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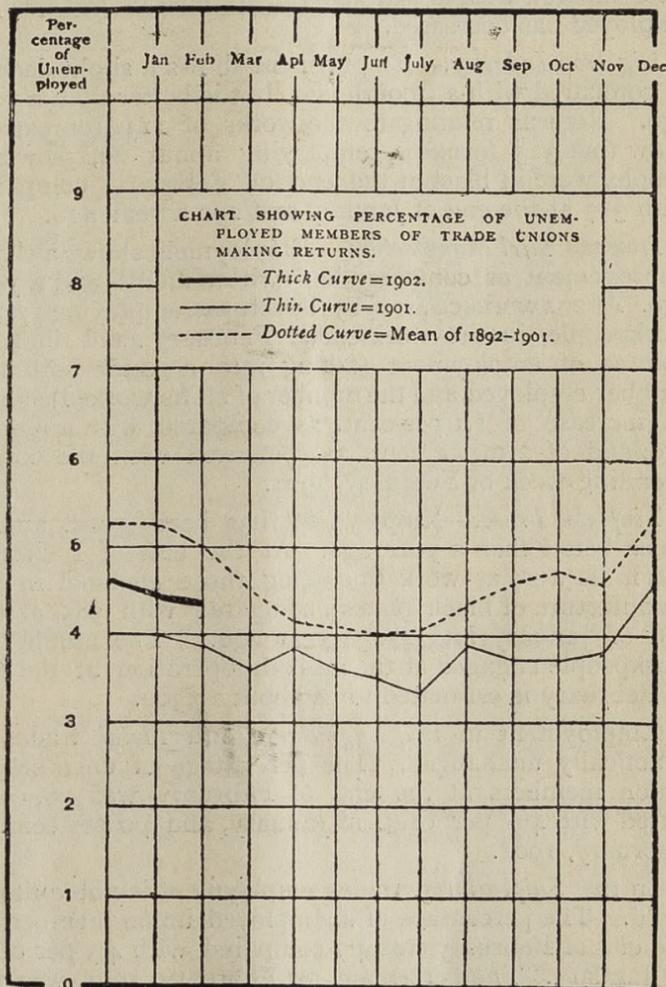
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EMPLOYMENT CHART.



STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN FEBRUARY.

[Based on 2,297 returns, viz.: 1,183 from Employers, 566 from Trade Unions, and 548 from other sources.]

The general state of employment improved slightly during February. Compared with a year ago there is some improvement in the coal, iron and steel and cotton industries, but a decline in engineering, shipbuilding, building and certain other groups of trades. The general percentage of unemployed returned by trade unions at the end of February, though higher than a year ago, is lower than the mean percentage for February during the past ten years.

In the 151 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 561,708, making returns, 24,072 (or 4.3 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of February, as compared with 4.4 per cent. in January, and with 3.9 per cent. in the 143 unions, with a membership of 543,487, from which returns were received for February, 1901. The mean percentage of unemployed returned at the end of February during the 10 years 1892-1901 was 5.0.

Employment in various Industries.—Coal Mining.—Employment in the four weeks ended February 22nd continued good. At collieries at which 488,504 workpeople were employed, the pits worked on an average 5.39 days per week during the four weeks ended

February 22nd, as compared with 5.26 days in January and 5.19 days per week in the four weeks ended February 23rd, 1901. If, however, allowance be made for time lost through holidays in the previous periods, the days worked last month showed a slight decline of about one-tenth of a day per week compared with January, and an increase of the same amount compared with a year ago. The number employed at the pits was about 1 per cent. greater than a year ago.

Iron Mining.—Employment in this industry continues to be good. In the 128 mines and open works covered by the returns, employing 15,367 workpeople, the average number of days worked by the mines in the four weeks ended February 22nd, 1902, was 5.74 per week, as against 5.53 in January and 5.39 a year ago. The comparison is, however, affected by the New Year's holidays. As compared with a year ago the number of workpeople employed has decreased.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment shows a slight decline as compared with a month ago, but is better than a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 113 ironmasters show that 315 furnaces, employing about 22,150 workpeople, were in blast at the end of February, compared with 317 at the end of January and 290 a year ago.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Employment shows a slight improvement as compared both with a month and a year ago. At 202 works covered by the returns, employing 77,915 workpeople, in the week ended February 22nd the total volume of employment (taking into account both the number employed and the number of shifts worked) shows an increase of 1.1 per cent. as compared with a month ago, and of 2.1 per cent. as compared with the corresponding week of February, 1901.

Tinplate Trade.—Employment has been good, and is much better than a year ago. At the end of February 386 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of black plates), compared with 385 at the end of January and 278 a year ago. The number of workpeople engaged at the mills in operation at the end of February is estimated to be about 19,300.

Employment in the **Engineering and Metal** trades is practically unchanged. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of February was 4.8, compared with 4.9 per cent. in January, and 4.0 per cent. in February, 1901.

In the **Shipbuilding** trades employment is not quite so good. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of February was 4.7 compared with 4.3 per cent. in January. The percentage for February, 1901, was 3.2.

Employment in the **Building** trades has fallen off to some extent. The percentage of unemployed union members among carpenters and plumbers at the end of February was 5.9, compared with 5.0 per cent. in January, and 5.2 per cent. in February of last year.

In the **Furnishing** trades employment has improved. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of February was 5.7, compared with 7.6 per cent. in January and 6.4 per cent. in February, 1901.

Employment in the **Printing and Bookbinding** trades is rather better. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of February was 4.5, compared with 5.4 per cent. in January and 3.7 per cent. a year ago.

Employment in the **Paper** trades has improved. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of February was 2.0, compared with 2.4 per cent. in January and 2.6 per cent. in February, 1901.

In the **Leather** trades employment has slightly improved. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of February was 3.3, compared with 3.8 per cent. in January. The percentage for February, 1901, was 2.5.

Employment in the **Glass** trades shows no material change as compared with January. It was not so good as a year ago.

Employment in the **Boot and Shoe** trade improved somewhat during the month, but is still bad in some centres.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the **Tailoring** trade continues dull; in the ready-made branch employment shows a further improvement, and is fair on the whole.

Employment in the **Hat-making** trade has somewhat improved, the percentage of unemployed union members being 2.8, compared with 3.7 at the end of January, and 2.8 per cent. a year ago.

Employment in the **Spinning** branch of the **Cotton** trade shows a slight decline, but is still fairly good; in the **Weaving** branch it has improved, but is still only moderate. Information respecting cotton factories employing about 79,700 women and girls shows that 92 per cent. of those in spinning mills were working in mills giving full employment during the whole month, compared with 93 per cent. in January, and with 88 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding percentages of full time for those employed in weaving factories was 79 last month, compared with 75 in January and 76 a year ago.

Employment in the **Woollen** trade continues fairly good. The improvement in the **Worsted** trade has not been fully maintained. Employment in the **Hosiery** trade continues good.

Agricultural Labourers were, on the whole, in regular employment during February, but some casual labourers in many districts were out of work for a time owing to frost and snow.

Dock and Riverside Labour in London.—During the four weeks ended February 22nd the number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves averaged 14,696, as compared with 16,253 in the preceding four weeks and 17,138 in February, 1901.

Trade Disputes.—Eighteen fresh disputes began in February, involving 6,950 workpeople, of whom 6,400 were directly, and 550 indirectly affected. The corresponding number of disputes in January was 33, affecting 23,558 workpeople, and in February, 1901, 25, affecting 6,045 workpeople. Of the new disputes in February, 1902, 4 took place in the mining industry, 3 each in the textile and clothing trades, and 8 in other industries. Of the 20 new and old disputes, involving 6,762 workpeople, of which definite results were reported, 6, affecting 1,923 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople, 6, affecting 2,535 persons, in favour of the employers, and 8, affecting 2,304 persons, were compromised.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes in wages reported during February affected 111,751 workpeople, and the net effect of all the changes was a decrease averaging 3d. weekly per head. Of the total number, 1,211 received advances, and 110,540 sustained decreases. The changes of the previous month affected 156,678 workpeople, the net result being a decrease averaging 5.4d. weekly per head. During February, 1901, the number affected was 220,203, and the net weekly result was a decrease of 2s. 0.4d. per head.

The principal decrease of the month, viz., that sustained by 107,500 coal miners in Durham, was arranged by a conciliation board. One change, affecting 137 workpeople, was arranged by arbitration after strike, and one, affecting 570 workpeople, took effect under a sliding scale. Two changes, affecting 837 workpeople, were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work, and the remainder, affecting 2,844 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives.

EXAMINATIONS FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

Stafford District.—An examination for Certificates of Competency as manager or under manager of a mine will be held for this district on April 29th and 30th, 1902, at the County Technical Offices, Stafford. Intending candidates should communicate at once with the Secretary of the Examination Board, Mr. Robert S. Williamson, Cannock Wood House, Hednesford, Staffs.

Cardiff and Swansea Districts.—An examination for Certificates of competency as manager or under-manager of a mine will be held for these districts on the 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th, May. Intending candidates should communicate on or before the 30th April, with the Secretary of the Examination Board, Mr. Robert T. Rees, Glandare, Aberdare.

EMPLOYMENT, OUTPUT AND WAGES IN COAL MINES.

The following Tables show the number of workpeople employed in and about mines, under the Coal Mines Regulation Act, the production of coal and the average number of days per week on which collieries were at work in the principal coal districts of the United Kingdom in 1901, with similar particulars for the previous year, and also for 1896.

Numbers employed.

It will be seen that, taking the United Kingdom as a whole, the number of persons employed has increased during the five years by 114,051, or 16.5 per cent. Between 1900 and 1901 the number employed increased 3.4 per cent.

District.	Number of Workpeople employed in Mines under the Coal Mines Regulation Act,* in			Increase in 1901 as compared with			
	1896.	1900.	1901.	A year ago.		Five years ago.	
				Num-ber.	Per-cent.	Num-ber.	Per-cent.
Northumberland	33,259	39,728	41,145	1,417	3.6	7,886	23.7
Durham	104,015	112,835	113,934	1,099	1.0	9,919	9.5
Yorkshire	96,263	107,901	111,810	3,909	3.6	15,547	16.2
Lancs. and Cheshire	83,780	87,976	92,791	4,815	5.5	9,011	10.8
Derbyshire	42,492	46,788	49,913	3,125	6.7	7,421	17.5
Notts. & Leicester	29,243	34,108	35,322	1,214	3.6	6,079	20.8
Staffs.	42,743	47,788	49,475	1,687	3.5	6,732	15.7
S. Wales & Mon.	125,205	147,652	150,412	2,760	1.9	25,207	20.1
W. Scotland	64,046	73,400	75,732	2,332	3.2	11,686	18.2
Fife	12,638	16,339	17,420	1,081	6.6	4,782	37.8
Other Districts	59,000	65,537	68,781	3,244	4.9	9,781	16.6
United Kingdom	692,684	780,052	806,735	26,683	3.4	114,051	16.5

Output of Coal.

The output of coal increased continuously from 1896 to 1900 (save for a slight decrease in 1898, owing to the prolonged stoppage in South Wales), but, as will be seen from the second Table, a decided falling off took place in 1901, the output in that year being 6,132,923 tons less than in 1900, a decrease of 2.7 per cent. As between 1896 and 1901 the output shows an increase of 23,685,289 tons, or 12.1 per cent.

District.	Total Output of Coal in			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1901 as compared with			
				A year ago.		5 years ago.	
	1896.	1900.	1901.	Quantity.	Per-cent.	Quantity.	Per-cent.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.		Tons.	
Northumberland	9,027,752	11,514,521	11,272,005	-242,516	-2.1	+2,244,253	+24.9
Durham	32,762,539	34,800,719	33,954,438	-846,281	-2.4	+1,191,899	+3.6
Yorkshire	23,942,888	28,247,249	26,972,969	-1,274,280	-4.5	+3,030,081	+12.7
Lancs and Cheshire	23,386,290	25,541,659	24,260,719	-1,280,940	-5.0	+874,429	+3.7
Derbyshire	11,774,639	15,243,031	14,907,344	-335,687	-2.2	+3,132,705	+20.6
Notts and Leicester	8,149,158	10,732,520	10,209,617	-522,903	-4.9	+2,069,459	+25.4
Staffs.	13,058,562	14,222,743	13,122,272	-1,100,471	-7.7	+63,710	+0.5
S. Wales and Mon.	33,867,921	39,328,209	39,209,059	-119,150	-0.3	+5,341,138	+15.8
W. Scotland	22,025,109	24,244,106	23,587,812	-656,294	-2.7	+1,362,703	+7.1
Fife	3,994,412	5,882,831	6,053,865	+171,034	+2.9	+2,080,453	+52.7
Other Dis-tricts	13,401,681	15,412,575	15,487,140	+74,565	+0.5	+2,085,459	+15.6
United Kingdom	195,351,951	225,170,163	219,037,240	-6,132,923	-2.7	+23,685,289	+12.1

Days worked per week by Coal Mines.

The average number of days per week on which collieries were at work also increased steadily from 4.92 in 1896 to 5.47 in 1900, but in 1901 there was a decrease of 0.35 days per week, the average falling from 5.47 in 1900 to 5.12 in 1901.

* Including persons employed in Ironstone, Oil Shale, Fireclay, &c., Mines. In 1900 the number employed in such Mines was 13,151 or about 1.7 per cent. only of the total given in the Table. The details for 1901 are not yet available.

District.	Average number of days per week on which coal was hewn and wound at collieries in			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1901 as compared with	
	1896.	1900.	1901.	A year ago.	Five years ago.
Northumberland	4.79	5.35	5.20	-0.15	+0.41
Durham	5.23	5.33	5.33	...	+0.10
Yorkshire	4.78	5.57	4.99	-0.58	+0.21
Lancs. and Cheshire	4.90	5.42	4.95	-0.47	+0.05
Derbyshire	4.38	5.53	5.04	-0.49	+0.66
Notts and Leicester	3.95	5.04	4.60	-0.44	+0.65
Staffs.	4.65	5.39	4.84	-0.55	+0.19
S. Wales and Mon.	5.28	5.61	5.31	-0.30	+0.03
W. Scotland	5.21	5.33	5.14	-0.19	-0.07
Fife	4.92	5.29	5.05	-0.24	+0.13
Other Districts	4.84	5.53	5.28	-0.25	+0.44
United Kingdom	4.92	5.47	5.12	-0.35	+0.20

Changes in Wages of Coal Hewers.

Coal hewers' wages rose very largely between 1896 and 1900, but fell considerably in 1901 in many districts. The changes in wages varied in the different coalfields, and are set out in the following Table:—

Principal Districts.	Percentage above "standards" at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on "standards" compared with	
	1896.	1900.	1901.	A year ago.	Five years ago.
Northumberland	3.75	61.25	31.00	-30.25	+27.25
Durham	15.00	65.00	40.00	-25.00	+25.00
Yorkshire, Lancashire & Midlands	30.00	50.00	60.00	+10.00	+30.00
South Wales and Mon.	10.00	73.75	66.25	-7.50	+56.25
West Scotland	12.50	100.00	50.00	-50.00	+37.50
East Scotland	At Standard.	97.50	47.50	-50.00	+47.50

It may be added that the average value of coal at the pit's mouth rose from 5s. 10.4d. per ton in 1896 to 10s. 9.4d. in 1900. The corresponding average for 1901 is not yet available, but in Northumberland the mean of the ascertained quarterly averages fell from 10s. 3.4d. in 1900 to 8s. 9.4d. in 1901.

FATAL ACCIDENTS TO WORKPEOPLE IN 1901.

The number of workpeople reported as killed during the year 1901 by accidents which occurred in the course of their employment was 4,619.

The following Table gives in comparative form the number of deaths caused by industrial accidents in each of the years 1897 to 1901, grouped according to industries:—

Industry.	Number employed according to latest returns.	Total number of deaths from Industrial Accidents in				
		1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
Shipping	235,544	1,642	1,598	1,839	1,889	1,722
Mines:						
Underground	666,626	875	806	851	931	974
Surface	172,552	104	135	121	119	152
Total Mines	839,178	979	941	972	1,050	1,126
Quarries over 20 ft. deep	93,895	123	134	117	127	97
Railway Servicet	534,141	539	522	555	612	539
Factories*	3,929,213	513	575	675	802	769
Total for above Industries	5,631,971	3,796	3,770	4,158	4,860	4,253
Workshops	...	3	2	6	11	13
Works under Secs. 22 and 23 of Factory and Workshop Act, 1895	...	142	150	190	232	253
Railway Service (Contractors' Servants)	...	27	20	29	19	25
Under Notice of Accidents Act	...	62	56	75	70	75
Grand Total	...	4,030	3,988	4,458	4,812	4,619

Of the total number of deaths, 4,253 occurred in connection with industries employing (according to the latest returns available in each case) 5,631,971 workpeople, the average death-rate by accidents for the year

* In 1899, accidents in works for the manufacture of bricks, tiles, &c., situated outside quarries, were included among Factories instead of Quarries. The figures shown against "Quarries" and "Factories" for 1897-98 are, therefore, not strictly comparable with those for subsequent years.
† Excluding contractors' servants.

in those industries being thus about 76 per 100,000 persons employed. The precise number of workpeople, however, employed in 1901 is not known, the figures taken referring to different periods. Those for mining relate to 1901, those for shipping and quarries to 1900, and those for factories and railway service to 1898. To some extent, therefore, death-rate based upon these figures is only approximate.

The Table shows in the grand total a decrease of 193 deaths (or 4 per cent.) as compared with that of the previous year. In mining, however, there was an increase for both underground and surface workers in the number of deaths, though the death rate was 3 per 100,000 less than in 1900. In shipping the decrease in the death rate was about 84 per 100,000 employed. As in previous years the greatest number of deaths was among seamen, of whom 1,722 were killed during the year, viz.—992 by accidents arising from wrecks or casualties to vessels, and 730 by other accidents.

EARNINGS OF IRISH MIGRATORY LABOURERS IN 1901.

In the Report on the Wages and Earnings of Agricultural Labourers in the United Kingdom, published by this Department (Cd. 346 of 1900), an account is given of Irish migratory labourers, a large number of whom go every year from Ireland to work on farms in certain counties of England and Scotland.* Some of these labourers "start as early as February, and take part in the ordinary work on farms, not returning until late in the autumn; but the majority do not start until June. They find employment during the summer and autumn at hoeing, haymaking, harvesting, and taking up potatoes and roots, and on dairy farms in parts of Cheshire they are engaged at milking. In this county Irishmen begin to come in March, and some stay until November or even December."

In the Autumn of last year the Department addressed an inquiry to certain employers in England and Scotland respecting the earnings of Irish labourers of the class referred to, employed on their farms during the season of 1901. It has not been found practicable to summarise the information obtained owing to the variety in the periods of employment, conditions of work, and allowances of food on the different farms. The examples given below of amounts earned on certain farms may, however, prove interesting as illustrating the conditions under which the Irish labourers work in different counties.†

Northumberland.—An employer in Northumberland gives particulars respecting the employment of Irishmen from Donegal on his two farms. Five men were employed on one of the farms from August 13th to September 14th, and their cash earnings amounted to £5 12s. each (or an average of 23s. 1½d. a week). They were provided with sleeping accommodation in an outhouse and food, consisting of bread and cheese, before commencing work at 6 a.m., porridge and milk for breakfast and supper, and beef and potatoes for dinner. They also had an allowance of beer twice a day when carting corn. On completing their engagement these men went on to Scotland to work. On the other farm six Irish labourers were employed. Five of them worked from August 26th to September 22nd, and earned £3 12s. each (17s. 3d. a week), while the other man was employed from September 2nd to September 22nd and received £2 14s. (18s. a week). The harvest on this farm was late, and the men were not able to command such high rates of wages as those employed on the earlier farm, the pressure of harvest work in the district being relieved. On the other hand, they were able to secure a harvest engagement in the neighbourhood before commencing work on the farm referred to. The allowances of food were as stated for the first farm,

*The Report on Irish Migratory Labourers issued by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland (Cd. 350 of 1901), states that, according to returns from Railway Companies and from provincial ports in Ireland, "39,886 labourers travelled as passengers journeying to seek employment at a distance from their homes" in 1901.

†It may be of interest to note that Irish labourers travelling from Westport to Liverpool and Dublin pay 12s. or 13s. for the single journey. The fare by boat from Westport or Ballina to Glasgow is 5s. for the single journey.

and free lodgings were found for the men. The Irish labourers employed on these farms are stated to be "a nice class of men, and give very little trouble. Some of them work all the other part of the year in the neighbourhood of Glasgow, for masons &c., but the bulk of them come over about June and July to help with the hay in Ayrshire."

Another employer, who had 12 Irishmen employed at singling turnips, harvesting, &c., states that their time was not continuous: "one week they might be working for me and another for someone else." They were sometimes paid time wages and sometimes they were "on contract." It is stated that wages of last season were about 6d. a day higher than the average for the past few years.

With reference to piecework a correspondent writes that at turnip thinning a good man can earn for a day's work of about 10 hours 4s., out of which he feeds himself, the farmer providing sleeping accommodation and blankets.

Lancashire.—On a farm near Warrington four men from the county of Mayo were employed from March 1st to October 10th at 18s. each per week, with 10s. extra for harvest. Their total cash earnings amounted to £29 6s. each, and in addition they were provided with sleeping accommodation in a "Paddy house," fuel, and refreshments during harvest. On leaving this farm some went to Ireland for their own harvest, while others went to other farms in England for potato digging.

On a farm in the Garstang Union three men from Mayo were employed digging early potatoes at 5s. a day each, with sleeping accommodation free, but finding their own food. One of these men earned £6 between July 10th and August 10th, and the other two earned £4 each between July 24th and August 10th. Each of these men worked elsewhere at hay harvesting before commencing work on this farm. Two of them, after August 10th, went to work on other farms, while one returned to Ireland.

An employer in South Lancashire had an Irish labourer working for him who arrived from Waterford on the 1st January, 1901, and stayed until December 11th and then found employment at chemical works in the neighbourhood. His total cash earnings whilst employed on the farm amounted to £47 11s., or an average of about 20s. 6d. per week. During the period of his engagement he visited Ireland and returned to work after three weeks' stay. Four others were also engaged on this farm, but for shorter periods. They were provided with sleeping accommodation, fuel, and refreshments during harvest. Their estimated cash earnings whilst employed on this farm were as follows:—

	Total Cash Earnings.	Period of Employment.	Average Weekly Earnings.
J. M. ...	£ 12 0	April 1st to July 7th...	8s. d.
W. L. ...	7 4 0	June 7th to August 3rd ...	15 6
J. R. ...	19 0 0	June 17th to November 16th	17 3
A. B. ...	11 3 0	August 8th to November 16th	15 4½

The man J. R. came direct from Mayo to this farm and returned to Ireland on completing his engagement. The other three men worked on other farms in England, either before or after the above-mentioned periods.

Cheshire.—The information from Cheshire relates to 32 Irish labourers, mostly from Mayo and Sligo, engaged by 7 employers. In all cases sleeping accommodation was provided, and some food and drink at harvest and other busy times. In a few instances some food was allowed daily during the whole period of service. Fuel for cooking was also given in most cases, many of the men came over very early in the year and some of these stayed through the winter. On one of the farms two men were employed from March to October, when they returned to Ireland. Each of these men was paid £25 10s. during this period, or an average of 16s. 6d. a week. Another employer engaged one of his men in January, and this man had received £46 10s. at the end of December, at which time he was still at work. His earnings averaged about 18s. a week. On the same farm a man who commenced work on June 1st received £23 12s. (or 18s. a week) in cash between that date and November

30th, when he returned to Ireland. Three Irishmen, employed on another farm, commenced work on January 1st and stayed until the end of the year. Their total cash earnings for the year amounted to £45 12s. each (or about 17s. 6d. a week).

Yorkshire.—Four men from Mayo found employment on a farm in the East Riding after working for some time in Lancashire and the West Riding. One of them stayed 4½ months and received altogether £15 in cash, being at the rate of 15s. 3d. a week. The others stayed for four weeks only. They all had free lodging in a granary, and the use of a fire in the saddle room. Three left for Ireland on completing their engagement, while one sought employment in the towns of the West Riding. A fifth man came to this farm in October as winter beastman at 18s. a week (keeping himself). His engagement will terminate at the end of March, 1902.

Warwickshire.—An employer in Warwickshire has furnished details of the earnings of 12 Irishmen employed by him during the season of 1901. He writes "We farm about 3,000 acres, and find the Irish labour useful, as the men come at a busy time and leave again before winter. They are as a rule quiet and industrious men. We lend them money as soon as they come which they send back to Ireland. They live very cheaply, and send nearly all their earnings home." The following Table shows in detail the cash earnings of five out of the twelve labourers referred to above.

Earnings of Patrick C—, his brother and 3 sons, from fortnight ending May 17th to fortnight ending August 23rd, 1901:—

Description of work.	Amount Earned.
	£ s. d.
Hoeing Wheat ...	1 13 3
Hoeing Kale ...	11 12 3
Hoeing Oats ...	1 16 0
Weeding Wheat ...	3 5 3
Hoeing Potatoes ...	3 11 6
Singling Mangolds ...	6 18 7
Cutting and Tying Wheat ...	16 13 10
Cutting Peas ...	5 10 3
Day work, 26 days at 2s. 2d. ...	2 16 4
Work undefined ...	4 7 6
	0 15 0
Total payments to 5 men, May 6th—August 23rd ...	58 19 9
Average per man ...	11 15 11
" " per week ...	0 14 9

Patrick C— and his brother then returned to Ireland, leaving the 3 sons, who earned the following sums up to November 1st, when their engagement terminated:—

	£ s. d.
Cutting Barley ...	1 2 0
Hoeing Turnips ...	2 10 1
Digging Potatoes ...	14 19 0
Pulling Mangolds ...	2 12 9
Digging in Orchard ...	6 4 9
Day work, 12 days at 2s. 2d. ...	1 6 0
" (rate unspecified) ...	0 7 3
	29 1 10
Total payments to 3 men, Aug. 25th—Nov. 1st ...	29 1 10
Average per man ...	9 13 11
" " per week ...	0 19 4½

Lincolnshire.—An employer in the Spilsby Union has furnished particulars of the earnings of 44 Irish labourers who worked on his farms in 1901. Most of the men came from Sligo, and all of them had been haymaking in Yorkshire before coming to him. The great majority of the men commenced work for this employer in July and left in September. Six of them, however, stayed on until November 2nd. The work was paid for by the acre, and the aggregate cash earnings of the 44 men amounted to £486 8s., which yields an average of £11 1s. 1d. per man, or, taking into account the aggregate number of days worked, 25s. 10½d. per week, per man. Several of the older men are said to have returned direct to Ireland. Some of the others went into Cheshire for potato digging, while a few went to Bradford and Dewsbury for temporary employment as bricklayers' labourers, etc. It is stated that the Irishmen were "all well behaved, and most industrious, good workmen the men worked very hard, and often 15 or even 16 hours in each day when the weather permitted." They slept in barns on straw, and were allowed potatoes and fuel, and occasionally beer.

Another employer had 18 Irishmen working on his farms in Mid and South Lincolnshire. They were paid by the day during part of the time, and by piecework when turnip hoeing and at harvest. Their gross cash earnings amounted to £228, giving an average of 25s. 0d. each per week. These men were provided with sleeping room and fire, but they found their own food. The duration of employment on these farms varied a good deal, and nearly all of the men sought other work in England on completing their engagements.

Cambridgeshire.—A return from North Cambridgeshire shows the earnings of 27 Irish labourers who were employed in 1901 on five farms. The men came from Mayo, and had had employment in Lancashire and Yorkshire earlier in the year. The aggregate cash earnings of the 27 men amounted to £282 10s., or an average of 41s. 3d. per man per week. They were employed for various periods between the middle of July and the end of September. In addition to cash wages they had allowances of potatoes (as many as required), milk, sleeping accommodation, cooking, and train fare (5s. each man).

Scotland.—Returns have been received relating to 71 Irish labourers employed on ten farms in Scotland. The majority of these men were from Donegal. The employers generally lodged them in a bothy or other building free of charge, and provided porridge and milk night and morning, as well as some bread and beer during the day and fuel. On a farm in Midlothian eight men were employed, and two of these came direct from Ireland on August 19th and returned to Ireland on October 14th, their cash earnings amounting to £9 15s. 9d. (24s. a week) and £8 2s. 3d. (19s. 10½d. a week) respectively. The others earned smaller amounts, but they also worked for other employers in Scotland.

An employer in East Lothian gives particulars of the earnings of 10 men engaged for harvest and potato lifting, many of whom have been coming from the county of Armagh to his farm year by year for several years. Seven of these men commenced work on August 1st, and three on October 1st, while they all terminated their engagement on December 1st. The cash earnings of the seven men who worked for four months amounted to £13 4s. each. (15s. a week.) The cash earnings of the other three were £7 4s. each. (16s. a week.)

Two men employed on a farm in Lanark from June 24th to November 23rd received £26 2s. each in cash wages, or an average of about 23s. 9d. a week. In this case, however, no sleeping accommodation or food was given by the employer. These men are said to have worked for other employers in Scotland for a few days before taking up their engagement on this farm. One of them returned to Ireland on completing his engagement, and the other man was expected to remain in Scotland if he could find suitable work.

Information has been received from five potato merchants in Scotland as to the employment of Irish labourers for potato lifting. These merchants employed altogether about 425 persons (160 males and 265 females) in the season of 1901, and their total cash earnings are estimated at £5,240. Most of the parties of labourers arrived in Scotland about the middle of June, and remained until the beginning or middle of November. In addition to daily wages they were provided with sleeping accommodation, as many potatoes as they required for their own use, and in most cases, firing. They also travelled from farm to farm at their employers' expense. Wages were deducted for loss of time through wet weather; and one of the merchants estimated the loss of time from this cause at about 21 days. The potato merchants give voluntary testimony to the character of the Irish people in their employment. In one of the reports it is stated that the workers are "hard working, sober, industrious people, anxious to work and make money." Another employer writes as follows: "Workers mostly of sober class, careful, and send good part of money home"; while another states that his labourers "kept strong and healthy during the season. No discontent or grumbling whatever, and they are quiet, constant and cleanly workers."

INDUSTRIAL CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION IN NEW ZEALAND.

Amendment of Act of 1900.

THE consolidating Act of 1900 in relation to Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration in New Zealand has been amended by an Act recently passed ("The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Amendment Act, 1901"). By the amending statute the provisions of the principal Act are extended to all persons employed in any manual or clerical work whatever (the former statute applying only to persons so employed "in any industry"). The new Law makes important alterations in the position of Trade Unions in relation to conciliation and arbitration. Under the new, as was the case under the former Law, a Trade Union, unless registered as an Industrial Union, has no voice in the constitution of the Boards of Conciliation or the Court of Arbitration provided for by the law. But whereas under the principal Act a Trade Union, unless it had been registered as an Industrial Union, could not be a party to an industrial agreement under the law, the new Act enables a Trade Union, whether so registered or not, to be a party to such an agreement. At the same time, while under the former Law, Trade Unions, unless they were registered as Industrial Unions, were not bound by awards of the Arbitration Court, a Trade Union, whether registered as an Industrial Union or not, may in future be bound by any such award.

It may be observed that, in his evidence before the Labour Bills Committee, to which the Bill for the new Act was referred, Mr. Tregear, Secretary to the New Zealand Labour Department and Registrar of Industrial Unions, stated that the intention of the amendment made by the Bill in regard to the position of Trade Unions was "to prevent the Trade Unions withdrawing from under the Act, and striking or in any way setting up industrial disturbances, which the Industrial Unions could not do."*

Among other amendments, the new Act provides that, "with respect to any award in force at the coming into operation of the principal Act, the Court may, upon notice to any Trade Union, Industrial Union, Industrial Association, or employer within the district and engaged in the industry to which the award applies, not an original party thereto, extend such award and its provisions to such Trade Union, Industrial Union, Industrial Association, or employer."

The Act also contains provisions enabling the Court of Arbitration to limit the operation of any award to any city, town, or district being within or part of any Industrial District, and gives power to the Inspectors of Factories to take proceedings for the enforcement of Industrial Agreements, Awards and Orders of the Court, without its being necessary for a Union or Association to pass any resolution or take any ballot authorising such proceedings. With regard to the Boards of Conciliation provided for by the law, it is now enacted that, where a dispute has been referred to any such Board, either party may instead require the dispute to be referred directly to the Court of Arbitration. So far as concerns Special Boards of Conciliation, while the principal Act provided that a Special Board "may, on the application of all parties . . . be constituted from time to time to meet any case of emergency or any special case of industrial dispute," the amending statute provides that a Special Board of Conciliation "shall, on the application of either party to the dispute, . . . be constituted from time to time to meet any case of industrial dispute."

With respect to the relations between employer and employed during the pendency of proceedings under the Acts for the settlement of an industrial dispute, the Law, as now altered (the amendments introduced by the new Act being printed in italics), provides as follows:

"In every case where an industrial dispute has been referred to the Board [of Conciliation] the following special provisions shall apply: (1) Until the dispute has been finally disposed of by the

* Legislative Council, No. 4 of 1901, Report, together with the Minutes of Proceedings, the Evidence, and Appendix, of the Labour Bills Committee upon the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Amendment Bill, p. 23.

Board [of Conciliation] or the Court [of Arbitration] neither the parties to the dispute nor the workers affected by the dispute shall, on account of the dispute, do or be concerned in doing, directly or indirectly, anything in the nature of a strike or lock-out, or of a suspension or discontinuance of employment or work; but the relationship of employer and employed shall continue uninterrupted by the dispute or anything arising out of the dispute, or anything preliminary to the reference of the dispute and connected therewith. (2) If default is made in faithfully observing any of the foregoing provisions of this section, every union, association, employer, worker, or person committing or concerned in committing the default shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £50. (3) The dismissal of any worker, or the discontinuance of work by any worker, pending the final disposition of an industrial dispute shall be deemed to be a default under this section, unless the party charged with such default satisfies the Court that such dismissal or discontinuance was not on account of the dispute."

PROFIT-SHARING BY BRITISH FIRMS.*

THE account of systems of Profit-sharing adopted by British firms which follows relates to ordinary businesses, to the exclusion of those carried on by workmen's co-operative societies (many of which give a share in their profits to their employees, see Report on Workmen's Co-operative Societies in the United Kingdom, by the Labour Department of the Board of Trade, Cd. 698 of 1901), and deals with those cases in which the remuneration of employees consists in part of a definite share in profits, allotted to them in addition to their wages. Cases, in which employers make gifts to their workpeople without any pre-arranged basis of division of profits, or in which employees, who hold shares in an undertaking, receive a part of its profits as dividends on their capital, are not here referred to; nor are those methods of wage-payment, under which workpeople are rewarded for efficiency by a bonus on output or premium, the amount of which is not dependent on the financial results of the business, regarded as coming within the term "Profit-sharing." (As to premium systems, see Report on Gain-sharing, by the Labour Department of the Board of Trade, C. 7848 of 1895, and LABOUR GAZETTE, June, 1896, and July, 1899.)

The Table which follows shows the number of firms in the British Empire, by which profit-sharing schemes have been adopted, the number of such schemes that have ceased to exist, and the number still in operation, so far as the particulars could be obtained:—

Years in which Profit-Sharing Schemes were adopted.	Total number of Schemes started in years mentioned in Col. 1.	Number of Schemes referred to in Col. 2		
		That have since ceased to exist.	As to which particulars could not be obtained.	Known to be in operation at June 30th, 1901.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1820	1	1	—	—
1865-68	17	13	—	—
1869-72	7	—	—	3
1873-76	6	3	1	2
1877-80	4	1	—	3
1881-84	11	5	1	5
1885-88	24	10	3	11
1889-92	87	46	6	35
1893-96	23	12	1	10
1897-1900	12	1	—	11
1901 (6 months)	2	—	—	2
Total	194	99†	13‡	82§

In all, up to the middle of 1901, the number of cases, in which Profit-sharing is known to have been adopted by British employers, is 194, in 99 of which Profit-sharing had, prior to that date, ceased to be in operation, while in 13 cases it had not been found possible to obtain recent information, so that it is uncertain whether Profit-sharing is still in operation with these firms. Thus the number of British firms, by which Profit-sharing was, at June 30th, 1901, known to be in operation was 82.

* For further details with respect to British Profit-sharing see Report on Profit-sharing, C. 7458 of 1894, continued in LABOUR GAZETTE, July, 1895, July and September, 1896, July, 1897, and August, 1898, 1899, 1900 and 1901; also Seventh Annual Abstract of Labour Statistics of the United Kingdom, 1899-1900, Cd. 495 of 1901.

† Including 1, started in 1801, in a British Colony.
‡ Including 2, started in 1888 and 1890 respectively, in British Colonies.
§ Including 4 (started in 1885, 1888, 1891, and 1896 respectively) in British Colonies.

The trades, in which Profit-sharing has been adopted, and the number of persons employed by the firms known to practise this system at present, are shown below:—

Nature of Business.	Number of Businesses			Number of Persons (mean between minimum & maximum) employed in Businesses referred to in Col. 4 at June 30th, 1901.
	In which Profit-sharing having been instituted no longer exists.	As to which particulars could not be obtained.	In which Profit-sharing was known to exist at June 30th, 1901.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Building Trades... ..	4	1	4	183
Mining and Quarrying... ..	4	—	—	—
Metal, Engineering and Ship-building Trades:—				
Metal... ..	7	—	3	988
Engineering and Ship-building... ..	10	1*	7	27,814
Textile Trades... ..	6	—	6	3,842
Clothing Trades... ..	8	—	3	669
Transport... ..	1	—	—	—
Agriculture... ..	1	1	4	280
Printing, Paper and Allied Trades:—				
Printing... ..	11	3	9	1,875
Other... ..	2	—	3	772
Woodworking and Furnishing Trades... ..	4	—	1	52
Chemical, Glass, Pottery, &c... ..	5	2	5	2,072
Food and Tobacco... ..	—	—	8	6,508
Gas Works and Tar Distilling... ..	—	—	4	5,590
Fibre and Cane Working... ..	1*	—	—	—
Other Businesses... ..	19	5†	25‡	3,385
Total	99	13	82	54,020

The following Table shows the number of years, during which the profit-sharing schemes referred to have been in operation, both with regard to those schemes, which are known to have been abandoned prior to June 30th, 1901, and to those which were known to be in operation at June 30th, 1901.

Duration.	Past Profit-Sharing Schemes.	Present Profit-Sharing Schemes.
1 year or less	15	5
Over 1 year and up to 5 years	38	121
" 5 years and up to 10 years	28†	16†
" 10 " " 15 " "	7	35‡
" 15 " " 20 " "	2	6‡
" 20 " " " " " "	—	8
Duration unknown	7§	—
Average duration	5½ years.	11½ years.

With respect to the 99 cases, in which Profit-sharing has ceased to be in operation, the causes, which have led to the cessation of these schemes, were as under:—

Cause of Cessation.	Number of cases.	Cause of Cessation.	Number of cases.
Death of employer	2	Disputes with employees	3
Job finished	2	Dissatisfaction of employers with results	24
Enterprise abandoned	3	Grant of shorter hours	1
Liquidation, or dissolution	18	Substitution of fixed rate of interest	1
Changes in, or transfer of, business	6	Special circumstances	5
Losses, or want of success	19	Cause not known	5
Diminution of profits	2		
Apathy of employees... ..	7		
Dissatisfaction of employees and grant of increased wages	1	Total	99

It will be seen that the abandonment of the profit-sharing system has in 29 cases been due to the termination of the undertaking by liquidation or for other reasons, in 21 cases to the fact that the business had failed to secure adequate financial success, in 24 cases to the dissatisfaction felt by the employers, by whom profit-sharing schemes had been adopted, with the results of their operation, and in 8 cases to the apathy or dissatisfaction manifested by the employees concerned in regard to the system.

With respect to the amount of the addition made to the wages of profit-sharing employees by the share in profits allotted to them as bonus, the mean ratio of bonus to wages in all cases in which details are available, including those cases in which no bonus was earned, was 4.0 per cent. in 1894; 4.7 per cent. in 1895; 4.9 per cent. in

* Colonial.
† Including 1 Colonial firm.
‡ Including 3 Colonial firms, employing 495 persons, and 1, the number of whose employees is not known.
§ Including 1 scheme, the duration of which is stated to have been at least 7 years.

1896; 7.2 per cent. in 1897; 5.5 per cent. in 1898; 5.4 per cent. in 1899; and 6.4 per cent. in 1900. If the cases of failure to earn profits available for division under the profit-sharing scheme are omitted and the calculation is confined to those instances in which a bonus was declared, the average ratio, which in these cases the bonus bore to wages, account being taken of the number of participants in each case, was 6.1 per cent. in 1894, 6.7 per cent. in 1895, 10.3 per cent. in 1896, 11.4 per cent. in 1897, 11.8 per cent. in 1898, 12.1 per cent. in 1899, and 14.3 per cent. in 1900.

Taking the figures relating to the bonus declared by profit-sharing firms in 1900, it is found that details are available as to 66 cases, with a total of 23,953 employees in 1900 (including 4 Colonial firms with 629 employees), and that in 13 cases, affecting 2,660 employees, no bonus was paid in that year, while in the remaining 53 cases, with 21,293 employees, a share in profits was paid to an aggregate of 15,129 participants. In 16 of these cases, with 3,191 employees, the bonus was at rates less than 5 per cent. on wages, and in 22 cases the bonus allotted in 1900 was equivalent to an addition at the rate of 5 per cent. and upwards, but less than 9 per cent. on the wages of the 7,367 persons, by whom this bonus was received. These 22 cases had relation to an aggregate of 11,075 employees, or not quite one-half of all the persons employed by the profit-sharing firms making returns on this point. In all, 15 cases of the payment of bonus at the rate of 9 per cent. and upwards are included in the figures for 1900, the number of employees in these 15 cases being 7,027, and the number of recipients of bonus 5,805, while the highest ratios returned were in one case, in which, out of a total number of 3,220 employees, 3,173 participants in profits received a bonus at the rate of between 38 and 39 per cent. on their wages, and in another case, in which 37 out of 82 employees were allotted a share in profits forming an addition to their ordinary wages at the rate of between 40 and 41 per cent.

With respect to the manner, in which the share in profits allotted to employees under profit-sharing schemes is dealt with, it may be observed, that in regard to a large majority (about two-thirds) of all existing schemes the bonus is paid entirely in cash, while under the remaining schemes some part, or the whole, of the bonus is credited to a Provident Fund for the benefit of the participating employees, or (in a small number of instances) invested for them in shares in the business.

CENSUS OF THE COUNTY OF LONDON. OCCUPATIONS.

THE Census Report states that the numbers classed under any occupational heading at the two Censuses are affected by (1) changes in the method of classification at the Census office, (2) changes in the mode of filling up the schedules, (3) actual changes in the numbers of people following an occupation. While it is known whether or not any occupational heading or group is affected by a change of the first kind, the second kind of change is more difficult to detect. There should be (and in fact is) a tendency to return occupations more definitely and more correctly at every succeeding Census. This, while it increases the value of the later figures in themselves, impairs them for comparison. Thus out of a number of men who would have called themselves "merchants," "shop-keepers," "labourers," in 1891, a considerable proportion gave the more precise information in 1901 that they were merchants or shopkeepers dealing in some specific article, or labourers at some special trade, such as "bricklayers' labourers," "masons' labourers," &c. The amount of the transfer from one occupational heading to another in this way can only be estimated approximately.

The above difficulties will be found to apply to the case of England and Wales as a whole. In dealing with any separate part, and especially with such a part as London, another disturbing influence comes in, the tendency of the population to push out for residential purposes beyond the limits of the county, while their daily avocations of trade, &c., are still pursued within those limits. The

County of London is the working centre of a vastly larger area the boundaries of which, while always extending, can never admit of accurate definition.

Although, therefore, in selecting the following occupational headings or groups for comparison, care has been taken to omit occupations directly liable to errors from alterations of classification or of methods of return, the Census authorities state that for the foregoing reasons they must be regarded rather as items of individual interest than as complete statistical returns.

Occupation.	Number in		Inc. + Dec. -	Per 10,000 living of and above to years of age.		Inc. + Dec. -
	1891.	1901.		1891.	1901.	
MALES.						
All Occupations ...	1,254,327	1,399,969	+145,642	8,276	8,364	+ 88
I.—1. Civil Service (Officers and Clerks)	11,537	15,684	+ 4,147	76	94	+ 18
II.—4. Schoolmasters, Teachers, Professors, &c.	6,727	7,359	+ 632	44	44	...
IV.—1. Domestic Indoor Servants (including those in Hotels, &c.)	17,074	21,261	+ 4,187	113	127	+ 14
V.—2. Commercial or Business Clerks	71,387	84,317	+ 12,930	471	504	+ 33
VI.—Conveyance of Men or Goods:						
1. On Railways (excluding Platelayers and Railway Labourers)	24,585	33,459	+ 8,874	162	200	+ 38
2. On Roads (including Domestic Coachmen and Grooms, IV.—2)	91,675	116,092	+ 24,417	605	694	+ 89
3. On Seas, Rivers and Canals	17,941	14,185	- 3,756	118	85	- 33
X.—9. Construction of Vehicles	10,406	12,048	+ 1,642	69	72	+ 3
XI.—2. Electrical Apparatus Makers and	4,801	12,788	+ 7,987	32	76	+ 44
XXI.—1. Electricity Supply	120,867	142,947	+ 22,080	798	854	+ 56
XVII.—2. Printers ...	33,693	34,965	+ 1,272	222	209	- 13
Bookbinders ...	6,409	6,141	- 268	42	37	- 6
XIX.—1. Tailors, Clothiers, Boot, Shoe, Patent, Clog - Makers and Dealers	27,474	33,911	+ 6,437	181	203	+ 22
	31,462	27,377	- 4,085	208	164	- 44
FEMALES.						
All Occupations ...	667,961	719,331	+ 51,370	3,838	3,738	-100
I.—1. Civil Service (Officers and Clerks)	1,568	2,785	+ 1,217	9	14	+ 5
II.—3. Sick Nurses, Invalid Attendants (including Midwives)	14,397	16,210	+ 1,813	83	84	+ 1
4. Schoolmistresses, Teachers, &c.	19,794	20,224	+ 430	114	105	- 9
IV.—1. Domestic Indoor Servants (including those in Hotels, &c.)	238,366	242,449	+ 4,083	1,370	1,260	-110
3. Charwomen ...	22,877	25,951	+ 3,074	131	135	+ 4
V.—Commercial or Business Clerks	6,793	19,097	+ 12,304	39	99	+ 60
XVII.—2. Printers ...	1,316	2,284	+ 968	8	12	+ 4
Bookbinders ...	9,443	10,404	+ 961	54	54	...
XIX.—1. Tailors, Clothiers, Dressmakers, Milliners, Staymakers, Shirt-makers, Seamstresses, including XXII.—4. Machinists, Machine Workers undefined	107,848	105,678	- 2,170	620	549	- 71
Boot, Shoe, Patent, Clog - Makers and Dealers	7,527	6,779	- 748	43	35	- 8
Artificial Flower Makers	4,011	2,337	- 1,674	23	12	- 11

Having received communications from the Home Office and from the Board of Trade to the effect that certain changes in the system of classification would greatly enhance the value to them, for legislative and other uses, of the occupational statistics collected at the Census, many conferences were held with the representatives of the two Departments, and in order to meet their views and to bring the Census statistics into closer harmony with the statistics issued by the two Departments the Census Authorities have, to a considerable extent, recast their classification. The total number of occupational headings has been augmented from 347 to 379, and this number would have been considerably greater had not many headings been deleted of occupations giving employment to quite an insignificant number of persons. Room has thus been found for further sub-division on a very considerable scale, and for the separate tabulation of occupations which on former occasions have been

included under some more general appellation. Among the more important objects of the sub-division referred to, the attempted separation of Dealers from Makers, and in certain cases of Skilled Artisans from Labourers may be particularly mentioned.

The following Table shows the number of males and females returned as occupied, classified in twenty-two groups, and also shows the number of males per 1,000 of and above 10 years of age thus occupied, and the number of females per 1,000 of and above 10 years of age.

Occupation Group.	Number of		Number per 1,000 of and above 10 years of age.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
I. General or Local Government of the Country	46,638	5,796	28	3
II. Defence of the Country	18,743	—	11	—
III. Professional Occupations and their Subordinate Services	65,407	52,962	39	28
IV. Domestic Offices or Services	53,525	328,337	32	171
V. Commercial Occupations...	134,261	20,285	80	11
VI. Conveyance of Men, Goods, and Messages	243,924	3,860	146	2
VII. Agriculture ...	8,082	1,342	5	1
VIII. Fishing ...	56	—	—	—
IX. In and about, and dealing in the Products of Mines and Quarries	3,215	209	2	—
X. Metals, Machines, Implements, and Conveyances	95,503	3,932	57	2
XI. Precious Metals, Jewels, Watches, Instruments, and Games	37,681	4,034	22	2
XII. Building and Works of Construction	149,962	80	90	—
XIII. Wood, Furniture, Fittings, and Decorations	61,891	7,929	37	4
XIV. Brick, Cement, Pottery, and Glass	7,735	977	5	—
XV. Chemicals, Oil, Grease, Soap, Resin, &c.	18,645	5,915	11	3
XVI. Skins, Leather, Hair, and Feathers	19,238	9,468	11	5
XVII. Paper, Prints, Books, and Stationery	63,566	33,369	38	17
XVIII. (1-6) Textile Fabrics ... (7) Dealers in Textile Fabrics	5,297	10,365	3	5
XIX. Dress ...	18,864	12,552	11	7
XX. (1-3) Food, Tobacco, Drink (4) Board, Lodging, and Dealing in Spirituous Drinks	81,178	156,050	48	81
	98,227	25,245	59	13
	40,535	24,247	24	13
XXI. Gas, Water, and Electricity Supply and Sanitary Service	12,907	119	8	—
XXII. Other General and Undefined Workers and Dealers	114,889	12,258	69	6
I.—XXII. All Occupations ...	1,399,969	719,331	836	374
XXIII. Without Specified Occupation or Unoccupied	273,916	1,205,937	164	626
Total Population of 10 Years and upwards	1,673,885	1,924,368	1,000	1,000

In the following Table the numbers returned as employed in the 28 Metropolitan Boroughs under certain groups or headings are shown:—

Borough.	Number of Males returned as occupied in certain groups.									
	V. Commercial.	VI. Transport.	X. Metal.	XII. Building.	XIII. Wood-work-ing.	XVII. Print-ing, &c.	XIX. Dress.	XX. (1-3) Food, Drink.		
City ...	1,041	1,730	173	263	122	360	755	540		
Battersea ...	4,994	8,811	4,393	8,438	1,558	1,947	2,053	3,636		
Bermondsey ...	2,395	12,402	3,153	2,831	1,211	1,894	1,181	3,123		
Bethnal Green ...	1,186	7,424	1,715	2,496	7,874	2,269	4,442	2,798		
Camberwell ...	11,102	11,646	4,853	9,735	2,740	5,684	3,357	6,096		
Chelsea ...	1,443	3,391	943	3,228	530	463	858	1,618		
Deptford ...	3,787	6,733	4,780	3,610	932	1,110	1,040	2,472		
Finsbury ...	1,610	6,863	2,613	2,767	1,738	3,367	1,517	2,039		
Fulham ...	3,781	7,027	2,116	7,549	1,169	854	1,531	3,423		
Greenwich ...	1,811	4,171	4,387	2,711	442	374	622	1,583		
Hackney ...	9,680	8,295	3,249	6,382	4,872	4,054	5,257	4,798		
Hammersmith ...	3,686	5,298	2,107	5,987	1,183	731	1,402	2,532		
Hampstead ...	3,975	2,478	706	2,217	594	559	784	1,747		
Holborn ...	2,085	2,943	1,024	1,481	679	1,592	1,148	1,376		
Islington ...	12,383	19,589	6,634	11,821	4,486	6,748	4,377	7,595		
Kensington ...	4,299	7,468	1,600	5,830	1,073	705	1,701	3,267		
Lambeth ...	11,937	15,377	6,381	11,211	2,426	5,610	3,435	6,848		
Lewisham ...	7,210	3,685	1,619	4,982	676	1,086	1,243	2,956		
Paddington ...	4,311	9,045	2,054	5,435	1,150	892	1,773	3,022		
Poplar ...	2,829	14,166	8,246	4,374	2,348	1,440	1,692	3,211		
St. Marylebone ...	2,001	6,852	1,601	4,355	1,356	972	2,980	2,556		
St. Pancras ...	5,568	16,682	4,205	2,859	6,369	2,868	3,259	2,087		
Shoreditch ...	1,231	6,496	2,284	8,411	4,919	3,568	3,687	4,653		
Southwark ...	3,955	13,942	5,570	6,613	2,274	6,587	3,205	4,674		
Stepney ...	4,405	22,128	4,448	5,358	5,462	2,621	19,676	8,367		
Stoke Newington	3,613	1,410	708	1,481	610	1,003	776	1,233		
Wandsworth ...	10,166	7,745	3,581	9,661	1,450	2,120	2,293	4,992		
Westminster, City of	4,605	7,280	1,955	3,651	1,155	1,731	4,068	3,318		
Woolwich ...	1,142	2,867	8,145	3,905	563	307	936	1,667		

Number of Females returned as occupied in certain groups.

Borough.	III. (3)	III. (4)	IV. (1)	IV. (3)	IV. (3)	XIX.	XIX.	XX. (4)
	Medi-cal	Teach-ing	Domestic Indoor Service	Char-women	Laun-dry	Dress-makers	Other Cloth-ing	Bar-maids and Wait-resses
City ...	281	66	2,276	334	56	177	544	706
Battersea ...	462	842	4,905	793	2,594	2,529	2,019	400
Bermondsey ...	203	271	1,936	746	995	937	3,410	510
Bethnal Green ...	237	93	1,602	800	905	856	6,204	298
Camberwell ...	689	1,383	8,633	1,008	3,767	2,836	5,839	851
Chelsea ...	422	346	8,329	661	736	1,933	731	211
Deptford ...	338	714	3,788	419	937	1,125	1,593	301
Finsbury ...	231	113	2,015	1,030	814	854	2,986	509
Fulham ...	553	608	5,625	538	2,462	2,347	900	319
Greenwich ...	445	501	4,793	353	769	830	641	160
Hackney ...	727	1,390	8,711	1,008	2,954	2,657	7,319	604
Hammersmith ...	405	661	4,846	456	3,208	2,051	868	278
Hampstead ...	530	848	13,660	240	311	1,057	407	123
Holborn ...	362	181	3,982	733	454	699	1,183	385
Islington ...	989	1,613	12,259	2,011	3,530	5,159	7,662	1,107
Kensington ...	772	1,027	29,380	929	3,841	2,866	1,302	407
Lambeth ...	1,160	1,551	12,669	1,548	3,485	4,273	4,395	1,079
Lewisham ...	594	1,004	9,916	392	1,370	1,518	687	179
Paddington ...	767	833	16,012	634	1,274	3,662	1,482	463
Poplar ...	331	466	2,913	682	904	1,125	4,851	536
St. Marylebone	1,210	619	15,062	1,201	992	4,558	2,997	494
St. Pancras ...	925	997	9,633	1,884	2,078	4,724	3,624	1,113
Shoreditch ...	204	76	1,554	1,009	1,187	1,604	5,413	399
Southwark ...	677	366	3,638	1,532	1,831	1,937	5,000	1,038
Stepney ...	879	616	5,383	2,333	1,697	1,965	14,006	865
Stoke Newington	179	398	3,466	178	376	774	1,230	131
Wandsworth ...	1,013	1,706	17,210	659	2,970	2,776	1,345	349
Westminster, City of	936	609	24,977	1,619	1,020	3,555	4,134	1,387
Woolwich ...	253	516	3,536	221	745	1,012	1,262	235

LABOUR DISPUTES IN DENMARK IN 1900. The Statistical Year-book for 1901,* recently issued by the Government Statistical Bureau of Denmark, contains the official figures relative to strikes and lock-outs in that country in 1900. The following statement shows how these compare, in the aggregate, with the figures for each of the two years immediately preceding:—

Year.	Total number of disputes.	Number of disputes, the number of workpeople taking part in which was known.	Number of workpeople, who took part in the disputes referred to in Col. 3.	Number of disputes, the duration of which was known.	Aggregate duration in working days of the disputes referred to in Col. 5.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1898	147	121	6,787	107	92,433
1899	88	86	36,096	58	2,828,447
1900	82	67	7,545	55	235,877

With respect to the figures

The total income of the accident insurance institutions in 1899 was £1,088,820 (as compared with £949,568 in 1898), while the expenditure exceeded that sum by £313,892 (compared with £55,839 in 1898, and £118,306 in 1897). The chief items of income in 1899 were £948,598, contributions of employers and work-people (£851,275 in the previous year), and £107,627, interest on investments. The chief items of expenditure were £761,157 set aside as the capital value of annuities accorded during the year, £472,816 actually disbursed during the year in paying compensations for accidents, and £94,640 cost of administration.

THE PRICE OF BREAD.

IN continuation of the record of variations in the price of bread, published periodically in THE LABOUR GAZETTE, returns have again been collected from the principal Co-operative Societies in Great Britain, showing the price of ordinary household bread, per four pounds, on March 3rd, 1902. The figures in the following Table are based on 211 returns from England and Wales and 115 from Scotland, and give the highest, lowest, and mean price for each of the districts specified, and for the whole of Great Britain:—

District.	Present Price. (3rd Mar., 1902.)			Price last quarter. (2nd Dec., 1901.)			Price a year ago. (1st Mar., 1901.)		
	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
ENGLAND AND WALES.									
N. Counties and Yorkshire	6	4½	5½	6	4½	5½	6	4½	5½
Lancs. & Cheshire	6	4	5½	6	4	5	6	4	5½
N. Mid. Counties...	5	4	4½	5	4	4½	5	4	4½
W. do. do.	5½	4½	4½	5½	4½	4½	5½	4½	4½
S. do. do.	5	4	4½	5	4	4½	5	4	4½
Eastern Counties...	5½	5	5½	5½	5	5½	5½	5	5½
London ...	5½	5	5½	5½	4½	5	5½	5	5½
S.E. Counties ...	5½	5	5½	6	5	5½	6	5	5½
S.W. Counties, } Wales & Mon. }	5	4½	4½	5	4½	4½	5½	4½	5
England and Wales ...	6	4	5	6	4	4½	6	4	5½
SCOTLAND.									
N. Counties ...	5½	4½	5½	5½	4½	5½	6	5	5½
Eastern Counties*	5½	4½	5	5½	4	4½	6	4½	5½
Lanarkshire ...	5½	5	5½	5½	5	5½	5½	5	5½
Other Southern Counties ...	6	5	5½	6	5	5½	6	5	5½
Scotland ...	6	4½	5½	6	4	5½	6	4½	5½
Great Britain ...	6	4	5½	6	4	5	6	4	5½

As compared with three months ago, a rise of $\frac{3}{16}$ d. per 4-lb. loaf is observable in the mean price for the Northern Counties and Yorkshire, and of $\frac{1}{16}$ d. in the Lancashire and Cheshire district, the Eastern Counties, London, and the South-Western Counties and Wales. On the other hand, a slight fall of $\frac{1}{16}$ d. is apparent in the mean price for the South-Eastern Counties, while in the Midland Counties the mean price remains unaltered. In Scotland there is a slight rise of $\frac{1}{16}$ d. in the Northern and Eastern Counties, but in the remaining districts the mean price continues the same. The general effect of these changes is to cause an upward movement in the mean price to the extent of $\frac{1}{16}$ d., both in England and Wales and in Scotland.

Compared with a year ago, the mean price for Great Britain shows a reduction of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. on the 4-lb. loaf.

The mean London Gazette price of British wheat for the four weeks ended March 1st, 1902, was 27s. 0½d. per quarter, compared with 26s. 10½d. for the corresponding four weeks three months ago. Compared with the mean price twelve months ago, there has been a rise of 9½d. per quarter.

The imports of wheat from foreign countries and the colonies from September 1st, 1901, to February 28th, 1902, amounted to 32,215,520 cwts. (equivalent to

* Kincardine, Forfar, Fife, Clackmannan, and the Lothians.

7,516,955 quarters), compared with 33,509,030 cwts. (or 7,818,774 quarters) in the corresponding six months of 1900-1901. The imports of wheat meal and flour for the same period amounted to 10,334,868 cwts., compared with 11,280,147 cwts. from September 1st, 1900, to February 28th, 1901.

The average value per cwt. of wheat imported during the month of February, 1902, was 6s. 8½d., showing a rise of 3d. per cwt. compared with the figures for November, 1901, and a fall of 2½d. compared with the corresponding value for February, 1901. For imported wheat meal and flour, the average value for February, 1902, was 9s. per cwt., as against 9s. 1¼d. for November, 1901, and 9s. 4½d. for February, 1901.

The Table below gives the mean Gazette price, and the average declared value of the wheat and flour imports, for the periods specified:—

	Month of—		
	Feb., 1902. s. d.	Nov., 1901. s. d.	Feb., 1901. s. d.
British Wheat per quarter ...	27 0½	26 10½	26 3
Wheat Imports, per cwt. ...	6 8½	6 5½	6 10½
Wheat Meal and Flour Imports, per cwt. ...	9 0	9 1¼	9 4½

GERMAN LABOUR COLONIES IN 1901.

THE January number of *Der Wanderer* (the organ of the German Association of Travellers' Homes for Workmen), publishes figures summarising the work done by the German Labour Colonies in 1901.* The number of inmates remaining at the end of that year in the 32 labour colonies then existing was 3,594, as against 3,258 at the end of 1900. The number of persons, for whom accommodation existed, was 3,632, as against 3,660 at the end of 1900. The number of persons admitted in 1901 was 8,826, as compared with 7,494 the year before. The largest number of admissions took place in November, and the smallest in February in both years, the figures being respectively 1,151 and 557 in 1901, and 1,039 and 436 the year before. Admission to the colonies was refused to 3,342 persons, as compared with 1,384 in 1900. The majority of these refusals in 1901 (viz., 2,142) was due to want of room. Three hundred and ninety-four applicants were refused as not belonging to the district, 29 as too young or too old, 134 because they were ill, 71 as unfit for work, 36 for intemperance, 200 because their names were on the black list and 336 for other reasons. Of the 8,826 persons admitted to the colonies in 1901, 3,774 had (so far as could be ascertained) never been in a labour colony before; 1,693 had been in a colony once; 1,033 twice; 689 thrice; 460 four times; 330 five times; 250 six times, and 574 more than six times before. With regard to 23 of those admitted information on the point under consideration is wanting.

The following statement classifies the persons admitted to the colonies in 1900 and 1901 according to age:—

Age.	Persons admitted.			
	Number.		Per cent.	
	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.
Under 15 years ...	3	2	—	—
15 and under 17 years ...	328	28	0.1	0.8
17 " " 21 " ...	328	49	4.3	5.1
21 " " 31 " ...	1,288	1,545	17.2	17.5
31 " " 51 " ...	4,156	4,527	55.5	61.3
51 " " 61 " ...	1,373	1,777	18.2	20.1
61 years and over ...	342	474	4.6	5.4
Age not ascertained ...	—	23	—	0.3
Total ...	7,494	8,826	100.0	100.0

Many persons admitted to the colonies are returned as "workmen" simply. This was the case with 2,740 of the admissions of 1901 (2,212 in 1900). Those, as to whose trade or occupation more precise information was

* See LABOUR GAZETTE, March 1901 (p. 74), March 1900 (p. 71), March 1899 (p. 68), April 1898 (p. 102) and March 1897 (p. 70); also Report on Agencies and Methods for dealing with the Unemployed [c.—7182 of 1895], pp. 269-307.

was available in each of the two years, may be grouped as follows:—

Trade or Occupation.	No. of persons admitted.	
	1900.	1901.
Building Trades ...	687	768
Metal Working ...	685	934
Textile Trades ...	209	280
Clothing, &c., Trades ...	421	471
Paper and Leather Trades ...	184	178
Woodworking, Carving, Gilding, &c. ...	353	399
Glass, Pottery, Brickmaking, &c. ...	175	217
Food, &c., Preparation ...	431	449
Agriculture, Gardening, &c. ...	797	790
Commerce ...	308	448
Officials, Surveyors, &c. ...	150	150
Other Trades and Occupations ...	822	979
Total ...	5,282	6,063†

The number of persons, who left the colonies in 1901, was 8,487 (7,228 in 1900), the circumstances under which they left being as follows:—

	No. of Departures.		Per cent.	
	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.
Sent to situations found by Colonies ...	707	656	9.8	7.5
Went to situations found by themselves ...	757	842	10.5	9.9
Discharged at own desire ...	3,029	4,761	54.4	56.1
Dismissed for inefficiency or misconduct ...	890	1,130	18.3	13.3
Discharged for other causes ...	689	806	9.5	9.5
Left without permission ...	240	233	3.3	3.8
Died ...	16	19	0.2	0.2
Circumstances not stated ...	—	60	—	0.7
Total ...	7,228	8,487	100.0	100.0

Of the 3,594 persons remaining in the colonies at the end of December 1901, 1,572 (43.8 per cent.) had been there less than 2 months; 975 (27.1 per cent.) over 2 up to 4 months; 485 (13.5 per cent.) over 4 up to 6 months; 346 (9.6 per cent.) over 6 up to 12 months, and 216 (6.0 per cent.) over a year.

FRIENDLY AND BUILDING SOCIETIES.

THE Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies has issued two volumes dealing respectively with Friendly Societies and with Building Societies. The volume, which deals with Friendly Societies,† contains lists and summaries of Friendly Societies, Friendly Societies with Branches (Orders), Collecting Societies, Benevolent Societies, Working Men's Clubs, Specially Authorised Societies, Specially Authorised Loan Societies, Medical, Shipwreck, etc., Societies and Cattle Insurance Societies, and includes particulars in relation to the membership and financial position of these Societies, a general summary of Registered Provident Societies and Certified and Post Office Savings Banks, and an Abstract of Quinquennial Valuations of Friendly Societies in England and Wales, received in 1900. Of 2,331 Valuation Returns received from Friendly Societies and Branches, 638 were from Friendly Societies, with an aggregate membership of 334,109, and show that, comparing the liabilities of these Societies with their assets, the aggregate net deficiency amounts to £573,228. "In other words, taken collectively, the Societies were, at the date of valuation, in a position to pay 17s. 9d. in the £ of their estimated liabilities," this ratio being identical with that shown in the report for 1899.

The publication, which treats of Building Societies,‡ contains abstracts of annual accounts and statements relating to these Societies and aggregate balance sheets, and includes a general summary, showing the total number of Societies in 1900, number making returns, membership, receipts, liabilities (to the holders of shares and to depositors and other creditors), undivided profit and balance deficit (if any), together with particulars as to (1) large mortgages; (2) properties in possession; and (3) mortgages in arrear. The total number of building societies dealt with in this Summary is 2,307, with a total membership of 598,329, and aggregate assets amounting to £60,835,580, as compared with 2,390 societies in 1899, returning a membership of 602,981, and aggregate assets amounting to £60,776,508.

† In the case of 23 of the persons admitted to the colonies in 1901, no information as to occupation was obtained.
‡ Reports of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies for the year ending 31st December, 1900, Part A, appendix (x), P.P. 35, l. of 1902 (Eyre & Spottiswoode), Price 3s.

§ Sixth Annual Report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies of the Proceedings of the Registrars under the Building Societies Acts; with an Abstract of the Annual Accounts and Statements of Societies. P.P. 24, l. of 1902 (Eyre and Spottiswoode), Price 1s. 7d.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

(1) Workmen's Compensation Acts.

LIABILITY OF "UNDERTAKERS" FOR INJURY TO WORKMAN EMPLOYED BY SUB-CONTRACTOR: WORK "MERELY ANCILLARY OR INCIDENTAL TO" BUSINESS.

By the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, it is provided that "Where in an employment to which this Act applies, the undertakers as hereinafter defined contract with any person for the execution by or under such contractor of any work, and the undertakers would, if such work were executed by workmen immediately employed by them, be liable to pay compensation under this Act to those workmen in respect of any accident arising out of and in the course of their employment, the undertakers shall be liable to pay to any workman employed in the execution of the work any compensation which is payable to the workman . . . by such contractor, or would be so payable if such contractor were an employer to whom this Act applies. . . . This section shall not apply to any contract with any person for the execution by or under such contractor of any work which is merely ancillary or incidental to, and is no part of, or process in, the trade or business carried on by such undertakers respectively."

A firm of ladies' tailors employed a window-cleaning company to clean the windows of their workshops. A workman in the employment of the company was engaged in cleaning these windows, when he fell from an outside sill and was injured. He claimed compensation from the tailoring firm; and the Sheriff-Substitute found in law that the work in which he was engaged was not any part of the work or business carried on by the tailoring firm, but was merely ancillary or incidental thereto, and on this ground he assailed the firm. On appeal, the Court of Session affirmed the judgment of the Sheriff-Substitute.—*Dempster v. Hunter & Sons, Court of Session, February 26th.*

(2) Employers' Liability Act.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO SERVANT OF CONTRACTOR: LIABILITY OF MINE OWNER.

The father of a workman, who was killed by an explosion while engaged in sinking a shaft in a mine, brought an action against the owners of the mine to recover damages for the death of his son. Subsequently, the plaintiff having died, the action was continued by his widow as his personal representative. The question to be decided in this case was whether the deceased workman was or was not in the employment of the mine owners. The mine was owned by a colliery company, which had a contract with a sinker to sink and wall a shaft at so much a foot, the contractor providing all labour and engine-winders. The deceased was at the time of the accident working for this contractor, who paid him daily wages, but he had signed a book kept by the company at their colliery, and in which were embodied the conditions of work at the mine; these were as follows: "(1) the persons directly employed at the colliery are engaged for an indefinite period, determinable upon 14 days' notice. The employed undertake to work on each working day, Saturday included (if required), and the employer undertakes to employ them on such days, except in the event of accident, repairs, breakdown, or bad trade. The wages to be paid weekly. (2) This contract shall remain in force and operate as a contract between the workman and the owner for the time being of the colliery so long as the workman continues to be employed at the colliery, notwithstanding any change in the members for the time being constituting the employer's firm. (3) All usual customary terms and regulations which obtain or exist with respect to the employment of workmen and all other persons employed in the colliery, whether expressed in writing or not, shall be and remain in full force and effect as part of the contract between the employer and the workman or other persons employed. For Miners and Contractors only:—(4) Every miner and contractor employed at the colliery shall, upon engaging any drawer, workman, or other person, require such drawer, workman, or other person to obtain a copy of these conditions from the officer whose duty it is to provide such copies, and inform such drawer, workman, or other person that they are the conditions under which persons are employed at the colliery, and such miner, drawer, or workman, and other persons respectively shall be bound by such conditions. For Drawers and Persons working under Contractors only:—(5) Every drawer employed by any miner, and every workman or other person employed by a contractor at the colliery, shall, at the request of such miner or contractor, obtain a copy of these conditions from the officer whose duty it is to provide such copies, and such drawer, workman, or other person shall in consideration of being employed at the works be bound, both as between himself and the miner or contractor and between himself and the owner, by the terms of these conditions."

At the trial the contractor stated in his evidence that, if the manager of the mine had given him an order relating to the work, he would have obeyed it, and would have expected his own workmen to do so. The jury, in answer to a question put to them by the County Court Judge, found that the deceased was in the employment of the company, within the meaning of the Employers' Liability Act, and brought in a verdict in his favour. The company appealed, on the ground that there was no evidence that the deceased was in their employment. The Divisional Court allowed the appeal, and gave judgment for the Company (see GAZETTE for May, 1901, p. 138). On appeal to the Court of

Appeal, that Court dismissed the appeal, holding that there was no evidence to go the jury that the deceased was in the employment of the company.—*Fitzpatrick v. Richard Evans & Co., Limited, Court of Appeal, February 3rd and 4th.*

(3) Factory Acts.

WHAT IS A "FACTORY"? BOTTLING STORES.

A Factory Inspector laid an information against the occupiers of a building used as beer bottling stores, charging them with having employed a young person beyond the period of employment permitted by the Factory Acts; and the question to be decided was whether these stores were a (non-textile) factory, within the meaning of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1878. In this Act the expression "non-textile factory" means certain works, etc., named in the Act, and "also any premises wherein, or within the close or curtilage or precincts of which, any manual labour is exercised by way of trade or for purposes of gain in or incidental to the following purposes, or any of them; that is to say (a) in or incidental to the making of any article or part of any article, or (b) in or incidental to the altering, repairing, ornamenting, or finishing of any article, or (c) in or incidental to the adapting for sale of any article, and wherein, or within the close or curtilage or precincts of which steam, water, or other mechanical power is used in aid of the manufacturing process carried on there." The bottling stores were used by the occupiers for aerating and bottling beer for the purpose of adapting it for sale as bottled beer. The beer was brought in barrels into the bottling stores. It was then forced out of the barrels into a cooling tank by means of an air pump driven by a gas engine. Thence it was forced by an air pump driven by mechanical power into a mixing cylinder situate in a room adjoining and communicating with that in which the young person, in respect of whose employment the information was laid, was employed. The mixing cylinder contained a mechanical mixer driven by a gas engine. Attached to, and communicating with, the mixing cylinder were high-pressure cylinders containing carbonic acid gas, which were brought already charged with such gas into the bottling stores. By the action of the mixer the beer and carbonic acid gas were mixed, and the beer was aerated. It was the duty of this young person to place an empty bottle in the bottling machine, and to pull down by hand into the neck of the bottle by means of a lever the nozzle of a tap communicating by a pipe with the mixing cylinder. The beer flowed through the pipe from the tap, owing to the pressure of the gas with which it had been aerated, and filled the bottle. The bottling machine was not worked by mechanical power. The bottles before being filled were drained and soaked by hand, and afterwards rinsed out by a brush driven by a gas engine on another floor of the premises.

The Magistrate dismissed the information on the ground that the premises were not a (non-textile) factory, within the meaning of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1878. The matter then came on a case stated by the Magistrate before the King's Bench Division, the question being, whether the Magistrate ought to have convicted the occupiers. The Court held that the Magistrate ought to have convicted, and allowed the appeal, with costs.—*King's Bench Division, February 24th.*

(4) Miscellaneous.

AGREEMENT TO PAY MINIMUM WAGES; ACCEPTANCE OF LESSER SUM: WAIVER.

A company engaged a workman under an agreement, whereby he agreed to work for them for 5 years at 24s. a week, and so in proportion for any less period than a week, it being provided that "the wages of the workman during the said term of 5 years shall be at the rate of 24s. a week at the least." The workman commenced an action in the Police Court under the Employers and Workmen Act, 1875, against his employers to recover damages for breach of this agreement. It was proved that the workman had worked for the company under the agreement from October 31st, 1898, to June 13th, 1901, that at various dates the company, owing to various causes, such as holidays, stock-taking, and lack of orders, had been unable to provide the workman with employment, that no wages were paid to him in respect of the time for which he was unemployed, and that he had sometimes absented himself, and had not been paid for those periods. His wages were paid at the end of each week when due; and a deduction was made at the time of such payment for all the periods when he had not been employed. He assented to such reductions, and never made any claim in respect of them until the day before he commenced the action. The Magistrate was of opinion that the workman, having from the commencement of the agreement without objection accepted his wages each week subject to such deductions as above mentioned, had waived his right to make any claim, and could not now recover any of such deductions, and the accounts between the parties must be taken as settled at the time of payment of wages in each week. He accordingly dismissed the workman's claim for damages. The workman appealed from this decision; but the King's Bench Division dismissed the appeal, holding that, when the Magistrate said that the workman had waived his right to make a claim, he came to that conclusion as a question of fact, and that Court could not say that he was wrong in law in so doing.—*Stoddart v. William Mitchell, Ltd., King's Bench Division, November 18th and 19th, 1901; reported February 1st.*

SALES AT CO-OPERATIVE EXHIBITIONS: HAWKER'S LICENCE REQUIRED.

In the Hawkers Act, 1888, the term "Hawker" "includes any person who travels by any means of locomotion to any place in which he does not usually reside or carry on business, and there sells or exposes for sale any goods, wares, or merchandise in or at any house, shop, room, booth, stall, or other place whatever hired or used by him for that purpose"; and it is provided by this Act that licences shall be taken out by all hawkers, it being made an

offence punishable by fine "if any person does any act for which a licence is required by this Act without having a proper licence in force in that behalf."

A Workmen's Co-operative Society took a public hall, and conducted there an exhibition and sale of goods, at which an Inland Revenue Officer bought a book. The Society was then charged with having contravened the law by having traded as hawkers without a licence, and was convicted by the Justices. On appeal, the Justiciary Appeal Court refused the appeal, with expenses.—*Justiciary Appeal Court, February 18th.*

LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.

(Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31, Broadway, Westminster, from official and other reports, newspapers, etc., mostly dated January and February last.)*

Canada.—The Report of the Dominion Labour Bureau for February states: "Except in those trades in which temporary cessation of employment is expected because of the nature of the season, industry and trade are active and few hands are idle." "In manufacturing and mining, work has for the most part been plentiful and steady throughout the month, and the condition of labour in most individual trades may be described as good." Persons emigrating to Canada this year should start in the spring. The principal demand is for competent farm labourers and female servants.

New South Wales.—The building trade is not so brisk as it was, and less wages are being accepted. The engineering trade continues good, with full rates of pay. The strike among the tailoresses has been settled, and the minimum wage has been fixed at 17s. 6d. to 22s. 6d. a week. The wharf labourers are agitating for a rise in their wages to 1s. 3d. instead of 1s. an hour. Country districts are suffering much from the severe drought, and in some parts it is impossible to obtain employment owing to want of water and of feed for cattle. The coal trade continues busy, but silver mining at Broken Hill is very slack, and many hands are out of work. The labouring classes generally are complaining of the increased cost of living owing to the new tariff.

Victoria.—There is a good demand for farm labourers, and especially for men able to milk, but employment is not always regular. The difficulty of getting good milkers has been one of the principal causes of the recent reduction in the output of butter, and is seriously hampering the dairying industry. There is no special demand for mechanics in Melbourne or other towns.

South Australia.—Considerable numbers of mechanics and labourers, more especially those in the engineering trades, have been out of work at Gawler. Copper mining has been very slack lately, owing to low prices, and many hands have been thrown out of employment at the Moonta mines, and by the closing down of the Port Augusta smelters.

Queensland.—According to the report of the Government Labour Bureau for the quarter ending December 31st, 1901, the only demand in the north was at Townsville, Charters Towers, and neighbouring places for female servants, general labourers, plantation labourers, and a few farm labourers and mechanics; in the central districts the only demand was for a few general labourers; in the south there was a large demand for farm labourers and general labourers, and some demand for plantation labourers. Miners were not in demand in any part of Queensland.

Western Australia.—Reports received at the Government Labour Bureau in Perth at the end of last year show that there was a good demand for men at Perth, especially for those in the building trades; that there was no demand at Fremantle, Geraldton, Collie, or Busselton; that there were many unemployed at Coolgardie, Kalgoorlie, Kanowna, and neighbouring gold fields; that at Northam there was a very good demand for mechanics and unskilled labourers; and that in many agricultural districts in the south-west there was always a good demand for competent farm labourers, able to milk, work machinery, and take care of horses; female servants were wanted in nearly all districts.

New Zealand.—The clothing trade has been very busy at Auckland, Napier, Wanganui, Palmerston North, New Plymouth, Westport, Hokitika, Christ-

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

church, Invercargill and elsewhere. The building trades have been busy generally, especially at Auckland, Gisborne, Napier, New Plymouth, Westport, Christchurch and Invercargill; but at Dunedin many men are out of work. The engineering trade is fairly well employed, especially at Westport and Timaru, and for blacksmiths and boilermakers at Auckland, but at Dunedin many are unemployed. Flax and saw mills have been busy in several places. There has been plenty of work for unskilled labour at shearing and harvesting.

Cape Colony.—No one is now allowed to land in South Africa without a permit. This must be applied for at the Permit Office, 47, Victoria-street, London, S.W. The applicant must possess £100, or prove that he is in a position to maintain himself in South Africa. Applicants living within fifty miles of London must apply in person. These permits are no guarantee that the holders will be allowed to proceed inland. The Permit Office does not include persons wishing to go out to farm, without any definite farm in prospect, amongst those having knowledge of a trade or profession. There is a good demand for skilled mechanics in many places.

Natal.—With reference to the demand for mechanics in Natal, which was mentioned last month, the Agent-General has already received applications for passages from a far larger number of carpenters, bricklayers, plasterers, masons, and painters than he has authority to send to the colony. There have been disputes in the building trade at Pietermaritzburg on the question of wages. These have been settled by raising the wages of carpenters and joiners to 15s. a day instead of 14s. Carpenters and coachbuilders in the railway workshops are agitating for increased pay, partly on account of the increased cost of living. There is still a large demand for labour in the colony, especially in the building trades, but emigrants must remember that they must pay their own passages, that the cost of living in Natal is now high, and that they will not be allowed to land unless they first obtain a permit from the Permit Office, 47, Victoria Street, S.W.

Orange River Colony and Transvaal.—Although the output of gold in the Transvaal is increasing, only refugees, Government employees, and persons engaged in a service of a public nature will be permitted to proceed to the Transvaal. Candidates for the South African Constabulary should apply to The Recruiting Officer, S.A.C. Recruiting Office, King's Court, Broadway, Westminster, S.W.; they must be good riders, good shots, single, strictly sober, and from 20 to 35 years of age; they will be given free passages to South Africa. Farriers also are wanted for this Force.

LABOUR ABROAD.

FRANCE.*

Coal Mining in January.—The average number of days worked per week by those employed underground in coal mines in January was 5.94, as compared with 5.47 in the previous month, and 5.94 in January, 1901. During the month full time (6 days and over per week) was worked by 80 per cent., and from 5 to 6 days by 20 per cent. of all employed in and about the mines, the corresponding percentages for the previous month being 3 and 95 respectively. The above particulars were supplied to the French Labour Department by the Committee of Coal Owners, and relate to about 142,000 workpeople, or over three-quarters of all employed in and about the mines.

Labour Disputes in January.—Forty disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in January, the number of workpeople involved in 37 disputes being 2,763. In the previous month 29 disputes occurred, in 24 of which 5,350 workpeople took part, while in January, 1901, there were 51 disputes, in 47 of which 16,612 workpeople were involved. Four of the disputes of January last occurred in the building trades, 3 in the metal trades, 11 in the textile trades, 7 in transport trades and warehousing, 4 in chemical, glass, pottery, etc., trades, 2 in the printing trades, 5 in hide and skin-working trades, 2 in the tobacco trades, and 1

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

each among miners and cork-cutters. Of 36 new and old disputes which came to an end in January, 4 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 24 in favour of the employers, and 8 were compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in January.—Five cases of recourse to the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported in January, the workpeople taking the initiative in 2 cases, and the employers and the Justice of the Peace in 1 case each. In the remaining dispute it is not stated by whom the first steps were taken. Committees of conciliation were formed in 3 cases, resulting in the settlement of 1 dispute. The proffered mediation was rejected in the other 2 cases—once by the workpeople (who eventually obtained their demands) and once by the employers.

GERMANY.

Employment in February.—According to *Der Arbeitsmarkt* the state of employment showed some improvement as compared with the preceding month, but was less favourable than a year ago. The number of applications for work per 100 situations offered at the public employment registries was 208.3, as against 220.2 the month before, and 155.8 in February, 1901.

Labour Disputes in February.—The same journal reports 18 disputes as having begun in February, as compared with 25 in the previous month. One of the February disputes occurred in the building trades, 4 in metal and engineering trades, 4 in the textile trades, 2 in the garment-making trades, 5 in woodworking trades and 2 in pottery, etc., trades.

Vulcanising of India-Rubber: Special Rules.—Special rules drawn up by the Federal Council, under date of March 1st, lay down requirements to be fulfilled by establishments in which rubber goods are vulcanised by means of bisulphide of carbon, or by the action of the fumes of chloride of sulphur. These rules, which are to take effect from July 1st, 1902, include detailed provisions as to the situation (relatively to the street-level), ventilation and lighting of rooms in which vulcanisation by means of bisulphide of carbon is carried on; in such rooms the amount of air-space must not fall below 706 cubic feet for each person employed. Machines for vulcanising waterproof cloth must, as a rule, be covered with a case from which the air is drawn off by a mechanical ventilator. The vulcanisation of all other classes of rubber goods must (unless carried on in the open air) be performed in boxes, etc., so constructed that the fumes cannot reach the faces of the workers, and provided with a suction-fan for drawing off the air. The drying-rooms must be so arranged that the vulcanised goods can be conveyed to and from them in a manner which shall make it unnecessary for the workpeople to enter such rooms. No person must be employed for more than four hours in any one day, nor for more than two hours at a time, followed by an interval of at least an hour, in vulcanising by means of bisulphide of carbon, or in any other work in which the operatives are exposed to the effects of bisulphide of carbon. The employment of persons under eighteen years of age in any such work is absolutely prohibited. Where vulcanising is carried out by means of the fumes of chloride of sulphur, the receptacles or chambers, in which such fumes are generated, must be so constructed that it is impossible for the fumes to escape; and such chambers must never be entered until they have been completely cleared of the fumes. The employer must engage a doctor to examine the workpeople at least once a month; and this doctor shall have power to order temporary or total suspension from work.

BELGIUM.†

Employment in January.—Employment in January, though slightly improved on the whole, was still far from satisfactory. The average number of applications for work per situation offered (for males only) as calculated from returns supplied by 13 free employment registries was somewhat lower than in the previous month, viz.: 2.64 as against 2.83. The building trades benefited by the exceptionally mild weather, but not to the extent that might have been expected. In a certain number of metallurgical and textile establishments, an increase took place in the number of hours worked per week. Among the operatives engaged in the metal trades those engaged in the manufacture of railway

† *Deutscher Reichs-Anzeiger*, March 4th, 1902.

† *Revue du Travail* (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department).

rolling-stock were the best employed; on the whole, however, the situation, as compared with December, was somewhat relieved both for the iron trades and for certain branches of engineering. Almost all cotton spinning mills, which had been working short time to the extent of one day per week since last summer, resumed the full week. Employment in garment-making suffered a further decline, and the season drew to a close under very depressing conditions. So far as other industries are concerned, the state of employment was the same as in December.

Labour Disputes in January.—Five disputes, involving 896 workpeople, were reported to the Belgian Labour Department as having begun in January, but 3 others, begun before the 1st of January, were still in progress during that month. The number of disputes reported for January 1901 was 9, involving 364 workpeople; while in December last 2 were reported, 130 workpeople being involved.

Three of the new disputes occurred in coal mining, one in the textile industry, and one in the window-glass trade. Of the 5 new and old disputes which terminated in January, 4 (involving 598 workpeople) were decided in favour of the employers, and one (involving 230 workpeople) was compromised.

AUSTRIA.

Strikes at Trieste.—With regard to the strike of the firemen of the Austrian Lloyd Steam Navigation Company at Trieste, the commencement of which on January 31st was mentioned in the GAZETTE for February (p. 45), further information is given in despatches to the Foreign Office from Sir F. R. Plunkett, H.M. Ambassador at Vienna, under date of February 16th and 19th, and in despatches to that office from Mr. H. L. Churchill, H.M. Consul at Trieste, under date of February 14th-18th, upon which the details which follow are based. The demands made by the firemen comprised the three following points: (1) At sea, the firemen have a watch of 4 hours, and 8 hours rest; they must, however, during the last 2 hours rest, if necessary, be employed in minor work, such as in helping engine work, etc. They demanded that this might cease or be remunerated extra. (2) During the stay in the Port of Trieste, they had, prior to the commencement of the strike, 12 hours duty, of which, however, they were allowed 1½ hours rest. Their memorial asked for 10 hours inclusive of a 2 hours rest. (3) According to the Port-Police regulation, half of the crew must stay on board during the night. The abolition of this measure was the 3rd point. Writing on February 14th, Mr. Churchill stated that the Board of the Company were willing to grant the 1st point. The 2nd point was at first refused, but subsequently it was reported that they were willing to accept arbitration on the subject. The 3rd point, being a Government regulation, was not for them to deal with. The Statthalter informed the representatives of the strikers that he would endeavour to have the regulation modified on his next visit to Vienna. This, however, did not satisfy the people.

On the previous day (February 13th) the Lloyd's Arsenal hands had all struck, also those of the large shipbuilding works of the "Stabilimento Tecnico." These are two establishments that employ the greatest number of men in Trieste. The strikers marched in bodies to all minor establishments and caused the workmen to join the movement, which then became general. The object of the general strike appeared to be to support the Lloyd firemen. On February 14th there was a cessation of all work in the town, and grave disorders took place, to quell which the military were called in. A mob, which was composed, not of workmen, but of other persons, attacked the troops, who fired on the crowd. The riots continued on February 15th, and the troops again used their fire-arms.

So far as concerns the strike of the Austrian Lloyd's firemen, a committee of representatives of the Lloyd Company and of the strikers had met to discuss the matters in dispute, which these workmen were willing should be decided by arbitration, and on February 15th the arbitrators' award conceded the original demands of the strikers. On the same day the Austrian Prime

Minister announced that the Port-Police regulation complained of by the men had been abolished.

By February 17th the town had resumed its usual aspect. Shops had been opened and most of the workmen had gone to their factories.

Strikes and Lock-outs in 1901: Preliminary Figures.*—The number of strikes recorded in Austria in 1901, was 249, involving 23,137 workpeople, and entailing upon these strikers a loss of 216,399 working days.† In the previous year there were 303 strikes, involving 105,128 workpeople, and entailing upon them a loss of no less than 3,483,963 working days. The average number of workpeople, who took part in each strike in 1901, was 93, as against 347 the year before, the average loss of working days per strike (by the workpeople directly involved) in the two years respectively being 869 and 11,498.

Measured by the loss in working days, the effect of strikes in 1901 was most severely felt in the garment-making trades (62,538 days lost in 24 strikes), the stone, earth, pottery and glass group (37,606 days lost in 25 strikes), the wood-working, etc. group (27,401 days lost in 21 strikes), and the mining group (25,439 days lost in 39 strikes).

The workpeople appear to have been, on the whole, less successful in 1901 than in 1900 in attaining the objects with which they went on strike. Thus, while 90·2 per cent. of all strikers in 1900 took part in strikes which ended either wholly or partially in their favour, the corresponding proportion in 1901 was only 59·6.

As regards lock-outs (which are shown separately in the Austrian statistics), it is stated that only 3 occurred in 1901, as against 10 the year before, the number locked-out being 302 and 4,036 respectively. Two out of the 3 lock-outs of 1901 and 6 out of the 10 lock-outs of 1900 were due to the workpeople absenting themselves without permission on the 1st of May.

SPAIN.

Strikes in Barcelona.—With respect to the strikes at Barcelona referred to in previous numbers of the GAZETTE, the Board of Trade has received through the Foreign Office a series of telegrams, dated February 20th to 25th, from Sir H. M. Durand, H.M. Ambassador at Madrid. These disputes began at the end of December last when the metal-workers struck in order to enforce their demands for a working day of 9 hours and increased wages. The strike movement spread, and by January 13th had extended to nearly every class of labour. (See GAZETTE, January, 1902, p. 13, February, 1902, p. 45.)

On February 20th, H.M. Ambassador reported all business suspended at Barcelona, where much disorder prevailed, and where martial law had been proclaimed on February 17th. In a despatch dated February 21st, it was reported that there had been an attempt at a general strike in Valencia and Zaragoza, but on that day a considerable improvement took place in the situation at Barcelona, and better reports were received from other centres of disturbance. In his despatch of February 25th, H.M. Ambassador reported that order had been restored and work recommenced at Barcelona, that an attempt at a general strike in Madrid had failed, and that other disturbed districts were quieter.

BRAZIL.

Strikes among Railway Servants.—In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated February 6th, Mr. H. C. Lowther, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Rio de Janeiro, states that a strike recently broke out among the engine-drivers and mechanics of the Great Western of Brazil Railway Company at Pernambuco, and that it was the fourth strike in three months organised by a Labour Union.

The general manager refused to accede to the demands of the strikers, nor, when the workmen ultimately offered to return to duty on the understanding that no one should be dismissed, would he accept any terms other than the unconditional return of the strikers. The intervention of the Governor-General, however, effected an understanding; and the strikers had returned to work by January 31st.

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Austrian Labour Department.
† In the case of 5 strikes the loss in working days was not known.

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY—COAL AND IRON MINING.

REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.
(a) COAL MINING IN FEBRUARY.

[NOTE.—The following Tables only profess to state 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.]

EMPLOYMENT in this industry in February continued good. The number of workpeople employed was greater than a year ago.

The average number of days worked per week in the four weeks ended February 22nd by collieries included in the returns was 5·39, as compared with 5·26 days in the four weeks ended January 25th, and with 5·19 days in the four weeks ended February 23rd, 1901. Making allowance for the inclusion of New Year holidays in the figures for January there was a slight decline in February. The figures for the corresponding period a year ago include the day of national mourning; taking this into account a slight improvement is still apparent as compared with a year ago. The average time lost through holidays was 0·24 days per week in the January period, and 0·10 days in February, 1901.

The following Table, relating to 1,354 pits, at which 488,504 workpeople were employed, gives the figures for February, 1902, in comparison with those for a month and a year ago:—

District.	No. employed in Feb., 1902, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the pits in four weeks ended		
		22nd Feb., 1902.	23rd Feb., 1901.	25th Jan., 1902.*
		Days.	Days.	Days.
England and Wales	445,783	5·40	5·18	5·34
Scotland	42,008	5·39	5·26	4·40†
Ireland	623	5·22	5·74	5·02
United Kingdom	488,504	5·39	5·19	5·26†

The number of workpeople employed at the pits from which returns have been received for both periods was 1·3 per cent. greater than a year ago.

In the next Table the workpeople are grouped according to the number of days worked at the pits at which they were employed. It will be seen that 82·6 per cent. were employed at pits working 5 or more days per week in the four weeks ended February 22nd, as compared with 71·8 per cent. in January and 75·1 per cent. a year ago.

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

Number of days on which Coal was hewn and wound in four weeks.	February, 1902.		Corresponding percentages in	
	No. of Workpeople employed.	Percentage proportion to total.	February, 1901.	January.*†
24 days (full time)	141,397	28·9	4·7	21·0
20 and under 24 days	262,307	53·7	70·4	60·8
16 " " 20 " "	61,031	12·5	18·3	33·8
12 " " 16 " "	20,489	4·2	5·3	4·7
8 " " 12 " "	2,066	0·4	0·5	0·1
Under 8 days	1,214	0·3	0·8	0·2
Total	488,504	100·0	100·0	100·0

The next Table, which gives detailed particulars for the different mining districts, shows that the average number of days worked per week was greater than a year ago in all districts, except Cumberland, where the number was the same, and Gloucester and Somerset, North Wales, the Lothians, and Ireland where the number was less.

Compared with a month ago, the only districts showing decreases are Northumberland, Durham, and North Wales. The highest averages during the month were worked in South Wales and Monmouth (5·80 days per week), Salop, Worcester and Warwick (5·60 days), Derbyshire (5·57 days), Gloucester and Somerset (5·56 days), North Wales (5·53 days), and Cumberland (5·50 days). The lowest was worked in Northumberland (4·93 days). In all the other districts the average time worked was between 5 and 5½ days per week.

* The New Year Holidays are included in this period.
† Revised figures.

COMPARISON OF THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED BY COLLIERIES IN FEBRUARY, 1902 AND 1901, AND IN JANUARY, 1902.

District.	No. employed in Feb., 1902, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average No. of Days worked per week by the Collieries in four weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in Feb., 1902, as compared with	
		22nd Feb., 1902.	23rd Feb., 1901.	25th Jan., 1902.*	A year ago.	A month ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
ENGLAND & WALES.						
Northumberland	38,698	4·93	4·79	5·02	+·14	–·09
Durham	92,562	5·24	5·10	5·27	+·14	–·03
Cumberland	7,245	5·50	5·50	5·20	...	+·30
Yorkshire	72,907	5·46	5·18	5·42	+·28	+·04
Lancashire and Cheshire... ..	50,700	5·36	5·33	5·01	+·03	+·35
Derbyshire	39,821	5·57	5·22	5·55	+·35	+·02
Nottingham and Leicester	26,873	5·16	4·70	5·09	+·46	+·07
Staffordshire	27,729	5·38	5·29	5·36	+·09	+·02
Salop, Worcester and Warwick	9,731	5·60	5·44	5·46	+·16	+·19
Gloucester and Somerset... ..	8,703	5·56	5·62	5·47	–·06	+·04
North Wales... ..	12,346	5·53	5·57	5·67	–·04	–·14
South Wales and Mon.	58,468	5·80	5·37	5·75	+·43	+·05
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland	22,493	5·38	5·37	5·53	+·01	+·85
The Lothians	4,332	5·49	5·61	4·86	–·12	+·63
Fife	15,273	5·13	4·98	4·07†	+·15	+1·06
IRELAND.						
... ..	623	5·22	5·74	5·02	–·52	+1·20
Grand Total & Averages	488,504	5·39	5·19	5·26†	+·20	+·13

Returns as to steam and house coal collieries in Northumberland show that they have averaged respectively 4·64 and 5·28 days per week for the four weeks ended February 22nd, as compared with 4·83 and 5·08 days in January. In Durham the gas, manufacturing, house and coking coal collieries have averaged respectively 5·29, 5·27, 5·07, and 5·33 days per week, as against 5·22, 5·33, 5·26, and 5·29 days in January.

The Exports of coal, coke, cinders, and patent fuel during February amounted to 3,025,363 tons, as compared with 3,173,774 tons in January and 2,771,973 tons in February, 1901.

(b) IRON MINING IN FEBRUARY.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continues good. As compared with a year ago the number of workpeople employed has, however, decreased.

In the 128 mines and open works covered by the returns, the average number of days worked in the four weeks ended February 22nd, 1902, was 5·74 per week, as against 5·53 days in the four weeks ended January 25th,* and 5·39 days in February, 1901. The number of workpeople employed in February at the mines covered by the returns was 15,367 (or 679 less than were employed at the same mines a year ago), and of these 12,631, or 82·2 per cent., were employed at mines working 22 or more days during the four weeks ended February 22nd, as against 57·8 per cent. a year ago.

The following Table summarises the Returns received:

District.	No. employed in Feb., 1902, at the Mines included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Mines in 4 weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in Feb., 1902, as compared with	
		22nd Feb., 1902.	23rd Feb., 1901.	25th Jan., 1902.*	A year ago.	A month ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
ENGLAND—						
Cumberland and Lancashire	4,881	5·92	5·76	5·79	+·16	+·13
Cleveland	6,356	5·67	5·07	5·48	+·60	+·19
Lincolnshire and Leicestershire... ..	798	5·54	4·61	5·77	+·93	–·23
Northamptonshire	680	5·85	5·31	5·79	+·54	+·06
Staffordshire and Shropshire	1,241	5·56	5·63	4·80	–·27	+·56
Other places in						
England... ..	96	5·96	5·65	5·95	+·31	+·01
SCOTLAND	1,240	5·78	5·48	5·85	+·30	+·53
IRELAND	75	6·00	6·00	5·92	...	+·08
Total and Averages	15,367	5·74	5·59	5·53	+·25	+·21

* The New Year holiday occurred in this period.
† Revised figures.

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY—PIG-IRON; IRON AND STEEL AND TINPLATE WORKS; AGRICULTURE.

(c) PIG-IRON INDUSTRY IN FEBRUARY.

EMPLOYMENT shows a slight decline as compared with January, but is considerably better than a year ago. At the works of 113 ironmasters covered by the returns received, there were 315 furnaces in blast at the end of February, as compared with 317 at the end of January, and 290 at the end of February, 1901. During the month two furnaces were re-lit in England and Wales, while five were damped down or blown out. In Scotland two furnaces were re-lit, and one was blown out. The estimated number of workpeople employed at the 315 furnaces in blast at the end of February was 22,145. The following Table shows the number of furnaces in blast in different districts at the three periods specified:—

Districts.	Present time compared with a year ago.			Present time compared with a month ago.		
	Feb., 1902.	Feb., 1901.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Feb., 1902.	Feb., 1902.	Jan., 1902.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Feb., 1902.
ENGLAND & WALES—						
Cleveland	78	72	+ 6	78	80	- 2
Cumberland & Lancs.	43	39	+ 4	43	42	+ 1
S. and S.W. Yorks...	16	14	+ 2	16	16	...
Lincolnshire	12	10	+ 2	12	13	- 1
Midlands	82	73	+ 9	82	82	...
Glamorgan and Mon.	14	14	...	14	14	...
Other districts	7	7	...	7	8	- 1
Total England and Wales...	282	229	+ 23	282	255	- 3
SCOTLAND	63	61	+ 2	63	62	+ 1
Total furnaces included in returns ...	315	290	+ 25	315	317	- 2

(d) EMPLOYMENT AT IRON AND STEEL WORKS* IN FEBRUARY.

THE returns received relating to these industries show an increase in the numbers of workpeople employed and in the average number of shifts worked per man as compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago the average number of shifts per man is higher, but the number of persons employed is slightly less.

Numbers Employed.—At 202 works covered by the returns, 77,915 workpeople were employed in the week ended February 22nd, as against 77,554 in the week ended January 25th, and 77,970 a year ago.

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

District.	Numbers employed in week ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Feb., 1902, as compared with	
	Feb. 22nd, 1902.	Feb. 23rd, 1901.	Jan. 25th, 1902.	A year ago.	A month ago.
England and Wales	64,937	65,447	64,672	- 510	+ 265
Scotland	12,978	12,523	12,882	+ 455	+ 96
Total	77,915	77,970	77,554	- 55	+ 361

Weekly Number of Shifts Worked.—Information as to the number of shifts worked has been received with respect to works employing 88 per cent. of these workpeople, and the particulars are summarised in the Table below.

Number of Shifts worked.	Number employed in Feb., 1902, so far as returned.	Percentage proportion to Total.	Corresponding percentage in	
			Feb., 1901.	Jan., 1902.
Under 5 per week	9,845	14.3	16.0	12.5
5 per week	23,160	33.8	35.2	38.5
5½ per week	708	1.0	1.7	1.3
6 per week	34,355	50.1	46.4	47.0
Over 6 per week	561	0.8	0.7	0.7
Total	68,629	100.0	100.0	100.0

* Including iron puddling and rolling, and steel making and rolling.

The average number of shifts worked was 5.35 per man in the week ended February 22nd, as compared with 5.32 in the week ended January 25th, and 5.24 in the corresponding week of February, 1901.

Assuming that the workpeople not included in this Table worked the same average number of shifts per man as those who are included, the total number of shifts worked by all the workpeople included in the first Table may be estimated at 416,832 in the week ended February 22nd, 412,373 in the week ended January 25th, and 408,287 in the week ended February 23rd, 1901. Thus the volume of employment at the works included in the returns was 1.1 per cent. more than a month ago, and 2.1 per cent. more than a year ago.

(e) EMPLOYMENT AT TINPLATE WORKS* IN FEBRUARY.

EMPLOYMENT has been good and is much better than a year ago.

At the end of February 44 works with 212 mills had all their mills in operation, whilst 34 others had 174 mills at work out of a total of 235. Thus in all 386 mills were working, as compared with 385 at the end of January, and 278 mills a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at the mills in operation at the end of February is estimated to be about 19,300.

Of the 386 mills at work, 374, employing about 18,700 workpeople, are in the South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire districts, compared with 373 at the end of January, and 266 a year ago.

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

	No. of Works open.	No. of Mills in such Works		
		Working.	Not Working.	Total.
Works giving full employment	44	212	...	212
Works giving partial employment	34	174	61	235
Total at end of February, 1902† ...	78	386	61	447
Corresponding Total for Jan., 1902†	77	385	62	447
Corresponding Total for Feb., 1901†	58	278	53	331

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

	Tinplates.			Blackplates.		
	Feb., 1902.	Jan., 1902.	Feb., 1901.	Feb., 1902.	Jan., 1902.	Feb., 1901.
To United States	Tons. 6,743	Tons. 7,977	Tons. 3,504	Tons. 49	Tons. ...	Tons. 11
Other Countries	16,880	18,051	16,269	4,053	4,637	3,230
Total	23,623	26,028	19,773	4,102	4,637	3,247

(f) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN FEBRUARY.‡

FROST and snow hindered the preparation of the land for spring sowing during the greater part of the month, but farm labourers were regularly employed on most farms carting manure, hedging, cleaning ditches, threshing, and attending to live stock. In many districts, however, some casual labourers were thrown out of employment in consequence of the severe weather. The demand for extra men during the month was generally small, and in most of the districts covered by the reports received, the supply of labour was quite sufficient, and in some cases excessive.

Northern Counties.—Reports from Northumberland,

* The figures relate not only to the manufacture of tinplates, but also to the manufacture of blackplates.
† It will be understood that, in addition to the works returned as giving full or partial employment, a certain number of tinplate works were wholly idle at each of the dates to which the returns relate, but the figures quoted are believed to give approximately the total number of works and mills actually in operation.
‡ Amended figures.
§ Based on 235 returns from correspondents in various parts of England.

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY—AGRICULTURE; DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR.

Durham and Cumberland show that there was some irregularity of employment among farm labourers in February owing to snow and frost. The supply of labour is said to be plentiful in these counties. In Lancashire outdoor work was interrupted a good deal by frost and snow, and some day labourers were in irregular work. There has been no scarcity of labour, and farmers have frequently found a difficulty in finding suitable employment for their regular staff. In many districts in Yorkshire casual labourers have been idle in consequence of the severe weather. The demand for labour has been small and quite equalled by the supply. The regular men have been employed at threshing, carting manure, trimming hedges and attending to stock.

Midland Counties.—In Derbyshire and Cheshire work on the land was much hindered by unfavourable weather, but the number of labourers in irregular employment was small. The supply of labour has improved, but employers state that they find a difficulty in obtaining good men. Agricultural labourers in Nottinghamshire have been for the most part in regular employment, although outdoor work was suspended for a time through bad weather. In Leicestershire the better class of labourers have been regularly employed, chiefly in carting soil and manure, and tending stock, but a few inferior men have been short of work during the wintry weather. The supply of labour is said to be better than a year ago. Agricultural employment in Staffordshire and Shropshire has been generally regular, but a few casual labourers have lost work owing to bad weather. The supply of labour is said to be just sufficient to meet the demand. Regularity of employment is reported in Worcestershire and Warwickshire, and the supply of men is stated to be sufficient. In a few districts, however, some men were in irregular work during the severe weather. Farm labourers in Oxfordshire have been, generally speaking, in regular work. The weather was unfavourable for outdoor work during part of the month, but the men were employed in threshing and odd jobs. There has been but little demand for extra men, and the supply has been quite sufficient. In Northamptonshire a few men have been in irregular work, but employment has been regular with most farm labourers. During the severe weather little progress was made with field work, but the men were fully occupied, chiefly in tending stock. The supply of labour is said to be better than a year ago. Farm labourers in Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, and Bedfordshire, with the exception of some casual labourers, have been in regular employment. Frost interfered with ploughing and sowing, but work was found for the men in manure carting, hedging and ditching, and threshing.

Eastern Counties.—In Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire there was some slight irregularity of employment during the frost, and the supply of labour has been generally equal to the demand. Farm labourers in Lincolnshire have been, generally speaking, in fairly regular employment, though a number of casual labourers have lost time through unfavourable weather. The reports state that there has been no scarcity of labour during the month. A few casual labourers in parts of Norfolk and Suffolk have been in irregular employment owing to the forward condition of farm work and to the frost in the early part of the month. Most men, however, have been engaged during the frosty weather in hedging, clearing ditches and manure carting. Reports from these counties show that there has been a sufficient supply of labour. In Essex work on the land was not hindered to any serious extent by the frost, but a few casual labourers were thrown out of work for a time. The supply of labour in the county is, generally speaking, equal to the demand.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—Farm labourers in Kent have been, generally speaking, in regular employment. A few casual labourers, however, lost some time during the frost. Most of the reports state that there has been a sufficient supply of men during the month.

Agricultural employment in Surrey and Sussex is said to have been fairly regular, though a few men in certain districts were in irregular employment owing to frost and rain. The supply of ordinary farm labour is stated to be equal to the demand in these counties. In Hampshire some casual labourers lost time during the frost, but most farmers found work for their regular men, so as to retain their services until the busier season. There appears to be no scarcity of farm labour in the county, though good labourers are said to be difficult to obtain. Employment in Berkshire has been regular for farm labourers, though some difficulty was experienced by farmers in finding work for their men during the frosty days. Some scarcity of labour is referred to in the reports received. In Wiltshire agricultural employment has been regular, and manure carting and threshing have provided work during the frosty weather. The supply of men has increased, but there is still some scarcity of labour, and especially of milkers and shepherds. Agricultural labourers in Dorsetshire have been in regular employment in most cases, but a few casual labourers have been in irregular work. Referring to the supply of labour, a correspondent states that it has increased, and that at the Dorchester hiring fair on February 14th many men were seeking places.

Some slight irregularity of employment is reported in Somersetshire owing to frost and rain, but most of the regular men have been in full employment, chiefly at such work as attending to stock, manure carting, hedging, and threshing. Generally speaking, the supply of labour is about equal to the demand, but in a few districts there is some scarcity of men. Regularity of employment is reported in Herefordshire. The supply of casual labour is said to be sufficient, but skilled labour is short of the demand in most districts reported on. In Gloucestershire agricultural employment was generally regular during the month. During the frost, manure carting, hedging, etc., afforded employment for most of the labourers. A few casual men, however, were in irregular work. The supply of men has been about equal to the demand. Farm labourers in Devonshire and Cornwall have been well employed, and the supply of labour is generally rather less than the demand. Some men, however, have been in irregular work owing to frost and snow.

(g) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN FEBRUARY.

EMPLOYMENT at the docks and wharves during February was considerably worse than in January or in the corresponding period a year ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and the principal wharves during the four weeks ended February 22nd was 14,696, as compared with 16,253 in the preceding four weeks, and 17,138 in February, 1901.

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

Period.	Labourers employed in Docks.			Labourers employed at 115 Wharves making Returns.	Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended Feb. 1	6,876	2,907	9,783	6,409	16,192
" " " 8	5,902	2,037	7,939	6,362	14,301
" " " 15	5,837	2,439	8,276	6,192	14,468
" " " 22	5,994	1,907	7,901	5,900	13,801
Average for 4 weeks ended Feb. 22nd, 1902	6,152	2,328	8,480	6,216	14,696
Average for Feb., 1901	8,008	2,643	10,651	6,487	17,138
Average for Jan., 1902	6,911	2,836	9,747	6,506	16,253

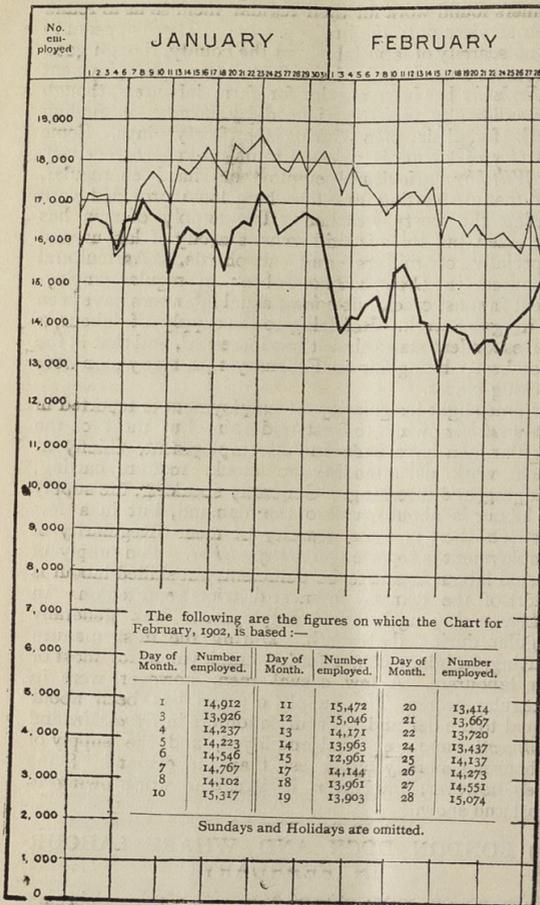
(2) **Daily Fluctuation.**—The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed by all the docks and principal wharves is shown on the chart below. The numbers in February ranged from 15,472 on the 11th to 12,961 on the 15th.

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY—DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR; SEAMEN; WOMEN IN TEXTILE TRADES.

During February, 1901, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed varied from 18,201 on the 1st to 15,930 on the 27th.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 115 of the principal Wharves for each day during the months of January and February 1902. The corresponding curve for January and February, 1901, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1902, and the thin curve to 1901.]



Employment in mid-stream was only moderate during the first half of the month, but was fair afterwards. With coal porters, winchmen, lightermen, and stevedores, it has been fair; with lumpers, corn porters, and deal porters moderate. With fruit porters in Thames Street it has been fair, the daily average number employed being 322, compared with 320 in January and 322 a year ago.

(k) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN FEBRUARY.

(Data supplied by the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.) THE number of seamen shipped during February as the crews of foreign-going vessels, from certain selected ports (at which about 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared), was 29,372, or 1,091 more than during February, 1901. The supply of seamen is generally stated to be equal to or in excess of the demand.

During the two completed months of 1902, 63,284* men have been shipped, as compared with 64,790* in the corresponding period of 1901. The decrease is accounted for chiefly by a falling off in the number shipped at the Port of London.

Of the total number of seamen shipped during January and February, 10,437 (or 16.5 per cent.) were foreigners, the percentage for the corresponding period of 1901 being 16.1. Lascars who are engaged in Asia are not included in these figures.

Rates of wages of seamen and firemen at Cardiff showed a tendency to fall during the month, but the decline was not sufficient to affect the predominant rates.

Table showing the number* of men, &c., shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom in February, 1902 and 1901, respectively, together with the number* shipped in the two months ended February in each of these years:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Men, &c., shipped in February, 1902.*			Total in Feb., 1901.*	Total number shipped in two months ended February.*	
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in Feb., 1902.		1902.	1901.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
East Coast.						
Tyne Ports ... ..	...	2,446	2,446	2,386	5,077	4,965
Sunderland ... ..	...	240	240	452	748	539
Middlesbrough ... ..	...	112	112	107	283	364
Hull ... ..	...	833	833	572	2,048	1,767
Grimsby ... ..	...	58	58	17	97	68
Bristol Channel.						
Bristol ... ..	...	357	357	221	659	718
Newport, Mon. ... ..	...	604	604	364	1,568	2,627
Cardiff	212	4,695	4,907	3,618	9,123	9,158
Swansea	20	435	455	352	891	1,181
Other Ports.						
Liverpool	97	9,765	9,862	9,816	20,587	20,582
London	93	5,293	5,386	5,364	11,491	12,383
Southampton ... ..	...	2,109	2,109	2,107	4,853	4,676
SCOTLAND.						
Leith, Kirkcaldy, Methil, & Grange-mouth						
... ..	...	371	371	234	634	654
Glasgow	58	1,667	2,025	1,676	4,121	4,261
IRELAND.						
Dublin						
... ..	...	71	71	82	165	238
Belfast						
... ..	...	136	136	213	469	731
Total, Feb., 1902	450	28,862	29,372	...	63,284	...
 Ditto, Feb., 1901	704	27,577	...	28,281	...	64,790

(i) EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE TEXTILE TRADES IN FEBRUARY.

ACCORDING to returns from women correspondents, employment for women in February showed an improvement compared with the previous month in the weaving branch of the cotton trade, and also in the woollen trade at Dewsbury and Batley. Information has been received with regard to 593 cotton, woollen and worsted mills, employing about 99,680 women and girls, and is summarised in the following Table, which also gives for comparison the corresponding figures for the previous month and for a year ago:—

Trade and Month.	Percentage ordinarily employed in Mills which were			
	Working full Time throughout the Month.		Working Short Time during some part of the Month.	Closed during some part of the Month for repairs, bad trade, disputes, or other causes.
	With Full Employment.	With Partial Employment.		
Cotton Trade—Spinning—				
February, 1902	92	7	—	1
January, 1902	93	4	2	1
February, 1901	88	7	4	1
Cotton Trade—Weaving—				
February, 1902	79	20	1	—
January, 1902	75	21	3	1
February, 1901	76	16	7	1
Woollen and Worsted Trades—				
February, 1902	77	18	3	2
January, 1902	57	40	2	1
February, 1901	71	23	5	1
Total of above Trades—				
February, 1902	82	16	1	1
January, 1902	77	20	2	1
February, 1901	78	15	6	1

Cotton Trade.—Spinning.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton spinning mills reported on is 27,540; of these, 92 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 93 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in January, and with 88 per cent. in February, 1901.

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

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

Cotton Trade.—Weaving.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton weaving factories reported on is 52,170; of these, 79 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 75 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in January, and with 76 per cent. in February, 1901.

Woollen and Worsted Trades.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted mills reported on is 19,970; of these, 77 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 57 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in January, and with 71 per cent. in February, 1901.

DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

NOTE.—Employment in the principal districts of the United Kingdom for Coal Miners, Iron Miners, Tinsmiths, and Agricultural Labourers and for Dock Labour in London, is dealt with in Articles on pp. 79 to 81, and is not included in the District Reports which follow.

LONDON.
General.—Returns from 476 branches of 128 unions, having an aggregate membership of 80,519, show that 3,624 (or 4.5 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of February, compared with 5.3 per cent. in January and 4.0 per cent. in February, 1901.

Employment in the Engineering, Metal, and Shipbuilding trades remains practically unchanged. Returns from 160 branches of 29 unions, with a membership of 24,215, show that 914 (or 3.8 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.9 per cent. in January and 2.6 per cent. in February, 1901. Employment with sailmakers has slightly improved.

In the Building trades employment has slightly improved. Returns from 187 branches of 8 unions paying unemployed benefit, with a membership of 13,324, show that 445 (or 3.3 per cent.) were unemployed; compared with 4.1 per cent. in January and 4.9 per cent. in February, 1901. The painters and decorators describe employment as moderate; the stonemasons as slack; the carpenters and joiners, bricklayers and stone carvers as dull; the plasterers, plumbers and glaziers as bad.

Employment in the Furnishing trades has continued to improve, but is still quiet. Returns from 35 branches of 16 unions with a membership of 5,724, show that 363 (or 6.3 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 9.0 per cent. in January and 8.1 per cent. in February 1901.

In the Woodworking trades employment is slightly better. Returns from 9 branches of 5 unions, with a membership of 1,066, show that 35 (or 3.3 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.0 per cent. in January and also a year ago.

Coopers are rather better employed. Returns from 2 unions, with a membership of 1,075, show that 47 (or 4.4 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 5.8 per cent. in January. The percentage for February, 1901, was 1.8.

With Coachbuilders and Wheelwrights employment has continued to improve. Returns from 12 branches of 7 unions, with a membership of 1,546, show that 39 (or 2.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.5 per cent. in January, and 2.1 per cent. in February last year.

Employment in the Printing and Bookbinding trades has improved to some extent. Returns from 26 unions, with a membership of 24,782, show that 1,302 (or 5.3 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 6.2 per cent. in January. The percentage for February, 1901, was 3.7.

Employment in the Clothing trades still remains quiet. The West End bespoke tailors describe employment as slack; the East End clothiers' operatives as fair on the whole; the tailors, machinists and pressers as bad, but improving towards the end of the month; the ladies' tailors and mantle makers as quiet; the East End military and uniform tailors and tailoresses as bad; with hatters employment is improving; with cap makers it is quiet; with fur skin dressers it is fair.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—Employment with the West End hand-sewn boot and shoe makers is fair; with the East End sewround shoe makers it is bad; with boot and shoe clickers and boot and shoe operatives it is also bad.

Employment in the Leather trades has continued to improve. Returns from 9 branches of 9 unions, with a membership of 1,948, show that 58 (or 3.0 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.4 per cent. in January and also in February of last year.

In the Glass and Pottery trades returns from 8 branches of

7 unions, with a membership of 1,249, show that 113 (or 9.0 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 14.8 per cent. in January and 9.7 per cent. in February, 1901.

Hair, Fibre, and Cane Workers.—In these trades returns from 5 unions, with a membership of 951, show that 34 (or 3.6 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.1 per cent. in January, and 6.2 per cent. in February, 1901.

Goldsmiths and Jewellers report employment as slack, short time being worked; **Silver and Electroplate workers** remain quiet; **Diamond workers** are better employed.

Employment in the Tobacco trades remains bad. Returns from 4 unions, with a membership of 2,266, show that 186 (or 8.0 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 7.7 per cent. in January. The percentage for February, 1901, was 3.9.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—See note at head of District Reports.

ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES.
Tyne and Wear.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Bar, angle and sheet mills have been busier. Cogging and plate mills at Jarrow, Consett and Newburn were fully employed. Steel smelters in some shops are fairly brisk. With the blastfurnacemen and forgemmen employment remains moderate. In the finished steel and iron works it continues fair.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—On the Tyne.—In the mid-river district employment has declined in the boiler and engine shops. Electrical and locomotive works are fairly busy. In some departments of the Elswick Ordnance works the workmen are better employed. Branches with 13,129 members have 763 (or 5.8 per cent.) unemployed, as against 431 (or 3.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January. On the Wear.—Frame turners, platers and ship smiths have been steadily employed. With turners and machine men employment has somewhat fallen off. Branches with 5,429 members have 257 (or 4.7 per cent.) idle, as against 194 (or 3.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January. Employment with pattern makers has been slack; with iron and steel moulders, on both rivers, it is described as bad; with brass finishers in electrical and engine shops as fair; in ordnance works as slack. Sailmakers are not so brisk. Drillers and hole cutters on the Wear are slack. Whitesmiths and heating engineers continue fairly busy; enginemen are quiet.

Coal and Ironstone Mining.—See note at head of District Reports.

Lead Mining.—Lead ore mines have averaged 5 days per week.

Quarrying.—Employment has been fuller in the Gateshead district, and somewhat better at Blyth. In the limestone quarries at Weardale it is still slack. Quarries at Stanhope, with one exception, have worked full time. Those at Ferryhill, Coxhoe and Haswell have averaged 5.5 days per week.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Tyne watermen report employment as dull; trimmers and teamers as fairly good; tug-boat men as bad; with lumpers and riggers it has improved; with coal porters and shippers, quayside and dock labourers it has been moderate; with pit prop carriers and deal porters fair.

Building Trades.—Plasterers, joiners, plumbers and bricklayers describe employment as more or less bad; other branches as fairly good.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers, bookbinders and machine rulers have been well employed.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment with mill-sawyers and woodcutters, though somewhat improved in the upper reaches of the Tyne, has declined lower down. On the Wear it is generally quiet. With cabinet makers, upholsterers and latherers it continues bad; with coopers it has been fair in some shops, quiet in others.

Chemical and Glass Trades.—Employment in the vitriol and bleaching departments in chemical factories has been bad; caustic soda workers have been busier. Employment with Wear bottle-makers is slack; it continues good at Seaham Harbour. Pressed glass makers are still slack; flint glass makers have averaged 4 shifts per week. Copper and cement workers are moderately busy. Employment in lead factories has been upon the whole steadier.—J. Ratcliffe.

Middlesbrough, Stockton and District.
Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment generally is moderate at the iron and steel works; fair at bridge works at Darlington, moderate elsewhere; fair at metal expansion works. Employment with blast furnacemen has slightly improved; it is moderate at pipe chair and general foundries.

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—NORTHERN COUNTIES; LANCASHIRE.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment with engineers is moderate at Bishop Auckland, Middlesbrough, Stockton and South Bank, bad at Darlington and Hartlepool; with pattern makers fair at Darlington, dull or declining elsewhere; with ironfounders moderate at Middlesbrough, bad at Darlington, Hartlepool and Stockton; with boilermakers fair at Darlington and Stockton, moderate at Hartlepool and Middlesbrough, with smiths and strikers moderate; with enginemen and cranemen fair. Branches with 4,477 members have 366 (or 8.2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 246 (or 5.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Shipbuilding.—Employment at Middlesbrough is declining, elsewhere it is moderate. Shipwrights report employment as fair at Stockton, moderate at Hartlepool, quiet at Middlesbrough; shipjoiners as dull at Middlesbrough, bad at Stockton and Hartlepool.

Ironstone Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 83.

Building Trades.—Bricklayers, slaters and plumbers report employment as moderate; carpenters and joiners as bad; painters as slack, but improving; plasterers as fair.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Sailors and firemen report employment as quiet; dockers as moderate at Middlesbrough, bad at Hartlepool; riverside labour has improved.

Miscellaneous.—Letterpress printers report employment as fairly good; employment is fair at wagon works and with millsawyers, wood-cutting machinists, and cement, concrete, brick, and pulpworkers. Tailors and cabinet makers are rather slack.—A. Main.

LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.

Oldham and District.

Cotton Trade.—**Spinning.**—Employment is fairly good on the whole in Oldham and surrounding districts. In Rochdale, Milnrow, Stalybridge and Stockport spinners are working full time. In Mossley, Ashton-under-Lyne and Dukinfield employment is reported as moderate. Card and blowing-room workers, ring frame spinners, and throstle frame tenters are well employed; twiners moderately so. **Weaving.**—The power loom overlookers and weavers report employment as satisfactory on velvet and calico goods; as slack on fustian goods. Employment in the warping, reeling and winding departments is reported as moderate.

Woolen and Silk Trades.—Woolen workers in the Rochdale, Milnrow and Stockport districts continue well employed. With the silkdressers at Rochdale employment continues bad.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment at engineering and textile machine making firms is still reported as bad; with pattern makers, irongrinders, brassfounders, tinplate workers, plate and machine moulders, spindle and flyer makers, tool makers, ironfounders and gas meter makers as moderate; with boilermakers as fair.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is slack.

T. Ashton.

Bolton and District.

Cotton Trade.—**Spinning.**—In Bolton and immediate neighbourhood employment with spinners continues fairly good. In Chorley, Bury and Wigan it is only moderate. Employment with cardroom operatives is fair in Bolton, moderate in Bury, irregular in Chorley, rather quiet in Wigan. **Weaving.**—Employment with operatives on white goods is slightly irregular, with much waiting for beams at some firms. In Chorley, Wigan, Bury and Radcliffe employment is reported as slightly better on the whole.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment generally throughout the district is slack.

Building Trades.—Employment with painters is slack; with plumbers, pipe fitters, slaters and plasterers irregular; with paviors, stone dressers and flaggers fairly good; with builders' labourers bad.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 83.

Miscellaneous.—Letterpress printers are fairly well employed; carters and lurrymen are not busy.—R. Toottill.

Blackburn, Burnley and District.

Cotton Trade.—**Weaving.**—Employment is reported as slightly improved in the Blackburn district, and continues fairly good in the Accrington and Burnley districts. At Colne there is no change, but at Nelson and Darwen there is some improvement; in the Preston district employment is reported as bad. Hard waste weavers and coloured goods weavers are only moderately employed; twisters, drawers, winders and beamers, and tape sizers are fairly well employed; warp dressers in the Brierfield, Nelson and Colne

districts are still slack, nearly one-half being on short time. **Spinning.**—Employment is reported as being only moderate at Blackburn, fair at Burnley and Accrington, good at Darwen; cardroom workers continue fairly well employed; ring spinners are busy. Branches of spinners, twisters and drawers, and warp dressers with 3,086 members, have 66 (or 2.1 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 69 (or 2.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Building Trades.—Employment continues bad with painters, plasterers and joiners; there is a slight improvement with masons and labourers.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers report employment as bad at Todmorden and Colne; ironfounders as slack at Blackburn and Todmorden; machine shops continue slack.

Miscellaneous.—Cabinet makers report employment as quiet; woollen block printers as bad; calico printers and bleachers as fair; letterpress printers and brickmakers as moderate; tailors and quarrymen as slack.—W. H. Wilkinson.

Manchester and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 24,927 members have 1,657 (or 6.6 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 1,654 (or 6.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers at Manchester, Stockport, Warrington and Romiley report employment as moderate, at Northwich and Macclesfield as bad; brassfounders, brassworkers, machine workers, sheet metal workers, steel wire drawers, smiths and strikers, and boilermakers as moderate; ironfounders as bad; filesmiths as good.

Clothing Trades.—All branches of the tailoring trade, cloth cap and hat makers, and umbrella makers report employment as bad; felt hat makers and trimmers as quiet; shirt and jacket makers as moderate; boot and shoe operatives as improving. Shirt and jacket cutters are busy.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Coachmakers report employment as moderate in railway shops and improving in the private trade. Employment is slack with wheelwrights and in the furnishing trades.

Textile Trades.—Cotton spinners, power-loom overlookers and weavers report employment as moderate; bleachers and dyers as bad. At Macclesfield employment in the silk trade is moderate with dressers, dyers, finishers and hand-loom weavers; slack with power-loom weavers. Cotton dyers at Macclesfield are busy.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is bad; concreters and asphalters are busy.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers and lithographic artists and printers report employment as bad; bookbinders and pattern card makers as moderate; electrotypers are busy.

Transport Trades.—Employment is fairly plentiful.—G. D. Kelley.

Liverpool and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades.—Boilermakers and iron shipbuilders report employment as fairly good on repair work; shipwrights as good; iron and brassfounders, ship joiners, iron and steel dressers as bad; copper-smiths as fair; whitesmiths, pattern-makers, fitters and turners as quiet; ship painters maintain the improvement reported last month.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Coachmakers report employment as better; coopers as dull; mill sawyers as quiet; cabinet makers as fair; french polishers and upholsterers as moderate.

Building Trades.—Plumbers, painters and joiners are slightly better employed, other branches continue dull.

Transport Trades.—Seamen and firemen report employment as good; dock labourers, as fairly good; quay and railway carters as steady; Mersey flatmen are slack.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress and lithographic printers report employment as dull; stereotypers as fair.

Clothing Trades.—All branches of the tailoring and boot and shoe trades continue dull.

Glass and Chemical Trades.—Glass makers and sheet glass flatteners report employment as good; glass bottle makers as moderate; decorative glass workers as dull. Chemical workers are slack.

Quarrying.—Employment is rather dull.—C. Rouse.

A report from Winsford states that employment in the salt trade has declined and is dull. With fustian cutters in Winsford and Middlewich it is good. In the building trades it is dull.

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—YORKSHIRE; MIDLAND COUNTIES.

YORKSHIRE.

Hull and District.

Shipbuilding, Engineering and Metal Trades.—The whitesmiths report employment as good; the engineers, braziers and sheet metal workers, brassfounders and finishers, boilermakers, shipwrights and sailmakers as moderate; machine workers, smiths and strikers, pattern makers, ironfounders, drillers and hole cutters, and general labourers as bad. At Doncaster and Goole employment is moderate; at Grimsby boilermakers and shipwrights report employment as fair; smiths and strikers, and sailmakers as moderate; engineers as bad. At New Holland, Scunthorpe and Selby employment is good.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is moderate; with bricklayers, plumbers, and builders' labourers at Hull it is dull.

Transport Trades.—At Hull railway workers report employment as moderate; coal trimmers, timber trade and pit-prop workers as slack; seamen and firemen, dock labourers and lightermen as bad. At Goole seamen and firemen report employment as good; dock labourers as moderate. At Grimsby employment generally is bad.

Fishing Industry.—The fishermen at Grimsby report employment as good; steam fishing vessel engineers and firemen as moderate; curing house workers and general fishing trade labourers as bad. At Hull trawl fishermen, steam fishing vessel enginemen and firemen, and other fishing trade workers report employment as moderate.

Seed Crushing, Paint, Oil and Colour Trades.—The seed crushing mill workers report employment as good; the paint, oil and colour workers as bad.

Printing and allied Trades.—The bookbinders and rulers report employment as fair; letterpress and lithographic printers as moderate.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—The coopers at Hull report employment as good; cabinet makers and coach builders as moderate; mill sawyers and woodcutting machinists as bad. The coachbuilders at Doncaster report employment as moderate.

Miscellaneous.—The brushmakers report employment as good; leather workers, boot and shoe makers, bakers and confectioners, and enginemen and cranemen as moderate; tailors as bad.

W. G. Millington.

Leeds and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 9,521 members have 608 (or 6.4 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 660 (or 6.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment continues dull in the engineering trade in Leeds, and is slack at Wakefield and Stanningley; it is quiet with ironfounders and steelworkers; moderate with boilermakers in Leeds, slack at Stanningley. It is slack with pattern makers, machine workers, wool-comb, hackle, and gill-makers; improved with brass workers; moderate with stove grate workers.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the ready-made tailoring trade has been fair, with bespoke tailors it continues slack. In the boot and shoe factories in Leeds employment has been bad; at Bramley it has slightly improved; at Heckmondwike it is fair.

Textile Trades.—Willeyers and fettlers report employment as improving; warpdressers and twisters as fair; blanket raisers as moderate; linen workers as good. At Wakefield employment at worsted and cloth mills is quiet; at Morley it is slack.

Building Trades.—Employment generally has been quiet.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 83.

Leather Trades.—Employment for tanners, curriers, and leather shavers is quiet. Saddlers and harness makers are slack.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as fairly good; lithographers as moderate; paper mill workers as fair; bookbinders as busy.

Glass Trades.—Employment in the glass bottle trade has been quiet at Leeds, Castleford and Wakefield. Flint glass makers are only moderately employed.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Employment for cabinet makers and polishers has improved; with brush makers and wheelwrights it is moderate; with coachmakers slack.—O. Connellan.

Bradford, Huddersfield and District.

Worsted Trade.—Employment in the piece trade in Bradford, Halifax and Huddersfield is not so good. In Keighley employment has improved. Woolsorters in Bradford report employment as good; woolcombers as slightly improved.

Woolen Trade.—Employment continues fairly good in and around

Huddersfield and in the Colne Valley. It continues fair in the heavy woollen trade of Dewsbury and Batley.

Other Textile Trades.—Employment in the silk trade at Manningham is a little quieter; at Halifax and Brighouse it is moderate. In the cotton trade it is fair. Dyers are busy in Bradford, moderately well employed in Huddersfield.

Metal Trades.—Engineers in Bradford and Dewsbury report employment as moderate; at Huddersfield as quiet; at Halifax and Keighley as bad; ironfounders at Keighley as good, at Dewsbury as moderate, at Huddersfield, Halifax and Bradford as bad.

Building Trades.—Employment generally has improved.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with letterpress printers, bookbinders and lithographers is still quiet; with glass workers it is not so good; with miners it is fair. Tailors are a little better employed.—A. Gee.

Sheffield, Barnsley and Rotherham District.

General.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners and building trades) with 11,347 members have 609 (or 5.4 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 534 (or 4.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Iron and Steel Industries.—Branches with 6,650 members have 421 (or 6.3 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 325 (or 5.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January. Ironfounders, crane drivers, iron and steel dressers, and some sections of engineers report employment as bad; boiler makers, wire drawers, Bessemer and Siemens steel workers, railway spring makers and machine workers as slack; stove grate workers as quiet but improving. At Barnsley engineers and ironfounders are fairly well employed. Steel workers at Parkgate and Rotherham report employment as bad; iron workers at Masborough and Parkgate as moderate.

Cutlery and Tool Trades.—Pen and pocket blade forgers, spring-knife cutlery, and haft and scale pressers report employment as good; table and butcher and pen and pocket blade grinders, saw makers, forgers of small files, machine file cutters, handle and scale cutters, and razor makers as moderate; table knife hafters, engineers' toolmakers, and saw handle makers as slack; some branches of the file trade as slack, others as moderate; edge tool forgers and grinders as quiet.

Other Metal Trades.—Employment in the silver, electro-plate, and britannia metal trades continues bad; with brassworkers it is moderate; with braziers and sheet-metal workers fairly good. At Rotherham brassworkers report a slight improvement.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 83.

Building Trades.—Employment generally continues slack. At Barnsley and Normanton it is moderate; at Rotherham bad.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers are busy. Lithographers and bookbinders and machine rulers are fairly well employed.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—Railway carriage and wagon builders and cabinet makers are quiet; coachmakers, wood sawyers and woodworking machinists are slack. At Barnsley cabinet, box and bobbin makers report employment as good; at Rotherham wagon builders are slack.

Linen Trade.—Employment is fairly good.

Clothing Trades.—Ready-made tailoring operatives are fairly busy; bespoke tailors are slack; boot and shoe operatives are slack.

Glass Trade.—Glass bottle makers report employment as slack; flint glass workers as fair.

Miscellaneous.—Gasworkers are busy; paviors and electrical workers are fairly well employed; saddlers and harness-makers, bakers and confectioners, and some sections of railway employees are slack.

S. Utley.

ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Derbyshire District.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers, brassmoulders and finishers, and iron and steel dressers report employment as moderate; ironfounders in Chesterfield as moderate, in Derby as bad; boilermakers and wiredrawers as good; electric wire and cable makers as bad; farriers as fair; pipe moulders as good. Branches with 2,053 members have 32 (or 1.6 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 54 (or 2.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 83.

Quarrying.—Employment with limestone quarrymen is improving; with chert quarrymen it is fair.

Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailors report employment as moderate; factory tailoring operatives as good; dress and mantle makers and milliners as improving.

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades.—Employment is reported as moderate with railway carriage and wagon builders in Derby, as fair with wagon builders in Long Eaton. With coopers at Burton-on-Trent it is rather slack.

Textile Trades.—Cotton weavers, card and blowing room operatives report employment as good; surgical bandage makers as bad; elastic web weavers as moderate; hosiery workers as busy; calico printers as fair; engravers as good; lace workers as bad; gimp and trimming workers as slack.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is dull.

Printing Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as bad; lithographic printers, bookbinders and machine rulers as fairly good.

Miscellaneous.—Pit mechanics, stationary enginedrivers and firemen and general labourers report employment as fair; gas workers as good; bakers and confectioners as fairly good.—C. White Deacon.

Nottingham and District.

Lace Trade.—Employment generally has improved; it is reported as good in the levers section; as fair on plain net; as bad on curtains. It is good at Beeston, fair at Stapleford, moderate at Bulwell and Kimberley. It has improved with dyers and bleachers. Women workers are moderately employed.

Hosiery Trades.—Employment shows a further improvement. It is fair at Calverton, Sutton and Mansfield; slack at Arnold. Elastic bandage makers are slack.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment is reported as improved with tool machinists, tinplate workers, farriers and needle makers; as good with electric workers and blastfurnacemen; as slack with boilermakers; as moderate with smiths and strikers, wheelwrights and blacksmiths; as bad with fitters and mechanics and ironfounders; as quiet with lace and hosiery machine builders and cycle makers; as slack with brassworkers and brassfounders, and as fair with bobbin and carriage makers and carriage straighteners. Employment is fair at Beeston, moderate at Grantham, Newark, Retford and Mansfield. Branches of societies with 3,111 members have 154 (or 5.0 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 149 (or 4.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 83.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is slack at Nottingham, moderate elsewhere.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Employment has somewhat declined. It is reported as slack with millsawyers, basketmakers, and cabinet makers; as quiet with upholsterers, french polishers, and packing-case makers; as good with brush makers and coopers; as improved with coachmakers.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment is reported as good with letterpress printers; as quiet with bookbinders; and as moderate with lithographic printers and artists.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is reported as slack with boot and shoe operatives and bespoke tailors. Ready-made tailoring operatives are fairly well employed; mantle makers, blouse makers, and women workers in finishing departments are busy.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is reported as fairly good with railway workers, enginemen, cranemen and stationary engine drivers; as good with bakers and confectioners; as fair with colliery enginemen and firemen, silk dressers, gas workers, and general labourers; as slack with female cigar makers and cabdrivers; as moderate with saddle and harness makers.—W. L. Hardstaff.

Leicester and Northampton District.

Boot and Shoe Trade.—Employment is fairly regular at Leicester. It has slightly improved at Northampton and Rushden, but continues dull at Kettering.

Other Clothing Trades.—Ready-made tailoring operatives and bespoke tailors are busier. Employment is good with corset makers, improving with milliners, dressmakers, and hat and cap makers.

Hosiery and Woolspinning.—Employment remains steady in the hose, half-hose, shirt, pant, and fancy hosiery departments; good in the circular rib branch at Loughborough; good generally with dyers, trimmers and woolspinners.

Elastic Web Trade.—In the cord, garter, and boot webbing branches employment continues fairly regular.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment is fairly good with makers of boot and shoe machinery and typefounders; moderate with engine builders, patternmakers and turners; slack with

tool makers; bad with ironfounders and moulders; improving with cycle makers. Employment is dull in all branches at Loughborough.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 83.

Quarrying.—Stone quarrymen continue in full work. Employment is less regular with lime and cement getters.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment is good with letterpress printers, bookbinders and machine rulers; fair with lithographic printers.

Building Trades.—Employment generally continues slack, but is improving with painters and decorators.

Leather Trade.—Employment is reported as quieter.

Woodworking and Coachmaking Trades.—Tramcar builders, cabinet makers, and polishers are busy at Loughborough. Employment is fair with upholsterers, furniture makers, and millsawyers; slacker with coach makers and railway wagon builders and repairers.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is good with railway workers; fairly good with bakers, cigar makers, button makers, and farriers; declining with basket makers; slack with brush makers and brick and tile makers.—T. Smith.

Potteries District.

Pottery Trades.—Employment is still scarce in most branches. Hollow-ware pressers have a large percentage on short time at Burslem and Tunstall. Transferrers report a slight improvement, and throwers and turners in the electrical fittings department are working full time.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment is fairly good.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment with engineers continues good. At Crewe moulders and boilermakers are busy, overtime being worked; other branches are fully employed. At Stafford employment is more regular. Agricultural engineers at Uttoxeter and Rugeley are working full time. Brass and copperworkers at Oakamoor and Froghall continue fairly busy.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 83.

Quarrying.—Stone quarrymen report an improvement.

Textile Trades.—There has been a slight decline in the silk trade at Leek, and in most departments short time is being worked. At Congleton silk workers are slack; fustian cutters are busy. At Cheddle and Tean silk and tape operatives are moderately busy.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors report employment as slack. Boot and shoe makers at Stafford and Stone report an improvement, and overtime is being worked.

Building Trades.—Employment generally has improved.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report an improvement. Lithographic artists and printers and bookbinders and machine rulers are moderately busy.

Miscellaneous.—Railway workers and gas workers are well employed; brushmakers report an improvement; bakers and confectioners are fairly busy.—I. S. Harvey.

Wolverhampton and District.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Steel smelters continue busy; other branches have improved; the mills and forges are reported as fairly well employed.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Electrical engineers are not so busy. Engineers report employment as moderate; moulders as fair; boiler, bridge, girder and tank makers as quiet; gasometer makers as slack. The improvement with cycle and motor makers has been maintained. At Coalbrooke Dale, and Madeley employment is bad. The malleable ironworkers at Walsall are only averaging 3½ days per week.

Hardware Trades.—Employment is good with makers of iron fences and hurdles, electrical and gas fittings, best gunlocks, cycle castings and spectacle frames, and with stampers and piercers, spade makers and fork drawers. It is fair with makers of nuts and bolts, agricultural implements, cast and light hollow-ware, builders' ironmongery, and chains, and with tinplate workers, brass workers, japanners, galvanisers and filesmiths. It is quiet with makers of locks, keys and latches, anchors, wrought nails and spikes and rivets. It is slack with makers of tips and cut nails, common gunlocks and tubes, and with iron plate workers at Wolverhampton, Bilston and the Lye. It is bad with makers of plantation and brazil hoes, edge tools and railway axle, spring and carriage iron work, and with iron and steel forgers at Wednesbury. The anvil and vice makers at Dudley continue slack.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 83.

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—MID., E. AND S.W. COUNTIES.

Glass Trades.—At Wordsley, Brettle Lane and Stourbridge employment in the flint glass trade is quiet.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is moderate at Walsall, slack at Wolverhampton.

Leather Trades.—At Walsall employment with brown saddlers is good; with female harness stitchers, and buckle, cart gear, bit and stirrup, chain, case hame and spring hook makers fair. It is quiet with gig saddlers and harness and horse collar makers.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the carpet trade at Kidderminster is fair; at Bridgnorth it is good; woolstaplers are rather quiet.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the ready-made and bespoke tailoring and boot and shoe trades has been quiet.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as improved; other branches as moderate.—C. Anthony.

Birmingham and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 18,278 members have 730 (or 4.0 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 658 (or 3.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Nine branches of engineers report employment as moderate, one as good; electrical engineers, smiths and strikers as good; toolmakers, patternmakers, and ironfounders, and motor makers as moderate. Engineers return employment as good at West Bromwich, moderate at Redditch and Coventry. Cycle makers are reported as busy throughout the district.

Brass and Copper Trades.—Employment generally is reported as moderate; with fender and fire brass makers as quiet.

Jewellers, Silversmiths and Electroplaters.—Jewellers, silversmiths, and electroplaters report employment as moderate; britannia metal workers as bad.

Other Metal Trades.—Makers of axles, nuts and bolts, machine made rivets, wrought iron and steel hinges, ironwork for constructional purposes, spades, shovels, and tubes for cycles report employment as good; iron and tinplate workers, scale and weighing machine makers, hollow-ware, wire and cut nail, and light and heavy steel toymakers, and wire workers as moderate; bedstead makers and file cutters as bad. At West Bromwich nut and bolt makers and spring makers report it as good; automatic machine makers as moderate, iron workers as quiet. Needle and fish hook makers are well employed at Redditch.

Building Trades.—Employment generally continues quiet.

Glass Trades.—Flint glass makers, flint glass cutters, plate-glass bevellers and silverers report employment as bad. At West Bromwich employment is reported as fair.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the boot and shoe and tailoring trades is reported as quiet.

Woodworking Trades.—Coachmakers, woodworking machinists, and millsawyers report employment as fair; coopers, cabinet makers, packing case makers and carvers as bad. In the railway wagon shops employment is reported as fairly good.

Miscellaneous.—Ammunition makers, military gun makers and gas workers report employment as good; gasfitters, saddlers, letterpress printers, sporting gun makers and brickmakers as moderate; harness makers as quiet. At Redditch employment in the fishing tackle trade is good; in the fancy case trade fair. At Coventry in the watch and weaving trades it is reported as fair.—A. R. Jephcott.

ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES.

Norfolk and Neighbouring Districts.

Clothing Trades.—Employment with boot and shoe operatives is dull. It is fairly good in some ready-made tailoring factories, slack in others. Employment with bespoke tailors and corset-makers is good; with dressmakers improving.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is dull.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Employment is good in the shipbuilding trade and with electrical and general engineers. Boiler-makers are fairly well employed.

Textile Trades.—Mat and matting weavers are fairly well employed; silk and crape workers are still slack.

Fishing Industry.—Fishing at Yarmouth and Lowestoft is not good.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with electric light workers is good; with flour and oil-cake mill workers, maltsters, coach builders, organ builders, and horticultural builders fair; confectionery workers in some departments are on short time. Steam joinery workers are better employed. Employment with letterpress printers and bookbinders is fair. Many unskilled labourers are out of work in Norwich.—G. Cleverley.

Suffolk, Essex and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades.—Engineers report employment as good at Beccles; fair at Bury St. Edmunds; moderate at Ipswich, Colchester, Halstead and Earls Colne; bad at Chelmsford; boilermakers as moderate; shipwrights as fair.

Clothing Trades.—In the boot and shoe and tailoring trades employment has improved; corset-makers continue busy; milliners and dressmakers are fully employed.

Textile Trades.—Mat and matting weavers report employment as fairly good. Employment is good with horse-hair weavers and silk weavers.

Building Trades.—Employment is good at Beccles; fair at Ipswich, Felixstowe, Colchester and Sudbury; dull at Bury St. Edmunds, Chelmsford and Halstead.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as fairly good; lithographers as moderate; bookbinders as slack.

Miscellaneous.—Employment has been fair with dock and riverside workers and farriers; good with maltsters; slack with general labourers and brickmakers; moderate with gasworkers.

R. W. Mather.

ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES.

Bristol and District.

General.—Societies with 10,571 members return 713 (or 6.7 per cent.) as unemployed, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of January.

Woodworking Trades.—Employment is dull with millsawyers and woodcutting machinists; bad with coopers; fair with box makers; moderate with cabinet makers; slack with latrenders in Bristol, fair at Gloucester.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the boot and shoe trade is bad in Bristol, moderate at Kingswood. Glove makers report employment as moderate; hatters, bespoke tailors, and wholesale tailoring operatives as improving.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 83.

Textile Trades.—Employment is good in the West Somerset Mills. In the Trowbridge district those on uniform cloth are busy, other branches are slack.

Transport Trades.—Seagoing men report employment as bad; railway workers and carters as dull. Dock work has been fair at Gloucester, dull at Bristol.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Smiths, patternmakers, shipwrights and wheelwrights report employment as bad; boilermakers as good; ironfounders as declining; tool makers as dull; brassworkers as moderate; tin plate workers as fair; coachmakers as fair at Bristol, improving at Swindon, dull at Gloucester; engineers as slack at Bristol, Gloucester and Stroud; moderate elsewhere.

Building Trades.—There is a slight improvement in some branches, but employment generally continues dull.

Printing Trades.—Employment continues fair in all branches.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is dull with upholsterers, basket makers, brushmakers and bakers; good with cocoa and chocolate workers, glass bottle makers and stone quarrymen; quiet with tobacco workers and saddle and harness makers; fair with curriers and glass bevellers.—J. Currie.

Plymouth and South Western District.

Mining, Quarrying and China Clay Industries.—Employment in tin and copper mines is not so good. In granite quarries work is fair; in slate and limestone moderate. China clay workers continue moderately employed.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Engineers report a slight decline; boilermakers, iron and steel shipbuilders, ironfounders and shipwrights report employment as good; patternmakers, iron caulkers, brass and tinplate workers as fair and steady. At Falmouth and Dartmouth ship and boat builders are rather quiet. In drill and implement making shops work is improving. Branches with 3,120 members have 21 unemployed, as compared with 13 at the end of January.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is quiet. Branches with 3,530 members have 117 (or 3.3 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 157 (or 4.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Clothing Trades.—Employment continues quiet with tailors, and short time is being worked; boot and shoe makers are dull. In shirt and collar factories work continues fair, and in clothing factories it is improving.

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—WALES; SCOTLAND.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment is moderate with letter-press and lithographic printers, bookbinders and paper rulers.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment is dull with mill-sawyers and woodworking machinists; quiet with carriage builders, French polishers, cabinet makers and upholsterers.

Transport Trades.—Coal lumpers and grain carriers have been fairly employed; fish packers and carters quiet, but improving. At the stone and clay ports quay work has been good.

Fishing Industry.—Trawlers and hookers on home grounds have only obtained light catches; boats from westward and Bristol Channel have been more successful; drift fishing has been slack.

Miscellaneous.—Excavators and navvies are fairly employed. In market and fruit gardens work is fair and improving.—*W. Hedge.*

WALES.

North Wales District.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers and enginemen report employment as fair; blast-furnacemen as dull; steelworkers and spelter workers are fully employed. Employment continues steady with wagon builders at Ruabon.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 83.

Lead Mining.—Employment continues fair.

Quarrying.—Employment continues good in all branches.

Building Trades.—The bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, plasterers and stonemasons report employment as slack; painters as fair.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—Employment in the woollen and tweed industries of Montgomeryshire continues fair. Bespoke tailors report employment as quiet.

Printing Trades.—The letterpress printers report employment as fairly good.

Brick and Terra Cotta Trades.—Employment continues good.

G. Rowley.

South Wales District.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment has been regular and fairly good.

Ship Repairing and Engineering.—Employment generally is reported as quiet. Branches of engineers and ironfounders, with 3,446 members have 97 (or 2·8 per cent.) unemployed, as against 108 (or 3·2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January. Ship cleaners and painters and boiler cleaners have been well employed.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Hoblers and dock labourers have had irregular employment. The shipment of crews has been normal.

Building Trades.—Employment in the inland and colliery districts generally is reported as moderate or good; in the seaport towns as bad or quiet.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 83.

Miscellaneous.—Employment in the patent fuel trade is quiet generally, but good at Swansea; at metallurgical and chemical works it is slack; with lithographers and letterpress printers slack at Cardiff, moderate elsewhere. Wagon builders and lifters are fully employed.—*T. Davies.*

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 12,862 members have 521 (or 4·1 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 581 (or 4·5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Shale Mining.—At the 26 mines in Mid and West Lothian covered by the returns, the average number of days worked during the four weeks ended 22nd February, was 5·40 per week, as compared with 5·95 days a year ago. The number of workpeople employed in February, 1902, was 2,958, the corresponding number in 1901 being 3,244.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 83.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Branches with 2,170 members have 87 (or 4·0 per cent.) idle, as against 84 (or 3·8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January. The tinsmiths and brassfounders report employment as bad; ironmoulders, engineers, blacksmiths, pattern makers and hammermen as quiet. Branches in Falkirk with 3,761 members have 56 (or 1·5 per cent.) idle, as against 80 (or 2·2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January. The range and stove fitters report employment as good; pattern makers and ironmoulders as fair.

Shipbuilding.—Branches with 628 members have 27 (or 4·3 per cent.) idle. The shipwrights report employment as good; the boiler makers as fair.

Textile Trades.—Employment in all branches of the woollen industry continues good in Selkirk, Galashiels, and Hawick. The hosiery workers in Hawick and Selkirk continue to be fully employed. Carpet weavers in Midlothian employed on broad looms are still working short time; those on narrow looms continue to be fully employed.

Building Trades.—All branches report employment as still bad, although there has been improvement.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Branches with 1,085 members, have 110 (or 10·1 per cent.) idle, as against 124 (or 11·3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January. The french-polishers and sawmillers report employment as fair; cabinet makers, coopers, lathsplitters, coachmakers and upholsterers as bad.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The seamen and firemen report employment as quiet; dock labourers and coal porters as fair.

Printing and allied Trades.—Branches with 2,388 members have 56 (or 2·3 per cent.) idle, as against 62 (or 2·6 per cent. of their membership), at the end of January. The stereotypers report employment as good; the compositors, press and machine men, and bookbinders as fair; the lithographic printers and typefounders as bad.

Miscellaneous.—The tailors, shoemakers, curriers and sett makers report employment as good; bakers as quiet; saddlers, and glass makers and glass cutters as bad.—*J. Mallinson.*

Glasgow and West of Scotland.

Shipbuilding.—Employment generally is moderate with boiler-makers; fair with shipwrights; dull with shipyard helpers and ship joiners. Branches with 15,580 members return 578 (or 3·7 per cent.) as idle, as against 761 (or 4·9 per cent.) of their membership at the end of January.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Tinplate workers, engineers, brass finishers, and engine and crane men report employment as fair; pattern makers, ironmoulders, blacksmiths, brassmoulders, iron, steel, and brass dressers, iron grinders, and iron drillers as good. Branches with 23,474 members return 1,213 (or 5·2 per cent.) as idle, as against 1,269 (or 5·4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Coal and Iron Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 83.

Building Trades.—Employment has improved.

Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailors continue dull; ready-made tailoring operatives are fairly busy; boot and shoe operatives, slipper makers and knee boot and shoe makers are dull.

Textile Trades.—Employment has been dull in Glasgow. At Newmilns laceworkers again report improvement. Chenille workers are dull in Darvel. Employment is good at Kilbirnie and Paisley.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers and lithographic artists report employment as improved; lithographic printers, electrotypers, stereotypers and bookbinders as dull.

Glass Trades.—Flint glass makers and glass bottle makers are busy. Medical glass bottle makers, flint glass cutters, and decorative glass workers remain dull.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Employment has improved during the month.

Transport Trades.—Dock labourers, sailors, and firemen report employment as fair; railway men and tramway men as good; carters as improved; hackney carriage drivers as still dull.

Miscellaneous.—Tobacco pipe makers and finishers, curriers, brushmakers, sett makers, paviors, calico engravers, gilders, rope-spinners, basket-makers, labourers, stone ware throwers, cork cutters, and scale beam makers report employment as good. Dyers, spindle and flyer makers, potters, saddlers, bakers, hair dressers, and mattress makers are still dull.—*A. J. Hunter.*

Dundee and District.

Textile Trades.—In the jute industry employment continues good. In the linen trade it has slightly improved.

Coal Mining.—See note at head of District Reports, page 83.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Engineers report employment as moderate; iron moulders and pattern makers as bad; blacksmiths and shipwrights as good; boiler makers as moderate or good. Societies with 2,297 members return 137 (or 6·0 per cent.) as idle, compared with 124 (or 5·4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Building and Woodworking Trades.—Employment in the building trade continues dull. Painters report an improvement. In the furniture trade it is good; with sawmillers fair. Societies with 1,592 members have 150 (or 9·4 per cent.) idle, as compared with 360 (or 21·1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

EMPLOYMENT IN FEBRUARY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—SCOTLAND; IRELAND.

Dock Labour.—Employment at docks and wharves was good in the earlier part of the month, but slackened towards the close.

Fishing Industry.—Notwithstanding unfavourable weather some fair catches are reported along the Fife coast.

Miscellaneous.—Employment in the printing and allied trades is fairly good; in the tailoring trade it is quiet; in the boot and shoe trade fair; with bakers moderate; in the bleaching trade dull; with floor cloth and linoleum workers slack.—*J. Mann.*

Aberdeen and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 3,099 members have 186 (or 6·0 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of January.

Quarrying.—The masons and granite polishers report employment as dull; sett makers as good.

Building Trades.—The carpenters and joiners and painters report employment as dull; masons and slaters as bad; plasterers as good; plumbers as moderate.

Transport Trades.—Railway workers and hackney carriage drivers report employment as good; carters as dull; dock labourers as fair.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—The boiler-makers, iron and steel shipbuilders, blacksmiths, brassfinishers, pattern-makers and horse shoers report employment as fair; shipwrights as moderate; engineers and tinplate workers as bad; ironmoulders as slack. Branches of societies with 1,307 members have 58 (or 4·4 per cent.) idle, as against 63 (or 5·2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—The tailors and boot and shoe makers report employment as bad; boot and shoe operatives as dull; mill and factory workers as fair.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers and bookbinders report employment as good; lithographic printers as bad.

Fishing.—At the port of Aberdeen in February, trawl and line boats landed 99,816 cwts., valued at £62,570, an increase in quantity, but a decrease in value as compared with the previous month.

Miscellaneous.—The upholsterers, sawmillers and cabinet-makers report employment as fair; saddlers, engine and firemen, gas-workers and general labourers as dull; combmakers and bakers as bad.—*W. Johnston.*

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

Building Trades.—Employment in all branches of the building trades continues slack, except with painters, who report a slight improvement.

Metal Trades.—Boiler-makers, hammermen and steam engine makers are well employed. Tinsmiths, whitesmiths and farriers report employment as fair; engineers as moderate; brassfounders, ironfounders and smiths as bad. Branches of societies with 1,118 members have 71 (or 6·3 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 62 (or 5·5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Coopers and brush makers report employment as good; cabinet makers as fair; other branches are slack.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers, stereotypers and dispatch assistants are busy; lithographic printers report employment as bad; bookbinders as fair.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—All branches report employment as dull.

Miscellaneous.—Bakers report employment as fair; purveyors' assistants and mineral water operatives as bad; bottle makers, hair dressers and stationary engine drivers as good; railway men, tramway workers and carriage drivers as regular. Dock labourers are fairly well employed.—*E. L. Richardson.*

Belfast and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades.—Branches of societies with 8,955 members have 288 (or 3·2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 268 (or 3·0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January. The boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders report employment as slack; carpenters and joiners and ironfounders as dull; engineers, furnishing trades, sheet-metal workers, sailmakers, general labourers, and platers' helpers as quiet; patternmakers and steam engine makers as steady; blacksmiths, smiths' helpers and strikers, brassfounders, machine workers, drillers and hole cutters, crane-men, enginemen, and firemen as fair; shipwrights as good.

Linen Trades.—Societies with 4,048 members have 126 (or 3·1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 146 (or 3·6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January. The women workers, hackle and gill makers, and linen-lappers report employment as fair; flax dressers as moderate; power-loom tenters and power loom yarn dressers as dull; flax roughers as quiet.

Building Trades.—The bricklayers, builders' labourers and painters report employment as bad; carpenters and joiners as quiet; plumbers as moderate; plasterers and paviors as fair.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Branches with 974 members have 59 (or 6·0 per cent.) unemployed, as against 65 (or 6·7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January. The brush-makers, coachmakers and coopers report employment as bad; mill sawyers, french polishers and packing-case makers as dull; upholsterers as quiet; cabinet makers as fair.

Printing and allied Trades.—Branches of societies with 880 members have 55 (or 6·3 per cent.) unemployed, as against 61 (or 7·0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January. The lithographic printers report employment as bad; lithographic artists and designers as steady; letterpress printers and bookbinders and machine rulers as fair.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the tailoring and shoemaking trades continues unsatisfactory.

Miscellaneous.—Societies with 1,893 members have 44 (or 2·3 per cent.) unemployed, as against 43 (or 2·2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of January. The square sett makers report employment as quiet; butchers, carters and railway workers as fair; bakers and locomotive engine drivers as good.—*R. Sheldon.*

Cork and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Boiler-makers, iron shipbuilders, engineers, shipwrights and ship joiners report employment as good in Cork, Haulbowline and Passage West; quiet elsewhere.

Building Trades.—Carpenters and joiners, painters and glaziers report employment as good in Cork; other branches in Cork, Limerick and Waterford as bad.

Woodworking Trades.—Mill sawyers and woodworking machinists, cabinet makers and coach builders report employment as good in Cork, dull elsewhere; coopers and packing case makers as fair.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is dull with bespoke and ready-made tailors and boot and shoe operatives; fair with flax, tweed and feather operatives.

Miscellaneous.—Printers and allied trades report employment as dull; railway, tramway and harbour employees as good; hackney-car drivers, coal porters and general quay labourers as bad.—*P. O'Shea.*

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN FEBRUARY, 1902.

THE changes in hours of labour reported in February affected 3,760 workpeople, of whom 1,000 had their work hours increased 0·44 hours per week, and 2,760 had their working hours reduced on the average by 1·75 hours per week.

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which change takes effect in 1902.	Approximate number of work-people affected.	Hours of labour in a full week.*		Extent of De-crease or In-crease per week.
				Before change.	After change.	
DECREASES.						
Durham	Timber Leaders, Stone Putters, and Water Leaders (Coal Mines)	3 and 10 Feb.	390	—	8 per shift	From 1 to 2 hours per shift.
Leicester	Bricklayers	1 April	800	53'29	52'29	1
Maidstone...	Building Trade Operatives	22 Feb.	900	53'29	53'02	0'32
INCREASES.						
Leicester ...	Carpenters and Joiners	1 April	1,000	50'17	50'61	0'44

* Exclusive of overtime.

† See also under Changes in Rates of Wages.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN FEBRUARY, 1902.

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

Summary.—The changes in rates of wages reported during February affected 111,751 workpeople, and the net effect of all the changes was a decrease averaging 3d. weekly per head.

The principal decrease of the month was that sustained by 107,500 coal miners in Durham.

Methods of Arrangement.—One change affecting 107,500 workpeople was arranged by a Conciliation Board, one affecting 137 workpeople was arranged by arbitration after strike, and one affecting 570 workpeople took effect under a sliding scale.

Summary for First Two Months of 1902.—For the two months, January and February, 1902, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) known to have received advances or sustained decreases is 268,394, as compared with 273,728 for the corresponding period of 1901.

NOTE.—It will be understood that increments accruing under scales of pay, as in the case of policemen, some municipal employees, and many railway servants, &c., are not recorded here.

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which Change took effect in 1902, Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week.

2 Increases—837 Workpeople.

BUILDING TRADES.

Decreases—Nil.

Table for Building Trades showing wage changes for Bricklayers and Plasterers in Maidstone and Glasgow.

Increases—Nil.

MINING AND QUARRYING.

3 Decreases—109,100 Workpeople.

Table for Mining and Quarrying showing wage decreases for Durham, Weardale, and West Calder.

3 Increases—219 Workpeople.

IRON AND STEEL TRADES.

2 Decreases—940 Workpeople.

Table for Iron and Steel Trades showing wage changes for Middlesbrough, Barrow-in-Furness, Wellington, Landore, and Lanely.

1 Increase—143 Workpeople.

EMPLOYEES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

Decreases—Nil.

Table for Employees of Local Authorities showing wage changes in Sunderland.

1 Increase—12 Workpeople.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADES.

1 Decrease—600 Workpeople.

Table for Miscellaneous Trades showing wage changes in Tees Side and Bradford.

* Exclusive of overtime. † Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade, the weekly rate given in the Table is, in the absence of exact figures, the result of averaging the wages for five summer and two winter weeks.

ILLINOIS AND IOWA LABOUR STATISTICS.

Illinois.—The eleventh biennial report of the Illinois State Bureau of Labour Statistics includes information as to (1) the number of persons employed; (2) wages paid; and (3) days worked, based on the returns of 627 manufacturing establishments.

an increase of 24 per cent. on the number employed in 1897. Between 1895 and 1897 the average yearly earnings showed an increase of less than 1 per cent., while between 1897 and 1899 there was an increase of 8 per cent.

Iowa.—The ninth biennial report of the Iowa Bureau of Labour statistics includes sections dealing with factory inspection, railroad statistics, trade unions, co-operation and profit-sharing, strikes, lock-outs and the labour laws.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN FEBRUARY.

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

The total number of workpeople reported as killed by accidents during February was 354, or 23 less than in January, and 27 more than in February, 1901.

In the first group of industries shown in the following summary Table, including railways, mines, quarries, shipping, and factories, and employing 5,631,971 persons (according to the latest available figures), 331 persons were reported killed and 8,740 injured by accidents in February, 1902, as compared with 298 reported killed and 7,815 injured in February, 1901.

In the remaining occupations included in the Tables, 23 persons were reported killed and 1,098 injured in February, 1902, as compared with 29 killed and 1,017 injured in February, 1901.

SUMMARY TABLE.

Summary Table showing industrial accidents by trade (Railway Service, Mines, Quarries, Shipping, Factories, Workshops, etc.) for February 1902 and 1901, including killed and injured counts.

DETAILED TABLES.

Detailed Tables showing accidents by type (By Accidents connected with Movement of Vehicles, By other Accidents on the Companies' Premises, Total).

Detailed Tables for Railway Service—Brakemen and Goods, Engine Drivers, Firemen, Guards, Permanent Way Men, Porters, Shunters, Miscellaneous Occupations, Contractors' Servants.

Detailed Tables for Mines—Explosions of Firedamp, Falls of ground, Shaft accidents, Miscellaneous.

Detailed Tables for Quarries over 20 feet deep—Explosives or Blasting, Falls of ground, During Ascent or Descent, Miscellaneous.

Table showing accidents by type: Killed, Injured, Total, categorized by Wreck or Casualty and By other Accidents.

Table for Shipping—On Trading Vessels, On Fishing Vessels, Total for February, 1902, and 1901.

Table for Factories—(a) Accidents reportable by Certifying Surgeons, (b) Other Accidents, Total for February, 1902, and 1901.

Table for Workshops—Adults, Young Persons, Children, Total for February, 1902, and 1901.

Table for Factories & Workshops (classified by trades)—Textiles, Non-Textiles, Total for February, 1902, and 1901.

Table for Under Factory Act, 1901, Ss. 103-5—Docks, Wharves and Quays, Warehouses, Buildings to which Act applies, Laundries, Total for February, 1902, and 1901.

Table for Under the Notice of Accidents Act, 1894—Construction or Repair, Use or Working, Total.

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

TRADE DISPUTES IN FEBRUARY.

Number and Magnitude.—Eighteen disputes began in February, compared with 33 in January and 25 in the corresponding month of the previous year. By the 18 new disputes 6,400 workpeople were directly and 550 indirectly affected, and these figures, when added to the workpeople affected by disputes in progress at the beginning of February, give a total of 9,680 workpeople involved in trade disputes during the month.

Trades affected.—In the following Table the new disputes are classified by trades affected:—

Summary of all New Disputes in February.

Group of Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople affected.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building	1	700	—	700
Mining and Quarrying	4	2,720	92	2,812
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	4	522	149	671
Textile	3	502	292	794
Clothing	3	116	17	133
Miscellaneous	3	1,840	—	1,840
Total, February, 1902	18	6,400	550	6,950
<i>Ditto, February, 1901</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>4,287</i>	<i>1,758</i>	<i>6,045</i>

Principal Trade Disputes.

Occupation.†	Locality.	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.†	Result.†
		Directly.	Indirectly.†				
Plasterers	Glasgow	700	...	1902 10 Feb.	8	For advance of wages from 9d. to 9½d. per hour...	Advance granted, the new rate to be maintained until the end of the year. No settlement reported.
Coal Miners, Screeners, Mechanics, &c.	Gateshead (near)	700	80	1 Feb.	...	To enforce payment of fines imposed upon a number of men by the local branch of the Miners' Trade Union, for continuing at work when the colliery was laid idle by putters ceasing work without notice.	Amicable settlement effected. Work resumed at the reduced rate.
Colliery Workpeople	Ebbw Vale	1,400	...	19 Feb.	2	Dispute as to rate of wages of a particular haulier	Amicable settlement effected.
Coal Miners	Motherwell	600	...	17 Feb. 1901	2	Against partial reduction of rd. per ton	Work resumed at the reduced rate.
Shipwrights	Barrow-in-Furness	254	...	1 Nov. 1902	84	Against proposed increase in winter working hours from 5½ to 54 per week	Compromise effected.
Chain Makers	Cradley	300	...	17 Feb.	...	Partial strike to compel certain employers to give a ten per cent. advance of wages as generally agreed to in the district	No settlement reported.
Web Winders, Weavers, &c. (Flax Manufacture)	Brechin	51	600	14 Jan.	32	Alleged bad material	Work gradually resumed on old conditions.
Scavengers (Local Authority)	Glasgow	821	959	18 Feb.	1	Against dismissal of certain men	The notices of dismissal withdrawn.
				24 Feb.	5	In protest against postponement of consideration of claim previously made for advance in wages	Some of strikers replaced: work resumed unconditionally by those for whom vacancies could be found.

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

BRITISH AND FOREIGN MINING STATISTICS.

THE Home Office has issued Part IV. of its General Report on Mines and Quarries for 1900,* the object of this volume being to compare the mineral industries of the United Kingdom and the British Possessions with those of foreign countries. The total number of persons employed at mines, quarries, and other mineral workings during 1900, so far as information on this point was available, was, for the British Empire, 1,592,155 (of whom 908,412 were employed in the United Kingdom), and for all other countries 2,883,200, of whom 733,683 were employed in the German Empire, 506,830 in the United States of America, 309,815 in France, 286,983 in Russia, 226,330 in Austria-Hungary, and 171,467 in Belgium.

Taking the figures for coal mining, we find that the British Empire produced in 1900 nearly one-third of the total recorded coal output of the world (247,938,725 out of 767,636,204 metric tons). Of the British output, 228,794,919 metric tons† represent the coal production of

* Cd. 959 of 1902 (Byre & Spottiswoode). Price 1s. 6d.
† The metric ton is slightly smaller than the British ton i.e., 2,204 lbs. as compared with 2,240. Hence these figures for output differ from those on p. 67.

Aggregate Duration.—The aggregate duration in February of all disputes, new and old, amounted to 85,000 days, as compared with 128,000 days in the previous month and 230,000 days in the corresponding month of last year.

Causes.—Of the 18 new disputes, 4 arose on demands for advances in wages, one on objection to a reduction, 7 on other wages questions, and 6 from miscellaneous causes.

Results.—Fifteen new disputes affecting 5,534 workpeople and 6 old disputes affecting 1,253 workpeople were reported as having terminated. Of these 21 new and old disputes, 6, involving 1,923 persons were decided in favour of the workpeople, 6 affecting 2,535 persons were decided in favour of the employers, and 8 affecting 2,304 persons were compromised. In the case of the remaining dispute involving 25 workpeople certain points are still under consideration.

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

the United Kingdom, and 19,143,806 tons that of British Colonies, Dependencies and Possessions.

As illustrating the different conditions which prevail in the coal mining industry in this country and in the United States, it is of interest to note that, although the coal output of the United States in 1900 exceeded that of the United Kingdom by about 7 per cent., the number of persons employed in coal mining in the former country was less by over 41 per cent. than in the latter (449,181 persons being employed in the United States, as against 766,901* in the United Kingdom), and that the yearly output per person employed was 545 metric tons in the United States, as against 298 in the United Kingdom. In this connection it may be observed that the quantity of coal mined by machines in the United States appears to be largely increasing. Thus, while in 1891 only 6.7 per cent. of the output of bituminous coal was obtained by the aid of coal-cutting machinery, in 1900 the proportion had risen to 25 per cent.

* See Mines and Quarries: General Report and Statistics for 1900, Cd. 766 of 1901.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

(Compiled from returns supplied by the Home Office.)

THERE were 57 cases* of industrial poisoning and anthrax reported in February as occurring among workpeople employed in factories and workshops. One of the 52 cases of lead poisoning resulted in death in February. A case of phosphorus poisoning previously reported also terminated fatally in that month. In February, 1901, there were 74 cases reported and 5 deaths. Of the 57 cases last month 52 were lead poisoning, a number considerably below the average monthly number (72) of such cases in 1901.

In the first two months of this year there were in all 123 cases reported and 7 deaths. These figures compare with 150 cases and 8 deaths in the corresponding period of 1901. This decline of 27 in the number of cases was mainly accounted for by a drop of 15 at white lead works. Of the 7 deaths this year, 5 resulted from lead poisoning, 1 from phosphorus poisoning, and 1 from anthrax. Of the 8 deaths in the same period of 1901, 7 were due to lead poisoning and 1 to anthrax.

Disease and Industry.	February, 1902.			Total—2 months ending	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Feb. 1902.	Feb. 1901.
Lead Poisoning—					
White Lead Works... ..	14	—	14	23	38
China and Earthenware	3	7	10	20	20
Litho-transfer Works	—	—	—	1	2
Red and Yellow Lead Works, Glass Cutting and Polishing, Enamelling of Iron Plates, Electrical Accumulator Works	4	—	4	9	11
Manufacture of Paints and Colours	3	—	3	5	8
Smelting of Metals, Brass Works, Tinning and Enamelling of Iron Hollow-ware	2	3	5	13	9
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping, Plumbing and Soldering, Printing, File Cutting	5	—	5	10	15
Coach Making, Shipbuilding, &c.	5	1	6	19	21
Other Industries	2	3	5	10	12
Total Lead Poisoning	38	14	52	110	136
Mercurial Poisoning	—	—	—	—	7
Phosphorus Poisoning (Lucifer Match works)	—	—	—	2	1
Arsenic Poisoning	3	—	3	3	1
Anthrax—					
Wool Combing	—	—	—	1	—
Handling of Horsehair	1	—	1	2	1
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins	—	—	—	2	4
Other Industries	1	—	1	3	—
Total Anthrax	2	—	2	8	5

RECENT PROGRESS IN CO-OPERATION.

RETURNS received from 1,171 Co-operative retail Distributive Societies in the United Kingdom, with a total membership of 1,707,057, show total sales for the fourth quarter of 1901 amounting to £12,822,670, as compared with £12,272,878 in the corresponding period of 1900, an increase of £549,792, or 4.5 per cent.

Of the 1,171 Societies, 826 show an increase in the amount of their sales, 343 a decrease, and 2 the same amount as in the corresponding quarter of 1900. The largest percentage increase occurs in Wales and Monmouth.

The total amount paid to members as dividend upon purchases during the quarter was £1,733,276, compared with £1,667,431 in the fourth quarter of 1900, an increase of £65,845 or 3.9 per cent.

Returns from the four wholesale Federations for the same period show total sales in their distributive departments amounting to £6,437,707, as compared with £6,180,100 in the corresponding period of 1900, an increase of £257,607, or 4.2 per cent. The sales and transfers from the manufacturing to the distributive departments of the English and Scottish Wholesale Societies amounted to £1,164,344, compared with £1,076,375 in the fourth quarter of 1900, an increase of £87,979, or 8.2 per cent.

* "Cases" include all attacks, fatal or otherwise, reported during the month and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. Fatal cases include all deaths reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not.

† House Painters and Plumbers.—In addition to the cases included in the Table, 5 cases of lead poisoning (including 2 deaths) were reported during February among house painters and plumbers. The number of such cases reported for the two months ended February, 1902, was 15 (including 2 deaths), and for the corresponding period of 1901, 18 (including 3 deaths).

The last report of the English Co-operative Wholesale Society shows that at the end of 1901 its members consisted of 1,092 co-operative societies with an aggregate membership of 1,315,235; a total share, loan, reserve, and insurance capital of £3,416,049; and distributive sales during the year amounting to £17,642,082,—an increase over 1900 of £1,448,150, or 8.9 per cent.

The report of the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society shows that its members consisted of 331 employees and 287 co-operative societies with an aggregate membership of 270,920. The total share, loan, reserve, and insurance capital of the Society amounted to £1,929,114; and the distributive sales during 1901 to £5,700,743—an increase over 1900 of £237,112, or 4.3 per cent.

The employees of the Society held £5,878 of the paid-up shares and £18,188 of loan capital.

The bonus on wages paid to employees of the society during the year amounted to £10,502, an average of 8d. in the £ on wages.

The following Table, based on reports and balance sheets supplied direct to the Department, shows the progress in trade of the wholesale and retail distributive Societies grouped by districts:—

Description of Societies and Districts.	Societies making Returns.		Sales.			
	No.	Member-ship.	In 4th quarter of		Increase in 1901 compared with 1900	
			1901.	1900.	Amount.	Per cent on Sales.
Retail Distributive Societies.						
ENGLAND AND WALES:—			£	£	£	
Northern Counties	118	226,416	2,120,713	2,037,778	82,935	4.1
Yorkshire	181	325,837	2,309,779	2,278,421	31,358	1.4
Lancashire and Cheshire	177	412,118	2,997,569	2,884,364	113,205	3.9
North and West Midland Counties	146	189,166	1,155,423	1,065,606	89,817	8.4
South Midland and Eastern Counties	101	83,293	479,395	451,338	28,057	6.2
London (12 mile radius)	30	44,640	232,093	213,740	18,353	8.6
South Eastern Counties	48	49,280	262,186	242,468	19,718	8.1
Southern and Western Counties	55	60,822	274,043	245,017	29,026	11.8
Wales and Monmouth	51	22,405	217,578	167,955	49,623	29.5
Total—England and Wales	907	1,413,977	10,048,779	9,586,687	462,092	4.8
SCOTLAND—North	104	110,175	930,399	906,232	24,167	2.7
South	151	180,187	1,824,866	1,765,230	59,636	3.4
Total—Scotland	255	290,362	2,755,265	2,671,468	83,797	3.1
IRELAND	9	2,718	18,626	14,723	3,903	26.5
TOTAL RETAIL DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES	1,171	1,707,057	12,822,670	12,272,878	549,792	4.5
Wholesale Societies.						
ENGLAND AND WALES:—			£	£	£	
Distributive Departments	1,092*	1,315,235*	4,839,609	4,648,654	190,955	4.1
Manufacturing Departments			674,493†	615,160†	59,333	9.6
SCOTLAND:—			£	£	£	
Distributive Departments	287*	270,920*	1,557,892	1,484,465	73,427	4.9
Manufacturing Departments			489,851†	461,205†	28,646	6.2
IRELAND:—			£	£	£	
Butter Agency (Distribution)	Not stated.	Not stated.	36,167	43,940	7,773†	17.7†
Agricultural (Distribution)	28*	3,329*	4,039	3,041	998	32.8

TRADE UNIONS IN VICTORIA.

THE fifteenth Annual Report on Trade Unions in Victoria shows that the only considerable Union belongs to the mining industry. The figures are as follows:—

	No. of Members at end of 1900.	Income in 1900.	Expenditure in 1900.	Funds at end of 1900.
Amalgamated Miners	9,000	4,662	3,626	1,666
Victoria Coal Miners	603	1,235	1,400	9
Four Other Unions	153	93	124	129
Total	9,756	5,990	5,150	1,804

* Number and membership of federated Societies.
† Transfers from manufacturing to distributive departments.
‡ Decrease.

PAUPERISM IN FEBRUARY.

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

THE number of paupers relieved in 35 selected Urban Districts of the United Kingdom on one day in February was 356,188, or 214 per 10,000 of the population.*

Compared with January, 1902, there is an increase of 7,995 in the number relieved, and of 5 in the rate per 10,000 of the population. Increases are shown in 30 districts, the largest being in Galway district (20 per 10,000), Central London (17), South London and North Staffordshire districts (10 each per 10,000), and West Ham and Manchester districts (8 each per 10,000).

Compared with February, 1901, the number of persons relieved has increased by 10,074 and the rate per 10,000 by 4. Of the 35 districts, 24 show increased rates, the largest increases being in Central London district (23 per 10,000), Cork, Waterford and Limerick districts (21), Galway district (17), East London district and Leicester district (11 each), and North Staffordshire (10). In 9 districts the rate has decreased, while in the remaining 2 districts the rate per 10,000 remains the same.

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of February, 1902.			Rate per 10,000 of population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 compared with	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.		A month ago.*	A year ago.*
ENGLAND & WALES.†						
Metropolis.						
West District ...	11,496	3,145	14,641	180	+ 4	+ 6
North District ...	15,008	9,153	24,161	228	+ 7	+ 2
Central District ...	7,508	3,123	10,631	516	+ 17	+ 23
East District ...	13,430	5,187	18,617	260	+ 3	+ 11
South District ...	22,535	20,870	43,405	245	+ 10	+ 7
Total Metropolis ...	69,977	41,478	111,455	244	+ 8	+ 7
West Ham ...	2,793	9,190	11,983	199	+ 8	- 6
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District ...	1,772	4,052	5,824	142	+ 1	+ 1
Stockton & Tees District ...	1,258	3,919	5,177	248	+ 7	+ 7
Bolton, Oldham, &c. ...	3,897	7,945	11,842	199	+ 2	+ 1
Wigan District ...	1,951	6,485	8,436	217	+ 1	...
Manchester District ...	9,728	9,045	18,773	206	+ 8	+ 5
Liverpool District ...	11,185	7,659	18,844	190	+ 6	+ 6
Bradford District ...	1,503	2,999	4,502	125	+ 3	- 4
Halifax & Huddersfield ...	1,225	3,733	4,958	137	+ 2	+ 8
Leeds District ...	2,104	5,937	8,041	176	+ 2	+ 6
Barnsley District ...	657	2,951	3,608	157	- 2	+ 2
Sheffield District ...	2,910	3,114	6,024	145	+ 3	+ 5
Hull District ...	1,476	5,354	6,830	263	+ 6	+ 1
North Staffordshire ...	1,997	6,749	8,746	242	+ 10	+ 10
Nottingham District ...	1,887	4,984	6,871	175	...	- 9
Leicester District ...	1,308	3,124	4,432	206	+ 3	+ 11
Wolverhampton District ...	3,433	12,838	16,271	261	+ 1	- 1
Birmingham District ...	4,780	3,085	7,865	140	+ 2	+ 3
Bristol District ...	2,787	6,902	9,689	259	+ 4	- 1
Cardiff & Swansea ...	1,850	7,569	9,419	266	+ 5	+ 9
Total "Other Districts" ...	57,708	108,444	166,152	193	+ 4	+ 3
SCOTLAND.†						
Glasgow District ...	4,459	16,268	20,727	224	+ 3	+ 7
Paisley & Greenock District ...	719	2,466	3,185	187	+ 4	- 1
Edinburgh & Leith District ...	1,767	5,406	7,173	185	+ 1	- 2
Dunfermline ...	1,007	2,910	3,917	200	...	+ 2
Aberdeen ...	577	2,688	3,265	209	+ 3	- 5
Coatbridge & Airdrie ...	406	1,317	1,723	189	...	+ 8
Total for the above Scottish Districts ...	8,935	31,055	39,990	207	+ 2	+ 3
IRELAND.†						
Dublin District ...	7,119	5,018	12,137	342	+ 6	...
Belfast District ...	3,504	232	3,736	108	+ 1	- 2
Cork, Waterford & Limerick Districts ...	4,717	5,256	9,973	441	+ 7	+ 21
Galway District ...	408	354	762	225	+ 20	+ 17
Total for the above Irish Districts ...	15,748	10,860	26,608	277	+ 5	+ 4
Total for above 35 Districts in February, 1902 ...	155,161	201,027	356,188	214	+ 5	+ 4

* The rates for February and January, 1902, are computed on the estimated populations in 1902, and the rate for February, 1901, upon the population in 1901. The 1901 census has been taken as the basis in the case of England and Scotland, but in the case of the Irish districts the population figures for 1901 are not yet available for Poor Law Unions, and the rates are therefore computed from the estimated populations based on the census of 1891.

† Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small Pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; and of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses.

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

LABOUR BUREAUX IN FEBRUARY.

DURING February the six Bureaux furnishing returns registered 1,364 fresh applications for work, as compared with 1,361 in February, 1901, an increase of 3. Work was found by the six bureaux for 562 persons, of whom 457 (308 males and 149 females) were engaged by private employers, 18 by Local Authorities, and 87 by the Salvation Army. The number engaged by private employers in February, 1901, was 522.

The number remaining on the registers at the end of February was 741, as compared with 795 at the end of February, 1901.

(I) Work done in February.

Name of Labour Bureau.	No. of Fresh Applications by Workpeople during		No. of Situations offered by Employers during		No. of Workpeople found by Bureaux.			
	Feb., 1902.	Feb., 1901.	Feb., 1902.	Feb., 1901.	Engaged by Private Employers.		Engaged by Local Authorities.	
London.								
Battersea ...	122	118	33	40	31	40	...	...
Salvation Army ...	389	306	129	177	129	177	...	...
Provincial.								
Ipswich ...	36	18	39	35	25	19	...	...
Plymouth ...	161	168	106	115	97	105	...	...
Liverpool ...	118	228	4	10	...	3	3	6
Glasgow ...	538	523	463	409	175	178	15	8
Total of 6 Bureaux ...	1,364	1,361	774	786	487	522	18	14

(II) Employments found for Workpeople during February, 1902.

	No. permanently engaged.	No. temporarily engaged.	Total.
Engaged by Private Employers.			
Men—			
Building Trades ...	39	25	64
Carmen, Stablemen, Horsemen, &c. ...	23	12	35
Porters and Messengers ...	17	18	35
Bill Distributors, &c. ...	...	120	120
General Labourers ...	12	...	12
Other Occupations ...	19	4	23
Lads and Boys ...	11	8	19
Total Males ...	121	187	308
Women and Girls—			
Domestic Servants ...	72	22	94
Charwomen, daily work, &c. ...	3	46	49
Other Occupations ...	6	...	6
Total Females ...	81	68	149
Total engaged by Private Employers ...	202	255	457
Engaged by Local Authorities.			
Men, Lads and Boys ...	9	3	12
Women and Girls ...	6	...	6
Total engaged by Local Authorities ...	15	3	18
Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities.			
Men ...	...	87	87
Grand Total for 6 Bureaux ...	217	345	562

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

Occupation.	No. on Register at end of	
	Feb., 1902.	Feb., 1901.
Men—		
Building, Engineering and Metal Trades ...	104	65
Carmen, Stablemen, Horsemen, &c. ...	70	62
Clerks and Warehousemen ...	41	42
Porters and Messengers ...	77	61
General Labourers ...	156	234
Other Occupations ...	47	98
Total Men ...	495	562
Lads and Boys ...	47	57
Women and Girls—		
Charwomen, Daily Work, &c. ...	69	84
Servants ...	77	56
Others ...	53	56
Total Women and Girls ...	199	176
Grand Total for 6 Bureaux ...	741	795

* Engaged by Salvation Army.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during February was 14,910 as compared with 12,060 in February, 1901. Comparing the two completed months of 1902 with the corresponding period of 1901, there is an increase of 2,846, viz., from 24,907 in 1901 to 27,753 in 1902.

British and Irish.—Of the 14,910 passengers in February, 8,442 were of British or Irish origin, an increase of 1900 as compared with a year ago. For the two months of 1902 the total number was 16,261, as compared with 14,140 in the corresponding period of last year, an increase of 2,121, chiefly accounted for by the larger numbers bound for South Africa and British North America. The following Table gives the figures for the different periods:—

Destination. (Country in which passengers contracted to land.)	Feb., 1902.		Feb., 1901.		Total for two months ended.	
	Feb., 1902.	Feb., 1901.	Feb., 1902.	Feb., 1901.	Feb., 1902.	Feb., 1901.
United States ...	3,469	3,598	6,569	6,979	11,995	339
British North America ...	666	142	1,195	2,379	2,304	2,379
Australasia ...	956	906	2,304	2,379	3,599	2,347
South Africa ...	2,059	907	2,684	2,095	8,442	6,542
Other places ...	1,289	989	16,261	14,140		
Total, British and Irish ...	8,442	6,542	16,261	14,140		

Foreign.—The remainder of the 14,910 passengers in February, viz., 6,468, were foreigners or other persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being 950 more than in February, 1901. For the two months ended February, 1902, their number was 11,492, as against 10,767 in the corresponding period of 1901, the difference being chiefly due to an increase in the numbers proceeding to the United States.

Alien Immigration.—During February 9,400 aliens arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent. Of these 5,003 were stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, an increase of 1,691 as compared with February, 1901. Those not stated to be on their way to America or other places out of the United Kingdom numbered 4,397, or 173 less than a year ago. The figures for February, 1902 and 1901, and also for the two months ended February in each year are as follows:—

	February, 1902.		February, 1901.		Total for two months ended	
	February, 1902.	February, 1901.	February, 1902.	February, 1901.	February, 1902.	February, 1901.
Aliens not stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom ...	4,397*	4,570*	8,529*	8,632*		
Aliens en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom ...	5,003	3,312	7,806	5,636		
Total ...	9,400*	7,882*	16,335*	14,268*		

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Cotton Statistics.—The following Table shows the number of bales of cotton imported, forwarded from ports to inland towns, and exported during the month of February, and also during the two completed months of 1902, with comparative figures for 1901:—

	Month of Feb.		Two months ended February.	
	1902.	1901.	1902.	1901.
Imported ...	Bales. 448,452	Bales. 299,151	Bales. 1,060,509	Bales. 754,214
Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns ...	277,071	262,539	625,183	558,246
Exported ...	29,651	23,723	69,879	49,741

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 20 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended March 8th amounted to £6,358,608, an increase of £43,646 (or 0.69 per cent.), as compared with the corresponding period of last year. The receipts from passenger traffic were £2,416,986, and those from goods and mineral traffic £3,941,622, representing respectively a decrease of £7,794 and an increase of £51,440 on the figures for the corresponding period of 1901.

* These figures are inclusive of sailors, to the number of 1,148 in February, 1902; 1,181 in February, 1901; and 2,288 and 2,415 respectively for the two months ended February in each year.

Fishery Statistics.—The total quantity of the fish (exclusive of shell fish (landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom during February was 902,715 cwts., an increase of 28,359 cwts., as compared with February, 1901. In England and Wales there was an increase of 47,541 cwts., in Scotland a decrease of 7,555 cwts., and in Ireland a decrease of 11,627 cwts.

Bankruptcies.—The bankruptcies gazetted during February numbered 361, being 24 more than in February, 1901, 9 less than in February, 1900, and 21 more than in February, 1899.

FOREIGN TRADE OF UNITED KINGDOM. The following statement has been communicated to the LABOUR GAZETTE by the Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

Summary for February.

The trade returns for February, 1902, show an increase as compared with the corresponding month of 1901 in the values of the Imports into the United Kingdom, and also in the values of the exports of home produce. As regards, however, the exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise, the returns for February, 1902, show a slight decrease.

The value of the imports in February, 1902, was £41,691,591, an increase of £1,977,152, or 5.0 per cent., as compared with those in February, 1901, whilst the total exports amounted to £27,116,377, thus showing a net increase of £112,634. The domestic exports alone show an increase of £274,821, or 1.3 per cent., as compared with February 1901, whilst there is a decrease of £162,187, or 2.7 per cent. in the exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

Imports.—On reference to the Table of imports for the month, the increase over February, 1901, above noted, is found to be mainly accounted for by a rise of £1,307,649 in "raw materials for textile manufactures," of £410,126 in "dutiable articles of food and drink," of £320,878 in "miscellaneous articles," of £304,096 in "metals," of £243,968 in "raw materials for sundry industries and manufactures," and of £177,037 in "manufactured articles," against a decrease of £604,579 in the imports of "articles of food and drink, duty free."

From an examination of the detailed Tables showing increase or decrease for each article, it appears as regards the first of the figures just given, viz., £1,037,649 increase in raw materials for textile manufactures, that its chief components are raw cotton £702,168, sheep or lambs' wool £105,347, jute 114,862, and hemp £85,446.

The second figure (£410,126 increase in "dutiable articles of food and drink") is mainly accounted for by an increase of £439,144 in sugar, refined and unrefined, and £113,693 in cocoa, against a decrease of £179,405 in coffee; the third increase (£320,878 in "miscellaneous articles") chiefly results from an increase of £244,852 in seeds, whilst the fourth increase of £304,096 in metals is due chiefly to an increase of £233,177 in copper, unwrought and part wrought.

The decrease of £604,579 in "articles of food and drink, duty free," may be attributed principally to a net decrease of £660,107 in corn, and £117,116 in bacon, against an increase of £112,035 in eggs.

Exports.—The increase of £274,821, to which attention has been called in the second paragraph of this article, is mainly the result of the following increases, viz., £193,800 in "ships, new," of £101,218 in "chemicals, and chemical and medicinal preparations," £92,432 in "articles of food and drink," and £77,676 in "yarns and textile fabrics," with a decrease of £167,279 in the value of the exports of "raw materials."

The details show that the increase of £101,218 in "chemicals and chemical and medicinal preparations" is principally due to an increased export of chemical manure; and the increase of £77,676 in "yarns and textile fabrics" is to be attributed chiefly to an increase of £152,122 in the shipments of woollen and worsted tissues, and of £65,264 in linen piece-goods, against decreases of £60,666 in cotton yarn, and £29,070 in cotton piece-goods. The decrease of £167,279 in the exports of "raw materials" is due to a decrease of £221,530 in coal, coke and fuel, against slight increases in hides and sheep and lambs' wool.

Tonnage of Ships entered and cleared with cargoes.—The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes during the month ended February, 1902, amounted to 2,584,237 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,102,992 tons, as against 2,438,261 tons entered and 2,988,964 tons cleared in February, 1901. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during February, 1902, amounted to

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN FEBRUARY.

DURING February 632 fresh applications for work were registered by seven Bureaux furnishing returns, and 813 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 173 persons, of whom 96 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps).

The number of fresh applications for domestic servants fell from 640 to 595, and the number of servants applying from 406 to 331; the number permanently engaged was 80, as in January. The demand for dress-makers, milliners, etc., fell from 130 to 98, and the number requiring such situations fell from 101 to 43; the number engaged through the Bureaux was 29, compared with 62 in January.

The Returns for the Manchester, Liverpool and Edinburgh Bureaux are for the present grouped together in the following Table, which shows the work done by the seven Bureaux during February.

WORK DONE IN FEBRUARY.

	No. of Fresh Situations offered by Employers.	No. of Fresh Applications of Work-people seeking Situations.	No. of Workpeople engaged by Employers.	
			Permanently.	Temporarily.
Summary by Bureaux.				
Central Bureau— 9, Southampton-street, W.C. ...	53	67	9	7
Society for Promoting Training and Employment— 22, Berners-street, W. ...	15	58	1	11
Y.W.C.A.— 26, George-street (1) ...	576	366	76	14
Hanover-square, W. (2) ...	134	80	23	14
Other Bureaux ...	35	61	14	4
Total of 7 Bureaux ...	813	632	123	50
Summary by Occupations.				
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc....	15	38	3	2
Shop Assistants ...	4	14	—	—
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc. ...	98	43	19	10
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists ...	24	59	4	14
Apprentices and Learners ...	24	9	—	6
Domestic Servants ...	595	331	80	16
Miscellaneous ...	53	138	17	2
Total Number in Feb., 1902 ...	813	632	123	50
Total Number in Jan., 1902 ...	920	783	144	66
Total Number in Feb., 1901 ...	767	620	142	64

MASSACHUSETTS LABOUR STATISTICS.

THE thirty-first Annual Report of the Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics of Labour is divided into three parts, dealing with the population of Massachusetts in 1900, the insurance of working men, and graded prices in Massachusetts, other States and foreign countries from 1816 to 1891. Under the heading of graded prices are included statistics of cost of living, prices of provisions, clothing, rent, etc., and wages of persons employed in industries. The latter returns are classified under each occupation as high, medium high, medium, medium low, and low.

The Annual Statistics of Manufactures for 1900 published by the Massachusetts Bureau summarises returns made by 4,645 identical establishments for 1899 and 1900. The sections dealing with employment show the number of persons employed (average, smallest, and greatest); the range of employment and unemployment for certain industries, by months; the total amount paid in wages; the average amount earned annually; and the classified weekly wages for certain industries.

The number of wage-earners employed in the establishments included in the returns increased from 242,999 males and 124,119 females in 1899, to 254,397 males and 126,544 females in 1900. In 1899 males formed 66.2 per cent. of the persons employed, and females 33.8 per cent.; in 1900 males constituted 66.8 per cent., and females 33.2 per cent. Although in the majority of industries a larger average number of persons were employed in 1900, nevertheless, employment was not so continuous as in 1899.

The amount of wages paid in the 4,645 establishments in 1900 was £34,885,265, an increase of 6.67 per cent. in the amount paid in 1899. In the boot and shoe, paper, and worsted goods industries a slight decrease is apparent; in the other principal industries

increases are shown, ranging from 0.05 per cent. in the leather industry to 22.84 per cent. in the firms making machines and machinery. The average amount earned in 1899 was £89 1s. 8d. per head, and in 1900, £91 11s. 6d. per head, an increase of 2.80 per cent.

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN FEBRUARY.

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

FROM the following summary of the changes in the Register of Industrial Organisations in February it will be seen that 2 Trade Unions, 5 Co-operative Association for Distribution, 3 Co-operative Associations for Production, 6 Miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Societies, 38 Friendly Societies, 28 branches existing of Friendly Societies and 3 Building Societies were added to the Register of the United Kingdom during the month. Four Trade Unions, 4 Industrial and Provident Societies, 27 Friendly Societies, 48 branches of Friendly Societies, and 15 Building Societies, are reported as having amalgamated, commenced to "wind-up," or had registration cancelled.

ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

Trade Unions.—*England and Wales.*—Cumberland Limestone Quarrymen's Assoc., Rowrah, Cocker-mouth; Amal. Soc. of Stickmakers and Mounters, 59, Enfield Buildings, Pitfield Street, London, N. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—(A) *Associations for Distribution.*—*England and Wales.*—Addlestone and District Ind. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Binn's Auction Rooms, Alexander Road, Addlestone, Surrey. Herefordshire Co-op. Agric. Soc., Ltd., Palace Chambers, 3, King Street, Hereford; Bewdley Agric. Supply Assoc., Ltd., Institute, Load Street, Bewdley; Tregaron Agric. Soc., Ltd., The Stores, Tregaron Cardigan-shire; Vale of Tivy Agric. Soc., Ltd., The Stores, Cardigan. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None. (B) *Associations for Production.*—*England and Wales.*—Unique Clothing Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 51 Caledonian Street, Leeds; Co-op. Baking Soc., Ltd., Millwall Dock, E.; Coventry Farmers' Dairy, Ltd., Palace Yard, Coventry. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None. (C) *Miscellaneous.*—*England and Wales.*—Croxdale and Hett Working Men's Club and Institute, Ltd., Club House, Front Street, Croxdale Colliery, Durham; Rowlands Gill Workmen's Club, Ltd., Club House, Burnopfield Road, Rowlands' Gill, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Stoke-on-Trent Workmen's Club and Institute, Ltd., 2, William Street, Stoke-on-Trent; Blackburn Co-op. Bank, Ltd., 9, St. Peter Street, Blackburn. *Scotland.*—Societies Institution, Ltd., 43, New Wynd, Glasgow; Star Working Men's Club and Institute, Ltd., 9, Bridge Street, Paisley. *Ireland.*—None.

Friendly Societies.—(A) *New Friendly Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—Ordinary Friendly, 6; Dividing, 6; Female, 1; Juvenile, 1; Medical, 1; Benevolent, 1; Specially Authorised, 2; Working Men's Clubs, 8. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Ordinary Friendly, 3; Specially Authorised, 9. (B) *New Branches of Existing Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—25. *Scotland.*—2. *Ireland.*—1.

Building Societies.—*England and Wales.*—3. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

Trade Unions.—*England and Wales.*—Northern Trimmers and Teemers' Association, 120, West Park Terrace, South Shields (Amalgamated); London Slaughterman's Protection Society, 28, Armada Street, Deptford, S.E.; South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire Tinplate Workers' Union, Alexandra Buildings, High Street, Swansea; Hull Slipper makers, Riveters, and Finishers Union, Blacksmiths' Arms, Osborn Street, Hull. (Registration Cancelled.)—*Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—*England and Wales.*—Dunston District Ind. and Prov. Soc., Ltd., Dunston-on-Tyne; Whitmore Reans (Wolverhampton) Co-op. Coal Soc., Ltd., 86, Lowe Street, Whitmore Reans, Wolverhampton (Amalgamated); Methwold Fruit Growers Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Fruit Colony, Methwold, Stoke Ferry (Cancelled); Mardy Ind. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 2, Ceridwen Street, Mardy, Ferndale, Glam. (Commenced to "Wind-up").—*Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Friendly Societies.—*England and Wales.*—By instrument of dissolution.—Ordinary Friendly, 12; Dividing, 2; Specially authorised, 2; Branches, 1. Registration cancelled.—Ordinary Friendly, 3; Dividing, 1; Orders, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 2. Dissolved otherwise.—Juvenile, 3; Branches, 42. *Scotland.*—Dissolved otherwise.—Branches, 5. *Ireland.*—By instrument of dissolution.—Dividing, 1.

Building Societies.—*England and Wales.*—By instrument of dissolution, 1; notice of commencement of dissolution, 5; notice of termination of dissolution, 9. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.