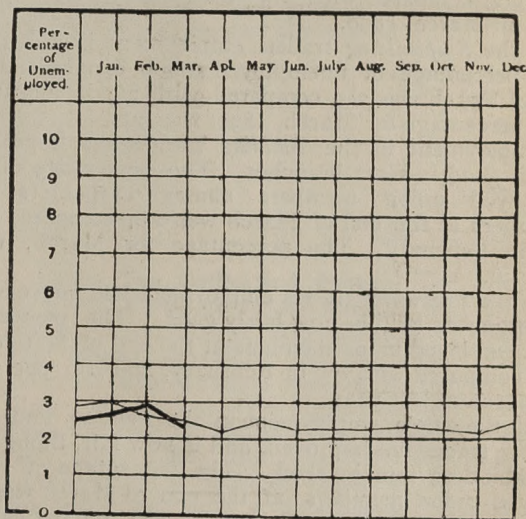
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EMPLOYMENT CHART, 1899-1900.

Chart showing the percentage of unemployed members of the Trade Unions making returns at the close of each complete month of 1899 and 1900.

[The thick line applies to 1900, the thin line to 1899.]



STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN MARCH.

[Based on 2,503 returns, viz.: 1,716 from Employers, 638 from Trade Unions, and 149 from other sources.]

In all the more important industries the general state of employment during March has remained good, and the percentage of unemployed returned by Trade Unions is lower than at the corresponding period of any year since 1890. A considerable number of coal miners and iron and steelworkers have received advances of wages during the month.

In the 137 Trade Unions making returns, with an aggregate membership of 524,199, 11,821 (or 2.3 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of March, compared with 2.9 per cent. in February, and with 2.5 per cent. in the 123 unions, with a membership of 494,394, from which returns were received for March, 1899.

Employment in Various Industries.—Coal Mining.—Employment in March has continued very good, and better than a year ago, although the average time worked has not quite reached the exceptionally high figure of February. At collieries at which 452,368 workpeople were employed, the pits worked on an average 5.67 days per week in the four weeks ended March 24th, as compared with 5.69 days in February, and 5.62 days a year ago.

Iron Mining.—Employment continues good, and has improved, although still not so good as a year ago. The average number of days worked by mines and open works, at which 16,744 workpeople were employed in the four weeks ended March 24th, was 5.71 days per week, compared with 5.55 days in February, and 5.89 days a year ago.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment shows a slight decline, but is still good. At the works of 116 ironmasters, 377 furnaces were in blast at the end of March, employing about 25,759 workpeople, as compared with 383 furnaces with 25,887 workpeople

employed at the end of February, and 380 furnaces with 24,918 workpeople employed at the end of March, 1899.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Employment has further improved, and is noticeably better than a year ago.

Tinplate Trade.—Employment continues good, and is much better than a year ago.

Employment in the **Engineering and Metal trades** has remained good. The percentage of unemployed union members in this group of trades at the end of March was 2.2, compared with 2.3 in February and 2.4 per cent. in March, 1899.

In the **Shipbuilding trades**, employment is still good. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of March was 2.5, compared with 2.9 in February.

Employment in the **Building trades** has improved, and is good in most branches. The percentage of unemployed union members among carpenters and plumbers at the end of March was 2.6, compared with 3.1 in February.

In the **Furnishing trades** employment has improved in all branches, and is now fairly good. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of March was 2.4, compared with 6.9 in February, and 1.0 per cent. in March of last year.

On the whole, employment in the **Printing and Book-binding trades** has improved, and is now fair, though the bookbinders remain slack.

In the **Paper trade** employment has remained good, the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of March being 2.2, compared with 2.3 in February.

In the **Glass trades** the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of March was 9.3, compared with 10.9 in March, 1899.

Employment in the **Leather trades** has remained good. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of March was the same as in February, viz., 1.3.

Employment in the **Boot and Shoe trade** has, on the whole, improved, and is fairly good.

Employment in the **Tailoring trade** has improved, but is still quiet; in the ready-made branch it has improved in most centres, and is good.

Employment continues very good in the **Spinning and Weaving branches** of the **Cotton trade**. Information respecting **Cotton** factories employing about 83,500 women and girls shows that 100 per cent. of those in **Spinning** mills, and 96 per cent. of those in **Weaving** factories, were working in factories giving full employment during the month, compared with 99 and 93 per cent. respectively in February, and with 96 and 87 per cent. respectively a year ago.

Employment in the **Woollen and Worsted trades** continues very good on the whole, but shows a slight decline. In the **Hosiery** trade it remains very good.

Dock and Riverside Labour in London.—Employment at the docks and wharves has improved as compared with a year ago, and with February. During the five weeks ended March 31st, an average number of 14,937 were employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves, as compared with averages of 14,207 in February, and 13,618 in March, 1899.

Agricultural Labourers were generally well employed during March, and in a number of districts they were reported to be scarce.

Trade Disputes.—Forty fresh disputes occurred in March, 1900, involving 10,049 workpeople, of whom 8,159 were directly and 1,890 indirectly affected.

Corresponding number of disputes in February was 33, involving 11,357 workpeople, and in March, 1899, 53, involving 13,827 workpeople. Of the 40 fresh disputes in March, 1900, the most important was a dispute, still unsettled, affecting about 4,000 workpeople in the pottery trade. Of the others, 9 occurred in the building trades, 5 in the coal mining industry, 9 in metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, 10 in textile trades, and 6 in miscellaneous industries.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—Changes in the rates of wages of about 204,100 workpeople were reported during March, of which number 198,600 obtained advances, averaging 2s. 0½d. weekly per head, and about 5,500 sustained decreases, averaging 1s. 1½d. weekly per head. The net result was an increase of about 1s. 1½d. per head in the weekly wages of the 204,100 workpeople affected.

DIRECTORY OF INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

A DIRECTORY of Industrial Organisations embracing Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, Trades Councils, Federations of Trade Unions and Trades Councils, Conciliation and Arbitration Boards and Joint Committees, Workmen's Co-operative Societies (Distributive and Productive), and Co-operative, Agricultural and Credit Banks, has just been published by the Labour Department of the Board of Trade.

The volume, which consists of 143 pages, can be obtained through any bookseller for 7½d., or direct from the publishers, Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, E.C., for 9½d., including postage. The reference number is Cd. 120 of 1900.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Cotton Statistics.—The following table shows the number of bales of cotton imported, forwarded from ports to inland towns, and exported during the month of March, and also during the three completed months of 1900, with comparative figures for 1899:—

Table with columns for Month of March (1900, 1899) and Three months ended March (1900, 1899). Rows include Imported, Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns, and Exported.

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 21 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended March 31st, amounted to £6,430,146, an increase of £89,057 (or 1.4 per cent.), as compared with the corresponding period of 1899.

Bankruptcies.—The bankruptcies gazetted during March numbered 432, being 9 more than in March, 1899, 31 more than in March, 1898, and 19 more than in March, 1897.

CHANGES IN THE LEVEL OF PRICES IN 1899.

The general level of prices rose somewhat in 1899. On the basis of the wholesale prices or declared values of a large number of staple commodities, mainly articles of food or raw materials of industry, it is estimated that prices generally were higher by about 1¼ per cent. than in 1898, and by about 4½ per cent. than in 1897, although lower by nearly 8 per cent. than in 1889.

The details of the calculations on which these estimates are based are contained in a volume of tables relating to prices, which is now in preparation by the Department.

The rise, although small on the whole, was widespread, so far as the number of articles was concerned, although only in a few cases was it considerable in amount. The most noticeable rise occurred in the group of coal and metals, where the rise as between 1898 and 1899 amounted to about 16 per cent., and as between 1897 and 1899 to 27 per cent., whilst as compared with 10 years ago the rise amounted to 14 per cent. The principal exceptions to the general rise in prices were corn and British wool, the prices of which in 1899 were remarkably low.

Corn and Potatoes.—The prices of corn, which in the years immediately preceding had shown a tendency to increase, fell sharply in 1899. This was especially the case with wheat, the London Gazette average for the year being, with the exception of 1894 and 1895, the lowest of the century.

The following Table shows the London Gazette price of British wheat, barley and oats, and the average declared value of imported wheat in each of the last three years:—

Table with columns for 1897, 1898, 1899. Rows include British Wheat, Barley, Oats, and Imported Wheat per cwt.

As regards potatoes no statistics exist of the same importance as in the case of corn, the declared values of imported potatoes fluctuating considerably more than the prices of British potatoes. The average declared value was somewhat higher than in 1898, but lower than in most recent years.

Dairy Produce.—In this class of produce there was also a distinct rise in price as compared with the preceding year. The price in the middle of the year (at the beginning of June) for butter of all qualities at the Cork Butter Market was higher than in 1898.

A few of these prices are given below:—

Table with columns for 1897, 1898, 1899. Rows include Price at beginning of June at Cork of best butter, Milk per cwt., Salt, Imported butter per cwt., Imported cheese.

Meat and Fish.—A good indication of the movement in the prices of beef and mutton is afforded by the returns of the average wholesale prices of cattle and sheep (sinking the offal) at the Metropolitan Cattle Market, published in the Journal of the Board of Agriculture.

The following Table gives a few prices of meat and fish for each of the last three years:—

Table with columns for 1897, 1898, 1899. Rows include Live Meat (Beef, Mutton), Bacon imported, and Fish landed.

Sugar, Tea, Coffee and Cocoa.—The price of sugar, so far as shown by the declared values of the imports, showed a marked rise, although it by no means touched the figures prevailing up to 1894.

Table with columns for 1897, 1898, 1899. Rows include Unrefined Sugar (Beetroot, Other sorts), Refined Sugar (Lumps or Loaves, Other sorts), Tea, Coffee, Cocoa.

Coal and Metals.—The average prices of coal and iron, as ascertained periodically by accountants in various districts of Great Britain, have been published from time to time in the LABOUR GAZETTE.

Table with columns for 1897, 1898, 1899. Rows include Average declared Value of Coal exported, Pig Iron exported, Tin imported, Copper, Crude Zinc imported, Pig and Sheet Lead imported, Coal in Northumberland, No. 3 Cleveland Pig Iron.

*Exclusive of Customs Duty.

Textiles.—The average declared values of the imports of both United States and Egyptian cotton were slightly higher than in 1898 (when the average values were the lowest on record), but lower than in the years preceding. Much the same is true of the exports of plain piece goods, both bleached and unbleached, and of grey yarn. The average export values of cotton thread show a more noticeable rise and were higher than during the last few years.

In the case of wool it may be said generally that the prices of colonial and foreign wools were higher, and the prices of British wool lower, than in the last few years. The latter, indeed, as shown by the declared values of the exports, by the prices of Lincoln wool given in the *Bradford Observer* Tables, and by the prices struck by the Teviotdale Farmers' Club, Hawick, were the lowest on record.

The average declared values of the imports of flax were the lowest on record, but those of the imports of jute and raw silk were higher than in the few preceding years.

The following are a few of the import and export values above referred to in each of the three last years:—

	1897.	1898.	1899.
Imports of Raw Cotton:—	£	£	£
From U.S.A., per cwt.	1'99	1'71	1'74
From Egypt " " " " " "	2'65	2'39	2'53
Imports of Sheep and Lambs' Wool, per lb.	d.	d.	d.
Exports of British Wool, per lb.	7'97	8'16	8'58
Imports of Jute, per cwt.	9'19	8'59	7'72
" Flax " " " " " "	s.	s.	s.
" Raw Silk, per lb.	11'70	10'50	12'75
" " " " " " " "	35'60	32'38	32'25
" " " " " " " "	12'33	12'52	12'77

Miscellaneous.—The following are the average declared values for the last three years of a number of miscellaneous imports. It will be noticed that most of the average values in 1899 were greater than in the preceding year. The declared value of imported tobacco is exclusive of the duty.

	1897.	1898.	1899.
Unmanufactured Tobacco,* per lb. ...	d.	d.	d.
Linseed, per quarter	6'97	7'35	7'22
Petroleum, per gallon	1'57	1'73	1'88
Fir, hewn, per load	d.	d.	d.
Fir, sawn, per load	4'31	4'09	4'57
Hides, per cwt.	£	£	£
Leather, per lb.	1'44	1'47	1'45
Caoutchouc, per cwt.	2'35	2'35	2'42
" " " " " " " "	2'30	2'35	2'30
" " " " " " " "	d.	d.	d.
" " " " " " " "	12'84	13'37	13'47
" " " " " " " "	£	£	£
" " " " " " " "	11'47	12'69	13'18

STRIKE OF BERLIN CABINETMAKERS.

OWING to the intervention of the Berlin Industrial Court, acting as a Board of Conciliation, the dispute in the Berlin cabinetmaking trade, begun on February 19th and referred to in last month's *GAZETTE* (p. 76), has been settled, the terms of the agreement providing for the resumption of work at all the establishments concerned (which are stated to have numbered about 600) on March 26th. According to employers' estimates the number of workmen involved in the dispute reached 12,000, while according to statements emanating from the workmen's side it did not exceed 7,750 (6,600 cabinetmakers, 350 joiners in the shop-fittings branch, and 800 wood machinists). The terms of the agreement arrived at (the full text of which is published in *Soziale Praxis* of March 29th) include the following provisions:—The weekly time-wage and the weekly payment on account in respect to piece-work shall not be less than 24s. (This does not apply in the case of workmen, who through youth or age or ill-health, etc., possess less than average efficiency; such persons are to make their own arrangements with their employers.) In establishments, in which wage conditions more favourable than the above standard obtained before the strike, those conditions shall be maintained. In places where the weekly time-wage or

* Exclusive of duty.

the weekly payment on account in respect to piece-work is less than 24s., it shall be open to the workmen to enter into negotiations with their employers with a view to securing an improvement. Should these negotiations threaten to lead to a renewal of the strike, the matter shall be referred to a Board consisting of 9 employers and 9 workmen, the former elected by the employers', and the latter by the workmen's organisations. One of the assessors of the Berlin Industrial Court will act as chairman. Appeal can be made within 3 days from the decision of this Board to the Industrial Court. Failing such appeal, the Board's decision is final. While proceedings are pending before the Board or Court, a final decision not yet having been pronounced, recourse must not be had to strikes or lock-outs. No workman is to be victimised for participation in the dispute. All workmen are to be re-instated in their previous employment. The *Reichs-Anzeiger* states that at a meeting of employers and workmen held on March 27th the strike was definitely declared to be ended.

STRIKE OF COAL MINERS IN AUSTRIA.

As stated in the account of this dispute contained in last month's *GAZETTE* (p. 68), various urgency motions, brought before the Reichsrath by the Social Democratic party relative to the shortening of the hours of labour in Austrian coal mines, were referred to a Social-Political Committee, which was to report on them by March 12th. In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated March 16th, Mr. A. P. Bennett, H.M. Commercial Attaché at Vienna, reports that at the first sitting of this Committee, a sub-committee was elected for the purpose of collecting expert evidence on the subject of mining hours and mining conditions throughout the various coal fields of the Empire, on the strength of which evidence the sub-committee was eventually to make definite proposals to the Committee *in plenum* for submission to the Reichsrath. Thirty-six experts were summoned, twelve of whom represented the interests of capital, and twenty-four those of labour.

On the 12th instant, the day appointed for reporting to the Reichsrath, the sub-committee was not in a position to lay any definite proposals before the Social-Political Committee *in plenum*; and a statement to this effect was made in the House by the Chairman of the Committee.

On the 14th instant, however, the draft of a Bill drawn up by Dr. Forscht, a member of the sub-committee, proposing "a nine-hours' shift from bank to bank," was laid before a general meeting of the Committee, with the suggestion that during the approaching Parliamentary recess the draft should be worked into definite shape and presented to the Reichsrath at the beginning of the next session, that is, immediately after Easter. This proposal was sanctioned, and the definite preparation of the Bill has been entrusted to Dr. Forscht and three other members of the Committee. Further, the Government has signified its willingness to co-operate with Dr. Forscht and his colleagues in the working up of the Bill.

It may be added that the Law of June 21st, 1884, at present in force, limits the mining day to ten hours, exclusive of the time occupied in descending and ascending the pits.

In a subsequent dispatch, dated March 30th, Mr. Bennett reports that the gradual break-up of the strike commenced on March 20th, when it had become clear that legislation as to the reduction of mining hours was out of the question until after the Easter recess. The miners of Northern and Western Bohemia were the first to resume work, and at the date of writing, the strikers in nearly all the affected districts had given in; only a few thousand miners in the Kladno district still remained on strike, and their numbers were daily diminishing. The men's demands for an eight-hours' shift (bank to bank) and for the fixing of a minimum

wage were not granted; but their demands for an increase of wages, for free light and fuel, and for the regular settlement of wages accounts were conceded by the employers five weeks earlier.

The total deficit in the output of coal caused by the eleven weeks' strike is estimated at 54,000,000 tons, and this is calculated to mean a loss to the miners in wages of some £400,000, and to the mine-owners in net profits about the same amount. Then there is the enormous loss to the industrial classes, inasmuch as during the last two months many factories were obliged to cease operations entirely, whilst others were only able to continue part-work by paying enormous prices for imported coal.

REGULATION OF HOURS OF LABOUR IN FRANCE.

UNDER the law (of November 2nd, 1892) regulating the hours of labour of children, young persons, and women in factories, workshops, and mines, hitherto in force in France the length of the working day was fixed differently: (a) For children under 16, (b) for young persons of 16 and under 18, and (c) for women of 18 and upwards; class (a) being restricted to 10 hours per day, class (b) to 11 hours (with a maximum of 60 hours per week), and class (c) to 11 hours (without a specified weekly maximum).

A new law, dated March 30th, 1900, fixes the maximum length of the working day at 11 hours for all the three classes of workpeople alike, and provides that, from April 1st, 1902, it shall be reduced to 10½ hours, and from April 1st, 1904, to 10 hours.

The working day must (as heretofore) be broken by periods of rest amounting to at least one hour in the aggregate; but in the future these rests must (except in establishments with fires kept going day and night continuously, and in mines and quarries) be taken simultaneously by all children, young persons, and women employed in any given establishment coming under the Law.

The law of 1892, which forbids, generally, the employment of women, young persons, and children at night (*i.e.*, between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m.), contains a provision, under which their employment between 4 a.m. and 10 p.m. is permitted if two relays are employed working not more than nine hours each. This provision will cease to be operative after April 1st, 1902, save in the case of boys and youths employed underground in mines and quarries under the conditions imposed by the law. So far as concerns the employment of women, young persons, and children in relays generally (otherwise than under the system just referred to), such employment is prohibited, except in establishments with fires kept going day and night, and in certain other classes of establishments to be determined by Administrative Order (this prohibition taking effect as from July 1st, 1900).

It is provided that in all cases, in which work is carried on under a system of successive shifts, the employment of each shift shall be continuous, with no other break than a period or periods of rest. The new law further enacts, that in all establishments coming within the scope of the law of 1892, referred to above, which adult males are employed together with women, young persons, and children in the same work-places, the hours of such adult males shall be restricted to 11 per day (to be reduced to 10½ from April 1st, 1902, and to 10 hours from April 1st, 1904).

Information for Intending Emigrants.

The free quarterly circulars of the Emigrants' Information Office were issued on the 1st inst., and contain information useful to intending emigrants as to the demand for labour, rates of wages, and cost of living. Particulars are also given of the cost of reaching the various colonies, the arrangements at each for receiving emigrants, and as to other matters of interest to emigrants. Copies of the circulars can be obtained free on application to the Chief Clerk, Emigrants' Information Office, 31, Broadway, Westminster, S.W.

NEW LAW REGULATING EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUNG PERSONS, AND WOMEN IN SPAIN.

A LAW in relation to the regulation of the labour of children, young persons, and women has been passed in Spain, dated March 13th, 1900.

Children under 10 years of age must not be employed in any kind of labour; if, however, they can read and write, they may be employed from the age of 9. Until their 14th year, they must not be employed for more than 6 hours per day in factories, or 8 hours per day in commercial establishments, and their daily working time must be broken by rests amounting to at least an hour in the aggregate. If they have not received elementary and religious instruction, and if there be a school within 2 kilometres (about 1¼ miles) of the establishment in which they are employed, children under 14 years of age must be allowed at least two hours per day (not to be counted as working time) to attend school. When the distance from a school exceeds 2 kilometres, a factory or workshop regularly employing more than 20 children must maintain a school of its own.

Children under 14 years of age must not be employed at night (*i.e.*, between 7 p.m. and 5 a.m.). Night work is also prohibited for young persons of 14 and under 18 years of age in such trades as shall be determined by the local and provincial Councils, for the establishment of which the present law provides. In trades in which night work is not forbidden, every full night's work must be broken by intervals amounting, in the aggregate, to not less than 1½ hours, and the total amount of night work in any one week must not exceed 48 hours.

Children under 16 years of age must not be employed underground, or in establishments preparing or using inflammable substances, or in trades scheduled as dangerous or unhealthy, or in cleaning machinery in motion.

Except by permission of the Government Authorities, children under 16 years of age must not be employed in any kind of public performance, or in any establishment producing writings, advertisements, prints, etc., which might injure their morals. Women under age are included in the prohibition, so far as concerns the last-mentioned kinds of establishments.

Employment on Sundays and feast-days is forbidden for all persons to whom the present law applies.

Women must not be employed during the three weeks following their confinement. Before being admitted to industrial or commercial establishments, children, young persons, and women must produce certificates of vaccination and freedom from contagious disease.

The Government is to appoint local and provincial councils. The former will consist of equal numbers of employers and workmen, a representative of the civil authority (who will act as chairman), and a representative of the ecclesiastical authority. To these councils is to be assigned the duty of inspecting all places in which labour is carried on (such inspection to be in addition to inspection by the Government); of ensuring the existence of healthy conditions in such places; of organising labour statistics; of bringing about the formation of mixed tribunals of employers and workpeople; of hearing complaints submitted to them by either party; and, generally, of ensuring the observance of the present law.

The provincial Councils will consist of representatives of the local councils, the governor of the province acting as chairman, summoning the Council when he thinks fit, and determining the matters to be submitted to its consideration. Each provincial Council will include an expert competent to advise in matters pertaining to health and safety in factories, workshops, etc., who shall be nominated by the Royal Academy of Medicine.

The local and provincial Councils are to submit proposals for the adoption of such measures as will, within two years from the promulgation of this law, ensure the reduction to 11 hours per day of the hours of labour of persons to whom the law applies, and who may be working for longer hours than this limit.

of 20 cents (10d.) per hour. Men ordered to report for duty at a specified hour are to be paid from that hour until relieved. If not put on duty, they are to receive half-pay until relieved. Certain specified classes are to be paid for overtime, and any man, who has been discharged solely on the ground that he belonged to the Union, is to be re-instated.

Eight Hours' Law in Mines, Blast-furnaces and Smelting Works in Colorado.—The State of Colorado has passed a law (dated March 16th, 1899) which enacts that, except in cases of emergency where life or property is in danger, the period of employment of workmen shall be eight hours per day in underground mines or workings, and in smelters or other institutions for the reduction or refining of ores or metals. Infractions of this law are punishable by fine (50 dollars, say £20 8s. 4d., to 500 dollars, say £204 3s. 4d.) or imprisonment (up to six months), or both.

REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

(a) COAL MINING IN MARCH.

EMPLOYMENT in March showed on the whole but little change, the average number of days worked by the collieries included in the returns being slightly less than in February, but greater than a year ago.

Returns relating to 1,256 pits, at which 452,368 workpeople were employed, show that an average of 5·67 days per week was worked by these pits in the four weeks ended March 24th, as compared with 5·69 days per week in February and 5·62 days in March, 1899.

The following Table shows the average time worked in each division of the United Kingdom in the three periods specified. The falling off in Ireland is chiefly to be attributed to a dispute:—

Table with columns: District, No. employed in Mar., 1900, Average number of days worked per week by the pits in four weeks ended, 24th Mar., 1900, 25th Mar., 1899, 24th Feb., 1900. Rows include England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland, and United Kingdom.

The number employed at the pits, from which returns have been received for both periods, was about 3·4 per cent. higher than in March, 1899.

In the following Table the workpeople are grouped according to the number of days worked at the pits at which they were employed. It will be seen that 93·9 per cent. were employed at pits working 5 or more days per week in March, compared with 93·6 per cent. a year ago and 95·6 per cent. in February.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE WORKPEOPLE ACCORDING TO THE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED IN FOUR WEEKS BY THE COLLIERIES.

Table with columns: Number of days on which Coal was hewn and wound in four weeks, No. of Workpeople employed, Percentage proportion to total, March, 1899, February, 1900. Rows include 24 days (full time), 20 and under 24 days, 16, 12, 8, and Under 8 days.

From the Table below, which gives detailed particulars for the different mining districts, it will be seen that there was a falling off in Gloucester and Somerset of over ¼ day, as compared with both last month and a year ago, and a falling off of nearly ½ day, as compared with last month in the Nottingham and Leicester district. The low average in the Irish district is, as stated above, chiefly attributable to a dispute. The changes in other districts were of minor importance.

The highest averages during the month were worked in South Wales and Monmouth and in Cumberland (5·89 days per week in each case), followed by Yorkshire with an average of 5·83 days per week. Except in Ireland, the average was over 5 days a week in all districts, and over 5½ days in most, the lowest average being that of 5·04 days in Nottingham and Leicester.

COMPARISON OF THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED BY COLLIERIES IN MARCH, 1900 AND 1899, AND IN FEBRUARY, 1900.

Table with columns: District, No. employed in Mar., 1900, Average No. of Days worked per Week by the Collieries in four weeks ended, 24th Mar., 1900, 25th Mar., 1899, 24th Feb., 1900, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Mar., 1900 as compared with Mar., 1899, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Mar., 1900 as compared with Feb., 1900. Rows include England & Wales, Scotland, and Ireland.

The Exports of coal, coke, cinders and patent fuel during March amounted to 3,853,549 tons, as compared with 3,333,664 tons in February, and 3,462,405 tons in March, 1899.

(b) IRON MINING IN MARCH.

EMPLOYMENT in March showed an improvement in the number of days worked as compared with February, but a decline as compared with March, 1899. The number employed in March, 1899, was 465 more than in March, 1900.

Returns relating to 128 iron mines and open works show that the average number of days worked during the four weeks ended March 24th was 5·71 per week, as compared with 5·55 in February and 5·89 in March, 1900. The number of workpeople employed in March at these mines was 16,744, of whom 78·5 per cent. were employed in mines working 22 or more days in the four weeks, as compared with 69·9 per cent. in February and 96·6 per cent. in March, 1899.

The following table summarises the returns received

Table with columns: District, No. employed in Mar., 1900, Average number of days worked per week by the mines in 4 weeks ended, 24th Mar., 1900, 25th Mar., 1899, 24th Feb., 1900, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Mar., 1900 as compared with Mar., 1899, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Mar., 1900 as compared with Feb., 1900. Rows include England, Scotland, and Ireland.

(c) PIG-IRON INDUSTRY IN MARCH.

EMPLOYMENT in March showed a slight decline as compared with the previous month. The number of furnaces in blast was less, but the number of persons employed was greater than a year ago.

During the month at the works of 116 ironmasters covered by the returns three furnaces were re-lit and five damped down or blown out in England, and one was re-lit and five were damped down or blown out in Scotland. Thus at the end of March there were six furnaces fewer in blast than at the end of February. The estimated number of workpeople employed was 25,759, or 128 less than at the end of the previous

EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH—PIG IRON, IRON AND STEEL AND TINPLATE INDUSTRIES; SEAMEN.

month. As compared with a year ago three furnaces fewer were in blast, but 841 more workpeople were employed.

The following Table shows the number of furnaces in blast in the different districts of the United Kingdom at the three periods specified:—

Table with columns: Districts, Present time compared with a year ago, Present time compared with a month ago, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Mar., 1900. Rows include England & Wales, Scotland, and Total.

The shipments of pig-iron to Foreign Countries and British possessions from all ports of the United Kingdom during March amounted to 159,059 tons, as compared with 89,958 tons in February and 98,676 tons in March, 1899.

(d) EMPLOYMENT AT IRON AND STEEL WORKS IN MARCH.

EMPLOYMENT in these industries has further improved. It continues noticeably better than a year ago.

Numbers Employed.

At 209 works covered by the returns 83,804 workpeople were employed in the week ended March 24th, as compared with 82,816 in the last week of February and 80,443 a year ago.

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

Table with columns: District, Numbers employed in week ending, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Mar., 1900, as compared with Mar., 1900, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Mar., 1900, as compared with Feb., 1900. Rows include England and Wales, Scotland, and Total.

Weekly Number of Shifts Worked.

Information as to the number of shifts worked has been received with respect to works employing about 89 per cent. of these workpeople, and the particulars are summarised in the Table below. The average number of shifts worked was 5·62 in the week ended March 24th, as compared with 5·56 in both the last week of February and the corresponding week a year ago.

Table with columns: Number of Shifts worked, Number employed in Mar., 1900, so far as returned, Percentage proportion to Total, Corresponding percentage in Mar., 1899. Rows include Under 5 per week, 5 per week, 5½ per week, 6 per week, Above 6 per week, and Total.

Assuming that the workpeople not included in this Table worked the same number of shifts as those who are included, the total number of shifts worked by all the workpeople included in the first table may be estimated at 471,204 in the week ended March 24th, 460,516 in the last week of February, and 447,566 in the

corresponding week a year ago. Thus the volume of employment at the works included in the returns was 2·3 per cent greater at the end of March than a month before, and 5·3 per cent. greater than a year ago.

(e) EMPLOYMENT AT TINPLATE WORKS* IN MARCH.

THIS industry continues active, showing no decline as compared with February and a great improvement compared with a year ago.

At the end of March 57 works with 276 mills had all their mills at work, whilst 27 others with 201 mills were giving partial employment, 144 of their mills being at work. Thus in all 420 mills were working, compared with 418 mills at the end of February, and 345 mills a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at the mills in operation at the end of March, 1900, is estimated to be about 21,000.

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

Table with columns: No. of Works open, No. of Mills in such Works (Working, Not Working, Total). Rows include Works giving full employment, Works giving partial employment, Total at end of March, 1900, Corresponding Total for February, 1900, Corresponding Total for March, 1899.

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

Table with columns: Tinplates, Blackplates (Mar., Feb., Mar. 1900, 1899, 1900), To United States, Other Countries, Total. Rows include Tons.

(f) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN MARCH.

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

The number of seamen shipped during March as the crews of foreign-going vessels from certain selected ports (at which about 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared), was 30,517, or 210 less than the number for the corresponding month of 1899. The supply of seamen and firemen is reported to have been equal to, or in excess of, the demand at most of these ports. At Southampton, however, the supply is stated to have been scarce owing to the requirements of troopships, while at South Shields the supply of seamen for sailing vessels is reported as rather scarce.

Of the total number shipped during the three months ended March, 13,892 (or 15·0 per cent.) were foreigners, as compared with 14,098 (or 14·8 per cent.) in the corresponding period of 1899. Lascars who are engaged in Asia are not included in these figures.

The predominant rates of wages of seamen and firemen at the various ports show no change as compared with those prevailing in February.

* The figures relate not only to the manufacture of tinplates but also to the manufacture of blackplates.

† It will be understood that, in addition to the works returned as giving full or partial employment, a certain number of tinplate works were wholly idle at each of the dates to which the returns relate, but the figures quoted are believed to give approximately the total number of works and mills actually in operation.

‡ Revised figures.

EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH—TEXTILE TRADES; DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR.

(h) EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE TEXTILE TRADES IN MARCH.

ACCORDING to returns from women correspondents, employment for women has continued good in all branches of the textile trades, and shows a further improvement in the weaving branch of the cotton trade.

Table with 4 columns: Trade and Month, Working full time, With Full Employment, With Partial Employment, Closed for repairs, bad trade, disputes, or other causes. Rows include Cotton Trade—Spinning, Cotton Trade—Weaving, Woollen and Worsted Trades, and Total of above Trades for March 1900, February 1900, and March 1899.

Cotton Trade.—Spinning.—The number of women and girls usually employed in cotton spinning mills reported on is 27,130; of these 100 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 99 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in February, and with 96 per cent. in March, 1899.

Cotton Trade.—Weaving.—The number of women and girls usually employed in cotton weaving factories reported on is 56,390; of these, 96 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 93 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in February, and with 87 per cent. in March, 1899.

Woollen and Worsted Trades.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted mills reported on is 21,580; of these 97 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 98 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in February, and with 75 per cent. in March, 1899.

(i) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN MARCH.

EMPLOYMENT at the docks and wharves showed an improvement as compared with February and with a year ago.

The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves during the five weeks ended March 31st was 14,937, as compared with averages of 14,207 in the preceding four weeks, and 13,618 in the corresponding period of 1899.

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

Table with 5 columns: Period, By Dock Companies or through Contractors, By Ship-owners, &c., Total, Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns. Rows include weekly averages for March and averages for March 1899 and February 1900.

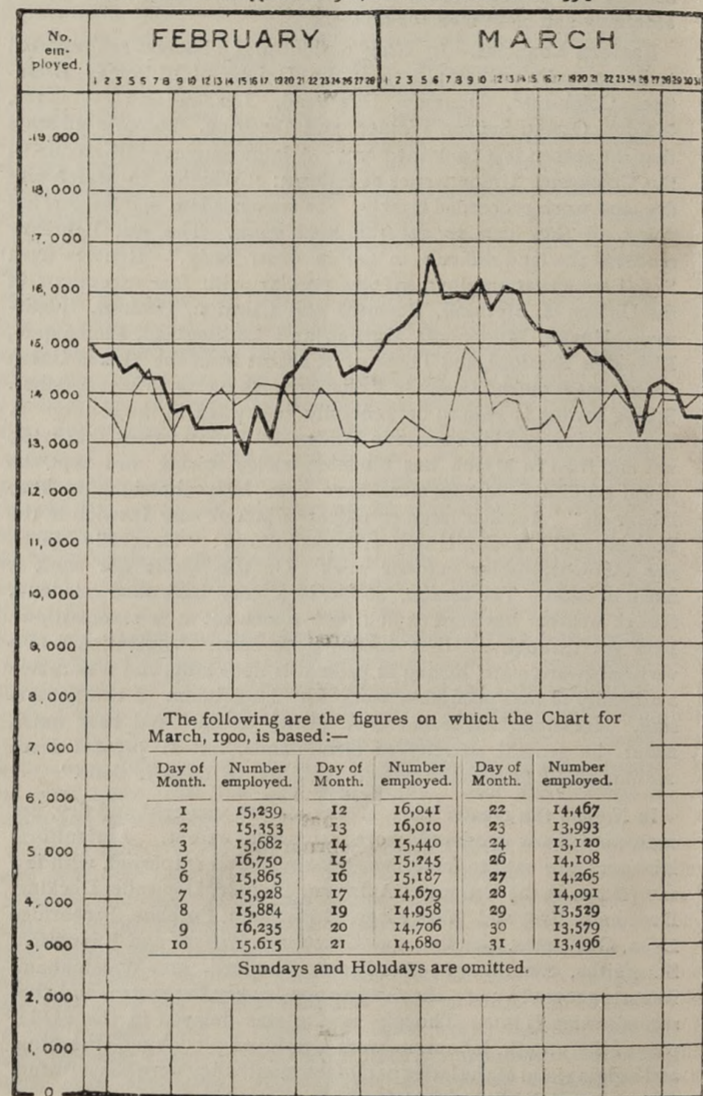
* Revised figures.

(2) Daily Fluctuation.—The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed by all the docks and principal wharves during February and March is shown on the chart below. The numbers in March ranged from 16,750 on the 5th to 13,120 on the 24th.

During March, 1899, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed varied from 12,953 on the 1st to 14,938 on the 9th.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks and 115 of the principal Wharves for each day during the months of February and March, 1900. The corresponding curve for February and March, 1899, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1900, and the thin curve to 1899.]



The following are the figures on which the Chart for March, 1900, is based:—

Table with 6 columns: Day of Month, Number employed, Day of Month, Number employed, Day of Month, Number employed. Rows list days 1 through 10 of March 1900.

Sundays and Holidays are omitted.

Particulars respecting the employment of other classes of dock and riverside labourers will be found under "District Reports, London," on page 113.

DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

LONDON.

General.—During March the state of employment remained good, and in most industries showed an upward tendency. Returns from 456 branches of 120 unions, having an aggregate membership of 77,655, show that 1,944 (or 2.5 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 3.4 in February, and 2.6 per cent. in March, 1899.

Employment in the Engineering, Metal and Shipbuilding trades has remained steady and good. Reports from 148 branches of 28 Unions, with an aggregate membership of 22,101, show that 426 (or 1.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.0 in February and 2.3 per cent. in March of last year.

The Building trades continue well employed. Returns from 182 branches of 8 unions paying unemployed benefit, with a membership of 12,687, show that 192 (or 1.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.7 in February and 0.8 per cent. in March, 1899. The carpenters and joiners, plasterers and stone-carvers describe

EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—LONDON; NORTHERN COUNTIES.

employment as fair; the bricklayers, stonemasons, plumbers, and painters and decorators as moderate, the latter as improving.

Employment in the Furnishing trades has improved, and is now fair. Reports from 45 branches of 12 unions, with a membership of 6,428, show that 136 (or 2.1 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 8.8 per cent. in February. The percentage for March, 1899, was 1.2.

The Woodworking trades continue well employed. Reports from 3 unions, with a membership of 717, show that 16 (or 2.2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.8 per cent. in February.

Coopers still remain busy. Reports from 2 societies, with a membership of 1,054, show that in March, as in January and February, practically all the members were employed. In March, 1899, the percentage of unemployed was 1.3.

Coachbuilders and Wheelwrights are better employed and are now busy. Reports from 12 branches of 8 unions, with a membership of 1,456, show that 24 (or 1.6 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.4 in February and 1.2 per cent. in March, 1899.

The Printing and Bookbinding trades have somewhat improved, though the latter are still quiet. Returns from 25 unions, with a membership of 24,338, show that 827 (or 3.4 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.2 in February and 3.9 per cent. in March of last year.

Employment in the Clothing trades has been fair on the whole. The West-end bespoke tailors describe employment as dull, but improving; the East-end bespoke, stock, and contract trades have been good; the East-end military and uniform tailors and tailoresses have been better employed; with ladies' tailors and mantle makers employment has been good. Employment with hatters has remained quiet; with capmakers it has also been quiet; fur skin dressers have continued busy.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—Employment with West-end hand-sewn boot and shoe-makers has been fair, and was good at the end of the month; with the East-end sew-round trade it has been quiet; with boot and shoe operatives it has continued fair.

Employment in the Leather trades has continued to improve. Returns from 6 unions, with a membership of 1,542, show that 18 (or 1.2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.4 in February and 2.9 per cent. in March, 1899.

In the Glass and Pottery trades returns from 8 unions, with a membership of 1,530, show that 78 (or 5.1 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 5.0 per cent. in February and 7.0 per cent. in March of last year.

Hair, Fibre and Cane-workers.—In these trades returns from 5 unions, with a membership of 922, show that 9 (or 1.0 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.2 in February and 1.1 per cent. in March, 1899.

Gold and Silver Workers are only partially employed. Returns from 7 unions, with a membership of 1,115, show that 23 (or 2.1 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.2 per cent. in February. The percentage for March, 1899, was 3.1.

Employment in the Tobacco trades is still quiet. Returns from 4 unions, with a membership of 2,398, show that 161 (or 6.7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 7.0 per cent. in February. The percentage for March of last year was 5.7.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves was 14,937 in the 5 weeks ended March 31st, as compared with averages of 14,207 in February, and 13,618 in March, 1899. Employment in mid-stream has been fair and steady during the month. With lightermen, stevedores and lumpers it has been fairly good; with coal porters and winchmen moderate; with corn porters fair. The fruit porters in Thames-street have been fairly well employed, the average daily number engaged being 324, compared with 352 in February.

ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES.

Tyne and Wear District.

Coal Mining.—Northumberland.—The pits continue steadily employed, house and steam coal collieries averaging 5.5 and 5.43 days per week respectively for the four weeks ending March 24th, as against 5.43 and 5.42 days respectively in February. The 22,668 union miners have 13 unemployed. Colliery deputies, mechanics, engine and firemen, are all employed. Durham.—Manufacturing, house, gas and coking coal pits have averaged 5.73, 5.61, 5.48 and 5.85 days per week respectively, as against 5.68, 5.49, 5.33 and 5.85 days in February. At 135 pits, employing 64,682 men and boys, an average of 5.65 days per week, has been worked, as compared with 5.57 in February and 5.51 days a year ago. There are 84 (or 0.13 per cent.) of union miners idle through bad trade, as against 74 (or 0.11 per cent.) in February. The 4,293 union

colliery mechanics and enginemen have 5 unemployed. Coke-yard workers are exceptionally busy.

Metal Mining.—Both lead and iron ore miners continue fairly well employed.

Quarrying.—The quarries in Gateshead and district have worked irregularly owing to bad weather. In Weardale and Stanhope the limestone workers are busy, although the stormy weather has generally prevented full employment.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—On the Tyne.—Platers, riveters, frame benders, and men employed at engine shops are busier. At boiler shops and ordnance works employment continues good. Branches of these trades with 12,628 members have 214 (or 1.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 403 (or 3.2 per cent.) in February.

On the Wear.—One or two engine builders have suspended a few men. In all branches of iron shipbuilding employment has much improved. Shipsmiths on old work have been fairly busy. Branches of these trades with 5,226 members have 80 (or 1.5 per cent.) off work, as against 216 (or 4.1 per cent.) in February. Ship joiners on the Wear are rather dull; on the Tyne employment is less slack. On both rivers iron and steel moulders, brass finishers, and pattern-makers report employment as good, shipwrights as fair. Of the 1,101 drillers and hole cutters 126 (or 11.4 per cent.) are idle. Sailmakers on the Wear are brisk. Chain and anchor smiths are steadily employed. Steel smelting shops, plate and angle mills at Consett, Newburn, and Jarrow have worked full time.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Shippers and coal porters have worked full time. Trimmers and teamers report employment as good on the Tyne, and on the Wear as above the average. Tug-boat men have not been quite so busy. The demand for seamen and firemen has been somewhat below the supply, although for sailing vessels seamen are reported as having been scarce. Quay-side labourers have had fairly regular employment.

Building Trades.—Several stonemasons are idle through want of material. With the exception of painters other branches are quiet.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment of letterpress printers continues unsettled owing to a dispute. Bookbinders on both rivers are practically all employed. Four paper mills have worked full time, three others are reported as not so busy, and at one mill out of a possible 27 shifts 18 have been worked.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Cabinetmakers and upholsterers report employment as improving; coopers continue quiet. Lathrenders are rather slack. The bad weather has affected the employment of mill-sawyers on the Tyne; on the Wear, however, they are busy.

Chemical and Glass Trades.—Chemical factories have worked more regularly; white lead and cement workers are well employed; copper works show little change. With pressed-glass makers employment is improving. Bottlemakers on the Wear and at Seaham report a few as idle.

Fishing.—This industry has again been much interrupted by the unsettled weather.—J. Ratcliffe.

Middlesbrough, Stockton and District.

Ironstone Mining.—The Cleveland miners report employment as continuing fairly good. The average number of days worked by the 21 mines furnishing returns was 5.46 per week during the four weeks ending March 24th, as compared with 5.26 days per week in February, and 5.86 during the four weeks ending March 25th, 1899. The number of workpeople employed at these mines was 6,814, the corresponding number a year ago being 6,799.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment has continued good at the finished ironworks during the month. Under the sliding scale of the North of England Arbitration and Conciliation Board wages have been advanced to forge and mill-men 2 1/2 per cent., and to puddlers 3d. per ton, to take effect from April 2nd. Employment is also good at the steel works, blast furnaces, bridge works, pipe foundries and metal expansion works; moderate at chair foundries

Engineering.—Employment with the engineers is good at Middlesbrough and Stockton; moderate at Hartlepool, Darlington and Bishop Auckland. With the ironfounders it is good, and with the pattern-makers, smiths and strikers fair. Branches of these trades with 4,395 members have 67 (or 1.5 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 85 (or 1.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of February.

Shipbuilding.—The yards are reported as still having sufficient work in hand, but owing to the weather employment has been somewhat interfered with. Shipwrights report employment as fair, joiners as moderate, smiths and strikers as fairly good.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Sailors and firemen report employment as fairly good at Middlesbrough, moderate at Hartlepool;

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN MARCH, 1900.

(Based on information obtained from all available sources, verified and corrected by direct application to the Employers, Trade Unions, and other parties concerned.)

Summary.—The changes in wages reported during March affected about 204,100 workpeople, and the net effect of all the changes on the wages of those affected was an increase of about 1s. 11½d. per head. About 198,600 received advances averaging 2s. 0½d. weekly per head, and 5,500 sustained decreases averaging 1s. 11½d. weekly per head.

Increases.—The principal increases were those granted to 125,000 miners in South Wales; to 7,950 surface-workers at collieries in West Yorkshire; to 34,500 ironworkers in the North and Midlands of England, and in South Wales and Scotland; to 8,900 blastfurnacemen in Cleveland, Cumberland, Lancashire, and South Staffordshire; to 5,900 steel workers at Consett, Jarrow, Stockton-on-Tees, West Hartlepool, and Barrow-in-Furness; to 4,000 plasterers in London; and to 3,000 velvet weavers at Oldham.

Decreases.—The principal decrease was that sustained by 5,000 coal miners in the Forest of Dean.

Methods of Arrangement.—Changes affecting about 5,200 workpeople were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work. Changes affecting about 174,650 workpeople took effect under sliding scales; and one change, affecting about 100 workpeople, was arranged by arbitration, without stoppage of work. The remaining changes, affecting about 24,150 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives.

Summary for First Three Months of 1900.—For the three months, January-March, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) reported as having received advances or sustained decreases is about 737,400. Of these 735,100 obtained a net average increase of 1s. 10½d. weekly per head, and 2,300 sustained a net average decrease of 2s. 3½d. weekly per head. The general effect of all the changes was a rise of 1s. 10½d. weekly per head in the wages of the 737,400 workpeople affected.

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 the changes in pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c.

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which change takes effect in 1900, Approximate Number of workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week. Includes sections for BUILDING TRADES, COAL MINING, IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE, and METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

* Exclusive of overtime. † Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade, the weekly rate given in the table is, in the absence of exact figures, the result of averaging the wages for five summer and two winter weeks. When a change in wages is accompanied by a change in hours of labour, the weekly wages before and after change are computed on the basis of the old and new hours respectively. ‡ See also under Changes in Hours of Labour. § Although about 4,000 plasterers were nominally affected by the raising of the standard rate from 10d. to 11d. under the Agreement of the 16th March, a considerable proportion of the men were already in receipt of the higher rate. ** Coal Miners, Northumberland.—Since the close of March an advance of 10 per cent. to 30,000 Northumberland miners has been arranged, to take effect from 9th and 16th April.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN MARCH—(continued).

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which change takes effect in 1900, Approximate Number of workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in full week. Includes sections for IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE, METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES, TEXTILE TRADES, CLOTHING TRADES, and PRINTING TRADES.

* Exclusive of overtime. † See also under Changes in Hours of Labour.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN MARCH—(continued).

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which change takes effect in 1900, Approximate Number of workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week.

Agricultural Labour.—For recent advances in the cash rates of wages of agricultural labourers, see p. 110.

These advances are due to the adoption of a scale of wages by which drivers receive 25s. per week for 12 months and 27s. 6d. afterwards, while 3rd class conductors receive 17s. 6d., 2nd class 20s., and 1st class 22s. 6d., per week.

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN MARCH, 1900.

The changes in hours of labour reported during March were all decreases, and affected 1,827 workpeople, the reductions averaging 1.47 hours per week.

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which change takes effect in 1900, Approximate number of workpeople directly affected, Hours of labour in a full week, Reduction per week.

EXAMINATION FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

Yorkshire and Lincolnshire District. An examination for certificates of competency as manager or under manager of a mine will shortly be held.

North Staffordshire District.—An examination for certificates of competency as manager or under manager of a mine will shortly be held.

East Scotland District.—An examination for Certificates of competency as manager or under manager of a mine will be held on the 24th May, 1900.

New Jersey Labour Statistics. The twenty-second annual report of the Bureau of Statistics of New Jersey contains statistics of the manufactures of that state for the year 1898, which were for the first time obtained in accordance with the provisions of a new supplement to the Act establishing the Bureau.

NEW JERSEY LABOUR STATISTICS.

The total number of establishments covered by the returns was 1,464, employing an average number of 147,604. The aggregate of the maximum numbers employed at each establishment was 160,012, and the aggregate of the minima 133,653.

Under this supplementary act it is made compulsory for employers of labour in factories, mills, workshops, mines, etc., to make such reports or returns on blanks furnished by the Bureau of Statistics of labour and industry as the said bureau may require for carrying out the purposes, and compiling such statistics as are authorised in the said act (1878) and its supplements.

The total number of establishments covered by the returns was 1,464, employing an average number of 147,604. The aggregate of the maximum numbers employed at each establishment was 160,012, and the aggregate of the minima 133,653.

The manufacture of silk goods is the leading industry of the State. In the three branches of broad goods and ribbon manufacture, throwing and dyeing, the returns show a total average number of 26,045 employed, of whom 14,182 are males, and 11,863 females.

In addition to the statistics of manufactures the report deals with prices at stores owned by manufacturing companies, chiefly glass works; strikes and lock-outs; cost of living; a study of trade unionism; and labour legislation.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN MARCH.

(Based on information furnished by the Home Office and the Board of Trade.) THE total number of workpeople reported as killed by accidents during March was 657, or 286 more than in February, and 354 more than in March, 1899.

In the first group of industries shown in the following summary table, including railways, mines, quarries, shipping, and factories, and employing 5,447,140 persons (according to the latest available figures), 628 were reported killed, and 8,267 injured by accidents in March, as compared with 287 reported killed and 7,485 injured in March, 1899.

These figures give one death in March, 1900, for every 8,674 persons employed in those industries. During the three completed months of 1900, 1,342 persons were reported killed and 22,630 injured, as against 1,068 reported killed and 21,143 injured in the corresponding period of 1899.

In the remaining occupations included in the tables, 29 persons were reported killed, and 1,072 injured in March, as compared with 16 killed and 976 injured in March, 1899.

SUMMARY TABLE.

Summary table with columns: Industry, Killed (Mar. 1900, Mar. 1899), Injured (Mar. 1900, Mar. 1899), Number Employed according to latest Returns.

DETAILED TABLE.

Detailed table with columns: Industry, Killed, Injured, Total.

Table for Mines with columns: Underground, Surface, Total.

Table for Quarries over 20 feet deep with columns: Inside, Outside, Total.

Table with columns: Killed, Injured, Total.

Table for Shipping with columns: Killed, Injured, Total.

Table for Factories with columns: Males, Females, Total.

Table for Workshops with columns: Males, Females, Total.

Table for Factories & Workshops (classified by trades) with columns: Males, Females, Total.

Table for Under Factory Act, 1896, with columns: Males, Females, Total.

Table for Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894, with columns: Construction or Repair, Use or Working, Total.

The figures relate to seamen who have been reported during the month to have been killed or injured by accidents at sea, or in rivers and harbours, whilst they were members of the crews of sea-going vessels (except yachts) registered in the British Islands under Part I. of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894.

Accidents during the working of railways, being reportable under other Acts, are not notified under the Act of 1894.

TRADE DISPUTES.

(Based on information, obtained from all available sources, verified and corrected by direct application to the Employers, Trade Unions, and other parties concerned. Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople and those which lasted less than one day have been omitted, except when the aggregate duration exceeded 100 working days.)

Number and Magnitude.—Forty fresh disputes were reported as having begun in March, 1900, compared with 33 in February, 1900, and 53 in March, 1899. In these disputes 8,159 workpeople were directly and 1,800 indirectly affected, a total of 10,049, which compares with 11,357 in February, 1900, and 13,827 in March, 1899.

Trades Affected.—In the building trades, 9 disputes took place, involving 1,722 workpeople; in the coal mining industry, 5 disputes, involving 919 workpeople; in the metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, 9 disputes, involving 1,032 workpeople; in the textile trades, 10 disputes, involving 1,677 workpeople; and in miscellaneous trades, 7 disputes, involving 4,699 workpeople.

Causes.—Of the 40 disputes, 36 arose chiefly on questions of wages and 4 on other questions.

Results.—Thirty new disputes, involving 4,922 workpeople, and 8 old disputes, involving 769 workpeople, were reported as having terminated. Of the 38 new and old disputes terminated, 13, involving 2,158 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 8, involving 886 persons, in favour of the employers; and 16, involving 2,487 persons, resulted in compromise. With regard to the remaining 1 dispute, involving 160 persons, certain points were still under consideration. At the end of March, 8 old disputes were reported to be still unsettled, involving altogether about 1,000 workpeople.

Duration of Disputes in Working Days.—The aggregate duration in March of all the disputes, new and old, was about 140,000 days, compared with 70,000 in February, 1900, and 208,000 in March, 1899.

Summary for the First Three Months of 1900.—For the three completed months of 1900 the aggregate number of workpeople involved in the 115 disputes which commenced in these months was 35,619, as compared with 25,253 in the 133 disputes reported in the corresponding period of 1899. The total aggregate duration in working days was about 310,000, as compared with 503,000 in the corresponding period of 1899.

Table with 6 columns: Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople Affected (Directly and Indirectly), Date when Dispute Began, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN MARCH, 1900.

Table titled 'I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN MARCH, 1900.' containing building trades disputes.

Table titled 'I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN MARCH, 1900.' containing coal mining disputes.

Table titled 'I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN MARCH, 1900.' containing metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades disputes.

* The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly affected," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishment where the dispute occurred, but not themselves on strike or locked out. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

TRADE DISPUTES—(continued).

Table with 6 columns: Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople Affected (Directly and Indirectly), Date when Dispute Began, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN MARCH, 1900—(continued).

Table titled 'I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN MARCH, 1900—(continued)' covering textile and miscellaneous trades.

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE MARCH, 1900, AND TERMINATED IN THAT MONTH.

Table titled 'II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE MARCH, 1900, AND TERMINATED IN THAT MONTH.'

* The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly affected," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the dispute occurred, but not themselves on strike or locked out. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—During March 20,399 passengers left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe, or 4,452 more than in March, 1899. Comparing the three completed months of 1900 with the corresponding period of 1899 there is an increase of 7,265, from 34,972 in 1899 to 42,237 in 1900.

British and Irish.—Of the 20,399 passengers in March, 10,215 were of British or Irish origin, or 789 more than a year ago. The most noticeable increase occurs in the number proceeding to the United States. An increase is also shown in the number bound for South Africa.

For the three months of 1900, the total number of passengers of British and Irish origin was 22,994 as compared with 22,019 in the corresponding period of last year, showing an increase of 975.

The following Table gives the figures for the different periods:—

Table showing emigration and immigration figures by destination for March 1900 and March 1899.

Foreign.—The remainder of the 20,399 passengers in March, 10,184 were foreigners, or persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being an increase of 3,663, as compared with March,

1899. This increase is mainly due to increased numbers proceeding to the United States and to British North America.

The total number of foreigners, etc., who left the United Kingdom during the three completed months of 1899 was 19,243, as compared with 12,953 in the corresponding period of 1899.

Alien Immigration.—The number of aliens that arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent during March was 12,860; of these 6,829 were stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, compared with 4,130 so stated in March, 1899. Those not stated to be on their way to America or other places out of the United Kingdom numbered 6,031 (including 1,398 sailors), the corresponding figure for March, 1899, being 4,544 (including 1,234 sailors). The figures for March, 1900 and 1899, and also for the three months ended March in each year are as follows:—

Table showing alien immigration figures for March 1900 and March 1899.

* These figures are inclusive of sailors, to the number of 1,398 in March, 1900; 1,234 in March, 1899; and 3,734 and 3,422 respectively for the three months ended March in each year.

PAUPERISM IN MARCH.

Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland, and Ireland. THE number of paupers relieved in 35 selected urban districts of the United Kingdom on one day in the second week of March was 332,998, corresponding to a rate of 206 per 10,000 of the estimated population of these districts in 1900.

Compared with February, 1900, there is a decrease of 5,679 in the number relieved, and of 3 in the rate per 10,000 of the population. Twenty-six of the districts show decreased rates, the most noticeable decreases being in the Central London district (12 per 10,000), Stockton and Tees, Hull, and Belfast districts (7 each), while 7 districts show a decrease of 6 per 10,000. In four districts the rate is unchanged, and the remaining five districts show slight increases.

Compared with March, 1899, the number relieved shows a decrease of 6,159, and the rate per 10,000 of 6. There is a decrease in the rate in 27 districts, the largest decreases being in the Stockton and Tees district (36 per 10,000), Bristol (21), Leicester, and Cork, Waterford and Limerick districts (19 each), and Wolverhampton and Belfast districts (17 each). In one district the rate is unchanged, and in seven districts there are increases, amounting in the Dublin district to 21 per 10,000, and in Coatbridge and Airdrie to 9.

Table with columns: Selected Urban Districts, Paupers on one day in second week of March, 1900 (In-door, Out-door, Total), Rate per 10,000 of population as estimated, Increase (+) or decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of population as compared with month ago, A year ago.

* Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small Pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; and of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses. † Excluding Casuals, but including persons maintained in Institutions for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, &c., who are classified as not able-bodied.

LABOUR BUREAUX IN MARCH.

DURING March the 10 bureaux furnishing returns registered 1,726 fresh applications for work, as compared with 1,796 in March, 1899, a decrease of 70. Work was found during the month for 1,133 persons, of whom 662 (475 males and 187 females) were engaged by private employers, 275 by Local Authorities, and 196 males by the Salvation Army.

The number remaining on the registers at the end of March was 1,237, as against 1,409 a year ago.

(I.) Work done in March.

Table with columns: Name of Labour Bureau, No. of Fresh Applications by Workpeople during, No. of Situations offered by Employers during, No. of Workpeople found by Bureaux (Engaged by Private Employers, Engaged by Local Authorities).

(II.) Employments found for Workpeople during March, 1900.

Table with columns: Category (Engaged by Private Employers, Local Authorities, Salvation Army), Men, Lads and Boys, Women and Girls, Total.

(III.) Usual Occupations of Workpeople on Registers at end of Month.

Table with columns: Occupation, No. on Register at end of Month (Mar., 1900, Mar., 1899).

* Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE following statement has been communicated to the LABOUR GAZETTE by the Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

Summary for March.

The trade returns for March, 1900, show an increase as compared with the corresponding period of 1899 in the imports from foreign countries and British Possessions, in the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures, and also in the exports of foreign and colonial merchandise. The imports for March, 1900, were valued at £44,922,134, as compared with £41,492,388 for March, 1899, an increase of £3,429,746, or 8.2 per cent., and the exports amounted in value to £31,062,037, as against £27,566,671 in March, 1899, an increase of £3,495,366. The exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures alone were valued at £25,395,699 in March, 1900, and £22,324,401 in March, 1899, an increase of £3,071,298, or 13.7 per cent. The value of foreign and colonial merchandise exported in March, 1900, shows an increase as compared with March, 1899, of £424,068, or 8.1 per cent.

Imports.—The following table shows the value of the imports for March, 1900, as compared with March, 1899, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

Table with columns: Category, Month ended Mar. 31st (1899, 1900), Increase, Decrease.

There is a net decrease in the value of corn imported of £596,665. Wheat alone has decreased by 899,640 cwt. in quantity, and £307,148 in value, wheat meal and flour by 532,996 cwt. in quantity, and £269,333 in value. Barley has decreased 81,420 cwt. in quantity, and £8,406 in value, and maize or Indian corn 733,620 cwt. in quantity, and £190,154 in value. On the other hand oats show an increase of 742,050 cwt. in quantity, and £170,705 in value, and beans of 131,690 cwt. in quantity, and £40,486 in value. Dairy products such as butter and margarine, cheese and condensed milk have increased both in quantity and value, and eggs show an increase of 295,427 great hundreds in quantity, and £76,822 in value. Sugar refined and unrefined shows an increase of 195,772 cwt. in quantity, and £95,749 in value; but the imports of molasses and glucose have decreased.

With reference to raw materials for textile manufactures, cotton raw shows an increase of 260,948 cwt., and £1,679,870 in value, otherwise this category generally shows a decrease as regards the value of imports—silk of all kinds showing a net decrease of £17,539, owing to lesser quantities of raw silk imported, and sheep or lambs' wool a decrease of 18,735,265 lbs. in quantity, and £200,339 in value.

The increase in the category of raw materials for sundry industries and manufactures amounts in value to £981,019, owing chiefly to larger imports of caoutchouc, feathers, skins (goat and sheep) and wood of all kinds.

Exports.—The following table shows the value of the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures for the month ended 31st March, 1900, as compared with a like period of 1899, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

Table with columns: Category, Month ended Mar. 31st (1899, 1900), Increase, Decrease.

The exports of coal, coke and fuel show an increase of 391,144 tons in quantity, and £1,227,651 in value, and of sheep and lambs' wool an increase of 1,848,600 lbs. in quantity, and £57,609 in value.

The exports of cotton yarn show a decrease of 3,782,200 lbs. in quantity, but an increase of £29,584 in value. Cotton piece-goods have decreased 982,000 yards in quantity, but increased £401,429 in value. Jute piece-goods have also decreased as regards quantity, but increased as regards value, but linen yarn and linen piece-goods, woollen, worsted, and alpaca and mohair yarn and woollen and worsted tissues have all increased both in quantity and value.

Tonnage of Vessels entered and cleared with Cargoes.—The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes during March, 1900, amounted to 2,782,387 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,712,773, as against 2,860,422 tons entered, and 3,507,867 tons cleared in March, 1899. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes, during March, 1900, amounted to 2,763,112 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,773,768 tons as against 2,688,385 tons entered and 2,632,234 tons cleared in March, 1899.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN MARCH.

DURING March 660 fresh applications for work were registered by eight bureaux (see LABOUR GAZETTE, February, 1899, p. 36) furnishing returns, and 912 offers of situations were made by employers; work was found for 231 persons, of whom 124 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers and mothers' help).

The returns for the London Girls' Friendly Society business agency and the Manchester, Liverpool and Edinburgh Bureaux are for the present grouped together in the following table, which shows the work done by the eight bureaux during March. A return from the Dundee Labour Bureau is appended, but not included in the summaries.

WORK DONE IN MARCH.

Table with columns: Bureau/Occupation, No. of Fresh Situations offered by Employers, No. of Fresh Applications of Workpeople seeking Situations, No. of Workpeople engaged by Employers (Permanently, Temporarily), Summary by Bureaux, Summary by Occupations.

The number of applications for domestic servants showed practically no change, being 596 in February and 599 in March; the number of servants applying rose from 301 to 356; the number permanently engaged was 87 in both months. The demand for dressmakers and milliners showed a great increase, rising from 58 in February to 194 in March; the supply fell from 76 to 68, and the number engaged through the bureaux only rose from 46 to 49.

Of the 41 situations offered at the Dundee Labour Bureau, 28 were for mill and factory operatives. Of the 68 wanting situations, 35 were mill and factory operatives, and 26 were charwomen. Of the 18 who obtained situations, 5 were mill and factory operatives, 6 were domestic servants, and 5 were charwomen.

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN MARCH.

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

FROM the following summary of the changes in the Register of Industrial Organisations in March it will be seen that 3 Trade Unions, 1 Co-operative Association for Distribution, 6 Co-operative Associations for Production, 2 Miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Societies, 35 Friendly Societies, and 32 branches of existing Friendly Societies were added to the Register of the United Kingdom during March. One Trade Union, 22 Industrial and Provident Societies, 24 Building Societies, and 88 Friendly Societies (including 16 branches) are reported as having ceased to exist, commenced to "wind-up," or had registration cancelled.

ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

Trade Unions.—*England and Wales.*—Oxford Builders' Labourers Protective Accident and Burial Society, 18, Cornmarket-street, Oxford. *Scotland.*—Greenock and Port Glasgow Rafters, 2, Cathcart-street, Greenock. *Ireland.*—Edenderry Trade and Labour League, The Square, Edenderry.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—(A) *Associations for Distribution*—*England and Wales.*—Fakenham Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Bridge-street, Fakenham. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None. (B) *Associations for Production.*—*England and Wales.*—Ideal Clothiers, Ltd., Nelson-street, Kettering. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., at Clonlunan, Glinwood, Athlone, co. Westmeath; Knockloughin, co. Londonderry; Annyalla, co. Monaghan; Ballinahown, co. Westmeath; Eslin Bridge, co. Leitrim. (C) *Miscellaneous.*—*England and Wales.*—Industrial Union, Ltd., 10, Walbrook, E.C. Stepney and District Co-op. Bank, Ltd., Men's Union Club, Garden-street, E. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Friendly Societies.—(A) *New Friendly Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—Ordinary Friendly, 9; Specially Authorised, 6; Dividing, 9; Working Men's Clubs, 7. *Scotland.*—Ordinary Friendly, 1. *Ireland.*—Ordinary Friendly, 1; Specially Authorised, 2. (B) *New Branches of Existing Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—28. *Scotland.*—4. *Ireland.*—None.

Building Societies.—*England and Wales.*—None. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

Trade Unions.—*England and Wales.*—Association of Foremen and Clerks of the Docks, Wharves and Warehouses of London, Wesleyan Schools, Cable-street, E. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—*England and Wales.*—*Dissolved by Instrument:* Cropstone Land Soc., Ltd., Cropstone, Leicester; Co-op. House Decorators and Painters' Soc., Ltd., 23, Stadium-street, S.W.; Burton Joyce Co-op. Land and Building Soc., Ltd., Working Men's Institute, Burton Joyce; Wellington (Salop) Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 69, New-street, Wellington, Salop; Willenhall Ind. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 96, Lower Lichfield-street, Willenhall. *Registration Cancelled:* Manchester Alliance Cabinet Manufacturers, Ltd., 12, Park-street, Cheetam, Manchester; Labour Exchange Assoc., Ltd., 83, Guthlaxton-street, Leicester; Peckham New Reform Club, Ltd., 11, Peckham Rye, S.E.; United Kingdom Farmers' Co-op. Supply Assoc., Ltd., 27A, Sackville-street, Piccadilly, W.; Higham Ferrers Working Men's Club and Institute Soc., Ltd., Backway, Higham Ferrers. *Resolutions to "wind-up" received:* Eastbourne Equitable Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 61 and 63, Susans-road, Eastbourne; Dipton Equitable Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Dipton, Durham; Iver and District Co-op. Soc., Ltd., High-street, Iver; Wealdstone and Harrow District Co-op. Soc., Ltd., The Bridge, L. & N.W. Rly., Harrow; International Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 33, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, W. *Liquidators' final returns received:* Redbourn Ind. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Fish-street, Redbourn; St. Anne's Ind. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 39, Montague-street, Blackburn; Ringstead Britannia Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Ringstead. *Copies of Order of Release of Liquidator received:* Potteries Co-op. Productive Builders' Soc., Ltd., 19, Lovatt-street, Stoke-on-Trent; Atherstone Hat Manufacturing Assoc., Ltd., Tannery Hat Works, Atherstone; Sedbergh and District Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Sedbergh. *Amalgamated with the Mansfield Co-op. Ind. Soc., Ltd., Sutton-in-Ashfield, Equitable Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Mount-street, Sutton-in-Ashfield. Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Friendly Societies.—*England and Wales.*—By instrument of dissolution: Ordinary Friendly, 5; Juvenile, 1; Specially authorised, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 1; Branches, 2. Registration cancelled: Ordinary Friendly, 16; Juvenile, 2; Dividing, 8; Female, 1; Medical, 3; Orders, 1; Specially Authorised, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 28. Dissolved otherwise: Juvenile, 3; Branches, 14. *Scotland.*—By instrument of dissolution: Ordinary Friendly, 1. *Ireland.*—None.

Building Societies.—*England and Wales.*—By instrument of dissolution, 8; notice of commencement of dissolution, 6; notice of termination of dissolution, 10. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN MARCH.

I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Cases taken.	Con- victions	Amount of Penalties.	Amount of Costs.
By Owners, Managers, &c.:				
Neglecting to Limewash ...	4	3	£ 4 0 0	£ 2 0 0
Neglecting to maintain reasonable temperature ...	1	1	0 5 0	0 10 0
Neglecting to Fence Machinery ...	11	11	49 0 0	5 6 6
Employing Young Persons without necessary Certificates ...	43	40	46 12 6	14 5 11
Illegal Hours or Times of Employment—				
Before or after the legal hour ...	35	30	28 18 6	13 4 6
During meal times, or without proper intervals for meals ...	33	33	21 8 0	15 15 6
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted ...	5	5	2 10 0	1 2 0
On Sundays or holidays, or children on successive Saturdays ...	1	1	0 15 0	0 14 6
At night ...	5	5	3 0 0	2 0 0
Employing children full time, otherwise than in morning and afternoon sets, &c.	1	1	0 10 0	0 12 6
Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts, Notices, &c.—				
Not keeping Registers ...	25	24	16 17 6	7 16 0
Not affixing or properly filling up Notices and Abstracts ...	11	11	8 2 6	4 13 6
Not sending Notices required by Act ...	5	5	6 16 0	1 18 4
By Workmen:				
Employment during meal times, or without proper intervals for meals ...	1	1	0 1 6	0 8 6
Prosecutions for Breach of Special Rules ...	8	8	1 1 0	0 13 6
By Parents:				
Allowing children to be illegally employed ...	1	1	—	0 1 0
Total for March, 1900 ...	190	180	189 17 0	71 2 8
Total for March, 1899 ...	257	246	198 14 6	104 0 9

II.—Under Mines and Quarries Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Con- victions.	Cases with- drawn.	Cases dis- missed.	Amount of Fines and Costs.
UNDER THE MINES ACTS.					
By Owners, Managers, &c.:					
Registers, Notices, Returns, Plans, &c. ...	2	2	—	—	£ 7 16 0
Shafts and Manholes ...	2	2	—	—	1 15 0
Miscellaneous ...	3	3	—	—	12 9 6
By Workmen:					
Safety Lamps ...	3	3	—	—	3 5 0
Shot-firing and Explosives ...	6	6	—	—	4 19 6
Timbering ...	6	6	—	—	6 9 0
Lucifer Matches, Smoking, &c.	1	1	—	—	1 8 0
Riding on Trams ...	15	15	—	—	10 16 0
Miscellaneous ...	11	10	—	1	12 16 6
Total for March, 1900 ...	49	48	—	1	61 14 6
Total for March, 1899 ...	30	29	—	1	28 12 6
UNDER THE QUARRIES ACT.					
By Owners, Managers, &c.:					
Employment of Women, Young Persons, & Children	1	1	—	—	£ 1 9 0
Registers, Notices, Returns, &c.	10	10	—	—	21 12 6
Fencing ...	3	3	—	—	3 16 6
Other Special Rules ...	3	3	—	—	3 16 6
By Workmen:					
Explosives and Blasting ...	1	1	—	—	0 11 0
Total for March, 1900 ...	18	18	—	—	31 5 6
Total for March, 1899 ...	14	14	—	—	20 8 4

III.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

(Supplied by the Solicitor's Department, Board of Trade.)

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Convic- tions.	Total Penalties.	Total Costs.
By Owners or Masters of Ships:				
Proceeding to sea whilst under detention	1	1	£ 100 0 0	—
By Boarding-House Keepers:				
Illegal Supply ...	1	1	2 0 0	0 8 6
Total for Mar., 1900 ...	2	2	102 0 0	0 8 6
Total for Mar., 1899 ...	7	7	61 10 0	29 17 0