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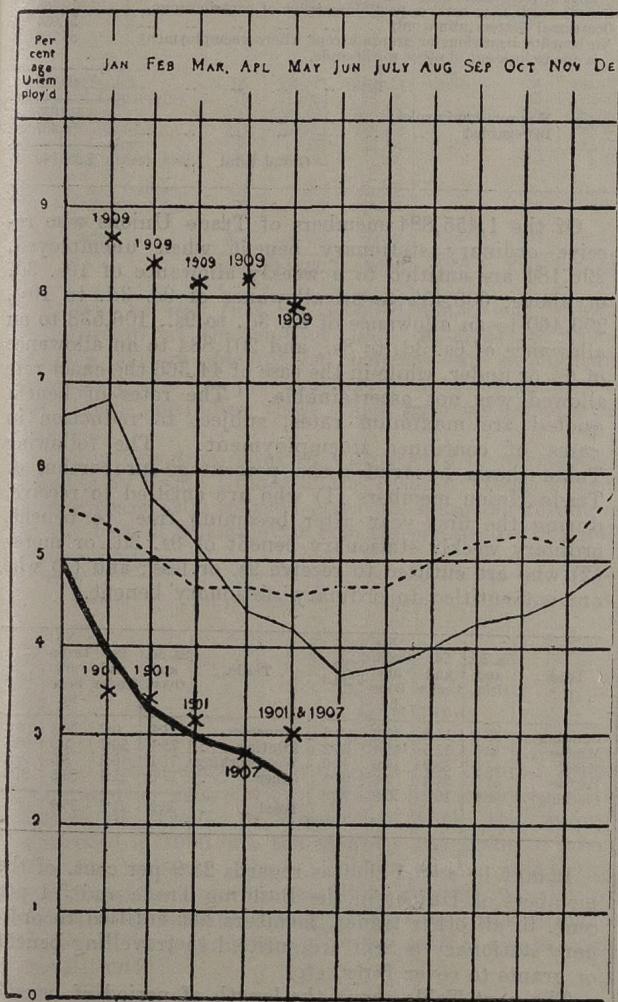
EMPLOYMENT CHART.

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve = 1911. — Thin Curve = 1910.

----- Dotted Curve = Mean of 1901-1910.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1901-1910.



NOTE TO CHART.

The above Chart is based solely on Returns furnished direct to the Labour Department by various Trade Unions which pay unemployed benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked-out, sick or superannuated, are excluded from the figures.

STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN MAY.

Employment.— Employment in May continued good. It showed some improvement on the whole as compared with April, and was considerably better than a year ago.

The engineering, shipbuilding, furnishing and wood-working, woollen, worsted, hosiery, dyeing and bleaching, and pottery trades were all well employed. There was a further slight recovery in the iron and steel industry, and a seasonal improvement in the clothing, building, and brick industries. On the other hand, the number of pig iron furnaces in blast continued to decline, and there was some falling off in employment in the cotton, lace, and jute trades.

As compared with a year ago, nearly all the principal industries showed an improvement. Employment at coal mining, however, was, on the whole, not quite so good, and there was a considerable decline at blast furnaces and in the lace and jute trades. In the 395 Trade Unions, with a net membership of 766,990, making returns 19,431 or (2.5 per cent.) were returned as unemployed at the end of May, 1911, compared with 2.8 per cent. at the end of April, 1911, and 4.2 per cent. at the end of May, 1910.

Returns from firms employing 452,326 workpeople in the week ended May 27th, 1911, showed an increase of 1.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 5.7 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Changes in Rates of Wages.— The changes in rates of wages taking effect in May affected nearly 51,000 workpeople, who received a net increase of £1,250 per week. The principal increases affected 2,200 ironstone quarrymen and blastfurnacemen in North Lincolnshire, 3,700 steel melters, pitmen, &c., in various parts of England and Scotland, 12,000 ironmoulders in Scotland, and 33,000 workpeople in engine and boiler shops on the Clyde. Amongst those whose wages were reduced were 5,500 coal miners in the Forest of Dean and 3,500 blastfurnacemen in Scotland.

Trade Disputes.— The most important disputes in progress during the month were those involving 12,000 coal miners in the Rhondda Valley, 1,400 coal miners at Wigan, 800 builders' labourers and bricklayers in Nottingham, 600 shipwrights in Southampton, 800 platers' helpers and labourers at Birkenhead, and 600 cotton operatives at Manchester. Fifty-one new disputes began in May, 1911, and the total number of workpeople involved in all disputes during the month was 36,868, or 3,422 fewer than in the previous month, and 17,644 more than in May, 1910. The time lost

during the month by these workpeople amounted to 523,800 working days, or 11,400 more than in April, 1911, and 318,800 more than in May, 1910.

Conciliation and Arbitration.—Five fresh cases were reported under the Conciliation Act, involving boot and shoe operatives at Kettering and Wigston, steel melters at West Hartlepool, painters at Leek, and coach-builders in the North of England.

EMPLOYMENT RETURNS FOR MAY.

[This Summary is based on 3,052 Returns from Employers, covering 1,281,211 workpeople, and 3,026 from Trade Unions, covering 766,990 workpeople.]

I.—TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

Table with columns: Trade, Membership of Unions reporting, Percentage Unemployed at end of May, 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a Month ago, Year ago.

* In addition to the ordinary short time which occurs in all trades, it should be noted that in the mining and textile industries a contraction in the demand for labour is more generally met by a reduction in the time worked per week by a large number of workpeople than by the discharge of a smaller number.

II.—EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

Table with columns: Trade, Workpeople included in the Returns for May, 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago, Year ago, Days worked per week by Mines, No. of Furnaces in Blast, Mills Working, Shifts Worked (One Week), Earnings in one Week.

Note.—For further details see Articles on pp. 211-224. † The averages for April, 1911, and May, 1910, were reduced on account of holidays.

UNEMPLOYED BENEFITS OF TRADE UNIONS.

A Report* has recently been issued by the Board of Trade dealing with the rules and expenditure of Trade Unions in respect of unemployed benefits, etc.

The Tables in which the information obtained is shown have been prepared in connection with the scheme of insurance against unemployment contained in Part II. of the National Insurance Bill, and include:—

- (1) An analysis of the financial rules of each Trade Union relating to unemployed benefits. (2) The expenditure in 1908 of each Trade Union on the various kinds of unemployed benefit. (3) The total expenditure and expenditure per head on unemployed benefits in each of the years 1900 to 1909 of each Trade Union in the Insured Trades. (4) Earnings in the Insured Trades in an ordinary week of 1906, classified by occupation and amount.

In addition to the analysis contained in Sections (1), (2) and (3), Tables are given in the first part of the volume summarising this detailed information.

The various forms in which provision against unemployment is made by trade unionists may be summarised as follows:—

Table with columns: Form of Benefit, Number of Trade Unionists. Rows include Ordinary Stationary Benefit, Payments confined to cases of contagious disease at homes, etc., and Grand total.

Of the 1,455,884 members of Trade Unions who receive ordinary stationary benefit when unemployed, 296,184 are entitled to a weekly allowance of 10s. 3d. or above, 606,452 to an allowance of 9s. 3d. to 10s., 200,460 to an allowance of 8s. 3d. to 9s., 106,538 to an allowance of 6s. 3d. to 8s., and 201,884 to an allowance of 6s. or under, while in the case of 44,366 the exact rate allowed was not ascertainable.

Table showing the percentage proportion of Trade Union members (1) who are entitled to receive, during the first year after becoming free to benefit, ordinary weekly stationary benefit of 9s. 3d. or more; (2) who are entitled to receive 9s. or less; and (3) who are not entitled to ordinary stationary benefit.

It may be added that as regards 28·9 per cent. of the members of Unions in the Building Trade and 3·1 per cent. in all other trades, members not entitled to ordinary stationary benefit are entitled to travelling benefit or grants to cover fares, etc.

The next Table shows the length of period of benefit receivable, whether at maximum rates or at reduced rates, during the first year after becoming entitled to benefit. The Table relates to ordinary stationary benefit and benefit in cases of contagious diseases at homes.

* Cd. 5703. Price 2s. 8d. W. & S. Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, London, E.C. † Exclusive of cases where the exact rate was not ascertainable (see above) and of disregarded cases (see previous table).

Table showing Exact Duration of Benefit not ascertainable for various trades: Building Trades, Mining & Quarrying, Metal, & Trades, etc.

Of the 1,473,839 members included in this Table, 23 per cent. are entitled to unemployed benefit for periods varying from 40-52 weeks, 6 per cent. for 27-39 weeks, 33 per cent. for 14-26 weeks, 22 per cent. for 10-13 weeks and 12 per cent. for 9 weeks and under; in the case of 4 per cent. the exact duration of benefit was not ascertainable.

The following Table gives the number of Unions, membership, and total amounts of unemployed expenditure in 1908:—

Table with columns: Trade, No. of Unions, Membership at end of 1908, Ordinary Unemployed Benefit, Travelling Benefit, Emigration, Fares to Jobs, Removals, Total Unemployed Benefits.

It will be seen that the 1,059 Unions, with a total membership at the end of 1908 of 2,357,381, paid £1,254,065 on unemployed benefits—an expenditure averaging 10s. 8d. per member.

The information obtained with regard to unemployed benefits by Trade Unions in the Insured Trades in each of the years 1900 to 1909 gives the following results as to the cost of unemployed benefits per head of eligible membership:—

Table showing cost of unemployed benefits per head for various years from 1900 to 1905, broken down by Trade.

The Tables showing earnings in the Insured Trades are based on information supplied by employers to the Board of Trade in connection with the enquiry instituted in 1906 into the earnings and hours of labour in all trades.

RECENT CONCILIATION CASES.

Boot and Shoe Operatives, Kettering.

In response to an application of the parties, the Board of Trade appointed Mr. Alderman T. Smith, J.P., to act as umpire with regard to a claim by the operatives' side of the Kettering and District Boot and Shoe No. 2 Arbitration Board for an increase in the minimum wage for pressmen and rough stuff cutters.

* So far as distinguished from Ordinary Unemployed Benefit.

At the hearing before Mr. Smith an agreement was arrived at by which sole (outsole) cutters receive an advance from 28s. to 30s. per week, and insole, stiffener and middlesole cutters an advance from 26s. to 28s. per week, the wages of other pressmen being unchanged.

Boot and Shoe Operatives, South Wigston.

Mr. Alderman T. Smith, having been appointed by the Board of Trade to draw up a piecework statement for the female employees in the machine room of a firm of boot manufacturers at South Wigston, issued his award on May 10th.

Steel Melters, West Hartlepool.

A Joint Committee, consisting of two members of the Steel Ingot Makers' Association and two members of the British Steel Smelters' Association, having failed to agree as to the rates to be paid to the steel melters employed on the Talbot furnace of a firm at West Hartlepool, joint application was made to the Board of Trade on May 18th to appoint a Court of Arbitration for the purpose of fixing the rates.

The Board have appointed a Court consisting of His Honour Judge O'Connor, K.C., chairman; Sir Benjamin Browne, J.P., from the Employers' Panel; and Mr. John Burnett, from the Labour Panel.

Painters, Leek.

Joint application having been made by the Leek Master Painters' Association and the Leek Branch of the National Amalgamated Society of Operative House and Ship Painters and Decorators for the appointment of an arbitrator in connection with an application of the operatives for an advance in wages from 7½d. to 8d. per hour, the Board of Trade on May 19th appointed Mr. Alderman T. Smith to act in the desired capacity.

Mr. Smith issued his award on June 14th, increasing the rate of wages to 7¾d. per hour.

Coachbuilders, North of England.

On 11th May joint application was made to the Board of Trade by the North of England Master Coachbuilders' Defence Association and the United Kingdom Society of Coachmakers for the appointment of a Court of Arbitration to settle differences between the parties. The workpeople's association had applied for an increase of 2s. per week in the minimum rate of wages for their members employed in all branches of the trade in Liverpool, Manchester and Salford, and a reduction of the working hours from 53 to 50 per week, with the introduction of the "One break system."

A Court has now been appointed, consisting of His Honour Judge Austin, chairman, Mr. H. Birchenough, J.P., C.M.G., from the Employers' Panel, and Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., from the Labour Panel.

TRADE BOARDS.

Hand-hammered Chain Making.

On 24th May the Board of Trade made an order under Section 5 (2) of the Trade Boards Act making obligatory the General Minimum Piece-rates for making Hand-hammered Chain (Country Branch) fixed by the Trade Board for the Hammered and Dotted or Tommed Chain Trade on 23rd November, 1910.

The effect of the obligatory order is to make it illegal,

under any circumstances, for wages to be paid at less than the fixed minimum rates, clear of all deductions, to persons employed in the branch of the chain trade affected by them.

CENSUS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1911.

PRELIMINARY FIGURES

THE total population of the United Kingdom on April 2nd, 1911, was 45,198,665, an increase of 3,739,944, or 9.02 per cent., as compared with 1901, when the total population was 41,458,721.

The percentage increases or decreases of the population of England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland and the United Kingdom respectively in each decade since 1851 were as follows:—

Table showing percentage increase (+) or decrease (-) in decades for England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland, and the United Kingdom from 1851 to 1911.

England and Wales.

The total population of England and Wales in 1911 was 36,057,269, an increase of 3,547,426, or 10.91 per cent., as compared with 1901; 62 administrative counties, with a population of 25,204,009, showed an increase of 2,660,014, or 11.80 per cent., and 75 county boroughs, with a population of 10,871,260, showed an increase of 887,412, or 8.89 per cent.

The population of each of the 62 administrative counties of England and Wales in 1911, and the percentage increase or decrease as compared with 1901, are given in the following Table:—

Table showing population and percentage change for administrative counties in England and Wales from 1901 to 1911.

Increases took place between 1901 and 1911 in the population of all but nine of the counties, the highest percentages of increase being in Middlesex (42.17), Glamorganshire (39.73), Monmouthshire (35.21), Surrey (30.06), Essex (30.05), Nottinghamshire (25.27),

Northumberland (21.92), Durham (21.00), and Hertfordshire (20.47). Decreases took place in nine counties, the greatest percentages being in Merionethshire (6.71), Montgomeryshire (3.19), and Radnorshire (2.97).

In the following Table the population of 75 county boroughs of England and Wales in 1911, and the percentage increase or decrease as compared with 1901, are shown:—

Table showing population and percentage change for 75 county boroughs in England and Wales from 1901 to 1911.

Increases took place in the population of all but four of the county boroughs, the greatest percentages of increase being in Coventry (52.01), Bournemouth (31.65), Smethwick (29.60), Croydon (26.64), Newport (Mon.) (24.42), Blackpool (23.29), Portsmouth (22.36), Swansea (21.30), and Eastbourne (20.59). The four county boroughs showing a decrease were Hastings (6.69 per cent.), Burton-upon-Trent (4.19 per cent.), Halifax (3.23 per cent.), and Canterbury (1.09 per cent.).

The Administrative County of London showed a decrease of 0.29 per cent. and the "Outer Ring" an increase of 33.49 per cent.; the population of Greater London as a whole increased from 6,581,402 to 7,252,963 (or 10.20 per cent.). The night population of the City of London decreased by 26.99 per cent.

The following Table shows the population in 1911 of each of the Metropolitan Boroughs, the City of London and the "Outer Ring," and the percentage increase or decrease as compared with 1901:—

Table showing population and percentage change for Metropolitan Boroughs, City of London, and the Outer Ring from 1901 to 1911.

* Greater London corresponds with the districts of the City of London Police and the Metropolitan Police. The Outer Ring is that portion of Greater London which lies outside the County of London.

In the Metropolitan Boroughs there were decreases in 19 cases and increases in 9 cases, the greatest percentages of decrease taking place in Holborn (16.95), Finsbury (13.29), Westminster (12.42), St. Marylebone (11.31), and Chelsea (10.07), and the greatest percentages of increase in Wandsworth (34.27) and Lewisham (26.16).

Scotland.

The total population of Scotland in 1911 was 4,759,445, an increase of 287,342, or 6.4 per cent., as compared with 1901. The following Table shows the population of the counties in 1911, and the percentage increase or decrease as compared with 1901:—

Table showing population and percentage change for counties in Scotland from 1901 to 1911.

Increases took place between 1901 and 1911 in eighteen counties, and decreases in fifteen. The greatest percentages of increase were in Dumbarton (22.8), Fife (22.3), Linlithgow (20.9), Renfrew (17.0), Stirling (13.2), and Haddington (11.9), and the greatest percentages of decrease in Orkney (9.8), Sutherland (5.9), and Caithness (5.5).

Of the total population of Scotland, 3,139,824 live in the burghs, and 1,619,621 in the extra-burghal portions of the country. The burghal population increased since 1901 by 188,421, or 6.4 per cent., and the extra-burghal population by 98,921, or 6.5 per cent.

The following Table shows the population in 1911 of burghs having 20,000 inhabitants and over in 1911, and the percentage increase or decrease as compared with 1901:—

Table showing population and percentage change for burghs with 20,000+ inhabitants in Scotland from 1901 to 1911.

Increases took place between 1901 and 1911 in the population of all these burghs except Arbroath and Inverness, where there were decreases of 7.8 per cent. and 3.7 per cent. respectively. The greatest percentages of increase were in Clydebank (79.7), Rutherglen (31.3), Motherwell (29.6), Partick (23.1), and Wishaw (21.0). The population of Glasgow increased by 1.1 per cent., and that of Edinburgh by 0.9 per cent.

Ireland.

The total population of Ireland in 1911 was 4,381,951, a decrease of 76,824, or 1.72 per cent., as compared with 1901; there were decreases of 4.0 per cent., 0.3 per cent., and 5.7 per cent. respectively in Munster, Ulster and Connaught, and an increase of 0.7 per cent. in Leinster.

In the Table below the population in 1911 and the percentage increase or decrease as compared with 1901

are shown for each of the Provinces and Counties of Ireland:—

Table showing population and percentage change for provinces and counties in Ireland from 1901 to 1911.

* Including the County Borough of that name. † Including part of the County Borough of Belfast.

In the counties there was an increase between 1901 and 1911 in four cases, viz., Dublin, Down, Kildare, and Antrim, in which the population increased 6.4 per cent., 5.2 per cent., 4.6 per cent., and 3.7 per cent. respectively. There was a decrease in the population of each of the other counties, ranging from 0.4 per cent. in Wicklow, 1.7 per cent. in Wexford, and 1.9 per cent. in Cork, E.R., to 8.3 per cent. in Leitrim, 7.7 per cent. in Roscommon, and 7.4 per cent. in Clare.

The following Table shows the population in 1911 of Dublin and 17 other towns of Ireland, and the percentage increase or decrease as compared with 1901:—

Table showing population and percentage change for Dublin and 17 other towns in Ireland from 1901 to 1911.

The population of the City of Dublin increased during the decade by 6.4 per cent.; the total population of the City of Dublin and the adjacent urban districts of Rathmines and Rathgar, Pembroke, Blackrock, and Kingstown increased by 7.4 per cent. The largest percentage of increase (17.1) took place in Rathmines and Rathgar, and the next largest (16.2) in Portadown; the greatest percentage of decrease for towns occurred at Newry (3.6), followed by Drogheda (2.6) and Galway (1.3).

HOURS OF LABOUR IN SWEDEN.

In a despatch dated May 10th H.M. Consul at Stockholm transmits a summary of an article appearing in the journal of the Swedish Labour Department (Meddelanden från K. Kommerskollegii Afdelning för Arbetstatistik, April 1911) giving the results of an investigation into the hours of labour of workpeople employed in industrial undertakings in Sweden. The data relate principally to 1905, but in part to 1906.

Returns were utilised relating to about 20,000 undertakings, in which 345,446 workpeople were employed (including 45,495 under 18 years of age), of whom 292,001 were males and 53,445 females.

Taking all classes of workpeople together, the hours of labour usually worked per week, exclusive of intervals for meals, etc., were as shown below:—

Table with 2 columns: Usual Hours of Labour per week (excluding intervals) and Percentage of Total Workpeople. Rows include Under 60, 60-69, Over 60, and Uncertain, with a Total row at 1000.

It is stated that a reduction of the working time on Saturday is beginning to come into practice. In industries in which a ten-hour day is worked on five days of the week, only nine hours are frequently worked on Saturday.

In the following table are shown the average usual weekly hours of labour (exclusive of intervals) of male and female workpeople in the various trade groups:—

Table with 6 columns: Group of Trades, Average Hours (Males, Females), and Group of Trades (Males, Females). Lists various industries like Building, Mining, Ore Refining, etc.

The hours of male workpeople exceeded those of females in each group except the printing, where the reverse was the case owing to the fact that the working day is comparatively short (eight hours) in the larger newspaper offices, where few females are employed.

Taking all trades and both sexes together, the average number of hours worked per week was 59.5.

The average number of hours worked per week by persons employed in undertakings with less than ten workpeople was 60.4, while in those employing ten or more the average was 59.3.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS IN 1910.

There was no new legislation directly affecting the Factory Department in 1910, but the White Phosphorus Matches Prohibition Act of 1908 came into force at the beginning of the year.

The annual report of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops for 1910* states that there were 112,370

* Annual Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops for 1910. Cd. 5668. Wyman & Sons, Ltd. Price 2s. 4d.

factories and 152,772 workshops under inspection, a decrease of 109 in the number of factories and an increase of 1,502 in the number of workshops compared with the year 1909.

The following Table shows that the decrease in the number of accidents reported in 1908 and 1909 was followed by an increase in 1910.

Table showing Accidents in 1907, 1908, 1909, and 1910. Categories include Fatal accidents, Certifying Surgeons, and Inspectors only.

The excess over 1907 (the highest previous record) was mainly in the "minor" accidents, the number of fatalities having decreased by 8.4 per cent. The slight increase of 0.9 per cent. in the number of non-fatal accidents reported to Certifying Surgeons was confined to burns, scalds, and "miscellaneous" injuries.

A special analysis has been made this year of 3,184 accidents reported in selected districts in connection with the shipbuilding industry. Detailed tables are given showing the occupation and age of the persons injured, the cause and nature of the accident, the month, day of the week, and hour in which it occurred.

With regard to industrial poisoning, there was a considerable reduction in the number of reported cases of lead poisoning, the decrease being shown in the smelting of metals, paint and colour works, and coach painting.

The report states that increased attention is being given to matters of sanitation in factories and workshops, and that with regard to ventilation great improvements are being effected.

The regular employment of children as half-timers has been practically discontinued in all but the principal textile centres, but in all districts occasional cases are reported of the illegal employment of children after school hours and on Saturdays.

The total number of prosecutions in 1910 was 3,644, a decrease of 79 compared with 1909. The decrease is shown under the heading of "Forms," "Employment," and "Obstruction"; an increase is shown under the headings of Sanitation, Safety, Particulars, and Truck.

The report contains detailed tables with regard to accidents, administration, &c.; also special reports on the hours and conditions of work in typewriting offices and on the methods of determination of dust and lead in the air of workrooms.

LABOUR DISPUTES IN GERMANY IN 1910.

According to the Report on Strikes and Lock-outs in Germany in 1910,* recently issued by the Imperial Statistical Department, the number of labour disputes terminated in 1910 was 3,228, as compared with 1,652 in the previous year.

The number of workpeople directly and indirectly affected by the disputes ending in 1910 was about three times as great as the corresponding number for the previous year, being 390,706, as compared with 130,883 in 1909.

Of the disputes of 1910, 2,113 were strikes directly and indirectly affecting 167,908 workpeople, and 1,115 were lock-outs directly and indirectly affecting 222,798 workpeople.

Table showing the number of workpeople affected by strikes and lock-outs in 1910, categorized by Group of Trades such as Building, Mining, Textile, etc.

It will be seen that disputes in the building trade in 1910 involved 217,077 workpeople (or 56 per cent. of the total number affected), and that more than four-fifths of these were affected by lock-outs.

Of the 3,228 disputes which terminated in 1910, 443, or 13.7 per cent., resulted in favour of the workpeople, and 867, or 26.9 per cent., in favour of the employers.

ELECTRIC LAMPS FOR MINERS.

In order to encourage the production of safe and efficient types of electric lamps for miners, a colliery proprietor has placed at the disposal of the Home Secretary the sum of £1,000 to be offered as a prize for the best lamp or lamps fulfilling the requirements specified below.

Mr. Charles Rhodes (a former President of the Institute of Mining Engineers) and Mr. Charles H. Merz (a member of the Departmental Committee on the Use of Electricity in Mines) have consented to act as judges.

The conditions of the competition are as follows:— (1) The Competition will be open to persons of any nationality. (2) It will be in the discretion of the judges to award the

* Streiks und Aussperrungen im Jahre 1910 (Statistik des Deutschen Reichs Band 249). Berlin, 1911: Puttkammer & Mühlbrecht. Price 1s. † Includes quarries, gravel, lime, cement, &c., works, pottery, brick, tile, &c., making, and glassworks.

whole of the prize for the lamp which they consider to be the best, or to divide the prize, or to make no award if no lamp appears to them to be of sufficient merit.

(3) Lamps must be addressed care of C. Rhodes, Esq., at the Home Office Testing Station, Rotherham, and must reach the Testing Station not later than the 31st December next; a spare globe should accompany each lamp.

The requirements which should be fulfilled by any lamps submitted for competition are as follows:—

- (1) The lamp should be of sound mechanical construction, so as to withstand rough usage. (2) The lamp should be of simple construction and easy to maintain in good order and repair. (3) The lamp should be so constructed as to render impossible the ignition of inflammable gas either within or without the lamp. (4) The lamp battery should be so constructed that any liquid which it may contain cannot be spilled when the lamp is in use, and means should be provided for dealing with any gas which may be generated by the battery. (5) The materials used and the construction should be such that metals and other parts will not be liable to deterioration by corrosion as a result of the action of the "electrolyte," etc., used in the battery. (6) The lamp should be effectively locked, so that it cannot be opened without detection. (7) The lamp should be capable of giving an amount of light not less than 2-candle power continuously for a period of not less than 10 hours. (8) The light should be well distributed outside the lamp. A movable reflector to concentrate or to shield the light may be provided.

In addition to the above requirements regard will be paid to (a) the first cost of the lamp; (b) the cost of maintenance; (c) convenience in handling; and (d) the weight of the lamp when charged and ready for use.

PRICES OF COAL EXPORTED IN 1910.

A RETURN* recently issued by the Board of Trade shows the quantities of coal exported from each of the ports of the United Kingdom by quarterly periods in 1910, at prices not exceeding 5s., above 5s. but not exceeding 6s., above 6s. but not exceeding 7s., and so on, with comparative totals for 1906-1909.

Table showing coal export quantities and prices by quarter (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th) and total for 1910, compared with 1906-1909. Categories include Not exceeding 5s., 6s., 7s., etc.

The following Table gives the total quantities exported at different prices in the years 1906-1910:—

Table showing total coal export quantities at different price points (Not exceeding 5s., Over 5s. and up to 6s., etc.) for the years 1906-1910.

* H.C. 175 of 1911. Wyman & Sons, Ltd. Price 2d. † The Export Duty of 1s. per ton on Coal exceeding 6s. per ton was repealed as from 1st November, 1906.

OCCUPATIONS OF THE PEOPLE IN FRANCE.

STATISTICS of the occupations of the people in France, as returned at the population Census of March 4th, 1906, are included in a Report recently issued by the French Labour Department.*

In the following Table the statistics of occupations presented in the French Report have been re-summarised according to the groups adopted as a basis of classification in the Census of England and Wales, modified to the extent that dealers, instead of being placed in the respective groups relating to the articles in which they traded, are included in Group V (Commercial Occupations):—

Occupation Group.	No. of Persons included.		Per-centage inter-censal Inc. (+) or Dec. (-)
	1906.	1901.	
I. General or Local Government of the Country†	400,731	390,129	+ 2.7
II. Defence of the Country	593,901	597,445	- 0.6
III. Professional Occupations and their Subordinate Services	561,873	577,498	- 2.7
IV. Domestic Offices or Services (including Institutional Service)	1,252,085	1,250,455	+ 0.1
V. Commercial Occupations and Dealers	1,438,806	1,288,329	+ 11.7
VI. Conveyance of Men, Goods, and Messages†	590,612	569,565	+ 1.9
VII. Agriculture (including Forestry) .. .	8,765,818	8,165,041	§
VIII. Fishing	77,943	67,733	§
IX. In and about Mines and Quarries .. .	323,347	313,051	+ 3.3
X. Metals, Machines, Implements, and Conveyances (including Shipbuilding)	894,228	857,699	+ 4.3
XI. Precious Metals, Jewels, Watches, Instruments and Games	129,312	122,280	+ 5.8
XII. Building and Works of Construction ..	794,991	828,640	- 4.1
XIII. Wood, Furniture, Fittings, and Decorations	311,408	305,523	+ 1.9
XIV. Brick, Cement, Pottery, and Glass ..	149,534	146,128	+ 2.3
XV. Chemicals, Oil, Grease, Soap, Resin, &c.	122,811	103,681	+ 18.5
XVI. Skins, Leather, Hair, and Feathers ..	132,915	129,107	+ 2.9
XVII. Paper, Prints, Books, and Stationery	168,730	154,783	+ 9.0
XVIII. Textile Fabrics	919,389	897,673	+ 2.4
XIX. Dress	1,649,241	1,587,761	+ 3.8
XX. Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging ..	982,853	948,256	+ 3.6
XXI. Gas, Water and Electricity Supply, and Sanitary Service	46,061	39,527	+ 16.5
XXII. Other General and Undefined Workers	422,084	372,958	+ 13.2
Total engaged in Occupations	20,718,673	19,713,282	+ 5.1
XXIII. Retired or Unoccupied	18,125,980	18,737,506	- 3.3
Total Population	38,844,653	38,450,788	+ 1.0

The increase since 1901 in the number of persons engaged in occupations and the decrease in the number retired or unoccupied is largely due to a fundamental alteration in the method of classification of farmers' wives. For the purposes of the present Census, in the case of farms and other agricultural undertakings at which there were no paid employees (such farms, &c., being usually conducted by husband and wife), the farmers' wives, hitherto regarded as unoccupied, have been classified as being occupied in agriculture. The number of females classified as occupied in agriculture in 1906 was 666,484 greater than in 1901, so that, apart from this change in practice, the number occupied in the agricultural group would have shown a slight decline.

The increase shown in the fishing group is affected by the fact that a number of men now included in this group were at the Census of 1901 classified as sailors, and accordingly assigned to Group VI. Further, the Census of 1906 being taken on March 4th, a number of fishermen who might have been at sea had the Census been taken towards the end of the month, as was the case in 1901, have been enumerated.

To some extent, also, the figures for Group IV are not comparable as between the two dates, owing to the fact that a number of persons classified in 1901 as domestic servants were in 1906 assigned to some industrial or commercial heading to which they appeared more properly to belong. There were also certain other minor differences in classification at the two Censuses, but these were not of sufficient importance to have any appreciable effect on the general group figures shown above.

* Résultats Statistiques du Recensement Général de la Population effectué le 4 mars 1906. Tome I.—Deuxième Partie.

† It has been found necessary to include persons engaged in the telegraph and telephone services in Group I.

‡ As returned in 1901, but not comparable with 1906. See text. § See Note †.

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, &c.*

Canada.

ALL emigrants to Canada must fulfil the requirements of the Canadian Government as to possession of sufficient travelling money, guarantee of employment, &c. There is a good demand for farm labourers, strong men for railway construction, female servants for town or country, and, to a less extent, for mechanics, mainly those in the building trades. The coalminers' strike at Spring Hill, Nova Scotia, is at last settled. There has been pronounced activity in nearly all branches and localities. Labour, especially female labour, has been in demand in certain centres. Among the branches in which activity has been especially pronounced during the past month may be mentioned iron and steel plants, agricultural implement factories, and garment factories.

Commonwealth of Australia.

In *New South Wales* competent farm labourers—including a limited number of married men with families—have no difficulty in getting good places. In Sydney and suburbs the following trades have been very busy:—Building, iron, furniture (except French polishers and carvers), timber, clothing, farriers, and factory employes. Employment among the miners at the Newcastle collieries has improved.

In *Victoria* the special demand is for farmers with capital and experienced farm labourers, and to these classes facilities are given for taking up land. There has been plenty of work also for mechanics, and female factory hands.

South Australia.—Nominated passages at £4 to £8 a head can (for the first time for many years) now be obtained in South Australia for relatives of residents, for agricultural workers, and others for whom there is a demand, provided they are under 50 years of age. Female domestic helpers also—if they are under 40 years of age—may obtain assisted passages at £4 a head from the Emigration Agent in London (85, Gracechurch Street, E.C.). Work of nearly all kinds is plentiful, and there is a good demand for bricklayers, masons, carpenters, plasterers, painters, blacksmiths, boilermakers, plumbers, and, in country districts, for unskilled labourers.

Queensland.—The Government is spending large sums of money on the construction of railways and other public works, and there is plenty of employment for most classes of labour.

Western Australia.—There is a considerable demand for carpenters, coachbuilders, and trained mechanics for the construction of rolling stock, including carriage and wagon builders, for plumbers, and, in the farming districts, for agricultural labourers.

New Zealand.

There is a good demand for agriculturists and female servants, and for these classes reduced passages are being offered. The building trades have been busy at Invercargill, Wellington, Napier, &c., and work in other trades has been fair; there is a continued demand for competent workers—and especially for female workers—in the clothing factories and woollen mills in Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin.

Union of South Africa.

Female servants are wanted in many parts of South Africa; they should apply for assistance to the South African Colonization Society, 115, Victoria Street, London, S.W. In the *Transvaal* the building trade continues brisk at Johannesburg. In *Cape Province* there has been a demand at Cape Town for a few brush-makers, cabinet makers, upholsterers, saddlers, tin-smiths, and tanners, and for a few coachbuilders and wagon-smiths at King William's Town. The strike of compositors at Cape Town continues. In Natal and the Orange Free State Provinces there is no demand for more male labour.

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

LABOUR ABROAD.

[NOTE.—The following reports include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment in foreign countries, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in these countries are, however, not the same as those for the United Kingdom, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot properly be used with those on p. 201 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that in foreign countries. (For further information on the subject of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries, see p. 104 of Cd. 2337 of 1904, pp. 521-4 of Cd. 4032 of 1908, and pp. xxv.—xxvi. of Cd. 5415 of 1911.)]

FRANCE.*

Employment in April.—In the *building trades* the proportion of workpeople unemployed was less than at the same period in recent years. In the *metal trades* employment was not so good as in March; there were still many unemployed in the tin-box making trade of Brittany. In the *textile trades* employment was satisfactory on the whole, though there was a slight decline in certain centres of the Nord. Employment continued good in the *printing and allied trades*. The percentage unemployed in the *skin and leather trades* continued rather high. With *glass workers* employment was not so good. Among *vineyard workers* in the south of France it was about the same as in March, though in certain districts there was some decline owing to frost. With *woodmen* employment continued slack, wood-cutting having terminated and bark-peeling not having yet commenced. *Gardeners* in and around Paris continued well employed.

Returns showing the number of members unemployed on a given date in April were received by the French Labour Department from 948 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 262,486. Excluding returns from the miners' unions in the Pas-de-Calais department, 5.7 per cent. of the members were described as unemployed, as compared with 6.3 per cent. in the previous month and 5.6 per cent. in April, 1910.†

Coal Mining in April.—The average number of days worked per week by persons employed underground in France was 5.90 in April, compared with 5.93 in the previous month, and 5.94 in April, 1910. Taking surface and underground workers together, 83.13 per cent. worked full time (six days or over per week), and 16.82 per cent. from five to six days. In the previous month the corresponding percentages were 81.10 and 18.20, and in April, 1910, 87.15 and 11.48.

Labour Disputes in April.—One hundred and fifty-five disputes (151 strikes and 4 lock-outs) were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in April, as compared with 211 in the previous month and 190† in April, 1910. In 139 of the new disputes 11,216 workpeople took part, as compared with 17,021 who took part in 198 disputes of the previous month, and 19,960 in 158 disputes in April, 1910. The groups of trades in which the greatest number of disputes occurred were—building (56), transport (19), metal (16), textile (14), pottery (12), and woodworking (10). Of 134 new and old disputes reported to have terminated, 31 ended wholly in favour of the workpeople, and 49 wholly in favour of the employers, while 54 were compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in April.—Twenty-seven instances of recourse to the law of December 27th, 1892, on conciliation and arbitration were reported to the French Labour Department in April. Committees of conciliation were formed in 18 cases, resulting in the settlement of 13 disputes; in 8 of the 9 remaining cases the employers, and in the last case both parties, declined the proposed mediation.

GERMANY.

Employment in April.—According to the *Reichs-Arbeitsblatt* (the Journal of the German Labour Department), the state of the labour market continued to improve in April. In the *building trades employment*,

* Bulletin de l'Office du Travail (Journal of the French Labour Department).
† These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom shown on p. 201. See also Note above.
‡ Revised figure.

which had been slack in March, improved substantially in most districts owing to the favourable weather. In *coal mining* in the Ruhr district there was also an improvement, but conditions remained unfavourable in the Silesian coalfields. In the *lignite mines* of Central Germany, in *iron and steel works*, and, on the whole, in the *metal and engineering trades* employment continued satisfactory. Reports on the *textile trades*, on the other hand, were very unfavourable, the situation in cotton-spinning and cloth-weaving mills being described as bad. Employment in the *window glass and plate glass industries* and in the *furnishing trades* was unsatisfactory, but it continued good in the *electrical and chemical trades*; in the *potash industry* it was stated to be normal, but not so good as in March.

In future the *Reichs-Arbeitsblatt* will publish statistics of unemployment among members of trade unions month by month. These statistics will, however, relate only to the numbers unemployed at the end of the month. The number of days lost will, as heretofore, be published quarterly, and will relate to the whole quarter. It is stated that owing to the branches of the unions having to get used to the new system, and owing to some delay in the sending out of the schedules, the statistics for April, the first month for which returns were made on the new system, are incomplete, inasmuch as they comprise only 21 of the 56 unions included in the scheme. A considerable number of the branches, moreover, have failed to make returns to their union headquarters for that month.

Returns relating to April were received from trade unions with an aggregate membership at the end of the month of 1,283,736. Omitting branches which failed to make returns the membership covered was 1,139,063, of whom 20,040, or 1.8 per cent., were stated to be unemployed at the end of April. The corresponding percentages for March, 1911, and April, 1910, for the same unions were 2.1 and 1.9 respectively. The following table shows, for the whole body of trade unionists reporting, and separately for each of the principal unions, the membership reported on at the end of April, 1911, and the percentage of members returned as unemployed, compared with a month and a year ago:—

UNION.	Member-ship reported on at end of April, 1911.	Percentage of Membership returned as unemployed at end of month.*		
		April, 1911.	March, 1911.	April, 1910.
All Unions making Returns..	1,139,063	1.8	2.1	1.9
Metal Workers (Soc. Dem.) ..	491,207	1.6	2.5	1.8
Metal Workers (Christian) ..	38,076	0.6	0.5	0.8
Boot and Shoe Makers	39,988	1.1	1.1	1.7
Bookbinders	28,622	2.2	2.4	2.7
Woodworkers	166,536	2.5	2.6	2.4
Factory Workers (trades not specified)	92,570	1.4	1.1	1.5

BELGIUM.

Employment in April.—According to returns made to the Belgian Labour Department 1.8 per cent. of the 57,075 members of trade unions reporting were unemployed towards the latter part of April, as compared with 2.0 per cent. in the previous month, and 1.6 per cent. in April, 1910.*

New Law Relating to Mines and Quarries.—A despatch from H.M. Envoy at Brussels, dated April 7th, states that the Bill to complete and amend the existing laws relating to mines and quarries was passed by the Belgian Senate on April 6th, in the form in which it passed the Chamber of Representatives, and will therefore become law.

Among other provisions, the law requires that underground labour of all females and of males under 14 years of age shall be abolished from the beginning of the third

* These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom shown on p. 201. See also Note above.
† *Revue du Travail* (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department).

year from the date of promulgation. It is also provided that measures to be adopted relative to the health and safety of workers in and about mines and underground quarries shall be regulated by Royal Decrees, which shall be issued on the advice of the Council of Mines and, in the case of such measures as relate to the health of the workpeople, the Higher Council of Health. The law further specifies that showerbaths shall be placed at the disposal of the workpeople, under conditions to be determined by Royal Decree.

HOLLAND.*

Unemployment in April.—Returns relating to unemployment among their members in April were received by the Dutch Central Statistical Office from 491 trade unions and municipal unemployment funds with a total membership of 45,794, of whom 44,530 were entitled to unemployed benefit. The percentage of the latter unemployed in April was 2.1, the same as in March. This percentage is obtained by taking, for each of the four or five weeks lying within the month under consideration, the number of persons unemployed on one or more days of the week. These four (or five) numbers are averaged and the proportion borne by the result to the number of members entitled to benefit gives the percentage. The average number of days lost in the week per member unemployed on one or more days of the week was 5.6 in April, as compared with 5.3 in March.

The following table shows the above figures, together with the corresponding figures for certain of the larger trade groups:—

Table with columns: Group of Trades, Average Number of Members entitled to Benefit in Trade Unions and Unemployment Funds making Returns in April, Percentage unemployed, Days lost per week (April, March).

Labour Disputes in April.—Nineteen disputes, directly affecting 892 workpeople, were reported as having begun in April. Twenty-one, including 13 of the above, terminated during the month. One of these ended in favour of the workpeople and 3 in favour of the employers, while 15 were compromised; in one of the remaining cases the result was unknown, and in the other a lock-out ended with the termination of the strike out of which it originated.

DENMARK.

Employment in March.—According to returns made to the Central Federation of Danish Trade Unions, out of 89,700 members of affiliated unions, 11.5 per cent. were unemployed at the end of March, as compared with 16.7 per cent. at the end of February.

Disputes in the Building, Woodworking, and other Trades.—These disputes (see BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE, April, p. 128, and May, p. 170) terminated on May 17th. The masons, electricians, joiners and woodworkers arrived at an agreement in settlement of their

* Maandskrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek (Journal of the Dutch Central Statistical Office). † These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom given on p. 201. See also Note above. ‡ Relates only to persons unemployed throughout the whole week. § Arbejdere (Journal of the Central Federation of Danish Trade Unions). ¶ Based on a despatch to the Foreign Office from H.M. Minister at Copenhagen, dated May 18th, 1911.

dispute on April 27th, this settlement being conditional upon the acceptance of the terms of the agreement by the bricklayers and plumbers. The plumbers, however, refused to accept, and accordingly, after prolonged negotiations, an extended lock-out was put into operation on May 16th, the total number of men then locked out being about 40,000. On the same evening the plumbers, having obtained the concessions that 6½d. should be a minimum and not a normal hourly rate of wages and that payment for rural work should be settled by special arrangement between employers and workmen, abandoned their opposition, and the lock-out terminated on the following day. The agreement reached provided, inter alia, for the increase of minimum hourly rates of wages to 6½d. for masons at Copenhagen, to 7d. for electrical fitters, to 5½d. for journeymen electricians, and to 6d. for skilled sawmill workmen and machine joiners at Copenhagen. These minimum rates for electrical fitters, journeymen electricians, skilled sawmill workmen and machine joiners are to be further increased in February, 1914, but the minimum rate for masons is to remain in force for five years.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.*

Labour Disputes in Austria in April.—Sixty-one strikes, 25 of which directly affected 3,774 workpeople, were in progress in April. Thirty-seven disputes terminated during the month, 8 ending in favour of the workpeople, and 4 in favour of the employers, while 13 were compromised; in the remaining 12 cases the result was not known.

Prohibition of Night-Work of Women in Austria.—By a law of February 21st, 1911, which enters into force on August 1st next (except in the case of raw sugar factories, for which the date is January 1st, 1915), the employment of women and girls between the hours of 8 p.m. and 5 a.m. is prohibited in any industrial establishment in Austria in which more than ten workpeople are employed. Furthermore, every woman or girl must be granted not less than eleven consecutive hours of rest at night. If, however, work is done in eight-hour shifts this eleven-hour rest period may commence at 10 p.m. in the case of women over 16 years of age. In unforeseen circumstances, e.g., in cases of accidents, exemptions may be given in the case of women over 18 for not more than four weeks. In seasonal trades and under exceptional conditions the consecutive rest period for women over 18 may be reduced to ten hours, and may commence at 10 p.m. on not more than 40 days in the year. Exemptions may also be granted in respect of women over 18 in trades where raw materials are subject to rapid deterioration.

NORWAY.†

Employment in April.—The following Table shows the percentage of members reported unemployed at the end of April in trade unions making returns to the Norwegian Labour Department, comparative figures relating to the same unions being added for the previous month and for April, 1910:—

Table with columns: Group of Trades, Membership (April 30th 1911, March 31st 1911, April 30th 1910), Percentage Unemployed (April 30th 1911, March 31st 1911, April 30th 1910).

* Soziale Rundschau (Journal of the Austrian Labour Department). † Information supplied by the courtesy of the Norwegian Labour Department. ‡ These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom shown on p. 201. See also Note above.

ITALY.*

Labour Disputes in March.—One hundred and nine strikes, 94 of which directly affected 9,493 workpeople, were in progress in March. Ninety-four strikes terminated during the month. Twenty of these, directly affecting 1,578 workpeople, ended wholly in their favour, and 30, directly affecting 3,355 workpeople, wholly in favour of the employers, while 39, directly affecting 3,781 workpeople, were compromised. In the 5 remaining cases, by which only 49 workpeople were directly affected, the result was not known.

UNITED STATES. Massachusetts.†

Employment at end of First Quarter of 1911.—The percentage of members of trade unions reported to the Massachusetts State Bureau of Statistics as being unemployed owing to causes other than labour disputes or disability, e.g., lack of work, shortage of materials, weather conditions, temporary shutdowns, at the end of March, 1911, together with corresponding percentages for the end of March and December, 1910, are shown in the following table:—

Table with columns: Membership included in Returns, Percentage of Membership reported Unemployed owing to causes other than disputes or disability, March 31st 1911, Dec. 31st 1910, March 31st 1910.

Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour in First Quarter of 1911.—Twenty increases in rates of wages, affecting 3,421 workpeople, and one decrease, affecting 79 workpeople, took effect during the first quarter of 1911. The net result of all the changes was an increase of £851 per week. Increases affecting 1,042 workpeople were granted voluntarily by employers without demand from the workpeople, while increases affecting 2,295 workpeople were arranged between employers and representatives of trade unions. Strikes preceded increases granted to 738 workpeople. Changes in hours of labour coming into operation in the first quarter of 1911 affected 818 workpeople, whose working time was reduced by 1,721 hours a week.

Labour Disputes in First Quarter of 1911.—Sixty-two strikes, affecting 4,122 workpeople (2,660 directly and 1,462 indirectly), commenced during the quarter ended March 31st, 1911, as compared with 31 in the previous quarter and 66 in the first quarter of 1910. Fifty-four strikes, involving 2,202 strikers, were reported to have terminated definitely. Of these 17, affecting 341 strikers, terminated in favour of the workpeople, and 27, affecting 828 strikers, in favour of the employers, while 10, affecting 1,033 strikers, were compromised. The number of working days lost as a result of strikes which began during the quarter was 57,600, as compared with 12,302 in the previous quarter and 81,400 in the first quarter of 1910.

New York.

Workmen's Compensation Act of 1910 declared unconstitutional.—The New York State "Workmen's Compensation Act" of 1910, which made it obligatory for employers to compensate workmen injured in certain specified dangerous employments, according to a fixed scale, was declared unconstitutional by the State Court of Appeals on March 24th, 1911. Commenting on this decision, the "New York Labour Bulletin" (the journal of the New York State Department of Labour) states that "as the constitution now stands, the only principle upon which any part of the loss in accidents may be laid by law upon the employer is precisely that of fault or negligence," that "the importance of this decision lies in the fact that the New York law was the first compulsory compensation Act for private employments in this country," and that "so far as New York State is concerned this decision would seem to be final, since an appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States is possible in such a case only when a State law is upheld."

* Bollettino dell' Ufficio del lavoro (Journal of the Italian Labour Department). † Information supplied by the courtesy of the Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics. ‡ These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom shown on p. 201. See also Note above.

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES IN MAY.

COAL MINING.

(Based on 506 Returns—445 from Employers, 45 from Trade Unions, and 16 from Local Correspondents).

EMPLOYMENT was fairly good on the whole during May, but showed a decline as compared with both a month ago and a year ago. Comparison with April, 1911, and May, 1910, is affected by holidays.

Returns relating to 1,309 pits, employing 667,453 workpeople, showed that the average number of days* worked during the fortnight ended May 27th, 1911, was 5.33, as compared with 5.00 a month ago, and 4.44 a year ago.

Of the 667,453 workpeople covered by the Returns 505,507 (75.7 per cent.) were employed at pits working 10 or more days during the fortnight ended May 27th, while 391,245 (58.6 per cent. of the whole) were employed at pits working 11 days or more.

The highest average number of days worked per week was in South Wales and Monmouth (5.94), and the lowest was in Warwick, Worcester and Salop (4.32).

The following Table shows the average number of days worked during the fortnight ended May 27th, 1911, together with the figures for similar periods in April, 1911, and May, 1910. The averages for both April, 1911, and May, 1910, are reduced on account of holidays. Collieries at which there were disputes causing stoppages of work are excluded from the figures.

Table with columns: Districts, No. of Workpeople employed in May, 1911 at the Collieries included in the Table, Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in Fortnight ended (May 27th 1911, April 29th 1911, May 28th 1910), Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in May, 1911, on a (Month ago, Year ago).

In Northumberland employment was good, and better than a year ago; in Durham and South Yorkshire it was fairly good, but showed a slight decline on a month ago. In West Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire employment was fair, and showed a decline on both a month ago and a year ago. In the Midland Counties, except North Staffordshire (where it was good), employment was slack, and showed a decline as compared with both a month ago and a year ago. Employment in Gloucester and Somerset was quiet on the whole, and not so good as a month ago. In North and South Wales and Monmouthshire employment was very good, practically full time being worked. Employment continued fairly good in West Scotland, but was slightly worse than a month ago; in the Lothians it continued dull. It was fairly good in Fife, and better than a year ago.

* The figures in this article only show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal was hewn and wound at the collieries included in the returns received. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed at these collieries worked the whole number of days. † These averages are reduced on account of holidays.

Pig Iron.—As a result of the ascertainment of the selling price of pig iron the wages of blastfurnacemen in the West of Scotland were reduced by 2 1/2 per cent.

Manufactured Iron.—In the North of England, the Midlands, and the West of Scotland the wages of puddlers and millmen remain unchanged as a result of the ascertainments of the selling price of the specified class of manufactured iron in those districts.

PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.

I.—BREAD.

RETURNS have been received from the principal Co-operative Societies and Master Bakers' Associations in Great Britain, and from local correspondents, showing the price of bread on June 1st, 1911.

The figures in the following Table are based on Returns from 227 Co-operative Societies in England and Wales, and 132 in Scotland.

Table showing predominant price per 4 lbs. on 1st June, 1911, and 1st Mar., 1911, and 1st June, 1910. Columns include District, High-est., Low-est., Mean, and various price points for different regions like England and Wales, Scotland, and Great Britain.

The mean of the prices on June 1st, 1911, shows a slight decrease as compared with March 1st, 1911. As compared with June 1st, 1910, a decrease of 34d. per 4 lbs. is shown.

Returns showing the predominant prices of 4 lbs. of bread on June 1st, 1911, have been received from 140 of the principal Master Bakers' Associations in the United Kingdom and 30 from other sources. The returns are summarised in the following Table, in which the highest predominant rates and the lowest predominant rates are shown, together with the mean of all the predominant rates in each district:—

Table showing predominant prices of 4 lbs. of bread on June 1st, 1911, and 1st Mar., 1911, and 1st June, 1910. Columns include District, High-est., Low-est., Mean, and various price points for different regions like London, N. & N.W., E. & N.E., S.E., W. & W.C., N. Counties & Yorks., Lancs & Cheshire, Midlands, Eastern Counties, Southern Counties, S. Western Counties and Wales, Scotland, and Great Britain.

Compared with a month ago, the mean of the predominant prices remains unaltered. Compared with a year ago a decrease of 3d. per 4 lbs. is shown.

Of the various prices at which bread was sold in each of the following towns the predominant price (i.e., the price at which the greatest quantity was sold) was as under:—

Table showing predominant price per 4 lbs. on June 1st, 1911, and 1st Mar., 1911, and 1st June, 1910. Columns include Place, Predominant Price per 4 lbs. on June 1st, 1911, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a, Month ago, Year ago, Date, and Amt. per 4 lbs. Includes cities like London, Birmingham, Bolton, Bristol, Cardiff, Derby, Hull, Ipswich, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester, Middlesbrough, Norwich, Nottingham, Oldham, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Potteries, Southampton, Wolverhampton, Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Belfast, and Dublin.

* Where two prices are quoted, about equal quantities were sold at each price.

The predominant price in London on June 1st, 1911, was 5d. to 5 1/2d. per 4 lbs., as compared with 5 1/2d. per 4 lbs. on May 1st. As compared with a year ago, the price is lower in 20 of the towns and higher in one (Birmingham). In the remaining six towns no change is shown.

II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

The imports of wheat during September, 1910-May, 1911, amounted to 72,307,876 cwts., or 2,963,404 cwts. less than in the corresponding months of 1909-1910. The imports of wheat-meal and flour during September, 1910-May, 1911, amounted to 7,704,020 cwts., or 1,098,923 cwts. less than in September, 1909-May, 1910.

Table showing imports of wheat and flour. Columns include Month, British Wheat (Mean London Gazette Price), Imports (Average Declared Value) in Wheat, Wheat-meal and Flour, and Average Monthly Price of Flour (Town Households ex Mill for Cash).

CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETIES. Quarterly Returns of Sales.

Table showing quarterly returns of sales for Co-operative Wholesale Societies. Columns include Names of Societies and Nature of Business, Sales* in the first quarter of (1911, 1910, 1906), and Percentage Increase compared with (A year ago, Five years ago).

* The amounts given for the productive departments represent sales and transfers to distributive departments. † Decrease. ‡ This Society has no productive departments.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

THE total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during May, 1911, was 83, consisting of 75 cases of lead poisoning, 2 of mercurial poisoning, 1 of arsenic poisoning, and 5 of anthrax. Five deaths, all due to lead poisoning, were also reported. In addition to the above, 20 cases of lead poisoning (6 of which were fatal) were reported among house painters and plumbers.

During January-May, 1911, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax was 274, as compared with 209 in the corresponding period of 1910. The number of deaths was 18 in 1911 and 22 in 1910. In addition there were 88 cases of lead poisoning (24 of which were fatal) among house painters and plumbers in January-May, 1911, as compared with 82 cases (17 fatal) in the corresponding period of 1910.

No cases or deaths due to phosphorus poisoning were reported in the periods covered by the Table.

[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.]

Analysis by Industries.

Table showing analysis of diseases by industries. Columns include Industry, Cases (May, 1911, Five months ended May, 1911, 1910), and Deaths (May, 1911, Five months ended May, 1911, 1910). Includes categories like Lead Poisoning, Other Forms of Poisoning, and Anthrax.

Return of Deaths of Seamen.—A Return of Deaths of Seamen reported to the Board of Trade is issued by the Registrar-General of Seamen each month, and copies may be seen at all Free Libraries, Mercantile Marine Offices, and Sailors' Homes throughout the country.

* Of the 12 persons affected in the china and earthenware industry 5 were females.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN MAY.

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

EXCLUSIVE of seamen, the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during May, 1911, was 244, an increase of 16, as compared with April, 1911, and a decrease of 118, compared with May, 1910. The mean number for May during the years 1906-10 was 246, the maximum year being 1910 with 362 deaths, and the minimum year 1909 with 204 deaths.

The total number of fatal accidents at mines and quarries in May, 1911, was 107, as compared with 118 in April, 1911, and 252 in May, 1910. The large number in May, 1910, was due to the explosion at the Whitehaven Pit. The total number of accidents reported under the Factory and Workshops Act, in May, 1911, was 102, compared with 78 in April, 1911, and 83 in May, 1910. The corresponding figures for the railway service were 32, 31 and 26 respectively. The number of fatal accidents to seamen reported in May, 1911, was 44, as compared with 55 in April, 1911, and 84 in May, 1910.

During the five months ended May, 1911, the total number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment (exclusive of seamen) was 1,186, as compared with 1,266 in 1910. The total number of seamen killed in the same period was 601 in 1911 and 484 in 1910.

Table showing fatal industrial accidents reported in May. Columns include Trade, Number of Workpeople killed during (May, 1911, April, 1911, May, 1910), and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in May, 1911, on a (Month ago, Year ago). Includes categories like Railway Service, Mines, Quarries over 20 feet deep, Factories and Workshops, and Seamen.

TRADE DISPUTES IN MAY.*

Number and Magnitude.—The total number of disputes commencing during the month was 51, as compared with 27 in the previous month and 27 in May, 1910. In these new disputes 8,407 workpeople were directly, and 6,116 indirectly, involved, and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople involved in old disputes which began before May, and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 36,868 workpeople involved in trade disputes in May, 1911, as compared with 40,290 in April, 1911, and 19,224 in May, 1910.

New Disputes in May, 1911.—In the following Table the new disputes in May are summarised by trades affected:—

Table with 4 columns: Groups of Trades, No. of Disputes, No. of Workpeople involved (Directly, Indirectly, Total). Rows include Building, Coal Mining, Quarrying, Engineering, Shipbuilding, Other Metal, Textile, Clothing, Other Trades, and Total for May 1911, April 1911, and May 1910.

Causes.—Of the 51 new disputes no less than 39 arose on various wages questions, viz., 18, directly involving 3,186 persons, on demands for increased wages, 6, directly involving 357 persons, against proposed reductions, and 15, directly involving 1,965 persons, on other wages matters. Of the remaining 12 disputes, 11, directly involving 2,857 persons, arose on questions of trade union principles, and one, directly affecting 42 persons, on details of working arrangements.

Results.—During the month settlements were effected in the case of 29 new disputes, directly involving 5,295 workpeople, and 6 old disputes, directly involving 417

persons. Of these new and old disputes, 10, directly involving 2,134 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople, 11, directly involving 1,063 persons, were settled in favour of the employers, and 14, directly involving 2,515 persons, were compromised. In the case of one other dispute work was resumed pending further negotiations.

Aggregate Duration.—The time lost in May by disputes which began or were settled in that month amounted to 119,700 working days. In addition, 404,100 working days were lost during May owing to disputes which began before that month and were still in progress at the end of the month. Thus the total duration in May of all disputes, new and old, was 523,800 working days, as compared with 512,400 in the previous month, and 205,000 in the corresponding month of 1910.

Summary for the First Five Months of 1910 and 1911.—Summarised by trades, the number of disputes, the number of workpeople involved, and the aggregate duration in working days for the five months, January—May, 1910 and 1911, respectively, were as follows:—

Table with 7 columns: Groups of Trades, No. of Disputes, Number of Work-people involved, Aggregate Duration in Working Days (Jan.—May, 1910; Jan.—May, 1911). Rows include Building, Coal Mining, Other Mining and Quarrying, Engineering and Shipbuilding, Other Metal, Textile, Clothing, Transport, Other Trades, and Total.

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

Principal Trade Disputes.

Table with 7 columns: Occupations, Locality, Number of Workpeople involved (Directly, Indirectly), Date when Dispute began, Duration in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result. Rows include Building (Nottingham, Manchester), Coal Mining (Walsall, Durham), Shipbuilding (Southampton), Textile (Bradford), and Manilla Hemp Preparers (Belf st).

* 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 involved," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes 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 taking effect in May.—The net result of all the changes taking effect in May, 1911, was an increase of £1,256 per week, as compared with a decrease of £1,346 per week in April, 1911, and an increase of £3,743 per week in May, 1910. The number of workpeople affected was 50,937, of whom 37,597 received increases amounting to £1,796 per week, and 13,340 sustained decreases amounting to £540 per week. The total number affected in April, 1911, was 97,053, and in May, 1910, 139,514.

One change, affecting 600 workpeople, was settled by arbitration; two changes, affecting 5,600 workpeople, were arranged by conciliation boards; and six changes, affecting 9,401 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting 35,336 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives. In the case of 1,660 workpeople, the changes were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

Summary for the five completed months of 1911.—The total number of workpeople (separate individuals) whose rates of wages were changed, so far as reported, during the five months ended May 31st, 1911, was 385,265, as compared with 451,108 in the corresponding period of 1910. The changes arranged gave 164,919 workpeople a net increase of £10,843 per week, and 217,946 workpeople a net decrease of £6,680 per week, whilst the remaining 2,400 workpeople had upward and downward changes, which left their wages at the same level as at the beginning of the year. The net effect of all the changes was thus an increase of £4,163 per week, as compared with an increase of £2,552 per week in the corresponding period of 1910.

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

Table with 5 columns: Groups of Trades, No., £ (1910), No., £ (1911). Rows include Building, Coal Mining, Iron, &c., Quarrying, Pig Iron Manufacture, Iron and Steel Manufacture, Engineering and Shipbuilding, Other Metal Trades, Textile Trades, Clothing Trades, Printing, &c., Trades, Glass, &c., Trades, Other Trades, Employees of Local Authorities, and Total.

Hours.

The changes in hours of labour taking effect in May, 1911, affected 17,280 workpeople, whose working time was reduced by 16,460 hours per week. In the five months ended May 31st, 1911, the number of workpeople whose hours were changed was 36,943, and the aggregate amount of the reduction 118,752 hours per week.

Principal Changes in Wages and Hours in May.

Particulars of the principal changes in rates of wages and hours of labour taking effect in May are given below. The details of the other changes reported are not separately stated in the Table, but they are included in the preceding statistics.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR IN MAY.

Table with 6 columns: Trade, Locality, Date from which change took effect in 1911, Occupation, Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by (Increase, Decrease), Particulars of Change. Rows include Building, Coal Mining, Other Mining, Iron and Steel Manufacture, Engineering, and Woodworking.

I.—RATES OF WAGES.

Table with 6 columns: Trade, Locality, Date, Occupation, Approximate Number of Workpeople affected, Particulars of Change. Rows include Building, Coal Mining, Other Mining, Iron and Steel Manufacture, Engineering, and Woodworking.

II.—HOURS OF LABOUR.

Table with 6 columns: Trade, Locality, Date, Occupation, Approximate Number of Workpeople affected, Particulars of Change. Rows include Building and Printing.

Note.—Full particulars will appear in the July GAZETTE of the following important changes which have been arranged to take effect in June:— Coal Mining.—Decrease of 14 per cent. in the wages of Miners in South Wales and Mon. Engineering.—Increase of 2½ per cent. on piece rates and 6d. or 1s. per week on time rates to Engineers on the N.E. coast. * At a few of the Collieries wages are stated to be 25 per cent. above the standard. † Preliminary figure, subject to revision when enquiries are complete. ‡ Further decreases take effect in May 1912 and May 1913, resulting in a uniform week of 61 hours at the latter date.

DISTRESS COMMITTEES IN MAY.

The total number who received employment-relief was 2,883, of whom 1,740 were in London and "Outer London," 721 in the provincial towns of England and Wales, 397 in Scotland, and 25 in Ireland.

The net total number* of applicants remaining on the registers at the end of May (after deduction, where practicable, of persons disqualified, those who had found work, &c.), was 15,927, of whom 3,955 were in "Outer London," 8,346 in the provincial towns of England and Wales, 591 in Scotland, and 3,035 in Ireland.

Middlesbrough, Wallasey, King's Norton, Brighton, Aberdeen and Inverness reported that their registers were closed for the season.

The total number of Distress Committees in operation at the end of May 1911, was 42 as compared with 52 at the end of April, 1911, and 59 at the end of May, 1910. Of the Distress Committees in operation at the end of May, 1911, 9 were in "Outer London," 25 in other places in England and Wales, 7 in Scotland, and 1 in Ireland.

The following Table summarises the information received from the various Distress Committees as to their operations in May, 1911, together with the corresponding figures for April, 1911, and May, 1910. It should be noted that the figures do not necessarily relate to the same Committees in the three periods.

Table with columns for Districts, No. of applicants given Employment-relief, and Aggregate Duration of Employment-relief. Includes sub-tables for Total Amount of Wages Paid and Net No. of Applicants Remaining on Registers at end of May.

In addition to the employment relief shown in the above Table, there was a small number of cases in which men were given employment by arrangement with Local Authorities or with contractors, or were engaged on piecework.

According to the particulars furnished by the various Distress Committees, of the 15,927 applicants remaining on the register at the end of May, 1911, 8,959 were labourers, porters, &c.; 2,549 were connected with the building trades; 509 were carters, &c.; 229 were clerks, shop assistants, &c.; the occupations of the remainder were not specified.

* In some cases it has been necessary to take the actual number on the registers, as the Distress Committees were unable to furnish the particulars necessary for deducting persons disqualified, &c.

PAUPERISM IN MAY.

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

The number of paupers relieved on one day in May, 1911, in the 35 urban districts named below corresponded to a rate of 191 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Compared with April, 1911, the total number of paupers relieved decreased by 11,186 (or 3.1 per cent.) and the rate per 10,000 by 6. The number of indoor paupers decreased by 7,855 (or 4.3 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers by 3,331 (or 1.8 per cent.).

Compared with May, 1910, the rate per 10,000 decreased by 30. The number of indoor paupers decreased by 7,280 (or 4.0 per cent.), and the outdoor paupers by 42,577 (or 19.2 per cent.).

Table of Paupers on one day in second week of May, 1911. Includes columns for Selected Urban Districts, In-door, Out-door, Total, Rate per 10,000, and Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in rate.

Table of Other Districts. Lists various districts like Newcastle, Bolton, Wigan, Manchester, Liverpool, etc., with their respective pauper statistics.

Table of SCOTLAND and IRELAND districts. Lists districts like Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dublin, Belfast, etc., with their respective pauper statistics.

* 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.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM. Summary for five months ended May, 1911.

Table of FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM. Summary for five months ended May, 1911. Includes sub-sections for Imports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise and Exports of Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom.

Table of FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM. Summary for five months ended May, 1911. Includes sub-sections for Imports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise and Exports of Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom.

The exports of foreign and colonial merchandise amounted to £46,134,056 during the five months ended May, 1911, as compared with £46,928,628 and £38,583,563 respectively in the corresponding period of 1910 and 1909.

RAILWAY GOODS AND MINERAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

(Based on information published weekly in the "Times.") The goods and mineral traffic receipts of twenty of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended May 27th, 1911, amounted to £4,573,019, an increase of £407,149 (or 9.3 per cent.) on the total for the corresponding period of 1910.

Table of RAILWAY GOODS AND MINERAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS. Summary for 4 weeks ended May 27th, 1911, and 21 weeks ended May 27th, 1911. Includes sub-sections for English Lines, Scottish Lines, and Irish Lines.

* 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. ‡ Coal, wool, oil, seeds, &c., hides and skins. § Yarns, textile fabrics and apparel, metal manufactures, chemicals, &c.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN MAY, 1911.

(NOTE.—These are not connected with the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges.) During May, 788 fresh applications (446 from domestic servants, &c.) for work were registered by 10 bureaux furnishing returns, and 987 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 243 persons, of whom 125 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 243 situations found for applicants, 156 were of a more or less permanent character, while 87 were temporary only.

Table of WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN MAY, 1911. Includes Summary by Bureaux and Summary by Occupations.

In addition to the above registered applications, the returns show that 47 persons in London and 54 in the provinces were referred to other agencies; 281 persons in London and 100 in the provinces were given advice as to training, &c., but were not registered.

PASSENGERS TO AND FROM PLACES OUT OF EUROPE.

The total number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe was 189,269 during the four months ended April, 1911, and of this total 144,292 were British subjects. The corresponding total for January-April, 1910, was 186,726, of whom 116,259 were British subjects. During the first four months of 1911, 70,271 passengers, of whom 40,915 were British subjects, arrived in the United Kingdom from places out of Europe, as compared with 58,535, of whom 35,921 were British subjects, in the corresponding period of 1910.

Table of PASSENGERS TO AND FROM PLACES OUT OF EUROPE. Summary for Four months ended April, 1911, and Four months ended April, 1910, with Average Jan-April in years 1906-1910.

BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR EXCHANGES IN MAY.

THE following Tables show the work of the Labour Exchanges during the four weeks ended May 26th. The total number of Exchanges included in the return is 211. The period covered is 24 working days.

Certain employments of a peculiarly casual nature followed by men and women are dealt with on a separate register, described as the Casual Register, and the statistics for these employments are shown in a special Table V., Tables I. to IV. below referring only to applications and vacancies on the General Register.

GENERAL REGISTER.

The number of applications received during the period was 139,707 (men 90,409, women 28,082, boys 12,999, and girls 8,217), a daily average of 5,821, compared with 5,437 in April. The total number of applications on the register at some time or other during the period was 215,853 (men 144,118, women 41,490, boys 18,073, and girls 12,172). These figures are exclusive of re-applications from persons already placed in vacancies by the Exchanges during the period, which numbered 7,641 in May, and represent separate individuals, except in so far as there may have been duplicate registration in London and other places where more than one Exchange is easy of access to the same person.

The total number of applications remaining on the register at May 26th was 71,571 (men 50,838, women 13,043, boys 4,236, and girls 3,454), as compared with 76,146 (men 53,709, women 13,408, boys 5,074, and girls 3,955) at April 28th.

The number of vacancies filled during the period was 49,925 (men 29,427, women 9,791, boys 7,070, and girls 3,637), a daily average of 2,080, compared with 1,822 in April.

Of the vacancies filled during May, 4,511 (men 3,218, women 924, boys 276, girls 93) were temporary, in the sense of being known to be for less than a week's employment.

The vacancies filled during May include 5,878 cases in which persons were placed by the Exchanges in districts other than those in which they registered. Of the total number of such transferances 3,104 were in London, being 23.5 per cent. of the vacancies filled in the Metropolitan area.

The proportion of vacancies filled by the Exchanges to vacancies notified by employers was 74.2 per cent. (men 75.8, women 71.2, boys 71.1, girls 76.5), as compared with 78.9 per cent. during April.

Of the men's applications on the register at some time during the month the largest percentages occur in the following groups of trades:—Metals, Machines, Implements and Conveyances, 17.6; General Labourers, 17.1; Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages, 16.5; and Building, 15.6 (labourers 3.2, others 12.4). Of the women's applications, the largest percentages occur in Domestic (Outdoor) Service, 46.9; Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging, 13.0; Textiles, 9.7; and Dress, 5.0.

Of the men's vacancies filled during May, the largest percentages occur in Building, 24.0 (labourers 3.4, others 20.6); General Labourers, 18.2; Metals, Machines, Implements and Conveyances, 16.8; and Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages, 8.8. Of the women's vacancies filled, the largest percentages occur in Domestic (Outdoor) Service, 35.9; Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging, 18.0; Textiles, 13.0; and Dress, 8.0.

The demand for workers during the month exceeded the supply in the case of the coachbuilding, cotton, woollen and worsted trades, and in the case of women in the clothing and linen trades and in laundry work. In the shipbuilding trade there was also a large demand for workmen of all classes, and there was a scarcity of men in painting and decorating and in the tailoring trades, and of skilled workers in the engineering trade in some districts.

CASUAL REGISTER.

The total number of men given work in the casual employments included in the Casual Register was 1,389, each of whom on an average worked on 7.8 days during the period. The total number of women who were given work in employments included in the Casual Register was 1,272, each of whom on an average worked on 1.7 days during the period. The total number of separate jobs given in such employments was 11,682 (men 9,884, women 1,798). The increase in the number of women given work and the decrease in the average number of days on which they worked as compared with the previous month are due to the placing of 890 women for one day's work as cleaners at various schools in Glasgow.

BOTH REGISTERS TOGETHER.

The total number of workpeople's applications on both registers at the end of May was 74,489, compared with 78,100 a month previously.

At 103 Exchanges which have been open for a year or more, the number of applications remaining on the register at the end of the month was 53,696, as compared with 56,627 a month ago, and 75,402 a year ago, and the number of vacancies filled during the month was 39,947, as compared with 32,469 a month ago, and 24,025 a year ago, the daily averages being 1,664, 1,476, and 1,092 respectively.

In addition to the 200 Exchanges included in the returns for April, the following 11 Exchanges were opened during May, and their returns are incorporated in the Tables:—Arbroath, 33, West Abbey Street; Bilston, 11A, Wellington Road; Cardiff (sub-office), corner of Lewis Road and Roath Manor Road, Bute Docks; Hollinwood, 612, Manchester Road; Leamington, 15, Regent's Grove; Lees, 99B, High Street; North Shields, Howard Street and Union Street; Royton, 13, Market Street; Shaw, 76A, Market Street; Tamworth, 8, Church Street; Willenhall, 84, Stafford Street.

The business of the Port Glasgow Exchange has been transferred to King Street.

The following Exchanges are now open, or are expected to be opened before the end of June, making a total of 223 Exchanges:—Burslem, 20, Market Place; Chadderton, 240, Middleton Road, Oldham; Harlesden, 56, High Street; Hereford, 7, Commercial Street; Ilford, 65, High Road; Liverpool (sub-office), 220, Rimrose Road, Bootle; Longton, 73, Market Street; Rumsbottom, 2 and 4, Market Place; Redditch, 3, Alcester Road; Shrewsbury, 67, Mordal; Sparkhill, 408, Stratford Road; Stalybridge, 78, Market Street.

ADULTS—DISTRICT TABLE.*

Table I.—Applications for Employment, Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the period of four weeks ended May 26th, 1911. (General Register.)

Table with columns for Districts, Applications for Employment (On Live Register at Beginning of Period, Received during Period, On Live Register at End of Period), and Vacancies (Notified during Period, Filled during Period). Rows include various districts like London, South-Western, East Midlands and Eastern Counties, West Midlands, Yorkshire Division, Lancashire and Cheshire, Northern Division, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland.

* Exclusive of casual employment

† Including re-applications from persons placed in vacancies through the Exchanges during the period.

JUVENILES-DISTRICT TABLE.

Table II.—Applications for Employment, Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the period of four weeks ended May 26th, 1911.

Table II: Applications for Employment, Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the period of four weeks ended May 26th, 1911. Columns include Districts, Applications for Employment (On Live Register at beginning of period, Received during period, On Live Register at end of period), and Vacancies (Notified during period, Filled during period). Rows list various districts like London, South-Eastern, South-Western, etc.

† Including re-applications from persons placed in vacancies through the Exchanges during the period.

ADULTS-TRADE TABLE.*

Table III.—Applications for Employment, Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the period of four weeks ended May 26th, 1911. [General Register.]

Table III: Applications for Employment, Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the period of four weeks ended May 26th, 1911. Columns include Trades, Applications for Employment (On Live Register at Beginning of Period, Received during Period, On Live Register at End of Period), and Vacancies (Notified during Period, Filled during Period). Rows list various trades like Building, Carpentry, etc.

* Exclusive of casual employments, see separate Table below. † Including re-applications from persons placed in vacancies through the Exchanges during the period.

JUVENILES-TRADE TABLE.

Table IV.—Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the four weeks ended May 26th, 1911.

Table IV: Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the four weeks ended May 26th, 1911. Columns include Trades, Vacancies for Juveniles (Notified during Period, Filled during Period). Rows list various trades like Building and Works of Construction, etc.

CASUAL EMPLOYMENTS.

Table V.—Applicants registered and work given in the four weeks ended May 26th, 1911.

Table V: Applicants registered and work given in the four weeks ended May 26th, 1911. Columns include Employment, Applicants Registered, Applicants given work, Number of Jobs, Estimated number of days on which work was given, Estimated average number of days on which work was given per applicant given work. Rows list various employment types like Cotton Porters, etc.

UNITED STATES IMMIGRATION.

According to the April Immigration Bulletin of the United States Department of Commerce and Labour, the total number of aliens admitted into the United States during the ten months July, 1910, to April, 1911, was

838,273, as compared with 933,422 in the corresponding period of 1909-1910, and 716,554 in the corresponding period of 1908-1909. The inward balance of aliens in the eight months July to February, 1911, was 291,633, as compared with 393,703 in July to February, 1910, and 153,069 in July to February, 1909.

RAILS AND FISHPLATES (4).—*Barrow Haematite Steel & Iron Co., Ltd.*, Barrow-in-Furness.
 RAILS (2).—*Dorman, Long & Co., Ltd.*, Middlesbrough.
 SHEDS, ENGINE.—*F. Braby & Co., Ltd.*, 110, Cannon St., E.C.
 SHEETS, ANGLE IRON, &c.—*Wolverhampton Corr. Iron Co., Ltd.*, Mersey Ironworks, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire.
 SPARES, LOCO.—*Nasmyth, Wilson & Co., Ltd.*, Bridgewater Foundry, Patricroft, Manchester.
 STEEL AND IRONWORK FOR FACTORY AT LAGOS.—*J. Lysaght, Ltd.*, St. Vincent Ironworks, Bristol.
 STRUCTURAL STEEL AND IRONWORK.—*J. Westwood & Co.*, Napier Yard, Millwall, E.
 TENTS.—*T. Briggs (London), Ltd.*, 2, Budge Row, E.C.
 TIPPING BOXES, STEEL.—*Birmingham Rly. Carr. & Wagon Co., Ltd.*, Smethwick, Birmingham.
 TUBES, IRON BOILER.—*Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd.*, Winchester House, Old Broad St., E.C.
 VALVES, &c.—*Glenfield & Kennedy, Ltd.*, Kilmarnock, N.B.
 VAN, MOTOR.—*Straker & Squire, Ltd.*, 75, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.
 WAGONS, BOGIE.—*Birmingham Rly. Carr. & Wagon Co., Ltd.*, Smethwick, Birmingham.
 WHEELS AND AXLES, LOCO.—*R. & W. Hawthorn, Leslie & Co. Ltd.*, Forth Banks Works, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
 WIRE, COPPER.—*Shropshire Iron Co., Ltd.*, 17, Lime St., E.C.

OFFICE OF WORKS.

BUILDERS' WORK—
 Blyth, New Post Office.—*Haswell & Waugh*, 12, Redheugh St. Gateshead-on-Tyne.
 Carnarvon Castle, Stands.—*W. Thornton & Sons*, 38, Wellington Rd., Toxteth Park, Liverpool.
 Imperial College of Science, Ducts.—*W. King & Son*, 3, Vauhall Bridge Rd., S.W.
 National Gallery of Scotland, Reconstruction.—*R. Thorburn & Son*, 137, Buccleuch St., Edinburgh.
 S.W.D.O. Extension (Second Contract).—*H. F. Webb & Co.*, Longfellow Works, Walthamstow.
 Swindon Post Office, Enlargement.—*A. J. Colborne*, County Building Works, Swindon.
 Wimbledon, New Telephone Exchange.—*H. Hann*, High St., Collier's Wood, Merton, S.W.

STATIONERY OFFICE.

CARDBOARDS AND CARDS OF VARIOUS DESCRIPTIONS.—*J. Dickinson & Co., Ltd.*, Apsley Mills, Hemel Hempstead; *Spalding & Hodge, Ltd.*, Drury House, Russell St., W.C.
 PAPER OF VARIOUS DESCRIPTIONS.—*J. Allen & Sons, Ltd.*, Ivybridge, Devon; *A. Cowan & Sons, Ltd.*, Valleyfield Mills, Penicuik; *R. Craig & Sons, Ltd.*, Moffat and Caldercruix Mills, Airdrie; *Golden Valley Paper Mills*, Bitton, near Bristol; *Hele Paper Co., Ltd.*, Hele Mill, Cullompton; *Hyde Paper Manufacturing Co., Ltd.*, Broomstair Mills, Denton; *W. Joynson & Son*, St. Mary Cray, Kent; *J. & J. Makin, Ltd.*, Disley; *Northfleet Paper Mills, Ltd.*, Northfleet; *Ramsbottom Paper Mills Co., Ltd.*, Ramsbottom, Manchester; *W. H. & A. Richardson*, Springwell Mill, Jarrow; *T. H. Saunders & Co., Ltd.*, Rye Mill, High Wycombe; *R. Sommerville & Co.*, Creech, near Taunton; *Towgood & Beckwith, Ltd.*, Usk Mill, Crickhowell; *Ulverston Paper Co., Ltd.*, Ulverston; *R. & W. Watson*, Linwood, Renfrewshire; *Wiggins, Teape & Co., Ltd.*, Dover.
 PRINTING, BINDING, &c.—
 Binding 7,000 Torpedo Manual, 7,500 Board of Agriculture Leaflets, 1,750 Notes on Artillery Store Accounts, &c.—*M. Bell & Co.*, Temple Works, Cursitor St., E.C.
 Binding 49,840 "Training Manual Signalling, 1907."—*J. Adams*, 76-78, Gray's Inn Rd., W.C.
 Binding 10,000 Manual of Map Reading, 1906.—*Harrison & Sons*, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.
 Binding 5,500 "Metropolitan Police Guide, 1911."—*G. Simpson & Co., Ltd.*, 3-5, Warwick Sq., E.C.
 Binding 2,000 Note Books, 3,000 Instructions for Officers of Local Prisons, *Hazell, Watson & Viney, Ltd.*, Long Acre, W.C.
 Binding 75,000 Syllabus of Physical Exercises, *R. E. King & Co., Ltd.*, 106, Tabernacle St., E.C.
 Printing, Binding, &c., 600 "Army Book, 216," 1,100 books T. S. 65, M196 Prescription Book, 1,000 Guard Books for General Orders, 80,000 pads Form T, No. 103A; Supplying 1,250 books, "T.S. 33"; Supplying 2,000 Millboards covered blue.—*Waterlow & Sons, Ltd.*, Finsbury, E.C.
 Printing, Binding, &c., 1,000 Casual Relief Books, 1,000 books Postmasters No. 222, 1,000 books Postmasters No. 223.—*McCorquodale & Co., Ltd.*, Wolverton, Bucks.
 Printing, Binding, &c., 1,100 books, "S252," 7,000 books S353E.—*J. Rissen*, Clerkenwell House, E.C.
 PRINTING, BOOKWORK, IRELAND.—
 Groups II., VI., and VII., *A. Thom & Co., Ltd.*, Abbey St. Dublin.
 Group IV.—*Browne & Nolan, Ltd.*, Nassau St., Dublin.
 Group V.—*J. Falconer*, 53, Upper Sackville St., Dublin.
 Supplying Complete 30,000 Army Form B2093.—*Taylor, Gannell, Evans & Co., Ltd.*, South Reddish, Stockport.
 STORES, &c.—
 Tape.—*I. and N. Philips & Co.*, Tean Hall, Tean, Stoke on Trent.
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