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Owing to pressure on space, the present number of the GAZETTE contains 32 pages instead of the usual 24.

By the request of the Secretary of State for the Home Department, arrangements have been made to publish a full list of names, addresses and districts of the Inspectors of Factories and Mines in the GAZETTE. The first instalment appears on the last page, and will be completed in the January number. The list will be repeated occasionally in future, and meanwhile, any changes will be noted from time to time.

On another page a description is given of the course of the recent coal disputes in England and Scotland, and of the settlement effected in each case; and attention is also specially drawn to the Joiners' dispute on the Clyde.

In accordance with the announcement made in the November GAZETTE, the present number gives a fuller account than hitherto of the state of employment and distress in the various districts of London.

On another page the account of the autumn hiring fairs for agricultural labourers is continued from last month. The hirings described in the present number are chiefly in Yorkshire and Scotland.

An article on Labour Bureaux, based on the recent report of the Labour Department on agencies and methods for dealing with the unemployed, is given on p. 188.

A review of the Report just issued from the Home Office Committee on the various Lead Industries will be found on p. 197.

On p. 199 is given another instalment of the tables which have been appearing from time to time in the GAZETTE, describing the work done by trade societies in the direction of superannuation allowances for their aged members. The industries represented this month are the Shipbuilding and Textile Trades.

A new feature in the present number of the GAZETTE is the grouping of the tables relating to the month's accidents in factories, workshops, mines, and at sea, under the general head of "Industrial Accidents," with a short explanatory introduction. Other tables have also been grouped and rearranged.

Short reviews are given of the Volumes which have been issued during the past month by the Royal Commission on Labour.

STATE OF EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER.*

I.—GENERAL SUMMARY.

The most important event of the month in its bearing on the state of employment in the United Kingdom, has been the general resumption of work by the miners affected by the coal dispute in the federation districts of England and Wales. Up to the end of November, however, a sufficient period had not elapsed for the influence of the resumption on the general state of employment of skilled labour to be fully apparent. The effects have moreover, been partially counterbalanced for a time by the coal dispute in Scotland, which is described on another page.

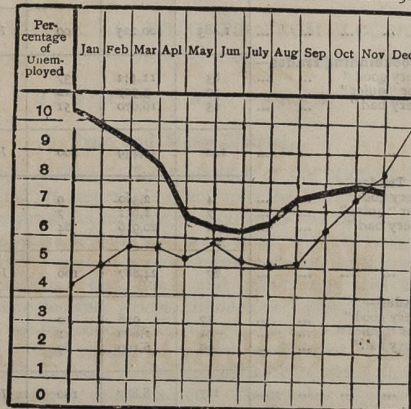
So far, however, as concerns the members of the trade societies making returns, the proportion of unemployed has slightly fallen, and at the end of the month (for the first time during the year) this proportion was lower than at the corresponding period of 1892. Thus, of the 32 trade societies, with an aggregate membership of 338,689, making returns, 24,534 members, or 7.2 per cent., are reported as being in receipt of unemployed benefit at the end of November, compared with 7.3 per cent. shown by the returns of the same societies for October. For the 26 societies, however, which have made complete returns since May, the percentage of unemployed is 7.8, compared with 7.9 for October, and 8.2 for the 22 societies from which returns were received in November 1892.

As in previous numbers, a chart is inserted, which enables the percentages of unemployed shown in the monthly returns to be compared with those for last year.

PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED IN 1892 AND 1893 COMPARED.

NOTE.—The Chart shows the percentage of unemployed members of the trade unions making returns at the close of each month of 1892, and of each month yet completed of 1893. Unions which began to make returns since May 1893 are not included in this chart.

The thick line applies to 1893, the thin line to 1892.



The depression in the Shipbuilding Industry still continues. The Steel and Iron Trades are also very slack in many districts, especially in Scotland, owing to the dispute in the Coal Trade; but, on the

* The Reports on the State of Employment refer strictly to the month of November, and do not cover any changes which may have occurred between November 30th and December 1st.

whole, the prospects are brighter than for some time past. The percentage of unemployed in these trades is 12.2.

The Building Trades continue fairly good for the time of year, the percentage of unemployed in the unions making returns having risen 0.1 per cent. only, viz., from 3.6 to 3.7.

The Furnishing Trades, though still very depressed, especially in London, show some improvement, the percentage of unemployed having fallen from 6.1 to 5.4.

Some improvement has taken place in the Printing and kindred Trades during the month, the percentage of unemployed having fallen from 5.2 to 3.8. The Letterpress and Lithographic Printing Trades are, however, still very quiet for this season of the year in nearly every district of the United Kingdom.

The Clothing Trade continues very depressed in most districts, particularly the ready-made branch, while little activity is apparent in the Bespoke Trade. The Boot and Shoe Trades are in a similar position, many of the houses manufacturing for export being especially slack, with the result that large numbers are still partially or wholly unemployed.

The Cotton Trade continues brisk, but the Woollen, Hosiery, Lace and Silk Trades are in many districts depressed. The Mining Industry is very brisk, a complete resumption of work with some exceptions having taken place.

The supply of seamen at most of the principal ports, including London, Liverpool, Glasgow and Hull continues to be in excess of the demand. Wages at most ports remain, with slight exceptions, the same as last month.

Dock and river-side workers have as a rule been steadily employed, an improvement upon last month having taken place in London and Liverpool, while at Cardiff work continues brisk.

Of the 32 societies making returns, eight describe trade as "good," two as "moderate," and 22 as "bad." From the monthly reports published by many societies and from materials specially furnished, the following additional particulars of the state of employment in the industries named are collected:—

Description of Trade by Branches of Societies making Returns.	November.		Per-centage of Members for Nov.	Per-centage of Members for Oct.
	Branches	Members		
Engineering and Shipbuilding—				
"Fair" to "very good" ...	48	3,396	1	4
"Moderate" or "quiet" ...	246	23,594	18	19
"Dull" to "very bad" ...	799	109,702	81	77
Total ...	1,093	136,692	100	100
Building Trades—				
"Fair" to "very good" ...	323	19,145	19	31
"Moderate" or "quiet" ...	432	28,300	28	37
"Dull" to "very bad" ...	728	52,780	53	38
Total ...	1,483	100,225	100	100
Printing and Bookbinding Trades—				
"Fair" to "very good" ...	83	11,442	37	15
"Moderate" or "quiet" ...	32	3,927	12	29
"Dull" to "very bad" ...	25	16,070	51	56
Total ...	140	31,439	100	100
Boot and Shoe Trades—				
"Fair" to "very good" ...	4	2,360	9	14
"Moderate" or "quiet" ...	7	1,611	7	12
"Dull" to "very bad" ...	16	20,916	84	74
Total ...	27	24,887	100	100
Furnishing Trades—				
"Fair" to "very good" ...	17	918	10	23
"Moderate" or "quiet" ...	41	1,860	21	19
"Dull" to "very bad" ...	69	5,109	69	58
Total ...	127	8,887	100	100

The great dispute in the English Coal Trade, after lasting 16 weeks, ended on November 17th. Full particulars with regard to the settlement will be found on another page.

The fresh disputes that have arisen during the month are fewer than in any previous month of the year, and

with the exception of the Scottish coal dispute, the numbers affected have been comparatively small. The actual number recorded is 35, compared with 42 in October and 54 in September. Of these 10 occurred in the Textile Trades, 7 each in the Mining and Clothing Industries, 5 in the Building Trades, 3 in the Shipbuilding Trades, and the remaining three in other industries. Particulars obtained respecting 29 of these disputes show the number of persons affected to have been 35,769, of whom about 32,000 are accounted for by the Scottish mining dispute.

The principal changes in wages reported during November have been among coal miners and iron and steel workers. The coal miners of South Wales and Monmouth, numbering about 90,000, have had an advance of 7½ per cent. under the sliding scale; a considerable number in the West of Scotland have received an advance of 1s. per day, and in Mid and East Lothian of 10 per cent. In the Forest of Dean, however, wages have been reduced 15 per cent. by the Wages Board, men now working at the rates current before the great coal dispute. The wages of iron and steel workers in the Midlands have been increased 2½ per cent. under the wages scale.

From the particulars given on page 189, it will be seen that, owing to the advanced condition of farming operations, the demand for agricultural labour is unusually slack, and that in consequence wages tend to fall.

The number of bankruptcies gazetted during November was 404, as compared with 495 in November 1892.

The number of British emigrants from the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during last month was 9,121, a decrease of 4,694 when compared with November last year.

The statistics of pauperism for November, for the selected industrial districts of the United Kingdom again show an increase when compared with those for the previous month, the number relieved on one day in the second week of November being 334,065, or 228 per 10,000 of population, as compared with 298,119, or 204 per 10,000 of population in the corresponding day of 1892, showing an increase of 35,946, or 24 per 10,000 in November 1893.

The following Table summarises the detailed Table on p. 187 and will be found useful for comparative purposes.

Comparative Table showing the number of Paupers per 10,000 of Population in selected industrial districts on a given day in September, October and November, in 1893 and 1892, respectively.

District.	1893.			1892.		
	September.	October.	November.	September.	October.	November.
Metropolis ...	225	232	243	208	215	224
West Ham ...	210	230	281	171	176	198
Other Districts (England & Wales) ...	208	211	221	185	186	191
Scotland ...	180	181	192	173	174	184
Ireland ...	246	250	258	242	245	249
Total (Selected Districts)	212	217	228	194	196	204

II.—LONDON.

(1) STATISTICS OF TRADE SOCIETIES.

Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Trades.—The slight improvement observable last month in these trades has not been maintained, 74 branches of 7 unions, with 12,617 members, having 1,100 (or 8.7 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 8 per cent. last month and 8.3 for September. Of these branches, 2 with 80 members, describe trade as "good," 11 with 1,416 members, as "moderate," and 60 with 11,057 members, as "bad."

Building Trades.—As might be anticipated at this season of the year, some falling off is observable in certain branches of these trades, though on the whole employment is fairly well maintained. In 131 branches of 4 societies, containing 8,875 members, 408 (or 4.6 per cent.) are returned as unemployed, compared with 3.6 last month. In 8 societies, 55 branches, with 5,456 members, describe trade as "good"; 100 branches,

with 9,508 members, as "moderate"; and 103 branches, with 7,633 members, as "bad."

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.—The improvement referred to last month has been maintained, but the condition of these trades for the time of year is far from satisfactory, especially in the Letterpress Printing Trade, while the Lithographic Trade is described as "not what it should be at this season." Returns from 8 societies, with an aggregate membership of 16,728, show 671 (or 4.1 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 6 per cent. last month.

Furnishing Trades.—In these trades no alteration has taken place during the month, the returns to hand giving 8.6 per cent. as unemployed, and describing the general condition of these trades as "bad."

(2) EMPLOYMENT AND DISTRESS IN VARIOUS LONDON DISTRICTS.

Throughout London there appears to be considerable lack of employment among printers and bookbinders, boot and shoe makers, and tailors and tailoresses. Reports from Whitechapel indicate no unusual slackness except among Jewish tailors and bootmakers. In this district and St. George's-in-the-East conditions seem normal, the inhabitants of common lodging-houses being stated to be the most noticeable applicants for poor relief. In Shoreditch bootmakers and cabinet-makers are very slack. Glass-makers and bottle-makers have suffered considerably, owing to the letting out of furnaces during the coal dispute, but they are now better employed. In Mile End the Tailoring Trades are especially slack. The increase of pauperism in Stepney seems to be principally among casual labourers. In Bow and Bromley there is more slackness than usual in the Boot Trade. In Southwark women fur-pullers and clippers are very slack. In Vauxhall the railway workers who were working short time during the coal dispute are now in full work. In Woolwich employment is slack at the Arsenal; there is a slight increase in the parish relief given, but not among able-bodied persons. In Paddington there is an increase in pauperism owing, in part, to an unusual amount of epidemic illness. In this district railway workers have suffered through the coal dispute, and the Tailoring and Boot and Shoe Trades are reported to be especially slack. In Marylebone the Tailoring Trade is reported as unusually bad. In St. Giles' there is an increase of pauperism. Here, as also in the Strand and Holborn, the Printing and Tailoring Trades are extremely depressed. In Islington the only exceptional scarcity of work reported is in the Printing, Tailoring and Boot and Shoe Trades; nor is there anything specially noticeable in St. Pancras, except in the King's Cross district, where the railway workers and others have suffered considerably through the coal dispute; piano-forte-makers and dressmakers are very slack.

Although considerable distress is reported in many districts, it appears to be as much due to a diminished purchasing power showing itself after a long period of trade depression, combined with unusual sickness in certain districts and the high price of coal, as to any exceptional lack of employment during the last month.

(3) DOCK EMPLOYMENT.

There has been a marked increase in the employment of dock labourers in the Port of London compared with October, though the volume of employment has been slightly less than for November 1892. This is shown by the following figures, estimated on the basis explained in last month's GAZETTE.

Table showing the estimated average number of dock labourers employed directly or through contractors by the London and India Docks Joint Committee (excluding Tilbury), the Millwall, and the Surrey Dock Companies, for each week of November 1893 and 1892.

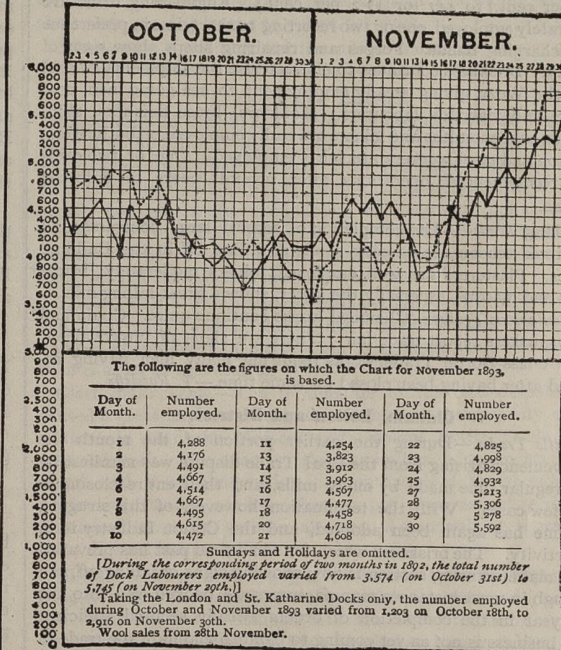
	1893	1892
1st week in November ...	6,886	6,714
2nd " " ...	6,968	7,378
3rd " " ...	7,015	7,156
4th " " ...	7,736	8,003
Average for four weeks ...	7,151	7,313
Ditto for four weeks in October	6,698	6,812

As usual a Chart is added showing in greater detail the changes of employment for dock labourers from day to day in the London and India Docks.

In order further to facilitate comparison with the previous year, the corresponding curve for 1892 is also given in dotted lines.

Chart showing the total number of Dock Labourers employed by the Committee at the London, St. Katharine, East and West India, Victoria and Albert Docks, and the Town Warehouses, for each day during the month of October and November 1893. The corresponding diagram for the previous year is also given for comparison. Dock Labourers employed by Shipowners direct, Stevedores and Coal Porters are not included, nor does the Chart extend to the labourers employed at the Millwall and Surrey Docks and at the Wharves.

[The thick curve applies to 1893, and the dotted curve to 1892.]



(4) PAUPERISM.

The pauperism returns for the London districts again show an increase in the number relieved when compared both with those for the corresponding date in October 1893 and in November 1892, the number relieved on one day in the second week of last month being 102,453, compared with 97,779 in October 1893, and 94,265 in November 1892. The districts in which the increase has been greatest are the Central and the South. In West Ham, the number of paupers has risen from 7,236 in November 1892, to 10,256 in November 1893.

III.—PROVINCIAL REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Tyne and Wear District.

Coal Mining—Durham.—The settlement of the Midland dispute has, as yet, had no appreciable effect upon the Durham coal trade. Temporary night shifts in some pits, full time—11 and 12 days per fortnight—in others, are still well maintained, with the exception of those pits where want of wagon accommodation interferes with working operations. Gas, house and coke-making coal are the classes in active demand. Prices, although very firm, have declined 1s. to 1s. 6d. per ton below those ruling previous to arrangement of late dispute. The number of miners unemployed is gradually decreasing, probably owing to the former workers taking the places of strangers leaving for other districts. The number of unemployed pitmen is reported as a little over 1 per cent.

Coal Mining—Northumberland.—Activity still prevails amongst the collieries, although the season when shipments usually decline is far advanced. Prices for best steam coal exhibit an upward tendency, though there has been a fall of 3s. per ton below "strike rates" during the month. The percentage of unemployed throughout the county shows little change since last month.

Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades—On the Tyne.—Trade continues in a stagnant condition, employment being largely of an intermittent character. The number of out-of-work iron shipbuilders is 1,196, or 21.1 per cent., as against 18.7 per cent. last month. Employment in the engineering shops upon the whole may be described as stationary. Electrical works, dry docks and repairing shops are fairly well employed, whilst locomotive building and ordnance manufacturing continues very dull. The number of unemployed Tyneside engineers is about the same as last month 1,029, or 22.5 per cent. **On the Wear.** Employment in the shipyards is steadily maintained. Some of the principal firms have a fair amount of work on hand, while other yards have also placed a few orders. The number of unemployed shipbuilders has decreased from 510 (or 18.7 per cent.) to 447 (or 17.2 per cent.). Engineering firms are moderately employed, one or two resorting to short time in preference to discharging hands. Forges and repairing shops show signs of activity. Briskness continues to characterise the shipments of coal from the Wear, giving steady employment to sea-going men, coal porters and riverside labourers. Moulders, brass finishers, shipwrights, copper smiths and joiners are badly employed on both rivers. The iron and steel workers are fairly employed. One or two mills have recommenced operations after several weeks of enforced idleness.

Building Trades.—The completion of several large contracts and the winter season are causing a slight falling off in the Building Trades. Plasterers are well employed, joiners moderately, bricklayers and masons, especially the latter, show a great falling off.

Miscellaneous Trades.—Chemical works continue quiet. Chain and anchor makers report trade fair. There are signs of improvement in the Glass Bottle Trade, works requiring many men having reopened after having been closed for some time.—*J. Ratcliffe.*

Oldham, Bolton and District.

Textile Trades.—During the earlier portion of the month the inconvenience arising from the Coal Trade dispute was manifest by the irregular time made by many mills, and their entire closing in some few cases. With the termination, however, of this struggle, full time has again been adopted, and the Cotton Industry is in full activity. The briskness which for some time past has prevailed in the manufacturing section is now showing signs of falling off, and although in most instances manufacturers are booked well into the new year in the completion of orders already secured, sufficient fresh business is not as yet coming to hand to maintain the trade in its recent prosperous condition. Depression exists in the Velvet Weaving Trade at Oldham, and some of the workpeople complain that they are, in some instances, not being paid in accordance with the terms of their list of prices. A weavers' dispute has occurred at one mill, owing, it is alleged, to full list prices not being adhered to. After one week the dispute was settled, and work is to be resumed on the completion of some alterations at the mill. In the Fustian Cutting Trade some uneasiness prevails amongst the workers in consequence of reduced wages. This section of the trade is by no means in a healthy condition. The Spinning Trade is less buoyant than the manufacturing department. The operative spinners in the Bolton District having arranged with their employers for a sufficient allowance of time during engine hours to clean and oil the machinery, the same class of workmen in the Rochdale District are asking for a similar concession, and a meeting between representatives of employers and operatives is to be held in a few days to consider the matter.

Coal Mining.—With perhaps one or two exceptions all the pits in the district are now at work again on the terms recently agreed upon.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—There is very little news to report of these industries. Employment is still difficult to obtain, and the numbers of men signing the vacant registers of their respective trade unions is very much above the normal. The close of the coal dispute has, however, enabled two large iron works to be re-opened, after having been closed for many weeks. The general tone of these industries is brighter than it was a few weeks back, and with the resumption of work at the collieries better times are expected.

Bleaching and Finishing Trade.—A more cheerful tone prevails in this trade than has characterised it for some time, and work is more regular. The number of hands seeking employment is never great, as changes of workpeople are seldom made.

Building Trades.—The various branches of the Building Trade are in a quiet state, consequent upon the season, and the relations between employers and workmen are of a friendly character.

Miscellaneous Trades.—There is nothing of especial interest to report of these trades, but they are fairly well employed as compared with the corresponding season in previous years. Whilst, however, it is difficult to single out any particular trade as being in a worse condition than ordinarily, there can be no doubt that the

number of unemployed is greater than in former years, and there is a demand that work shall be found for them by the local authorities. Some attempt has been made to comply with this request, but it is too soon to say with what result.—*J. T. Fielding.*

Burnley, Accrington and District.

Textile Trades.—The Cotton Trade of the past month has fairly held its own as compared with the month of October, and manufacturers taken all round are well under orders. Practically all the looms in the district are now engaged, though at several firms weavers are rather scarce. The Shoddy or Hard Waste Trade is showing an improvement as the season advances, one firm working overtime. The only disputes of any moment during the month arose in cases where temporary reductions in wages were demanded in consequence of the high price of coal, but the workpeople objected to the reductions, and the notices were withdrawn. In the Oswaldtwistle District a mill containing upwards of 1,000 looms, which had been stopped for some time, is being re-started, and also another at Padiham containing over 650 looms. In the Burnley District dissatisfaction is reported amongst the winders and beamers in consequence of the prices paid, and a strike is threatened.

Coal Mining, Iron and Engineering Trades.—Most of the miners of the district have resumed work, but a number of coke burners are still unemployed. Work is only moderate in the Iron and Engineering Trades, though one large firm is working overtime, and another is extending its premises.

Miscellaneous.—Employment in the Building Trades is moderately good, considering the season of the year. The Painting and Decorating Trades have shown a great falling off during the month, a number of men being unemployed. The Printing and Dyeing Trades are fully occupied; in some branches overtime is being worked, and the outlook for the winter in the general trades seem to be fair.—*W. H. Wilkinson.*

Manchester and District.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers still report trade as bad, with the same number out of work as last month. The steam engine makers report it as moderate, with a slight increase in the number unemployed. The machine workers and the metal planers describe trade as moderate, the former reporting a decrease of 25 per cent. in the number of unemployed in consequence of the settlement of the coal dispute. Trade is bad among the boiler makers, but the number out of work has not increased; nor has it done so in the case of the brassfounders and finishers, who report trade as moderate.

Building Trades.—All branches report trade as moderate. The carpenters and joiners again report an increase in the number out of work; there has been no change among the bricklayers, although the frost has caused slight stoppages. The plasterers consider that throughout the district men are fairly well employed for the time of year. The plasterers at Warrington, who last year gained an advance of 4d. per hour in wages, have received notice of a reduction of that amount.

Miscellaneous.—The textile workers remain fairly well employed. The Tailoring Trade is quiet, with an increase in the numbers looking for work. The coachmakers are not busy, but are in about the same position as in the corresponding period last year; those in the Lancashire and Yorkshire railway coachbuilding yards who were on short time because of the coal dispute are now on full time; but in other yards short time is still worked. The Dyeing Trade is moderate and shows no change. Employment is scarce among general labourers; the number out of work has not increased, but is said to amount to about 8 to 9 per cent. Amongst the belting and hosepipe weavers a dispute has been in operation for 17 weeks against a reduction in wages. No change is reported in the Printing and kindred Trades, which are exceptionally bad for the time of year.—*G. D. Kelley.*

Liverpool and District.

Dock and Riverside Industries.—The resumption of work in the Coal Trade has brought about a marked improvement in the position of riverside labour, notably in the case of the Mersey watermen and flatmen, the large fleet of mineral-carrying barges, lying idle during the dispute, being nearly fully employed. The Mersey Watermen's Association have given notice to the employers for an advance of wages. Dock labour shows a slight improvement in one direction, the importation of cotton giving employment to a large number of men, while the cessation of the sea-borne coal supply owing to the end of the coal dispute somewhat nullifies this improvement. On the whole, however, a slight improvement is discernible. Seamen and firemen retain the position of the previous month. No disputes and no changes in hours or wages have taken place.

Railway and Canal Industries.—These industries are rapidly assuming the position they occupied previous to the commencement of the coal dispute. The mineral traffic on the railways is exceptionally heavy, and full time is now being worked in many goods depots. The large fleet of inland water-carrying barges (over 200 in number) laid idle at Runcorn owing to the scarcity of coal and salt are now nearly all employed.

Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades.—Little, if any, change has taken place in the condition of these trades during the month. In many of the leading firms work is very dull, except in departments, where orders have been standing over owing to the scarcity of fuel. Boiler-makers and riveters are very quiet, and a number of brass finishers and metal planers are still on three-quarter time.

Chemical and Glass Industries.—In the Widnes and St. Helens District work is now being resumed in the Chemical Industries. By the end of November nearly all those thrown out of employment by the coal stoppage had partially resumed work. There are, however, still a considerable number out of employment, owing to repairs not being yet completed. The Sheet and Plate Glass and Glass Bottle Industries, stopped during the coal dispute, are reported as being at the close of the month fully employed in every department, though great distress still prevails among members of these industries.

Building Trades.—There have been signs of a slight falling off of employment in the Building Trades during November, particularly among carpenters, joiners and house painters.

Mining and Quarrying Industries.—There has been great activity in the Prescott and St. Helens Colliery Districts, many of the collieries working double shifts in order to meet the demand for fuel. In North Wales there has been a considerably increased demand, owing to the Coal dispute in Scotland.

Miscellaneous.—Bakers and confectioners are moderately employed. General labourers and excavators are largely unemployed. A labour conference committee, composed of members of the City Council, employers and representative workmen, is trying to devise a plan for finding work for the unemployed. On the whole, with the exception of the colliery district, there has been no perceptible change for the better during the month.—*J. Sexton.*

Barrow-in-Furness District.

Shipbuilding and Metal Trades.—Since last report trade in the district has not improved. A few shipbuilders have been taken on during the month, but a very large number are still out of employment, and others are only working 40 hours a week. Engineers are still very slack and obliged to work short time. The steel works which had been entirely stopped for the last four weeks are now re-opened. At Workington in the Steel Trade full time has again been resorted to. One large firm which has been standing idle for the last 18 months is again in operation. The Iron Trade has shown a slight improvement during the latter part of the month throughout West Cumberland.

Shipping and Railways.—There has been no improvement during the month, and large numbers of men are daily seen in the docks with but very little to do. At Whitehaven the shipping has maintained the activity of the previous month, chiefly in the exportation of coal to various ports of the Kingdom. Large quantities of coal are still being despatched by rail to various centres; railway employees are, however, still only working four days a week.

Building Trades.—The masons and bricklayers are now slack, as is usual at this season, and a good many are out of employment. The joiners are slack, with 30 per cent. still out of employment, and but little prospect at present of any change for the better. The Painters, Plumbers and other Trades in connection with building are rather badly employed.

Miscellaneous.—The Printing and kindred Trades are rather dull, and the Tailoring Trade is very bad. The bakers, confectioners and millers are well employed. Paper and pulp works are busy. Wagon building is still dull. The flax and jute works, after being idle for 18 months, have re-started, but only partially, as some of the new machinery has not been completed.—*J. D. Couper.*

Middlesbrough, Stockton and District.

Shipbuilding Trade.—During the month there has been a slight improvement manifested. One firm at Thornaby, whose yard has been idle for some months, has obtained an order for two large oil steamers, and the firm at Middlesbrough, reported last month as on the point of closing their yard, have also obtained orders for two steamers; the other yards in the district are in about the same condition as last month. Although large numbers of men are out of work at present all over the district, and will probably continue so till after Christmas, there is a better prospect for the beginning of next year.

Iron Trade.—There is a better feeling also in the Iron and allied Trades, the returns of the Cleveland ironmasters for the month being favourable. The Steel Trade looks better. Prices are stiffer and orders more numerous, but chiefly for rails and railway materials. The Finished Iron Trade continues dull, and prices tend downwards. The question of the scale is still unsettled; several meetings of the Board have been held to consider its revision, but so far without result; in the meantime the old scale regulates wages, which under it are the same for December and January as for the previous two months.

Engineering and Ironstone Mining.—There is no improvement in the Engineering Trades, the percentage of unemployed being the same as last month. The number of furnaces in blast is four less than in October. Ironstone mining is slack, most of the mines working short time, varying from 3 to 5 days per week.

Miscellaneous.—Building and the minor trades are all very quiet, with large numbers of men out of employment.—*A. Main.*

Leeds and District.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—The engineers report no improvement, and the better prospects hoped for on the termination of the coal dispute are not yet realised. Only one large firm appears to have been fairly well employed, which is probably due to its being largely engaged in the manufacture of electrical appliances, for which there is a good demand. One branch of the Engineers' Society has 20 per cent. of its members unemployed. The ironfounders and steelworkers are also very slack.

Textile Trades.—This industry continues dull, work being irregular, and many mills running short time. In the woollen branch the number unemployed is larger than last month, but not greater than is usual at this season.

Glass Bottle Trade.—The termination of the coal dispute has caused a great improvement in this trade, and the majority of the workers in both the Medical and General Bottle Trade have resumed work. The effect of the dispute has, however, been very severe, and, at one time during the month, out of 200 glass bottle-workers in Hunslet, not more than 10 per cent. were at work. In Castleford the trade has been almost at a standstill at times, and great distress has prevailed.

Clothing Trades.—The ready-made branch is in an even worse condition than last month, hardly any firms in the trade working full time, and large numbers of men and girls being entirely unemployed. The Boot and Shoe Trade has, however, been fairly satisfactory during the month.

Building Trades.—Masons, bricklayers and labourers have been rather quiet owing to the completion of one or two large contracts and the scarcity of bricks. The plumbers, painters and joiners are slack, with 10 per cent. in the latter case unemployed, but this is not unusual for the time of year.

Leather Trade.—The tanners have been slack, as, although there has not been a large number out of work, many firms are only finding partial employment. Leather shavers report trade as very good in the latter part of the month.

Miscellaneous.—The Printing Trade has slightly improved, but there is still an unusual number of unemployed, principally newspaper compositors. The brushmakers, wood-turners, mill-sawyers and cabinet-makers are all slack, the latter having 8 per cent. idle. Coachmaking has improved, and appears likely to continue busy till the end of the year. The Dyeing Industry is in an exceptionally depressed condition, affecting mostly the Bradford goods. Few firms are working more than three days a week, and in one case two days only are worked.

A Heckmondwike correspondent writes that the boot and shoe operatives are only working about 35 hours per week. The Textile Trade is moderate. Miners are fully employed, and some pits in the Spen Valley are working two and three shifts of men per day.—*O. Connellan.*

Bradford, Huddersfield and District.

Textile Trades.—The Woollen Trade as a whole is not very flourishing in the Huddersfield District, although some firms are working overtime, and in one or two cases very long hours. The Heavy Woollen Trade of Batley and Dewsbury seems to be suffering severely, notwithstanding the termination of the coal dispute. The Worsted Coating Trade is not so good as the Woollen Trade, work being unusually quiet in Halifax, Bradford and Huddersfield, and the dyers and finishers unusually slack. Trade is very quiet in the Worth Valley, and many people are leaving it and migrating to the Nelson and Colne District. The Silk Trade in and around Brighouse is, perhaps a little better, but is very quiet in Huddersfield and Halifax. Overtime is being worked in the Cotton Trade at several mills in Brighouse, but only to a small extent in Huddersfield, where, however, the operative spinners object very strongly to systematic overtime.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is quieter in the Building Trade, and a larger percentage of joiners and carpenters are out of work, though painters and decorators continue to be fairly well employed. The Engineering and Ironfounding Trades are still rather quiet in Huddersfield, but are a little better in Halifax. Letterpress printers are moderately well employed. The Wire Trade is rather quiet. The Halifax Town Council are trying to find work for the unemployed; 500 people have signed the register, and work is found for 50 at a time. When one gang has worked for a fortnight another gang replaces it.—*A. Gee.*

Yorkshire Mining Districts (except Cleveland).

Coal Mining.—About 5,000 to 6,000 miners in Yorkshire are still unemployed, as some of the pits are not yet in full working order, and a few have not even started. Those miners who are in work again, although they have only been back a short time, have paid their levies remarkably well, so that the Yorkshire Miners' Association have been able to pay to all the members out of work the full amount of their dispute pay, viz., 9s. per week for each full member, and 1s. extra for each child under 13 years of age, and 4s. 6d. to each half member. The men will be called upon to pay the levy of 2s. 6d. per week for another week; after that a smaller levy will probably suffice. At one colliery more than half of the men have been thrown out of work owing to an epidemic of pneumonia and laminitis among the pit ponies, 15 of which are reported to have died, and 50 more to be affected.—*J. Wadsworth.*

Sheffield and District.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Armour and ship plate makers are very slack. One or two firms are fairly busy in the railway tyre and axle departments, whilst others are exceptionally slack, and little is being done in the railway carriage and wagon springs department. The iron and steel foundries report a considerable number still out of work, but a slight improvement on the whole. The demand for Bessemer and Siemens steel billets is fair, and that for steel wire is causing exceptional activity, so that steel smelters are better employed. There is an improved demand for best crucible cast steel for export and for making the best class of cutlery.

Machine and Implement Trades.—The engineers continue slack, fully 7 per cent. being unemployed and a considerable number on short time. The tool-makers are in a similar position. Joiners' tool and skate makers are fairly busy. There are some fair orders for files and edge tools, but the demand for saws is small. Several are out of work in the Razor Trade, but the prospects are rather better. The scissor forgers report many men on short time; the spring knife cutlers are moderately busy on the better class work, but taken as a whole about 50 per cent. are only partially employed.

Building Trades.—The prospects are fairly good for the time of year, few really skilled men being out of work. The brick-makers have now a plentiful supply of fuel, and are producing their usual output.

Miscellaneous.—The improvement in the Silver and Britannia Metal Trades has not been maintained, and the silversmiths have fully 6 per cent. unemployed, a most unusual proportion at this time of year. The Sheffield Corporation is finding relief work and employing men in levelling and improving recreation grounds in accordance with the circular of the Local Government Board.—*S. Uttley.*

Hull and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—During the first part of the month these trades were even more depressed than before, from 20 to 25 per cent. being unemployed, nor is the outlook promising. The recent severe gales did much damage to local vessels and others, and this has given a measure of activity to repairing departments, reducing for the time the number of unemployed.

Shipping and Riverside Trades.—Lightermen and rivercraft men are fairly well employed. The close of the coal dispute has also called the river and canal vessels into customary use. The season for importing foreign timber is practically over, and the men usually employed in discharging and stacking it have to seek for other work. The importation of coal by sea is gradually decreasing, but the men will probably find employment at the hoists and cranes used in the exportation of coal, which, during the dispute, had actually ceased. Considering the circumstances, employment in discharging and loading vessels has been fair. The demand for seamen has been pretty good during the latter part of the month, and, on some occasions lately, crews have been difficult to get for certain trades.

Fishing Industry.—Some of the vessels engaged in the trade suffered severely during the recent gales; those which escaped injury have been making fair earnings. The number of unemployed

has been increased by the failure of a firm owning a large fleet of fishing vessels, many of which have been purchased by Continental buyers, leaving the crews without employment. The fishing fleet continues to be increased by the addition of steam vessels, which are gradually displacing the wooden sailing vessels.

Building Trades.—The bricklayers, masons, slaters and plasterers are fairly well employed in Hull. The joiners are not so well off, and have about 5 per cent. unemployed. The trade as a whole has not felt the depression experienced in the Shipping Trade, and the prospects for the New Year are favourable. In Goole, however, the trade is depressed.

Seed Crushing and Colour Trades.—Practically all the seed crushing mills are in full work, and exceedingly busy, winter being the season when the trade is at its best. Some of the colour, varnish and oil works are fairly busy, especially those which carry on a good foreign export trade.

Miscellaneous.—The Printing and cognate Trades are anything but well employed for the time of year, though a slight impetus was given them by the municipal elections. The Tailoring and Clothing Trades are reported as very bad.—*W. G. Millington.*

Wolverhampton and District.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—During the earlier part of the month several firms, owing to the cost of fuel, found it difficult to carry on business. The engineers and constructive machinists report trade as fair, with a slight increase in the number out of work. The puddlers, mill rollers, blast furnace men and steel workers have been fairly busy where fuel was obtainable, and by the recent audit have received an increase of 2½ per cent. on wages. The bridge and girder constructors, boiler and tank makers and gasometer erectors are steadily employed. The heavy ironfounders are also fairly well employed.

Hardware Trades.—The depression in the Nut and Bolt, Chain, Iron Safe and Lock Trade still continues. The principal demand in the Lock Trade is for common iron and brass padlocks for export. A slight improvement in the Brass and Copper Trades is entirely confined to the gas fitting and chandelier department. Short time is still being worked in the Iron Plate, Tin Plate and Steel Toy Trades, and the number out of work is increasing. The dispute in the Nail Trade at Dudley has terminated. The japanners, enamellers and galvanisers and the gas and steam tube makers are fairly busy. Work is scarce amongst the light ironfounders and hollow-ware casters. A slight improvement is reported among the edge tool and agricultural implement makers, but none amongst the wire-fencing and iron hurdle makers. The vice makers and anvil smiths are slack, and the vermin-trap makers are fairly busy. The cycle manufacturers are principally engaged on exhibition work and have many men unemployed.

Building Trades.—Trade is fair with the masons, bricklayers and plasterers, busy with the plumbers, declining with the painters and decorators, and good with the carpenters, whose Union has only 16 men unemployed out of 1,845 members in Shropshire, Worcestershire, Staffordshire and Warwickshire (exclusive of Birmingham). The builders' labourers are fairly well employed either on buildings or at gas-stoking.

Miscellaneous Trades.—The Boot and Shoe Trade is much depressed, and the men are principally on short time. The improvement in the Carpet Trade at Kidderminster has been maintained but not extended. There is a slight improvement in the Printing Trades, but none in the ready-made departments of the Clothing Trade, while there is a decline in the bespoke branches. The bakers and confectioners are very busy. The Glass and Electrical Trades show an improvement. The saddlers and harness makers at Walsall are fairly well employed; the brown saddlers are very slack; the smiths, wheelwrights, cabinet-makers and furniture-makers are very quiet.

In view of the large number of applications by the unemployed, relief work has been recently provided in excavating and levelling land for a park. About 40 men are employed one day each in rotation, except a few of the more reliable men, who work for a week in turn. Street improvements on similar lines have also been commenced by the Bilston Town Commissioners.—*W. F. Met.*

Potteries District.

Coal Mining.—The Coal Trade has been very active owing to the dispute in other parts of the country, the miners in North Staffordshire having returned to work a few weeks after the beginning of the dispute. Other trades in the district have suffered much through the high price of coal.

Iron and Engineering Trades.—The high price of coal has been especially felt in the Iron and Steel Trades. With the end of the dispute the prospects are more hopeful, as an advance of 2½ per cent. in wages, taking effect on November 18th, has been conceded

by the Wages Board. The engineers report trade as very bad, fully 10 per cent. being out of work and the majority being on short time.

Pottery Trades.—Those firms which depend on the American market for orders are slack. The women's trade union reports work as bad, scarcely anyone being on full time. Trade is bad with the crate-makers, 7½ per cent. being out of work and others working only half-time.

Miscellaneous.—The carpenters and joiners, and also the bricklayers, report trade as moderate, about 10 per cent. being out of work. The wood-sawyers and machinists report trade as good for the time of year. The letterpress printers report an improvement in trade, with very few men out of work towards the end of the month; the lithographic artists and designers report trade as very bad, 24 per cent. being out of employment. The Coachbuilding Trade in private shops shows 4 per cent. out of work.—*I. S. Harvey.*

Birmingham and District.

Metal Trades.—The brass-workers are busy on gas and electric light fittings and some kinds of lamps, but cabinet and other brass-founding is dull. The bedstead makers are slightly busier, but many are on short time and a few are out of work; an advance of 5 per cent. has been made in wages in consequence of the federation between the associations of employers and workmen. The copper-smiths have not been so badly off for years. The engineers, tool-makers, and machinists are all a little busier; there is a slight stir in the Cycle Trade; the electro-plate workers are fairly well employed. Iron-workers, metal rollers, and spinners are well employed. The pin and rivet-makers are a little better off; screw-making is improving and steel-pen making is fairly good; tube-workers are on the whole well employed, the trade in wire-woven goods and in wire chain is brisk, and wire workers are employed on good contracts for telegraph wire. The Tinplate Trade is not good, but there are fewer out of work. The Wrought Nail, Nut and Bolt Trades are much depressed. Lamp makers are busier.

Miscellaneous Trades.—Employment is scarcer in the Building Trades. The boot and shoemakers report an improvement at the end of the month. The brush-makers and button-makers are fairly well employed. The sheet-glass workers are not so busy; flint-glass makers are still on short time, except on common work, such as gas globes and lamp glasses: 12 per cent. are out of work. Gunworkers are slightly busier, and galvanizers and japanners fairly well employed. Jewellers and silversmiths report an improvement, and leather workers a slight stir with skate straps. Tailors are busy. The printers complain of bad trade.

Iron Trade in South Staffordshire.—During the first three weeks of November most of the works were on short time, with one or two instances of total stoppage. Greater animation is now shown, but no large transactions have taken place. The Accountant's Report to the Midland Iron and Steel Wages Board shows that the average price obtained during September and October has been £6 2s. 0½d. per ton, making an advance of about 3s. 5d. on the price for July and August; this price is lower than that for the corresponding period of 1892 by 4s. 3d., and for that of 1891 by 6s. 1d. Upon this award iron-workers' wages are advanced 2½ per cent. Heavy iron-work, such as gas and water pipes, &c., continues good, but there is a slight falling off in boiler and gasometer work. Notwithstanding agricultural depression, work in iron fencing is fairly good. Workers in malleable iron are also busy. There is an increasing run on enamelled sign and advertising plates, and in one or two places work is going on both night and day. The hand-made nail and light chain workers are still very badly off.—*W. J. Davis.*

Nottingham and District.

Lace Trade.—There is no improvement in the condition of the trade, every branch reporting either no change or a change for the worse. Very little work is being given to outworkers, and trade is very much depressed. The threaders and winders have formed a trade union, and about 240 have joined it.

Hosiery Trade.—The trade continues depressed. The hand frame branch is only moderately employed. The shirt and pant branch is depressed. The circular hosiery branch is very bad, many men only working half time. Griswold knitters are fairly well employed. The female operatives are very slack, and short time is being worked throughout the trade.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers report an increase in the number of unemployed. Fitters are not so well employed, and a few firms manufacturing lace machinery are reducing their staffs. The hosiery machine-makers are quiet, and tool machinists very slack, quite 14 per cent. being out of work. The bobbin and carriage hands are on short time, but very few are wholly unemployed. The stove-grate makers are partially employed; carriage

straighteners are fairly busy, and sinker-makers report a slight improvement. Generally speaking, trade is more depressed than last month.

Building Trades.—A few bricklayers are out of work; the carpenters and joiners are only moderately busy, with about 6 per cent. out of work. The plasterers are busy, and the plumbers fairly so. The painters are very slack, 20 per cent. being unemployed. The School Board has, consequently, decided to have a number of schools cleaned during the Christmas holidays. The stonemasons are rather quiet. The brick-makers are fully employed.

Miscellaneous.—The men's branch of the cigar-makers report trade as bad, and the women's branch report a slight decline. The cabinet-makers are not so busy as in October. French polishers, wheelwrights, blacksmiths, surgical and elastic bandage-makers, leather dyers and dressers, tailoresses, gasworkers, and general labourers are well employed. Coach builders, letterpress printers, and cotton doublers are slack. The boot and shoe operatives report trade as very bad, and their trade society has started a productive co-operative society in order to find employment for its members. Railway workers are much busier.—*W. L. Hardstaff.*

Derbyshire and District.

Coal Mining.—Most of the pits have been re-opened, and are in full work at the old rates. House coal is being supplied at considerably reduced prices; there are better supplies of steam coal, and gas coal is greatly in demand, owing to reduced stocks.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—There is considerable improvement in the Pig and Finished Iron Trades. Engineering and machinery works are very slack, about 8 per cent. being unemployed. The rivet-makers are moderately employed; the locomotive department of the railway works is now on full time. The iron-moulders are very slack, nearly 30 per cent. being unemployed; brass-moulders and finishers are very brisk. Stove-grate workers are fairly busy. Bridge and girder and boiler yards are moderately busy; about 5 per cent. of the boiler-makers are out of work. The roller-mill, reopened in October, is now in full work.

Building Trades.—Trade with the bricklayers and labourers is only quiet, and the dispute previously referred to is still pending. The carpenters, joiners and stone-masons report trade as only moderate. The house-painters and decorators are very slack, over 30 per cent. being out of work. The plasterers are also very dull, nearly 50 per cent. being idle. The sawyers and wood-workers' machinists are well employed. Plumbers are rather short of work, many being on short time.

Miscellaneous.—The elastic web and surgical bandage-makers are fairly well employed. The paper-stainers and colour-mixers are slack. Lithographers are very dull, considering that this is generally their busiest season. The letterpress printers report trade as moderate, and the book-binders as exceedingly dull. The paper-makers and paper bag-makers are fairly well employed. The bespoke department of the Tailoring Trade is fairly well employed. The basket-makers are very brisk; the brush-makers rather flat. The cotton-spinners of the Belper district and the dyers and bleachers are very slack; the Silk and Lace Trades remain almost at a standstill. The organ-builders are only moderately busy. The boot and shoe-makers are fairly well employed. There is great distress amongst unskilled labourers.—*C. White-Deacon.*

Leicester and Northampton District.

Boot and Shoe Trade.—The depression in the trade still continues, and the number partly or wholly unemployed seems to have increased. It is estimated that from 10 to 12 per cent. are entirely without work, while probably 40 to 50 per cent. have only been working half time. In consequence of the resulting distress, the Corporations of Leicester and Northampton have started relief works. Towards the end of November the prospects were more favourable, manufacturers of brown leather and canvas boots and shoes and of gaiters becoming busy. There are indications of greater activity in the coming season. Business remains dull amongst the tanners and carriers.

Hosiery, Yarn and Wool Trades.—Nearly all departments of the Hosiery Trade have shown less activity, although there has been a better demand for Shetland fabrics and for the warmer kinds of woollen goods. Work is fairly distributed amongst the operatives, and therefore, although a large number are making short time, there are not very many absolutely idle. There is a better tone in the Wool and Yarn Trade, but contracts are still placed cautiously, and are not sufficient to keep the machinery going full time or to give regular employment to the workpeople.

Engineering Trade.—The engineers report trade as moderate, with about the same number out of work as usual at this time of year. The makers of shoe machinery are busy, some of the firms having to make overtime.

Building Trades.—The carpenters, joiners and plasterers are still fairly well employed, but bricklayers and stonemasons are not so busy, and there are more unemployed than usual amongst the painters and the builders' and general labourers. The carpenters, joiners, and builders' labourers have given notice for advances in rates of wages and reductions in hours, and for a revision of the working rules, to come into force in April 1894.

Coal Mining and Quarrying.—Although the colliers are still as a whole fully engaged, there are indications that pressing orders have been met. An application by the South Leicestershire colliers, before the general settlement was made, for an increase of 30 per cent. on their wages was refused, and no further steps have been taken to enforce the demand. The men in the stone quarries continue fully employed.

Miscellaneous.—Manufacturers of fancy elastic fabrics and braids and cords are busier, but shoe webbing is not much in demand, and short time is the rule in this branch. Trade is dull in wholesale clothing houses and amongst coach-makers, moderate with the printers and bookbinders, and good among the tool-makers, basket-makers, and cabinet-makers. Various ironstone works have resumed work. Navies and general outdoor labourers are not so well employed as last month.—*T. Smith.*

Eastern Counties.

Boot and Shoe Trade.—A report from Norwich states that this industry is still very depressed, showing no signs of improvement beyond the fact that one large firm has gone on full time after a lapse of 18 weeks of very short time; it is, however, feared that this is but temporary. During the last four or five months many men have been earning less than half wages.

Building Trades.—The condition of these trades is very fair for the time of year, very few men indeed being unemployed; of these, the labourers form by far the greater proportion. The plumbers are fully employed, while the Painting Trade is better than it has been for several years past at this time of year; some 40 or 50 men are, however, out of work.

Miscellaneous.—The Engineering Trade is dull, several men being out of work, but the Iron Trade generally is fair. An effort has been made by the Trades' Council to assist the unemployed by forming a committee and opening a register. The information thus collected has been laid before a Corporation Committee.

Bristol, Somerset and Gloucestershire District.

Mining and Quarrying.—Although all the pits in the Bristol district have been re-started, the miners are very slack, and it appears that 879 men and boys were unemployed at the end of the month. In the Somerset district, with one exception, all the pits have been re-opened; at one place the men have returned on a bonus system, the amount of the bonus to be paid weekly and to be determined by the selling price of coal. About 500 men and boys are unemployed in this district. In the Forest of Dean the Coal Trade has been exceptionally good throughout the month. After the settlement of the coal dispute there was a reduction of 3s. per ton in the price of house coal; the miners have, therefore, in accordance with the new sliding scale, suffered a reduction of 15 per cent. in wages, which brings them back to the old standard rates. The Quarry Trade in this district is very slack.

Clothing Trades.—The depression in the Bristol Boot and Shoe Trade continues, and the operatives are in most cases on half or three-quarter time. The Kingswood trade seems to be declining; the new "statement" in this district is being generally recognised, and the work of classification in connection with it is now complete. The Ready-made Clothing Trade continues slack, and there is a falling off amongst the bespoke tailors.

Shipbuilding, Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers have not maintained the slight improvement shown in October. The Electrical Trades continue busy, but the shipwrights, boiler-makers, and iron-founders report no improvement. The iron and tinplate workers are in full employment. At Gloucester the Iron Trade is fairly good.

Building Trades.—The masons, bricklayers, plasterers, and painters report a decline. At Gloucester the Building Trade is moderate, except with plumbers and painters, who are short of work.

Miscellaneous.—Agricultural labourers have been well employed. The brush and basket-makers, chocolate workers and printers report full employment. The brown saddle and black collar-makers are very slack, and the harness-makers are moderately employed. The cabinet-makers continue slack. The dock labourers found work scarce at the beginning of the month, but at the end were fully employed. The sailors and firemen are slack. The Shipping Trade at Sharpness is reported as busy.—*J. Curle.*

Plymouth and South-Western District.

Building Trades.—The bricklayers, masons, plasterers, carpenters, joiners and plumbers are fairly well employed, but trade is declining with the painters.

Miscellaneous.—The Boot Trade is very dull, but in other trades, workmen, with the exception of unskilled labourers, are fairly well employed. A Labour Registry has been established, and there are about 250 names on the books, of whom a small percentage are skilled workmen. The bakers having called the attention of the Watch Committee to the Bread Act, 1836, which makes it illegal for men to be employed after 1.30 p.m. on Sundays, the statute has been enforced, and notices to that effect have been posted up in bakehouses.—*J. Welland.*

Cardiff and District.

Engineering and Building Trades.—An analysis of the vacant books of the various trade societies shows that trade generally had not been so good as during the previous month, and, judging from the general appearance of the numbers daily in search of work, the depression seems to bear more heavily upon the unskilled workmen than upon the skilled. The former have suffered so much from want of employment, that the Corporation of Cardiff has come to their relief, and has found partial employment for a number. The evil effect of the depression is stated to have been very materially diminished by the rules limiting overtime which came into operation a short time ago, and the disposition on the part of a large number of workmen to share the work with their fellows, which spirit is much encouraged by some firms.

Shipping Industries.—Those engaged in the shipment of coal have had a brisk time during the past month, both at Cardiff and Swansea, and the district has been tolerably free from new disputes. The seamen and firemen have succeeded in maintaining the standard secured at the end of October.

Metal Trades.—The Iron, Copper, Steel and Tin Industries are in much the same dull condition as last month.—*T. Davies.*

South Wales Mining Districts.

Coal Mining.—Trade has been rather brisk throughout the month. The result of the last audit under the sliding scale has been to give an advance of 7½ per cent. from December 1st to the 90,000 workmen in this district. A new code of special rules for the better regulation of the working of the mines and for increased safety therein has been issued from the Home Office. Some employers and workmen are taking objection to certain clauses in the suggested code.

Tinplate Trade.—There is no improvement to report in the western valleys of Monmouthshire—over 60 mills are idle. Those of Pontymister have been at a standstill for about 18 weeks. At Nantyglo only a fortnight has been worked since the beginning of the coal dispute. Blaena has worked five weeks during the last 15 months, and similar reports come from Abercarne, Abertillery, and Pontypool. About one-third of the mills have stopped working, another third may be said to be doing about half as much as usual, and the others are extremely busy.—*W. Evans.*

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh and District.

Mining.—The Coal Trade in Mid and East Lothian continues brisk; the dispute in the West of Scotland has caused an unusual demand, prices have risen, and the miners have asked for and obtained a further advance of 10 per cent. on wages. The dispute near Dalkeith continues. Over 3,000 coal miners are "out" in West Lothian for an advance of 1s. a day; the advance has been conceded by one firm near Bathgate to about 170 miners. The Oil Industry is busy, but already 700 men in West Lothian are idle for want of coal.

Shipbuilding, Engineering and Metal Trades.—The Iron and Engineering Trades continue bad, the returns from five branches showing 9.1 per cent. out of work. The moulders have improved, the percentage out of work having fallen from 26.2 to 19.6. In the Shipbuilding Trades the boiler-makers return 32.9 per cent. out of work, and in one yard they have agreed to work 46½ hours instead of 54 hours during the winter. The shipwrights report all their members as employed at the end of the month owing to the repairs rendered necessary by the recent storm.

Building Trades.—The masons report trade as fair, but other branches of the trade are only quiet. With the exception of the masons and slaters all branches have some members idle, the plasterers showing 4 per cent. A dispute lasting 10 days threw 96 masons out of work. The painters have over 30 per cent. unemployed.

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.—There has been an improvement in the Letterpress Printing Trade, the weekly average of unemployed having fallen from 4 per cent. to 2.4 per cent. The lithographic printers return 3.5 per cent. out of work as against 5.2 per cent. in October. The bookbinders report no change, with 5.4 per cent. out of work. The typefounders are still only working five days a week.

Miscellaneous.—The Cabinet and Furniture Trades are quiet, with 3.3 per cent. idle and several on short time. The tinsmiths report no change, with 3 per cent. unemployed, and 16 per cent. on short time. The brassfinishers are fairly busy, with 3.2 per cent. idle. The improvement among the coopers has been maintained, and trade is better among the shoemakers. The tailors report trade as very bad, and india-rubber workers are not busy, except in the shoe departments. The sett-makers are unusually busy, and the bakers report work as steadier. The saddlers have 7.6 per cent. idle, and one firm is on short time. Shipping is reported as good, and dock labourers are in most cases well employed.—*J. Mallinson.*

Glasgow and West of Scotland.

Mining.—The Coal Trade has been much disturbed during the month. Prior to the close of the English dispute the Scotch miners made a demand for an increase of wages, which the owners declined to entertain, and a general conflict between the West of Scotland miners and the owners ensued. A number of the non-associated owners have granted the request of their men, but the general body of the miners in the affected area remain idle, all efforts at conciliation having so far proved abortive.—(Further details of this dispute will be found on p. 183.)

Shipbuilding.—It cannot be said that at present the prospects on the Clyde are too bright, for although several firms have booked orders, there are great numbers of men idle, and the joiners' and colliers' disputes materially help to make matters worse. The shipwrights report that they are in a worse position than last month, while the boiler-makers report trade as very slack, especially in the locomotive department.

Steel and Iron Trades.—The steel smelters report that trade during the past two years has been at no time good, either as regards the volume of work or prices, and when there were signs of a revival the English coal dispute broke out. The settlement of this dispute caused a feeling of hopefulness for a time, which, however, has given place to uncertainty and gloomy forebodings, owing to the Scotch miners' dispute, which has brought about a complete stoppage of all the steel works. The increased price of coal has been a serious matter to this industry. The iron-moulders, blacksmiths, tinplate-workers, and iron-dressers report trade as much the same as last month. The file-makers have no idle men. The range, stove and ornamental fitters all are very well employed. The general toolmakers, machinists and cycle-makers report a slight improvement during the month. The hammermen report that, owing to the miners' dispute, the number of idle men has been considerably augmented. The scale-beam and weighing-machine makers report trade as good, with no men idle.

Building Trades.—Joiners, masons, slaters, and sett-makers report trade as good, bricklayers as good as can be expected at this season of the year, paviors as uncertain, while a considerable number of plasterers are idle.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—The cabinet-makers report dull trade, the Clyde dispute having thrown several men out of employment; the upholsterers also describe trade as bad. The gilders report the state of trade as very good, only two or three men being idle. The brushmakers report trade, so far as Glasgow is concerned, as fair, and the coopers report a slight improvement. The sawmill operatives state that trade is very bad, a considerable number working short time, others being entirely unemployed.

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.—The letterpress printers state that trade is fair, but not so good as it should be at this season of the year, as there are a number of men idle. The electro and stereotypers report trade to be in a very satisfactory condition, with only two or three men idle. The printers' warehousemen also state that they are very busy, and have no idle men. The bookbinders, however, report that trade is very quiet.

Textile Trades.—The power-loom beamers state that their position has slightly improved during the month; the warpers that their trade is in an exceptionally bad state, the average time worked being from 25 to 30 hours per week. The pattern weavers' complain of dull trade and short time. The dyers report that trade is on the wane.

Clothing Trades.—Shoemakers and boot and shoe riveters report a slight improvement; tailors that trade is very bad.

Railway and Dock Labour.—The railway traffic during the first three weeks of the month was very heavy, owing to the large quantity of coal sent to England, but during the last week traffic had been slack on account of the Scotch dispute. Large numbers of trains are suspended for want of fuel, with the result that about 200 men are working half time, and 100 are idle. During the first three weeks men had been on duty from 13 to 19 hours at a stretch. Dock labourers report that work at the harbour is very dull, with little sign of immediate improvement, as some of the lines have discontinued their weekly sailings. There are also a number of idle men about the docks belonging to other trades trying to obtain a day's work. The position of the seamen and firemen remains much the same as last month.

Miscellaneous.—The stoneware throwers report trade dull, three out of the four firms in the city working two days a week, and the Rutherglen Pottery five days, but that some of them closed on the 29th until the termination of the coal dispute. The flint-glass bevelers report that trade is very dull and practically at a standstill, although only a few men are actually idle. The sailmakers report trade as very bad. The spindle and flyer-makers report that they are very busy, and are working an hour extra in consequence. The confectioners and preserve-makers say that trade, although a little better, is quiet; but the bakers describe it as very bad. The coachmakers report trade as not so good, about half their number working short time. The hackney carriage drivers and carriers have a considerable number of men idle. The farriers report trade as very dull. The general body of labourers still continue fairly busy.—*A. J. Hunter.*

[ERRATUM.—The reduction of hours reported in last month's GAZETTE as having been secured by the printers' warehousemen should have been credited to the bookbinders' and machine rulers, the warehousemen's hours being reduced as the result of a conference between the bookbinders and their employers.]

Dundee and District.

Jute and Linen Trades.—The depression in these industries still exists, and further recourse to short time in some of the larger works in Dundee has been rendered necessary, in one case the hours being reduced to 39 per week. A large amount of machinery has also been put out of operation. One firm proposed a reduction of 5 per cent. in wages, but the operatives objected and a conflict ensued, lasting nine days, when the employers withdrew the notice of reduction and re-opened on the old terms. The dispute involved about 500 workers, principally female, of whom a very small percentage received financial support from the Mill and Factory Workers' Association. In Lochee also one firm has had to resort to short time.

Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades.—No improvement has taken place in the state of these trades, large numbers of men belonging to all branches being still out of employment.

Building Trades.—Masons, joiners, plasterers, and plumbers continue well employed. Slaters, owing to the severe storm on 17th November, have been very busy, and, as a consequence, employers are offering an increase of 1d. per hour on the standard rate of wages, to run for one month from the date of the storm; a conference is then to be held with the view of arranging the future rate of wages. The Painting Trade is, as usual at this time of year, very slack.

Miscellaneous.—The Printing and kindred Trades are fairly busy. Tailors are but indifferently employed at present, and an attempt is being made to put a stop to the system of working overtime which is alleged to exist in several firms, so as to afford more regular employment to those connected with the trade. A dispute has occurred with a firm of brushmakers, affecting not more than 10 operatives, on a question of wages, deductions and fines.

Fife and Kinross Coal Trade.—A large demand has occurred owing to the disputes in other colliery districts, and great activity consequently prevails. The output is far from meeting the demand, and already the Textile Trades of Forfarshire and Fifeshire are being seriously affected for want of coal. In the larger centres, such as Dundee, Arbroath, &c., the prices for coal for household purposes have now increased by over 6s. per ton.

Agricultural Labour.—Owing to the extremely favourable season, all departments of agricultural work are well advanced, and consequently the wages of farm servants throughout Forfarshire and Fifeshire are reported to have been slightly reduced at the recent hiring fairs.—*R. D. B. Ritchie.*

Aberdeen and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades.—Shipbuilding continues very dull. Boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders average 27 per cent. of idle members, but a few of the latter have got repairing jobs on account of the late storm doing a good deal of damage to shipping.

A few shipwrights have been taken on at the Harbour Works, but there is an average of 30 per cent. out of work, a number of whom have only worked from seven weeks to four months this year. Iron moulders average 24.5 per cent. idle, an increase of 6.3 since last month. Blacksmiths, engineers, tinplate workers and others engaged in the Metal Trades are all very dull.

Quarrying.—The Granite Trade is exceptionally flat, and it is estimated that there are 250 granite cutters engaged in monumental work, idle. American orders are nearly at a standstill. Granite dressers engaged in the Building Trade are fully employed, a number of large jobs being in hand, but in the monumental yards short time is prevalent. Granite polishers are also working short time in a number of the yards, and many are idle. The dispute referred to last month has been settled by arbitration.

Building Trades.—House building is practically the only industry that is busy. There has been a reduction in the roll of idle joiners, and plasterers and plumbers are also busy, but painters are now dull, 24 per cent. being idle.

Fishing.—The fishing at the port, considering the stormy weather that has prevailed, has been good, and prices have also been good. The catch for trawl boats has been 25,194 cwt., line boats 5,770 cwt.; price realised for the former £19,864, for the latter £4,079; or a total of £23,943.

Textile Industries.—The Jute Trade is dull, and those engaged in the industry are to be put on short time—40 hours per week. The Linen and Cotton Trade is not so bad. Rope and twine spinners and hemp dressers are still dull, two of the works being on short time.

Miscellaneous.—Letterpress printers are a little busier. Coopers engaged in making herring barrels are busy. Tailors are very dull. There is an increase in the number of general labourers out of employment, and work at the docks is depressed. There is also a great lack of employment among unskilled labourers generally. In other industries trade is fairly good for the season.—*W. Johnston.*

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

Building, Woodworking and Iron Industries.—Some depression has been felt in the Building Trades, and slackness has also characterised the Stone-cutting Industry. The Painting Industry is very bad, and a large number of men are idle. The plasterers are fairly busy, but work is dull with both the plumbers and slaters. Trade has been good among the lath-splitters, but the cabinet-makers are still dull, while the upholsterers and packing-case makers are fairly employed. A large number of builders' labourers are idle consequent on the slackness in the Building Trade. The boiler-makers, iron ship-builders and engineers are slack, the Whitesmith Trade being also depressed. The dispute in the boiler-making shops referred to in previous reports remains unsettled. The Coachbuilding Trade is good, but the Saddlery Industry is dull.

Clothing and Food Industries.—The Tailoring and Bootmaking Industries, though usually busy at this season, are very depressed. Confectioners are busy owing to the Christmas trade. Bakers, butchers' assistants, purveyors' assistants, and grocers' assistants, are also fairly employed, while employment among the hotel and club assistants is good. Coopers, cork-cutters, and basket-makers are slack.

Printing and Allied Trades.—In the Letterpress department an improvement has set in, though not equal to that in corresponding months of previous years, but, on the whole, business may be said to be brisk. The Lithographic Trade is still depressed, several men being idle. There are some members of the bookbinders and paper-rulers unemployed, but work is described as fair. Stereotypers and electrotypers are fully employed. A dispute exists in the Book-binding Trade as to an alleged breach of rules in two establishments.

Miscellaneous.—Trade with the bottle-hands still continues firm. Tramway men and railway servants are fully employed, but want of employment is severely felt among unskilled labourers. The settlement of the coal dispute has given an impetus to the coal labourers, but work is scarce among the general body. Employment is also precarious among the seamen and firemen. The Dublin Corporation have decided to appoint two inspectors to give effect to the provisions of the Shop Hours' Act from January 1st 1894.—*J. P. Nannetti.*

Belfast and District.

During the month a considerable increase in the number of unemployed has taken place, to which nearly all sections of labour have contributed—though it has been most marked in the Linen

and the Shipbuilding and Engineering Industries. Returns have been received from 72 branches of societies with a membership of 18,567, of whom 1,425, or 7.7 per cent., are unemployed. The details are as follows:—

Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades.—One shipyard has been partially closed, owing to the winding-up of the Company, a number of large vessels having been completed by another firm. Of the 8,990 members of the different trade societies in these industries, 830, or 9.2 per cent., are unemployed. The blacksmiths, blacksmiths' strikers and helpers, enginemen and cranemen report trade as fair, ironfounders as moderate, engineers, machine-workers, pattern-makers, shipwrights, cabinet-makers, and polishers as quiet, boiler-makers and iron shipwrights as slack, brassfounders and carpenters and joiners as dull, and labourers as very bad.

Building Trades.—Of 2,578 organised workers in this industry, 132, or 5.1 per cent., are unemployed, as compared with 84 in October. The bricklayers, bricklayers' and plasterers' assistants, and carpenters and joiners report trade as quiet, plumbers as slack, house painters as bad, plasterers and mill-sawyers as fair, and paviors as good.

Linen Trades.—Out of 3,163 members of societies, 351, or 11.1 per cent., are out of employment, as against 110 last month, the flax roughers having largely contributed to this increase in the number of unemployed. A town's meeting has been held for the purpose of considering the best means of assisting the weavers of the district, who are suffering severely from the want of employment. These, however, are not accounted for in the above returns, as they are not organised.

Miscellaneous.—The returns from 19 branches of miscellaneous trades show that out of 3,836 members 112 are unemployed. Bakers and butchers report trade as good, bookbinders and coopers as very fair, tinplate workers as middling, typographical printers, furnishing trades, and packing-case makers as quiet, lithographic printers, lithographic artists, coachbuilders and sail makers as very bad. The tailors report that a number of men are working short time.—*R. Sheldon.*

Cork and District.

Building Trades.—During the month, masons, stone-cutters and plasterers have shown a decline, painters and glaziers also report trade as very dull. Carpenters and joiners show no change. Plumbers and gasfitters are pretty busy. The Building Trades in Limerick show a slight improvement for the month, while Waterford, Dungarvan, and Clonmel report trade as fair in these branches.

Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades.—The Engineering Trade is fair in Limerick and Waterford, but at a very low ebb in Cork. Enginemen and firemen report trade as steady. Boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders show little change during the month, but the shipwrights and shipjoiners in Queenstown and Passage are in a bad state, owing to the scarcity of shipping in the port.

Miscellaneous.—Cabinet-makers, general furnishers, bellows and brushmakers report trade as fair. Coach-making has declined. The local tweed, leather and feather factories are well maintained, keeping their workers steadily employed. The tailors report trade as fair. Beef and pork butchers are also well employed. Quay labourers and coal porters are slightly improved. The Corporation labourers are kept well employed. The Fishing Industry is not so satisfactory as reported last month owing to the severity of the weather. The tailors' and carpenters' disputes previously reported still continue.—*P. O'Shea.*

ACCIDENTS IN AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY IN GERMANY.*

A VOLUME of statistics for 1891 has just been issued by the State Insurance Department of Germany, dealing with agriculture and forestry accident statistics.

Only those accidents are dealt with which entitled the sufferers or their relatives to compensation, i.e., those involving either death or disablement of more than 13 weeks' duration.

Among 12,508,001 persons insured, engaged in agriculture and forestry, 44,964 met with accidents, but only 19,918 were entitled to compensation. Of these, 2,236, or more than 11 per cent., died; 685, or about 3½ per cent., were completely disabled, and 9,108, or nearly 46 per cent., partially disabled for more than six months. Out of every 100,000 insured 18 were killed and 141 injured by accidents; 2,783, or about 14 per cent., of the accidents were caused by machinery, and about 5 per cent. of these were fatal.

* Statistik der entschädigungs pflichtigen. Unfälle der Rang und Forstwirtschaft des deutschen Reichs für das Jahr 1891. Bearbeitet im Reichsversicherungsamt.

THE RECENT DISPUTE IN THE COAL TRADE.

I.—THE COAL DISPUTE IN THE ENGLISH FEDERATION DISTRICTS.

IN the last number of the GAZETTE the course of the coal dispute was traced up to November 13th.

On Monday, November 13th, an identical letter (the text of which was given in the November GAZETTE) was addressed by the Prime Minister to the secretaries of the Federated Coalowners and the Miners' Federation, inviting both parties to send representatives to a conference to be held under the chairmanship of Lord Rosebery, for the purpose of effecting a settlement of the coal dispute. The executive committees both of the Miners' Federation and of the Coalowners met on the following day in Manchester and London respectively, and accepted the invitation of the Government. The conference was fixed for Friday, November 17th, at 11 a.m., at the Foreign Office, and each side was asked to send fourteen representatives. A preliminary meeting of the general committee of the miners was held before the conference at the Westminster Palace Hotel, and, during the course of the day, both this committee and the general committee of the coalowners met in rooms in the Foreign Office, so as to enable the representatives of each side to consult their colleagues without delay. In both cases the representatives present at the conference, subject to the assent of their respective general committees, were armed with full powers to effect a settlement.

The following are the names of the representatives of each side, and of the districts with which they were connected:—

Coalowners: Lancashire and Cheshire: Messrs. A. Hewlett, John Knowles, Richard Pilkington, and T. R. Ellis (secretary); Yorkshire: Messrs. A. M. Chambers, J. D. Ellis, D. Davy and T. Currey Briggs; Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire: Messrs. J. Jackson and F. Wright; Cannock Chase: Captain Harrison and Mr. W. Bidder, Q.C.; North Wales: Mr. H. Dennis; Gloucester and Somerset: Mr. John Batey.

Miners: Lancashire: Messrs. S. Woods, M.P., T. Aspinwall, R. Isherwood and Thomas Ashton (secretary); Yorkshire: Messrs. B. Pickard, M.P., E. Cowey, W. Parrott and J. Frith; Cannock Chase: Mr. A. Stanley; Staffordshire: Mr. E. Edwards; Derbyshire: Messrs. J. Haslam and W. E. Harvey; Nottinghamshire: Mr. W. Bailey; Somersetshire: Mr. S. H. Whitehouse.

The conference lasted (with certain intervals for consultation) from 11 a.m. to 5.15 p.m., when the following terms of settlement were agreed to:—

"Terms of settlement of the coal dispute agreed upon between representatives of the Federated Coalowners and of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain at a conference held at the Foreign Office on Friday, November 17th 1893, Lord Rosebery, K.G., in the chair.

"(1) That a Board of Conciliation be constituted forthwith to last over the year at the least, consisting of an equal number of coalowners' and miners' representatives, 14 each. They shall, before the first meeting, endeavour to elect a chairman from outside, and should they fail, will ask the Speaker of the House of Commons to nominate one, the chairman to have the casting vote. That the board, when constituted, shall have power to determine from time to time the rate of wages on and from February 1st 1894. The first meeting to be on Wednesday, December 13th 1893, at the Westminster Palace Hotel.

"(2) That the men resume work at once at the old rate of wages until February 1st 1894. It is agreed that all collieries, so far as practicable, be re-opened for work forthwith, and that, so far as practicable, no impediment be placed in the way of a return of the men to work.

"We, the undersigned Chairman and Secretary of the Federated Coalowners and of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, on behalf of those represented at this conference, agree to the above terms of settlement of the present coal dispute.

"Signed on behalf of the Coalowners—
"A. M. CHAMBERS, Chairman.
"THOMAS RATCLIFFE ELLIS, Secretary.
"On behalf of the Miners' Federation—
"BENJAMIN PICKARD, Chairman.
"THOMAS ASHTON, Secretary.
"ROSEBERY, Chairman of Conference.
"H. LEWELLYN SMITH, Secretary of Conference."

Work was partially resumed in some districts on Saturday, November 18th, and on the following Monday work was commenced by the men employed in many of the collieries in Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cannock Chase, Derbyshire, North Wales and elsewhere. In the last-named district, however, 4,000 miners around Wrexham and Ruabon were still out on that date, whilst in Derbyshire and elsewhere a certain number of men were unable at once to resume coal-getting on account of the bad state of the workings of many of the collieries. The miners in the Pelsall District, and in the Bristol and Somersetshire coalfields resumed work on various dates from 20th to 25th ult. At a conference of the delegates of the Lancashire and Cheshire Miners' Federation held on November 27th at Manchester, it was stated that the bulk of the members had resumed work.

Many of the employees of the railway companies in the districts affected by the dispute, who had been out of work or on short time during the struggle, commenced to work full time in the week following the settlement, and work was resumed in the large steel works and blast furnaces around Sheffield as soon as supplies of Yorkshire coal could be procured. In Mexborough and Castleford, the seat of the Glass Bottle-making Industry of Yorkshire, where distress has been very keen owing to a dispute in that trade of 17 weeks' duration in the early part of the year, work has likewise been gradually resumed. Those of the Lancashire cotton mills that have been standing idle or put on short time are again working full time, as also are the steel works at Barrow and Workington. At Wigan, however, notices were posted on 30th November at a large steel works that work would not be resumed this year.

It is understood that a levy is still being made from the miners in work for the support of those who are not yet employed, and to re-establish the funds of the Federation.

The Conciliation Board formed in accordance with the settlement arrived at on November 17th, met on December 13th at 1 p.m. at Westminster. With a few exceptions the representatives on both sides were the same as those who attended the conference at the Foreign Office. The representatives of both sides had private meetings before the meeting of the Board. The two parties could not agree upon the independent Chairman, and a joint letter has been addressed to the Speaker of the House of Commons, asking him to nominate one.

II.—THE COAL DISPUTE IN WEST SCOTLAND.

In consequence of the stoppage of the coal supply in the English Federation Districts, the prices for coal rose in Scotland, and on the 15th of August an advance of 1s. per day was granted to the miners in West Scotland, and a further advance of 1s. per day was obtained about a week later, making a total advance on the July rates of wages of 50 per cent. On the 14th of November a movement was started among the miners for another rise in wages, and on the 17th—the date of the end of the English coal dispute—it was resolved, at a meeting of West of Scotland miners, to demand an advance of 1s. per day. This was refused by the Coalowners' Associations concerned, and in consequence a strike was declared and took pretty general effect from about the 24th of November over the counties of Lanark, Renfrew, Stirling, Dumbarton and Ayr, except at a number of collieries which belonged to certain non-associated coalowners, who conceded the advance asked for.

On the 29th of November an attempt was made by a prominent citizen of Glasgow to negotiate a settlement on the basis of an advance of 6d. per day until 1st February 1894, after which date wages should be dealt with by a conciliation board. This proposal, which had been put forward on behalf of the men, was rejected by the Associated Owners. Shortly afterwards the Lord Provost invited representatives of the Coalowners' and Miners' Associations to attend a conference at the Municipal Buildings. This invitation was accepted

by the men, but the Associated Owners declined to send representatives. Some influential coalowners, however, attended the conference in their individual capacity. The miners' delegates repeated their terms as given above, and the coalowners present suggested that if the miners returned to work at the rates paid prior to the outbreak of the strike no change would be made until the 1st of March 1894, and that in the event of the December prices realising 6d. per ton over the October prices, an advance of 6d. per day would be paid to the men from the time of their return to work until February 1894. The conference broke up without any result being arrived at. On the next day, 2nd of December, the Lanarkshire Coalowners' Association posted the following notice at their collieries:—

The miners of this colliery are invited to resume work at the old rate of wages, which will be maintained until February 1st 1894.

On the 4th of December another meeting took place. The initiative was taken by the miners, who invited the Lord Provost to preside, and endeavoured to obtain the presence of representatives of the three Associations of Coalowners at the meeting. The men also agreed to meet the owners without any conditions. The Airdrie, Slamannan and Bathgate Association of Coalowners accepted the invitation of the miners, and a few non-associated coalowners were also present. The Lanarkshire and Ayrshire Associations did not, however, send representatives, and on this ground the meeting was not proceeded with.

On the 6th the miners' conference decided, by 55 votes to 7, to call out the men who had received the third advance of 1s. per day, and at the same time an appeal was made by the Chairman of the Miners' Federation for the Government to intervene, with the result that the following reply was sent by the Prime Minister:—

"10 Downing Street, Whitehall.

"December 6th.

"Dear Sir,—I received last night the telegram which you had addressed to me during an important discussion in the House of Commons, and I perused it with the utmost interest. The Government regard with high satisfaction the action of Lord Rosebery in the English coal dispute and its result, but any failure in the proceeding would have had a mischievous effect, and the failure was avoided by an exact observation of the circumstances of the case. Both parties were then before the Government in one and the same attitude, whereas the telegram you have sent me is written on behalf of one side only, and I doubt whether you would wish me to proffer any request to the Scotch coalmasters concerned. But the main point of difference is this. We had in the English case full proof of repeated efforts at conciliation by direct communication between the parties themselves, and it was also apparent that their powers of obtaining a settlement by independent efforts were exhausted. On the other hand, those efforts had not been futile, for they had served to bring about approximations such as to afford a hopeful prospect if the Government in a capacity limited were introduced. I have not learned that an equal amount of such independent and local effort at agreement has been used in the Scottish case, and there is no proof before me that the power of such efforts has been exhausted. There is, therefore, a want of parallelism in the two instances at the present moment. I must remind you that the moral influence of an administration or of a single Minister in such a matter is not an instrument to which it would be prudent to revert habitually, or upon the occurrence of difficulties which might be otherwise surmountable. We should pause before assenting to use it unless satisfied that a state of facts existed analogous to that which made the action of Lord Rosebery practicable and expedient. I have, however, in consequence of your telegram, communicated with the President of the Board of Trade. He will send down to the North a competent officer of his department to observe and report upon the state of things. In the meantime, I hope that what I have written may assist

you, and those with whom you act, to judge whether the controversy now unhappily subsisting in Scotland is likely to assume such a character as would warrant the consideration of the subject with a practical view by the Government. — I remain, dear Sir, your very faithful and obedient "W. E. GLADSTONE."

Following up the promise in the above letter, a member of the Labour Department of the Board of Trade was directed to make inquiries on the spot for the information of the Department.

On the 9th of December the miners' delegates met in conference in Glasgow, and decided to advise the men to resume work on Monday, the 11th inst., on the employers' terms, namely, present rates until 1st February 1894. These terms were the terms offered by the Lanarkshire Coalowners' Association in their notice of 2nd December. A similar notice was not issued by the two other Associations concerned in the dispute—the Airdrie, Slamannan and Bathgate and the Ayrshire Associations—but it is understood that they will follow the lead of the larger Association. The latest reports show that there was a general resumption of work on Monday, the 11th inst., so far as the condition of the pits would allow.

One of the earliest and most serious effects of the dispute was the damping down of the iron and steel furnaces in Scotland, throwing out of employment, it is said, from 25,000 to 30,000 workers, and it is feared that as the New Year holidays, which generally last about a week, are very near now, many of these large works may not be re-opened until after the holidays are over. Other industries that do not require such large quantities of coal have been less completely stopped, but all have been affected more or less.

During the progress of the dispute in the West of Scotland, the Fife, Kinross and Clackmannan miners obtained an advance of 6½ per cent. from the middle of December. Some of the Mid and East Lothian miners have also had an increase in wages of 10 per cent. For other changes in miners' wages since 1886, see p. 156 of the November GAZETTE.

JOINERS' DISPUTE ON THE CLYDE.

A DISPUTE which is having a serious effect on the Ship-building Industry of the Clyde has been going on since the end of September. The number of joiners concerned is about 3,000, but the number indirectly involved in the dispute is much larger. It appears that at one yard the state of the work required, in the opinion of the employer, that the shop or shore joiners should work 52½ hours per week, although work could only be found for the ship or outside joiners for 40 hours per week. Thereupon the men working 52½ hours claimed to be paid at overtime rates (time and a-half) for the 12½ hours in excess of the 40 hours worked by the ship joiners, and quoted one of their Society rules, in support of their claim, as follows:

"5th.—Yards that may be working short time, and having jobs necessitating the working of longer hours than the short time arrangement, members may work to the extent of full time, but must be paid at the rate of time and half for all time wrought over the short time arrangement, and in no case must they work more than 54 hours per week.

The employer concerned would not recognise this rule, and locked out his joiners. On October 7th the dispute extended to all the yards of the associated ship-builders. The general question of overtime is also involved in the dispute, the joiners' societies contending that no man should be allowed, "on any pretext whatever," to work more than the full weekly time (54 hours) until all the out-of-work members of the society are employed. On the other hand, the employers point to the difficulty of conducting their business under such restrictions. An unsuccessful attempt was made on the 5th inst. by the Lord Provost of Glasgow to settle the dispute, but it is understood that a further effort will be made to bring about a working compromise between the views of the workmen and employers.

FOREIGN TRADE.

Imports.

The value of the imports last month was £35,800,856, as compared with £38,898,373 in November 1892, and £43,861,389 in November 1891.

For the eleven months ended the 30th November, the imports were valued at £368,320,298, a decrease of £17,692,751, when compared with the corresponding period of 1892. Of this decrease, it will be seen from the table below, £15,084,707 took place in the first half of the year.

Statement showing for each of the first eleven months in 1893 and 1892 the total value of Imports into the United Kingdom, also showing the increase or decrease in 1893 as compared with 1892.

Table with 5 columns: Month, 1893, 1892, Increase, Decrease. Rows include January through June, and Total for first six months.

* Owing to slight unpublished alterations in the Returns for the first ten months, this total is not an exact addition of the items in the columns.

British and Irish Exports.

In November the value of the British and Irish produce exported, showed a decrease when compared with November 1892 of £895,581, and of £1,137,190 when compared with November 1891; the values for the three periods being £17,653,759, £18,549,340, and £18,799,049 respectively. The value per ton of the coal, coke, cinders, and fuel exported last month was 11s. 5d., whereas in November 1892, it was 10s. 2d. only. It will be seen, therefore, that if there had not been this increase in the price of coal, the decrease in the value of the exports, as compared with November 1892, would have been greater than it at present appears to be—the difference of 1s. 3d. in the price per ton affecting the total to the extent of £130,165.

The value of the British and Irish exports for the eleven months ended 30th November shows a decline of £6,528,416 as compared with the same period in 1892, though, as in the case of the imports, most of the decrease took place in the first four months of the year.

Statement showing for each of the first eleven months in 1893 and 1892 the total value of British and Irish goods exported from the United Kingdom, also showing the increase or decrease in 1893 as compared with 1892.

Table with 5 columns: Month, 1893, 1892, Increase, Decrease. Rows include January through June, and Total for first six months.

PRODUCTION OF PIG IRON.

Table showing the production of pig iron and number of furnaces in blast in the Cleveland district in November 1893 and 1892:—

Table with 5 columns: Kind of Pig Iron, Production in November, Decrease in November 1893, No. of Furnaces in Blast in November. Rows include Cleveland Pig Iron, Other Kinds of Pig, and Total.

* Including Hematite, Spiegel and Besse Pig Iron.

TRAFFIC RECEIPTS ON BRITISH RAILWAYS.

THE receipts of 23 of the principal railway companies in the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended November 26th were £5,146,593, compared with £5,475,652 in the corresponding period of 1892, a decrease of £329,059. This decrease, it will be seen from the following table, is in a great measure in receipts from minerals and goods, the net decrease under that head amounting to £257,515. The railway company whose receipts have been most affected by the diminished mineral traffic appears to be the Midland, the receipts from minerals and goods in the four weeks under notice being £122,787 less than in the same period in 1892.

Table showing, for the undermentioned Railway Companies, the increases or decreases in receipts from Passengers and Goods respectively, during the four weeks ended November 26th 1893, as compared with the corresponding period in 1892.

Table with 5 columns: Name of Railway Company, Passengers, Minerals and Goods, Increases, Decreases. Rows include Caledonian, Great Southern and Western, Midland Great Western (Ireland), North British, North-Eastern, North Staffordshire, and Total Increases/Decreases.

* Decrease. † Exclusive of receipts from Canal traffic. ‡ Increase. § Inclusive of Steamboat receipts and tolls.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES OF THE MONTH.

Emigration.—The number of emigrants of British origin from the United Kingdom during last month was 9,121, a decrease of 4,694 when compared with 13,815 in November 1892. In addition to these 9,121 there were 3,717 foreigners and others whose nationality was not stated, making the total emigration for the month, 12,838, as compared with 18,849 in November 1892.

For the eleven months ended November 30th the total number of emigrants of British origin was 203,044, and of foreigners 96,328, the former an increase of 1,295, and the latter a decrease of 11,988 as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

Immigration.—The number of aliens recorded as arriving in the United Kingdom from the Continent during November was 4,115, of whom 2,062 were stated to be en route to America. In November 1892, the total number was 4,607, the number bound for America being 2,913.

The total alien immigration this year up to the end of last month was 109,834 persons, of whom no less than 77,964 were on their way to America.

Cotton Statistics.—The number of bales of cotton imported last month was 574,770, and exported 48,019, as compared with 547,723 imported and 63,872 exported in November 1892.

Fisheries.—The total quantity of fish (excluding shell fish) landed on the English and Welsh coasts from the fishing grounds during November was 609,268 cwts., as compared with 883,317 cwts. in November 1892, a decrease of 274,049 cwts.

The quantity landed in Scotland last month was 325,483 cwts., an increase of 127,765 cwts., when compared with 197,718 cwts. caught in November 1892.

In Ireland the quantity landed during November was 39,473 cwts., the quantity in November 1892 being 27,840 cwts., an increase last month of 11,633 cwts.

Bankruptcies.—During last month the number of bankrupts gazetted was 404, a decrease of 91 as compared with November 1892. Of these 404, 35 were grocers, 25 publicans, hotel-keepers, &c., 23 builders, 20 farmers, and 12 butchers. The total number of bankruptcies for the eleven months ended November 30th was 4,499, as compared with 4,287 in the corresponding period of last year.

LABOUR CASES IN NOVEMBER.

THE following are among the more important legal cases of the month under various Statutes specially affecting labour, of which the Department has received information, and 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. Prosecutions under the Factory and Workshop Acts, the Mines Regulation Acts, and the Merchant Shipping Acts, are summarised on page 187.

(1) EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACT.

London, City of London Court, November 2nd.—Carman, whilst descending ladder, was thrown to the ground, and had thigh broken, owing to ladder slipping. Claim £200. Defence: that plaintiff had not given proper notice as required by the statute; that he was not a workman within the meaning of the Act, and that the injuries were result of accident for which defendants were not responsible, jury found for plaintiff for £20.

Bacup County Court, November 3rd.—Cardroom operative claimed £25 damages for injuries received owing to being caught by her clothing in the wheel of frame, whereby she was incapacitated from work for sixteen weeks. Evidence was adduced in defence that wheels were properly protected but that the cover was knocked off by the accident. Judgment for defendants, costs not asked for.

Manchester County Court, November 8th.—Sawyer was working a circular saw, when the wood was thrown backwards, striking him on the face, injuring one eye so severely that it had lost its sight permanently. Damages claimed £180. Verdict for plaintiff, by consent, for £70 and costs, defendants undertaking to re-employ plaintiff when he was fully recovered.

Shoreditch County Court, November 8th.—Glass-beveller claimed £30 compensation for injuries. Judgment for plaintiff, £16 and costs.

Glasgow Sheriff Court, November 15th.—Labourer injured by falling over key left in water plug on quay at Queen's Dock, alleged negligence of crane man in defenders' service. Defenders contended that the place was not a "way" or working place within the meaning of the Act. Pursuer awarded £3 damages and costs.

Paisley, Sheriff Small Debt Court, November 16th.—Labourer claimed £12 for injuries to foot by fall of stone, which was being raised by a crane, alleging negligence of foreman in not having stone properly secured. Sheriff awarded £6 expenses.

Leeds County Court, November 17th.—Labourer sued to recover £140 from a sub-contractor for injuries sustained through alleged negligence of defendant's foreman. Plaintiff was assisting the latter to remove some boiler plates by means of a crane, when one fell upon him, fracturing leg and necessitating amputation. Judgment for plaintiff for amount claimed.

London, Queen's Bench, November 19th.—Coal-trimmer killed by explosion of gas in coal bunkers of ship. Action by widow. Defence that deceased should not have gone into the bunkers until they had been ventilated. Judge held that deceased was entitled to expect that the bunkers would be safe. Verdict for plaintiff, damages for widow £350, children £175. Stay of execution granted, plaintiff meanwhile to receive £2 per week.

Glasgow Sheriff Court, November 18th.—Labourer claimed £100 for injuries to finger whilst removing freestone from wagons, alleging that he at first declined to do the work, but upon being threatened with dismissal, he proceeded with it. Defendants took exception to relevancy of action. Action dismissed with costs. Confirmed on appeal to Sheriff principal.

Wigan County Court, November 21st.—Labourer claimed £250 damages for injuries. Whilst a rail-bearer was being raised it fell from its sling and broke the plank upon which plaintiff was standing, causing him to fall from a great height. Plaintiff alleged that rail-bearer was not properly slung. Defence was that accident was caused by fellow-workman and that there was no defect in the plant. Verdict for plaintiff, damages £80.

Bradford County Court, November 21st.—Miner injured by recoil of "steam man" (a machine used for cutting coal) owing to breakage of tube. Verdict (by consent) for plaintiff for £40.

Westminster County Court, November 27th.—Excavator injured by fall of roof of cellar, in which he was working, claimed £200. Jury awarded £150.

Wandsworth County Court, November 27th.—Two workmen, injured by fall of wall whilst they were digging at its foot, claimed damages, stating that they had complained of wall being unsafe. In defence this was denied, and it was contended that plaintiffs could and should have shored it up. Jury found for plaintiffs for £150 and £60 respectively.

Bradford County Court, November 29th.—Miner claimed £263 5s. damages for injuries received by being thrown out of cage, owing to alleged failure of winding engine. For the defence it was contended that accident was due to carelessness of engine driver, and not to defective machinery. Verdict for defendants.

London, Southwark Police Court, November 29th.—Labourer claimed damages for injuries to face and arm by an explosion of lime, which he was mixing in a pail, alleging that previous to the accident he had asked for a tub. Defence submitted that every precaution had been taken to prevent accident. Jury awarded £10.

London, Court of Appeal, November 13th.—A number of miners refuse to go down a pit in the same cages with non-unionist men, and their employers brought an action against them at the Petty Sessions for damages for breach of contract, and were awarded 5s. per each man. This decision was confirmed on appeal, both by the Divisional Court and the Court of Appeal, on the ground that the men had no right to impose as a condition of service that non-unionists should be provided with a separate cage for ascending and descending.

London, Court of Appeal, November 23rd.—Boy employed in brick-making works had hand injured by machins suddenly starting whilst he was cleaning it. The County Court judge decided that the working of machine was defective owing to negligence of foreman, and that there was a defect in the condition of the machine, and he gave judgment for plaintiff for £66 6s. The Divisional Court reversed this decision. Plaintiff by leave appealed, and the Court restored the judgment of the County Court.

(2) EMPLOYERS' AND WORKMEN ACTS.

Blackburn County Court, November 6th.—Weaver claimed 11s. wages earned, contending that being employed on "sick" work he was not bound by ordinary rules. Defendants counter-claimed for 12s. for leaving work without notice, pleading that although originally engaged as a "sick" weaver plaintiff was subsequently put on constant work. Verdict for plaintiff for amount claimed, and also on the counter-claim.

Southwark County Court, November 11th.—Corn porter sued (a test case) for 4d. for half-an-hour's meal time, having been instructed at 9 p.m. to assist in landing a barge-load of corn. The work occupied half-an-hour, and he claimed another half hour as allowance for supper-time under the rules. Judgment for plaintiff.

Plymouth County Court, November 15th.—Labourer, in a test case, claimed 3s. 6d., balance of wages due. An agreement between the local Master Builders' Association and the Builders' Labourers' Union had raised the standard rate of wages for builders' labourers from 4d. to 5d. per hour; but defendant employed plaintiff and others, and paid them at the lower rate. After a fortnight's work, plaintiff was discharged, and he claimed payment for 84 hours at 4d. per hour, the difference between the rate paid and the standard rate. For the defence it was contended that the employers had reserved in the agreement a right to pay a reduced rate to men who were not competent to earn full rate. Such men received 4d. per hour, but 75 per cent. were paid the standard rate of 5d., and some were paid 6d. per hour. The judge held that as no specific bargain had been made between plaintiff and defendant, the law implied a promise on the part of employer to pay a reasonable remuneration, and this had been mutually agreed upon by the two associations concerned to be 5d. per hour. Judgment for plaintiff.

Wolverhampton, November 15th.—Lockmaker was summoned for neglecting his work. He took home material for making a gross of locks, but returned neither locks nor materials. He was ordered to pay 17s. 8d. value of material, 6s. damages, and costs.

Glasgow Sheriff Court, November 16th.—Labourer sued a stevedore for damages for breach of a contract, whereby pursuer was to load a ship with 400 tons of coal at 1s. a ton, and also for the wages of eight men who had been kept waiting for 17 hours for the coals which were to be put on board. The sheriff held that, according to the custom of the port, pursuer was not entitled to wages for the men's time, but that defender was not entitled to deprive him of his contract without reasonable cause. Damages awarded, £3.

London, Guildhall, November 28th.—Cap trimmer claimed 15s., a week's wages in lieu of notice. Defence was that it was not a custom of the trade to give notice. Order made for 15s., and 3s. 6d. costs.

(3) TRADE UNION ACTS.

Dunfermline Sheriff Court, October 31st.—Miner pleaded guilty to a charge of appropriating £100 strike pay of members of Fife and Kinross Miners' Association, and was sentenced to 10 months' imprisonment.

Glasgow, Sheriff Small Debt Court, November 23rd.—Cabinet-maker sued two others for £12, as reparation for loss of employment, alleging that defenders formed a deputation to their employer whom they informed that if pursuer was not dismissed all the men would leave. Defenders, through counsel, objected to relevancy of action, stating that they were but the mouthpieces of all the workmen, and that there was no illegality in their action. The sheriff, after consideration, held that there was no legal wrong committed by the employer in dismissing pursuer, neither had any wrong been committed by defenders in refusing to work with him. Action dismissed with expenses to defenders.

(4) FRIENDLY SOCIETIES ACTS.

Westminster County Court, November 2nd.—Labourer having met with accident claimed nine days sick pay at 2s. per day from club to which he belonged; but was refused on the ground that he was drunk when accident occurred. Judgment for plaintiff.

Bishop Stortford, November 25th.—A member of Friendly Society declared on the funds with a certificate that he was suffering from an affection of the eyes and unable to work, and received sick pay, whereas he was following his occupation of porter. He was fined £5 and costs, and ordered to refund the amount defrauded, £2 8s.

INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN NOVEMBER.

I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

DURING the month of November, 173 prosecutions were instituted and 167 convictions obtained. Of these 167 convictions, 26 were for employing children under 14 without school certificate, or young persons under 16 without surgical certificate, the average penalty and costs inflicted being £1 6s. 5d. per case. For employing persons at illegal hours or for illegal periods, 75 convictions were obtained, with an average penalty and costs of £2 5s. 8d. For neglect of rules as to registers, abstracts, notices, &c., 48 convictions were secured, with an average penalty and costs of 17s. 9d.

PARTICULARS OF OFFENCES.	No. of Prosecutions.	No. of Convictions.	Total Amount of Penalties.		Total Amount of Costs.			
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
Neglecting to Limewash	1	1	0	10	0	0	10	6
Neglecting to Fence	9	9	75	0	0	7	2	6
Employment of Classes of Persons forbidden Under 14 without school certificates or under 16 without surgical certificates ...	27	26	16	15	6	17	10	9
Illegal Hours or Times of Employment. Before or after the legal hour	30	29	33	18	0	37	12	0
At night	7	7	12	10	0	6	9	9
During meal times, or without proper interval for meals	7	7	7	10	0	17	11	4
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted	22	21	29	16	0	14	6	6
On Sundays, holidays, or children on successive Saturdays	6	6	3	17	6	2	11	1
(Children) Full time or otherwise than in morning and afternoon sets, &c.	5	5	2	12	6	2	9	0
Neglecting Registers, Notices, &c. Not keeping registers	10	9	4	13	6	4	8	6
" affixing or properly filling up notices " and abstracts	29	28	10	13	6	11	15	2
" sending notices required by Act	12	11	5	18	0	5	1	6
Prosecution of Parents	2	2	0	10	0	0	13	6
Obstructing an Inspector	2	2	7	0	0	0	17	0
Information laid under Section 21 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1891	4	4	2	0	0	8	13	2
Totals for November 1893	173	167	213	4	6	137	18	1
Totals for October 1893	165	161	177	6	6	100	14	9

II.—Under the Mines Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Prosecutions.	Convictions.	Cases withdrawn.	Cases dismissed.	Fines and Costs imposed on Defendants.			
					£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
By Owners, Managers, &c.— Fencing	3	3	...	...	11	14	0
Ventilation	5	2	1	2	22	0	0	
Shafts and Manholes	6	6	...	...	5	17	0
Miscellaneous	8	1	2	5	11	6	...	
By Workmen— Safety Lamps	4	4	...	...	3	4	6
Shot-firing and Explosives	5	5	...	...	4	9	0
Timbering	2	2	...	...	2	14	6
Lucifer Matches, &c.	8	7	1	10	13	0
Miscellaneous	8	8	...	...	10	3	0
Totals... ..	49	38	3	8	71	6	6	

* In two of these cases a sentence of seven days' imprisonment with hard labour was inflicted.

III.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

The number of prosecutions by the Board of Trade, under the Merchant Shipping Acts, last month was 14, and in each case a conviction was obtained. Eleven of these prosecutions were against masters, one against an engineer, and two against boarding-house keepers.

Nature of Offence.	No. of Prosecutions.	No. of Convictions.	Total Penalties.		Total Costs.			
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
Overloading, &c.— (Master) Submerging disc... ..	7	7	80	0	0	13	18	11
(Master) Carrying excessive deck cargoes and passengers without certificate	2	2	10	0	0	0	13	6
(Master) Other offences connected with loading	1	1	£20,	including costs.		...	...	...
Illegal Supply of Seamen, &c.— (Boarding-house Keeper) Harbours foreign deserters and illegal boarding	2	2	27	10	0	2	10	6
Miscellaneous	2	2	5	5	0	7	12	11
Total	14	14	142	15	0	24	15	10

* Including costs in one case.

PAUPERISM IN NOVEMBER.

(Based on information supplied by the Local Government Boards in England and Ireland, of the Board of Supervision in Scotland, and of the Scotch Office.)

The figures given below show, as usual, a comparison between the amount of pauperism in selected districts of the United Kingdom at the middle of last month and on the corresponding date of last year respectively. It should be noted that the day to which the figures relate was before the termination of the great coal dispute, which for many weeks exercised a marked influence on pauperism in many districts.

Between the middle of October and November pauperism increased in all the London districts, more particularly in the Central District and the South. There was also a further marked increase in West Ham, the proportion per 10,000 of population having risen from 210 in September and 230 in October to 281 in November. In the provinces there were considerable increases in the Wigan, Stockton and Tees and Barnsley districts, the increases of pauperism per 10,000 of population being 90, 36 and 26 respectively, as compared with the previous month. The only district in England, of which particulars are here given, in which there has been a decrease in pauperism, is Bristol, where the rate has fallen from 371 in October to 359 in November.

A change has this month been made in the statistics of Scottish pauperism. Hitherto the number of poor chargeable to the Parochial Boards named has been shown, irrespective of residence. The present figures represent the number residing in each district, no matter what the parish of chargeability may be. Future tables will be made up on the same principle.

District.	Population in 1891.	Paupers on one day in second week of November 1893.			Total No. of Paupers on corresponding date in 1892.
		In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.	
ENGLAND & WALES.†					
Metropolis.					
West District	740,735	10,392	2,225	12,617	170
North District	993,884	13,670	9,702	23,372	235
Central District	247,538	7,530	3,550	11,110	432
East District	705,114	13,072	4,916	17,988	255
South District	1,524,472	19,915	17,371	37,286	245
Total Metropolis	4,211,743	64,679	37,774	102,453	243
West Ham	365,134	1,663	8,593	10,256	281
Other Districts.					
Newcastle District	330,005	1,543	4,380	5,923	179
Stockton & Tees District	152,999	1,149	8,959	7,408	369
Bolton, Oldham, &c.	689,210	3,140	8,053	11,193	162
Wigan District	350,206	1,376	11,911	13,287	379
Manchester District	799,024	8,098	6,440	14,538	182
Liverpool District	860,362	9,567	8,422	17,989	209
Bradford District	341,887	1,124	3,945	5,069	148
Halifax & Huddersfield	353,681	1,681	4,544	6,225	159
Leeds District	387,044	1,738	5,734	7,472	193
Barnsley District	187,233	817	3,943	4,760	254
Sheffield District	342,582	2,363	4,416	6,779	198
Hull District	213,689	1,168	4,828	5,996	221
North Staffordshire	307,805	1,745	6,000	7,745	252
* Nottingham District	331,458	1,477	5,025	6,502	196
Leicester District	174,624	1,150	2,509	3,659	210
Wolverhampton District	522,906	3,230	14,158	17,388	333
Birmingham District	504,408	4,233	1,874	6,107	121
Bristol District	286,217	2,428	9,288	11,716	359
Cardiff & Swansea	286,122	1,625	5,319	6,944	241
Total "Other Districts"	7,493,364	49,053	116,748	165,801	221
SCOTLAND.†					
Glasgow District	772,917	3,410	12,633	16,043	208
Paisley & Greenock Distr't	150,216	705	2,033	2,738	182
Edinburgh & Leith Distr't	332,655	1,260	4,510	5,770	173
Dunfermline	186,026	885	2,301	3,186	171
Aberdeen	123,327	453	2,260	2,713	220
Coatbridge & Airdrie	78,476	253	848	1,101	140
Total for the above Scot-tish Districts	1,643,617	6,966	24,585	31,551	192
IRELAND.†					
Dublin District	349,705	5,805	2,407	8,302	237
Celfast District	289,860	3,370	308	3,678	127
Cork, Waterford, & Limerick Districts	252,092	4,689	6,626	11,315	449
Galway District	38,719	374	335	709	183
Total for the above Irish Districts	930,376	14,238	9,766	24,004	258

* These figures represent 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. Vagrants in the Metropolis numbered 1,077 on one day in November 1893, and 1,023 on the corresponding date in November 1892.

‡ Excluding Casuals, but including persons maintained in Institutions for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, &c., who are classified as not able-bodied.

LABOUR BUREAUX.*

LABOUR Bureaux or Employment Registries for members of various trades do not at present play a part in English industry comparable to that which they fulfil in France and elsewhere. Many institutions and organizations which cannot properly be described as labour bureaux include among their functions that of assisting their members to obtain work, but the "Labour Bureau" as a special and separate institution, intended to centralize the demand and supply of labour, is hardly as yet naturalized in this country, except in a few special cases. Private registries are chiefly confined to agencies for domestic servants.

Counting both permanent and temporary registries the Labour Department has received information as to the work of 25 labour bureaux under public or quasi-public management during last winter, 1892-3. Of these 15 were temporary registries, leaving 10 which may be regarded as more or less permanent bureaux, viz., at Ipswich, Egham, Chelsea, Battersea, St. Pancras, Camberwell, Westminster, Bloomsbury, Wolverhampton, and Salford. It is possible, however, that this list is not exhaustive.

The temporary registries were for the most part started during the winter by London Vestries and other local authorities in connection with schemes for the municipal provision of employment. In London the local authorities were requested by the Trades Council to open these registries. In several cases the lists of names registered were merely used for the purpose of selecting men to be employed by the local authority, and no attempt was made to find outside employment for those registered. In other cases the registries were used for a double purpose: for supplying men both to the local authority and to such private employers as chose to apply.

Of permanent labour bureaux there are two main classes to be considered: those which accept all local applicants for registration, and those which sift the applicants by some kind of inquiry more or less stringent. It is clear that the class of persons benefited by the bureau will depend largely on the extent to which this sifting process is carried. Where nearly all comers are admitted registration is no guarantee either of character or capacity, while the fact that a man has had to have recourse to the bureau is, to employers, *prima facie* evidence that he is not a satisfactory workman. Consequently employers often hesitate to avail themselves of the bureau, the register becomes choked with names of persons whom no one will employ if he can help it, until finally the bureau may become merely a centre for the supply of casual labourers and lads for odd jobs, or a cheap registry for domestic servants.

On the other hand, the bureau which tests its applicants by inquiry thereby narrows its range of usefulness to the efficient members of the industrial army, and deliberately excludes the class of persons who form the bulk of the so-called "unemployed" class and with whom, as a rule, relief works deal. This is admitted fully by those who advocate a policy of discrimination, and it is held to be most undesirable to mix up the functions of a labour exchange with those of a relief-agency.

While, however, the bureau which institutes strict inquiries does not register so many applicants as that which is open to all, it usually finds work for a larger percentage, and is more likely to be utilised by good workmen and good employers.

Among the bureaux which admit all local applicants for registration are those managed by certain London Vestries, while the labour bureaux under voluntary management at Ipswich and Egham make enquiries with a view to enable the managers to recommend each man on the books to employers as "a competent workman and of good character."

Turning to particular labour bureaux, we find that the

* Based on information published in the Report by the Labour Department on Agencies and Methods for dealing with the Unemployed, pp. 99-119.

first to be established in England (at least, among those still in existence) was that at Egham, which was opened in February 1885 under voluntary management.

The registrar only enters the names of those whom he considers *bona fide* workmen out of employment, and as he is acquainted with most persons in the district, formal inquiries are hardly necessary. No compulsory charge is made for registration. The initial rule of the registry is "that the registrar shall scrupulously abstain from interference in any question of wages or conditions of service, or labour troubles."

From October 1st 1891 to December 31st 1892, 382 names were registered, and 289 persons were placed in situations, among whom were 34 gardeners, 24 bricklayers, 62 carpenters, 30 painters, 18 stablemen, and 93 general labourers. Besides the work of finding situations, loans are granted in special cases to redeem tools out of pawn, or to take families to other districts. About 75 per cent. of the money so advanced is repaid.

The Ipswich Bureau was opened in October 1885, and during the year ended October 31st 1892, 458 applicants were registered and employment found for 291, of whom 73 were general labourers, 51 porters and messengers, 23 stablemen and horsemen, 22 gardeners, 20 carmen, 12 in various branches of the Building Trade, 11 in Engineering and Metal Trades, and 57 were boys.

The bureau is under voluntary management, registration is free, and the expenses of the bureau, which amounted to £98 11s. 3d. during the year 1891-2, are met by voluntary subscriptions. The bureau is confined to men and lads.

At Salford the labour bureau came into existence during last winter as an effort to relieve distress caused by the scarcity of employment. It is now managed by the Corporation. From December 19th 1892 to June 19th 1893, 1,456 names were registered, and 295 were found employment (either permanent or temporary).

The Chelsea Labour Bureau under the control of the vestry, was founded in October 1891, and is accommodated rent free in the vestry offices. During the year 1892, 3,402 names were registered, and employment (either temporary or permanent) was found for 1,649, of whom 668 were domestic servants, 290 charwomen, 150 boys, 121 labourers, and the remaining 420 men and women belonging to various trades and industries.

The St. Pancras Bureau was started in January last, and from its establishment up to August 31st registered 3,297 applicants, for 446 of whom it found employment. Of these 446, 93 were general labourers, 36 porters and messengers, 20 carmen, 39 domestic servants, and 125 were boys. At the beginning 20 branch offices were opened, but the use made of these decreased after a time, and the whole work of the bureau is now centralised in one office. The cost of the bureau is stated by the superintendent to be about £2 a week.

The Battersea Bureau is conducted in premises provided by the vestry, by which it is maintained. It was opened in December 1892, and during the succeeding six months the names of 1,948 men and boys, and 367 women were registered, and 447 men and boys and 122 women have been placed in situations, either permanent or temporary.

Other labour bureaux of less importance are described in the report on which this account is based, and full statistics of the occupations of persons registered at the various bureaux and of those placed in situations are also given, together with specimens of the forms employed.

The Unemployed in London in 1892-3.—An analysis of the numbers and occupations of persons who registered themselves during the winter 1892-3 as "unemployed," at nine temporary labour registries opened by local authorities in London, shows the following results:—Total number registered was 5,218, of whom 5,069 were men; 3,152 were stated to be general labourers, 329 carmen, &c., 305 porters and messengers, 167 builders' labourers, 247 painters, 166 other members of the Building Trades, 131 Engineering and Metal Trades, 107 Woodwork Trades, 33 Printing Trades, 66 Clothing Trades, and the remaining 515 to various miscellaneous occupations.

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN NOVEMBER.

ON the whole the past month has been favourable for farming operations. Reports, however, received as to the state of employment for labourers are still not encouraging. In another column will be found an account of many of the chief hiring fairs held during the month in various districts, from which it will be seen that there has been a somewhat general tendency to a fall in the annual rates for male labour.

The County Council Times reports that the Holland (Lincolnshire) County Council has allotted the land recently purchased for small holdings to 31 out of 52 applicants. The allotment was made by ballot. A further offer of land to the Council is under consideration.

The West Sussex County Council has decided to purchase 29½ acres of land near Rudgwick for small holdings.

Imports of Corn and Hay.—The total imports of corn into the United Kingdom during November 1893 and 1892 were as follows:—

	November 1893. Cwts.	November 1892. Cwts.
Wheat	4,523,624	6,103,736
Wheatmeal and Flour	1,346,768	1,865,100
Barley	3,495,184	1,860,414
Oats	1,379,240	1,505,632
Peas	277,411	323,600
Beans	325,752	298,414
Maize	2,005,849	2,170,285

The imports of hay during the month were 41,047 tons, as compared with 7,740 tons in November 1892. Of the amount imported last month 12,258 tons came from the United States, and 15,768 from Canada. In October 1893, 28,923 tons were imported.

Prices of British Corn.—At the end of November 1893 the average prices of British corn per quarter were as follows:—Wheat, 27s.; barley, 28s. 8d.; oats, 18s. 3d.; compared with 27s. 6d. wheat, 29s. 6d. barley, and 18s. 2d. oats at the end of October. The price of British wheat on the average of the five weeks ending December 2nd was 27s. 2½d. per quarter, compared with 27s. 10½d. in the corresponding period of 1892.

THE AUTUMN HIRINGS OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS.

IN the last number of the GAZETTE an account was given of some of the autumn hirings of agricultural labourers which had already taken place. During the past month a large number of additional hiring fairs have been held, especially in Yorkshire and the Northern counties, and in Scotland. The following particulars relating to some of the principal of these hirings have been partly collected by labour correspondents of the Board of Trade. In the districts marked with an asterisk the information is derived from the local press, and the figures have no official authority; in other cases it has been obtained by direct inquiry.

In England (except where a special period is mentioned below), the rates are for a twelvemonth; in Scotland for six months. A considerable variation in the wages obtained at the fairs will be observed not only as between different districts, but even in the same district. The rates of wages obtained at the fairs are affected by many influences. Thus the demand for men, the known skill or experience of the labourer, the size of the farm, the class of work of which the farmer may make a speciality, even the state of the weather on fair day may all influence the rate of wages; while it may also be affected where the yearly servants are boarded and lodged by the farmer, by the reputation of the farmer for maintaining a fair standard of comfort for his men, or as it is termed in Yorkshire, "good meating." It should be noted that both farmers and labourers often visit the various fairs for several miles around, and the engagement of a man at a particular fair does not necessarily imply that he is to be employed in that district.

On the whole, it appears that in the English districts the rates for men have tended to fall, while those for female servants have been maintained. In Scotland, in most districts the rates for male labour have fallen as compared with those prevailing for the past six months, but as the latter were the summer months the comparison is not an exact one.

In all cases the wages given are in addition to board and lodging.

ENGLAND.

Yorkshire.—York, November 23rd and 25th: A large supply of labour, but in consequence of the forward state of farm work, not a very keen demand for male servants. Yearly wages somewhat lower than in 1892, being as follows:—

Foremen ...	£18 to £27	Plough lads ...	£10 to £16
Second men ...	£16 to £20	Boys, 1st and 2nd ...	£5 to £10
Stockmen ...	£12 to £18	year ...	£5 to £10
Wagoners ...	£18 to £20	Female Servants ...	£16 to £20

North Riding.—*Bedale, November 18th: Fairly good supply of servants. Yearly wages about as follows:—

Foremen ...	£18 to £22	Lads ...	£9 to £14
Strong youths ...	£14 to £16	Boys ...	£6 to £8

*Guisboro'.—November 14th: Fair number of male servants, girls scarce. Yearly wages were:—

Farm men ...	up to £20	Women ...	£10 to £15
Plough boys ...	£8 to £14	Girls ...	£6 to £9
Boys ...	£3 to £8		

Malton.—November 25th: Good supply of male servants, but scarcity of good female servants. Yearly wages rather lower than in 1892:—

Foremen ...	£23 to £32	Plough lads ...	£10 to £14
Second men ...	£15 to £19	Boys ...	£7 to £10
Stockmen ...	£15 to £19	Female Servants ...	£11 to £18
Wagoners ...	£13 to £19		

*Pickering.—November 27th: A large attendance of servants, but work being well advanced, farmers less anxious to hire male servants; female servants sought after. Yearly wages as follows:—

Foremen ...	£23 to £27	Strong lads ...	up to £17
Second men or wagoners ...	£18 to £22		

*Richmond.—November 18th: Very little hiring done. Yearly wages as follows:—

Foremen ...	£26 to £27	Boys ...	£5 10s. to £12
Second men ...	£21	Female servants ...	£12 to £20
Plough lads ...	£15 to £18	Young girls ...	£5 to £12

*Scarborough.—November 23rd: Very little hiring done. Yearly wages as follows:—

Foremen ...	£32 to £35	Female servants ...	£17 to £20
Wagoners ...	£20 to £22	Dairymaids ...	£14 to £16
Shepherds ...	£17 to £29	Young girls ...	£6 to £10
Young lads ...	£13 to £14		

Thirsk.—November 27th: Not a very keen demand for male servants, and yearly wages lower than usual:—

Foremen ...	£21 to £24	Boys ...	£7 to £9
Second men ...	£16 to £18	Female Servants ...	£14 to £20
Plough lads ...	£11 to £14		

*Whitby.—November 11th: Poor demand for male labour, a good deal remaining unhired; good female servants very scarce. Yearly wages:—

Foremen ...	£22 to £25	Boys ...	£5 to £7
Second men ...	£16 to £18	Strong young girls ...	£10 to £12
Plough lads ...	£8 to £12		

East Riding.—*Driffield, November 13th: Large attendance of male servants, but female servants scarce; not very much hiring of male servants. Yearly wages as follows:—

Foremen ...	£24 to £30	Plough lads ...	£9 to £15
Shepherds ...	£17 to £24	Boys ...	£6 to £8
Wagoners ...	£17 to £20		

*Howden.—November 14th: Largely attended, but business not brisk. Yearly wages were:—

Foremen ...	£20 to £25	Good hinds ...	£14
Second hands ...	£18	Boys ...	£8 to £10

*Market Weighton.—Farmers being well forward with their work were not disposed to give the wages asked,

and, consequently, but few engagements were effected. The yearly wages obtained were:—

Foremen	£20 to £30	Upper girls	£16 to £20
Wagoners	£18 to £20	Kitchen girls... ..	£12 to £16
Plough lads	£13 to £15	Young girls	£7 to £10
Young lads	£6 to £10		

West Riding—**Boroughbridge*, November 11th: Small supply of young men and girls. Yearly wages:—

Foremen	£23 to £25	Head girls	£15 to £16
Plough boys	£15 to £18	Young girls	£6 to £8
Lads	£5 to £8		

**Doncaster*.—November 22nd: Good attendance of male servants, but hirings slow; few female servants. Yearly wages were:—

Foremen	£20 to £25	Thirds	£10 to £15
Second men	£16 to £18	Lads	£6 to £9

**Goole*.—November 29th: Yearly wages as follows:—

Foremen	£25 to £30	Female servants	£10 to £16
Labourers	£16 to £20	Young girls	£6 to £8
Lads	£6 to £10		

Knarborough.—November 29th: Moderate attendance, and few engagements made; female servants very scarce. Yearly wages were:—

Foremen	£20 to £26	Boys	£6 to £10
Second men	£15 to £21	Female servants	£16 to £20
Plough lads	£9 to £16	Young girls	£7 to £11

**Rotherham*.—Servants numerous, but few engagements and wages rather lower. Yearly rates were:—

Head wagoners	£20	Boys	£6 to £8
Second men	£14 to £16	First-class Female hands up to	£12
Cowmen	£10 to £12	Female servants	£5 to £8

Selby.—November 27th: Large attendance of male servants; female servants scarce. Yearly wages were:—

Foremen	£23 to £30	Second men	£17 to £22
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Wetherby.—November 30th: Good supply of male labour. Yearly wages as follows:—

Foremen	£19 to £25	Boys	£5 to £11
Second hands	£17 to £21	Servant girls	£8 to £20
Plough lads	£12 to £19		

Northumberland.—**Newcastle*, November 6th: Demand for male servants slow; for female servants good. Yearly rates:—

Experienced labourers	£14 to £16	Good female workers	£7 10s. to £9
Young men	£12	Young girls	£4 to £5 10s.
Boys	£5		

Durham.—**Darlington*, November 21st: Hiring rather slow, farmers hiring as few men as possible; downward tendency in men's wages, but female servants commanded good terms. Yearly wages:—

Foremen	£22 to £24	Smaller lads	£8 to £10
Second men	£16 to £20	Female servants	£17 to £20
Strong youths for ploughing	£12 to £14		

Cumberland.—**Penrith*.—November 14th: Large number of servants, engagements were slow; wages reduced. Half-yearly rates were:—

First-class men	£12 to £14	Dairywomen	£10 to £12
Second-class men... ..	£9 to £12	Girls	£3 to £6
Strong youths	£9 to £11		

Westmoreland.—**Appleby*.—November 11th: Unusual supply of labourers; women servants more scarce; men's wages reduced, women and girls the same. Half-yearly rates:—

Men (known)	£10 to £12	Women (accustomed to manage)	£8 to £11
Men (strangers)	£9 to £10	Young girls	£4 to £7
Youths	£3 to £7		

**Kendal*.—November 11th: The principal fair in the county; inclination to reduce wages, but good demand for female labour. Half-yearly rates:—

Men (best)	£13 to £15 10s.	Women (second rate)	£7 10 to £10 10s.
Men (second)	£9 to £11 10s.	Girls	£4 10s. to £5
Youths and lads	£4 10s. to £7		
Dairy maids (good)	£12 to £13 10s.		

Lincolnshire.—**Gainsborough*.—November 14th: Poor attendance and little hiring. Yearly wages asked were:—

Foremen	£24 to £30	Cooks & housemaids	£14 to £20
Shepherds	£17 to £24	Kitchen maids willing to milk	£10 to £14
Wagoners	£17 to £20	Girls just going out	£7 to £9
Plough lads	£9 to £15		
Young lads	£6 to £8		

Northamptonshire.—**Ketford*.—Not much hiring except for female servants; wages of farm men reduced. Yearly rates:—

Men	£14 to £20	Women	£10 to £16
Youths	£7 to £10	Girls	£6 to £9
Young boys	£6 to £8		

SCOTLAND.

Elgin.—**Elgin*.—November 24th: A good attendance, half-yearly wages were:—

Foremen	£16 to £17	Third horsemen	£12 10s. to £14
First horsemen	£15 to £16	Cattlemen	£15 to £16
Second horsemen... ..	£14 to £15		

**Ferres*.—November 25th: Poor attendance, and best hands commanded good wages. Half-yearly rates:—

Foremen in charge	£16 to £18	Cattlemen	£14 10s. to £16
Foremen	£15 to £16 10s.	Halfhins... ..	£9 to £10 10s.
Second hands	£12 10s. to £15	Boys	£5 to £8
Third hands... ..	£11 10s. to £13	Female servants	£6 10s. to £8

Banffshire.—**Banff*.—November 24th: A good attendance; wages had downward tendency, engagements being made at 20s. lower than former wage; there were no female servants for hire. Half-yearly wages were:—

Foremen	£13 to £16	Halfhins	£9 to £10
Second horsemen... ..	£10 to £12	Boys	£7 10s.
Cattlemen	£15 to £16		

**Keith*.—November 24th: Hiring was stiff for adults and wages were lower, but there was a good demand for halfhins and boys. Half-yearly wages were:—

Foremen	£12 to £16	Boys	£6 to £8
Second men	£9 to £11		

Aberdeenshire.—**Aberdeen*.—November 24th: The largest attendance for some years, but in consequence of the forward state of farm work wages were reduced by from 30s. to 40s., and a good number of men failed to obtain places; female servants very scarce. Half-yearly wages were:—

First horsemen (including man in charge)	£14 to £16	Cattlemen	£14 to £16
Second horsemen... ..	£12 to £14	Halfhins	£9 to £12
Third horsemen	£11 to £13	Boys	£6 to £8

Huntley.—November 23rd: Female servants scarce, but large attendance of male servants; farm work being well advanced, a good many men failed to obtain engagements; where men changed their situations they sustained a reduction of from 15s. to 20s. Half-yearly wages ruled as follows:—

Overseers	£15 10s. to £16	Halfhins	£7 to £9
First horsemen	£14 10s. to £15	Kitchen maids	£7 to £7 10s.
Second horsemen... ..	£12 10s. to £13	Housemaids	£5 to £6
Third horsemen	£11 to £12 10s.	Girls from 15 years of age	£4
Cattlemen — not being cottars	£14 10s. to £15		

**Insch*.—November 24th: A considerable demand for lads and boys, and wages were well maintained; female servants were scarce. Half-yearly wages were:—

First horsemen, £14 to £15, with extra £1 if in charge.	£14 to £15	Proficient cattlemen	£12 to £15
Second horsemen	£11 to £13 10s.	Boys	£5 to £9
Third horsemen, mostly halfhins	£9 to £10 10s.	Good women	£6 to £8
		Girls	£3 to £6

**Turriff*.—November 25th: Not much demand, except for halfhins and boys; servants changing places sustained a reduction of about 10s. The half-yearly wages were:—

Foremen	£14 to £16	Cattlemen	£12 to £14
Second horsemen	£12 10s. to £13 10s.	Lads and halfhins... ..	£6 to £10
Third horsemen	£11 to £12 10s.		

Kincardineshire.—**Stonehaven*, November 23rd: Many engagements were made, and notwithstanding the forward state of farm work, wages continued fairly high, but servants changing situations sustained reductions of from 10s. to 20s. from summer wages. The half-yearly rates of wages were:—

Foremen	£15 to £16	Ploughmen	£12 to £14 10s.
Cattlemen	£14 to £15	Boys	£5 to £10

THE AGRICULTURAL LABOURER IN SCOTLAND.*

A REPORT to the Labour Commission by Mr. R. H. Pringle on the arable districts of Fife, Kinross and Clackmannan, Mid and East Lothian and the Beaully district of Inverness-shire, and Ross-shire, states that the supply of labourers is smaller in the Western part of Fife district than in the Lothians or about Beaully. This applies both to male and female labourers. Women are scarce in Haddington and Beaully, except near towns, and almost unobtainable in Clackmannan, the difference being entirely due to the numerous industries between Leven and Stirling giving employment to females. In the Lothians casual labourers are in considerable demand at certain seasons, and there is no difficulty in obtaining them from neighbouring towns. So many of the towns in the Fife district are seats of manufactures, &c., that day labourers are not easily had. In the Beaully district casual labourers are not in great request at any time. In the Lothians Irish immigrants come about the beginning of summer, and remain until the potato crop is harvested in October; they very rarely visit either Fife or Beaully districts. Yearly or half-yearly engagements and constant employment, coupled with an upstanding wage, paid whether well and at work or sick and in bed, are general all over the seven counties reported upon; but there are many advocates for, and supporters of, indefinite engagements and short notices in the vicinity of mines and manufacturing towns. The price paid for farm labour is very nearly the same throughout Fife, Kinross, Clackmannan, Haddington, and Edinburgh, but in the Beaully district wages are 17.5 per cent. below the average run of Fife and the Lothians, and the hours of work are rather longer.

Mr. Wilkinson, reporting on the counties of Berwickshire and Roxburghshire, and the hill districts of Selkirkshire, Peeblesshire, and Dumfriesshire, compares the condition of the agricultural labourer in these districts with that of the agricultural labourer in the North of England. In both cases the custom of yearly engagements is common, but it prevails more in Scotland, where also the wages are upstanding and paid in spite of absence through illness, which is not the case in England. There is not much difference in the number of hours worked, but it seems rather less in Scotland than in England. Whether paid all in cash or partly in kind, or by way of allowances, the wages of the farm servant in these districts of Scotland are as a rule somewhat higher than in England.

THE AGRICULTURAL LABOURER IN IRELAND.†

A REPORT of Mr. A. Wilson Fox to the Labour Commission deals with the Westport, Castlereagh, Skibbereen and Delvin Unions. In all four unions agriculture is practically the only industry, except that in Skibbereen the people near the coast are engaged in the mackerel fishing from the beginning of April to the beginning of July, and again from the beginning of September to the end of October; those who take part in the fishing are frequently small farmers or their sons, or agricultural labourers. There are no tillage farms of any size in the Westport Union, and therefore there is no continuous employment for labourers; the most regular employers of the Westport Union labourers are Lancashire, Warwickshire and Cheshire farmers, who often give them work in England for six or nine months in the year. The men return to their families for the winter, when they do very little beyond assisting in ploughing and sowing. The people frequently spin their wool and make clothes for themselves. The position of the small holders much depends on the earnings members of their families may be making in England, Scotland or America. Without this extraneous assistance many of them could not support their families on their holdings. In the Castlereagh Union there are both landlords and farmers who give regular employment and perquisites in addition to wages, but there is not sufficient employment in the Union to support the population, and in 1892, 40.1 per 1,000 of the population were migratory labourers, and 17.3 per 1,000 emigrated. The labourers in the Skibbereen Union are in much the same position, but they have the advantage of Union cottages, and also the assistance of the mackerel fishery, which may be one reason for there being no migration to English or Scotch farms. The position of the labourers in the Delvin Union is much superior to those in the

other three Unions, not because the rate of wages is higher, but because work is more regular, perquisites more frequently given, and cottages far superior. The land is also much more productive. There is no migration to England and Scotland, and emigration has been decreasing for the last six years. A comparison between the labourers in these districts and that of labourers in Norfolk and Suffolk shows that the English labourers are much better off. Mr. Fox analyses the causes of the differences in the four districts, and estimates the improvement in the condition of the people during the last 20 years.

Mr. R. McCrea's report deals with eleven Unions, including part of each of the Ulster counties, part of four counties in Leinster and two in Connaught. In the manufacturing districts of Downpatrick and Cookstown the supply of agricultural labour is scarcely equal to the demand. These are both seats of the linen manufacture, and in Downpatrick there are other industries competing with the farmer for the services of the workmen. In all the other districts of inquiry there is a sufficient supply of agricultural labour, and in several places a distinct want of employment. Where there is a preponderance of tillage the employment is most regular, and where meadow is the principal crop there is an excessive demand for labour in hay time, and a corresponding slackness in winter. Labourers are engaged (a) by the year, "wet or dry," generally with perquisites; (b) half-yearly with board and lodging; (c) half-yearly, outdoor, boarded, and sometimes with cottage, garden and potato ground; (d) by the day or week, being generally boarded on small farms, but not so frequently on large holdings. There is a growing indisposition on the part of women and girls to field labour, except on their own holdings. Wages rule higher in the Northern and Eastern than in the Midland and Western districts.

CO-OPERATION IN NOVEMBER.

SEVEN new Co-operative Societies have been registered during November, four of them being for distribution, three for production. The names of these are given in another column. In one of the distributive, and in two of the productive societies, there are special features of interest. The rules of the Independent Labour Party Co-operative Society provide that 10 per cent. of the profits shall be used to repay and extinguish all shares over one held by the members, and 60 per cent. in promoting the objects of the party from which the society takes its name, members of which are alone eligible to join. The rules of the Forward Birmingham Boot and Shoe Operatives' Productive Society limit its membership to trade unionists, and provide that workers for the society shall receive the trade union rate of wages. Interest upon shares is limited to 5 per cent. for the first 20 years, after which no further interest shall be paid. There will be no division of profits to workers.

The rules of the Photographic Co-operative Society provide that shareholders shall be paid a total of £1 per share by yearly instalments of 5 per cent. out of profits, and after this total of 100 per cent. has been paid the shareholders shall draw no dividend.

A return of the hours and wages of employees in the service of eleven co-operative societies comprising the South Durham district of the Co-operative Union, presented to a conference on November 25th, shows that the average hours of these employees were 50½ per week.

During the month one distributive society has purchased building land for sixty-three of its members, who will repay the purchase-money out of the dividends accruing to them upon their store purchases; while another society has purchased land to let to its members in allotments.

The report and balance-sheet of the English Co-operative Wholesale Society for the quarter ended September 23rd shows that the total sales for the period amounted to £2,464,886, an increase over the corresponding period of last year of 3½ per cent., but that the net profits, after due provision had been made for interest on capital, depreciation and all other expenses, for the quarter, amounted to £1,467 only, as against £25,335 for the corresponding period last year.

The report and balance-sheet of the Scottish Wholesale Society for the quarter ended September 30th, shows that the sales for the quarter amounted to £791,889, an increase over the corresponding period of last year of 1.3 per cent, the net profits, after allowing for interest on capital and all other charges, to £16,316, as compared with £23,811 for the corresponding quarter of last year. During the quarter 381 shares have been allocated to thirty of the employees of the society.

* The Agricultural Labourer, Vol. III., Scotland, Part II., 1893. (C.—6894—xvi.) Price 1s. 6d.

† The Agricultural Labourer. Vol. IV.—Ireland Part IV. (C.—6,894—XXI.) Price 1s. 2d., and Part I. C.—6,894—XVIII.) Price 1s. 1d.

TRADE DISPUTES OF THE MONTH.

THE 35 new disputes occurring in November is the smallest number recorded for several months. In the Building Trade 5 disputes took place, all of which were due to wages disagreements, or to dissatisfaction with colleagues, non-unionists or otherwise. In the Clothing Trades 6 of the 7 disputes were connected with wages, the remaining one in the Boot and Shoe Trade in Bristol being principally connected with the question of boy labour. Of the 7 Mining Trade disputes the attempt of the miners in West Scotland to obtain an advance in wages of 1s. per day, and a sympathetic strike of 700 miners in Northumberland, are most prominent in point of interest. In the Shipbuilding Trade the 3 stoppages were due to disputes between bodies of workmen. Of the 10 disputes in the Textile Trades 5 arose out of wages questions, and the remainder presented no unusual features. In at least 4 of the 10 disputes the operatives concerned were females. Of the disputes which commenced in previous months 9 terminated in November, including the great Coal Trade dispute. Three important disputes, which had been in progress several months, were partially settled, and at the end of the month it was known that 22 previously reported disputes were still unsettled.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN NOVEMBER 1893.

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	No. of Firms or Establishments.	Approximate No. of Persons affected.	Date of Commencement.	Date of Termination.	Result.
Building Trades.							
Painters ...	London, S.W.	Objection to reversion to ordinary wages rate on completion of a portion of the job for which extra payment had been given as "danger" money	1	60	Nov. 4	Nov. 6	Work resumed at the ordinary rate of wages.
Masons ...	Edinburgh	Against employment of four non-Union men on a particular job	1	96	8	20	The non-unionists agreed to join the Masons' Union. Still unsettled.
Bricklayers ...	York	Against employment of sub-contractors and of masons upon brick walling	1	20	10	...	...
Masons ...	Kirkcaldy	Against proposed reduction in wages of 1/4d. per hour	2	72	25	29	Notice of reduction withdrawn.
Builders ...	New South-gate	Objection to employment of a certain man	1	...	...	...	No details of settlement.
Clothing Trades.							
Hemstitchers (females)	Belfast	Against proposed reduction in wages of about 2s. per week	1	80	9	13	Work resumed at a reduction of about 1s. per week.
Tailoresses ...	Leeds	Against reduction in wages of 6d. per dozen garments	1	130	13	15	Reduction of 3d. per dozen accepted on garments for making which upwards of 6d. each was paid. Still unsettled.
Boot and Shoe Operatives	Bristol	Men having joined Union. Also dispute as to interpretation of the award of Sir H. James with respect to the limitation of boy labour	1	50	24	...	...
Boot and Shoe Riveters and Finishers	Plymouth	Against proposed introduction of the Northampton "statement" of prices	1	20	Middle of Nov.	Dec. not stated	Agreement to manufacture in the future goods of a different class, and to be paid for them according to the Northampton "statement" of prices. Still unsettled.
Boot and Shoe Repairers	Wallsend-on-Tyne	Against reduction in wages, equal to 6s. in the £	1	4	27	...	...
Boot and Shoe Operatives	Kingswood	Alleged payment at less than the "statement" prices of the district	1	100	29	Dec. 1	Firm agreed to pay according to the statement arranged.
Slipper Makers...	Manchester	For advance in wages which had been generally granted in the trade	4	...	...	...	No details of settlement.
Metal Trades.							
Iron Pipe Foundry Labourers	Maryhill, Glasgow	Against proposed reduction of 10s. in certain piece-work prices, and alterations in other portions of price list	1	150	14	Nov. 20	Concessions made on both sides in several cases, and the proposed reduction withdrawn. Agreement to last for twelve months.
Mining.							
Coal Miners ...	Dukinfield	To compel day-wage men to join Union, and pay the levy of 1s. per day to miners who were still in dispute	1	400	10	13	Work resumed on previous terms, in expectation of a general settlement being arrived at.
Ditto ...	Rowland's Gill, Durham	Against non-union labour, and alleged infringement of working agreement	1	100	15	17	Mutual arrangement as to non-union labour, and grievances as to working agreement.
Ditto ...	Backworth, Northumberland	In support of the claim of four men to be allowed to complete what was stated to be a contract in getting certain coal, or to be paid the difference in wages	1	700	18	Dec. 4	Compensation of £5 granted to the four men in question.
Ditto ...	West of Scotland	For advance in wages of 1s. per day	1	32,000	23	9	Work resumed at previous rate of wages till February 1st 1894.
Ditto ...	Near Stockport	Alleged failure of employers to pay a promised advance of 3d. per day	1	...	27	...	No details of settlement.
Ditto ...	Tranent	For dismissal of a man who refused to pay a levy to men on dispute in a neighbouring mine	1	100	27	27	Man in question paid up his levy, and the miners made up for the lost day by working on the next "idle" day.
Ditto ...	Coylton, Ayrshire	Against withdrawal of conveyance to and from colliery	1	35	13	Nov. 18	Work resumed by some men, the expense of the conveyance to work being partly borne by them. The dispute afterwards resolved itself into the general Scotch strike.
Shipbuilding.							
Shipwrights ...	Walker-on-Tyne	Against alleged infringement of a demarcation of work agreement, labourers having been employed to lift the portable ceiling in the oil tanks of a vessel	1	139 dir. 300 indir.	13	20	Work resumed on an agreement that shipwrights should fit the ceilings, and labourers carry the same to and fro.
Platers' Helpers ...	Leith	Objection to loss of wages on voluntary reduction by platers of their winter hours from 54 to 46 1/2, the helpers being employed and paid by the platers	1	30	13	15	Work resumed on the platers' terms.
Ditto ...	Stockton-on-Tees	Against demand of platers that the number of helpers in each squad should be increased by one	1	55	15	25	Demand of platers withdrawn.
Textile Trades.							
Willeys (Woollen manufacture)	Near Dewsbury	Against introduction of piece working	1	4	1	...	Replaced by non-unionists.
Lace Weavers (females)	Govan	For advance in wages of 1s. 2d. per 45 yards	1	40 dir. 60 indir.	...	7	Work resumed on previous terms.
Shuttle Makers...	Near Bradford	Against proposed alteration in time of commencing and leaving work. Demand since made for a 54 hours week, and limitation of apprentices to the ratio of one to three men	1	...	14	...	Still unsettled
Cotton Weavers ...	Middleton Junction, Lanc.	Alleged payment at less than list prices of the district	1	300	21	28	Satisfactory settlement of four points in dispute effected at a conference between employer and weavers' representatives, the fifth being left in abeyance for the present.
Ditto ...	Darwen	Dissatisfaction with conditions of working and material	1	...	24	Not stated	Work resumed on understanding that matters should be rectified.
Jute Weavers (females)	Dundee	Against proposed reduction in wages of 5 per cent.	1	500 dir. 100 indir.	27	5 Dec.	Proposed reduction withdrawn.
Tenters (females)	Fallsforth	Against promotion of an outside tenter instead of selection of one of their number	1	...	...	...	No details of settlement.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN NOVEMBER 1893—(Continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	No. of Firms or Establishments.	Approximate No. of Persons affected.	Date of Commencement.	Date of Termination.	Result.
Calico Engravers ...	Glasgow	Against proposed reduction in wages of 2s. afterwards increased to 3s. per week	4	100	16	...	Still unsettled.
Woollen Weavers ...	Tiverton-on-Avon	Against reduction in wages	1	...	...	...	No details of settlement.
Warpers (females) ...	Yeaddon	Against dismissal of one of their number for refusal to beam warps	1	...	23	Nov. 24	Dismissed operative reinstated, and work resumed on the employer's terms.
Miscellaneous Trades.							
Bookbinders ...	Dublin	Alleged violation of rules of Union	2	12	...	...	Still unsettled.
Brushmakers ...	Dundee	Alleged payment at less than recognised prices of district	1	...	...	...	No details of settlement.

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

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	No. of Firms or Establishments.	Approximate No. of Persons affected.	Date of Commencement.	Date of Termination.	Result.
Coal Miners ...	Miners' Federation Districts	Against proposed reduction of wages by 25 per cent. upon the standard rate of 1888	Not known	About 300,000 originally affected	28 July	Nov. 17	Work to be resumed at the old rate of wages until 1st February 1894. Conciliation Board to be formed to settle the rate of wages after that date. Settlement effected at a conference of coal owners' and miners' representatives under the presidency of Lord Rosebery. (For full terms of settlement see p. 183.)
Ditto ...	Dodworth, Barnsley	Against use of "Billy Fairplay" for riddling coal before weighing	1	1,200	About April	18	"Billy Fairplay" removed, and coal getting to be paid for at rate of 1s. 4d. per ton at first.
Ditto ...	Swadlincote, Derbyshire	Against proposed reduction in wages of 25 per cent.	1	190	8 June	13	Colliery sold to a new company, and reopened by them at the old rate of wages.
Ditto ...	Near Leeds	Against introduction of a new system of payment in construction of workings	1	400	June	30	Work resumed on similar terms to those settled by the conference for other miners in the district.
Ditto ...	Parr, St. Helens	For advance in yardage prices	1	...	June	30	Terms satisfactory to both parties settled at a conference.
Ditto ...	Near Barnsley	Various alleged grievances connected with the working of the colliery	1	1,200	19 July	23	Work resumed on the old terms and men to be reinstated to their original places. One question to be referred to the Yorkshire Conciliation Board.
Slaters ...	Doncaster	For advance in wages of 1/4d. per hour	2	14	6 Sept.	4	Work resumed by some men at old rate; some obtained work elsewhere, a few left the district, and one or two obtained the advance.
Shipwrights ...	Wallsend-on-Tyne	Against alleged encroachment on their work by joiners	1	83 dir. 12 indir.	21 Oct.	13	Work in dispute to be referred to arbitration, employers agreeing to observe a particular clause of a former settlement.
Boot and Shoe Operatives	London, E.	Against refusal to pay according to the London statement of prices	1	12	26 Sept.	7	Agreement to pay up to London list of prices.

III.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN PREVIOUS TO NOVEMBER, AND WERE PARTIALLY SETTLED IN THAT MONTH.

Building Trades, Blackburn.—The plasterers only remain out, the other branches of the trade having arranged, at a conference held on Monday, 6th November, to resume work at the previous rate of wages, and to work alongside non-Unionists when required.
Bricklayers and Labourers, Derby.—Commenced in July. The labourers have closed their portion of the strike. About one half the employers had conceded the desired advance of 1/4d. per hour at an early stage of the dispute, and on 6th November the Union advised the remainder of the men to make the best terms possible individually. The bricklayers are still out.
Glass Bottle Makers, Scotland.—Commenced about 1st July. The pale metal portion of the trade in Alloa and Portobello effected a settlement on 25th November, the British workmen accepting a reduction of 1s. per week, but had their required production reduced, and the weekly hours of labour were reduced from 54 to 50. The Foreign workmen obtained an advance of 2d. per 100 on some classes of bottles, and were reduced 1d. per 100 on others, leaving their wages about as formerly, and the weekly hours were reduced similarly to those of the British. The men working in dark metal have not yet effected a settlement.

IV.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN PREVIOUS TO NOVEMBER, AND WERE STILL UNSETTLED AT THE END OF THAT MONTH.

The following disputes reported in last month's issue as occurring in October are still unsettled:—tailors, London, W.; gun-lock files, Darlaston; coal miners, near Dalkeith; ship-joiners, River Clyde; cotton spinners and cardroom hands, Darwen.
 The following, which began before October, were also unsettled at the end of November:—coal miners, Kirkintilloch; stove grate workers, boot and shoe operatives, Derby; plasterers, Preston; masons, Halifax; belting and hose-pipe weavers, Pendleton, Manchester; glass bottle makers, York; tin-plate workers, Cliffray; steel workers, Pontymister; tailors, Cork; carpenters, Cork and Limerick; buckle casters (harness furniture), Walsall; bakers, Navan; coke burners, Tingley, Leeds; coal miners, Wortley, Leeds; hosiery operatives, Barrow-on-Soar.
 A strike of miners at a colliery in Pontefract district which has been in progress since September 1892 was settled on the 9th of the present month (December).

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS OF BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL FOR DECEMBER 1893.

Board of Trade Notices, State of the Skilled Labour Market, &c.
 Imports of Hay into the United Kingdom.
 Government Contracts.
 Formation of a Russian Naphtha Union.
 The Flax Trade of Russia.
 Railway Rates in Sweden for Iron and Iron Goods.
 Netherlands Trade Marks Legislation.
 The Present Condition of the French Wine Industry.
 International Workmen's Exhibition in Milan.
 The Import Trade of Beyrouth.
 The Import Trade in China and the *Likin* Duties.
 Imports of Cotton into the United States.
 Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.
 Customs Tariff of Western Australia.
 Extracts from Diplomatic and Consular Reports.
 General Trade Notes.
 Proceedings of the Chambers of Commerce of the United Kingdom.
 Quarantine and Post Office Notices.
 Statistical Tables, and Lists of Diplomatic, Consular and Colonial Office Reports.

THE AGE OF EXEMPTION FROM SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.

The following are the operative clauses of an Act passed on September 22nd 1893, and which comes into force on January 1st 1894:—
 1. The age at which a child may, in pursuance of any bye-law made under the Elementary Education Acts, 1870 to 1891, obtain total or partial exemption from the obligation to attend school, on obtaining a certificate as to the standard of examination which he has reached shall be raised to 11, and every such bye-law, so far as it provides for such exemption, shall be construed and have effect as if a reference to 11 years of age were substituted therein for a reference to a lower age, and in Section 74 of the Elementary Education Act, 1870, 11 shall be substituted for 10.
 2. If any person takes a child into his employment in such manner as to prevent the child from attending school in accordance with the bye-laws for the time being in force in the district in which the child resides, he shall be deemed to take the child into his employment in contravention of the Elementary Education Act, 1876, and shall be liable to a penalty accordingly.
 3. Nothing in this Act shall apply in the case of any child who at the passing of this Act is under the bye-laws then in force in the district in which he resides exempt wholly or partially, as the case may be, from the obligation to attend school.
 4. This Act shall come into operation on the 1st day of January 1894.

CHANGES IN WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN NOVEMBER. (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 Trades' Unions.)

The principal changes in wages recorded during November are an advance, under the sliding scale, of 7 1/2 per cent. to 90,000 coal miners in South Wales and Monmouth, dated from December 1st, and 1s. per day to a considerable number of miners in the West of Scotland. Fife, Kinross and Clackmannan miners' wages were advanced 6 1/2 per cent. from November 23rd, and a further 6 1/2 per cent. has been promised from December 15th. Mid and East Lothian miners received 10 per cent. advance on December 6th. Iron and steel workers in the Midlands have also received an advance of 2 1/2 per cent. under the sliding scale, and bedstead workers' wages in Birmingham and district were increased 5 per cent. from November 11th.

The only important reduction reported in wages has been among the Forest of Dean house-coal miners, their wages having receded, under the Wages Board, 15 per cent. from December 2nd, making present rates the same as the old rates, i.e., those paid up to the date of the dispute.

Table with columns: Employment, Locality, Approximate number of workpeople affected, Particulars of Increase, Particulars of Decrease. Includes sections for INCREASES IN RATES OF WAGES, DECREASES IN RATES OF WAGES, and DECREASES IN HOURS OF LABOUR.

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED AND DISSOLVED DURING NOVEMBER 1893.

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

- I.—FOUR TRADE SOCIETIES REGISTERED:—Amalg. Society of Brushmakers (London, E.C.), Copper, Spelter, and Alkali Workers' Trade Union of Gt. Britain and Ireland (Swansea), Lancashire and other Counties Colliery Winders' Fed. (Westhoughton), Wigan and Dist. Tailorresses and Kindred Trades Society. II.—TWO EMPLOYERS ASSOCIATIONS REGISTERED:—Birmingham and Dist. Master Bakers' Association, Birmingham Vehicle Owners' Protection Association. III.—ELEVEN INDUSTRIAL & PROVIDENT SOCIETIES REGISTERED:—(a) Three Productive Societies:—Forward (Birmingham) Boot and Shoe Operatives Productive and Distributive Soc., Ltd., Photographic Co-op. Society, Ltd. (Maidstone), Co-op. Plastering Society, Ltd. (London, W.C.).

- (b) Four Distributive Societies:—Canteen and Mess Co-op. Society, Ltd. (London, E.), Windsor Dist. Co-op. and Provident Society, Ltd., Independent Labour Party Co-op. Soc., Ltd. (Manchester), Sutton (Surrey) District Co-op. Society, Ltd. (c) Four Miscellaneous Societies:—Kennington Lib. and Rad. Club Soc., Ltd. (London, S.E.), 3rd Rutland Loan Society, Ltd. (Ilkeston), Battersea Progressive Club and Inst. Society, Ltd., Bridge End Workmen's Club and Inst. Society, Ltd. (Todmorden). IV.—FRIENDLY SOCIETIES REGISTERED:—(a) Twenty-six New Societies:—Ordinary Friendly Societies (17), Working Men's Clubs (3), Dividing Societies (1), Specially Authorised Societies (5). (b) Forty New Branches of Existing Societies:—I.O. Oddfellows, M.U. (10), G.I.O.L. Caledonian Corks (8), B.O.A. Free Gardeners (4), Various others (18).

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN NOVEMBER.

If we group together the number of accidents reported during last month as occurring in factories and workshops, in and about mines, and on railways, and the number of deaths resulting from wreck, casualty or other accident reported as having occurred at sea, it will be seen that the number of fatal accidents reported is 327, or 32 more than were reported in the previous month, the comparison for each class of industry being as follows:—

Summary table of industrial accidents: In Factories (Workshops, Mines, On Railways, At Sea, Total) for November 1893 and October 1893.

The exact percentage which the number killed in each of these classes of employment bears to the total number employed cannot be stated, the figures, where given, being either for the number employed at a previous date, or for a portion only of those liable to accident, but the following particulars may be useful in forming some idea of the proportion that the numbers employed bear to the persons injured or killed:—

Factories and Workshops.—From a Parliamentary Paper (402 of 1890) it appears that the number of persons actually at work in factories when the returns were furnished to the Home Office was 3,270,835, but there are no figures available as to the number of persons employed in workshops, although the number is very large.

Railways.—The same Parliamentary Paper gives the number of persons employed on 31st December 1889 by railway companies in the United Kingdom as 381,626.

Mines.—The number employed in mines can be given more closely, being 702,466 in 1892, exclusive of 19,342 persons employed on private branch railways and in washing and coking coal.

Seamen.—The returns of the number of seamen employed in British registered vessels in 1892 give 241,735 persons, all grades being included.

I.—On Railways.

(Supplied by the Railway Department of the Board of Trade.) A.—Table showing the number of railway servants reported as killed or injured on the premises of the railway companies during the month of November 1893.

Table showing the number of railway servants reported as killed or injured on the premises of the railway companies during the month of November 1893. Columns include Class of Service, Killed, Amputations, Fractures, Crushes, Dislocations, Cuts, Sprains, Bruises, Burns, &c., Unspecified and Miscellaneous Injuries, Total of Injuries.

B.—Table showing the number of railway servants reported as killed or injured as above, in England, Scotland and Ireland respectively, distinguishing accidents in connection with public traffic from other accidents, in November 1893.

Table showing the number of railway servants reported as killed or injured as above, in England, Scotland and Ireland respectively, distinguishing accidents in connection with public traffic from other accidents, in November 1893. Columns include England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland, United Kingdom, Killed, Injured.

* Including Accidents from their own want of caution or misconduct.

II.—In Mines.

(Supplied by the Home Office.) Table showing the number of persons reported as killed or injured in or about mines, during the month of November 1893.

Table showing the number of persons reported as killed or injured in or about mines, during the month of November 1893. Columns include Cause of Accident, England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland, Total, Killed, Injured.

III.—In Factories and Workshops.

(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 November 1893.

Table showing the number of persons reported to H.M. Chief Inspector by Certifying Surgeons as killed or injured during the month of November 1893. Columns include Nature or effect of injury, Adults (over 18), Young Persons, Children, Total, Males, Females.

* The classes of accidents reported are those specified in the LABOUR GAZETTE for July, p. 66.

IV.—Lives Lost at Sea.

(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, reported to the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen during the month of November 1893, and between January and November 1893, inclusive, 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.)

Table showing the number of masters, seamen, and other persons forming the crews of vessels belonging to the United Kingdom, reported to the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen during the month of November 1893, and between January and November 1893, inclusive, as having lost their lives at sea, or in rivers or harbours, from the undermentioned causes. Columns include Class of Vessels, Sail or Steam, By Wreck and Casualty, By Accidents other than Wreck and Casualty, Total, Nov. to Nov., Jan. to Nov.

† Exclusive of deaths from disease, homicide, suicide and unknown causes.

STATE OF EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN.

(Based on information supplied by the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.)

The number of seamen shipped on foreign-going vessels at the selected ports last month was 2,300 less than in November 1892. The supply of seamen at Newcastle, Sunderland, Hull, London, Liverpool and Glasgow was more than sufficient to meet the demand. At Cardiff there was a good supply of seamen, and at Southampton there was no scarcity of men. The supply of seamen at Swansea was equal to the demand; at North Shields the demand for men was fair, and at South Shields the labour market was quiet. At Middlesbrough the demand for seamen and firemen continued good, but was not so brisk as in the previous month. At Leith there were very few men unemployed, while at Dublin men were scarce.

Wages of seamen remain the same as last month at most of the principal ports. At Cardiff the increased rates paid at the end of October have been maintained, while at Newport wages have shown a slight tendency to rise, the maximum rates paid last month being £4 for A.B.'s and firemen, as compared with £3 10s. for seamen and £3 15s. for firemen in October. At Belfast, however, the minimum rates for A.B.'s on steamships have fallen from 75s. per month to 70s., and for firemen from 80s. to 75s. At Middlesbrough A.B.'s rates in sailing vessels are now £2 15s. as compared with £3 in October, and for seamen and firemen in steamships £4 2s. 6d. as compared with £4 5s.

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 November 1893 and 1892 respectively:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Men, &c. shipped in November 1893.			Total in Nov. 1892.	In-crease.	De-crease.
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total.			
Tyne Ports	124	1,747	1,871	2,170	...	299
Sunderland ... ..	...	510	510	527	...	17
Middlesbrough	15	295	310	304	6	...
Hull	54	1,151	1,203	1,324	1	121
Grimsby ... ..	...	73	73	72	1	...
London	326	5,216	5,572	5,647	...	75
Southampton ... ..	...	1,321	1,321	1,057	264	...
Bristol	14	159	173	323	...	150
Newport, Mon.	201	752	953	804	49	...
*Cardiff	986	3,757	4,743	4,322	421	...
Swansea	175	468	643	638	35	...
Liverpool	435	8,066	8,501	10,888	...	2,387
Kirkcaldy ... ..	...	66	66	88	...	22
(Burntisland) ... ..	...	31	228	259	3	...
Leith ... ..	...	50	50	93	...	43
Grangemouth ... ..	...	165	1,849	2,014	1,974	40
Glasgow ... ..	...	35	31	66	60	6
Dublin ... ..	...	10	74	81	725	...
Belfast ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	41
Total for the above Ports in Nov. 1893	2,116	28,596	28,412	...	...	2,300
Ditto, Nov. 1892	2,116	28,596	...	30,712	...	...

* Including Barry and Penarth.

JUDICIAL STATISTICS.*

THE Returns for England and Wales for 1891-2 show a decrease of 2.1 per cent. in the total number of the criminal classes at large and known to the police as compared with the numbers in 1890-1.

There is an increase of 4.7 per cent. in the number of indictable offences reported by the police. In the number of persons for trial at assizes and sessions there is an increase of 5.21 or 4.4 per cent. In the number of persons summarily proceeded against before justices, there is a decrease of 21,897 or 2.9 per cent., and in the total commitments to prison (1892-3) an increase is shown of 10,064 or 6.2 per cent.

The tables giving the proportion of the criminal classes in certain towns and districts show a decrease in London, in towns depending upon agricultural districts, in seats of the small and mixed textile fabrics, and in Dorset, Somerset, Southampton and Wilts. They show an increase in the principal pleasure towns, in the commercial ports, in the seats of the cotton and linen manufactures and of the woollen and worsted manufactures, and of the hardware trades, in

* Judicial Statistics, 1892, England and Wales. (C.—7168). Price 2s. 3d.

the eastern counties, and in the counties of Bedford, Berks, Bucks, Cambridge, Hertford, Northampton and Oxford.

Out of nearly 49,000 re-committed male prisoners (1892-3), nearly 7,000 had been previously committed over ten times; of 26,209 female prisoners, 9,408 or 35.9 per cent. had been previously committed over ten times. Of the males committed during the year, 64.9 per cent. were labourers, and 18.0 per cent. were mechanics and skilled workers. Of the females, 34.2 per cent. had no occupation, 28.7 per cent. were charwomen or needle-women, 10 per cent. were shopkeepers or dealers, 9.5 per cent. were prostitutes, 9.3 per cent. were factory workers, and 6 per cent. were domestic servants.

The proportion of police officers to population is 1 to 714 persons. The average cost per man for the total number of the police and constabulary in 1891-2, including clothing and accoutrements, with salaries and pay, was £100 15s. 7d.

NEW MINES AND MINES ABANDONED.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

DURING the month information was received of the sinking or re-opening of 51 and the closing of 11 mines, compared with 41 and 12 respectively in October. Forty-seven of the mines sunk or re-opened and 8 of the mines discontinued or abandoned are collieries. Of the new collieries, 13 are in Derbyshire, 9 in Scotland, 7 in Lancashire, 5 in Staffordshire, 4 in Yorkshire, and 3 each in Durham and Glamorgan.

NEW MINES.

COAL:—

Durham—Tursdale (Brockwell Seam), near Ferry Hill; Cold Knott, near Crook; Adelaide (Low Main Seam), Auckland. (3)

Yorkshire—Bloomhouse Green (Barnsley Seam); Linfit Lane (Thin Seam); Woodhouse (Swallow Wood Seam); Wood Top (Soft Bed Seam). (4)

Lancashire—Forest (Mountain Mine), Littleborough; Turton Moor (Mountain Mine), Bolton; Smithfold (Great Mine), Little Hulton, Bolton; Bar Gap (Great Mine), Oldham; Horncliffe Moor, Rawtenstall; Deansgreave (Sand Rock Seam), Bacup; Platt Lane (Ince Riding Seam), Wigan. (7)

Derbyshire—Uppertorpe (Richardson's) (Hazles Seam), Killamarsh, Rotherham; Uppertorpe (Hall's) (Hazles Seam), Killamarsh, near Rotherham; Inkerman (Tupton Three-quarter Seam), Brampton, near Chesterfield; Mr. Lancaster's Colliery (Dunston Seam), Newbold, Chesterfield; Lockford (Dunston Seam), near Chesterfield; Hardwick (Top Hard Seam), Heath, near Chesterfield; New Riber (Piper Seam), Chesterfield; Whittington Moor (Hall's) (Dunsel Seam), near Chesterfield; Beighton (Rhodes') (Hazles Seam), near Rotherham; Whittington Moor (Birch's) (Silkstone Seam), near Chesterfield; Barlow, Commonsides (Silkstone Seam), near Chesterfield; Brockwell (Piper Seam), Newbold, Chesterfield; Whittington (Sim's) (Silkstone Seam), near Chesterfield. (13)

Leicestershire.—Rawdon (Eureka Seam) Moira, near Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

Staffordshire—Old Hayswood (Yard Seam), Newcastle; Chillington (Stinking Seam), Wolverhampton; Landy Wood (Eight-feet Seam), near Walsall; Beacon, near Willenhall; Summerfield, Willenhall. (5)

Worcestershire.—Dingle, near Oldbury.

Flintshire—Coed Talon (Brassey Seam), Mold.

Glamorgan—Caenydd (Sinking to Penscallon Seam), Gowerton; Dynea, Treforest; Glan Nant (Bettws Seam), Tondy. (3)

Stirlingshire—Airdriemain (Splint Seam), Slamannan; Coney Park, Kilsyth. (2)

Lanarkshire—Quarter No. 5 Pit (Ell Seam), Hamilton; Roughrigg No. 10 Pit (Ladygrange Seam), Longriggind; Allanton (Kiltongie and Upper Drumgray Seams), Morningside; Morningside No. 10 Pit (Virgin Seam), Morningside. (4)

Linlithgowshire—Armadale No. 15 Pit (Main and Ball Seams), Bathgate.

Fife—Lochgelly Melgund Pit (Little Splint Seam), Lochgelly.

Ayrshire—Kilgramme, Maybole.

IRECLAY:—Derbyshire—Turnoak, Wingerworth.

Stirlingshire—Roughcastle (Mine from Surface).

ANTIMONY ORE:—Isle of Man—Dalby, at Dalby.

TIN:—Cornwall—St. Just United Mines (Bellam, Part of).

MINES ABANDONED.

Durham—Morley, Crook.

Lancashire—*Within's Lane, Radcliffe, Manchester; *Hagside, Radcliffe, Manchester; *Coney's Green, Radcliffe, Manchester. (3)

Derbyshire—Nesfield (Silkstone Seam), near Chesterfield; Marsh Lane (Silkstone Seam), near Chesterfield. (2)

Carmarthen—Amman Valley (Brynllor Vein) Garnant.

Lanarkshire—West Longrigg (No. 5 Pit), Ladygrange Seam, Longriggind.

IRONSTONE:—Dumbartonshire—Garscube (No. 6 Pit), Maryhill.

OIL SHALE:—Linlithgowshire—Roman Camp (No. 2 Mine, Pumphreston Seam), Ophall.

SILURIAN LIMESTONE:—Staffordshire—Birchill's Mine, near Walsall.

* About 300 persons were employed at these collieries.

HEALTH OF LEAD WORKERS.

THE Departmental Committee, appointed by the Home Secretary to enquire into the White Lead and Allied Industries, have issued their Report. They have extended their enquiries into England, Scotland and Wales, and visited 46 works and examined 184 witnesses.

The Report first discusses the manufacture of white lead by the old Dutch process and the Chamber process, and the effects of lead upon the health of the operatives. The conclusion is arrived at that the danger attending the old Dutch process is centred in (1) the stripping of the stacks, or "white beds," (2) the rollers, (3) the washbeds, but (4) chiefly in the stoves and the packing. The Committee further conclude that (a) women are more susceptible to lead-poisoning than men, and (b) young girls than full-grown women. On an analysis of the evidence of the doctors whom they have examined, it will be found that on question (a) this is the opinion of eight out of thirteen, and that only four dissent; while on (b) fourteen doctors agree, while three disagree.

The proposed recommendation made is the exclusion of females from all direct contact with white-lead; and it is suggested that this provision should not come into force until January 1st 1896.

This and the other recommendations of the Committee are summarised below.

The Report then discusses the substitutes for white-lead, and arrives at the conclusion that at present there is none that could take the place of carbonate of lead made by the old Dutch process, which the Committee consider may by suitable precautions be rendered comparatively free from danger.

The Report also discusses the manufacture of red and orange lead, litharge and colours, the process of lead-smelting, the manufacture of blue and yellow lead, the use of red lead in electric accumulator works, the enamelling of iron plates, and the tinning and enamelling of iron hollow-ware.

The results of an investigation into the death of a girl engaged in enamel working is also given in the report.

The Committee estimate that the number of women who would have to be replaced if the proposed exclusion is carried out would not be more than six hundred, and they point out that each of the reforms proposed is actually in force in some works in the United Kingdom.

The following is a summary of recommendations and suggestions:—

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS.

White Lead—

The institution of a medical examination previous to the employment of females.

The requirement of a medical certificate after absence through illness, before re-employment, for both sexes.

The prohibition of females under 20 years of age from employment.

The requirement of a certificate of birth or baptism, or other proof of age, for females, before employment.

The reduction of the price of such certificate to not more than 6d.

The abolition of female labour in all processes where there is direct contact with white lead, *i.e.*, white beds, rollers, washbeds, stoves and packing.

The adoption of the overalls and head covering for females in the blue beds and all parts of the works.

The provision of shoes and stockings for all females employed, and the enforced wearing of these during working hours.

The provision of a hood connected with a fan for packing and storing dry white lead.

The provision of a dining-room.

The provision of a stand-pipe or hose in the white beds.

Red and Orange Lead—

The prohibition of the use of the rake in drawing charges of massicot, or of red lead, or of orange lead, from the furnace.

The prohibition of such charges being drawn from the furnace on to the floor of the workshop or factory.

The prohibition of packing massicot, red lead or orange lead, in the same place where its manufacture is carried on; and the provision of a hood, connected with a fan, for packing massicot, or orange or red lead.

The provision of bath and lavatory accommodation, with a plentiful supply of hot and cold water, soap, nail brushes, and towels.

The institution of a weekly medical inspection of all persons employed in such works.

The provision of the prescribed drink.

Colours—

The adoption of respirators and overalls wherever dust is generated.

The provision of bath and lavatory accommodation, with a plentiful supply of hot and cold water, soap, nail brushes and towels.

The prohibition of any male young person or female in such works.

Lead Smelting—

The prohibition of females and young persons from employment in cleaning the flues.

The adoption of respirators and overalls for those employed in cleaning the flues.

The prohibition of anyone working more than two hours in the flue at a time.

The requirement that everyone employed in cleaning the flues must take a bath before leaving the works.

The provision of bath and lavatory accommodation, with a plentiful supply of hot and cold water, soap, nail brushes, and towels.

Yellow Lead—

The provision of fans.

The adoption of respirators and overalls for all those engaged in dry processes; *e.g.*, carding yellow yarn, &c.

The provision of an adequate supply of Epsom salts and the prescribed drink.

The provision of bath and lavatory accommodation, with a plentiful supply of hot and cold water, soap, nail brushes, and towels.

Electric Accumulator Works—

The adoption of the respirators and overalls for mixers.

The provision of gloves and aprons for rubbers.

The provision of bath and lavatory accommodation, with a plentiful supply of hot and cold water, soap, nail brushes and towels.

Enamelling of Iron Plates—

The institution of a medical inspection of all employees at least once a month.

The prohibition of females under 20 years of age from employment in a brushing-room.

The institution of a medical examination previous to the employment of females.

The requirement of a medical certificate after absence through illness, before re-employment, for both sexes.

The provision of half-a-pint of milk and a biscuit for each female employed before beginning work.

The provision of a fan to each perforated table or bench.

The provision of a dining-room and a cloak-room.

The Tinning and Enamelling of Iron Hollow Ware—

The provision of bath and lavatory accommodation, with a plentiful supply of hot and cold water, soap, nail brushes and towels.

The requirement that everyone employed must wash face and hands before meals and before leaving the works.

The prohibition of taking any meal in any part of the works except in an apartment provided for the purpose.

The provision of a dining-room.

To apply generally—

The substitution in all copies of Special Rules, for the words "As to Persons Employed," of the words "Duties of Persons Employed."

The extension to cases of lead poisoning of the same usage as obtains in cases of accidents, namely, a compulsory report to Her Majesty's Inspector of Factories and to the Certifying Surgeon for the district.

SUMMARY OF SUGGESTIONS.

White Lead—

The treatment of the washing water from the first tank below the rollers so as to render it free from acetate of lead in solution; or

The prohibition of the immersion of the workpeople's hands into this liquid.

The provision of food for the operatives.

The postponement of the abolition of female labour in processes where there is contact with white lead until 1st January 1896.

The adoption of mechanical means for stacking, stripping, drying, and packing white lead.

The discontinuance of wearing gloves for manipulating white lead.

The adoption of the cambric, bag-shaped respirator.

The postponement of stripping white beds until they are "mature."

Blue Lead—

The careful observance of all cases of lead poisoning which come to the notice of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Factories, and which have arisen in lead pipe or sheet works, in order to accumulate sufficient data on which to base future recommendations.

The Tinning and Enamelling of Iron Hollow Ware—

The prohibition of the use of lead and arsenic in the enamelling and tinning of hollow ware for kitchen purposes.

CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION IN THE BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

IN the August number of the GAZETTE some account was given of the action of the National Board of Arbitration, formed for the amicable settlement of matters of dispute arising between employers and workmen in the Boot and Shoe Trade. The industry in question being carried on almost entirely upon a piece-work basis, is naturally fertile in elements of dispute arising from the variety of the work, in method of execution, construction and material. The value of the Board in adjusting all such matters of difference has been again exemplified. During recent meetings a considerable number of matters in dispute had been discussed between the representatives of the employers and of the workpeople. Upon all points in respect to which no agreement could be arrived at, the views of each side were duly formulated in writing by the president, Sir Thomas Wright, and submitted to Sir Henry James, Q.C., M.P., for decision in his capacity of umpire to the Board. The umpire, having considered the whole of the points submitted, gave his decision on Tuesday, December 5th, upon one only, reserving judgment upon the others until he could hear evidence and make a more formal inquiry. The point finally disposed of was a matter arising out of the umpire's award of August 1892, and referred to the conditions under which the proportion of boys to journeymen, as fixed by the award, might be varied in certain special cases. The workmen contended that such exception could only be applied for within six months from the date of the award. Sir Henry James now decided that manufacturers of nursery goods were not, under the terms of his award, limited to this period for claiming exceptional treatment.

PAUPERISM IN 1892-3.*

THE returns of the total number of paupers in England and Wales receiving relief on January 1st 1893, compared with the corresponding returns for January 1st 1892, show an increase in the total volume of pauperism of 2.9 per cent. The increase was largest in the North-western and Northern divisions, where it amounted to 7.2 and 12.6 per cent. respectively. The increase in the North-western Division was largely due to the stoppage in the Cotton Trade, but in addition to this there was a general depression in many unions in almost every branch of industry. The increase in the Northern Division is attributed by the inspector for that district to the dislocation of trade consequent on the strikes of the engineers on the Tyne and Wear and of the Durham miners; the largest increase was in the unions of Newcastle, Gateshead, Stockton, South Shields and Middlesbrough; the smallest was in the county of Durham. This is said to be partly accounted for by the fact that during the miners' dispute vagrants avoided the county.

Notwithstanding the actual increase in the number of paupers, the proportion to population of the paupers relieved on a given day remained practically the same as in 1891-2, viz., approximately one in every 38 persons.

The proportion to population of the average number of paupers relieved on a given day in the parochial year ended at Lady Day 1893 was smaller than in any other parochial year since 1849, except the year 1892.

The Local Government Board this year give a Parliamentary return, never previously published, showing the total number of paupers who had received relief at one time or another during a period of one year. From this return it appears that the total number relieved during the year ending Lady Day 1892 was not much more than twice as large as the number in receipt of relief on January 1st 1892. The figures show that about one in every 18 of the population was at some time or

* Twenty-second Annual Report of the Local Government Board, 1892-93. C.—7,150.) Price 3s. 6d.

other during the year in receipt of relief, either personally or constructively, and that of the population who were over 65 years of age, one in every three or four was relieved at some time or other during the year. It must, however, be borne in mind that nearly 14 per cent. of the total number of persons relieved, and more than 6 per cent. of the paupers over 65 years of age, received medical relief only.

The proportion of old-age pauperism to the total population of 65 years and upwards ranges from about 365 in the 1,000 in Hertfordshire, and 353 in London, down to about 148 in the 1,000 in Shropshire and Westmorland.

THE LABOUR QUESTION IN FRANCE.*

THE report of the Secretary to the Labour Commission on France is divided into three divisions. The first division deals with trade differences between employers and employed, and illustrates by tables and maps the rise and fall in population, and the extent of foreign immigration. The growth of trade syndicates (whether employers', workmen's, joint, or agricultural), under the law of March 1884, is represented diagrammatically, showing a practically uninterrupted rise, and the position of each class of syndicate is examined separately. An account is given of the French labour exchanges, and the relations of associated and non-associated labourers are discussed. The division concludes with the history of certain important individual strikes, and an account of the methods adopted for the prevention and settlement of disputes. Like the report on Germany, the second division treats of the conditions of labour in various industries, opening with a statement of the laws regulating these conditions in industrial establishments. Maps are given showing the distribution by departments of persons engaged in large industries exclusive of mining and metallurgical industries, of persons engaged in small industries, and of persons employed in the Mining Industry. The third division dealing with special subjects includes accounts of co-operation and profit-sharing, workmen's superannuation funds, employers' liability and compulsory insurance, organisation of poor relief, the Higher Council of Labour, the Labour Department, labour agencies, state and municipal employment of labour, and savings banks. A bibliography is appended of State and Parliamentary documents, departmental statistics and publications, general literature, reviews, periodicals and pamphlets, and British Foreign Office reports and despatches consulted in drawing up the report.

* Foreign Reports, Vol. vi, France, 1893. (C.—7,063.—IX.) Price 2s. 1d.

THE LABOUR QUESTION IN GERMANY.*

THE Secretary to the Labour Commission, in his report on Germany, traces the history of German Socialism from 1840 to 1893, and analyses its influence on the labour movement. An account is given of the trade associations of employers and employed, explaining the provisions of the Industrial Code of 1869 which placed existing guilds on a voluntary basis, of the Amendment Act of 1881 to promote the formation of voluntary guilds, of the Accident Insurance Laws of 1884, 1886 and 1887, in accordance with which employers unite for mutual insurance against payment of indemnities to workmen, and of the Special Law of 1878, prohibiting all "societies which aim at the subversion of the existing political or social order by social democratic, socialist, or communist efforts." The causes, development and conduct of trade disputes are examined, and the methods adopted for their settlement are described. The second division of the volume treats of the conditions of labour in certain special industries, including Mining, Iron, Engineering, Shipbuilding, and Cognate Trades, Transport, Agriculture and Forestry, and Textile, Clothing, Building, and Miscellaneous Trades, the conditions of employment and wages of women receiving special attention in each trade in which they are to be found. The third division deals with certain special subjects, such as co-operation, insurance, poor law administration, provision for the unemployed, municipal employment, migration of population, and the cost and general conditions of living. With reference to the last subject, several workmen's budgets are given, together with a series of tables, showing the character of the dwellings, the proportion of the population living in cellars, attics, other floors, and in one or two rooms, and the percentage of house rent to income in six large cities of Germany, viz., Berlin, Hamburg, Breslau, Dresden, Leipsiz, and Frankfurt-on-Main. A bibliography is appended.

* Foreign Reports, Vol. V.—Germany 1893. (C.—7,063.—VII.) Price 1s. 1d.

PROVISION FOR OLD AGE BY TRADE SOCIETIES.—(Continued.)

THE following statement has been prepared, in continuation of a similar table in the July, August and November LABOUR GAZETTE, to show the extent to which Trade Societies make provision for superannuation, the conditions under which such superannuation is granted, its amount, the numbers in receipt of it during last year, and other particulars. The Societies are grouped by trades, and the present number includes the Shipbuilding and Textile Trades, in which it appears that, in 1892, seven Societies, numbering 53,613 members, made payments amounting in the aggregate to £5,843 to their aged members, who numbered 450 at the end of the year.

NAME OF TRADE SOCIETY.	Number of Members in Society at end of 1892.	Date of Establishment of the Superannuation Benefit.	Numbr of Members receiving Superannuation Benefit at the close of 1892.	Superannuation paid during 1892.	Weekly Contributions to Union.		Qualifications and Conditions for Receipt of Superannuation Benefit.	Weekly Rate of Superannuation.		
					Ordinary Members. (Maximum)*	Superannuated Members.				
Shipbuilding Trades:— United Society of Boiler-makers and Iron Ship-builders	39,004	1867	373	£ 5,209	s. d. 1 0	Nil.	55	... .. Superannuated members may follow any employment outside their own trade	25 years membership, 4s.; 30 years, 5s.; 35 years, 6s.	
Associated Shipwrights' Society	11,937	1885	3	29	1 0	0 7½ average	55	All members unable to follow their usual employment through old age or other infirmity, and not in receipt of more than 15s. per week from other sources.	Superannuated members may do light work 20 years members, 4s.; 25 years, 4s. 6d.; 30 years, 5s.	
Textile Trades:— Power-loom Carpet Weavers' Mutual Defence and Provident Association	1,378	1876	55	351	0 6	Nil.	50	All members over fifty years of age becoming infirm, and who are declared by competent authority to be permanently incapable of regular work.	Superannuated members may earn sums not exceeding 5s. per week	20 years members, 2s. 6d.; 25 years, 3s. 6d.
Pattern Card Makers' Original Trade Sick and Burial Society	404	1873	4	67	1 1	average	60	All members incapacitated from following their employment of pattern-card making.	... ..	20 years members, 5s. 6d.; 25 years, 8s.; 30 years, 10s. 6d.
Leeds, Halifax, and Bradford Stuff Pressers' Trade Union Society	558	1890	6	59	1 0	...	55	... ..	Entitled to superannuation irrespective of income from private means or any other trade or calling	10 years members, 4s.; 15 years, 5s.; 20 years, 6s.; 25 years, 7s.; 30 years, 8s.; 35 years, 9s.; 40 years, 10s.
Scottish United Brotherly Society of Calico Cylinder Printers	246	1877	5	73	0 7½	4 0 per annum	...	All members having been twenty years in the Society and being unable to work owing to failing sight, old age, or any consistent cause.	Superannuation benefit granted, subject to the proviso that it is paid as long as the Society can afford to give it	20 years members, 5s.; 25 years, 6s.; 30 years, 8s.
Belfast Hackle and Gill Makers' Benevolent and Trade Union	86	1880	4	55	1 0	Nil.	50	All members unable to obtain ordinary rate of wages through old age or infirmity.	Superannuation benefit granted irrespective of any income derived from private means, or from any trade or calling not connected with the Society	20 years members, 5s.; 25 years, 6s.; 30 years, 7s.; 40 years, 8s.

* In this, and in the previous Tables, the contributions given are the full contributions of members entitled to all the benefits of the Union. Some Unions have graduated scales of contributions, the members paying on the lower scales being excluded from certain benefits.

PIECE RATE WAGES IN COAL MINES.

THE following list of piece rates paid at a South Yorkshire colliery is printed as a specimen of similar lists in force at other mines:—

- Getting Best Coal, end or cross-cut, 1s. 5d. per ton.
- Getting Clayseam, 10s. per score of 10 tons.
- Getting Smudge, 5s. per score of 8 tons.
- Compensation of ¼d. per ton to be continued for the present in end longwall work.
- It was asked on behalf of the workmen that the 1s. 5d. per ton should be made a fixture. It was stated on behalf of the owners that the ¼d. per ton was given solely for compensation for sticky tops where the parting of the mine was not free, it could not therefore be granted, but must remain as compensation given for sticky tops, and that when the cleavage of the mine was free, it would be expected to be taken off, but not until.
- Getting Best Coal in straight work 11s. 11d. per score of 10 tons.
- Getting Clayseam, 9s. 6d. per score of 10 tons.
- Getting Smudge, 5s. 3d. per score of 8 tons.
- Driving Bords, 6s. per lineal yard.
- Driving Levels, 8s. per lineal yard.
- Driving End slits up to 50 yards, 7s. 2d. per lineal yard.
- Packing up to Softs, 1s. 10d. per lineal yard.
- Packing up to Bags, 2s. per lineal yard.
- Packing 2 yards wide, 2s. 6d. per lineal yard.
- Packing 9 feet Packs, 9 feet wide, 3s. 8d. per lineal yard.
- Covering out, 3s. per lineal yard.
- Leading cutting in longwall, end on or broken, 5s. per lineal yard.
- Cutting Softs in straightwork when they have been left, 6d. per lineal yard
- Cutting Bags in straightwork when they have been left, 4d. per lineal yard
- Tramming to be done 60 yards on level or end, and 40 yards on the bord, 2d. on every additional 30 yards on level or end, and 2d. every additional 20 yards on bord.
- Setting Bars up to 7 feet long, 6d. each; over 7 feet and up to 10 feet long, 1s. each.

- Shiftwork, 5d. per score of 10 tons.
- Working Shifts in straightwork, 6d. per yard on the measure got.
- Breaking Softs in waste when required from new cross-gates, 5s. the job; one man to do the work.
- Daywork, Colliers, 5s. per day.
- Daywork, Trammers, 4s. per day.
- Hard and difficult Coal to be left to be dealt with according to circumstances.
- Robbing Old Gate Packs, 4ft. 6in. wide, 6d. per side per lineal yard.
- Robbing Old Gate Packs, 2 yards wide, 9d. per side per lineal yard.
- Robbing Old Gate Packs, 3 yards wide, 1s. per side per lineal yard.
- Filling muck, 3d. per corf.
- Emptying muck, 3d. per corf.
- Hurrying Chocks in or out of working places, 6d. per corf.
- Hurrying Flat Sheets in or out of working places, 1s. each.
- Setting Soft Wood Chocks when commencing new Crossgate, 1s. each pack.
- Pushing up in dip side places after reaching 15 to 30 yards, 1s. per score; 30 to 45, 2s.; and 45 to 60 yards, 3s. per score.
- Taking Old Bars out, 6d. each, except when taken from under Softs when they are got out at the time, for which no payment will be made.
- Cutting Airholes through packs 3 yards wide, 4s. each.
- Cutting Holes through narrow packs to be paid in proportion.
- Taking side off on end, from 3 to 18 inches, 9d. per yard.
- Taking side off on end, from 18 inches to 3 feet, 1s. 6d. per yard.
- Taking side off on bord, from 3 to 18 inches, 1s. per yard.
- Taking side off on bord, from 18 inches to 3 feet, 2s. per yard.
- Driving Ends, 9 feet wide, loose on one side, 3s. 6d. per yard.
- Driving Bords, 9 feet wide, loose on one side, 2s. 6d. per yard.
- Cutting Pillars up to 6 feet thick, 3s. per yard.
- Cutting Pillars above 2 yards and up to 16 yards, 4s. per yard.
- Getting Best Coal in Banks, bord and pillar work, including wooding, 13s. 3d. per score of 10 tons.
- Cutting in Banks, in bord and pillar work, 2s. 3d. per yard; Pulling Old Packs, in bord and pillar work, 6d. per yard.
- Repairing Old Packs, in bord and pillar work, 1s. per yard.
- Shiftwork in Banks, in bord and pillar work, 9d. per score of 10 tons.

LABOUR IN THE COLONIES AND PARAGUAY.

(Monthly Report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31 Broadway, Westminster, S.W., from official reports, answers from correspondents, and newspapers, mostly dated September, October and November last.)

Canada.—Part VI. of the Annual Report of the Bureau of Industries, Ontario, has just been published, and deals with labour organisations, strikes, and lock-outs in that province. The report states that there were 22 strikes and 5 lock-outs in Ontario from January 1st 1888, to December 31st 1892. The strikes took place as follows: 2 in 1888, 11 in 1889, 2 in 1890, 3 in 1891, and 4 in 1892.

New South Wales.—A recent report from the Clarence River, in the North, states: "The amount of labour of all kinds offering continues in excess of demand." A Sydney newspaper states that there are said to be some 20,000 unemployed people in the colony.

Victoria.—An official report, dated September last, states: "The distress prevailing amongst the unemployed has not lately been so much in evidence. That distress is present there is no doubt, but it is found to exist as a rule not so much amongst the 'working classes' as amongst discharged clerks and shopmen, persons who have failed in business, and those who have been hitherto living upon incomes derived from bank shares or other investments. The Factories Act Inquiry Board, in its report dealing chiefly with clothing factories, states that the practice of sweating has gained a strong foothold in recent years; the Cabinet-making Industry is now being dealt with. The Government having recently determined to use none but Victorian coal on the railways, and this coal now entering largely into private consumption, additional labour is being employed in the coal mining districts. A small strike lately occurred in the mines, but has been settled." A private report from Horsham (203 miles North-west of Melbourne) states: "There is no demand for farm or station hands." Wages have been reduced in the principal ironfoundry at Ballarat. The dispute as to wages between the shipowners and the marine engineers has been settled, and the latter have agreed to a 10 per cent. reduction in wage.

South Australia.—There is still a surplus of labour seeking employment.

Queensland.—Reports from Brisbane, dated in October last, state: 1. "No improvement has taken place in the Building Trades in Brisbane, and a large number of men are out of employment." 2. "No demand at present." 3. "There is no demand whatever for any kind of labour, with the exception of coloured labour, mostly South Sea Islanders employed in the sugar plantations." A report, dated October, from the pastoral district of Barcardine, states: "The supply of labour in all branches of pastoral and agricultural labour exceeds the demand owing to the general depression. The demand for mechanics is limited, and as a rule is less than the supply." Complaints of sweating the female hands in the clothing factories at Brisbane have been made in the Press. The gold returns for the first nine months of 1893 show an increase of 6,343 oz. raised as compared with the corresponding months of 1892. The Sugar Industry has also been doing well.

Western Australia.—Various persons, mainly labourers and carpenters, recently complained to the Premier of want of work at Perth, but he pointed out that there were more public works then in progress than at any other time in the history of the colony.

Tasmania.—Recent reports state: 1. From Evandale: "Wages have come down"; 2. From Richmond: "No change for the better seems to have taken place, while the cost of living is no lower. Work in all branches is very hard to get. There may be good prospects for the man who wishes to invest capital, but the labourer must expect keen competition, and small chance of permanent work, unless he is very superior."

Many in the Hobart and the Carnarvon districts have been in want of work; the Government have put some of the Hobart unemployed on road work at 4s. a day.

New Zealand.—The following is condensed from the monthly report of the New Zealand Department of Labour, dated 22nd September last. At Auckland the Building Trade is brightening; the Iron and Boot Trades are dull; coachbuilders are fully employed; boat-building yards are fairly busy; unskilled labour is abundant; and many hands are employed in bush-felling. At Gisborne a large number of hands are employed in bush-felling; the supply of labour is fully up to the demand. At Napier a large number of men are out of employment, as is usual in winter, the district being pastoral; shearing will provide plenty of work soon. At Wellington the Building Trade is not so good; iron works are dull; Boot Trade is dull; flax-milling is improving; unskilled labour is abundant, though good bush-fellers are scarce. At Nelson the Building, Engineering and Iron Trades have all been fairly busy; the supply of unskilled labour is slightly in excess of the demand. At Christchurch the Building and Boot Trades are improving; the Engineering and Iron Trades are dull; a number of unskilled hands are out of employment. At Dunedin the Building Trade is busy; Engineering Trade is fairly busy; Timber Trade is very busy, but prices are low; Boot Trade is dull; trade generally is satisfactory, and unskilled labour is fairly well employed. At Invercargill the Building Trade is very good; the General Iron Trade is good; not many unskilled labourers are unemployed. At Ashburton all trades are very dull. At Wanganui most of the unskilled labourers find employment on road and bush works. At Masterton there is plenty of bush-felling for those who will take it. A private report from Wellington, dated September last, states: "Trade is rather dull, and there is much want of employment through so many people coming from Australia since the bank failures there." Private reports, dated October, state:—From Auckland: "There is a fair demand for farm and station hands and female servants, but there is no present demand for any kind of mechanic." From Hawke's Bay: "Good demand for blacksmiths and farriers, bricklayers and masons, carpenters and joiners, lumbermen and sawyers, navvies, saddlers, and wheelwrights, but not for female servants." From Gore (in Southland): "Good demand for harvest hands at 9d. an hour; good demand for carpenters and joiners; fair demand for engineers and general labourers."

Paraguay.—An interesting experiment in co-operative colonisation has recently been set on foot in Paraguay. About 450,000 acres have been granted by the Paraguayan Government to an association of Queensland working men, on condition that the association settle on the land, within a term of six years, 1,200 families, consisting of from 4,000 to 6,000 persons. Not more than half the land, however, is to be handed over until after the arrival of the first 600 families. The colony is situated in the heart of Paraguay, about ten miles, at the nearest point, to the town of Villa Rica, and on the banks of the Tiliuary River. The first batch of colonists, consisting of 254 men, women and children, arrived at Assuncion on September 15th, and were at once removed to their destination. The result of the experiment will be looked forward to with interest.

CROFTERS AND COTTARS IN CANADA.*

The fourth report of the Commissioners appointed to carry out a scheme of colonisation in Canada of crofters and cottars from the Western Highlands and the islands of Scotland, and from the congested districts of Ireland, gives an account of the settlement at Killarney, in Manitoba, established in 1888, and of that at Saltcoats, in the North-West Territory, established in 1889. The Killarney Settlement continues to develop in a satisfactory manner, the area under cultivation increases year by year, and considerable attention is given to the raising of stock. Notwithstanding these facts, the first instalment of the advances made to the Killarney crofters, which became due in the autumn of 1892, has not been met. The position of the Saltcoats Settlement is not so satisfactory as that at Killarney, and only 18 families, out of the 49 originally sent out, remain upon the land.

* Crofter Colonisation. Fourth Report of the Colonisation Board, 1893. (C-226.) Price 2jd.

LABOUR ABROAD.

The paragraphs in large type are summaries of reports received through the Foreign Office, from H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Offices abroad. The small print paragraphs have been compiled from information in the Foreign Press.

FRANCE.

The strike schedules for October received from the Office du Travail through H.M. Commercial Attaché at Paris show that 30 fresh strikes took place in France during October, as compared with 26 during the preceding month. Of the October strikes 11 were in the Textile Trades, 4 in the Metal and Mining Trades, 4 in the Glass and Pottery Trades, 2 among Leather Workers, 2 among Shoemakers, 1 in the Building Trade (masons), and 6 in various other trades. With the exception of two disputes in the Textile Trades they were of little importance. These were: a strike of 903 dyers in Amiens for reduced hours and increased wages, which lasted 25 days and resulted in a failure, and a strike of 600 weavers at Granges, in the department of Vosges, who demanded increased wages, and who, after they had been out a week, accepted a compromise. In addition to the above the great coal strike of the Pas de Calais and Nord miners, which began in September, was in progress during the whole of the month.

The Coal Companies and the Strikers.—Referring to the accusations brought against the Coal Companies in the North of France charging them with wholesale dismissals of men who took an active part in the recent strike, the Journal des Débats states that 42,604 out of 43,144 persons employed before the strike were immediately taken on after its termination. Of the 540 whose services were declined 162 had suffered imprisonment, 75 had acted as delegates and 62 were owners of cabarets.

GERMANY.

Labour Disputes.—H.M. Consul at Düsseldorf reports, under date of Nov. 30th, that nearly all the men at a stone factory in Ratenau have struck on a question of wages. The masons employed in building a theatre at Harburg have struck for fixed wages instead of piece-work. A wage dispute in which 15 stonecutters of Halle were engaged concluded in favour of the men, while at Rostock the men belonging to this trade are on strike. The strike of potters in Berlin referred to in last month's GAZETTE, was terminated on one employer declaring his readiness to pay tariff rates. A sum of £550 has been spent by the union in strike pay. Three disputes took place in the Woodworking Trades. In Berlin the joiners at one establishment struck, owing to the employers demanding security for the tools. At Bürgel, in Saxe-Weimar, the walking-stick turners have struck on a question of wages, while at Neustadt, in the same principality, all the workpeople at a furniture factory have had notice of dismissal for refusal to sign the factory rules.

A strike of lithographic printers of Brandenburg, which began in June, and in which 200 men are engaged, is still in progress. Leipzig printing firms have rejected orders sent them by the Brandenburg employers, and it is intended to give further assistance to those on strike.

A strike of tanners at Magdeburg against a reduction of wages, and a lock-out of gilders at Gotha for belonging to a union, are also reported.

The strike of saddlers at an army accoutrement factory at Strassburg, reported in last month's GAZETTE, has terminated, a slight improvement in wages being granted, as well as weekly payments.

Lung Disease Among Printers.—An inquiry was last year ordered by the German Chancellor into the causes of sickness and mortality among printers. In the Decree it was stated that 61 per cent. of the deaths recorded in this trade, between 1881 and 1891, were due to lung disease. The full report of the inquiry has not yet been published, but the Industrial Inspector for Düsseldorf, in his report for last year, states that so far as that district is concerned the inquiry has shown that the death rate from lung disease is very high among printers, notwithstanding due attention to light, space, and ventilation in the workshops. The source of the trouble is said to be the dust allowed to accumulate in the type cases, which contains a large proportion of lead.—Sozialpolitisches Centralblatt.

Regulation of "Doss" Houses.—A Decree for regulating the sanitary condition of sleeping houses has been promulgated in the Principality of Reuss à L. It is similar to that recently issued for the Grand Duchy of Hesse (see August GAZETTE), and, like the latter, provides a minimum air space of 13 cubic yards for each person (ibid.)

Female Labour in Domestic Workshops.—In his report for 1892 the Factory Inspector for Hamburg points to the necessity for extending the provisions of the law restricting female labour, so as to include domestic workshops. Under existing conditions there is an inducement for employers to get their work done in domestic workshops, as, in this way, they are relieved from the expenses of rent, lighting, firing, sickness and accident insurance, as well as from legal restrictions to which they would otherwise be subject. Most of the work of large tailoring establishments is done in this way, under conditions far more unhealthy than those which prevail in factories. (ibid.)

Free Municipal Labour Registry.—Steps are being taken for establishing a municipal labour registry at Hanau in Hesse—Nassau. (ibid.)

Statistics of Labour Organisation.—The Correspondenzblatt der General-Kommission der Gewerkschaften Deutschlands, the official organ of the German Social-Democratic Trade Unions, or Gewerkschaften, has published statistics showing the receipts and expenses per member for each of these unions in 1892. The receipts are said to be altogether inadequate to meet the demands made on the unions. The largest yearly subscription per member is found to be in the Printers' Union, viz., £2 4s. 7d., after which follow: the Hatters' Union with £1 13s. 11d., the Kid-glove Makers' with £1 3s. 8d., and the Porcelain Workers' with £1. The only other unions in which the yearly subscriptions of members reached 10s. or upwards were those of the Monumental Stonecutters, the Cigar Sorters, the Copper-smiths, and the Leather-workers. In three of the unions it was as little as 2s.

The amount paid per head for out-of-work and travelling benefit in each of the unions named was as follows:—

Unions.	Out-of-Work Benefit.		Travelling Benefit.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
Printers	14	9	7	7
Hatters	9	9	1	0
Kid Glove Makers	9	10	1	11
Porcelain Workers	10	2	1	6
Monumental Stonecutters	0	1	5	6
Cigar Sorters	7	1	1	0
Coppersmiths	3	4	9	8
Leather Workers	0	4	3	10

The same organ publishes particulars of those trade disputes in which members of the central organisations took part in Germany in 1892. It mentions in all 73 strikes, affecting 21 industries and 3,022 individuals; 53 of the strikes are described as "defensive," 25 being undertaken against reductions of wages, and 10 against the enforcement of regulations; of the 20 strikes, which are termed "aggressive," 12 were for reduced hours, and 8 for increased wages. Of the 73 strikes recorded, 25 are described as successful, 15 as partially so, and 32 as unsuccessful.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Trade Movements*—Vienna.—The demands of the Vienna Stonecutters and Wood-sculptors have been granted at 186 workshops, and 60 men are still out. The Tanners' strike, in progress since July, was concluded in the second week of November, the men being successful in their demands for a 10-hours' day, rest on Sundays, and full pay on holidays for work done up till noon. Their demand for a minimum wage of £1 a week was not granted. The strikes of brassfounders and fanmakers, reported in last month's GAZETTE, have terminated, the former in a compromise, and the latter in favour of the men, who have thus obtained increased wages and an 8-hours day. A strike of 43 journeymen joiners against the dismissal of a colleague terminated in favour of the men; the wooden casemakers are on strike for a 10 per cent. increase of wages, and a reduction of the working day from 10 to 9 hours, and the lithographic printers belonging to two firms against a reduction of 6s. 8d. a week in wages. The bleachers, numbering 200, are also on strike, their demands including increased wages, a 10-hours net working day, and payment for holidays; the stick turners, numbering 160, have been out since 28th October.

Provinces.—The coal dispute at Kahr, near Falkenau, begun in July, and noted in previous numbers of the GAZETTE, terminated in November, unfavourably for the men. A strike of textile workers is in progress at Trübau, in Moravia, where 100 silk and velvet workers went out on November 11th, owing to the dismissal of certain colleagues, and at Rannersdorf 140 stuffprinters, who struck

* Based on reports published in the Arbeiter Zeitung.

on the 6th November against a 20 per cent. reduction in wages, succeeded by the 17th in obtaining increased piece-work rates.

Journymen Bakers and Sunday Rest.—Under the existing law in Austria bakers must be allowed to rest on Sundays from 12 o'clock noon till midnight. Unsuccessful efforts were recently made by the master bakers to influence the Minister of Commerce in favour of extending the working hours; on the other hand, it was decided at a recent congress of journeymen bakers to agitate in favour of Sunday rest.—*Arbeiter Zeitung.*

Trades Union Congress.—It is announced that the first congress of Austrian trades unions will assemble in Vienna on Christmas Eve (*ibid.*)

Industrial Statistics of Hungary.—The Austrian official publication, *Handels Museum*, quoting from the report of the Hungarian Minister of Commerce for 1892, states that there were in that year 3,376 factories at work in Hungary.

According to the census of occupations taken in 1890 there were 1,244 industrial establishments employing more than 20 workpeople. The aggregate number of persons employed in these was 112,345. They are classified as follows:—

Factories Employing:—	No.	Aggregate No. of Workpeople.
From 21 to 30 hands ...	419 ...	10,376
From 31 to 50 " ...	355 ...	13,630
From 51 to 100 " ...	239 ...	16,219
From 101 to 200 " ...	114 ...	16,025
From 201 to 300 " ...	49 ...	12,441
From 301 to 500 " ...	39 ...	15,192
From 501 to 700 " ...	9 ...	5,171
From 701 to 1,000 " ...	9 ...	7,161
Over 1,000 " ...	11 ...	16,130
Totals ...	1,244	112,345

BELGIUM.

BRUSSELS DISTRICT.

Coal Miners.—H.M. Minister at Brussels, under date of November 30th, reports that, according to a correspondent of the *Independence Belge* in La Louvière, the increase of wages, recently promised, is shortly to be put in force by the colliery companies of the Centre Coal-field, and that the Haine St. Pierre and La Hestre Colliery had already raised its workmen's wages 5 per cent. since November 1st.

State Printing in a Penitentiary.—The alleged intention of the Government to have part of the official printing executed in a penitentiary instead of putting it up for contract, which is said to involve a reduction of £20,000 in the estimates, has caused much indignation among journeymen printers, many of whom are out of work. A deputation of the Brussels Free Association of Compositors and Printers, protesting against this action at the Ministries of Finance and Justice, has met with no success.

Friendly Societies.—The triennial report of the Commission on Mutual Aid Societies for the years 1888-89-90, recently published, includes statistics of the financial condition of all mutual aid societies recognised by Royal Decree, and of those unrecognised societies which furnish the necessary data to the Government. The number of the latter, which in 1885 was 445, has fallen to 105.

Disputes.—Two hundred quarrymen at Sprimont were on strike on the 25th November, owing to the postponement of the fortnightly payment of wages, which should have been made on that day. The strikers now number 800, notwithstanding the employers' consent to a system of payments on account.

GHEENT DISTRICT.

Disputes.—Reporting under date of November 28th, Mr. Vice-Consul Hallett reports that two strikes took place in the Textile Trade in Ghent: one at a weaving mill, where 60 men succeeded, after three weeks, in obtaining the price list customary in their trade; the other being due to a reduction of wages by one centime per mètre for a certain stuff. In the latter case the strikers had to submit, after being out for a week.

At a weaving mill in Wetteren 50 workpeople are on strike, owing to their employers having dismissed certain weavers suspected of supporting a protection fund organised by the hands.

A strike of joiners, of a few days' duration, took place at a small establishment in Ghent, the men resuming work at reduced wages.

The strike of women belonging to three match factories at Grammont, reported in last month's GAZETTE, has terminated, the employers having partially given in.

SWEDEN.

In a report dated November 29th, Sir Spenser St. John, H.M. Minister at Stockholm, states that no movement of importance has taken place in the labour market in Sweden during October and November, and that only two small strikes against individual employers have occurred in provincial towns, viz., one, commenced on November 25th against a printing firm in Kristinehamn, and another, about the same date, against a shoemaker at Helsingborg.

State of Employment.—One serious question has been recently mooted in connection with the expected termination, next year, of the Great Government Trunk Railway to Boden in the extreme North-east of Sweden. Ever since 1855 the State has been building railways, and the Swedish Parliament in 1892 advised that a progressive reduction of labourers should be made, so that, on the railway being finished, the large staff should not have to be dismissed at once. It appears, however, to have been impossible to commence this reduction owing to the large works which came into this year's vote, and which will make it necessary to keep on about 1,000 men up till the date when the railway is finished.

A warning has been issued by the Consul-General for Sweden and Norway in Finland, to prevent men crossing over from Sweden to obtain work in Finland, as they often do at this time of the year. He states that there is already a deficiency of employment for printers, shoemakers, mechanics, joiners, painters, carpenters and masons.

SWITZERLAND.

Insurance against Sickness.—Mr. Angst, H.M. Consul at Zürich, reports under date of November 25th, from notes supplied by Herr Greulich, of the Swiss Labour Office, that the extraordinary Workmen's Congress held in Zürich on the 5th November, and which was announced in last month's GAZETTE, was attended by 500 delegates, representing 190,000 workmen. The Congress resolved to oppose every Bill for sickness and accident insurance which was not based on gratuitous treatment in sickness, and the management of the funds by the workmen themselves. As regards insurance against accidents, it was resolved that the workmen would accept a comprehensive scheme, of which employers paid the expenses, and part of the management of which was undertaken by the workmen. It was then decided to begin collecting the signatures necessary for a people's initiative for the introduction of a tobacco monopoly to defray the cost of gratuitous treatment in sickness. The text of the initiative has been fixed by the Federal Committee of the Swiss Workmen's Union.

International Labour Protection Congress.—The Federal Committee of the Workmen's Union has decided to carry into effect the resolution of the Workmen's Congress, held at Biel last April, and to convoke an International Labour Protection Congress, to meet next August in Zürich. The Swiss Federal Council has agreed to pay the expenses on condition that the Congress bears an international character, and is open to all political parties.

UNITED STATES.

CHICAGO DISTRICT.

The Unemployed.—Colonel J. Hayes Sadler, H.M. Consul at Chicago, reporting under date of November 20th, states that little change has taken place during the

month in the condition of the labour market of Chicago and district. Some establishments which closed down during the financial crisis of July have resumed operations, but the World's Columbian Exhibition is over, and the majority of those who were employed in the grounds, or in connection with the exhibition, are thrown out of work, and the number of unemployed, not only in Chicago and its neighbourhood, but in the States to the West, shows no diminution. Wages for unskilled labour have fallen to a very low ebb, and great difficulty is found in procuring work at remunerative wages, except where the influence of trades unions in some measure assists in keeping up the rate. The Joint branch of the Illinois Steel Company began operations on the 20th November, after being idle for a year, and it was estimated that about 2,000 men would be engaged at a reduction of about 20 per cent. in wages, but the principal works in Chicago remain idle. Work is now so eagerly sought for that the rate of wages offered raises no question for dispute or objection. It is not a time to come to this part of the country to seek work.

PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT.

Capt. R. C. Clipperton, H.M. Consul at Philadelphia, reports under date of November 28th, that the brighter prospects, which appeared in some industries at the end of October last, have resulted in a slight business improvement, which, although slow, is satisfactory, considering the extreme depression which has so long prevailed.

The most important events in this Consular district have been the convention of the Knights of Labour, the Lehigh Valley Railroad strike, and the settlement of the iron and steel workers wage scale.

Lehigh Valley Railroad Strike.—The Lehigh Valley Railroad strike, which began on November 20th, and affected 2,000 wage earners directly, and probably ten times as many indirectly, arose more owing to the refusal of the company to recognise the labour organisations of the men in its employ than from the hardships endured by the latter, although their alleged grievances were numerous and material. Had a conference taken place the crisis would probably have been averted.*

Iron and Steel Workers' Wage Settlement.—A settlement has been effected of the iron and steel workers' wage scale, whereby the Amalgamated Association accepted a reduction on catchers', roughers' and rollers' wages, averting a strike in 30 mills, employing over 8,000 men.

At a conference also between a committee of the National Association of Tin, Iron and Steel Workers, and the Mahoning and Shenango Valley Manufacturers' Association, held in Youngstown, Ohio, the demands of the manufacturers for a reduction of the wage scale were compromised. The mills in both valleys, employing about 25,000 men, which have been idle since July 1st, have resumed work, affording the needed relief to numerous unemployed families.

Textile Industries.—The tone of the wool market is improving; the mills are receiving more orders for worsted yarns; manufacturers are more liberal buyers; and mills are preparing to resume. Operatives are in many instances accepting a reduction of wages, although the ingrain carpet weavers, winders and spoolers of Kensington, the textile manufacturing quarter of Philadelphia, have rejected the manufacturers' new schedule of prices.

Plate Glass Association.—The National Plate Glass Association, the practical breaking up of which was predicted in last month's report, held its last meeting on November 16th, and the secretary announced that "owing to the financial situation of the country, and the light demand for plate glass, and foreign competition, the manufacturers decided not to continue the association longer." It had a capital of 10,000,000 dol. (£2,083,000), and was one of the strongest trusts in the country.

* Since the writing of the report the strike has ended, mediation and arbitration having been resorted to, and mutual concessions having been made.

Mines.—A general reduction in the wages of miners is being made, and many mines are still closed. During this month, for the first time in the history of anthracite coal mining, every colliery in the Lehigh and Schuylkill region of Pennsylvania was idle. In Ironwood, Michigan, 5,000 miners have been out of employment since June. A large number of persons in that district are on the verge of starvation.

INTERNATIONAL WORKMEN'S EXHIBITION IN MILAN, 1894.

INFORMATION has been received that an International Workmen's Exhibition is to be held in Milan next year, under the auspices of a committee of which Signor Antonio Maffi, member of the Italian Parliament, is president.

The object of the exhibition is to illustrate the achievements of Labour in different countries and under diverse social conditions, and to afford a ready means of surveying all systems and institutions intended to improve the workman's lot, or to enhance his skill. The invitation to exhibit is accordingly addressed by the executive committee to all workmen in town or country, whether working singly or collectively, whether they be members of co-operative societies, or temporarily united for some piece of work. For the purpose of classification, the term Industrial Workmen will be taken to signify such as employ not more than three fellow-labourers; and the term Agrarian Workmen will be taken to signify *métayers* (tenants who share the produce of the land with the landlord) and small proprietors who cultivate their own plot of land. Moreover, as the scope of the exhibition is not limited to the products of labour and to institutions controlled or managed by workmen, and as it comprises institutions, studies and organisations relating to the economic conditions, the hygiene and instruction of workmen, so also State Departments, municipalities, proprietors of works (as regards appliances for the prevention of accidents), corporations, educational bodies, and all persons engaged in the study of questions relating to the life of workmen, may be admitted as exhibitors.

Forms of application for space, and full particulars may be obtained at the Italian Chamber of Commerce in London; Leadenhall Chambers, 4 St. Mary Axe, E.C., or at any of the Italian Consulates in Great Britain. These forms must be filled in and forwarded to the executive committee in Milan not later than the 31st December. The special committee in Milan will send to all parties whose applications have been entertained, the papers and forms required for forwarding exhibits. The executive committee will apply to the railway and shipping companies for a reduction of freights for exhibits, and of passenger fares for exhibitors. The Customs and *Octroi* authorities will also be asked to grant temporary exemption from duty on exhibits.

Exhibits must be delivered in the exhibition premises not later than 31st March 1894. They may be sold, subject to their not being delivered to purchasers until the close of the exhibition.

The exhibits will be classified in three main groups—(1) Labour; (2) Provident Institutions; and (3) Education.

NOTICE.

Communications respecting the contents of the GAZETTE should be addressed to the Commissioner for Labour, 43 Parliament-street, London, S.W. All letters respecting advertisements, or the purchase of copies of the GAZETTE, should be sent to the Publishers:—

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LIST OF THE NAMES, ADDRESSES AND DISTRICTS OF THE INSPECTORS OF FACTORIES.

H.M. Chief Inspector, R. E. SPRAGUE ORAM, Esq., Home Office, London, S.W.

NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICT.	Number of Factories in District in 1892.	Names and Addresses of Inspectors.	Names and Addresses of (Junior) Inspectors.
DUNDEE DISTRICT.—Counties of Forfar, Perth, Fife, and North of Scotland ...	1,668	H. M. Robinson, Esq., 5 Fintry Place, Broughty Ferry, Dundee.	
GLASGOW DISTRICT.—Counties of Lanark, Renfrew, Ayr, Dumfries, Kirkcubright, Wigton, Argyle, and part of Stirling.	3,954	R. E. Graves, Esq., Regent Chambers, 121 West Regent Street, Glasgow.	John Calder, Esq., Regent Chambers, 121 West Regent Street, Glasgow. T. C. Butler, Esq., Regent Chambers, 121 West Regent Street, Glasgow.
EDINBURGH DISTRICT.—Counties of Edinburgh, Linlithgow, Clackmannan, Kinross, Haddington, Berwick, Peebles, Selkirk, Roxburgh, and part of Shirling.	1,062	Captain H. W. Kindersley, 46 Inverleith Row, Edinburgh.	
BELFAST DISTRICT.—Counties of Antrim, Londonderry, Down, part of North Donegal.	1,436	G. B. Snape, Esq., 88 Clifton Park Avenue, Belfast.	
DUBLIN DISTRICT.—All Ireland south of the preceding District ...	2,819	A. G. K. Woodgate, Esq., 17 Morehampton Road, Dublin. R. Johnson, Esq., 73 Park Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.	S. Shuter, Esq., 3 Wellington Terrace, Limerick.
NORTH-EAST OF ENGLAND DISTRICT.—Counties of Durham, Northumberland, and North Yorkshire.	1,581	J. Law, Esq., 3 Tunbridge Terrace, Deepdale Road, Preston.	
NORTH-WEST OF ENGLAND DISTRICT.—Preston, North Lancashire, Settle, Hawes, Westmoreland, and Cumberland.	1,311	J. T. Birtwistle, Esq., St. Alban's View, Larkhill, Blackburn.	
BLACKBURN DISTRICT.—Blackburn, Darwen, Church, Accrington, Whalley, Clitheroe, Haslingden, Ramsbottom, Rishton.	982		
LEEDS DISTRICT.—Leeds, Morley, Pudsey, Yeadon, Selby, Hull, Beverley, Scarborough, Stanningley, Thirsk, York, Ripon, Harrogate, Otley, Guiseley, Whitby.	2,464	J. A. Hine, Esq., 8 Osborn Terrace, Beech Grove, Leeds.	H. J. Wilson, Esq., 19 Clarendon Place, Leeds.
BRADFORD DISTRICT.—Bradford, Wakefield, Dewsbury, Pontefract, Batley, Normanton, Goole, Shipley, and Saltaire.	1,791	W. A. Beaumont, Esq., 1 Ann Place, Little Horton, Bradford.	
HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT.—Huddersfield, the Colne Valley, Meltham, Honley and Brockholes, Holmfirth and District, Denby Dale and District, Shepley and Shelley, Kirkheaton and Kirkburton, Halifax, Lightcliffe, Brighouse, Elland, West Vale and Stainland, Sowerby Bridge, the Ripponden Valley and Mirfield.	2,078	J. D. Prior, Esq., Sandown Cottage, Gledholt, Huddersfield.	K. H. Garvie, Esq., 2 Heathfield Terrace, Halifax.
BURNLEY DISTRICT.—Burnley, Nelson, Colne, Todmorden, Hebden Bridge, Padiham, Great Harwood, Barnoldswick and Earby, Bingley, Skipton, and Keighley.	1,378	A. Platt, Esq., 312 Padiham Road, Burnley.	
ROCHDALE DISTRICT.—Rochdale, Shaw, Royton, Bacup, Bury, East Side of Oldham, Heywood, Rawtenstall, and the Rossendale Valley.	1,325	J. Pearson, Esq., West Bank, Manchester Road, Rochdale.	
SALFORD DISTRICT.—Salford, Pendleton, Eccles, Patricroft, Swinton, Pendlebury, Walkden, Radcliffe, Whitefield, Prestwich, Middleton, West Side of Oldham, including Hollinwood, Failsforth, and Lees.	1,035	E. T. Dawson, Esq., 14 Milton Street, Broughton, Salford.	
MANCHESTER DISTRICT.—Manchester, Stretford, Altrincham, Warrington, Cadishead, Lymm, Knutsford, Northwich, Sale, Irlam.	2,634	C. W. Shaw, Esq., 3 Barton House Chambers, 66 Deansgate, Manchester.	J. H. Rogers, Esq., 220 Brunswick Street, Chorlton-on-Medlock, Manchester.
BOLTON DISTRICT.—Bolton, Wigan, Farnworth, Atherton, Tyldesley, Leigh, Bedford-Leigh, West-Leigh, Westhoughton, Hindley, Ince, Horwich, Newton-le-Willows, Earlstown, Golborne, Ormskirk, Rufford, and Southport.	1,361	R. Tinker, Esq., Bradford Place, Manchester Road, Bolton.	
LIVERPOOL DISTRICT.—Liverpool, Prescot, Runcorn, St. Helens, Birkenhead, Chester, Counties of Flint, Denbigh, Merioneth, Carnarvon, Montgomery, and Anglesea.	2,299	H. S. Richmond, Esq., 34 Canning Street, Liverpool.	J. Jackson, Esq., 83 Mulgrave Street, Liverpool.
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE DISTRICT.—Ashton, Dukinfield, Audenshaw, Droylsden, Bardsley, Hurst, Stalybridge, Mossley (Upper and Lower), Micklehurst, Saddleworth, Greenfield, Upper Mill, Diggle, Dobcross, Delph, Glossop, Hadfield, Dinting, Mottram, Marple, New Mills, Hayfield, Chapel-en-le-Frith	607	J. E. Ashworth, Esq., South View, Audenshaw, Manchester.	
STOCKPORT DISTRICT.—Stockport, Macclesfield, Bollington, Hyde, Sandbach, Denton, Crewe, Winsford, Nantwich, Middlewich, Buxton, Peak Forest, Millers Dale, Doveholes, Bakewell.	791	D. Walmsley, Esq., 2 Adswold Grove, Stockport.	
SHEFFIELD DISTRICT.—Sheffield, Barnsley, Chesterfield, Retford, Doncaster, Gainsborough, Grimsby, Rotherham, Chapel Town and Ecclesfield, Eckington, the Loxley and Rivelin Valleys, Stannington, Wadsley, Oughtibridge, Penistone, Castleton and North Lincolnshire.	4,946	Commander H. P. Smith, R.N., Heatherleigh, Oakholme Road, Sheffield.	F. J. Parkes, Esq., 35 Elmore Road, Moor Oaks, Sheffield. Joshua Dodgson, Esq., Sheffield.
NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT.—Central and South Nottinghamshire, Mid-Lincolnshire and the towns of Alfreton and Ilkeston, in Derbyshire.	1,992	Capt. J. F. Bevan, 1 Private Road, Sherwood, Nottingham.	
LEICESTER DISTRICT.—The County of Leicester, and the following towns, Melbourn, Derby, Duffield, Belper, Ripley, Ambergate, Wirksworth and Matlock Bath, in Derbyshire.	1,235	Capt. A. C. Armstrong, The Cottage, Birstall, Leicester.	
STAFFORD DISTRICT.—The Potteries and North Staffordshire, Newport and Market Drayton in Shropshire, and Ashbourne in Derbyshire.	1,603	J. H. Walmsley, Esq., Sunnyside, Wolstanton, Stoke-on-Trent.	
WALSALL DISTRICT.—Walsall, Bilston, Cannock, Darlaston, Lichfield, Oldbury, Smethwick, Tipton, Wednesbury, West Bromwich, Pelsall and Aldridge, Rugeley and Sedgley.	1,077	G. Sedgwick, Esq., 107 Bath Road, Walsall.	
WOLVERHAMPTON DISTRICT.—Wolverhampton, Dudley, Stourbridge, Bridgnorth, Shrewsbury, Oswestry, Willenhall, Deepfields, Brierley Hill, Old Hill and Halesowen.	1,711	C. C. W. Hoare, Esq., 44 Penn Road, Wolverhampton.	C. F. Wright, Esq., Richmond Cottage, Love Lane, Stourbridge.
COVENTRY DISTRICT.—Coventry, Rugby, Leamington, Nuneaton, Northampton, Oxford, Banbury, Witney, and portions of Buckinghamshire and Gloucestershire.	1,440	R. W. Cooke-Taylor, Esq., 8 Spencer Road, Coventry.	
BIRMINGHAM No. 1 DISTRICT.—East side of Birmingham and part of Warwickshire, Stratford-on-Avon, Studley, Alcester, Redditch, and some villages in Worcestershire.	1,882	S. H. Knyvett, Esq., Metchley Cottage, Barlows Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.	J. H. Crabtree, Esq., Clent Cottage, Lonsdale Road, Harborne, Birmingham.
BIRMINGHAM No. 2 DISTRICT.—West side of Birmingham, Tamworth, Handsworth, Warwick, Meriden, Solihull, Coleshill, and Sutton Coldfield.	1,132	Major E. M. Roe, 290 Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.	
WORCESTER DISTRICT.—The Counties of Worcester and Hereford; Ludlow, Church Stretton, Gloucester, Winchcomb, Cheltenham, Wotton-under-Edge, Stroud, Painswick, Nailsworth, Berkeley, Dursley, Forest of Dean, Stow-on-the-Wold, Tewkesbury, Newent, and Cirencester.	1,265	R. P. Arnold, Esq., Shrubbery Avenue, Worcester.	
SWANSEA DISTRICT.—The Counties of Monmouth, Glamorgan, Carmarthen, Pembroke, Brecon, Cardigan and Radnor.	1,770	A. Lewis, Esq., 8, Brunswick Place, St. Helens Road, Swansea.	T. O. Edwards, Esq., 3 Glynrhondda Street, Cardiff. J. Hilditch, Esq., 86 Bryn-y-Mor Road, Swansea.

(a) H.M. Superintending Inspector.—Lieut.-Colonel Meade-King, Regent Chambers, 121 West Regent Street, Glasgow.

(b) " " " Captain S. W. May, R.N., St. John's Place North, Wakefield.

(c) " " " W. Dawkins Cramp, Esq., 35 Paradise Street, Birmingham.

*(d) " " " E. Gould, Esq., Home Office, London, S.W.

* The list of the Inspectors in the Southern district (d) and various Special Inspectors is crowded out. It will appear in the January number of the GAZETTE, together with the list of Inspectors of Mines.