

# THE BOARD OF TRADE

# Board of Trade

## LABOUR GAZETTE.

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### EMPLOYMENT CHART.

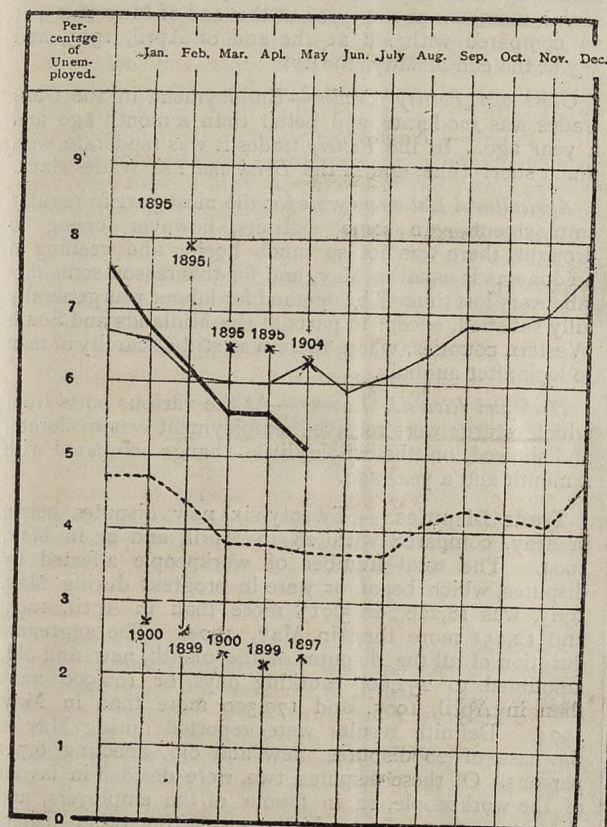


CHART SHOWING PERCENTAGE OF UNEMPLOYED MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.  
 Thick Curve=1905.  
 Thin Curve=1904.  
 Dotted Curve=Mean of 1895-1904.  
 X The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed during the past ten years, with the dates thereof.

### STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN MAY.

[Based on 4,896 returns, viz.: 3,470 from Employers or their Associations; 1,341 from Trade Unions, and 85 from other sources.]

COMPARED with April, employment in May showed an improvement. In addition to some seasonal improvement in the building, boot and shoe and clothing trades, employment in the metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, and in the cotton, woollen, worsted and hosiery trades was better.

As compared with a year ago there was an improvement in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades generally, and in the cotton, woollen, worsted, and boot and shoe industries: Employment in the building trades was, however, worse than in May, 1904.

In the 271 Trade Unions, with an aggregate membership of 575,512, making returns, 29,487, or 5.1 per cent., were reported as unemployed at the end of May, 1905, as compared with 5.6 in April, 1905, and 6.3 in May, 1904.

**Employment in various Industries.—Building Trades.**—Employment showed some seasonal improvement as compared with April. It is still, however, very dull, and for this time of the year worse than for many years back.

**Coal Mining.**—Employment in the coal mining industry in May was about the same as in April, and was slightly better than a year ago. At collieries employing 558,126 workpeople, the pits worked on an average 4.93 days per week during the four weeks ended May 20th, 1905,\* as compared with 4.93 days in April, 1905,\* and 5.09 days in May, 1904.

**Iron Mining.**—Employment was good and showed little change compared with a month and a year ago. At the 120 mines and open works covered by the returns received from employers, the average number of days worked per week during the four weeks ended May 20th was 5.85, as compared with 5.71† in the previous month and 5.90 in May, 1904.

**Pig Iron Industry.**—Employment in this industry continued to improve during May, and was considerably better than a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters showed that 322 furnaces, employing about 22,900 workpeople, were in blast at the end of May—an increase of 3 furnaces as compared with the previous month, and of 14 as compared with May, 1904. These increases were confined to England and Wales, the number of furnaces in blast in Scotland being the same in all three periods.

**Iron and Steel Manufacture.**—Employment at iron and steel works continued good and was considerably better than a year ago. Returns relating to 195 works, employing 88,267 workpeople, show that the volume of employment in the week ended May 20th, 1905, was 0.2 per cent. greater than a month ago, and 5.9 per cent. greater than in May, 1904.

**Tinplate Manufacture.**—Employment in this industry continued to improve during May, and was much better than a year ago. At the end of May 417 mills were at work, an increase of 9 as compared with the previous month, and of 45 as compared with the corresponding period of last year. The number of mills in operation is now greater than at any time since March, 1900.

**Engineering Trade.**—Employment generally showed an improvement on the previous month, and was considerably better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of May was 5.2, as compared with 6.0 at the end of April, and 6.6 per cent. at the end of May, 1904.

**Shipbuilding Trades.**—Employment showed some recovery in May after the falling off reported a month

\* The figures for April and May, 1905, are reduced by holidays.  
 † Reduced by Easter holidays.



ago, and is now at about the same level as at the end of March. As compared with a year ago a more marked improvement is shown. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of May was 11.1, as compared with 12.2 at the end of April, and with 13.1 per cent. a year ago.

**Cotton Trade.**—Employment continued very brisk, and was considerably better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 134,140 workpeople in the week ended May 27th showed an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the amount of weekly wages paid, compared with the week ended April 15th, and of 10.3 per cent. compared with the week ended May 21st, 1904, when there was much organised short time in consequence of the high price of raw cotton.

**Woollen Trade.**—Employment continued good during May, and showed an improvement compared with a year ago, both as regards numbers employed and aggregate amount of wages paid. Returns from firms employing 15,566 workpeople at the end of May showed an increase of 3.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with the week ended April 15th, 1905, and of 6.1 per cent. compared with the week ended May 21st, 1904.

**Worsted Trade.**—Employment showed an improvement, as compared with both a month and a year ago. Returns from firms employing 37,286 workpeople in the last week of May showed an increase of 2.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with the week ended April 15th, and of 2.5 per cent. compared with the week ended May 21st, 1904.

**Flax Trade.**—Employment showed little change as compared with a month ago and a year ago, being fair generally, but slack in Fifehire. Returns from firms employing 59,458 workpeople in the week ended May 27th showed a decrease of 0.1 per cent. on the number employed in the week ended April 15th, and an increase of 0.3 per cent. compared with the week ended May 21st, 1904.

**Jute Trade.**—Employment in this industry continued moderate, and worse than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 25,903 workpeople in the week ended May 27th showed a decrease of 1.6 per cent. in the number employed compared with the week ended April 15th, and of 3.5 per cent. compared with the week ended May 21st, 1904.

**Silk Trade.**—Employment in this industry remained about the same as in April. Returns from firms employing 12,365 workpeople showed a decline of 1.6 per cent. in the number of throwing and spinning spindles at work as compared with the previous month, and of 0.4 per cent. as compared with a year ago; the number of power looms working showed an increase of 0.5 per cent. compared with the previous month, and of 6.6 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Hosiery Trade.**—Employment was moderate in England, good in Scotland. It was generally better than a year ago. Firms employing 20,540 workpeople in the last week in May showed an increase of 2.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the week ended April 15th, and of 5.8 per cent. compared with the week ended May 21st, 1904.

**Tailoring Trade.**—Employment in both the *bespoke* and the *ready-made* branches was fairly good, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

**Hat Trade.**—In the *Silk* hat trade employment was dull, the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of May being 10.7 compared with 12.0 per cent., at the end of April, and 7.6 per cent. a year ago. In the *Felt* hat trade in the corresponding periods the percentages of Trade Union members unemployed were 1.9, 2.3, and 2.2, and employment is now fairly good.

**Boot and Shoe Trade.**—Employment continued to improve and was moderate; it was considerably better than a year ago. Returns from 488 firms, employing 65,500 workpeople, and paying £64,609 in wages during

the last week of May, showed an increase of 3.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the week ended 15th April, and of 8.1 per cent. compared with May, 1904.

**Other Leather Trades.**—Employment in May was slack, but better than a month ago and a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members returned as unemployed at the end of May was 7.5, as compared with 9.3 at the end of April, and 9.5 a year ago.

**Printing and Bookbinding Trades.**—Employment in May was slack, but slightly better than a month ago and a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of the month was 5.4, as compared with 5.8 in April, and 5.6 in May, 1904.

**Papermaking Trade.**—Employment remained fair. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed was 3.1, against 3.8 in April and 3.0 in May, 1904.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment at the end of May continued fair, and was better than a month ago and a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of May was 4.1, as compared with 4.6 at the end of April, 1905, and 5.3 at the end of May, 1904.

**Glass and Pottery Trades.**—Employment in the *Glass* trades was moderate, and better than a month ago and a year ago. In the *Pottery* trades it was moderate, with much short time, and in the *Brick and Tile* trades slack.

**Agricultural Labourers** were for the most part in regular employment. In some districts, however, owing to drought, there was not so much hoeing and weeding to be done as is usual in May, and for this reason some day labourers lost time. The demand for labour was generally fully satisfied, except in parts of the Midlands and South Western counties, where there was still a scarcity of men to look after animals.

**Dock and Riverside Labour.**—At the various ports from which returns were received, employment was moderate, and showed, on the whole, little change compared with a month and a year ago.

**Trade Disputes.**—Twenty-six new disputes began in May, compared with 28 in April, and 22 in May, 1904. The total number of workpeople affected by disputes, which began or were in progress during May, 1905, was 18,228, or 5,713 more than in April, 1905, and 12,151 more than in May, 1904. The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old, amounted to 252,600 working days, or 106,900 more than in April, 1905, and 179,300 more than in May, 1904. Definite results were reported during May in the case of 20 disputes, new and old, affecting 6,741 persons. Of these disputes, two were decided in favour of the workpeople, 12 in favour of the employers, and six were compromised. In the case of one other dispute terminating during the month certain points are still under consideration.

**Changes in Rates of Wages.**—The principal change reported was a decrease of 5 per cent. off the standard rates of 150,000 coal miners in South Wales and Monmouthshire. The net effect of all the changes, including this one, was a decrease of weekly wages of over £6,550. The changes affected nearly 161,600 workpeople, of whom 10,200 received advances, while nearly 151,400 sustained decreases. The changes of the previous month affected 11,250 workpeople, the net result being an increase of over £250 per week. During May, 1904, the number affected was about 113,900, and the net result a decrease of about £2,800 per week.

One change, affecting the 150,000 coal miners referred to above was arranged by a Conciliation Board, and one change, affecting about 1,200 workpeople, took effect under a sliding scale. The remaining changes, affecting nearly 10,400 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, two of these changes, affecting 176 workpeople, being preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

## RELIEF OF THE UNEMPLOYED IN MAY.

(Based on Returns received from Town Clerks and Local Correspondents, relating to the Metropolis and surrounding district, and nearly all towns with a population of 50,000 and over, and in the case of smaller towns to most of those in which exceptional distress has been reported.)

### SUMMARY.

The large decrease in the amount of exceptional distress due to unemployment, noted in the last issue of the GAZETTE, was maintained in May, and some further improvement took place.

The number of provincial towns in which exceptional distress was reported in May was 27, as compared with 29 in April, and 50 in March. In January the number stood at 79. In London and neighbourhood there was a further falling-off in the number of districts reporting exceptional distress.

The work provided for the unemployed was continued in certain localities in London and neighbourhood, and in 20 provincial towns. In 5 London districts and in 7 provincial towns, where work had been provided in April, it was not continued in May. Of the localities where work was in progress at the beginning of May, operations have since ceased in 7 districts of London and neighbourhood, and in 3 provincial towns; so that at the middle of June only 17 provincial towns and 3 London districts were giving employment-relief.

The total number of persons given employment-relief at some time in May, according to the returns received, was 5,380 as compared with 9,119 in the previous month. In these figures are included 2,062 in the London district as compared with 4,265 in April. In the case of those works for which the information is available, the average number of days' work which each man received in May was rather more than 13.

The workpeople most generally affected by lack of employment were those belonging to the building trades (except painters) and various classes of labourers. In certain centres other classes of workpeople were also affected, e.g., boot and shoe operatives at Leicester, Northampton and Leeds; shipyard workers and dock labourers at certain ports; workpeople in the metal trades at Leeds, Manchester, Middlesbrough and Sheffield; coal miners in the St. Helens and Potteries districts; and potters at Hanley and Stoke.

### DISTRICT REPORTS.

**London and Neighbourhood.**—The returns indicate that a smaller number of districts were affected by exceptional distress than was the case in April. According to the returns received, local work for the unemployed was provided by the Local Authorities in 10 Boroughs in May, in 7 of which it has since ceased. In 5 districts where work had been provided in April it was not continued into May. The number of men receiving employment-relief at some time in May, according to these returns, was 1,438, compared with 2,986 in April.

In addition the Central Committee of the London Unemployed Fund found continuous employment for 624 men, compared with 1,181 in the previous month; 412 by arrangement with the Office of Works, the Corporation of the City of London, and the Garden City Company, and 212 at the Hollesley Bay Farm Colony. The work provided in the Royal Parks and at the Garden City has now ceased.

**Northern Counties.**—A further improvement was reported in this district, and exceptional distress was reported in only one town. Work for the unemployed was provided for a few days at the beginning of the month by the Corporation of Newcastle.

**Yorkshire.**—The reports indicate little change as compared with the previous month. Exceptional distress was reported in 7 towns, the same number as in April. The employment-relief was continued by the Local Authorities at Bradford, Doncaster, Halifax, Harrogate, Hull, Leeds, and Sheffield. At York the work, other than stonebreaking, has ceased.

**Lancashire and Cheshire.**—On the whole there was some improvement, but in two towns the distress was stated to be worse than in April; it was reported exceptional in

6 towns, the same number as in the previous month. The Municipal Authorities continued employment-relief at Birkenhead, Manchester, and Warrington.

**Midlands.**—The reports indicate a general improvement, but the distress was still stated to be exceptional in 5 towns, the same number as in April. Work for the unemployed was provided by the Local Authorities at Bilston and Smethwick.

**Eastern Counties.**—Exceptional distress was reported in 2 towns, compared with 3 in April.

**Southern and South-Western Counties.**—There was some further improvement, but the distress due to unemployment was still reported as exceptional in 3 towns, compared with 4 in April. Employment relief was continued by the Local Authorities at Devonport and Plymouth.

**Wales and Monmouth.**—Work for the unemployed was provided during May by the Cardiff Corporation, but ceased on June 2nd.

**Scotland.**—A further improvement was noted in the reports, but the distress continued to be exceptional in the same 2 towns as in April. Employment-relief was continued by the Local Authorities at Edinburgh, Hamilton, Dundee, and Aberdeen, but ceased at the end of the month at the last-named place, and on May 13th at Hamilton.

**Ireland.**—A general improvement was reported, but the distress was still stated to be exceptional in one town.

The following Table gives certain particulars of the work for the unemployed provided (by Local Authorities, except where otherwise indicated) in May:—

Employment-Relief in May, 1905.

Locality.	No. of days in May, during which works were open.	No. of Men Employed.		No. of days worked in month.	
		Total.	Average per day during period works were open.	Aggregate.	Average per Man.
<b>London and Neighbourhood.</b>					
<i>London Unemployed Fund Central Committee—</i>					
City Markets	27	45	40	1,080	24.0
Garden City, Hitchen*	27	310	194	5,226	16.5
Hollesley Bay Farm	27	212	173	4,669	22.0
Royal Parks*	6	51	51	306	6.0
<i>East—</i>					
Poplar*	23	95	47	1,075	11.3
West Ham*	24	605	53	1,280	2.1
<i>South—</i>					
Bermondsey	27	140	104	2,810	20.1
Deptford*	6	17	16	94	5.5
Greenwich*	12	6	5	61	10.2
<i>North—</i>					
Islington	27	126	19	505	4
St. Pancras*	27	12	7	200	16.7
<i>West—</i>					
Chelsea*	17	109	109	1,853	17.0
Paddington*	27	307	110	2,957	9.6
Finsbury	27	21	10	279	13.3
<b>Provincial Towns.</b>					
<i>Northern Counties—</i>					
Newcastle*	6	51	24	146	2.9
<i>Yorkshire—</i>					
Bradford	27	165	165	5,355	11.9
Doncaster	27	451	165	4,455	27.0
Halifax	27	473	131	3,543	7.5
Harrogate	27	330	330	8,910	27.0
Hull	27	73	44	1,175	16.1
Leeds	27	366	176	4,758	13.0
Sheffield	27	430†	...	...	...
<i>Lancs. and Cheshire—</i>					
Birkenhead	27	72	28	751	10.4
Manchester	27	167	37	1,002	6.0
Warrington	27	57	33	883	15.5
<i>Midland Counties—</i>					
Bilston	27	26	19	502	19.3
Smethwick	23	22	14	321	15.0
<i>S. &amp; S.W. Counties—</i>					
Devonport	27	47	47	1,269	27.0
Plymouth	27	17	9	249	14.6
<i>Wales and Monmouth—</i>					
Cardiff*	27	50	38	1,029	20.6
<i>Scotland—</i>					
Aberdeen	27	100	64	1,720	17.2
Dundee	27	165	90	2,430	14.6
Edinburgh	27	45	40	1,072	23.8
Hamilton*	12	33	9	108	5.3

NOTE.—In addition to the numbers employed as given in the above Table, for whom the number of days worked is stated, 177 men were employed on piece work for whom the number of days worked cannot be stated, viz., at Hull, 135, and York, 42.

\* Employment-relief has now ceased.  
† Number at work at end of May.



**RECENT CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.**

**Joiners at Bolton.**

On May 24th joint application was made on behalf of the Bolton and Farnworth Master Builders' Association and the local Joiners' Committee for the appointment of an arbitrator to deal with certain proposed alterations of the working rules for the winter months, as to which the parties had failed to agree. The Board of Trade, on May 31st, appointed Sir K. E. Digby, K.C.B., K.C., to act as arbitrator.

**London Boot and Shoe Trade: Louis Heel Work.**

A joint committee of representatives of the London Boot and Shoe Manufacturers' Association and of the City of London Ladies' Boot and Shoe Makers' Society, with an independent chairman (Mr. G. R. Askwith) appointed by the Board of Trade, recently completed a Statement for Louis XV. heel work in the London wholesale trade, hand-made turned boots and shoes (see GAZETTE for May, p. 131). Questions having arisen in regard to points of interpretation arising out of the Statement, and also as to items not previously considered, Mr. Askwith, at the request of both parties, acted as chairman at a further meeting of the joint committee on June 6th, at which certain necessary minor amendments in, and additions to the Statement dated April 20th, 1905, were agreed upon.

**ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE IN AUSTRIA.\***

**I.—Accident Insurance.**

The principle of compulsory insurance against accidents, which had been in operation for the bulk of the mining industry in Austria since 1854, was extended in a modified form by Laws, dated December 28th, 1887, and July 20th, 1894, to a large number of other industries, and to inland transport by land and water.

The particulars, which follow, relate to insurance in the occupations covered by the legislation of 1887 and 1894, in which the mining industry may be said to have been scarcely concerned at all.

Under the two laws referred to the indemnity payable—either for death or bodily injury—varies with the earnings of the workman but earnings in excess of £100 per annum are not taken into account. The proportion of the yearly earnings allowed in the case of total disablement is 60 per cent., and in the case of partial disablement an amount proportionate to the capacity for work remaining, but this amount is not to exceed 50 per cent. of the yearly earnings. This allowance begins from the fifth week after the accident, provision being made during the first four weeks by the Sickness Insurance Law (see below). The survivors of a worker killed by an accident sustained during work receive funeral benefit not exceeding £2 2s. A widow—and in some cases a widower, parent, or grandparent—of such person receives an annuity of 20 per cent. of the yearly earnings of the deceased, while the children receive annuities of 10 to 15 per cent. of such earnings until their 15th year.

The cost of insurance is borne, nine-tenths by the employers and one-tenth by the workpeople. The amount payable by each establishment subject to insurance is in proportion to the total amount paid in wages, and the degree of risk attributed to the nature of the work performed.

At the end of 1902 there were in Austria 358,317 establishments, with a mean number of 2,535,517 workpeople, subject to the Accident Insurance Laws of 1887 and 1894. The total wages of the insured workpeople, according to the returns sent in by the employers for the purpose of the Accident Insurance Laws, in which earnings in excess of £100 a year are omitted, amounted to £50,655,800.

Out of a total of 84,003 accidents notified in 1902, 25,313 (30.1 per cent.) were such as to entail com-

\* Based on Die Gebarung und die Ergebnisse der Unfallstatistik der im Grunde des Gesetzes vom 28. Dez. 1887 errichteten Arbeiter-Unfall-Versicherungsanstalten im Jahre 1902. Vienna: Government Printing Office, 1904; on Die Gebarung und die Ergebnisse der Krankheitsstatistik der nach dem Gesetz vom 30. März 1888 eingerichteten Krankenkassen im Jahre 1902. Vienna: Government Printing Office, 1904.

ensation under the Accident Insurance Laws, while as to the remaining accidents, the large majority of the injured persons were excluded from the operation of those laws, because they recovered within 4 weeks (during which time they received medical relief and sick pay under the provisions of the Sickness Insurance Law).

The following Table classifies, according to the gravity of their results, the 25,313 accidents reported in 1902 which entailed compensation, the corresponding figures for the years 1898-1901 being given for comparison:—

Result of Accident.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
Number of Accidents.					
Death	977	1,044	1,003	995	901
Permanent Disablement	5,284	6,002	5,962	6,334	5,911
Temporary Disablement (over 4 weeks)	14,717	15,620	16,974	16,805	18,501
Total Accidents entailing Compensation	20,978	22,666	23,939	24,134	25,313
Proportion of Accidents per 1,000,000 days worked.					
Death	2.3	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.0
Permanent Disablement	12.6	13.9	13.9	14.2	13.3
Temporary Disablement (over 4 weeks)	35.2	36.2	36.6	37.3	41.6

The number of persons, to whom annuities were awarded in 1902 in respect of permanent disablement or for the loss of their breadwinners, was 9,393, viz., 7,120 for the former and 2,273 for the latter reason. At the end of 1902 there were 62,948 persons in receipt of such annuities, the number and average value of each class of annuity being as shown in the following Table:—

Class of Annuitant.	Persons Drawing Annuities.		Amount of Annuities.	
	Number of Annuitants.	Total.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Widows	5,808	45,661 14 2	7 17 3	
Children	8,670	45,114 4 2	5 4 1	
Parents, &c.	641	3,747 8 6	5 16 11	
Permanently Disabled	47,829	380,758 9 2	7 19 3	
Total	62,948	475,281 10 0	7 11 0	

The total income of the accident insurance institutions in 1902 was £1,435,938, whilst the expenditure exceeded that sum by £289,009. The chief items of income were £1,162,052 contributions of employers and workpeople and £169,124 interest on investments. The chief items of expenditure were £823,211 set aside as the capital value of annuities, granted during the year, £716,811 actually disbursed during the year in paying compensation for accidents, and £123,489 cost of administration.

**II.—Sickness Insurance.**

By a Law dated March 30th, 1888, insurance against sickness was declared obligatory for all employments covered by the Accident Insurance Law referred to above, as well as for a certain number of other employments.

The detailed regulations for sick insurance are complicated; but, in general terms, the minimum rate of benefit allowed amounts to 60 per cent. of the current rate of wages for common labour in the district, to be continued if necessary for 20 weeks, together with free medical treatment, and, in the event of death, with funeral benefit amounting to 20 times the daily rate of wages for common labour. No payment is made unless the sickness causes absence from work of three days at least. Women receive sick allowance for four weeks after confinement. In the sick funds specially created by the Sickness Insurance Law the employer pays one-third and the employed two-thirds of the necessary contributions. In the other funds, existing in virtue of earlier legislation (e.g., the Miners' Funds), the contributions are subject to certain regulations, but are not precisely determined by the Law of 1888.

The aggregate mean membership of the sick funds for effecting the insurance prescribed by the law of 1888

was 2,595,474 in 1902. The miners' provident funds, known as *Brüderläden*, are not included in these or in the following figures, which show the chief results of the operations of the Sickness Insurance Law in 1902, as compared with each of the four preceding years:—

	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
Number of Sick Funds	2,928	2,946	2,942	2,935	2,915
Mean Membership	2,349,746	2,442,333	2,409,930	2,538,896	2,193,474
Cases of sickness in respect to which sick money was paid	1,178,552	1,310,942	1,513,148	1,339,961	1,287,575
Do. per 100 members (excluding confinements):—					
Men	49.3	53.0	51.3	52.5	49.4
Women	43.9	46.8	44.1	44.6	41.3
Days of Sickness	20,477,265	22,404,876	22,708,651	23,356,827	23,301,237
Average Duration (in days) of a Sickness (excluding confinements):—					
Men	8.06	8.58	8.53	8.74	8.50
Women	8.50	8.77	8.19	8.42	8.13
Income of Funds	£1,793,024	£1,879,924	£1,996,973	£2,041,820	£2,156,806
Including:—					
(a) Contribution of Employers	£518,111	£542,775	£569,378	£592,054	£623,799
(b) Contributions of Workpeople	£1,160,933	£1,213,471	£1,272,468	£1,318,575	£1,383,840
Expenditure of Funds	£1,673,631	£1,839,113	£1,990,007	£1,966,965	£2,015,062
Including:—					
(a) Sick Benefit	£1,423,164	£1,565,991	£1,619,792	£1,680,222	£1,708,039
(b) Funeral Benefit	£22,028	£27,247	£28,801	£29,172	£30,161
(c) Cost of Administration	£128,439	£145,875	£141,414	£157,571	£176,862
Excess of Income over Expenditure (Amount added to Reserve)	£119,393	£40,812	£66,966	£74,854	£141,745
Value of Reserve Funds at end of year	£1,372,169	£1,412,025	£1,478,224	£1,551,257	£1,689,360

The amounts added to reserve in 1902 were 7.06 per cent. of the total contributions of employers and employed, and the mean percentage for the four preceding years 4.83, whereas, according to the Law, they should have amounted to at least 20 per cent. of those contributions.

The average amount of sick and funeral benefit granted per insured person in 1902 was 13s. 6½d., while the average sum contributed by each such person was 10s. 8d.

**CHANGES IN AGRICULTURAL RATES OF WAGES IN 1904.**

**England and Wales.**—The rates of wages of farm labourers continued to show a slight upward tendency in 1904. This tendency has been much less marked during the past three years than in the five years 1897-1901.

Information as to the current rates of weekly cash wages in January and June, 1904, of ordinary agricultural labourers in most of the Rural Districts in England and Wales has been obtained, mainly from the Chairmen of Rural District Councils. By comparing these rates with those returned for the corresponding months of 1903, certain changes have been disclosed, apart from the seasonal fall in the Autumn and rise in the Spring customary in many districts.

The figures do not include rates of wages paid to men exclusively employed in taking charge of animals, such as cattlemen, carters, horsemen, and shepherds, who are generally paid higher wages and obtain more perquisites than the ordinary labourers, but it has been assumed for the purpose of calculation, as in previous reports, that where the predominant rates of wages of ordinary labourers have changed in a district, a change amounting to a similar sum has taken place in the wages of all classes of agricultural labourers.

In the following Table the results are given of combining the ascertained changes in the weekly rates of wages in the Rural Districts with the total number of agricultural labourers of all classes employed therein (according to the Census returns), allowance being made each year for the estimated decline in the agricultural population. In computing the amount by which wages were changed in each year, it has been reckoned that the ratio of summer to winter weeks is as 3 to 2:—

\* Sick allowances, salaries of doctors and attendants, cost of medicine, cost of hospital treatment and expense of removing patients.

Year.	Total Number of Labourers in Districts in which the predominant rates of wages		Computed amount of change in weekly cash wages of the Labourers in Districts affected.		Net Result Increase (+) Decrease (-)
	Increased.	Decreased.	Increases.	Decreases.	
1896	52,721	36,676	£1,858	£1,513	+ 345
1897	72,559	4,340	2,232	110	+ 2,122
1898	183,987	2,356	6,227	47	+ 6,180
1899	163,960	208	5,438	4	+ 5,434
1900	230,635	...	8,150	...	+ 8,150
1901	127,565	10,469	3,559	398	+ 3,161
1902	51,949	41,705	1,669	1,297	+ 372
1903	51,095	24,953	1,449	893	+ 556
1904	23,778	9,568	1,032	451	+ 581

The number of farm labourers in districts in which wages were reported to have changed in 1904 was 33,346, as compared with 76,048 in 1903. On the other hand rates of wages remained unaltered in districts with 368,780 farm labourers. Of the 33,346 labourers, the rates of wages in districts containing 23,778 were increased, and in the case of 9,568 the rates were reduced.

The estimated net increase in 1904 in the districts reported on amounted to a general rise of £581 per week in the wages of those affected, as compared with £556 per week in 1903.

In the following Table the figures for various groups of counties are arranged according to the amounts by which rates of wages were changed. The Table shows that the greatest number of labourers affected in any one district by increased rates of wages was in the Southern and Western counties, where complaints of scarcity of farm labour have been most numerous in recent years. The district most affected by decreases was Wales, where in certain counties slackness in mines and quarries is stated to have caused an increase in the supply of labour.

District.	6d. and under per week.	Over 6d. and up to 1s. per week.	Over 1s. and up to 2s. per week.	Total.
<b>Total Number of Labourers in Districts in which Wages Rose.</b>				
Northern Counties	...	849	...	849
Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cheshire	...	665	...	665
Eastern and Midland Counties	...	7,928	...	7,928
Southern and Western Counties	3,385	7,105	1,236	11,726
Wales	1,052	1,241	327	2,620
Total	4,437	17,779	1,563	23,779

District.	6d. and under per week.	Over 6d. and up to 1s. per week.	Over 1s. and up to 2s. per week.	Total.
<b>Total Number of Labourers in Districts in which Wages Fell.</b>				
Northern Counties	...	299	...	299
Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Cheshire	534	2,345	...	2,879
Eastern and Midland Counties	...	1,950	...	1,950
Southern and Western Counties	1,280	...	...	1,280
Wales	...	1,995	1,306	3,301
Total	1,814	6,449	1,306	9,569

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

The correspondent reported that at the Spring hirings the supply of men seeking situations was about equal to the demand, and that while there was no change in rates of wages in the great majority of cases, they showed on the whole a downward tendency. At the hirings held in the latter half of the year the supply of men was decidedly in excess of the demand and wages generally showed a fall of from £1 to £2 per half-year. In some cases, however, farm servants remaining in their places sustained no reduction.

Lads were not so plentiful as men but, as a result of the fall in men's wages, those for lads also declined a little in many districts.

The supply of female servants continued to be short of the demand, and their rates of wages were well maintained.

**Ireland.**—Returns were furnished to the Departments by 113 correspondents in various counties in Ireland, showing the rate of wages most generally paid to the several classes of farm labourers in 1904 in comparison with the corresponding rates for 1903. The great



majority of the returns show that there was no appreciable change in rates of wages in 1904. In some districts, however, there was an upward tendency owing to the continued scarcity of labourers.

Returns relating to the wages of ordinary labourers employed on 22 farms in various counties in Ireland show that rates of wages increased slightly in 1904. Taking 100 to represent the rates paid on these farms in 1900, the comparative figures for 1903 and 1904 are 104.9 and 105.7 respectively.

### EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIES.

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

#### Canada.

There is a good demand for skilled agricultural labourers, if they go this month and take a little money with them. The latest reports sent to the Dominion Labour Department show that manufacturing trades have been busy. In the building trades men have been well employed, especially painters, paperhangers, stonecutters, bricklayers, masons, carpenters, and builders' labourers. In other trades the following have been specially busy—boilermakers, shipwrights, bicycle-makers, men in sash and door factories, wagonmakers, coopers, printers, and tailors. The steel industry was active both at Sydney, Nova Scotia, and at Sault St. Marie, Ontario. At Toronto, though there was plenty of employment for skilled mechanics, many that have lately arrived were unable to find work at their trades. One of the difficulties of the new arrival lies in his inability or unwillingness to do the class of work or adopt the methods of Canadian workmen, the requirements of the market being in many cases different from those to which they have been accustomed. At Winnipeg and Brandon, in Manitoba, the market was overcrowded, especially as regards unskilled labourers, owing to the large number of new arrivals. In British Columbia there was no demand for more mechanics or labourers. Coalminers have been busy in Nova Scotia, and at the Crow's Nest Pass in British Columbia. Female servants continue to be in good demand both in towns and on farms.

#### Commonwealth of Australia.

*New South Wales.*—Skilled hard ground miners have a fair chance of employment at the large Broken Hill silver mines. The output this year has increased, and there is work for more men than in previous years. In other parts of New South Wales the supply of labour is fairly equal to the demand, but there are fair openings for competent mechanics who can afford to wait a little till they find suitable employment. There is no opening for coal-miners.

*Victoria.*—The lowest wages of carpenters in saw mills or factories have been fixed at 5s. to 6os. per week of 48 hours, and of joiners at 6os. There is no demand for more labour in the towns, but skilled farm labourers and men accustomed to work in orchards and vineyards should be able to obtain work.

*South Australia and Queensland.*—There is very little demand in these States, except for men who are specially experienced in their trades, or have means of their own.

*Western Australia.*—The reports of the Government Labour Bureau for the quarter ending the 31st March last show that in the great majority of places the supply of all classes of labour was sufficient, there was some demand for good mechanics in the building trade, but many unskilled labourers were out of employment, men in the saw-mill industry at Jarrahdale and elsewhere were generally busy, and competent men had little difficulty in getting work; there was practically no demand for miners; at many places there was a demand for female servants. Some assistance towards their passages is given to suitable emigrants on their applying

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

to the Agent-General for Western Australia, 15, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

#### New Zealand.

At some of the smaller towns, such as Napier, Palmerston North, Blenheim, Nelson, Hokitika, Oamaru and Invercargill the building trades have been busy, but at Auckland, Wellington, Greymouth and Christchurch they have been only fair, carpenters especially, owing to the number of new arrivals being in excess of the demand. The engineering trades have not been so brisk, but they still employ a large number of men. Saw mills and flax mills have been busy. Coat hands have been wanted at Dunedin, and females in the boot factories at Christchurch. The important woollen mills at Kaiapoi, near Christchurch, have been much quieter than for several years past, and a number of hands have been discharged. At Invercargill there has been a good demand for unskilled labour. Men willing to go into the country districts of the Colony have little difficulty in finding employment.

#### South Africa.

*Cape Colony.*—No one may enter the Colony unless he possesses £20 on arrival, or has secured work beforehand. The building trade at Cape Town shows no signs of improvement, and at Port Elizabeth there is a good deal of distress owing to the depression. There is some demand for female servants, but they should not go alone. Other emigrants are recommended to avoid Cape Colony at the present time.

*Natal.*—Owing to the depression in the Colony, only 596 nominated immigrants—mainly women and children—were introduced into Natal in 1904, as against 1807 in 1903. Labour continues plentiful both in Durban and Maritzburg, and emigrants should not go there unless they are nominated by friends in the Colony.

*Transvaal.*—No one may enter the Transvaal without a permit. The supply of labour in all trades is ample, except in the case of female servants who may obtain assisted passages through the South African Colonisation Society, 47, Victoria Street, London, S.W. Recruiting in England is now going on for the South African Constabulary, which serves in the Transvaal and Orange River Colony. Candidates must apply in writing only to the Recruiting Officer, King's Yard, Broadway, Westminster, S.W.

*Orange River Colony.*—No one may enter the Colony without a permit. There is considerable depression both in town and country, and there is no demand for the ordinary emigrant without means of his own. Female servants may obtain assisted passages through the S. A. Colonisation Society above mentioned.

## LABOUR ABROAD.

### FRANCE.\*

*Employment in April.*—There was again an increase of activity in the building and allied trades, but the proportion of unemployed was greater than at the same time last year. In the metal trades employment on the whole was almost as satisfactory as in March. A marked revival took place at Paris. Employment was again moderate in the textile trades in the north and in the Roanne districts. The textile centres of Normandy on the other hand were enjoying a considerable revival of activity, while in the Vosges and at Rheims employment was satisfactory. The slackness that had been observed in the ribbon manufacture at St. Etienne and in machine silk weaving at Lyons became more marked in April. The garment-making trades were in full seasonal activity. In leather tanning and dressing employment improved, and in glove-making it continued to be satisfactory. The printing and bookbinding trades continued actively employed. Among vineyard labourers in the south there was increased unemployment; the fear of spring frosts and the reduced sales of wine caused the growers to have done only such work as

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

was absolutely necessary. In the north the spring sowings (which had terminated under favourable conditions), and the beetroot plantings (carried out on a larger scale than a year ago) gave sufficient employment to the agricultural labourers, and also to such woodcutters as were available at the conclusion of the winter forestry work.

Out of a total of 160,746 members of 939 Trade Unions (not including the Unions of miners in the Nord and Pas-de-Calais departments) which made returns as to the state of employment during April, 14,917, or 9.3 per cent., were unemployed on the 15th of the month, as compared with 10.9 per cent. in the previous month, and 10 per cent. in April, 1904.

The following statement shows the percentages of members of Trade Unions reported unemployed in certain trades for which this information is given separately:—

Trade Union.	Percentage reported Unemployed at the end of		
	April, 1905.	March, 1905.	April, 1904.
<b>Building Trades:—</b>			
Carpenters and Joiners ...	13.2	18.7	11.6
Other Branches ...	15.1	23.7	11.7
Metal and Engineering Trades ...	5.7	4.6	6.9
Textile Trades ...	8.8	8.3	10.5
Clothing Trades (exclusive of Boot and Shoemaking) ...	3.3	5.7	7.1
<b>Printing Trades:—</b>			
Paris ...	2.2	2.4	4.3
Provinces ...	3.6	3.1	2.4
<b>Leather and Fur Trades:—</b>			
Tanning, Dressing, &c. ...	5.2	14.1	20.0
Boot and Shoemaking ...	17.5	26.5	14.0
Furniture and Upholstery Trades ...	10.0	9.0	13.0
Food Preparation Trades (including Confectionery) ...	16.1	17.9	16.5

*Coal Mining in April.*—The average number of days worked per week by miners employed underground during April was 5.91, as compared with 5.84 both in the previous month and in April, 1904. Taking surface and underground workers together, 79 per cent. worked full time (6 days and over per week), and 17 per cent. from 5 to 6 days per week; the corresponding percentages in the preceding month were 60.37 and 38.49, while in April, 1904, they were 79.00 and 17.22. The above figures were supplied to the French Labour Department by the Committee of Coal Owners, and relate to over 160,000 workpeople, or more than three-fourths of all workpeople employed in and about the mines.

*Conciliation and Arbitration in April.*—Thirteen cases of recourse to the Law on Conciliation and Arbitration were reported to the French Labour Department as having taken place during April. In 12 cases the initiative was taken by the Justice of the Peace, and in 1 by the workpeople. Committees of conciliation were formed in all cases, 9 disputes being thereby settled. In 2 of the 4 cases which were not settled by the committee the proffered mediation was refused by the employers; in the other 2 cases no agreement was arrived at.

### AUSTRIA.\*

*Employment in April.*—The following statement is based on reports made to the Austrian Labour Department by public and private labour registries, relief stations, and other agencies for procuring employment:—

	Apr., 1905.	Mar., 1905.	Apr., 1904.
<b>Number of Situations:</b>			
(i.) Offered ...			
Males ...	19,841	19,732	22,184
Females ...	20,227	23,363	20,246
Total ...	40,068	43,095	42,424
(ii.) Applied for ...			
Males ...	40,738	44,043	41,648
Females ...	25,246	29,597	21,557
Total ...	65,984	73,640	63,199
<b>No. of Applications per 100 Situations offered</b>			
Males ...	205	223	188
Females ...	125	127	107
Total ...	165	171	149

\* Information supplied through the courtes of the Austrian Labour Department.

According to this statement there was a decrease in the number of applicants per 100 situations as compared with a month ago, and an increase as compared with a year ago.

*Labour Disputes in April.*—The number of disputes reported to the Austrian Labour Department as having begun in April (exclusive of any which may have taken place in the mining industry, the returns for which are quarterly) was 57, in which 11,119 workpeople took part. Twenty of these took place in the building trades, 10 in the metal and engineering trades, 8 each in textile and pottery and glass trades, 4 in the clothing trades, 2 each in the printing and food preparation trades, and 1 each in the transport, woodworking, and leather trades.

### GERMANY.

*Employment in April.*\*—The improvement in the state of the labour market, which took place in February and March, continued during April. On the whole employment was rather more favourable than a year ago. In coal mining the decline reported in previous months continued. Employment in the metal trades, however, was satisfactory. The chemical and electrical trades were fully employed. In the building trades employment was very good, even in south Germany, in many parts of which it was slack a year ago. A high percentage of unemployed, however, was reported in some trades, among which were included stonemasons, cigar makers, slaughtermen, saddlers, and tailors (ready-made and bespoke).

*Labour Disputes in May.*—According to reports furnished by the Berlin journal *Der Arbeitsmarkt*, 64 disputes began in May, as compared with 52 in April. Twenty-one of these occurred in the building trades, 13 in the metal and engineering trades, 2 in the textile trades, 6 each in the leather and clothing trades, 5 each in the pottery and woodworking trades, 3 in the transport trades, 2 in the food preparation trades and 1 in a trade not included within any of these groups.

### SWEDEN.†

*Strike in Scavenging and Sanitary Services at Stockholm.*—The street cleaners and scavengers employed by contractors at Stockholm struck work on April 19th, demanding an increase in wages of 10 kronor (11s.) per month, and other concessions. The men employed by the municipality, which undertakes sanitation in the three principal parishes, also struck work on the 20th, simultaneously with the men who perform the house-to-house service for sanitary removals. The dispute came to an end on April 29th. The men employed by the contractors (by far the larger number) received an increase in wages, and the maximum number of hours which they may be called upon to work was limited to 11 daily. As regards the men in the municipal service, the points at issue have still to be settled.

*Dispute in the Building trades at Stockholm.*—On May 4th, a lock-out of about 2,000 workmen in the building trades belonging to the tin and iron workers', cement workers', basement layers' and blasters' Unions took place, on the question of wages and of liberty of contract between employers and workpeople. There was also a partial strike of masons on the 8th, whereupon the employers locked out all the masons. [Newspaper reports estimate that 15,000 men were thrown out of employment.]

### UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

#### BOSTON CONSULAR DISTRICT.

*Strike of Weavers at New Bedford (Mass.)*†—Six hundred weavers employed at cotton mills at New Bedford struck work on April 29th as a protest against the extra loom system. The weavers had held conferences with the employers, but the latter declined to make any concession, deciding that the men must operate additional looms.

\* *Reichs-Arbeitsblatt*. (Journal of the German Labour Department.)  
† Based on despatches dated from May 2nd to May 30th, received through the Foreign Office, from H.M. Minister at Stockholm.  
‡ Based on a despatch from H.M. Consul at Boston, dated May 5th, and transmitted through the Foreign Office.



REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES IN MAY.

BUILDING TRADES.

(Based on Returns from the Trade Correspondent, from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the building trades showed some seasonal improvement as compared with April. It is still, however, very dull and for this time of the year worse than for many years back.

Employment with carpenters continued dull, and was worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union carpenters and joiners was 6.8 at the end of May, as compared with 7.5 in April and 5.9 a year ago. With plumbers employment showed little change on the whole compared with a month ago, but in Scotland it was rather better. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union plumbers was 10.6 at the end of May, as compared with 11.2 at the end of April and 9.5 in May, 1904.

The percentage of unemployed carpenters and joiners and plumbers in the principal districts, according to the returns of certain Trade Unions, is shown in the following Table:—

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of May, 1905.*	Percentage of Members of Unions returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage for May, 1905, as compared with a	
		May, 1905.	April, 1905.	May, 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.</b>						
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
London ...	7,001	8.3	8.3	7.1	+ 1.8	+ 1.2
Northern Counties†	6,050	11.0	9.2	9.1	- 1.8	+ 1.9
Lancashire and Cheshire	10,138	6.6	7.8	6.1	- 1.2	+ 0.5
Yorkshire ...	4,980	7.0	7.3	7.5	- 0.3	- 0.5
East Midlands ...	2,950	5.1	6.6	4.3	- 1.5	+ 0.8
West Midlands ...	4,606	7.1	8.7	5.1	- 1.6	+ 2.0
Eastern Counties ...	1,129	6.3	6.9	5.7	- 0.6	+ 0.6
S. and S.W. Counties ...	5,928	4.3	6.0	3.6	- 1.7	+ 0.7
Wales and Monmouth ...	1,873	4.8	8.2	3.8	- 3.4	+ 1.0
Other Districts ...	654	4.7	5.3	5.4	- 0.6	- 0.7
SCOTLAND ...	2,955	4.9	4.4	5.5	+ 0.5	- 0.6
IRELAND ...	4,752	5.4	7.4	4.5	- 2.0	+ 0.9
UNITED KINGDOM ...	53,016	6.8	7.5	5.9	- 0.7	+ 0.9
<b>PLUMBERS.†</b>						
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
London ...	1,128	14.2	11.3	9.4	+ 2.9	+ 4.8
Northern Counties†	1,632	9.6	10.8	8.6	- 1.2	+ 1.0
Lancashire and Cheshire	2,463	11.9	12.7	9.7	- 0.8	+ 2.2
Yorkshire ...	1,118	11.3	11.3	10.1	...	+ 1.2
East Midlands ...	612	9.3	7.6	10.3	+ 1.7	- 1.0
West Midlands ...	477	4.4	7.0	8.8	- 2.6	- 4.4
Eastern Counties ...	108	11.1	10.0	7.1	+ 1.1	+ 4.0
S. and S.W. Counties ...	500	4.7	9.3	6.3	- 3.6	- 0.6
Wales and Monmouth ...	288	8.0	12.5	8.2	- 4.5	- 0.2
Other Districts ...	26	3.8	8.6	7.1	- 4.8	- 3.3
SCOTLAND ...	1,055	8.2	10.5	10.8	- 2.3	- 2.6
IRELAND ...	653	16.4	13.7	8.5	+ 2.7	+ 7.9
UNITED KINGDOM ...	10,059	10.6	11.2	9.5	- 0.6	+ 1.1

With bricklayers and masons employment generally was dull. With plasterers it was bad in England and quiet in Scotland. With slaters and tilers employment was bad in England and fair in Scotland. With painters it was good and generally better than a month ago. With builders' labourers it was dull.

The returns received from 67 Employers' Associations show that employment was dull generally and on the whole much the same as a month ago. It was worse than a year ago.

London.—Employment continued bad, and was worse than a month ago, and considerably worse than a year ago. Returns received by the Trade Correspondent from 66 employers show that in the last week of May they paid wages to 14,236 workpeople of all classes, as compared with 14,536 in April and 16,165 a year ago.

Northern Counties.—Employment continued dull in most branches and was affected by disputes. With painters, however, it remained good; with joiners in the Tees and Hartlepool district, and on the Wear there was a slight improvement.

\* Exclusive of superannuated members. † Including Middlesbrough. ‡ Revised figures for May, 1904.

Lancashire.—The improvement noted last month at Bolton, Blackburn and Burnley continued. At Liverpool and Manchester employment generally was slack, and much the same as a month ago. With painters employment on the whole was fairly good.

Yorkshire.—There was little change in this district as compared with a month ago, and employment generally was slack.

Midlands.—Employment generally continued dull, except with painters, but on the whole there was a slight improvement as compared with a month ago.

Eastern Counties.—Employment in most branches continued dull. Painters, however, were fairly well employed. With bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, masons and labourers, employment improved slightly during the month.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—At Bristol, and in the Plymouth district employment generally was dull; elsewhere, it was, on the whole, moderate.

Wales and Monmouthshire.—Employment continued dull, but was slightly better than in April.

Scotland.—In Glasgow and Edinburgh employment was affected by the joiners' dispute. In Aberdeen there was a slight improvement. In Dundee employment continued bad in most branches. In each district painters were well employed.

Ireland.—In Dublin employment was affected by the bricklayers' dispute. It was good with painters, however. In Belfast little change took place, employment being generally dull. In Cork employment improved and was fair.

COAL MINING.

(Based on Returns from Employers, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the coal mining industry during the month of May was about the same as in the previous month, and, when the time lost by holidays is taken into account, was slightly better than a year ago.

Returns relating to 1,251 pits, employing 558,126 workpeople, show that the average number of days worked per week by the collieries during the four weeks ended May 20th, 1905, was 4.93, compared with 4.95 in April, 1905, and 5.09 in May, 1904. The average weekly number of days worked in May in the period 1895-1904 was 5.17, and the average for May, 1905, was therefore about a quarter of a day below the average for the previous ten years.

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

Districts.	No. of Workpeople employed in May, 1905, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average No. of Days worked per week by the Collieries in Four Weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in May, 1905, as compared with	
		May* 20th, 1905.	April* 1905.	May 21st, 1904.	A month ago.	A year ago.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.</b>						
Northumberland ...	41,416	5.12	5.12	5.39	...	- .27
Durham ...	100,028	5.26	5.22	5.35	+ .04	- .09
Cumberland ...	6,936	5.16	5.10	5.71	+ .06	- .55
South Yorkshire ...	58,323	5.09	5.09	5.09	...	...
West Yorkshire ...	18,430	4.14	4.27	4.26	- .13	- .12
Lancashire and Cheshire...	54,031	4.80	4.76	4.77	+ .04	+ .03
Derbyshire ...	42,636	4.18	4.31	4.18	- .13	...
Nottingham and Leicester	26,466	3.78	3.90	4.02	- .12	- .24
Staffordshire ...	24,751	4.26	4.27	4.69	- .01	- .43
Warwick, Worcester, and Salop ...	8,742	4.57	4.63	4.69	- .06	- .12
Gloucester and Somerset	8,550	4.50	4.53	4.81	- .03	- .31
North Wales ...	11,404	4.67	4.58	5.07	+ .09	- .40
South Wales and Mon. ...	114,198	5.36	5.40	5.86	- .04	- .50
ENGLAND & WALES...	518,911	4.91	4.94	5.08	- .03	- .17
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
West Scotland ...	21,905	5.07	5.11	4.97	- .04	+ .10
The Lothians ...	4,968	5.53	5.50	5.37	+ .03	+ .16
Fife ...	14,851	5.05	4.90	5.35	+ .16	- .30
SCOTLAND ...	41,724	5.12	5.08	5.16	+ .04	- .04
<b>IRELAND.</b>						
IRELAND ...	491	4.84	5.17	5.30	- .33	- .46
United Kingdom ...	558,126	4.93	4.95	5.09	- .02	- .16

\* The average number of days worked was affected by holidays.

Of the 558,126 workpeople covered by the returns, 342,801 (or 61.4 per cent.) were employed at pits working 20 or more days during the four weeks ended May 20th, 1905, and of these, 148,455 (or 26.6 per cent.) worked 22 days or more.

As compared with a month ago, very little change is shown in any district.

As compared with a year ago a decline is shown in all districts except Lancashire, West Scotland, and the Lothians, but this decline is more than accounted for in most cases by the time lost by holidays in May, 1905. Some real decline, however, was shown in the Cumberland, South Wales, Staffordshire, North Wales and Fifeshire districts.

In Northumberland employment continued fair generally, but was not quite up to the level of a year ago. Employment in the steam coal pits was very good on the whole, except in those pits where the quality of the coal was inferior, and in these some short time was worked. In Durham employment was fair and much the same as a month ago. With cokemen employment remained moderate.

In Cumberland employment continued fair, but the demand for coal for export was not quite so good as for manufacturing and household coal.

In Yorkshire employment improved somewhat if allowance be made for the holidays, and was rather better than a year ago. In house coal pits in the Leeds district, however, there has been some falling-off, and in Wakefield and South Kirkby some men have been stopped. With coke oven men in the Rotherham district employment was slack.

In Lancashire employment continued moderate. It was better than a year ago. Some men were unemployed in the St. Helens district.

In Derbyshire employment was moderate generally, but in house coal seams it was bad. In Leicestershire it was bad, with much short time, and a number of stallmen and loaders were unemployed. In some pits in Nottinghamshire there was an increase in the number of days worked.

In Staffordshire employment continued moderate on the whole, and was worse than a year ago. In North Staffordshire it was slack, and in the Cannock Chase district only 2 days per week were worked.

In Warwickshire employment was moderate, and worse than a month and a year ago, especially in the house coal seams. In Shropshire employment was fair.

In the Forest of Dean employment was better on steam coal and worse on house coal, about 5 days per week on the former and 3 days on the latter being worked. In the Bristol and Radstock districts it was bad, and worse than a month and a year ago.

In North Wales employment improved somewhat. In South Wales employment remained good on the whole, but was worse than a year ago.

In West Scotland generally employment continued moderate, and was about up to the level of a year ago. In Lanarkshire a colliery employing about 700 men was shut down during the month. In West Lothian there was little change as compared with the previous month, and many men are reported to have worked only 4 days per week. In Mid and East Lothian employment was dull on the whole, and much short time was worked. In Fifeshire employment was fair. In Clackmannan it was bad.

The Exports of coal, coke, and patent fuel in May amounted to 4,495,458 tons, as compared with 3,817,056 tons in April, and 4,223,808 tons in May, 1904.

IRON, SHALE, AND OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.

(Based on information from Employers, Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in May was good in iron and shale mines. Compared with a month and a year ago in iron mines little change was shown, but there was some improvement in shale mines. Employment in tin and copper mines continued to improve, and in lead mines it was steady. With quarrymen employment on the whole

continued moderate. Compared with a year ago, it was generally worse in slate and limestone quarries, better with china clay workers; in other branches little change was shown.

Mining.

Iron Mining.—Employment continued good. During the four weeks ended May 20th, the average weekly number of days worked by the 120 mines and open works covered by the returns received from employers was 5.85, as compared with 5.71 in April, and 5.90\* a year ago. In April the number of days was reduced by Easter holidays to the extent of about .17 of a day.

The following Table summarises the returns received:—

Districts.	No. employed in May, 1905, at the Mines included in the Table.	Average Number of Days worked per week by the Mines in 4 weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in May, 1905, as compared with	
		May 20th, 1905.	April 22nd, 1905.	May 21st, 1904.*	A month ago.	A year ago.
Cleveland...	7,203	5.89	5.74	5.99	+ 0.15	- 0.10
Cumberland and Lancashire	4,601	5.90	5.69	5.95	+ 0.21	- 0.05
Scotland...	1,049	5.55	5.58	5.57	- 0.03	- 0.02
Other Districts ...	2,329	5.74	5.69	5.66	+ 0.05	+ 0.08
Total and Averages	15,182	5.88	5.71	5.90	+ 0.14	- 0.05

Of the 15,182 workpeople covered by the returns 13,772, or 90.7 per cent., were employed in mines working 22 or more days during the four weeks ended May 20th, as compared with 91.9 per cent. in the previous month, and 90.8\* per cent. in May, 1904.

Shale Mining.—Employment with shale miners was good, and better on the whole than a month and a year ago. Returns received relating to 27 mines show that in May 3,009 were employed, as compared with 3,176 in April, and 2,896\* a year ago. The average weekly number of days worked by the mines in the four weeks ended May 20th was 5.85, as compared with 5.66 in April, and 5.61\* a year ago.

Tin, Copper, and Lead Mining.—Tin and copper mining in Devon and Cornwall continued to improve. Employment with lead miners in North Wales was steady. In Weardale lead ore miners were fairly well employed and worked five days per week.

Quarrying.

Slate.—Employment continued bad in North Wales and Argyllshire. Five days a week were worked at some quarries in North Wales, and an average of only four days a week in Argyllshire.

Granite.—Employment on the whole remained fair in Aberdeenshire and North Wales, and slack in Devon and Cornwall. In Leicestershire a further improvement was shown, and employment was good.

Limestone.—Employment generally showed a decline from last month in Cumberland, Derbyshire, and North Wales. It was fair in Weardale, 5 days per week being worked in Upper Weardale and 5½ days in Stanhope. It improved in the Plymouth district, though there it was still quiet.

Other Stone.—Employment was good in the Bath stone quarries in the Bristol district, the chert quarries in Derbyshire, and the stone quarries in the Cleve Hill district. In the Normanton district employment was fairly good, but it was moderate in the Rotherham district and slack in the Barnsley district. Employment in Gateshead and Blyth and in the Forest of Dean was fair. In sandstone quarries in North Wales it was quiet, and there was continued slackness in the Rowsley quarries and in Forfarshire.

Settling.—Employment was good in the Airdrie and Edinburgh districts, and in Aberdeenshire and North Wales it continued fair generally. Employment was good in the Cleve Hill district, and fairly good in Leicestershire; but it was not so good as a month ago at Rowley Regis (Staffs), and it was slack in the Sheffield district.

China Clay.—China clay workers were well employed in the St. Austell district, and at the Lee Moor pits work was steady.

\* Revised figures.



**PIG IRON INDUSTRY.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, a Trade Union, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in England and Wales continued to improve during May, being better than in April, and considerably better than a year ago. In Scotland no change was shown.

Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters show that six furnaces were re-lit during the month—one each in Cleveland, South Yorks, Lincolnshire, Staffordshire, Shropshire, and Scotland. Three furnaces were blown out—one in North Wales, one in Shropshire, and one in Scotland. The number of furnaces in blast at the end of May was 322, as compared with 319 in April, and 308 in May, 1904. The number of workpeople employed at the works included in the returns is estimated at 22,900.

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

Districts.	Number of Furnaces, included in the returns, in Blast at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in May, 1905, as compared with	
	May, 1905.	April, 1905.	May, 1904.	A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES—					
Cleveland ... ..	85	84*	77	+ 1	+ 8
Cumberland & Lanos	35	35	34	...	+ 1
S. and S.W. Yorks.	15	14	13	+ 1	+ 2
Derby & Nottingham	36	36	37*	...	- 1
Leicester, Lincoln, and Northampton	28	27	25	+ 1	+ 3
Stafford & Worcester	31	30	32*	+ 1	- 1
S. Wales & Monmouth	15	15	13	...	+ 2
Other districts ... ..	6	7	6	- 1	...
Returned from England & Wales	251	248*	237	+ 3	+ 14
Returned from Scotland ... ..	71	71	71	...	...
Total furnaces included in returns	322	319*	308	+ 3	+ 14

**TINPLATE WORKS.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the tinplate industry during May showed a further improvement, and was considerably better than a year ago. The number of mills in operation again showed an increase and, at the end of the month, was greater than at any time since March, 1900. The demand for and supply of labour remained fairly equal.

At the end of May 417 mills were at work, an increase of 9 as compared with the previous month, and of 45 as compared with the corresponding month of 1904. The number of workpeople employed at the 417 mills is estimated at about 20,850.

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

	No. of Works open.	No. of Mills in such Works.		
		Working.	Not Working.	Total.
Works giving full employment ... ..	66	376	—	376
Works giving partial employment ... ..	12	41	21	62
Total at end of May, 1905† ... ..	78	417	21	438
Corresponding Total for April, 1905† ... ..	78	408	28	436
Corresponding Total for May, 1904† ... ..	74	372	35	407

The Exports of tinplates and tinned sheets and black-plates for tinning from the United Kingdom are shown in the following Table:—

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

	Month of May.			Five Months ended May.		
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
(1) Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets.						
To United States ... ..	Tons. 3,835	Tons. 6,647	Tons. 4,104	Tons. 22,570	Tons. 27,603	Tons. 28,489
Other Countries	25,407	25,400	28,404	103,116	114,028	128,753
Total ... ..	29,242	32,047	32,508	125,686	141,631	157,242
(2) Black Plates for Tinning.						
To United States ... ..	74	14	—	196	14	72
Other Countries	7,002	6,332	6,661	26,016	27,275	25,074
Total ... ..	7,076	6,346	6,661	26,212	27,289	25,146

**IRON AND STEEL WORKS.**

(Based on Returns received direct from Employers, and through the Trade Correspondent, and on those from Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continued good, and showed little change as compared with a month ago. It was considerably better than a year ago, both in the numbers employed and in the average number of shifts worked. Returns from 195 iron and steel works showed that the total volume of employment (*i.e.*, numbers employed multiplied by the number of shifts worked) during the week ended May 20th, 1905, was 0.2 per cent. greater than in April, and 5.9 per cent. greater than a year ago.

The aggregate number of shifts worked during the week by all the workpeople included in the returns was approximately 483,500, as compared with 482,800 last month, and 456,400 a year ago.

The number and percentage of workpeople who worked the undermentioned number of shifts per week is shown in the following Table:—

Number of Shifts worked.	Number of workpeople who worked the shifts stated in the first column during the week ended			Percentage of workpeople who worked the shifts stated in the first column during the week ended		
	May 20th, 1905.	Apr. 15th, 1905.	May 21st, 1904.	May 20th, 1905.	Apr. 15th, 1905.	May 21st, 1904.
Under 5 per week	9,058	7,928	12,058	10.3	9.0	14.3
5 per week ... ..	27,741	28,094	24,299	31.4	31.9	28.8
5½ per week ... ..	1,243	1,653	2,382	1.4	1.9	3.1
6 per week ... ..	49,767	49,776	44,768	56.4	56.5	53.0
Over 6 per week	457	631	721	0.5	0.7	0.8
Total ... ..	88,267	88,082	84,458	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Analysis by Departments.**

From the following Table, it will be seen that, compared with last month, the only departments in which the number of men employed decreased were Open Hearth Melting Furnaces (1.5 per cent.), and Rolling Mills (0.6 per cent.). The increases that took place in the remaining seven departments were small in amount. Compared with a year ago, all departments showed an increase, the greatest improvements being in Rolling Mills and in "Other Departments," where the numbers employed increased by 1,042 and 795 respectively.

The average number of shifts remained about the same as a month ago, the greatest difference being a decline in crucible furnaces. Compared with last year the only decrease took place in the Bessemer Converting Department. The largest increases were in Crucible Furnaces and Forging and Pressing.

Department.	Numbers employed in week ended			Average Number of Shifts worked per man in week ended		
	May 20th, 1905.	Apr. 15th, 1905.	May 21st, 1904.	May 20th, 1905.	Apr. 15th, 1905.	May 21st, 1904.
Open-Hearth Melting Furnaces	7,268	7,376	6,957	5.88	5.91	5.80
Crucible Furnaces ... ..	590	567	556	5.61	5.72	5.39
Bessemer Converters ... ..	2,106	2,091	2,023	5.15	5.23	5.30
Puddling Forges ... ..	9,539	9,431	9,436	4.88	4.88	4.81
Rolling Mills ... ..	29,249	29,440	28,207	5.22	5.22	5.15
Forging and Pressing ... ..	3,808	3,804	3,601	5.6	5.6	5.49
Pounding ... ..	11,129	10,961	10,822	5.81	5.88	5.38
Other Departments ... ..	7,248	7,215	6,453	5.78	5.69	5.64
Mechanics and General Labourers	17,330	17,197	16,393	5.74	5.76	5.69
Total ... ..	88,267	88,082	84,458	5.48	5.48	5.40

**Analysis by Districts.**

The following Table shows by districts for the periods named the changes in the number of workpeople employed, and the average weekly number of shifts worked:—

District.	Numbers employed in week ended			Average Number of Shifts worked per man in week ended		
	May 20th, 1905.	April 15th, 1905.	May 21st, 1904.	May 20th, 1905.	April 15th, 1905.	May 21st, 1904.
Northumberland and Durham	10,665	10,865	10,362	5.49	5.51	5.43
Cleveland	6,831	6,985	7,071	5.54	5.53	5.63
Sheffield and Rotherham	16,780	16,811	15,694	5.59	5.68	5.55
Leeds, Hull and other Yorkshire Towns	4,049	3,984	3,758	5.31	5.37	5.18
Cumberland, Lancashire and Cheshire	11,534	11,426	11,249	5.30	5.29	5.12
Staffordshire	9,474	9,267	8,833	5.44	5.19	5.25
Other Midland Counties	4,987	4,813	4,747	5.16	5.28	5.11
Wales and Monmouth	7,799	7,867	7,437	5.67	5.53	5.59
England and Wales	72,110	72,018	69,151	5.47	5.46	5.38
Scotland	16,148	16,064	15,397	5.52	5.60	5.49
Total ... ..	88,267	88,082	84,458	5.48	5.48	5.40

Compared with a month ago, there was little change in the number employed. The greatest increases were in Staffordshire (207, or 2.2 per cent.), and in the other Midland Counties (174, or 3.6 per cent.), and the greatest decreases (200, or 1.8 per cent.) in Northumberland and Durham, and in the Cleveland district (154, or 2.2 per cent.). Compared with a year ago, there was an increase in all districts except Cleveland, where a decrease of 240 or 3.4 per cent. was recorded. The greatest improvements were in Staffordshire (641, or 7.3 per cent.), in the Sheffield and Rotherham district (1,086, or 6.9 per cent.), in Scotland (841, or 5.5 per cent.).

In the average number of shifts worked per man per week, the greatest increase on the figures for April took place in Staffordshire (4.8 per cent.), whilst the greatest decrease was recorded in the other Midland Counties (2.1 per cent.). Compared with a year ago, the only decrease was in the Cleveland district (1.6 per cent.).

The following is a summary of reports received from Local Correspondents in various districts relating to employment during May:—

**Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland.**—At Consett and Newburn employment with steel smelters was good, whilst in steel plate and bar mills full time was worked. With forge and hammermen employment was good on the Tyne and Wear. At Hartlepool workers in iron and steel were well employed. At rail mills in the Cleveland district the slight improvement reported last month continued; in chair foundries employment continued moderate, but at pipe foundries it was brisk.

**South Yorkshire.**—Employment with iron workers was fairly good at Rotherham and Masboro', but bad at Parkgate. With steel workers at Sheffield it was slack, but at Rotherham, Parkgate, and Ickles there was some improvement. Makers of steel axles and railway springs and tyres at Rotherham and Ickles were busy. With steel workers at Leeds employment was reported as fairly good.

**Cumberland and Lancashire.**—Employment generally was fair, about the same as a month ago, and considerably better on the whole than a year ago.

**Midlands.**—With iron and steel workers in South Staffordshire employment continued to improve, and with steel smelters it was good. In Shropshire steel workers continued to be fully employed, but with iron workers employment remained quiet. In Derbyshire a slight improvement took place. In Smethwick and West Bromwich, Scunthorpe and Frodingham, employment was good generally.

**Wales and Monmouthshire.**—Employment in the district was good generally in ironworks, especially at Cardiff, but in steel works employment was not so good and short time was worked at some places.

**Glasgow and West of Scotland.**—Employment continued good on the whole, and was better than a year ago. Some short time was again worked at Parkhead.

**SHIPBUILDING TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, Employers' Associations, Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the shipbuilding industry improved in May, after showing a falling off in April. As compared with a year ago a more marked improvement is shown. Branches of Trade Unions with 56,513 members had 6,285 (or 11.1 per cent.) unemployed at the end of May, 1905, as compared with 12.2 per cent. at the end of the preceding month, and with 13.1 per cent. a year ago.

As compared with April the figures in the following Table show an improvement in seven districts, the most marked improvement being seen in the case of the Wear district, while four show a decline, the falling off being greatest in the Mersey district. In the Belfast district no change is shown.

As compared with May, 1904, nine districts show an improvement, notably the Humber and Wear districts, and Scotland; and three show a falling off, the decline being especially marked in the case of the Mersey district.

District.	No. of Members of Unions at end of May, 1905 included in the returns.	Percentage returned as unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentages for May, 1905, as compared with	
		May, 1905.	April, 1905.	May, 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Tyne and Blyth ... ..	9,067	10.1	13.8	10.6	- 3.7	- 0.5
Wear ... ..	4,919	6.7	11.3	14.5	- 4.6	- 7.8
Tees and Hartlepool ... ..	5,076	12.6	13.4	14.4	- 0.8	- 1.8
Humber ... ..	2,278	11.2	13.3	21.7	- 2.1	- 10.5
Thames and Medway ... ..	4,305	9.6	13.3	10.5	- 3.7	- 0.9
South Coast ... ..	3,807	4.4	6.0	6.5	- 1.6	- 2.1
Bristol Channel Ports ... ..	3,649	20.7	20.5	23.8	+ 0.2	- 3.1
Mersey ... ..	3,976	21.5	14.8	11.3	+ 6.8	+ 10.0
Clyde ... ..	11,622	10.5	11.3	15.8	- 0.8	- 5.3
Dundee, Leith, and Aberdeen ... ..	2,217	15.3	11.1	20.6	+ 4.2	- 5.3
Belfast ... ..	2,857	10.3	10.3	7.9	...	+ 2.4
Other Districts ... ..	3,661	9.1	8.3	5.1	+ 0.8	+ 4.0
United Kingdom (Including certain Unions for which district figures are not available)	56,513	11.1	12.2	13.1	- 1.1	- 2.0

Employment in the Tyne district showed an improvement on the whole. On repair work, however, there was a decline. Drillers and hole cutters reported employment as good on new work. With shipyard plumbers and joiners it was dull; with smiths and strikers it was improving.

On the Wear employment improved, and was better than a year ago. Shipwrights described it as fair, drillers and hole cutters as good, ship joiners as quiet but improving, ship plumbers as bad. Repair work was slack.

In the Tees and Hartlepool district employment, though not good, was on the whole slightly better than a month ago, and was reported fair at Hartlepool, moderate at Middlesbrough and Stockton. On ship repairs it was fair at Hartlepool, moderate at Middlesbrough. With angle smiths employment was reported as good, with engine and crane men fair (overtime being worked), with other branches moderate or fair, except ship joiners at Hartlepool and Stockton, who reported it as bad.

Employment in the Humber district continued to improve slightly, and was better than a year ago. On repair work at Hull, however, it was slack. At Beverley, New Holland, and Selby employment was good.

In the Thames and Medway district employment continued bad generally, but with barge builders and with drillers on repair work on the Thames it showed an improvement.

On the South Coast employment showed a slight improvement as compared with both a month ago and a year ago. At Southampton it was moderate in yacht building, fair in other shipbuilding. It was slack in dockyard towns.

Employment in the Bristol Channel Ports remained slack but was a little better than a year ago. It was slightly better than a month ago on repair work at Bristol, some overtime being worked. Shipwrights at Pembroke Dock reported employment as fair.

In the Mersey district employment was bad both on new and repair work, and worse than a month ago. It was also worse than a year ago.



On the *Clyde* employment continued to improve and was better than in May, 1904.

*Leith, Dundee, and Aberdeen.*—Employment at Leith was fair with shipwrights on new work, dull on repair work. With iron shipbuilders it was quiet. At Dundee employment was, on the whole, fair and rather better than a year ago. At Aberdeen it was also fair and showed some improvement.

At *Belfast* employment showed little change as compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago it showed a decline.

*Other Districts.*—At Barrow employment declined and was bad; shipwrights, however, reported employment as fair. At Ipswich it continued fair; at Lowestoft and Yarmouth, bad. At Dublin it was fair with shipwrights, bad with iron shipbuilders. Employment was fairly good at Passage West.

### ENGINEERING TRADES.

(Based on Returns from Employers, Employers' Associations, Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT generally showed an improvement on the previous month, and was considerably better than a year ago.

Returns relating to 142,658 members of Trade Unions show that 7,463 (or 5·2 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of May, as compared with 6·0 per cent. at the end of April, and 6·6 per cent. in May, 1904. The present percentage is the lowest since October, 1903, when it was also 5·2.

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

District.	No. of Members of Unions at end of May, 1905, included in the returns.*	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in percentage unemployed for May, 1905, as compared with a	
		May, 1905.	April, 1905.	May, 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
North-East Coast ... ..	11,641	5·1	6·2	5·2	– 1·1	– 0·1
Manchester and Liverpool District	18,085	5·7	7·2	7·1	– 1·5	– 1·4
Oldham, Bolton and Blackburn District	11,710	5·3	7·0	11·3	– 1·7	– 6·0
West Riding Towns ... ..	11,983	7·2	8·9	8·9	– 1·7	– 1·7
Hull and Lincolnshire District	3,555	2·5	3·7	6·3	– 1·2	– 3·8
Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Coventry District	6,480	4·0	5·2	4·9	– 1·2	– 0·9
Notts, Derby, and Leicester District	4,070	7·2	8·7	5·8	– 1·5	+ 1·4
London and Neighbouring District	12,361	4·2	4·4	4·0	– 0·2	+ 0·2
South Coast ... ..	4,039	3·8	3·5	1·7	+ 0·3	+ 2·1
South Wales and Bristol District	6,603	4·6	4·6	4·8	...	– 0·2
Glasgow and District ... ..	12,750	8·4	7·2	9·3	+ 1·2	– 0·9
East of Scotland ... ..	3,583	7·5	8·5	10·9	– 1·0	– 3·4
Belfast and Dublin ... ..	3,476	6·6	7·8	6·5	– 1·2	+ 0·1
Other Districts ... ..	5,488	5·0	5·3	6·6	– 0·3	– 1·6
<b>United Kingdom</b> (Including certain Unions for which district figures are not available)	<b>142,658</b>	<b>5·2</b>	<b>6·0</b>	<b>6·6</b>	<b>– 0·8</b>	<b>– 1·4</b>

The percentage of unemployed was greatest in Scotland, the West Riding, Notts, Derby and Leicester, and Belfast and Dublin districts, and was least in the Hull and Lincolnshire, South Coast, West Midland and London districts.

As compared with a month ago nearly every district showed considerable improvement, but in the Glasgow district there was some decline.

As compared with a year ago most districts showed an improvement, which was greatest in Oldham, Bolton and Blackburn, Hull and Lincolnshire, and East of Scotland. The chief decline was on the South Coast, and in the Notts, Derby, and Leicester districts.

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

*North-East Coast.*—Employment showed an improvement on the previous month, and was good at Elswick and at Gateshead engine shops. It was bad at Jarrow and Wallsend, and short time continued in the former town. With pattern makers employment was fair both on Tyne and Wear; with ironfounders it was good generally, improving at Sunderland, but was moderate

\* Exclusive of Superannuated Members

at S. Shields and Stockton. With fitters in the middle reaches of the Tyne it was slacker than a month ago. On old work employment was fairly good in the Howdon and Hebburn districts, but was rather slack in the lower reaches of the Tyne, and bad at Blyth. With brass-finishers on the Tyne and Wear employment was moderate, but was rather slacker at Newcastle. At Darlington it was moderate with boiler makers and good with pattern makers. In the Tees and Hartlepool district engineers generally reported employment as fair or moderate; ironfounders as good at Hartlepool; moderate in other towns; wagon workers continued slack. Bridge builders were slack at Darlington, moderately employed at Stockton and Middlesbrough. Employment generally was fair with smiths, and with engine men and crane men.

*Manchester and Liverpool District.*—Employment was considerably better than a month and a year ago, but was still rather dull on the whole. In the Liverpool and Birkenhead district employment was bad with all sections, and short time was common; at one large works machine men and iron turners worked "week about." At Crewe ironfounders worked short time; boiler makers were moderately employed. At Manchester and Salford employment was fair generally, and core-makers and ironfounders reported it as improving; machine workers were well employed. With coach-makers employment was fairly good. Employment was fair at Stockport; bad at Chester and Wigan. At Warrington it was bad with engineers, good with ironfounders.

*Oldham, Bolton and Blackburn District.*—Employment showed a further improvement and was very much better than a year ago. At Oldham employment was fair generally; many departments were busy and it was reported that more workmen were engaged than had been the case for a long time past. Employment was good at Blackburn, bad at Ashton, Horwich and Stalybridge. With ironfounders it was good at Blackburn, Burnley, Bury and Rochdale, moderate elsewhere. Boiler makers were slack. With iron grinders employment was good and overtime was worked.

*West Riding Towns.*—Employment, although still slack, showed considerable improvement compared with a month and a year ago. At Leeds employment was bad with most sections and a good deal of short time was worked; it was fair with pattern makers, good with machine workers and fair with woolcomb, hackle and gill makers. At Sheffield most sections reported an improvement and employment generally was moderate; it was fair with pattern makers and core makers, bad with tool makers. Employment was moderate at Rotherham and Wakefield, fair with pattern makers at Bradford, and good with ironfounders at Halifax and Huddersfield.

*Hull and Lincolnshire District.*—There was a further improvement, and employment was much better than a year ago. At Hull employment was good, and some overtime was worked. At Lincoln, Grantham, Peterborough and Gainsborough it was moderate. At Doncaster it was slack, and short time continued.

*West Midlands.*—Employment was fair on the whole and better than a month and a year ago. At Birmingham it was moderate, and with ironfounders was bad. At Coventry it was fairly good. Boiler makers were slack at Bilston and Smethwick. With electrical engineers employment was fairly good at Birmingham, and improved at Wolverhampton. In the cycle making industry employment was good; on motor work it was fairly good in the Birmingham and Coventry district, good at Wolverhampton, where overtime was worked.

*East Midlands.*—Employment showed a further improvement, but was still slack and worse than a year ago. At Nottingham it was bad with most sections, and much short time was worked, but it was improving with boiler makers and brassfounders; it was very good in the cycle and motor industries, overtime being worked; it was moderate with hosiery and lace machine builders, fairly good with bobbin and carriage makers, bad with carriage straighteners. At Derby employment generally was dull, but improving; it was slack with boiler makers; railway carriage builders were fairly well employed. At Long Eaton and Derby wagon builders

were slack, as also were lace machine builders at the former place. At Leicester employment was fairly good; hosiery machine builders were busy.

*London and Neighbouring District.*—Employment on the whole showed little change as compared with a month and a year ago. Generally it was moderate. With brassfounders and brassfinishers it was dull, with copper smiths fair.

*South Coast.*—A further slight decline was shown, and employment was considerably below the level of a year ago. It was bad at Plymouth, Devonport, and Portsmouth, moderate at Southampton, Brighton, and Weymouth.

*South Wales and Bristol District.*—Employment was much the same as a month and a year ago. It was better at Swindon, where some overtime was worked, fair at Pembroke Dock and Milford, dull elsewhere. Some short time was reported at Bristol.

*Glasgow and District.*—Employment generally was worse than a month ago, but rather better than a year ago. It was to some extent affected by the pattern makers' dispute. With most sections it was fair, but it was quiet with moulders, and only moderate with iron dressers. It was good with copper smiths, and with brassfinishers at Greenock. Employment was good at Port Glasgow, bad at Clydebank, Kilmarnock and Paisley.

*East of Scotland.*—Employment was better than a month and a year ago. At Dundee it was good generally, and overtime was worked; with brassfounders and finishers it was quiet.

*Belfast and Dublin.*—Employment was better than a month ago, and about the same as a year ago. Generally it was moderate at Belfast, dull at Dublin.

*Other Districts.*—At Barrow employment was moderate generally, but dull with pattern makers and ironfounders. It was moderate at Lancaster, Stoke and Worcester; bad at Hanley, Stafford, and York.

### MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

(Based on Returns from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT generally in these trades was still dull, but there were some indications of improvement.

*Brasswork, Bedsteads, etc.*—Employment with brassworkers generally was slack, but was better than a month and a year ago. Bedstead and fire-brass makers at Birmingham were slack, with much short time.

*Nuts, Bolts, Nails, etc.*—With nut and bolt makers and cut and wire nail makers at Birmingham and Smethwick employment was moderate. With nut and bolt makers at Dudley employment was more regular; in South Wales it was fair. With rivet, spike and wrought nail makers at Blackheath it was depressed.

*Tubes.*—Employment in the South Staffordshire tube trade was better than a month and a year ago; at Landore it was fair. In Birmingham employment on cased and brazed tubes was reported as fairly good.

*Chains, Anchors, etc.*—At Cradley employment was fair with dollied, side welded and cable chain makers and strikers, and better than a month ago; with other branches it has improved. In South Wales it was rather better with chain makers than a month ago, but with anchor makers it was slack. In the North East Coast district employment was reported as good on large chains, but bad on small. Anvil and vice makers reported employment as having improved at Dudley. Employment on furniture for harness and cart gear at Walsall continued slack. The spring and axle trades at Birmingham, West Bromwich, and Wednesbury were fairly well employed. With makers of railway tyres and iron and steel forgings at Wednesbury employment also showed an improvement.

*Locks, Keys, and General Hardware.*—In the lock and latch trade employment remained bad, with a slight improvement in some branches. Employment with hollow-ware makers was moderate generally; bad at Sheffield. It was still good with spade and fork finishers at Stourbridge, fair at Wolverhampton on iron fences and hurdles, quiet with enamellers.

*Cutlery, Tools, etc.*—In the Sheffield cutlery and tool trade employment remained bad. Edge tool makers at Birmingham reported employment as moderate. In the file trade employment was quiet at Birmingham, fair at Wolverhampton, good with machine forgers and cutters at Sheffield, moderate in the hand-made branch, but quiet with hardeners.

*Stoves, Grates, etc.*—Employment generally was slack, but at Bolton, Glasgow and Falkirk it was fair; at Nottingham and Mansfield moderate.

*Sheet Metal, etc.*—Employment was good at Dudley and Hull; fair at Manchester and Bilston, and with London zinc workers; moderate at Sheffield; generally slack in other centres.

*Gold, Silver, Britannia Metal, etc.*—In London employment in the silver trades was slack, and also with goldsmiths and jewellers; with gold beaters employment was good. In Birmingham these trades were quiet, but better than last month; in Sheffield they were reported as bad, except platers and gilders, who were fair. In Coventry the watch trade continued quiet.

*Wire.*—In the wire trade employment on the whole continued fairly good. It was bad, however, in Birmingham with wire-weavers, and in Sheffield and Middlesbrough with wire drawers.

### COTTON TRADE.

(Based on Returns received from Employers through the Trade Correspondent, and on Returns from Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in May continued very brisk, and showed a slight further improvement in numbers employed and wages paid. Compared with a year ago, when, notwithstanding improvement, organised short time was still being worked, the number employed and wages paid showed a marked increase.

The average price of raw cotton, "middling American," during May was 4·43d. per lb., as compared with 4·22d. in April and 7·44d. in May, 1904. The prices of "good fair" Egyptian for the same three periods averaged 6·65d., 6·59d. and 7·91d. per lb. respectively.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making returns for the week ended May 27th was 160,535, an increase of 0·2 per cent. in the number employed compared with the week before Easter ended April 15th, and of 4·0 per cent. compared with the week before Whitsuntide ended May 21st, 1904.

In addition to supplying particulars of numbers employed, firms employing 134,140 operatives have stated the amount of weekly wages paid in the weeks ended May 27th and April 15th, 1905, and May 21st, 1904. From these returns it appears that, compared with April, the number employed showed an increase of 0·2 per cent., and the amount of wages paid showed an increase of 0·8 per cent. Compared with a year ago the number employed showed an increase of 4·1 per cent., and the amount of wages paid an increase of 10·3 per cent.

#### Analysis by Departments.

In the *Preparing* department there was an increase of 0·1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the week ended April 15th, and of 13·8 per cent. compared with a year ago.

In the *Spinning* department there was an increase of 0·5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with April, and of 11·9 per cent. compared with a year ago.

In the *Weaving* department there was an increase of 0·3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with April, and of 10·0 per cent. compared with a year ago.

In the ordinary course less than full time is sometimes worked owing to repairs and renewals of machinery, but otherwise there is now no short time attributable to bad trade. A year ago, however, there was organised short time and the percentages employed in spinning mills and weaving sheds thus affected were 31·7 and 18·8 respectively of the total number included in the spinning and weaving departments.







**FLAX AND JUTE TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers (see \* note below), Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

**Flax Trade.**

EMPLOYMENT generally showed little change as compared with a month and a year ago. It was fair generally except in Fifeshire, where it was slack.

The total number of workpeople employed on the last pay day in May, 1905, by the firms making returns\* was 59,458, a decrease of 0.1 per cent. on the number employed in the week ended April 15th, and an increase of 0.3 per cent. on the number employed in the week ended May 21st, 1904. The percentage of workpeople employed in departments working short time was somewhat less than in April, and about the same as a year ago.

According to the returns received the numbers employed in the different departments of the industry, and the percentage proportion of workpeople who were in departments working less than 54 hours per week were as follows:—

Department.	Number of Workpeople paid Wages on pay-day in week ended 27th May, 1905.	Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in numbers employed as compared with week ended		Percentage of Total Number employed who were in Departments working Short Time in the week ended		
		15th April, 1905.	21st May, 1904.	27th May, 1905.	15th Apr., 1905.	21st May, 1904.
Preparing ...	6,703	- 3.4	- 2.9	3.9	6.8	3.0
Spinning ...	7,842	- 0.1	- 2.3	4.7	8.1	3.5
Weaving ...	8,976	- 1.8	- 5.5	5.7	9.1	8.5
Other ...	2,982	- 1.6	- 1.7	3.8	11.8	10.6
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>25,903</b>	<b>- 1.6</b>	<b>- 3.5</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>5.2</b>

District.	Number of Workpeople paid Wages on pay-day in week ended 27th May, 1905.	Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in numbers employed as compared with week ended		Percentage of Total Number employed who were in Departments working Short Time in the week ended		
		15th April, 1905.	21st May, 1904.	27th May, 1905.	15th Apr., 1905.	21st May, 1904.
<b>IRELAND.</b>						
<b>Belfast—</b>						
Preparing ...	2,863	+ 0.6	- 1.2	...	...	...
Spinning ...	6,764	+ 0.4	+ 0.2	...	...	...
Weaving ...	7,718	- 0.5	+ 0.8	3.0	3.0	10.4
Other ...	2,554	- 1.4	+ 3.5	14.0	14.2	15.2
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>19,897</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>+ 0.6</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>5.9</b>
<b>Other Places—</b>						
Preparing ...	3,742	- 0.6	- 0.1	...	8.1	...
Spinning ...	6,424	+ 0.2	+ 2.0	...	8.0	...
Weaving ...	9,257	+ 0.4	+ 1.5	4.0	4.0	1.1
Other ...	3,622	+ 0.1	+ 1.6	16.2	16.2	13.0
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>23,545</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>	<b>+ 1.4</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>2.4</b>
<b>Total Ireland</b>	<b>43,442</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>+ 1.0</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>4.0</b>
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
<b>Fifeshire—</b>						
Preparing ...	599	+ 0.5	- 4.9	2.3	2.5	...
Spinning ...	859	- 0.6	- 0.6	...	...	...
Weaving ...	4,195	...	- 4.2	38.4	29.8	5.3
Other ...	1,388	...	- 1.1	18.6	14.3	2.5
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>7,081</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>- 3.2</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>3.6</b>
<b>Other Places—</b>						
Preparing ...	1,353	+ 0.6	+ 1.3	1.4	23.0	27.9
Spinning ...	2,229	- 0.4	+ 0.9	...	17.6	18.0
Weaving ...	3,255	- 0.1	- 0.5	...	30.3	19.9
Other ...	1,543	- 1.5	- 3.0	0.7	8.0	...
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>8,360</b>	<b>- 0.3</b>	<b>- 0.3</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>21.6</b>	<b>17.0</b>
<b>Total Scotland ...</b>	<b>15,441</b>	<b>- 0.2</b>	<b>- 1.7</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>21.2</b>	<b>10.8</b>
<b>Total United Kingdom†</b>	<b>59,458</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>+ 0.3</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>6.5</b>

It will be seen from the Table that in Ireland no important change occurred either in the numbers employed or in the percentage of workpeople in departments working short time. Employment generally was reported as fair. The Employers' returns continued to show an excess of labour available in Belfast and a deficiency in other parts of Ulster.

In Fifeshire the Table shows that, compared with a year ago, there was a decline of 3.2 per cent. in the total number of workpeople employed, and an increase from 3.6 to 26.6 in the percentage employed in departments working short time. In other parts of Scotland there was little change in the numbers employed, and a reduction in the percentage working short time.

**Jute Trade.**

Employment in this industry remained moderate, and worse than a year ago.

The number of workpeople employed on the last pay day in May, 1905, by firms making returns\* was 25,903,

\* The figures given in this article for the three periods are strictly comparable, as the returns for May, 1905, also give the figures for April, 1905, and May, 1904. They cannot, however, be compared with those given in previous issues of the Gazette, as the numbers of returns received for each issue are not necessarily the same. The returns do not cover the whole trade in any month, but a sufficiently large sample to indicate the state of the industry.

† Including five returns from Yorkshire.

a decrease of 1.6 per cent. on the number employed in the week ended April 15th, and of 3.5 per cent. on the number employed in the week ended May 21st, 1904. The percentage of workpeople who were employed in departments working short time was 5.0, against 8.6 in the week ended April 15th.

According to the returns received the numbers employed in the different departments of the industry and the proportion employed in departments working short time were as follows:—

Department.	Number of Workpeople paid Wages on pay-day in week ended 27th May, 1905.	Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in numbers employed as compared with week ended		Percentage of Total Number employed who were in Departments working Short Time in the week ended		
		15th April, 1905.	21st May, 1904.	27th May, 1905.	15th Apr., 1905.	21st May, 1904.
Preparing ...	6,703	- 3.4	- 2.9	3.9	6.8	3.0
Spinning ...	7,842	- 0.1	- 2.3	4.7	8.1	3.5
Weaving ...	8,976	- 1.8	- 5.5	5.7	9.1	8.5
Other ...	2,982	- 1.6	- 1.7	3.8	11.8	10.6
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>25,903</b>	<b>- 1.6</b>	<b>- 3.5</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>5.2</b>

Of the total number, 21,792 were employed in Dundee, a decrease of 1.9 per cent. as compared with the number employed by the same firms in April, and of 4.0 per cent. as compared with May, 1904. The employers' returns showed that an excess of labour was available in Dundee.

**IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.**

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

Description.	Month ended 31st May.			Five months ended 31st May.		
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
<b>Imports:</b>						
Flax (Dressed and Undressed) Tons or Codilla	10,964	9,066	11,789	56,141	46,939	55,899
Jute ...	6,210	5,914	12,314	27,472	149,411	135,181
<b>Exports:</b>						
Linen Yarn Lbs.	1,185,700	1,283,200	1,455,500	5,766,600	6,155,200	6,040,300
Linen Piece Goods ... Yds.	11,535,200	11,942,900	14,690,800	64,456,700	68,724,000	77,563,600
Jute Yarn ... Lbs.	4,366,000	4,114,000	3,468,700	18,908,400	16,678,500	19,030,800
Jute Piece Goods ... Yds.	17,310,500	17,029,000	16,072,700	80,705,300	84,214,500	66,075,600

**SILK TRADE.**

(Based on Returns from Employers and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the Silk trade as a whole showed little change as compared with a month ago. In the Throwing department employment showed a decline during May as compared with the previous month and with the corresponding period of last year. In the Spinning department there was a slight improvement. The Weaving department showed little change as compared with last month and an improvement as compared with May, 1904. In other departments there was very little change compared with a month ago and a considerable decline compared with the corresponding period of last year.

Returns from firms employing 12,365 workpeople at the end of May showed an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed compared with the previous month, and of 1.1 per cent. compared with a year ago. The number of throwing spindles working showed a decline of 3.9 per cent. compared with last month, and of 1.3 per cent. compared with May, 1904. There was an increase of 1.5 per cent. in the number of spinning spindles compared with a month ago, and of 0.9 per cent. compared with a year ago. The number of power and hand looms working showed a decline of 0.9 per cent. compared with the previous month, and an increase of 5.4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

The following Table shows the number of spindles and looms at work and the number of workpeople employed

\* Monday, April 10th, having been a holiday in Dundee, 45 hours has been regarded as full time in Dundee for this week. For other periods full time has been taken as at least 54 hours.

in the various departments at the end of May, compared with April, 1905, and May, 1904:—

Spindles and Looms.	Number of Spindles and Looms working in week ended			Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with	
	27th May, 1905.	16th Apr., 1905.	21st May, 1904.	April, 1905.	May, 1904.
Throwing Spindles ...	167,107	173,958	169,335	- 3.94	- 1.32
Spinning Spindles ...	129,949	127,982	128,774	+ 1.54	+ 0.91
Looms ...	5,461	5,509	5,179	- 0.87	+ 5.45

Departments.	No. of Workpeople paid Wages on pay day in week ended			Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with	
	27th May, 1905.	16th Apr., 1905.	21st May, 1904.	April, 1905.	May, 1904.
Throwing ...	2,394	2,423	2,309	- 1.20	+ 3.68
Spinning ...	3,019	2,980	2,979	+ 1.31	+ 1.34
Weaving ...	4,138	5,106	4,980	+ 0.65	+ 3.17
Other ...	1,814	1,806	1,965	+ 0.44	- 7.68
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>12,365</b>	<b>12,315</b>	<b>12,233</b>	<b>+ 0.41</b>	<b>+ 1.08</b>

The following Table shows an analysis, by districts, of the returns received:—

Districts.	May, 1905.			Apr., 1905.			May, 1904.		
	No. of Workpeople employed—	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.			
Lancashire and W. Riding of York	2,768	2.749	2.700	2,722	2.781	2.783			
Macclesfield, Congleton and District	1,378	1.353	1.385	2,490	2.456	2,687			
Leek ...	3,007	2.996	2,738	...	...	...			
Eastern Counties	...	...	...	...	...	...			
Other Districts, including Scotland	...	...	...	...	...	...			
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>12,365</b>	<b>12.315</b>	<b>12,233</b>	<b>12,365</b>	<b>12.315</b>	<b>12,233</b>			

Districts.	No. of Spindles (Throwing and Spinning) Working—			No. of Looms (Power and Hand) Working—		
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Lancashire and W. Riding of York	63,750	62,590	62,966	1,143	1,164	1,066
Macclesfield, Congleton and District	68,173	67,804	69,605	749	817	790
Leek ...	14,293	14,793	14,561	443	440	436
Eastern Counties	112,077	118,414	117,170	1,541	1,538	1,562
Other Districts, including Scotland	37,863	38,839	33,717	1,585	1,550	1,385
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>297,056</b>	<b>301,940</b>	<b>298,109</b>	<b>5,461</b>	<b>5,509</b>	<b>5,179</b>

**Imports and Exports.**—The imports of raw and thrown silk and of spun silk yarn and the exports of thrown silk yarn and silk broadstuffs are shown in the Table below for the periods specified:—

Description.	Month ended May.			Five Months ended May.		
	1905.	1904.	1903.	1905.	1904.	1903.
<b>Imports:—</b>						
Raw Silk ...	127,317	87,475	65,345	447,947	544,573	431,140
Thrown Silk ...	51,582	58,739	49,144	229,717	240,226	242,367
Spun Silk Yarn ...	32,372	13,227	14,172	160,795	63,496	56,324
<b>Exports:—</b>						
Thrown Silk ...	481,285	330,790	333,620	2,823,307	1,764,016	2,013,188

**OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.**

**Hosiery Trade.**

(Based on Returns from Employers and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in England showed a slight improvement compared with a month ago and was moderate; it was decidedly better than a year ago. In Scotland it continued good, and was on the whole better than a year ago.

Firms employing 20,540 workpeople, and paying £15,429 in wages during the week ended May 27th, have made returns. From these it appears that there was an increase of 0.9 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with the week ended April 15th. Compared with the last full week (ended May 21st) a year ago the number employed by the same firms showed an increase of 4.1 per cent., and the amount of wages paid an increase of 5.8 per cent.

From the following district table it is seen that compared with the week ended April 15th there was an improvement both in numbers employed and wages paid in every district except Hawick, which showed a decline. Employment however was reported as still good in Hawick, whereas in Leicester, Loughborough, Belper and Ilkeston notwithstanding the slight improvement it was reported as still only moderate, in Hinckley, as fair; it was reported as fairly good with framework knitters at Nottingham, Sutton-in-Ashfield and Mansfield.

Compared with a year ago every district except the miscellaneous group in Scotland showed a decided improvement, the increase in amount of wages being most marked in the Notts and Derbyshire district (11.5 per cent.), and in Hawick (9.9 per cent.); the improvement was least marked in Leicester (only 3.4 per cent.), and in the Leicestershire country district (4.8 per cent.)

District.	Workpeople.		Earnings.	
	No. paid wages on last pay day in week ending 27th May, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) compared with week ended 15th April, 1905.	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid in week ending 27th May, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) compared with week ended 15th April, 1905.
Leicester ...	8,561	+ 0.4	6,610	+ 1.5
Leicester Country District ...	2,823	+ 1.4	2,294	+ 2.4
Notts and Derbyshire ...	5,085	+ 11.5	4,023	+ 4.1
Hawick ...	1,009	- 0.4	831	- 4.0
Other Parts of Scotland ...	1,690	+ 1.7	947	+ 0.4
Other Parts of United Kingdom	1,372	+ 1.9	744	+ 3.2
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>20,540</b>	<b>+ 0.9</b>	<b>15,429</b>	<b>+ 2.0</b>

**Lace Trade.**

(Based on Returns from an Employers' Association, a Trade Union, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in England was bad, and worse than a year ago; in Scotland it was quiet, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In Nottingham employment was reported as bad in the levers and curtain branches, and worse than a year ago; in the plain net branch it was fairly good. It was reported as moderate at Sandiacre, Stapleford, Kimberley and Bulwell; as slightly improved at Beeston in the levers section, but as very bad in the curtain section. Employment continued bad at Ilkeston and Long Eaton, with much short time. With lace makers at Glasgow it was reported as fair; at Newmills as quiet, and worse than a month ago, with most of the Trade Union members on short time.

**Printing, Dyeing, Bleaching, and Finishing.**

(Based on Returns from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

**Woollen and Worsted Dyers.**—Employment in the West Riding was moderate, and a little better than a month ago and a year ago. About half the Trade Union dyers worked short time.

**Cotton Dyers.**—Employment generally was good, but slightly worse than a month ago; it was better than a year ago.

**Calico Printers, etc.**—Employment was reported as fair at New Mills and Manchester. Printers' engravers at Dinting were reported as very busy. At Glasgow employment was reported as dull with calico printers, and worse than a month ago; as very good with calico printers' engravers and better than a month ago; and as bad with block printers.

**Hosiery Dyers, Trimmers, &c.**—At Leicester employment was bad, the majority of firms being reported as on short time. At Hinckley and Loughborough employment was fairly good. It was reported as moderate with dyers at Nottingham and Basford, and worse than a year ago; as moderate with bleachers at Basford; as slightly improved with hosiery trimmers at Bulwell and Basford, and better than a year ago.

**Calenderers, etc.**—In Glasgow employment remained dull. In Dundee it was reported as good with dyers, fair with bleachfield workers, and bad with calender workers.



**TAILORING TRADE.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

Employment in both the *bespoke* and *ready-made* branches was fairly good and better than a month ago and a year ago.

**Bespoke Branch.**

*London.*—Employment was fairly good and better than a month ago and a year ago. Firms paying £18,398 in wages to their workpeople during the four weeks ended May 27th showed an increase of 14.0 per cent. on the amount paid during the four weeks ended April 29th; and an increase of 9.9 per cent. on the amount paid during the four weeks ended May 28th, 1904 (a period which included the Whitsuntide holidays).

*Other Centres.*—Employment is reported as good at Manchester and Belfast, fairly good at Glasgow, fair at Liverpool, Edinburgh, and Dublin.

**Ready-made Branch.**

*London.*—Employment was good and better than a month ago and a year ago.

*Leeds.*—Employment was fairly good and was better than a month ago and a year ago. According to returns received from firms employing about 9,750 workpeople in their factories, in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops, employment during May was good with firms employing 67 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns, and moderate with firms employing 33 per cent. Compared with a month ago, firms employing 77 per cent. reported employment as improved, firms employing 9 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 14 per cent. as worse. Compared with a year ago, firms employing 82 per cent. reported it as improved, firms employing 10 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 8 per cent. as worse. Several firms worked overtime the whole of the month, and only one or two firms worked short time; the Jewish operatives were also busier.

*Other Centres.*—In Manchester and Bristol employment was fair and better than a month ago and a year ago. In Leicester it was good and better than a month ago. In Staffordshire it was reported as quiet. In the Eastern Counties employment was reported as fairly good, and better than a year ago. In Glasgow it was fairly good, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

**BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.**

(Based on Returns received from Employers through the Trade Correspondent, and on Returns from Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued generally to improve, and was moderate; it was considerably better than a year ago.

Of the total number of operatives covered by the returns, the percentage employed by firms working full time during the week ended May 27th was 78, the same as in April.

The number employed at the end of May by the 595 firms making returns was 76,801, an increase of 1.3 per cent. compared with the previous month and of 2.0 per cent. compared with May, 1904.

In addition to supplying information as to numbers employed, 488 firms, employing 65,501 workpeople, have made returns as to wages paid in the weeks ended May 27th and April 15th, 1905, and May 21st, 1904. These returns showed an increase of 3.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with the previous month, and of 8.1 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Compared with the middle of April, fourteen districts showed an increase in the amount of wages paid, and two showed a decrease. The increase was greatest in the Leeds district (10.9 per cent.), and at Kingswood (10.4 per cent.).

Compared with May, 1904, twelve districts showed an increase in the amount of wages paid, and four showed a decrease. The increase was greatest at Leicester (21.8 per cent.), Northampton (15.8 per cent.), the Leicester country district (13.5 per cent.), and the Stafford district (12.5 per cent.). The decrease was greatest at Kingswood (6.0 per cent.).

In the following Table the returns for the three periods are analysed by districts, showing numbers employed

and amounts of wages paid in the three periods mentioned:—

District.	Workpeople.				Earnings.			
	No. employed during week ending May 27th, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with week ending		Aggregate amount of wages paid on pay day in week ending May 27th, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with week ending		Per cent.	Per cent.
		April 15th, 1905.	May 21st, 1904.		April 15th, 1905.	May 21st, 1904.		
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.</b>		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.		
London ... ..	3,764	+ 2.5	+ 0.9	4,799	+ 4.5	+ 4.9		
Leicester ... ..	13,860	+ 1.1	+ 7.9	15,597	+ 2.2	+ 21.8		
Leicester Country District	3,230	+ 1.3	+ 2.4	2,892	- 0.4	+ 13.5		
Northampton ... ..	8,469	+ 1.0	+ 6.4	8,469	+ 3.0	+ 15.8		
Northampton Country District	8,853	+ 0.5	+ 0.6	8,139	+ 3.2	+ 2.1		
Kettering ... ..	2,988	+ 2.2	+ 6.0	3,136	+ 3.4	+ 10.5		
Stafford and District ... ..	2,845	+ 0.7	+ 8.8	2,557	+ 0.5	+ 12.5		
Norwich & District ... ..	4,134	+ 3.1	+ 2.2	3,562	+ 1.5	+ 5.5		
Bristol & District ... ..	2,144	+ 2.0	+ 3.3	1,980	+ 4.9	+ 5.7		
Kingswood ... ..	2,568	+ 1.6	+ 0.4	2,274	+ 10.4	- 6.0		
Leeds and District ... ..	2,761	+ 1.3	- 13.0	2,334	+ 10.9	- 1.5		
Manchester & District ... ..	1,903	+ 1.1	- 0.9	1,816	+ 3.4	- 2.5		
Birmingham & District ... ..	923	- 0.9	+ 2.0	751	- 0.6	+ 4.9		
Other parts of England and Wales	2,662	- 0.3	- 3.3	2,124	+ 2.2	+ 3.3		
England and Wales ... ..	61,044	+ 1.2	+ 2.9	60,430	+ 3.0	+ 9.1		
<b>SCOTLAND</b> ... ..	3,951	- 0.3	- 6.7	3,802	+ 2.2	- 5.7		
<b>IRELAND</b> ... ..	506	+ 1.4	- 1.0	377	+ 1.6	+ 5.9		
<b>UNITED KINGDOM</b> ... ..	65,501	+ 1.1	+ 2.3	64,609	+ 3.0	+ 8.1		

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

*London.*—Employment was again quiet, but was better than a month ago and a year ago. With hand-sewn bootmakers it was good, and better than in April, or a year ago.

*Leicester and District.*—Employment continued to improve in Leicester, and was very much better than in May, 1904. In the country district there was a slight decline, but employment was much better than a year ago.

*Northampton, Kettering, and District.*—Employment improved at Northampton, Daventry, and Desborough. Although still dull at Kettering, it was better than in April, and much better than a year ago.

*Stafford and District.*—Employment at Stafford continued good, and overtime was again reported. At Stone employment continued fairly good.

*Eastern Counties.*—Employment was generally good throughout this district.

*Bristol and Kingswood.*—There was an improvement in this district, but employment was still bad, and was worse than a year ago at Kingswood.

*Leeds and District.*—Employment continued bad, but had improved considerably compared with a month ago.

*Other Districts in England.*—Employment improved at Bishop Auckland, Derby and Newcastle-on-Tyne. It was fair at Kendal, and Plymouth; moderate at Nottingham, and bad at Birmingham, Chesterfield, Mansfield and Wolverhampton.

*Scotland.*—Employment showed, on the whole, an improvement compared with the previous month, but was worse than a year ago. The Trade Union lasters and finishers reported it as good at Kilmarnock and Edinburgh; slack at Glasgow, and very bad at Maybole. With hand-sewn shoemakers employment was good generally. The clickers and pressmen reported a slight improvement at Glasgow.

**Imports and Exports.**—The following Table gives the quantities and the values of the boots and shoes imported and exported during the following periods:—

	Month ended 31st May.			Five months ended 31st May.		
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
<b>Imports</b> { Dozen pairs... ..	22,020	19,512	21,596	108,030	99,635	100,252
{ Value £ ... ..	94,911	80,588	88,792	438,430	372,702	402,227
<b>Re-Exports</b> { Dozen pairs... ..	1,298	1,251	1,121	9,546	9,293	5,958
{ Value £ ... ..	3,734	4,030	3,098	24,968	23,568	15,193
<b>Exports</b> { Dozen pairs... ..	55,903	45,724	51,767	338,518	249,176	298,215
{ Value £ ... ..	135,108	110,808	125,449	813,024	578,434	703,412

**OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, Local Correspondents, Trade Unions, and Women's Employment Bureaux in London.)

EMPLOYMENT with dressmakers in London was fairly good, and better than a year ago; with wholesale mantle, costume and blouse makers it was fair, and better than a year ago; with milliners in retail firms it was good, in wholesale firms moderate. Employment in the shirt and collar and corset trades was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

*Dress, Millinery, and Mantle Trades.*—In London returns received from retail firms, chiefly in the West-end district, employing 1,413 dressmakers in the last week in May showed an increase of 8.2 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 6.3 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was fairly good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. Court dressmakers, employing 1,981 workpeople, showed an increase of 6.9 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 0.6 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment was fairly good, and about the same as a year ago. In the wholesale mantle, costume and blouse trades, firms employing 2,414 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) during the last week in May showed a decline of 1.3 per cent. in the number employed, compared with the end of April, and an increase of 4.2 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment, on the whole, was fair and slightly better than a month ago, and better than a year ago. Firms employing 1,217 milliners in the last week in May showed a further decrease of 0.9 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 1.8 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment was good in the retail firms, moderate in wholesale firms.

Returns from two Employment Bureaux showed a slight increase in the demand for dressmakers and milliners compared with a month ago, and little change compared with a year ago. The number applying for situations was again much less than the demand, and was about the same as a year ago.

In Manchester employment with mantle makers continued fairly good, and was slightly better than a year ago. In the costume and skirt trade employment during the month was fair; firms employing 1,838 workpeople in the last week in May showed a further decrease of 1.1 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 1.6 per cent. compared with a year ago.

In Glasgow employment in the mantle trade was fair and about the same as a year ago.

*Shirt and Collar Trade.*—Returns received from shirt and collar manufacturers in England, Scotland, and Ireland, employing 7,407 workpeople in their factories (in addition to 3,570 outworkers) at the end of May, showed an increase of 1.4 per cent. on the number employed at the end of April. Firms with 46 per cent. of the total number employed reported employment as improved, firms employing 50 per cent. as the same, and firms employing 4 per cent. as worse than a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 2.3 per cent. in the number employed. Firms employing 82 per cent. reported employment as improved, firms employing 12 per cent. as the same, and firms employing 6 per cent. as worse than a year ago. Employment was good in London and Manchester, fairly good in Glasgow and Belfast, and moderate in Londonderry. Employment with outworkers (of whom 3,401 were in Ireland) was good.

*Corset Trade.*—Returns received from corset manufacturers employing 3,961 workpeople in their factories at the end of May showed an increase of 3.0 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 4.0 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was good and slightly better than a month ago. Compared with a year ago, firms employing 61 per cent. of the total number reported employment as improved, firms employing 35 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 4 per cent. as worse.

**HAT TRADE.**

(Based on Returns from Employers' Associations and Trade Unions.)

EMPLOYMENT in the silk hat trade continued dull; in the felt hat trade it was fairly good.

With *silk* hatters employment in London although slightly improved was still dull, with more unemployed than a year ago. In Denton employment was fair, and better than a month ago and a year ago. The Trade Union silk hatters had 10.7 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of May, compared with 12.0 per cent. at the end of April, and 7.6 per cent. a year ago.

With *felt* hatters in Denton employment was fairly good and rather better than a month ago. At Stockport it was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. At Hyde, Hurst, and Failsworth it was quiet with makers of stiff felts, but improved with makers of soft felts; a good deal of short time was reported. At Bury employment was still bad, but was a little better than a month ago; at Bredbury it was good with makers of ladies' hats, but quiet in the hard felt branch. In Warwickshire employment was fair, and rather better than a month ago; it was about the same as a year ago. The Trade Union felt hatters had 1.9 per cent. of their members unemployed, compared with 2.3 per cent. at the end of April, and 2.2 per cent. a year ago.

**OTHER LEATHER TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during May, though still slack, was better than a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 4,792 had 7.5 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 9.3 per cent. in April and 9.5 in May, 1905.

*Skinner, Tanners, Curriers, Dressers, etc.*—Employment was slack generally, but better than a month ago and a year ago. With curriers in London it continued good.

*Saddle and Harness Makers, etc.*—Employment, though still slack, was considerably better than a month ago. At Walsall many harness makers were idle, and there was a considerable amount of short time. At Birmingham also short time continued to be worked. At Glasgow, however, saddlers reported employment as good.

*Miscellaneous Leather Workers.*—Employment with fancy leather workers and portmanteau and trunk makers continued fair, and was better than a month and year ago.

**PRINTING, BOOKBINDING, AND PAPER TRADES.**

(Based on Returns from Employers, Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

THE returns show that employment at the end of May was slack, but slightly better than a month and a year ago.

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

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of May, 1905, included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		May, 1905.	Apr., 1905.	May, 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London ... ..	22,523	5.1	6.0	5.7	- 0.9	- 0.6
Northern Counties ... ..	1,472	6.5	5.8	5.1	+ 0.7	+ 1.4
Lancs. and Cheshire... ..	6,970	6.4	7.7	7.7	- 1.3	- 1.3
Yorkshire ... ..	4,373	5.3	5.3	5.5	...	- 0.2
East Midlands ... ..	2,146	5.5	4.8	4.3	+ 0.7	+ 1.2
West Midlands ... ..	2,481	6.4	6.4	6.6	...	- 0.2
Eastern Counties ... ..	395	2.5	2.8	1.8	+ 0.7	+ 0.7
S. & S.W. Counties... ..	2,840	3.4	3.4	2.8	...	+ 0.6
Wales and Mon. ... ..	836	6.5	4.7	2.8	+ 1.8	+ 3.7
Scotland ... ..	6,324	4.1	3.4	4.0	+ 0.7	+ 0.1
Ireland ... ..	2,715	8.1	8.4	8.7	- 0.3	- 0.6
United Kingdom ... ..	53,680	5.4	5.8	5.6	- 0.4	- 0.2

**PRINTING AND BOOKBINDING TRADES.**

In *letterpress printing* there was a slight improvement, Trade Unions with 39,554 members having 5.0 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 5.4



per cent. in April, 1905 and May, 1904. In lithographic printing Trade Unions with 6,501 members had 5.2 per cent. unemployed, against 6.1 a month ago, and 4.9 a year ago. With bookbinders employment remained bad, the percentage unemployed of 7,025 Trade Union members in this section being 7.4, compared with 7.7 a month ago, and 7.5 in May, 1904.

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

**London.**—Employment was better than a month ago and year ago. With letterpress printers it was fair, Trade Unions with 16,787 members having 4.2 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 5.3 per cent. a month ago, and 4.8 per cent. a year ago. In the lithographic trade employment was dull, the percentage unemployed of 2,014 Trade Union members being 6.3, against 6.9 in April, and 6.7 in May, 1904. With bookbinders employment continued bad, with much short time; Trade Unions with 3,722 members had 8.4 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, against 8.7 in April, and 9.3 a year ago.

**Northern Counties.**—Employment remained slack generally. At Carlisle, however, it was good.

**Lancashire and Cheshire.**—Employment, though slack on the whole, was better than a month and year ago. With lithographic printers it was fair.

**Yorkshire.**—Employment remained slack, and with letterpress printers short time was frequent. Lithographic printers, however, were fairly well employed.

**Midland Counties.**—Employment was fairly good in the East Midland Counties, except at Nottingham, where it was slack. In the West Midlands employment was quiet generally.

**Eastern, Southern, and South-Western Counties.**—Employment continued fairly good generally, but slack with letterpress printers at Oxford, many of whom were on short time.

**Wales and Monmouthshire.**—Employment was quiet on the whole.

**Scotland.**—In Edinburgh employment with letterpress printers was fairly good, with some overtime, and better than a year ago. With lithographic printers employment remained quiet; with bookbinders it was fairly good on letterpress work, and dull in other branches. At Glasgow and Aberdeen employment was bad; at Dundee it was good.

**Ireland.**—Employment was dull generally.

PAPER TRADES.

Employment in England remained good in the machine trade, and continued to improve in the hand-made trade. Branches of Trade Unions with 2,409 members had 3.1 per cent. unemployed at the end of May, compared with 3.8 per cent. a month ago, and 3.0 per cent. a year ago. In Scotland returns received from 28 employers showed that 4,597 workpeople were employed by them at the end of May, as compared with 4,579 at the end of April, and 4,623 at the end of May, 1904, and that employment, though still fairly good, remained worse than a year ago.

FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

(Based on Returns from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during May was, on the whole, fair, and showed an improvement compared with a month ago and a year ago. The improvement, however, was mainly in the furnishing and coachbuilding trades. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members in the furnishing and woodworking trades at the end of May was 4.1, as compared with 4.6 at the end of April, 1905, and 5.3 at the end of May, 1904.

Millsawyers and Woodcutting Machinists.

Employment with millsawyers and woodcutting machinists continued slack and was worse than a year

ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 4,741 showed 2.79 (or 5.9 per cent.) unemployed at the end of May, as compared with 5.6 per cent. at the end of April, 1905, and 4.7 per cent. at the end of May, 1904.

Furnishing Trades.

In the furnishing trades employment continued to improve, and was much better than a year ago. Sixteen Trade Unions, with a membership of 13,693, showed 5.27 (or 3.8 per cent.) unemployed at the end of May, as compared with 4.4 per cent. at the end of April, 1905, and 6.9 per cent. at the end of May, 1904.

Coopers.

Employment with coopers continued dull with much short time, and was not so good as a month ago and a year ago. At Hull, however, it was fair, but not quite so good as a month ago. At Peterhead and Fraserburgh it continued good.

Coachbuilding.

Employment in the coachbuilding industry on the whole continued to improve, and may now be described as fair generally. It was better than a year ago. Trade Unions of coachmakers, wheelwrights, smiths, &c., with a membership of 8,052, reported 1.60 (or 2.0 per cent.) unemployed at the end of May, as compared with 3.0 per cent. at the end of April, 1905, and 2.8 per cent. at the end of May, 1904.

Miscellaneous.

**Brushmakers.**—Employment with brushmakers continued fair and was better than a year ago. With ivory and bone brushmakers in London it remained quiet. Trade Unions with a membership of 1,719 reported 5.6 (or 3.3 per cent.) unemployed at the end of May, as compared with 2.9 per cent. at the end of April, 1905, and 4.0 per cent. at the end of May, 1904.

**Other Trades.**—With packing-case makers employment was generally quiet, but at Sheffield it was good. With basket makers it was good at Leicester, Manchester, and Glasgow, but bad in London.

GLASS, POTTERY, AND BRICK AND TILE TRADES.

(Based on Returns from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the Glass trades was moderate, and better than a month ago and a year ago. In the Pottery trades it was moderate, with much short time, and in the Brick and Tile trades it was slack.

**Glass Trades.**—Employment with glass bottle-makers was good at Bristol, St. Helens, Newton-le-Willows, Belfast and Dublin; moderate in the Barnsley, Mexbro' and Swinton district, in the Wear district, and at Portobello; improving at Leeds; and fair at Seaham Harbour, Wakefield and Glasgow. With makers of medicine-bottles at Rotherham employment showed a slight improvement on a month ago, when it was quiet.

Employment with flint-glass makers continued bad at Warrington and Edinburgh; moderate at Manchester; fair at Birmingham and Glasgow; and good at Stourbridge. With flint-glass cutters it was quiet generally. It was, however, bad at Glasgow, and dull at Edinburgh. With flint-glass workers at Barnsley it continued moderate. Employment with plate-glass bevellers and silverers at Birmingham continued fair. With sheet-glass makers and sheet-glass flatteners at St. Helens it continued good. It was bad with pressed-glass makers on the Tyne and Wear, with much short time. Employment with glass-blowers in London continued good.

**Pottery Trades.**—In Staffordshire employment in the pottery trades continued only moderate, and short time was general. At Swadlincote (Derbyshire) the potters again worked four days per week. At Newcastle-on-Tyne employment continued fair. In the South Yorkshire and River Aire districts about four days per week were worked. In the Woodville district employment with makers of sanitary ware was quiet. At Bridgewater employment with potters was fairly brisk.

In Scotland employment generally was moderate, and better than a month ago, no short time being worked.

At Glasgow it was dull with white hollow-ware potters, fair with tobacco-pipe makers, and good with stoneware throwers.

**Brick and Tile Trades.**—A slight improvement was reported at Peterborough, but there was much short time. Employment was bad at Birmingham; slack in North Wales, in the Woodville district, at Cambridge, and in the Sheffield and Barnsley district, except at Normanton, where it was good; moderate at Nottingham and Exeter; fair in the Tees and Hartlepool district, in South Staffordshire, in Somerset, and in the Plymouth district; and good in South Wales, in Suffolk and Essex, and in the Oldham district.

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

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

ACCORDING to the reports received, May was an exceptionally dry month, and the weather was on the whole favourable for agricultural operations, and employment generally was regular. Owing to drought, however, there was not so much hoeing and weeding to be done as is usual in the month of May, and consequently there was some irregularity of employment among day labourers in certain districts. The demand for all classes of labour was generally fully satisfied, but there was a continued scarcity of men for permanent situations in parts of the Midland and South Western Counties.

**Northern Counties.**—Employment was regular on the whole in Cumberland, though a few men were said to be in irregular work. Employment was also regular in Lancashire, where the supply of labour was stated to be about equal to the demand. In Yorkshire fine weather enabled farmers for the most part to get well ahead with their work. Day labourers were generally in excess of the demand, and some men of this class were reported to be in irregular employment. A report from the Ripon Union refers to the arrival of some Irish migratory labourers.

**Midland Counties.**—Farm labourers were, on the whole, well employed in Cheshire, though the backward state of the green crops interfered with the regular employment of Irish migratory labourers. The supply of labour was generally plentiful, but some scarcity of men for milking is reported. Employment was regular in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. A report from the Bingham Union of the latter county states that hired men have been engaged at about £2 per year less than a year ago. In Leicestershire dry weather delayed hoeing and weeding, but employment in this county was generally regular. It was also regular in Staffordshire and Shropshire, where the supply of labour was quite equal to the demand. A correspondent in the Leek Union (Staffs.) reports that men for permanent situations were less in demand at recent hirings than for some years past. In Worcestershire and Warwickshire employment was regular on the whole, though there was not much hoeing to be done, owing to continued dry weather, and the supply of extra men was equal to the demand. Farm work made good progress in Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire, and employment was regular. There was also regularity of employment in Buckinghamshire, where there continued to be a scarcity of milkers and shepherds. In Hertfordshire farm labourers were generally in full employment, and there was a fair demand for extra men in certain districts. Employment was regular in Bedfordshire, but there was more than a sufficient supply of day labourers, for which the slackness in the Northampton boot industry was said to be partly accountable.

**Eastern Counties.**—Employment was generally regular in Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire, but the dry weather somewhat delayed work on the root crops and some day labourers in both counties were in irregular work. Farm labourers in Lincolnshire were for the most part in full employment. At the May hirings there was rather an excess of waggons and a correspondent states that men were engaged at less wages than for some years past. In Norfolk and Suffolk employment was regular, but the forward state of farm work and the excessively

dry weather caused loss of time to a few day labourers. The supply of this class of labour was in excess of the demand in several districts. Agricultural labourers were on the whole well employed in Essex. In this county also the supply of day labour was more than sufficient. A correspondent in the Epping Union states that he has never seen so many men seeking work.

**Southern and South Western Counties.**—Drought caused a few day labourers in Kent to be in irregular work, but employment in this county was generally regular. In Surrey and Sussex there was, for the most part, full employment for farm labourers, and a general sufficiency of extra men. A slight tendency towards lower wages is reported from the Hailsham and Battle Unions of Sussex. Employment was, generally speaking, regular in Hampshire, and also in Berkshire, in which county some scarcity of men for permanent situations involving Sunday work was reported. A few men were in irregular employment in Wiltshire and Dorsetshire, partly due to the scarcity of hoeing, but most of the farm labourers were fully employed. Employment in Somerset was regular on the whole, but the dry and cold weather, which interfered with the growth of the crops, caused some scarcity of employment among day labourers in certain districts. Employment was regular in Herefordshire, where farm work is said to be well forward. In Gloucestershire several day labourers were not in constant employment on account of the dry weather, which caused hoeing to be backward. There was some scarcity of men for permanent situations in this county. In Devonshire and Cornwall there was constant employment for agricultural labourers, and the supply of extra men was generally short of the demand, this being attributed in certain districts to the demand for builders' labourers. There is a continued scarcity of men for permanent situations in both counties, and a tendency towards higher wages is reported in the South Molton Union of Devonshire.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

(Based, as regards London, on Returns from Dock Companies, the Owners of the principal Wharves, the Shipping Federation, and Trade Unions; as regards other principal ports, on information supplied by Superintendents of Mercantile Marine, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents of the Department.)

EMPLOYMENT in May was moderate and showed, on the whole, little change compared with a month and a year ago.

London.

The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves during the four weeks ended May 27th was 12,614, an increase of 3.8 per cent. on April, and a decrease of 3.1 per cent. on May, 1904.

(1) **Weekly Averages.**—The following Table shows the estimated average number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily in each of the four weeks ended May 27th:—

Period.	Labourers employed in Docks			Labourers employed at 108 Wharves making Returns.	Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended May 6th	5,125	2,464	7,589	5,485	13,074
" " " 13th	5,283	2,149	7,432	5,487	12,919
" " " 20th	4,859	2,216	7,075	5,489	12,564
" " " 27th	4,488	1,954	6,452	5,449	11,901
Average for 4 weeks ended May 27th	4,939	2,198	7,137	5,477	12,614
Average for Apr., 1905	4,481	2,258	6,883	5,469*	12,352*
Average for May, 1904	5,208	2,240	7,448	5,577*	13,025*

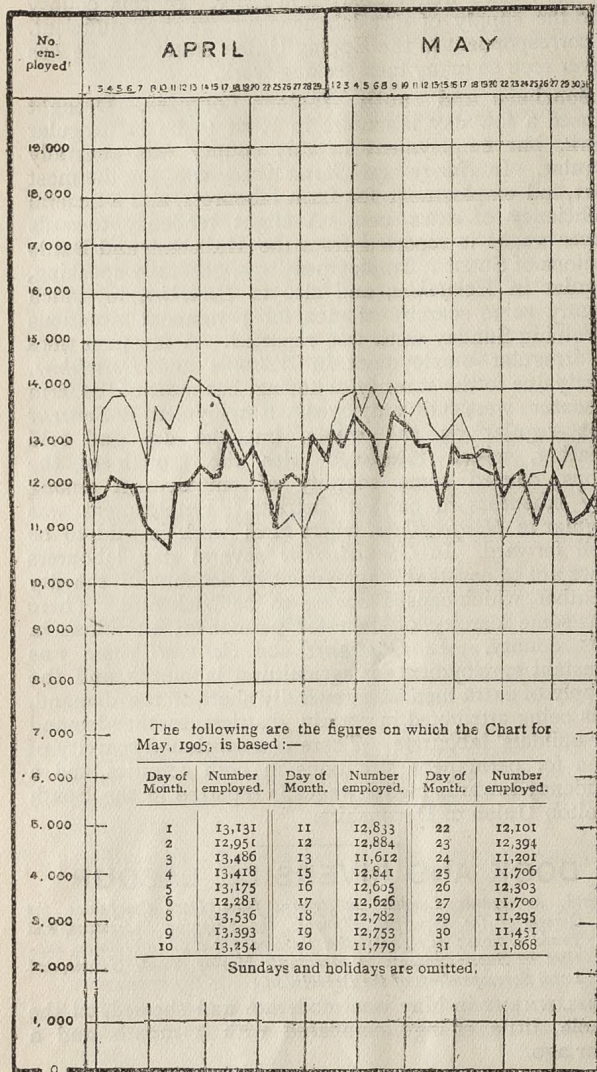
(2) **Daily Fluctuations.**—The daily fluctuations in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers are shown in the following Chart. The numbers in May ranged from 11,201 on the 24th to 13,536 on the 8th. During May, 1904, the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed ranged from 10,962 on the 21st to 14,137 on the 9th.

\* Revised figures.



Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 108 of the principal Wharves, for each day during the months of April and May, 1905. The corresponding curve for April and May, 1904, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1905, and the thin curve to 1904.]



The following are the figures on which the Chart for May, 1905, is based:—

Day of Month.	Number employed.	Day of Month.	Number employed.	Day of Month.	Number employed.
1	13,131	11	12,833	22	12,101
2	12,956	12	12,884	23	12,394
3	13,486	13	11,612	24	11,201
4	13,418	14	12,841	25	11,706
5	13,175	15	12,653	26	12,303
6	12,281	16	12,626	27	11,700
7	13,536	17	12,782	28	11,295
8	13,393	18	12,752	29	11,451
9	13,354	19	11,779	30	11,865
10	13,354	20	11,779	31	11,865

Employment generally was moderate at the docks, and fair at the wharves. It was moderate with coal porters, winchmen, and corn porters. With deal porters, lumpers, lightermen, and workers in mid-stream employment was fair. It was fair also with fruit porters in Thames Street, the average daily number employed being 279, as compared with 276 in the previous month, and 292 a year ago.

Of the 3,411 "free labourers" on the register of the Shipping Federation in the Port of London during May, 48 per cent. were, on the average, employed by the shipowners to whom the office supplies labour, as compared with 52 per cent. in the previous month, and 73 per cent. in May, 1904.

**Other Ports.**

**North-East Coast.**—Employment was reported as moderate at Newcastle and Sunderland, and as bad at South Shields. On the Tees, employment with dock labourers was fair at Middlesbrough, but slack at Hartlepool; with riverside labourers it was good on import and moderate on export work.

**Hull, Goole, and Grimsby.**—Employment was moderate on the whole, and improved with coal porters, the Baltic trade season having opened during the month.

**Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex.**—Employment was good at Ipswich and Parkeston; fair at Harwich, and quiet at Yarmouth, Lynn, and Lowestoft.

**Southampton and Plymouth.**—Employment was fair generally.

**Bristol Channel Ports.**—At Bristol employment was moderate, but not so good as a month ago; with grain handlers it was slack. In South Wales it was slack on general work, but fair with coal-trimmers and patent fuel loaders.

**Liverpool and Manchester.**—With dock labourers at Liverpool employment remained slack, but with Mersey flatmen a further improvement was reported. At Manchester employment was fair.

**Glasgow.**—Employment was again reported as fair, but a large proportion of the men were still idle.

**East of Scotland Ports.**—At Leith employment was reported as bad, except with coal porters. At Dundee and Aberdeen it was fair, and better than a month ago.

**Irish Ports.**—Employment was reported as moderate at Belfast; fair at Dublin and Cork.

**FISHING INDUSTRY.**

(Based on Returns from the Collectors of Fishery Statistics for England and Wales, the Fishery Board for Scotland, a Trade Union, and Local Correspondents.)

FROM the Tyne and Wear it is reported that trawl and line fishing boats were well employed during May and landed good catches.

At Hull employment was fair with all classes. With fishermen it was about the same as in April, but worse than a year ago. Among fish dock labourers it was worse than a month ago and a year ago. With fish curers it was the same as in April and a year ago. At Grimsby employment was good among all classes, and better than a month and a year ago. At Yarmouth it was good with fishermen, better than in April, and the same as in May, 1904. Among fish dock labourers employment was fair, the same as a month and a year ago. It was bad with fish curers, the same as in April and a year ago. At Lowestoft employment was fair with fishermen, and about the same as in May, 1904. It was bad with fish dock labourers and fish curers, and about the same as a month and a year ago. The fishing industry at Harwich continued poor.

Off the South-western coast fishing showed an improvement both on the distant and the home grounds, as compared with the previous month. Good catches were made throughout the month. Employment was good among fish packers, carters and curers.

The catches during the month were good at Cardiff, Swansea and Milford. Employment was good at Aberdeen in all branches, the same as a month and a year ago. At Peterhead it was good among all classes, and better than in April, 1905, or in May, 1904. It was moderate at Macduff with fishermen and fish curers, and better than in the previous month or a year ago. At Arbroath and Montrose fair catches were landed throughout the month. At Fraserburgh employment was fair among fishermen, and better than a month and a year ago. It was good with fish dock labourers, fish curers and barrel makers. With fish dock labourers it was better than a month and a year ago, and with fish curers and barrel makers it was the same.

Off the South and South-west coasts of Ireland there was an improvement as compared with the previous month.

**SEAMEN SHIPPED IN MAY.**

(Based on Returns from the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.)

DURING May the supply of seamen at the ports included in the returns was either equal to or in excess of the demand.

Returns received from certain selected ports (at which 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the Foreign Trade is entered and cleared) show that, during May 40,494\* seamen were shipped on foreign-going vessels, an increase of 2,482 as compared with the number shipped in May, 1904. The greatest increases occurred at Liverpool, Cardiff, and the Tyne Ports. The decreases were most marked at Bristol and Sunderland.

During the five completed months of 1905, 177,147 seamen were shipped, of whom 26,586 (or 15 per cent.)

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in				
	May.		Five months ended May.		
	1904.	1905.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905.	1904.	1905.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>					
<b>East Coast.</b>					
Tyne Ports ...	2,896	3,197	+ 301	13,720	13,243
Sunderland ...	648	415	- 233	2,455	2,014
Middlesbrough ...	279	287	+ 8	1,097	1,148
Hull ...	917	1,032	+ 115	5,015	4,879
Grimsby ...	103	146	+ 43	243	337
<b>Bristol Channel.</b>					
Bristol ...	738	446	- 292	3,096	2,620
Newport, Mon. ...	776	1,005	+ 229	3,740	4,603
Cardiff ...	4,459	5,097	+ 638	22,777	23,422
Swansea ...	595	403	- 192	1,891	2,339
<b>Other Ports.</b>					
Liverpool ...	14,162	15,730	+ 1,568	61,669	65,079
London ...	6,501	6,713	+ 212	30,178	28,573
Southampton ...	2,237	2,058	- 179	10,949	9,539
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>					
Leith ...	403	257	- 146	1,876	1,917
Kirkcaldy, Methil, & Grange-mouth ...	152	198	+ 46	770	995
Glasgow ...	3,089	3,217	+ 128	13,106	14,001
<b>IRELAND.</b>					
Dublin ...	3	52	+ 49	391	358
Belfast ...	114	241	+ 127	1,264	1,180
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>38,012</b>	<b>40,494</b>	<b>+ 2,482</b>	<b>174,218</b>	<b>177,147</b>

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

were foreigners. As compared with the corresponding period of 1904, the principal increases were at Liverpool, Glasgow, Newport (Mon.), Cardiff, and Swansea; and the most marked decreases at London and Southampton.

Table showing the number\* of persons shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom in May, 1904, and 1905 respectively, together with the number shipped in the five months ended May in each of these years:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in				
	May.		Five months ended May.		
	1904.	1905.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905.	1904.	1905.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>					
<b>East Coast.</b>					
Tyne Ports ...	2,896	3,197	+ 301	13,720	13,243
Sunderland ...	648	415	- 233	2,455	2,014
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<b>Bristol Channel.</b>					
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<b>Other Ports.</b>					
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<b>SCOTLAND.</b>					
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Kirkcaldy, Methil, & Grange-mouth ...	152	198	+ 46	770	995
Glasgow ...	3,089	3,217	+ 128	13,106	14,001
<b>IRELAND.</b>					
Dublin ...	3	52	+ 49	391	358
Belfast ...	114	241	+ 127	1,264	1,180
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>38,012</b>	<b>40,494</b>	<b>+ 2,482</b>	<b>174,218</b>	<b>177,147</b>

**PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.**

**I.—BREAD.**

RETURNS have been received from the principal Co-operative Societies in Great Britain and from Local Correspondents, showing the price of ordinary household bread, per 4 lbs., on June 1st, 1905.

**Returns from Co-operative Societies.**

The figures in the following Table are based on 234 returns from Co-operative Societies in England and Wales, and 126 from Scotland, and give the highest, lowest, and mean of the prices per 4 lbs. of bread as returned in various districts:—

District.	Present Prices (1st June, 1905.)			Price last quarter (1st Mar., 1905.)			Price a year ago (1st June, 1904.)		
	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>									
N. Counties and Yorkshire ...	7	4½	5-72	6½	4½	5-66	6½	4½	5-71
Lancs. & Cheshire ...	6	4	5-29	6	4	5-28	6½	4	5-23
N. Mid. Counties ...	5½	4	4-74	5½	4	4-72	5½	4	4-61
W. do. do. ...	5½	4½	5-18	5½	4½	5-19	5½	4½	5-00
S. do. do. ...	6	4	4-93	6	4	5-01	5½	4	4-78
Eastern Counties ...	6	4½	5-47	6	4½	5-47	6	5	5-43
London ...	6	5	5-55	6	5	5-88	5½	5	5-41
S.E. Counties ...	6	5	5-64	6	5	5-70	6	5	5-52
S.W. Counties, Wales & Mon. ...	5½	5	5-11	6	5	5-18	5½	4½	5-06
<b>England and Wales ...</b>									
<b>Scotland.</b>	<b>6½</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5-24</b>	<b>6½</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5-27</b>	<b>6½</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5-18</b>
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>									
N. Counties ...	6½	5½	5-79	6½	5	5-88	6	5	5-82
Eastern Counties ...	6	4	5-68	6½	4	5-89	6½	4	5-51
Lanarkshire ...	6	5½	5-63	6½	5½	5-04	6	5½	5-58
Other Southern Counties ...	6½	5½	5-94	6½	5½	6-22	6½	5½	5-88
<b>Scotland ...</b>	<b>6½</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5-77</b>	<b>6½</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6-00</b>	<b>6½</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5-63</b>
<b>Great Britain ...</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5-43</b>	<b>6½</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5-53</b>	<b>6½</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5-31</b>

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

From the above Table it will be seen that the mean of the prices at June 1st charged by the Co-operative Societies making returns, shows a decrease as compared with the mean of the prices at March 1st. As compared with the prices a year ago there is a slight increase both in England and Wales and Scotland, in the latter case amounting to about ¼d.

**Returns from Local Correspondents.**

The Returns as to the price of bread\* per 4 lbs., as furnished by the Local Correspondents of the Department, relate to London and 25 large Provincial towns at the beginning of June.

As compared with a month ago, the price has remained the same at all the towns given in the Table, except at Glasgow, where a reduction of ¼d. per 4 lbs. has taken place.

As compared with a year ago, an increase of ¼d. per 4 lbs. is shown at Bristol, in the Potteries, at Wolverhampton, Dundee, Belfast and Dublin. Two towns, Birmingham and Norwich, show a decrease of ¼d.

Place.	Present Price (1st June, 1905.)	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Last Change.	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	Date.	Am't. per 4 lb.
London ...	d.	d.	d.	Apr. '05.	— ½
Birmingham ...	5	...	...	Aug. '04	— ½
Bolton ...	4½ & 5½	...	...	...	...
Bristol ...	5	+	...	Oct. '04	+ ½
Derby ...	4½ & 5	...	...	Feb. '05	+ ½
Gateshead ...	5½	...	...	Jan. '05	+ ½
Huddersfield ...	5	...	...	...	...
Hull ...	4½ & 5½	...	...	Feb. '04	+ ½
Ipswich ...	5½	...	...	Aug. '03	+ ½
Leicester ...	4½	...	...	...	...
Liverpool ...	5	...	...	June '03	+ 1
Manchester ...	4½	...	...	Mar. '05	+ ½
Middlesbro' ...	6	...	...	Aug. '03	+ ½
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	5½	...	...	Jan. '05	+ ½
Norwich ...	4½	-	...	July '04	- ½
Nottingham ...	5	...	...	...	...
Oldham ...	4½	...	...	Sep. '03	+ ½
Plymouth ...	5	...	...	Feb. '05	+ ½
Potteries ...	4½	+	...	Aug. '04	+ ½
Wolverhampton ...	5½	+	...	Aug. '04	+ ½
Aberdeen ...	5½	...	...	Mar. '05	+ ½
Dundee ...	6	+	...	Aug. '04	+ ½
Edinburgh ...	6	+	...	Aug. '04	+ ½
Glasgow ...	5½	-	...	April '05	- ½
Belfast ...	6	...	...	May '05	+ ½
Dublin ...	6	+	...	Sep. '04	+ ½

**II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.**

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

Month.	British Wheat.		Imports.		Average Monthly Price of London Flour (Town Households) ex Mill for cash.
	Mean London Gazette Price (England and Wales).	Average Declared Value.	Wheat.	Wheat-meal and Flour.	
May 1904.	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.
May ...	6 3½	6 10½	9 8½	9 10½	9 10½
April 1905.	7 2	7 2	10 1	10 4½	10 4½
May ...	7 2½	7 2½	9 10½	10 3½	10 3½

The



## LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

## (1) Workmen's Compensation Acts.

## WHAT IS AN ACCIDENT? : LEAD POISONING.

Compensation is payable under the Workmen's Compensation Acts only when personal injury is caused by "accident."

A workman was employed by a shipbuilding company as a caulker. His work involved the use of red and white lead, chiefly in connection with watertight shoes—i.e., angular pieces of iron used to put in between the plates of ships. His business was to smear the spaces into which the shoes went with either red lead or white lead. On December 19th, 1904, he was working on a torpedo boat, and was using white lead, when he was suddenly seized with cramp in the hands. He was afterwards found to be suffering from paralysis from lead poisoning, and he became incapacitated for work. He accordingly claimed compensation under the Act. Medical evidence was given to the effect that the development of lead poisoning was a gradual process and took a considerable time; that it was impossible to trace the poisoning to any particular day, and that in the applicant's case the disease was the result of a large number of small doses of the poison. The County Court Judge awarded compensation; but the Court of Appeal reversed his decision, holding that the injury to the workman was not caused by any "accident." To be an "accident" there must be something of which the date could be fixed.—*Steel v. Cammell, Laird & Co., Limited, Court of Appeal, May 10th, 1905.*

## WHAT IS AN ACCIDENT? : "BEAT HAND" AND "BEAT KNEE."

Men employed in coal mines are subject to a disease known as "beat hand." It is inflammation of the soft tissues of the hand or fingers, gradually produced by the jar and (or) friction and (or) pressure to the hand in using the pick, and ultimately causing an abscess. It does not arise from any slip, or strain, or wrench; and it usually occurs when a man returns to work after a rest, or where he changes from working at a soft to a hard seam of coal. It is impossible to say at what moment of time the mischief begins to accrue, or to ascribe it to any particular occurrence.

Another somewhat similar disease is known as "beat knee." This is caused by long-continued kneeling and occurs just below the knee, at the top of the shin bone. This also is a matter of gradual growth and is not traceable to any particular act. Both are common injuries incidental to the work of a miner, the first being the more common.

A man suffering from "beat hand" applied to the County Court for compensation under the Act. Another man suffering from "beat knee" applied for compensation at the same Court. The applications were heard together, and the County Court Judge held that in neither case was the applicant's injury due to an accident within the meaning of the Act, and therefore in neither case was compensation payable. On appeal the Court of Appeal held that the County Court Judge was right, as an accident must be something capable of being assigned to a particular date.—*Marshall v. East Holywell Coal Company, Limited; Gorley v. Backworth Collieries, Court of Appeal, May 11th, 1905.*

## WHAT IS AN ACCIDENT? : STONE THROWN AT TRAIN: INJURY TO ENGINE DRIVER.

As a train was passing under a bridge, a stone, intentionally dropped by some boys, struck and broke the glass of the cab of the engine. The broken glass struck the engine driver and caused severe injury. Some time afterwards he died. Compensation was claimed by his widow and children from the railway company. A County Court Judge decided that compensation was not payable, as the injury, if it had caused the death (which was disputed), was caused by a wilful and intentional act, not by an accident. On appeal, it was held that the decision was wrong, and that the applicants were entitled to compensation, as the risk from stone throwing was one within the ordinary scope of an engine driver's employment, and from the driver's standpoint being struck by a stone was an accident arising out of his employment. This case was, therefore, referred back to the County Court Judge to decide whether, in fact, the injury was the cause of death.—*Challis v. London & South Western Railway Co., Court of Appeal, May 5th, 1905.*

## ACCIDENT: ARISING OUT OF AND IN COURSE OF EMPLOYMENT: COMMENCEMENT OF EMPLOYMENT.

Compensation for injury by accident is payable under the Act only when the accident is one arising out of and in the course of the employment.

A painter was employed in building work at some distance from his home. The work began at 6.30 a.m., but in order to be in time this man, as well as a number of other workmen, had to travel by a train which got them to the works about 6.5 a.m. Each man was supplied with a brass numbered ticket, which he had to deposit through a pigeon-hole at an office near the entrance to the premises on arrival, and take out again on leaving. There was a mess-cabin on the premises erected by the contractors for the use of the men. Here the men who arrived early usually sat and had tea till the whistle blew for work to commence. One morning last August the painter in question arrived as usual, and was about to deposit his ticket at the pigeon-hole, when he saw that there was a hole in the ground about 6 feet deep between him and the office. He saw a number of tickets on the ledge, and was about to step over the hole when the night watchman offered to deposit his ticket for him. As he was handing it to the night watchman a piece of quartering slipped from under him and he fell into the hole and was injured.

On the hearing of an application for compensation the County Court Judge found that the accident did not arise out of and in the course of the employment, and refused to award compensation.

On appeal, the Court of Appeal reversed this decision, holding that it is wrong to say that a workman's employment does not begin until he actually begins to work. A reasonable margin of time must be allowed for a man to get to his work, and if during that interval he is engaged upon anything for the benefit of his employer as well as himself, that is in the course of his employment.—*Sharp v. Johnson & Co., Court of Appeal, May 3rd, 1905.*

## ACCIDENT: ARISING OUT OF EMPLOYMENT: SUDDEN ILLNESS.

A man was employed at a wharf unloading coal from a ship with an hydraulic crane. His duty was to stand upon a stage, which was made so that he could look down the hole, and to guide the bucket which was raised from and lowered into the hold by the crane, and to give signals to the man who was working the crane. While he was standing on the stage engaged in his work, he was seized with an epileptic fit and fell into the hold and was severely injured, breaking his thigh and fracturing his hip. He had had three epileptic fits before the day of the accident.

In an application for compensation the County Court Judge refused to make an award in the applicant's favour, on the ground that his injury was not caused by an accident arising out of his employment. The Court of Appeal reversed this decision, holding that the man's injuries were caused by the fall, and that the fall was an accident, although due to the man's condition of health. By the conditions of his employment the man was obliged to stand close to the opening into the hold, and his injuries were due to the fact of his being obliged to work in this position of danger. Therefore the accident arose out of, and in the course of his employment, and he was entitled to compensation.—*Wilkes v. Dowell & Co., Limited, Court of Appeal, May 5th and 6th, 1905.*

## ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF EMPLOYMENT: INJURY WHILE GIVING VOLUNTARY ASSISTANCE.

A bricklayer in the employment of a builder had ceased work for the day, and was on his way to the office to draw his wages when he was asked by a foreman to assist some labourers in moving an iron girder. Whilst so engaged he met with an accident which severely injured his hand. He claimed compensation; but it was held by the Court of Appeal, affirming the decision of a County Court Judge, that he was not entitled to compensation as his employment was as a bricklayer, that it was no part of his work to deal with girders, and that the accident therefore did not arise out of or in the course of his employment.—*Nicholls v. Bishop, Court of Appeal, May 9th, 1905.*

## ON OR IN OR ABOUT ENGINEERING WORK.

Amongst the employments to which the Act applies is employment on or in or about engineering work. "Engineering work" includes any work of construction or alteration or repair of a railroad; a railroad has been held to include tramway.

A company made a contract to take up an existing horse tramway in a town, and to lay down new rails, &c., for an electric tramway. The rails were brought to the town by railway, and when unloaded were stacked and stored in a part of the railway company's yard, by arrangement between the contractors and the railway company. From this yard they were taken by the contractors direct to the streets as they were required. A man who was employed by the contractors at the railway yard in moving the rails from the trucks and stacking them, was injured while so employed. At the time of the accident the only work which had been done on the streets was the taking up of part of the old tramway at a point about 700 yards from the railway yard. The injured man was awarded compensation by a County Court Judge. The Court of Appeal, however, reversing this decision, held that the man's employment was not on or in or about an engineering work, as it was no part of the contract that the rails should be stacked in the railway yard, the stacking of the rails there was no part of the work which the contractors had undertaken to execute, and the railway yard was not part of the physical area of the engineering work.—*Back v. Dick, Kerr & Co., Ltd., Court of Appeal, May 4th, 1905.*

## WHAT IS A WAREHOUSE? : OPEN YARD.

The Act applies to employment on, in, or about a warehouse.

The Corporation of a borough had a yard of about two acres in extent, along one side of which were arches under a railway. In some of these arches cement was stored. There was in the yard a blacksmith's shop and forge, and the yard was used by the servants of the Corporation for repairing carts, sharpening tools, etc. A large part of it was used merely as a place of deposit for old wood-paving and old iron. The old wood-paving was sometimes sold for firewood.

A man in the employment of the Corporation, while engaged in shifting old scrap iron, which was blocking the access to part of the yard, was injured by accident, and made a claim for compensation.

It was argued for the applicant that the yard was a warehouse within the meaning of the Act. The County Court Judge, however, found as a fact that the yard was a general dumping ground for material both waste and otherwise used by the Corporation, and that it was not used for the purpose of storing goods for sale; he therefore held that it was not a warehouse and that compensation was not payable.

On appeal the Court of Appeal confirmed this decision; holding that the fact that some of the wood-paving was sold was immaterial, as it was not stored there for sale and was sold merely to get rid of it.—*Buckingham v. Mayor of Fulham, Court of Appeal, May 16th, 1905.*

## (2) Trade Union Acts.

## CONSPIRACY: RESPONSIBILITY OF UNION FOR ACTS OF BRANCH: ILLEGAL PAYMENT OF STRIKE MONEY.

Following a strike which took place at their collieries in the summer of 1902, the Denaby and Cadeby Colliery Company brought an action against the Yorkshire Miners' Association, the trustees of the Association, and certain officers and agents of the Association. The plaintiffs claimed (1) damages for a conspiracy to induce the men to break existing contracts; (2) damages for wrongfully inducing the men not to enter into new contracts; (3) an injunction to restrain the defendants from repeating such wrongful acts and from paying away the funds of the Association illegally. The defendant Association denied liability, and contended that if the contracts had been broken they were not broken by any act on their part; and that if the contracts had not been broken, as the men were willing to go back to work, the plaintiffs had suffered no damage. Two of the defendants, who were delegates of local branches of the Association, put in no defence. The other defendants denied generally the plaintiffs' claim, and contended that the plaintiffs had not suffered any damage by reason of any wrongful or illegal acts of these defendants.

The action was tried before a judge and jury, and the hearing occupied eleven days in January and February, 1904. At the trial the following questions were left to the jury:—(1 and 2.) Did the two delegates, or either and which of them, unlawfully and maliciously procure the men to break their contracts of employment by going out on strike on June 29th without giving notice? If yes, then were the delegates, or either of them, in so doing purporting to act as agents of the Union and for its benefit? (3 and 4.) Did the members of the committees of the Denaby and Cadeby branches, or any of them, unlawfully and maliciously procure the men to break their contracts of employment by going out on strike on June 29th without giving notice? If yes, then were the members of the committee in so doing purporting to act as agents of the Union and for its benefit? (5.) Did the Union by its executive council or by its officials ratify the acts of the two delegates or the members of the committees in so procuring the men to break their contracts? (6.) Did the Union, by its officials or by the members of the committees of the branches maintain, or assist in maintaining, the strike by unlawful means—that is to say (a) by molesting or intimidating men who were working for the plaintiffs with a view of inducing them to cease from so working; (b) by inducing, or attempting to induce, men who were willing to enter into contracts of service with the plaintiffs, or to work for them, to refrain from so doing; (c) by the grant of strike pay against the rules of the Union? (7.) Did certain of the defendants named maintain, or assist in maintaining, the strike by any of the above-mentioned unlawful means? (8.) Did the defendants, or any and which of them, conspire with each other or with men in the employ of the plaintiffs to do any and which of the things in question 6? (9.) Did the defendants, or any and which of them, unlawfully and maliciously conspire together, and with men formerly in the employ of the plaintiffs, to molest and injure the plaintiffs in the carrying on of their business, and were the plaintiffs so molested or injured? The jury answered "Yes" to every question, except to 7. To question 7 they answered: "Not personally, but as servants of the Association." Judgment was accordingly given against all the defendants, with the exception of two of the officials of the Union, who had died before the verdict.

The facts of the case were reported at length in the LABOUR GAZETTE for February, 1904, at page 71.

The defendants, other than the two delegates who did not defend the action, then applied to the Court of Appeal for an order for a new trial, or for judgment to be entered in their favour, on the ground that there was no evidence to go to the jury, that the verdict was against the weight of evidence, and that the judge had misdirected the jury. The Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, and ordered judgment to be entered for the defendants.

The Court held that the Union were not responsible for the acts of their branches. Here there were about 150 branches, each of which was a Trade Union in itself, with its own offices and its own rules. When a strike was threatened by any branch the council of the Union had the duty to attempt to settle differences; but each branch had a perfect right to strike if two-thirds of its members so decided, quite independently of the council of the Union. The rules of the Union provided, however, that branch members should have no right to strike pay out of the funds of the Union unless the council had sanctioned the strike. There was no evidence that in this case the officers of the two branches who struck, and who organised the strike, were in so doing acting as agents of the Union or under the authority of the Union. Therefore the Union were not responsible for their acts and one part of the plaintiffs' case failed. It was further contended by the plaintiffs that the Union became liable, even though they were not responsible for the initiation of the strike, by illegally giving strike pay, and so enabling the branches to continue the strike. That the giving of strike pay was illegal had been determined by the House of Lords (see *Howden v. Yorkshire Miners' Association*, LABOUR GAZETTE, May, 1905, p. 152). But when this payment was first made the men's contracts of service had already expired, and the Union were not responsible for depriving the plaintiffs of the services of their workmen. The giving of this strike pay was not an admission by the Union that the strike had their sanction; and as the giving of it was outside the powers of the Union, the Union were in law not bound by an act of their officers which was ultra vires.—*The Denaby and Cadeby Main Collieries, Ltd., v. The Yorkshire Miners' Association and others, Court of Appeal, April 13th and 18th, and May 4th and 19th, 1905.*

## DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

DURING May 53 cases of lead poisoning and 10 of anthrax were reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act. No cases of mercurial, phosphorus, or arsenic poisoning were reported. Six deaths, 3 due to lead poisoning and 3 to anthrax, were reported.

During the five months ended May the number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax was 268 as compared with 258 in 1904. The number of deaths was 19, being 9 more than in 1904, an increase mainly due to anthrax.

[Cases include all attacks, fatal or otherwise, reported to the Home Office during the month, and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. Deaths include all fatal cases reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not.]

Disease and Industry	CASES.		DEATHS.	
	May, 1905.	Five Months ended May, 1905.	May, 1905.	Five Months ended May, 1905.
	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.
<b>Lead Poisoning—</b>				
Smelting of Metals ... ..	3	12	9	1
Brass Works ... ..	2	3	3	1
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping ... ..	—	3	2	—
Plumbing and Soldering ... ..	1	8	10	1
Printing ... ..	—	6	7	—
File Cutting ... ..	1	5	12	—
Tinning and Enamelling of Iron				
Hollow-ware ... ..	3	8	7	1
White Lead Works ... ..	8	38	34	1
Red and Yellow Lead Works ... ..	—	2	7	—
China and Earthenware ... ..	—	2	4	—
Litho-transfer Works ... ..	10	42	53	2
Glass Cutting and Polishing ... ..	—	3	2	—
Enamelling of Iron Plates ... ..	—	1	—	—
Electrical Accumulator Works ... ..	3	11	7	—
Paint and Colour Works ... ..	2	19	19	—
Coach Making ... ..	9	29	9	—
Shoemaking ... ..	2	19	19	1
Shipbuilding ... ..	2	12	21	—
Paint used in other Industries ... ..	2	11	10	—
Other Industries ... ..	7	26	17	1
<b>Total Lead Poisoning:</b> ... ..	<b>53</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Mercurial Poisoning—</b>				
Gauges and Thermometer making ... ..	—	—	1	—
Furriers' processes ... ..	—	2	1	—
Other Industries ... ..	—	—	—	—
<b>Total Mercurial Poisoning</b> ... ..	<b>—</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Phosphorus Poisoning</b> ... ..	<b>—</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Arsenic Poisoning—</b>				
Paints, Colours and Extraction of				
Arsenic ... ..	—	—	2	—
Other Industries ... ..	—	—	2	—
<b>Total Arsenic Poisoning</b> ... ..	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Anthrax—</b>				
Wool Sorting ... ..	—	2	2	1
Wool Combing ... ..	5	12	3	3
Handling of Horsehair ... ..	—	3	6	—
Handling and Sorting of Hides and				
Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.) ... ..	5	7	5	3
Other Industries ... ..	—	1	6	1
<b>Total Anthrax</b> ... ..	<b>10</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Grand Total</b> ... ..	<b>63</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>6</b>

## LABOUR LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES.

The Tenth Special Report of the United States Commissioner of Labour is a compilation of the labour laws enacted by Congress and by the legislatures of the various States and Territories in force at the close of the year 1903. All labour laws that have been declared unconstitutional by the Federal Courts and the highest State Courts are excluded. In addition to the laws, annotations of decisions are given after the statutes affected by such decisions. These annotations consist of brief digests of the decisions, with references to the reports in which they are published. The labour laws are reproduced in full, and the volume also contains digests of laws which cannot be classed as labour laws, yet which are of considerable interest to workpeople.

Of the ten persons affected in the china and earthenware industry in May, 1905, two were females. In addition to the cases included in the Table 4 cases of lead poisoning (including 5 deaths) were reported during May, among house painters and plumbers. The number of such cases reported during the 5 months ended May, 1905, was 59 (including 12 deaths), and for the corresponding period of 1904, 69 (including 14 deaths).



FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN MAY.

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

The number of workpeople (exclusive of seamen) reported as killed in the course of their employment during May was 216, being 36 more than in April, 1905, and 21 more than in May, 1904. The mean number for May in the years 1900-1904, was 232, the maximum year in this period being 1901, with 281 deaths, and the minimum year 1904, with 195 deaths.

The number of fatal accidents to seamen reported in May, 1905, was 112. The number reported in May of the years 1900-1904 varied from 58 to 196, the mean for the five years being 113.

In the classes of industries in which the number of persons employed is approximately known, viz., Railway Service (exclusive of contractors' servants), Mines, Quarries, Shipping, Factories, and Laundries, the number of workpeople reported as killed was 297, as compared with 232 in the corresponding period of 1904. The approximate number of workpeople employed in these industries according to the latest returns was about 5,800,000.

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

Trade.	Number of Workpeople killed during			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in May, 1905, as compared with a	
	May, 1905.	April, 1905.	May, 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Railway Service—</b>					
Brakemen and Goods Guards	4	4	2	...	+ 2
Engine Drivers	1	4	1	- 3	...
Firemen	1	2	1	- 1	...
Guards (Passenger)	...	...	...	...	...
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	6	5	6	+ 1	...
Porters	5	4	3	+ 1	+ 2
Shunters	...	2	3	- 2	- 3
Miscellaneous	12	14	9	+ 1	+ 3
Contractors' Servants	1	3	2	- 2	- 1
<b>Total Railway Service</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>- 5</b>	<b>+ 3</b>
<b>Mines—</b>					
Underground	73	57	69	+ 16	+ 4
Surface	9	5	8	+ 4	+ 1
<b>Total Mines</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>+ 20</b>	<b>+ 5</b>
<b>Quarries over 20 feet deep</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>+ 3</b>	<b>+ 2</b>
<b>Factories—</b>					
<i>Textiles—</i>					
Cotton	...	3	1	- 3	- 1
Wool and Worsted	6	2	6	+ 4	...
Other Textiles	1	1	1	...	...
<i>Non Textiles—</i>					
Extraction of Metals	4	2	4	+ 2	...
Founding and Conversion of Metals	9	11	7	- 2	+ 2
Marine and Locomotive Engineering	5	1	4	+ 4	+ 1
Ship and Boat Building	11	7	9	+ 4	+ 2
Wood	...	1	4	- 1	- 4
Chemicals, &c.	2	2	...	...	+ 2
Other Non-Textile Industries	29	5	31	+ 4	- 2
<b>Total Factories</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>+ 12</b>	<b>...</b>
<b>Workshops</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>+ 1</b>	<b>+ 1</b>
<b>Accidents reported under Factory Act, 8s. 103-5—</b>					
Docks, Wharves, and Quays	12	12	9	+ 1	+ 3
Warehouses	1	...	1	...	...
Buildings to which Act applies	11	8	5	+ 3	+ 6
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Total under Factory Act, 8s. 103-5</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>+ 4</b>	<b>+ 9</b>
<b>Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>+ 1</b>	<b>+ 1</b>
<b>Total, exclusive of Seamen</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>+ 36</b>	<b>+ 21</b>
<b>Seamen—</b>					
<i>On Trading Vessels—</i>					
Sailing	11	14	14	- 3	- 3
Steam	82	83	35	- 1	+ 47
<i>On Fishing Vessels—</i>					
Sailing	2	...	5	+ 2	- 3
Steam	17	3	4	+ 14	+ 13
<b>Total Seamen</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>+ 12</b>	<b>+ 54</b>
<b>Total, including Seamen</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>+ 48</b>	<b>+ 75</b>

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Summary for May.

	IMPORTS.*			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1905 as compared with	
	Month ended 31st May.			1904.	1903.
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1903.
I.—Food, Drink and Tobacco	£ 18,032,106	£ 18,372,102	£ 19,086,094	+ 713,992	+ 1,053,988
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured†	12,419,129	14,561,334	14,856,127	+ 294,793	+ 2,436,998
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured‡	11,224,732	11,680,507	12,711,813	+ 1,031,306	+ 1,487,081
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	239,139	166,155	178,933	+ 12,778	- 60,206
<b>Total value of Imports</b>	<b>£ 31,915,106</b>	<b>£ 44,780,098</b>	<b>£ 46,832,967</b>	<b>+ 2,082,869</b>	<b>+ 4,917,861</b>

EXPORTS OF BRITISH PRODUCE.¶

	EXPORTS OF BRITISH PRODUCE.¶			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1905 as compared with	
	Month ended 31st May.			1904.	1903.
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1903.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco	£ 1,119,456	£ 1,133,021	£ 1,412,269	+ 279,248	+ 292,813
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured†	3,345,675	3,106,923	3,201,678	+ 94,750	- 143,997
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured‡	19,508,204	19,725,648	22,215,151	+ 2,489,503	+ 2,706,947
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	353,691	366,492	423,595	+ 57,103	+ 69,904
<b>Total value of Exports of British produce</b>	<b>£ 24,327,026</b>	<b>£ 24,332,089</b>	<b>£ 27,252,693</b>	<b>+ 2,920,604</b>	<b>+ 2,926,667</b>

The re-exports of foreign and colonial merchandise amounted to £5,943,553 in May, 1903; £5,585,686 in May, 1904; £6,805,433 in May, 1905.

Tonnage of Ships entered and cleared with Cargoes.

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the month ended 31st May, 1905, amounted to 3,479,062 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 4,459,318 tons, as against 3,507,585 tons entered, and 4,117,267 tons cleared in the month of May, 1904. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during May, 1905, amounted to 2,854,749 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,797,049 tons, as against 2,724,105 tons entered, and 2,674,443 tons cleared in May, 1904.

ILLINOIS FREE EMPLOYMENT OFFICES.

The operations of the four Free Employment Offices in the State of Illinois, of which three are in Chicago and one at Peoria, are shown in the following Table:—

Year.	Number of		
	Applications for Employment.	Situations offered.	Situations procured.
1899 (nine weeks)	13,097	10,370	6,497
1900	37,285	35,542	31,218
1901	27,605	28,121	23,996
1902	44,900	47,497	40,181
1903	43,510	47,559	39,227
1904	37,493	36,710	31,724
<b>Total</b>	<b>203,890</b>	<b>205,802</b>	<b>172,843</b>

The total cost to the State in 1904 was £2,742, or 2s. 0½d. per situation procured.

\* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or, when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

† Raw cotton, wool, wood and timber, metallic ores, oils and oil-seeds, hides and skins, &c.

‡ Yarns and Textile fabrics, manufactures of metal and leather, chemicals, &c.

¶ The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

§ Coal, wool, oil seeds, hides and skins, &c.

¶ Yarns, textile fabrics and apparel metal manufactures, machinery, chemicals, &c.

TRADE DISPUTES IN MAY.\*

**Number and Magnitude.**—Twenty-six new disputes began in May, 1905, compared with 28 in April, and 22 in May, 1904. By the 26 disputes, 11,246 workpeople were directly and 715 indirectly affected, and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople affected by disputes which began before May, and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 18,228 workpeople involved in trade disputes during May, 1905, compared with 12,515 in April, 1905, and 6,077 in May, 1904.

**New Disputes in May, 1905.**—In the following Table the new disputes in May are summarised by trades affected:—

Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople affected.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building	8	2,226	—	2,226
Mining and Quarrying	5	7,315	65	7,380
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	3	121	650	771
Textile	4	555	—	555
Clothing	2	326	—	326
Transport	2	52	—	52
Other	2	650	—	650
<b>Total, May, 1905</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>11,246</b>	<b>715</b>	<b>11,961</b>
<b>Total, April, 1905</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>5,515</b>	<b>2,378</b>	<b>7,893</b>
<b>Total, May, 1904</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>3,983</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>4,443</b>

**Causes.**—Of the twenty-six disputes, four arose on demands for increased wages, nine on objections to reductions, four on other wages questions, six on questions of the employment of particular classes or persons, and three from other causes.

**Results.**—Definite results were reported in May in the case of thirteen new disputes, affecting 5,093 workpeople, and seven old disputes, affecting 1,648 workpeople. Of these twenty new and old disputes, two, involving 660 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; twelve, involving 2,797 persons, were decided in favour of the employers; and six, involving 3,284 persons, were

compromised. In the case of one other dispute terminating during the month, and involving 4,000 workpeople, certain points are still under consideration.

**Aggregate Duration.**—The aggregate duration in May of disputes that started or were settled in that month was 135,100 working days. In addition, 117,500 working days were lost during May, owing to disputes that began before that month, and the end of the month were still unsettled. Thus the total duration in May of all disputes, new and old, was 252,600 working days, which compares with 145,700 in the previous month, and 73,300 in the corresponding month of 1904.

**Summary for the First Five Months of 1904 and 1905†.**—Summarised by trades, the number of disputes, the number of workpeople affected, and the aggregate duration in working days for the five months January-May, 1904 and 1905, respectively, were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January to May.					
	1904.			1905.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople affected.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople affected.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.
Building	21	2,468	38,700	18	5,979	166,600
Mining and Quarrying	23	9,898	177,100	33	16,616	216,500
Metal, Engineering, and Shipbuilding	28	4,669	76,700	29	4,716	181,100
Textile	16	2,952	52,700	25	8,722	83,800
Clothing	5	112	1,500	18	2,567	66,200
Transport	3	83	20,900	5	276	8,300
Other Trades	19	1,598	37,000	12	2,391	27,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>22,467</b>	<b>404,600</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>41,291</b>	<b>748,500</b>

**Principal Disputes.**—Particulars of the 13 principal disputes which began or were settled during May are given below. The details of the other disputes in progress during May are not separately stated in this Table, but they are included in the preceding statistics.

Principal Trade Disputes.

Occupations. †	Locality.	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began in 1905.	Duration in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object. ‡	Result. ‡
		Directly.	Indirectly.				
<b>Building Trades—</b>							
Masons	Newcastle and District	175	...	1 May	26	Against proposed reduction in wages of 1d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	Reduction of ½d. per hour accepted, and compromise arranged as to other rules.
Bricklayers	Newcastle and District	225	...	1 May	...	Against proposed reduction in wages of 1d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	No settlement reported.
Plasterers	Newcastle and District	200	...	1 May	...	Against proposed reduction in wages of 1d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	No settlement reported.
Labourers	Newcastle and District	500	...	1 May	...	Against proposed reduction in wages of ½d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	No settlement reported.
Bricklayers and Labourers	Sunderland	500	...	29 May	...	Against proposed reduction in wages and other alterations in working hours	No settlement reported.
Plumbers	Glasgow	500	...	1 May	...	Against proposed reduction in wages from 9½d. to 9d. per hour	No settlement reported.
<b>Coal Mining—</b>							
Miners	Nuneaton	950	...	24 May	3	Against suspension of fellow workers for refusal to work on Sunday night	Work resumed unconditionally.
Miners, &c.	Aberdare	4,000	...	1 May	1	On account of refusal of management to deduct poundage from men's earnings in connection with a new medical scheme	Work resumed pending further negotiations.
<b>Other Trades—</b>							
Gas Produccermen, Melting Shop, Rolling Mills, Mechanics, Labourers, &c.	Jarrow	42	650	1 May	23	For advance of wages from 4s. 7½d. to 5s. per shift	Work resumed on old conditions.
Refinery men, Tippers and Furnacemen, Mechanics, Labourers, &c.	Briton Ferry	38	379	16 Mar.	53	For advance of wages	Work resumed on old conditions.
Army Boot Makers	Raunds, Rushden, &c. &c.	676	120	2 Mar.	76	For payment by new statement for Army work	Work resumed as the result of an agreement arranged at meetings of representatives of employers and workpeople held under the chairmanship of a Commissioner appointed by the War Office.
Rubber Shoe Makers	Edinburgh	550	...	25 May	1½	For advance in piece rates for making rubber shoes on account of extra labour involved in new process	Advance of 6d. per 100 pairs granted.

\* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration exceeded 100 days.

† In making up the totals for the several months of the year, the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information.

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



CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.\*

Wages.

Changes reported in May.—The principal change reported was a decrease of 5 per cent. off the standard rates of 150,000 coal miners in South Wales and Monmouthshire. The net effect of all the changes was a decrease of £6,566 per week, as compared with an increase of £261 per week in April, and a decrease of £2,846 per week in May, 1904. The number of workpeople affected was 161,568, of whom 10,213 received advances amounting to £190 per week, and 151,355 sustained decreases amounting to £6,756 per week. The total number affected in April was 11,250, and in May, 1904, 113,926.

One change, affecting the 150,000 coal miners referred to above, was arranged by a Conciliation Board, and one change, affecting 1,205 workpeople, took effect under a sliding scale. The remaining changes, affecting 10,363 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, two of these changes, affecting 176 workpeople, being preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

Summary for the first five Months of 1905.—For the five months, January-May, 1905, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) respecting whom wages changes have been reported was 295,766, as compared with 274,096 in the corresponding period of 1904. The changes arranged give 29,838 workpeople a net increase amounting to £1,254 per week, and 239,617 a net decrease amounting to £10,882 per week, whilst the remaining

26,311 have had upward and downward changes which have left their wages at the same level as at the beginning of the year. The net effect of all the changes reported was a decrease of £9,628 per week, as compared with a decrease of £12,880 in the corresponding period of 1904.

Summarised by trades, the number of workpeople affected by changes reported during the five months January-May, 1904 and 1905 respectively, and the net results of the changes on their weekly wages, were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January—May.			
	1904.		1905.	
	No.	£	No.	£
Building ... ..	2,954	- 151	523	- 8,012
Coal Mining ... ..	152,690	- 5,953	198,190	- 8,012
Iron Mining ... ..	10,663	- 530	7,092	+ 88
Quarrying ... ..	2,224	- 75	4,179	+ 149
Pig Iron Manufacture ... ..	11,181	- 596	14,289	+ 524
Iron and Steel Manufacture ... ..	51,156	- 2,456	34,027	- 82
Engineering and Shipbuilding... ..	29,748	- 2,522	30,144	- 2,355
Textile Trades ... ..	2,339	- 78	1,827	+ 31
Glass, Chemical, &c., Trades ... ..	4,793	- 682	627	- 27
Other Trades ... ..	2,998	- 43	1,241	+ 62
Employees of Local Authorities ... ..	3,350	+ 217	3,627	+ 310
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>274,096</b>	<b>-12,880</b>	<b>295,766</b>	<b>- 9,628</b>

Hours.

No changes in hours of labour were reported during May.

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which Change takes effect in 1905.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Particulars of Change. (Decreases in Italics.)
			Increase.	Decrease.	

I.—CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN MAY, 1905.

2 Increases—128 Workpeople.		BUILDING TRADES.		1 Decrease—150 Workpeople.	
Gloucester ... ..	Painters ... ..	1 Mar.	50	...	Advance of 3d. per hour (7d. to 7½d.).
Taunton ... ..	Painters ... ..	11 Mar.	38	...	Advance of 3d. per hour (5d. to 6d.).
Dunfermline ... ..	Stonemasons ... ..	23 May	150	...	Decrease of 1d. per hour (9d. to 8d.).
2 Increases—8,300 Workpeople.		MINING AND QUARRYING.		1 Decrease—150,000 Workpeople.	
Cleveland ... ..	Ironstone Miners ... ..	17 April	6,800	...	Advance of 1 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 21½ per cent. above the standard of 1879.
Weardale ... ..	Limestone Quarrymen ... ..	17 April	1,500	...	Advance of 1 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 21½ per cent. above the standard of 1879.
South Wales and Monmouth	Coal Miners ... ..	1 June	150,000	...	Decrease of 5 per cent., leaving wages 33½ per cent. above the standard of December, 1879.
4 Increases—273 Workpeople.		METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES.		1 Decrease—1,805 Workpeople.	
Eston ... ..	Steel Workers ... ..	1 May	1,205	...	Decrease of 1 per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 10 per cent. above the standard.
Leeds ... ..	Blastfurnacemen ... ..	10 May	118	50	Advance of 5 per cent.
	Slagbreakermen ... ..				
Rochdale ... ..	Patternmakers ... ..	1st pay-day in April	47	...	Advance of 1s. per week (36s. to 37s.).
Pontardulais ... ..	Tinplate Trade:— Cold Roll Boys ... ..	Mar. & April	26	...	Advance of 1d. per day to 19 boys, 2d. per day to 3 boys, and of 3d. per day to 4 boys.
Dundee ... ..	Blacksmiths ... ..	6 May	32	...	Advance of 1s. per week on rates of 32s. and under.
2 Increases—1,512 Workpeople.		OTHER TRADES.		Decreases—Nil.	
Bristol ... ..	Cotton Spinners, Weavers, Warpers and Winders ... ..	10 June	1,340	...	Advance of 5 per cent.
Paisley and Johnstone	Bakers ... ..	14 April	172	...	Advance of 2s. per week.

II.—CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN MAY, 1905.

None.

\* Based on information obtained from all available sources verified and corrected by direct application to the Employers, Trade Unions, and other parties concerned. It should be understood that increments accruing under scales of pay, as in the case of policemen, some municipal employees, and many railway servants, &c., are not recorded here. The same remark applies to the changes in pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c. † Exclusive of agricultural labourers, seamen and fishermen, and railway servants. In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information. ‡ The advance is conditional on acknowledgment by the workmen of past overpayments (½ per cent.) to be refunded in future out of advances that may accrue.

EMIGRATION FROM UNITED KINGDOM.

During May 45,267 passengers left this country for places out of Europe. Of this number 26,540 were of British and Irish origin, and 18,727 were foreigners and other persons whose nationality was not stated. As compared with May, 1904, the total number of passengers shows an increase of 7,596, made up of 2,759 British and Irish, and 4,797 foreigners, &c.

During the five months ended May, 1905, the total number of passengers was 191,541, an increase of 41,410 on the figures for the corresponding period in 1904. This increase was made up of 16,474 British and Irish passengers, and 24,936 foreigners, &c.

Destinations.

The following Table shows the destinations of the passengers:—

Destination. (Country in which passenger contracted to land.)	May.			Five months ended May.		
	1905.	1904.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905.	1905.	1904.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905.
British and Irish Passengers.						
<b>British Colonies and Possessions:</b>						
British North America ... ..	11,439	9,176	+ 2,263	40,326	31,766	+ 8,560
Australia and New Zealand ... ..	802	792	+ 10	3,911	4,018	- 107
British South Africa ... ..	1,443	1,495	- 52	8,914	9,595	- 681
India (including Ceylon) ... ..	99	163	- 64	1,094	1,355	- 261
Other British Colonies and Possessions ... ..	208	177	+ 31	1,634	1,571	+ 63
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>13,991</b>	<b>11,803</b>	<b>+ 2,188</b>	<b>55,879</b>	<b>48,305</b>	<b>+ 7,574</b>
<b>Foreign Countries:</b>						
United States ... ..	12,183	11,716	+ 467	50,853	42,178	+ 8,675
Other Foreign Countries ... ..	366	222	+ 144	2,425	2,197	+ 228
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>12,549</b>	<b>11,938</b>	<b>+ 611</b>	<b>53,278</b>	<b>44,375</b>	<b>+ 8,903</b>
<b>Total, British and Irish ... ..</b>	<b>26,540</b>	<b>23,741</b>	<b>+ 2,799</b>	<b>109,154</b>	<b>92,680</b>	<b>+ 16,474</b>
Foreigners and Nationality not stated.						
<b>British Colonies and Possessions:</b>						
British North America ... ..	3,927	2,600	+ 1,327	10,500	10,205	+ 294
British South Africa ... ..	332	477	- 145	1,601	2,211	- 610
Other British Colonies and Possessions ... ..	239	225	+ 14	1,604	1,545	+ 59
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>4,498</b>	<b>3,302</b>	<b>+ 1,196</b>	<b>13,705</b>	<b>13,962</b>	<b>- 257</b>
<b>Foreign Countries:</b>						
United States ... ..	13,850	10,327	+ 3,523	65,676	41,991	+ 23,685
Other Foreign Countries ... ..	319	301	+ 18	3,006	1,498	+ 1,508
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>14,229</b>	<b>10,628</b>	<b>+ 3,601</b>	<b>68,682</b>	<b>43,489</b>	<b>+ 25,193</b>
<b>Total, Foreigners, &amp;c. ... ..</b>	<b>18,727</b>	<b>13,930</b>	<b>+ 4,797</b>	<b>82,387</b>	<b>57,451</b>	<b>+ 24,936</b>
<b>Grand Total, all Passengers ... ..</b>	<b>45,267</b>	<b>37,671</b>	<b>+ 7,596</b>	<b>191,541</b>	<b>150,131</b>	<b>+ 41,410</b>

It will be seen from the above Table that there has been a considerable increase this year in the number of passengers to British North America and the United States. This increase is especially noticeable among foreigners going to the United States.

ALIEN IMMIGRATION FROM CONTINENT.

During May, 21,577 aliens arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent. Of these, 13,189 were stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to places out of the United Kingdom, an increase of 2,475 as compared with May, 1904. Those not stated to be on their way to places out of the United Kingdom numbered 6,973 (exclusive of seamen), being 400 more than in May, 1904. In the following Table the figures for May, 1905 and 1904, and for the five months ended May, 1905 and 1904, are compared.

	Month of May.			Five months ended May.		
	1905.	1904.	Increase in 1905.	1905.	1904.	Increase in 1905.
Aliens not stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to other countries	1,415	1,185	230	6,103	5,388	715
Seamen	6,973	6,573	400	30,822	24,076	6,746
Aliens stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to other countries	13,189	10,714	2,475	51,730	38,990	12,740
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>21,577</b>	<b>18,472</b>	<b>3,105</b>	<b>88,655</b>	<b>68,454</b>	<b>20,201</b>

Bankruptcies.—The bankruptcies gazetted during May numbered 420, an increase of 57 as compared with May, 1904. For the five months ended May, 1905, the number was 2,089, as compared with 1,917 during the corresponding period of 1904. The 2,089 bankruptcies in 1905 included 66 bakers, 55 boot and shoe manufacturers and dealers, 126 builders, 50 decorators, painters, &c., 103 farmers, 142 greengrocers, &c., and 137 publicans.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

The total receipts of twenty of the principal railways during the five weeks ended June 3rd, 1905, amounted to £8,931,469, a decrease of £244,065 (or 2·7 per cent.) on the total for the corresponding period of 1904. The passenger receipts showed a decrease of £451,288 (or 10·3 per cent.) and the goods and mineral receipts an increase of £207,223 (or 4·3 per cent.). The comparison is affected by the fact that last year's receipts for this period include the Whitsuntide holiday traffic.

During the twenty-two weeks ended June 3rd, 1905, the total receipts amounted to £37,617,741. Of this total £15,826,022 were derived from passenger traffic, and £21,791,719 from goods and minerals. In the passenger receipts decreases occurred on all the English and Irish groups of railways, and were most marked on the Northern and Eastern lines. The Scottish railways showed an increase. As regards the goods and mineral receipts there was a large increase on the North-Western and Midland lines of England, but there was a considerable decrease on the lines serving the North-East and Eastern parts of England. The Scottish and Irish lines showed decreases.

The following Table summarises the receipts of the railways grouped according to the districts they serve:—

	5 weeks ended June 3rd, 1905.		22 weeks ended June 3rd, 1905.	
	Amount.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 1904.	Amount.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 1904.
<b>Passenger Traffic.</b>	£	£	£	£
<b>English Lines:—</b>				
L. & N. W., Midland, Gt. Central, and N. London.	1,009,658	-154,787	4,124,223	-173,722
Gt. Northern, Gt. Eastern, and London & Tilbury.	514,592	- 62,949	2,125,411	- 71,661
Lancs. & Yorks, N. Eastern, and N. Staffs.	474,295	-103,609	1,966,595	- 98,286
L. & S. W., and Gt. Western L. B. & S. C. and S. E. & C.	832,300	- 93,500	3,331,000	- 56,300
Scottish Lines:— Glasgow & S. Western, N. British, and Caledonian.	550,383	- 30,270	2,224,453	- 27,790
Irish Lines:— Gt. Southern & Western, Midland, G.W., & Gt. Northern	398,653	- 1,187	1,531,193	+ 8,356
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>3,913,186</b>	<b>-451,288</b>	<b>15,826,022</b>	<b>+ 421,695</b>
<b>Goods and Mineral Traffic.</b>				
<b>English Lines:—</b>				
L. & N. W., Midland, Gt. Central, and N. London.	1,777,183	+135,207	7,794,213	+ 127,696
Gt. Northern, Gt. Eastern, and London & Tilbury.	532,174	+ 12,796	2,379,005	- 73,308
Lancs. & Yorks, N. Eastern, and N. Staffs.	973,583	+ 24,105	4,205,527	+ 35,509
L. & S. W., and Gt. Western L. B. & S. C., and S. E. & C.	767,300	+ 39,300	3,254,800	+ 12,000
Scottish Lines:— Glasgow & S. Western, N. British, and Caledonian.	190,192	+ 882	808,651	- 10,143
Irish Lines:— Gt. Southern & Western, Midland, G.W. & Gt. Northern	631,619	- 8,618	2,750,504	- 8,219
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>5,018,283</b>	<b>+207,223</b>	<b>21,791,719</b>	<b>+ 76,404</b>
<b>Grand Total ... ..</b>	<b>8,931,469</b>	<b>-244,065</b>	<b>37,617,741</b>	<b>- 345,292</b>

EXAMINATIONS FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

Durham District.—An examination for First and Second Class Certificates of Competency as Manager and Under-Manager of a mine will be held at the Mechanics' Hall, Darlington, on July 19th and 20th next. Candidates must, on or before July 12th, send their names to the Secretary, Mr. G. W. Bartlett, Brentmore, Darlington, from whom all particulars can be obtained.

Southern District.—An examination for First Class Certificates as Manager of a mine will be held at the Guildhall, Bristol, on Tuesday, September 5th, 1905, and for Second Class Certificates as Under-Manager on Tuesday, September 12th, 1905. Candidates must, on or before September 1st, send their names to the Secretary, Mr. Sydney J. Thomas, Coleford, Glos., from whom all particulars can be obtained. Persons residing outside these districts are eligible for examination.

H.M. INSPECTORS OF FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Change in Address.—Communications in connection with the "particulars" section in Textile Factories and Workshops should in future be addressed to Mr. J. T. Birtwistle, H.M. Inspector of Textile Particulars, 13, Richmond Terrace, Blackburn.



PAUPERISM IN MAY.

(Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland, and Ireland.) THE number of paupers relieved in the 35 selected Urban Districts named below on one day in May corresponded to a rate of 22.4 per 10,000 of the estimated population. This rate is higher than that for May in any of the last ten years.

Compared with April, 1905, the total number of persons relieved decreased by 6,442 (1.6 per cent.) and the rate per 10,000 by 4. There was a decrease of 3,858 (2.3 per cent.) in the total number of indoor paupers and of 2,584 (1.1 per cent.) in the total number of outdoor paupers. Decreases occurred in 28 districts, increases in 6 districts, and 1 district showed no change. A marked increase (112 per 10,000) was shown in Galway.

Compared with May, 1904, the number of persons relieved increased by 21,432 (5.8 per cent.) and the rate per 10,000 by 10. An increase of 5,242 (3.3 per cent.) is shown in the total number of indoor paupers and of 16,190 (7.8 per cent.) in the total number of outdoor paupers. Thirty-one districts showed increases, 3 districts showed decreases, and in 1 district there was no change. The largest increases occurred in Galway (123 per 10,000), East London (53), and Leicester (39).

Table with columns: Selected Urban Districts, Paupers on one day in second week of May, 1905 (In-door, Out-door, TOTAL), Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with A month ago, A year ago.

\* Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small Pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; and of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals, and Licensed Houses. † Excluding Casuals, but including persons maintained in Institutions for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, &c., who are classified as not able-bodied. ‡ Includes 421 persons relieved by Government works, which were started on account of distress occasioned by failure of potato crop.

LABOUR BUREAUX IN MAY.

TWELVE Bureaux furnished returns which can be compared with similar returns for a year ago. Eight other bureaux also furnished returns for May, 1905, for which no figures for a year ago are available.

(I.) Work done in May.

Table with columns: Name of Labour Bureau, Applications offered by Workpeople during (May 1905, May 1904), Situations offered by Employers during (May 1905, May 1904), Workpeople found Work during (May 1905, May 1904).

(II.) Employment found for Workpeople during May, 1905.

Table with columns: Capacity in which employed, No. permanently engaged, No. temporarily engaged, Total. Includes categories like Engaged by Private Employers, Engaged by Local Authorities, Engaged by Salvation Army.

(III.) Occupations of Workpeople on the Registers at the end of May, 1905.

Table with columns: Name of Bureau, Men (Building Trades, Engineering Trades, General Labourers, Porters, Messengers, &c., Other Occupations), Lads and Boys, Women and Girls.

\* Affiliated to the Central Labour Exchange of the proceedings of which some account is given on page 191.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN MAY.

DURING May 895 fresh applications for work were registered by seven Bureaux furnishing returns, and 870 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 206 persons, of whom 116 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 206 situations found for applicants, 152 were of a more or less permanent character, while 54 were temporary only.

Compared with a year ago the work done by the Bureaux during May is shown by the following Table, in which the returns for the Manchester, Liverpool, Edinburgh, and Dublin Bureaux are for the present grouped together.

WORK DONE IN MAY.

Table with columns: Applications by Workpeople during (May 1905, May 1904), Situations offered by Employers during (May 1905, May 1904), Number of Workpeople engaged by Employers (Permanently, Temporarily) (May 1905, May 1904). Includes Summary by Bureaux and Summary by Occupations.

LONDON CENTRAL EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE.

A Central Employment Exchange has recently been opened by the Central Committee of the London Unemployed Fund. The exchange is intended to act as a "clearing house" for the local labour bureaux, its purpose being, in cases where applications cannot be met at one bureau, to endeavour to meet them by making use of the remaining affiliated bureaux. Up to the present, 9 of the 10 Municipal Labour Bureaux in existence in the Metropolis have affiliated themselves to the Central Exchange.

Each of the affiliated labour bureaux makes a daily report to the Central Exchange of the whole number of fresh applications for employment, and of such situations offered by employers as it is unable to fill from among its own registered applicants, classified by trades. This information is at once circulated by post to all the bureaux, so that each bureau becomes aware of the requirements of the rest. In addition, the vacancies reported are at once notified by telephone to the particular bureaux at which applicants have recently registered under the occupations concerned.

The results week by week in May are shown in the following Table:

Table with columns: Period, Total number of Fresh Applications by Workpeople at Nine Bureaux, Total number of Situations offered which Local Bureaux were unable to fill, Situations reported filled through Central Labour Exchange.

\* Opened July 1st, 1904.

More than 350 other vacancies not shown above were filled in May by the bureaux to which the employers had applied, without resort to the Central Exchange. These are, of course, not included in the last column of the above Table, but are dealt with in the statistics of Labour Bureaux published monthly in the GAZETTE (see p. 190 of present issue).

The postal address of the Central Employment Exchange is 34, Victoria Street, Westminster, S.W., and its telephonic address, "908, Victoria." The superintendent is Mr. H. W. Fordham.

INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN MAY.

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

(1) REGISTERED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies registered in May was as follows: Under the Trade Union Acts, 2; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 12; under the Friendly Societies Act, 112 (including 89 branches of existing societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 4; in all 130.

Among the new societies registered in May were the following:—

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—2, viz., Birmingham International Tailors' Machinists and Pressers' Trade Union, Criterion Inn, Hurst Street, Birmingham; National Master Farriers' Assoc., 68, Albion Street, Leeds. Scotland.—Nil. Ireland.—Nil.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—England and Wales.—3, viz., Co-op. Agric. Soc., 2, viz., Teme Valley Agric. Assoc., Ltd., Estate Office, Clifton-on-Teme; Llanllechid and Dist. Farmers' Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Aberogwen, Talybont, Bangor. Misc. Soc.: 1 Working Men's Club. Scotland.—1, viz., Co-op. Agric. Soc.: 1 Eday Agric. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Calfsound, Eday. Ireland.—8, viz., Co-op. Soc. mainly for Distribution: 2, viz., Ballymena and Harryville Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Broughshane Street, Ballymena; Irish Art Industries, Ltd., 28, Clare Street, Dublin. Co-op. Agric. Soc.: 6, viz., Drumnagress Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Drumnagress, Co. Cavan; Athlone Co-op. Poultry and Farm Produce Soc., Ltd., Athlone; Irish Federated Poultry Soc., Ltd., 22, Lincoln Place, Dublin; Shanorlar Co-op. Flax Soc., Ltd., Shanorlar, Co. Donegal; Drumcrow Co-op. Creamery Soc., Ltd., Drumcrow, Co. Cavan; Derrycughan Co-op. Creamery, Ltd., Derrycughan, Market Hill, Co. Armagh.

Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—21, viz., Liverpool Co-op. Tontine Soc., Liverpool; Liverpool Travellers' Friendly Soc., Liverpool; West London Yearly Dividing Friendly Soc., Hammersmith, W.; Federal Assurance Friendly Soc., 7, Fenchurch Bldgs., E.C.; Norton Cannock Collieries Mutual Accident Fund, Newtown, Walsall; Lamb Tavern Sick and Dividend Soc., Brookfield, Hockley, Birmingham; Ashted Acorn Sick and Dividend Soc., Ashted, Birmingham; Grosvenor Friendly Sick and Dividend Soc., Aston, Birmingham; Middlesbro' and North Ormsby Friendly Societies and General Medical Aid Association, Middlesbro'; North Yorkshire and South Durham Provident Society of Assistant Pawnbrokers, Middlesbro'; Crossness Working Men's Loan Soc., Crossness, Harrow Manorway, Balvedere, Kent; George IV. Provident Club, Woolwich, S.E.; Slade Provident Club, Plumstead Common, S.E.; City of Bradford Permanent Money Soc., Bradford, Yorks; Mountain Ash Hibernian Band Musical Inst., Mountain Ash; Long Eaton Mechanics' Inst. and Working Men's Club, Long Eaton, Derbyshire; East London Jewish Working Men's Progressive Club, Spitalfields, E.; Colman Inst. Working Men's Club, Redhill; Albion Working Men's Club and Inst., Hemsworth, Wakefield; Gate House Working Men's Club, Clayton, Bradford; Taylor Hill Working Men's Club, Taylor Hill, Huddersfield. Scotland.—Nil. Ireland.—2, viz., Rathgarogue Credit Soc., Rathgarogue, co. Wexford; Rossinuer Credit Soc., Rossinuer, co. Leitrim.

(2) DISSOLVED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies reported as having commenced to "wind up," or as dissolved, or as having had registration cancelled in May, was as follows:—Under the Trade Union Acts, 1; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 10; under the Friendly Societies Act, 45 (including 15 branches of Societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 16; in all 72.

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



## OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING MAY.

### UNITED KINGDOM.

*Mines and Quarries.* 1904. *Report for the Midland District.* Contains Tables showing the hours at which coal raising is commenced and discontinued in the districts covered, with reference to the Employment of Children Act, 1903; Table showing the average number of days worked in each month of 1904, &c. [Cd. 2506—vii.: pp. 61: price 7½d.] *Yorkshire and Lincolnshire District.* [Cd. 2506—iv.: pp. 58: price 6d.] *West Scotland District.* [Cd. 2506—i.: pp. 36: price 3½d.] *Stafford District.* [Cd. 2506—viii.: pp. 58: price 7½d.] *Swansea District.* [Cd. 2506—x.: pp. 29: price 3d.]

*Boiler Explosions.* *Report of the Board of Trade upon the working of the Boiler Explosions Acts, 1882 and 1890, during the year ended 30th June, 1904.* Abstract of 42 preliminary inquiries and 18 formal investigations. [Cd. 2513: pp. 21: price 2½d.]

*Railway Accidents.* Return of cases of derailment of engines of passenger trains during 20 years ending 31st December, 1904. [Cd. 2538: pp. 12: price 1½d.]

*Return of Casualties to H.M. Ships, 1903.* Showing nature of accident, number of persons injured, number of deaths, result of inquiry into circumstances, &c. [H.C. 116: pp. 11: price 1½d.]

*Underfed Children at Public Elementary Schools.* Circular issued in April, 1905, by the Local Government Board and the Board of Education as to the cases of children attending Public Elementary Schools who are without adequate nourishment. [Cd. 2505: pp. 10: price 1½d.]

*List of Religious and Charitable Institutions in which Laundries are carried on.* [Cd. 2500: pp. 12: price 1½d.]

*Annual Report of Proceedings under Acts relating to Sea Fisheries, England and Wales for 1903.* [Cd. 2178: pp. xlix + 109: price 8d.]

*Police (Counties and Boroughs, England and Wales).* *Report for year ended 29th September, 1904.* Authorised strength of Police Forces, 1881-1904; ranks, numbers and rates of pay; number and cost of Metropolitan and City of London Police. [H.C. 117: pp. 265: price 2s. 2d.]

*Police (Scotland).* *Forty-seventh Annual Report of H.M. Inspector of Constabulary for Scotland for the year ended 31st December, 1904.* Authorised strength in Counties, Cities and Burghs for 10 years ended 1904; classification, rates of pay, price of clothing, &c.; census of vagrants, beggars and migratory poor taken on the nights of Sunday, 26th June and 25th December, 1904. [Cd. 2463: pp. ix. + 217: price 1s. 10d.]

*Crofters' Commission.* Report of Proceedings for 1904. [Cd. 2457: pp. xx. + 96: price 8½d.]

*Seventh Report of the Congested Districts Board for Scotland, 1904-05.* Apprenticing boys to trades; training boys in seamanship; encouragement of Home Industries, &c. [Cd. 2476: pp. xxvii. + 34: price 6d.]

*Congested Districts Board (Ireland).* Return showing for each county in the Congested Districts the acreage of land acquired with a view to enlargement of small holdings, and amount of purchase money for such lands; acreage of land for the purchase of which the Board is in negotiation. [H.C. 149: pp. 2: price ½d.]

*Emigration Statistics of Ireland, 1904.* Report and Tables showing number, ages and conjugal condition, and destinations of the emigrants from each County and Province in 1904; also occupations of emigrants, and the number who left each port in each month of the year. [Cd. 2467: pp. 15: price 2d.]

*Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.* *4th Annual General Report, 1903-4.* Statistics of the Agricultural and Technical Instruction organisation; fisheries, sea and inland; transit of produce, &c. [Cd. 2509: pp. vi. + 460: price, 1s. 11d.]

*Trades Unions and Trade Disputes Bill.* Report from the Standing Committee on Law, &c. [H.C. 154: pp. 21: price 2½d.]

### BRITISH COLONIES.

*Further Correspondence Relating to Labour in the Transvaal Mines.* [Cd. 2401: pp. viii. + 128: price 1s. 7d.]

*Further Correspondence Relating to Affairs in the Transvaal and Orange River Colony.* Supply of labour; co-operation, &c. [Cd. 2482: pp. iv. + 200: price 1s. 8d.]

*Correspondence Relating to Merchant Shipping Legislation in Australia and New Zealand.* [Cd. 2483: pp. v. + 212: price 1s. 9d.]

*Report on the Foreign Trade and Commerce of Newfoundland.* Price of cod fish; number of vessels and crews employed in the fishing industry, &c. [Cd. 2480: pp. 44: price 2s. 9d.]

(All the above-mentioned Reports may be obtained direct from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C., or ordered through any bookseller.)

### FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

#### United States.

*Tenth Special Report of the Commissioner of Labour, Washington, Labour Laws of the United States, with decisions of Courts relating thereto, 1904.* Chapter I.—Apprentice laws, convict labour laws, mechanics' lien laws, and legal holidays. Chapter II: General labour laws. [Washington, Government Printing Office, pp. 1,413.]

*Report on the Labour Disturbances in the State of Colorado, from 1880 to 1904, inclusive, with correspondence relating thereto, 1905.* [Washington, Government Printing Office, pp. 365.]

*Twenty-first Annual Report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics of the State of New York, 1903.* Trade Unions in 1903, state of employment, wages and earnings, changes in the hours of labour. [Albany, N.Y.: Oliver A. Quayle, State Printer: pp. 1041.]

*Illinois.* *Sixth Annual Report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics of the Illinois Free Employment Offices.* [Springfield, Ill.: Illinois State Journal Co., State Printers: pp. 71.]

*Eight Hours for Labourers on Government Work.* Report by the Secretary of the Department of Commerce and Labour on H.R. 4064 (Eight Hour Bill.) [Washington, Government Printing Office, pp. 144.]

*Hours of Labour in European Shipyards.* *Daily Consular Report, No. 2248, May 3, 1905.* Reports as to the daily and weekly hours of labour in shipbuilding plants made by the United States Consular Offices in France, Germany, and the United Kingdom. [Washington, Government Printing Office, pp. 16.]

*Monthly Consular Report, March 1905. No. 294.* Contains Tables showing locality and ownership of textile mills in India, China, Japan and Russia; in some cases stating the number of spindles and looms, and the hours worked and average production.

#### France.

*Annual Statistics of Population in France for 1903.* Direction du Travail. [Paris: Imprimerie Nationale, 1904: pp. xxxii. + 384.]

#### Germany.

*Proceedings of Council for Labour Statistics, April 10-13, 1905.* [Berlin, 1905: pp. 119.]

#### Austria-Hungary

*Report on the Work of the Austrian Labour Department during 1904.* [Vienna: K. K. Hof-und Staats Druckerei, 1905.]

*Proceedings at Session of Labour Council, Feb. 27th, 1905.* K. K. Arbeitsstatistisches Amt. [Vienna, 1905: pp. 46.]

*Report on Lead Poisoning in Smelting Works, &c. Part I.* K. K. Arbeitsstatistisches Amt [Vienna: A. Hölder, 1905: pp. viii + 51.]

#### Sweden.

*Statistical Abstract of Sweden for 1905.* Contains statistics of pauperism, prices (cereals, butter) and wages (agricultural labourers). [Stockholm: P. A. Norstedt & Söner, 1905: pp. xii. + 106.]

*Reports on (1) Savings Banks in Sweden, 1903.* pp. xii. + 46: and (2) *Population of Sweden in 1902.* pp. xxxix. + 62. [Stockholm: P. A. Norstedt & Söner, 1905.]

*Consular Reports. Annual Series. Trade of Japan, 1904.* No. 3377. Prices of commodities in 1904, compared with 1901-3; rates of wages in various industries, &c. [Cd. 2236-121: pp. 40: price 2½d.]

*Trade of Porto Rico, 1904.* No. 3379. Strike of agricultural labourers for wages equal to those in United States, after amalgamation with American Federation of Labour. [Cd. 2236-123: pp. 18: price 1½d.]

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

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

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