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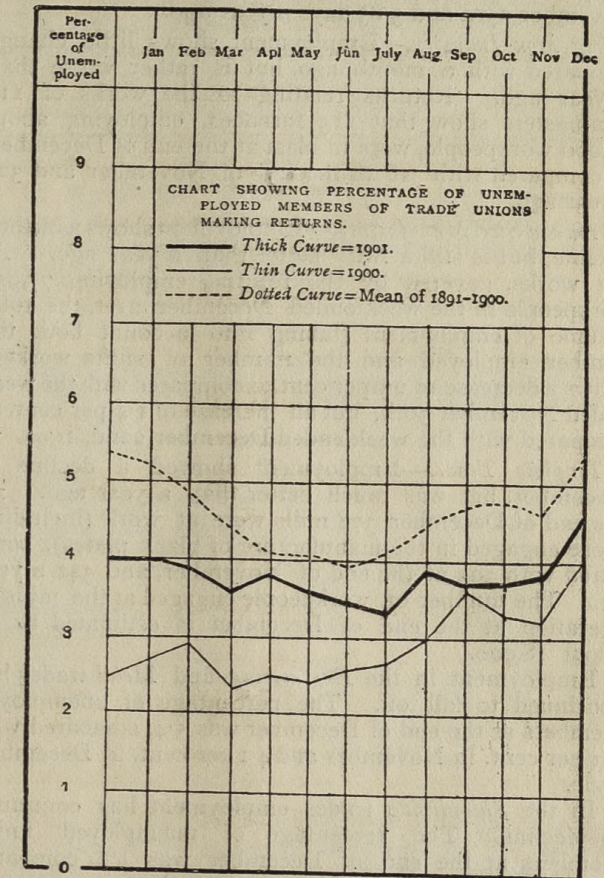
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EMPLOYMENT CHART.



STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN DECEMBER.

[Based on 2,328 returns, viz.: 1,194 from Employers, 558 from Trade Unions, and 576 from other sources.]

THE state of employment during December shows some decline in most of the principal industries, with the important exception of coal mining. The general percentage of unemployed at the end of December is greater than a year ago, but is lower than the mean percentage for December during the past ten years. A comparison of the returns for the end of December with those of the previous month is to some extent affected by Christmas holidays, and allowance must therefore be made for this disturbing influence when considering the figures given below.

In the 142 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 554,018 making returns, 25,703 (or 4.6 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of December, as compared with 3.8 per cent. in November, and with 4.0 per cent. in the 138 unions, with a membership of 540,102, from which returns were received for December, 1900. The average percentage of unemployed returned at the end of December during the ten years 1891-1900 was 5.3.

Employment in various Industries.—Coal Mining.—Employment in the four weeks ended December 21st continued good, showing a slight increase in the average number of days worked per week, and in the number of persons employed as compared with November. As

compared with a year ago the average number of days worked was unchanged; the number of persons employed showed an increase. At collieries at which 488,599 workpeople were employed, the pits worked on an average 5.46 days per week during the four weeks ended December 21st, as compared with 5.33 days per week in the four weeks ended November 23rd and 5.46 days per week a year ago.

Iron Mining.—Employment continues good and shows practically no change as compared with November. As compared with a year ago there is a considerable decrease in the number of workpeople employed. The average number of days worked by 135 iron mines and open works at which 15,479 workpeople were employed in the four weeks ended December 21st was 5.77 per week, as compared with 5.72 days in the four weeks ended November 23rd and 5.83 days a year ago.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment shows little change compared with a month ago, but is rather worse than a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 113 ironmasters show that 315 furnaces, employing about 22,000 workpeople, were in blast at the end of December, as compared with 316 at the end of November and 326 a year ago.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Employment shows a further decline, but is still a little better than a year ago. At 201 works, covered by the returns, employing 77,956 workpeople in the week ended December 21st, the total volume of employment (taking into account both the number employed and the number of shifts worked) shows a decrease of 2.6 per cent. as compared with the week ended November 30th, but an increase of 1.4 per cent. as compared with the week ended December 22nd, 1900.

Tinplate Trade.—Employment showed a decline in December, but was much better than a year ago. At the end of December 378 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of black plates), compared with 393 at the end of November, and 342 a year ago. The number of workpeople engaged at the mills in operation at the end of December is estimated to be about 18,900.

Employment in the **Engineering and Metal** trades has continued to fall off. The percentage of unemployed members at the end of December was 5.4, compared with 4.3 per cent. in November and 4.1 per cent. in December, 1900.

In the **Shipbuilding** trades employment has continued to decline. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of December was 5.8, compared with 4.7 per cent. in November and 3.7 per cent. in December, 1900.

Employment in the **Building** trades has fallen off still further. The percentage of unemployed union members among carpenters and plumbers at the end of December was 5.2, compared with 3.5 per cent. in November. The percentage for December, 1900, was 4.2.

In the **Furnishing** trades employment has continued to decline. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of December was 5.9, compared with 4.2 per cent. in November and 6.8 per cent. in December, 1900.

The **Printing and Bookbinding** trades show a falling off in employment as is usual at this season. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of December was 4.7, compared with 2.6 per cent. in November, and 4.4 per cent. in December, 1900.

Employment in the **Paper** trades shows a downward tendency. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of December was 2.5, compared with 2.1 per cent. in November, and 1.4 per cent. in December, 1900.

In the **Leather** trades employment shows a tendency to decline. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of December was 3.6, compared with 3.3 per cent. in November. The percentage for December, 1900, was 2.7.

Employment in the **Glass** trades is not quite so good as in November, and shows a decline as compared with a year ago.

Employment in the **Boot and Shoe** trade, although slack, generally, shows an improvement in some centres.

Employment in the bespoke and ready-made branches of the **Tailoring** trade has declined, and is bad.

Employment in the **Spinning** branch of the **Cotton** trade continues fairly good; in the **Weaving** branch it is still only moderate. Information respecting factories employing about 79,000 women and girls shows that 91 per cent. of those in spinning mills and 73 per cent. of those in weaving factories were working in factories giving full employment throughout the month, to be compared with 94 and 71 per cent. respectively in November, and with 89 and 85 per cent. respectively a year ago.

Employment in the **Woollen** trade continues good on the whole, but is rather slack in the heavy goods branch. In the **Worsted** trade employment shows a decline, and is dull. Employment in the **Hosiery** trade shows a further improvement, and is good.

Agricultural Labourers were, generally speaking, in regular work, but some casual workers were not fully employed, owing chiefly to unfavourable weather.

Dock and Riverside Labour in London.—During the four weeks ended December 28th the number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves averaged 16,322 as compared with 15,909 in the preceding five weeks, and 17,440 in December, 1900.

Trade Disputes.—Fourteen fresh disputes began in December, 1901, involving 3,236 workpeople, of whom 1,851 were directly and 1,385 indirectly affected. The corresponding number of disputes in November was 25, involving 6,809 workpeople, and in December, 1900, 20, involving 3,648 workpeople. Of the 14 disputes in December, 1901, 3 occurred in the mining and quarrying industries, 1 in shipbuilding trades, 7 in the textile trades, and 3 in other industries. Of the 22 new and old disputes, involving 10,145 workpeople, of which the definite result is reported, 3, involving 146 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 14, involving 8,577 persons, in favour of the employers; and 5, involving 1,422 persons, were compromised.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes in wages reported during December, affected 44,701 workpeople, and the net effect of all the changes was a decrease averaging 1s. 0.4d. weekly per head. Of the total number, 1,101 received advances and 43,600 sustained decreases. The changes of the previous month affected 258,000 workpeople, the net result being a decrease of 7.4d. weekly per head. During December, 1900, the number affected was 26,600, and the net weekly result was an advance of about 10.3d. per head.

The principal decreases of the month were those sustained by 35,000 coal miners in Northumberland, and 6,850 blast-furnacemen in Cleveland and West Cumberland.

One change, affecting 35,000 workpeople, was settled by a Conciliation Board, and five changes, affecting 8,042 workpeople took effect under sliding scales. Three changes, affecting 379 workpeople only, were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work, and the remainder, affecting 1,280 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives.

Home Work: Order under the Factory Act.—The Home Secretary has made an Order,* dated December 11th, 1901, providing that Section 107 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901 (relating to lists of out-workers), and Section 108 (relating to employment in unwholesome premises) shall apply to the following classes of work:—The making, cleaning, washing, altering, ornamenting, finishing and repairing of wearing apparel, and any work incidental thereto, the making, ornamenting, mending, and finishing of lace and of lace curtains and nets, cabinet and furniture making and upholstery work, the making of electroplate, the making of files, and fur-pulling.

The classes of work, the names of which are printed in italics, are classes not specified in the Order of March 23rd, 1898 (relating to lists of outworkers); that Order is now revoked.

By the new Order it is further provided that Section 110 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901 (relating to the prohibition of home work in places where there is infectious disease) shall apply not alone to the classes of work specified in that Section (viz: the making, cleaning, washing, altering, ornamenting, finishing, and repairing of wearing apparel, and any work incidental thereto), but also to the following additional classes of work:—The making, ornamenting, mending and finishing of lace and of lace curtains and nets, upholstery work, and fur-pulling.

The new Order came into operation on January 1st, 1902.

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1901; No. 983 (Eyre & Spottiswoode.) Price 1d.

CHANGES IN WAGES AND HOURS IN 1901.*

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES.

THE net effect of all the changes in rates of wages in each of the five years 1896-1900 was an increase, the last year of the period being especially remarkable for the magnitude of the rise in the wages of miners and metal workers. The tendency, however, was reversed in 1901, and the net effect of all the changes recorded in the year just passed was a fall amounting in the aggregate to £78,516 per week, or an average of 1s. 9d. per head of the 901,820 workpeople affected. The decline has, however, been entirely confined to the mining and metal trades, in which there has been a considerable fall of prices. Apart from those groups of trades, the net effect of all the changes of the year was an increase, though, as will be seen from the following Table, this increase was small as compared with the decline in the mining and metal trades.

Trade.	1900.		1901.	
	Number of Persons affected.	Net Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on weekly wages of those affected by changes.	Number of Persons affected.	Net Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on weekly wages of those affected by changes.
I.		s. d.		s. d.
Coal Mining	680,518	+ 4 10	704,681	- 1 7½
Other Mining	17,418	+ 4 3½	15,598	- 6 7½
Quarrying	7,501	+ 0 4½	4,741	- 1 2
Iron and Steel Trades ...	71,094	+ 4 9½	70,150	- 5 9½
Other Metal Trades	15,012	+ 1 0½	11,388	- 2 0½
Total	791,543	+ 4 7½	806,558	- 2 1
II.				
Engineering and Shipbuilding	9,179	+ 1 7½	20,578	+ 0 4½
Building	78,600	+ 1 8½	36,162	+ 1 3½
Textile	125,089	+ 0 11½	3,958	+ 1 10½
Clothing	8,481	+ 2 2	5,914	+ 2 3½
Miscellaneous Trades ...	122,894	+ 1 9½	29,550	+ 1 3½
Total	344,243	+ 1 5½	95,262	+ 1 2
GRAND TOTALS	1,135,786	+ 3 8½	901,820	- 1 9

Almost all the workpeople employed in coal mining had their wages changed in 1901, the Federated Districts of England and Wales, Somerset, and South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire being the only coalfields showing a net increase. So long ago as August and September, 1900, before the fall in prices had begun to be felt, it was arranged that wages in these districts should be increased 5 per cent. in January and 5 per cent. in February, 1901.

In Northumberland and Durham the net results of the changes during the year were decreases of 22½ and 25 per cent. respectively. In South Wales no change was made in February as the result of the first audit of prices of the year, and in April an advance of 5 per cent. was made. This was followed by successive decreases at each audit until at the end of the year a net decrease of 7½ per cent. had been sustained. The greatest decrease in the coal mining industry was, however, in Scotland. However, in spite of all these decreases wages in each of the districts mentioned are considerably higher than they were five years ago. The present position of miners' wages in relation to the year 1896—the year before the upward movement in their wages began—is summarised in the following Table:—

District.	Percentage above "standard" at end of		Net percentage increase on standard between 1896 and 1901.
	1896.	1901.	
Northumberland	37½	31'00	27'25
Durham	15'00	40'00	25'00
Federated Districts	30'00	60'00	30'00
South Staffs. and East Worcester	30'00	60'00	30'00
Somerset	15'00	47'50	32'50
South Wales and Mon.	10'00	66'25	56'25
Scotland, East	At standard	47'50	47'50
Scotland, West	12'50	50'00	37'50

* The figures are preliminary only and are subject to correction in the Annual Report of the Department on this subject, in which, in addition, particulars will be given with regard to agricultural labourers, seamen, railway servants and police.

Next in importance to the changes in the coal mining industry are those in the iron and steel trades, the wages in which are regulated for the most part by sliding scales.

In these trades wages had steadily risen for five years until the total increase in weekly wages in 1900 as compared with 1895, amounted to £33,420, or 8s. 4d. per head of those affected, but in 1901 nearly two-thirds of this increase was lost, the total decrease in these industries for the year being estimated at £20,319.

The fall in blastfurnacemen's wages during the year varied in different districts from 15 to 30 per cent. on the standard, while that of the wages of ironworkers varied from 17½ to 27½ per cent.

In the building trades there was a further rise of wages in 1901, but only about half as great as in the previous year. Nearly 30,000 operatives received advances, and 6,614 (most of whom are in Scotland) sustained decreases, the computed net increase in the average weekly wages of the 36,162 workpeople affected being 1s. 3½d. per head.

The principal advance included in the miscellaneous group of trades was one affecting 9,900 compositors in London.

As regards the methods by which the changes were brought about it is satisfactory to note that the bulk of the changes were arranged without any stoppage of work, as will be seen in the Table below:—

Methods by which the Changes in Wages were arranged.	Number of Workpeople affected.	Percentage number of Workpeople whose wages were arranged by each Method.	Corresponding Percentage for 1900.
After Strike:—			
The parties concerned or their representatives	12,797	1'4	4'4
Conciliation Boards, Mediation or Arbitration	879	0'1	0'4
Total	13,676	1'5	4'8
Without Strike:—			
The parties concerned or their representatives	178,157	19'8	37'1
Conciliation Boards, Mediation or Arbitration	519,004	57'5	41'9
Sliding Scales	190,683	21'2	16'9
Total	888,144	98'5	95'9
Grand Total	901,820	100'0	100'0

Of the 901,820 workpeople whose wages were changed, only 13,676, or 1.5 per cent. were affected by disputes causing stoppage of work. The Table also shows a considerable increase in the proportion of workpeople whose wages-changes were settled by conciliation boards, mediation and arbitration.

The following Table, summarises the net result of all the recorded changes in wages in each of the nine years, 1893-1901:—

Year.	Number (separate individuals) affected by Changes in Rates of Wages.	Net result on weekly wages of those affected by changes.	
		Increase (+)	Decrease (-)
		Total Amount.	Average per head of those affected.
		£	s. d.
1893	549,977	+ 12,425	+ 0 5½
1894	670,386	- 45,091	- 1 4½
1895	436,718	- 28,211	- 1 3½
1896	607,654	+ 25,592	+ 0 10½
1897	597,444	+ 31,597	+ 1 0½
1898	1,015,069	+ 80,815	+ 1 7
1899	1,175,576	+ 90,905	+ 1 1½
1900	1,135,786	+ 209,373	+ 3 8½
1901	901,820	- 78,516	- 1 9

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR.

THE number of workpeople reported to have been affected by changes in hours of labour in 1901 was the smallest since 1895, the total only amounting to 24,749 persons. Of this total 24,176 workpeople had their hours reduced by 2.18 per week, while 573 had their hours increased by 1.69 per week, the net result being a decrease of 2.09 per week in the working hours of the 24,749 workpeople

affected. The following Table shows the comparison between 1901 and the preceding eight years:—

Years.	Number of work-people affected by changes in hours of labour.	Net average reduction per week in hours of those affected by changes.		Computed total reduction in the weekly hours of labour of those affected.	
		Hours.	Hours.	Hours.	Hours.
1893	34,649	1'99	68,937	311,545	1,706,624
1894	27,158	4'04	44,105	284,675	1,661,113
1895	22,735	1'94	78,533	281,675	1,661,113
1896	108,271	0'73	81,937	294,948	1,661,113
1897	70,632	4'03	127,142	238,043	1,661,113
1898	39,049	2'10	51,748	3,930,841	1,661,113
1899	35,948	3'54	127,142	238,043	1,661,113
1900	57,729	4'12	238,043	3,930,841	1,661,113
1901	24,749	2'09	51,748	3,930,841	1,661,113

The principal changes of the year occurred in the printing and allied trades group, which accounts for more than half of the total number of workpeople affected. In this group are included 9,900 compositors in London, whose hours were reduced from 54 to 52½, and 3,300 letterpress printers and bookbinders in Glasgow and Edinburgh, who obtained a reduction in their working time from 52½ to 50 hours per week.

Of the 24,749 workpeople whose hours were changed during the year, 2,714, or about 11 per cent. were involved in disputes causing stoppage of work. Of the changes settled without strike, two, involving 10,172 workpeople, were brought about by arbitration, and one, involving 450 workpeople, was arranged by a conciliation board, while the remaining changes, involving 11,413 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiation between the parties or their representatives.

TRADE DISPUTES IN 1901.
PRELIMINARY FIGURES.

The number both of disputes and of workpeople concerned in them were less in 1901 than in any of the years 1893-1900. But the aggregate duration of the disputes was greater in 1901 than in either of the two preceding years, though considerably below the average of the years 1893-1900. This is shown in the following Table:—

Year.	Prolonged General Disputes.			All other disputes.			Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes.
	No.	No. of Work-people involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.	No.	No. of Work-people involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.	
1893	1	300,000	23,700,000	781	246,386	5,165,062	31,205,062
1894	1	90,000	2,340,000	928	255,248	3,929,010	9,529,010
1895	1	70,000	5,600,000	744	217,123	4,160,670	5,724,670
1896	1	46,000	1,564,000	926	198,190	3,746,368	3,746,368
1897	1	47,500	6,849,000*	863	182,767	4,614,523	11,465,523
1898	1	100,000	11,650,000	710	153,907	2,521,478	14,171,478
1899	1	70,000	1,802,000	710	180,217	2,516,416	2,516,416
1900	1	70,000	1,802,000	648	188,538	3,152,694	3,152,694
1901	1	24,749	2,050,000	624	175,165	3,930,841	3,930,841

Of the 624 disputes in 1901, 205 occurred in the mining industries, 104 in the building trades, and 101 at metal, engineering and shipbuilding works. Of the 175,000 workpeople affected, 110,000 belonged to the mining group of trades, and of the 3,931,000 days lost the same group of industries accounts for 1,875,000, or very nearly half. Thus, in whatever way the figures are tested it is found that the dominating factors in the general result are the disputes among miners. Most of these disputes in 1901 were comparatively small, the average number of workpeople affected being less than 600. The years 1899 and 1900 were singularly free from mining disputes, the number of days lost in each being about half a million only, as compared with 1,875,000 in 1901, a figure which is, however, still much below the average of the eight years, 1893-1900. As regards the other groups of trades, it will be observed from the following Table that the metal and clothing trades lost more time by disputes in 1901 than in 1900, but considerably less than the annual average loss in 1893-1900. The transport and fishing group of trades was much affected by the Grimsby fishing dispute, and the figures for these trades are considerably above the average for the previous eight years. The figures for the building, textile and miscellaneous trades are less than those for

the previous year, and are also below the annual average for 1893-1900.

Duration of Disputes in Working Days.

Trades.	1901.	1900.	Annual average for 1893-1900.
Mining and Quarrying...	1,875,000	552,932	6,511,720
Metal	601,995	349,130	1,706,624
Building	578,584	726,626	618,378
Transport and Fishing ...	354,862	305,760	160,113
Textile	271,833	413,388	585,563
Clothing... ..	88,794	60,121	311,306
Miscellaneous	159,794	748,737	294,948
Total	3,930,841	3,152,694	10,188,652

No less than 392 out of a total of 624 disputes in 1901 arose out of questions of remuneration. In all years this is the main ground of contention, but it is a significant sign of the change in the condition of the labour market that there has been a great proportionate increase in the disputes arising out of demands by the employers for a reduction in wages. The number of days lost in this way in 1901 was more than twice as great as in 1900, while there has been a decline of over 40 per cent. in the aggregate duration of the disputes in which the workpeople sought advances. Questions of hours of labour and working arrangements were more frequent causes of dispute in 1901 than in 1900, and involved a much greater loss of working time. These facts are summarised in the next Table:—

Causes of Disputes.

Principal Causes of Disputes.	No. of Disputes in		No. of Work-people directly affected.		Aggregate duration in working days.	
	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.
Wages—						
For advance	268	164	57,269	18,815	1,802,828	1,044,668
Against reduction	46	98	7,385	14,439	285,414	599,859
Other wages questions ...	124	130	18,249	22,186	298,854	654,540
Total Wages	438	392	82,903	55,440	2,387,096	2,299,073
Other Causes—						
Hours	6	29	718	4,198	55,444	210,816
Employment of particular classes of persons	93	79	10,427	10,175	272,479	194,446
Working arrangements ...	57	77	18,956	23,100	244,665	904,666
Trade unionism	45	37	19,573	11,371	162,195	113,360
Miscellaneous	9	10	2,568	3,134	30,815	206,480
Total Other Causes	210	232	52,242	51,978	765,598	1,631,768
Grand total	648	624	135,145	107,418	3,152,694	3,930,841

In dealing with results, no account has been taken of the persons thrown out of work by disputes, although not themselves on strike or locked out. Confining the analysis to those who were directly affected by the results, we find that 27 per cent. of the workpeople gained their points, and nearly 33 per cent. of them were entirely defeated, while in the case of 36 per cent. the disputes ended in a compromise. Such percentages give, of course, only a rough indication of the immediate results, and do not measure the value of the gains and losses on either side. The following Table compares these percentages with the corresponding figures for each of the years 1896-1900.

Percentage Number of Workpeople directly affected by Disputes

Year.	Settled in favour of				Indefinite, or not settled at end of year.
	Workpeople.	Employers.	Compromise.	Indefinite, or not settled at end of year.	
1896	43'5	28'0	28'3	0'2	1'1
1897	24'2	40'7	34'0	0'1	1'1
1898	22'6	60'1	17'2	0'1	1'1
1899	26'7	43'7	29'1	0'5	1'1
1900	30'1	24'8	41'7	3'4	1'1
1901	27'1	32'6	36'2	4'1	1'1

Of the 588 disputes beginning in 1901, of which the definite result is known, no less than 431 were arranged by direct negotiation between the parties concerned. In 124 cases the disputes were settled either by the workpeople returning to work on employers' terms without negotiation, or by their replacement. Thirty-three disputes were settled by conciliation or arbitration. These facts are shown in the following Table.

Methods by which Disputes were Settled.

Method of Settlement.	No. of Disputes.		No. of Workpeople directly and indirectly affected.	
	1900.	1901.	1900.	1901.
By direct arrangement between parties or their representatives	487	431	155,025	139,504
By return to work on employers' terms, without negotiation, or by replacement	116	124	13,813	14,910
Conciliation or arbitration	32	33	15,711	15,734
Indefinite or unsettled	13	36	3,989	5,017

Of the 175,165 workpeople affected by the disputes of the year Scotland accounts for 50,020; Wales and Monmouthshire 33,875; Midland and Eastern Counties 26,276; Yorkshire 22,607; Northern Counties 18,740; Lancashire and Cheshire 17,072; while all the Southern and Western Counties, including London, contributed 4,688 only to the total.

NEW INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED IN 1901.

The following Table showing the number and nature of the New Industrial Organisations registered in the United Kingdom during 1901, is based upon monthly returns furnished to the Labour Department by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, and shows the number of each of the various classes of organisations registered in England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland respectively.

The total number of new organisations registered in 1901 was 961, an increase of 130 when compared with 1900, and a decrease of 146 compared with 1899.

Trade Societies show an increase of 4 compared with 1900, and Industrial and Provident Societies an increase of 35; Friendly Societies, including branches, of 66, and Building Societies of 25.

England and Wales shows an increase of 137 new organisations compared with 1900, Scotland a decrease of 14, and Ireland an increase of 7.

TABLE showing the number and nature of New Industrial Organisations registered in 1901 in England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland respectively, together with the totals for the United Kingdom, and the corresponding totals for the year 1900.

Description of Organisation.	England and Wales.			Scotland, Ireland.	Total Number registered in United Kingdom during 1901.	Corresponding Totals for 1900.
	England and Wales.	Scotland, Ireland.	Scotland, Ireland.			
Trade Societies:—						
Trade Unions	39	1	1	41	37	
" Federations	3	—	—	3	—	
Employers' Associations ...	—	—	—	—	3	
Totals	42	1	1	44	40	
Industrial and Provident Societies:—						
For Distribution	47	—	14	61	53	
" Production	10	—	31	41	39	
" Miscellaneous purposes ...	41	8	1	50	26	
Totals	98	8	46	152	117	
Friendly Societies:—						
Ordinary Friendly	70	3	3	76	81	
Dividing	46	—	1	47	59	
Female	1	—	—	1	1	
Juvenile	4	—	—	4	4	
Medical	1	—	—	1	—	
Benevolent	1	—	—	1	—	
New Orders	9	—	—	9	5	
Collecting	6	—	—	6	7	
Cattle Insurance	—	—	—	—	1	
Specially Authorised	37	2	30	69	39	
Workmen's Clubs	96	1	—	97	49	
New Branches of existing Friendly Societies	345	55	8	408	413	
Totals	623	61	42	726	660	
Building Societies:—						
... ..	36	—	3	39	14	
Total Industrial Organisations Registered in 1901	799	70	92	961	—	
Corresponding Totals for 1900	669	84	85	831	—	

Explosives in Coal Mines.—The Home Secretary has made an Order,* dated December 17th, 1901, under the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896, with respect to the use of explosives in coal mines. This Order amends the Order of October 1st, 1901, (see GAZETTE, October 1901, p. 319); and the effect of it is to add three new explosives, viz: Clydite, Haylite No. 1, and Victorite, to the list of permitted explosives. All these explosives have passed the Special Test.

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1901; No. 1010 (Eyre and Spottiswoode). Price 1d.

LABOUR DISPUTES IN AUSTRIA IN 1900.

THE Report on Strikes and Lock-outs in Austria in 1900,* shows that, though slightly fewer in number than in 1899, the strikes of 1900 involved nearly twice as many workpeople, and entailed a loss of more than three times as many working days as in the previous year. This is mainly attributable to the great strike movement in the coal mines of Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia, which began on January 2nd, lasted till April 17th, and involved 65,680 workpeople, by whom a large number of demands were made, the principal of which were an eight-hour shift (bank to bank) and the fixing of a minimum wage (see GAZETTE, March and April, 1900, pp. 67 and 100). The number of days lost in 1900 in other trades than mining, was, on the whole, less than half the number in 1899.

The number, extent and duration of strikes in 1900, as compared with 1899, are shown in the following table, according to the principal groups of trades affected:—

Group of Trades.	Number of Strikes.		Number of Strikers.		Number of Working Days lost	
	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.	1899.	1900.
Building Trades	34	23	7,846	4,849	57,034	38,079
Mining... ..	26	40	3,477	78,791	23,621	3,068,661
Metal, Engineering, &c., Trades	55	39	3,815	2,496	57,153	14,180
Textile Trades	85	56	30,249	12,010	794,062	261,067
Clothing Trades	17	27	696	1,644	8,055	34,881
Transport and Communication	3	2	117	545	765	1,602
Woodworking, India-rubber and Furnishing Trades ...	35	34	3,198	1,391	49,051	10,964
Chemical, Glass, Pottery, &c., Trades	25	21	2,671	657	24,668	9,840
Miscellaneous Trades	31	61	2,694	2,744	15,588	44,689
Total	311	303	54,763	105,128	1,029,937	3,483,963

The figures in the Table are exclusive of 7,737 persons in 1900 (5,374 the year before) who suffered enforced idleness owing to strikes, although not themselves on strike. The working days lost in this way in 1900 numbered 191,753, as compared with 106,248 in 1899.

The various objects with which strikes were undertaken in 1900 and 1899 may be seen from the following Table. (Where a strike had two or more objects, the same strikers are counted under each object.)

Objects or Demands.	Number of Strikers.	
	1899.	1900.
WAGES.—		
For increase	43,042	99,559
Against decrease	3,446	1,447
Other	5,487	159,803
HOURS OF LABOUR.—		
For decrease	46,497	88,947
Other	532	405
EMPLOYMENT OF PARTICULAR CLASSES OR PERSONS	24,065	164,634
WORKING ARRANGEMENTS	33,330	83,923
TRADE UNIONISM	4,700	41,440
OTHER OBJECTS	19,942	44,930

The effect of the great coal strike in 1900, is again apparent in the above figures, the long list of demands put forward by so large a body of workpeople having greatly increased the number of strikers identified with almost every group of demands in that year.

Nearly all the mining disputes in 1900 were settled by compromise, and it is not therefore surprising that in the following Table no less than 85½ per cent. of the total number of workpeople affected in 1900 are classified under this head.

Result.	1899.				1900.			
	No. of Strikes.		Strikers.		No. of Strikes.		Strikers.	
	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.
In favour of workpeople	48	5'594	10'21	61	4'891	4'66	1'66	
In favour of employers	123	9'748	17'80	106	10'316	9'81	9'81	
Compromised	140	39'421	71'99	136	89'921	85'54	85'54	

* Die Arbeitseinstellungen und Aussperrungen in Oesterreich während des Jahres 1900. Vienna, 1901. Alfred Hölder, I., Rothenurmstrasse, 13.

As regards lock-outs, which are shown separately from strikes in the Austrian statistics, the Report states that 10 took place in 1900, and involved 4,036 workpeople, as against 5 lock-outs involving 3,457 workpeople the year before. Six of the 10 lock-outs of 1,900 were due to the workpeople absenting themselves without permission on the 1st of May.

DISPUTE IN THE FISHING TRADE AT GRIMSBY.

SIR EDWARD FRY'S AWARD.

SIR EDWARD FRY, the arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade, has published his award dated December 16th, 1901, respecting the matters in dispute in the Grimsby fishing trade.

Previous to the dispute, which commenced on July 1st of last year, the crews of the steam trawlers, with the exception of the skippers and mates who were paid on the share system,* received fixed wages. Food was provided by the owner in every case. Most of the owners belonged to a Federation, and this Federation required that the men, other than the sharemen, *i.e.*, the skippers and mates, should agree to a scale of payment partly composed of a fixed wage, and partly of a poundage calculated on the net earnings of the vessel. The Federated Owners also stipulated that the men should "sign on" at the Federation Offices and not at the offices of the various owners as heretofore.

The engineers decided to resist these proposals. They were represented by the Grimsby Steam Fishing Vessels' Engineers' and Firemen's Union, and the local branch of the National Amalgamated Seamen's and Firemen's Union. The general fishermen, *i.e.*, the third and deck hands, trimmers and cooks, at the commencement of the dispute were unorganised, but early in August between 2,000 and 3,000 formed themselves into a branch of the Gasworkers' Union. Shortly afterwards a Dispute Committee was formed, which represented all sections of men employed on the vessels, except the skippers and mates, who were members of the Port of Grimsby Share Fishermen's Protective Society.

By the middle of July about 400 trawlers were laid up and about 8,000 persons idle, of whom about half were men directly employed on the vessels, the remainder being labourers, lumpers, fitters, sailmakers, boiler-makers, ice workers, twine spinners, net braiders and others indirectly concerned in the trade. Some owners, however, controlling about 150 trawlers did not join the Federation and kept their vessels going during the dispute at the old rate of wages and on the old conditions. These owners were not parties to the subsequent arbitration proceedings.

Prolonged negotiations took place during July and August, and an officer of the Board of Trade visited Grimsby several times in order to obtain information with regard to the dispute, to keep in touch with both parties, and to endeavour to promote an arrangement between them. On September 5th, a conference took place between the Owners' Federation and the Dispute Committee. At this meeting the employers varied somewhat the proposals put forward by them in June, and offered the men higher fixed wages and a smaller poundage. These proposals, however, failed to bring about a settlement.

The following Table shows the weekly wages paid to the various classes before the dispute, the owners' proposals of June 25th, and the proposals of both parties put forward as the basis for discussion at the conference held on September 5th. In each case the owner provides food.

Rating.	Wages before dispute.	Owners' proposals of June 25th.		Proposals at conference on Sept. 5th of	
		Wages	Poundage	Owners' †	Men.
Chief Engineer ...	46s.	30s. + 4d.	34s. + 3d.	34s. + 4d.	34s. + 4d.
Second Engineer ...	36s.	24s. + 3d.	27s. + 2d.	27s. + 3d.	27s. + 3d.
Third Hand ...	26s.	20s. + 2d.	20s. + 2d.	21s. + 2d.	21s. + 2d.
Deck Hands and Cook ...	22s.	19s. + 2d.	18s. + 1d.	17s. + 2d.	17s. + 2d.

* Under this system the skippers and mates are paid a fixed proportion of the sum received for the sale of the fish, after deducting the expenses of the voyage.
† These are the terms on which the men subsequently returned to work pending arbitration.

Further negotiations took place during September without result, and on September 30th the Earl of Yarborough, after interviews with the men's representatives, placed the following proposals before the owners:—

"That the fishermen go to sea on the owners' terms, and that all questions whatever in dispute between owners and employees connected with the fishing trade be referred to an independent arbitrator, to be appointed through the medium of the Board of Trade; that the question of a central shipping office, at which the men shall sign on, shall be submitted for the decision of the arbitrator, and that in the meantime the crews sign on temporarily at the office of the Board of Trade; the arbitrator's decision to be retrospective from the date of the vessels going to sea."

The owners agreed to these proposals on condition that arbitration on these and all other outstanding points in dispute should be accepted by every section of the men.

There was some objection on the part of the sharemen to submit the question of "signing on" to arbitration. These men had hitherto not been involved in the general dispute. Their claims had been separately dealt with by the owners and settled in a special agreement. Their objections to refer the question of "signing on" to arbitration being overcome, work was resumed on the terms stated above. On October 7th vessels began to go to sea, and on October 15th the Board of Trade received an application on behalf of all parties to the dispute, for the appointment of an arbitrator under the Conciliation Act, 1896, together with a copy of the agreed points of reference to be submitted to the arbitrator (and which are fully stated in the preamble to the award). On the same day the Board of Trade appointed Sir Edward Fry to act in this capacity. Sir Edward Fry sat at Grimsby for the purpose of hearing the parties to the dispute on 19th November and the four following days. At the request of the Board of Trade, Mr. W. S. Green, Chief Inspector of Fisheries under the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, attended to assist the arbitrator. Sir Edward Fry's award, dated the 16th December, is as follows:—

TEXT OF AWARD.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, I, THE RIGHT HONOURABLE SIR EDWARD FRY, SEND GREETING.

WHEREAS, before the month of July, 1901, disputes arose in the fishing trade at Grimsby between certain owners of steam trawling vessels in the said port on the one hand and the persons employed on the said vessels on the other hand; and in the said disputes the said owners were represented by the Grimsby Federated Owners' Protection Society, Limited (hereinafter called the Federation) and the skippers and mates by the Port of Grimsby Share Fishermen's Protective Society, and the other members of the crews by the Joint Disputes Committee, representing the Grimsby Steam Fishing Vessels' Engineers' and Firemen's Union, the National Amalgamated Seamen's and Firemen's Union, and the Gas Workers' Union (General Fishermen's Branch).

And whereas on the 10th day of September, 1901, an agreement was made between the Federation and the Port of Grimsby Share Fishermen's Protective Society, whereby certain terms were agreed upon between the said owners and the said skippers and mates, but the said agreement did not deal with the question of the place for signing on and off of the fishing boat agreement.

And whereas pending the said disputes all or most of the said steam trawling vessels owned by members of the Federation remained in dock, but after prolonged negotiations between the parties to the dispute the said vessels again went to sea on and shortly after the 7th day of October, 1901, on terms agreed between the parties to the dispute pending arbitration.

And whereas on the 12th day of October, 1901, an agreement in writing (hereinafter referred to as the first submission to arbitration) was made between the Federation and the Port of Grimsby Share Fishermen's Protective Society to the following effect, *viz.*: That the question of the place where crews shall be signed on should be referred to an Arbitrator, to be appointed by the Board of Trade under the Conciliation Act, 1896, the Arbitration proceedings to be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Arbitration Act, 1889, so far as applicable.

And whereas on the same 12th day of October, 1901, an agreement in writing (hereinafter referred to as the second submission to arbitration) was made between the Federation and the Grimsby Disputes Committee, representing the Grimsby Steam Fishing Vessels' Engineers' and Firemen's Union, the National Amalgamated Seamen's and Firemen's Union, and the Gas Workers' Union (General Fishermen's Branch), to the following effect, *viz.*,

to refer all matters then in dispute between them to an Arbitrator, to be appointed by the Board of Trade under the Conciliation Act, 1896, the arbitration proceedings to be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Arbitration Act, 1889, so far as applicable.

And whereas the matters in dispute between the parties to the second submission to arbitration were agreed between them in writing as follows:—

GRIMSBY FISHING DISPUTE: AGREED POINTS OF REFERENCE.

- (1) *Signing-on.*—To decide where the members of the crew shall sign the Statutory Log Book, and to determine the conditions under which they shall sign on. (It is agreed that this question shall be heard first by the Arbitrator.)
- (2) *Wages and Poundage.*—To fix a basis wage and rate of poundage to be paid to each member of the crew other than the captain and mate.
- (3) *Freedom in Engaging Crews.*—The Arbitrator to decide the right of the owners to engage men whether they belong to a Trades Union or not.
- (4) *Duties of Crews.*—To determine the duties of each member of the crew whilst on board, whether at sea or in dock.
- (5) *Salvage.*—To determine the percentage of salvage to be paid to the crew, the individual apportionment of it, and the legitimate expenses to be deducted from each salvage award.
- (6) *Period of Engagement of Crews.*—To define the period of engagement of all or any members of the crew other than the captain and mate, and to state when the settling with the crews shall take place.
- (7) *General.*—The Arbitrator to be called upon to decide all other matters in dispute between the Owners and Joint Dispute Committee of Men's Unions, on 48 hours' notice of such matters being given by either side before the Arbitrator commence his sitting.

And whereas on an application made to the Board of Trade on the 15th day of October, 1901, on behalf of the parties to the said first and second submissions to arbitration, the Board of Trade on the same day duly appointed me to act as Arbitrator under the said submissions to arbitration.

And whereas I was not called upon before I commenced my sitting to decide any other matter in dispute than those before specifically mentioned.

And whereas I took upon me the burthen of acting as arbitrator under the said submissions to arbitration, and on the 19th day of November, 1901, I entered upon the arbitration under the first and second submissions to arbitration, and it was agreed by all parties to the said two submissions that the same should be read so as to include signing off as well as signing on, and it was further agreed by all parties to the second submission to arbitration that I should be at liberty to make such parts of the award as I thought fit relate back to the 7th day of October, 1901.

And whereas in the performance of my duties as arbitrator I have been assisted by William Spotswood Green, Chief Inspector of Fisheries under the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, as my assessor, and by Price, Waterhouse and Co., of London, as Accountants, who have reported to me upon certain matters of account which I have directed them to investigate.

And whereas the Board of Trade has determined

- (1) To provide at Grimsby an office with, if possible, adequate waiting room accommodation, such office to be open at all hours which the convenience of the port may require for the purpose of enabling the fishing boats agreements to be signed both on and off under the supervision and in the presence of an officer of the said Board, who shall ascertain that the man signing on understands the agreement before he signs it.
- (2) To approve as the form for the Certificate of Discharge in use at Grimsby, a form analogous to the form known as the Continuous Discharge Certificate in use in the merchant service, and showing as regards every engagement the date and place thereof and the name of the vessel, and also the particulars with regard to the man as in the said Continuous Discharge Certificates.
- (3) To authorise the said officer to ask every man signing on to produce his last discharge certificate, and upon his failing so to do to enter his name on the list hereinafter referred to, and further upon every man's signing on to enter the name of the vessel and the date and place of engagement on the discharge certificate produced by the man, or on a new one to be procured by him as the case may require.
- (4) To direct the said officer to superintend the signing off of every man signing off, and when entitled to a poundage to see that the proper account for ascertaining the profits has been rendered to him, and to attest the execution by the man of

the release in the fishing boats agreement, and to make or cause to be made the proper entry in the Certificate of Discharge.

- (5) To require every man signing on and off to pay a fee of 6d.
- (6) To direct the said officer to keep two lists, the one of all men who are reported to him as having made default in joining his vessel at the proper time, and the other of all men not producing their last Certificate of Discharge, and to allow any person interested to inspect the said books, and to take copies of, or extracts therefrom.

Now I, the said Edward Fry, having heard upon the 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd days of November, 1901, at the Town Hall, Grimsby, the statements and evidence, oral and documentary, made and given by the parties to the first and second submissions to arbitration, their counsel and witnesses, and by various officials of the Board of Trade; and having duly weighed and considered such statements and evidence, and having been assisted as above mentioned, do hereby make and publish this my award in writing of and concerning the matters referred to me by the first and second submissions to arbitration as follows (that is to say)

Under the first submission to arbitration I find award and determine that the place where the crews shall be signed on and off shall be the office of the Board of Trade at Grimsby and no other place.

Under the second submission to arbitration I find award and determine as follows:—

- i. The members of the crew shall sign the Statutory Log Book both in signing on and signing off at the office of the Board of Trade in Grimsby, and nowhere else.
- ii. The conditions on which the members of the crew shall sign on shall be as follows:—
 - (a) Every member of the crew shall enter into the fishing boat agreement with the skipper himself (whether assisted or not in the collection of the crew by the agent of the owner), which the man shall sign after the skipper, and in the presence of the skipper or of an officer of the Board of Trade.
 - (b) Every man before signing the fishing boat agreement shall produce to the skipper his last discharge certificate, and shall allow the skipper to inspect it to see that the man has not previously signed on to any other vessel from which he has not been discharged, and in case it shall appear that the man has so signed on, he shall not be allowed to sign on afresh.
 - (c) In the case of the man's failing to produce a discharge certificate, he shall not be allowed to sign on unless the skipper be satisfied that the man is a new hand, or has lost his discharge certificate by accident.
 - (d) The man signing on shall pay the Board of Trade's fee.
- iii. The conditions on which the members of the crew shall sign off shall be as follows:—
 - (a) Before any man signs off at a time appointed for settling there shall be rendered to him by the owner a full and true account in the form approved by the Board of Trade, showing in detail the amounts for which the fish has been sold and all deductions from these amounts which are chargeable in any respect to the men.
 - (b) The execution of the release in the fishing boats agreement shall be witnessed by the officer of the Board of Trade, to whom shall previously be produced when poundage is payable the said account rendered by the owner.
 - (c) Upon the execution of the said release in the fishing boat agreement the proper entry shall be made in the certificate of discharge by or under the superintendence of the officer of the Board of Trade.
 - (d) The man signing off shall pay the Board of Trade's fee.
- iv. The basis-wage and rate of poundage to be paid to each member of the crew other than the captain and mate and other than extra hands—that is to say, hands over ten—shall, subject to the provisions hereinafter contained, be as follows:—

	Wages per Week.	Poundage.
Chief Engineer ...	34s.	3d.
Second Engineer ...	27s.	2d.
Third Hand ...	20s.	2d.
Deck Hands, Cook, Trimmer	18s.	1d.
- v. The foregoing wages and rates of poundage shall be subject to the following provisions, namely:—
 - (a) The said rates of poundage shall be payable to all the members of a crew serving up to a time hereinafter fixed for settlement; but in the case of any man signing off at any other time than a time fixed for settlement, he shall not be entitled to poundage, but

to an additional weekly wage in lieu of poundage, after the following scale, viz:—

	Additional Wage per Week.	Total Wage per Week.
Chief Engineer	5s. ...	39s.
Second Engineer	4s. ...	31s.
Third Hand	4s. ...	24s.
Deck Hands, Cook, Trimmer	2s. 6d. ...	20s. 6d.

B. To arrive at a settling (*i.e.*, to ascertain the amount upon which poundage is to be paid) there shall be deducted from the amounts for which the fish has been sold the following items, and no others, namely:—

- (1) Commission at 5 per cent. for selling.
- (2) Discount at 1½ per cent. to purchasers.
- (3) Coal.
- (4) Ice. (5) Ice mats. (6) Salt. (7) Chests.
- (8) Boxes at 1d. per box per voyage. (9) Shore baskets at 2s. 6d. per shore basket per voyage if used, and other baskets at the proper price when supplied to the vessel new.
- (10) Water for boilers. (11) Paraffin oil. (12) Carbide for acetylene lamps. (13) Lamp wicks. (14) Engine oil. (15) Cylinder oil. (16) Colza oil. (17) Turps. (18) Sponge cloths. (19) Tallow. (20) Cotton waste. (21) Soaps. (22) Refilling medicine chests. (23) Buoy lights and buoys. (24) Towing. (25) Pilots and extra hands. (26) Labour in discharge of the vessel. (27) Watching. (28) Fixing trawls at 12s. 6d. per trawl for fixing unroped. (29) Repairs to trawls beyond what can be done by the crew. (30) Laundry. (31) Cartage of fish from the vessel. Cartage of stores to the vessel, but not of any plant of the vessel. (32) Steaming and sweeping tubes at 6s. per voyage. (33) Port charges. (34) In the case of vessels going to Iceland or the Faroe Islands extra hands, that is hands over ten, also the extra payment for firing, if any.

C. The food, including fresh water, shall be supplied to the crew by the owner during the voyage excluding the days on which the vessel is in a dock at Grimsby.

D. The owner shall retain as caution money out of the first week's wages of every engineer the sum of five shillings, and out of the first week's wages of every other member of the crew (other than the skipper and mate and other than an extra hand) the sum of three shillings. This sum shall remain in the hands of the owner until the first happening of one of the following events:—(1) the making default by the man in joining his vessel at the proper time, or (2) the determination of the fishing boats agreement by effluxion of time, or (3) the signing off of the man. On the happening of the first of these events the caution money shall be forfeited and become the property of the owner, and on the happening of either of the two latter events the caution money shall be paid to the man. The decision of the skipper as to default by the man as aforesaid shall be final and conclusive. Any forfeiture of the caution money shall not interfere with any right of the owner against the man making default under the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1892, or any statute for the time being in force in that behalf.

E. To every man who shall have joined a vessel at or within one calendar month after the commencement of a fishing boat agreement, and shall have remained with the vessel till the next following 30th day of June or 31st day of December (as the case may be), there shall be paid on the final settlement the sum of five shillings by way of additional wage for the last week of the said agreement.

F. The foregoing wages and poundage shall be payable as from the 7th day of October, 1901.

vi. The owners shall have the right to engage men whether they belong to a Trades Union or not, provided that the terms of every such engagement be in accordance with the terms of this award.

vii. The duties of the crew whilst on board at sea and in dock shall be as follows:—

Engineers at Sea.

1. To drive the machinery and maintain its running at the speed required by the skipper.
2. To use fuel in maintaining the working pressure in as economical a manner as possible by: (a) Reburning all half-burnt ashes; (b) judicious stoking without

undue forcing; (c) maintaining the water at a constant level in the glass; (d) stopping any leak which makes its appearance in seams, rivets, etc., by caulking where practicable; (e) the judicious use of the feed, *i.e.*, maintaining the feed water at the highest possible temperature consistent with the holding of a fair vacuum; (f) the careful management of the extra feed supply; (g) never using the donkey to pump cold water into the boiler unless in the case of absolute emergency; (h) the proper cleaning of fires; (i) never allowing steam to blow off when receiving due notice from the skipper as to easing of speed and stoppages.

3. To run the engines coolly and smoothly with a minimum quantity of lubricants.
4. To keep the engine room and stokehold clean and properly painted, as heretofore.
5. To keep the bilges clear of dirt and water by careful management of bilge pumps and ejector, and to be responsible for keeping the plates clear of ashes.
6. Never to allow a bearing to acquire a knock when it is possible to adjust it by taking out a liner at sea.
7. To do all adjustments and small repairs.
8. To watch the working of winches and all deck machinery by the deck hands, and to oil the same, and do all possible in their power to keep them in efficient working condition.
9. To use all the ingenuity and resourcefulness in their power to repair breakdowns or other damage to the engines or vessel so as to continue the voyage or bring the ship safely to port without assistance.
10. To exercise the utmost economy in the use of all engine room stores.

In Dock.

1. To wipe down machinery on arrival.
2. To give notice in writing to the superintendent of all needful repairs, and the condition of any part of the machinery requiring special attention.
3. To do all packing of glands, all adjustments of bearings, except where planing or shaping is required.
4. To make all ordinary joints, *i.e.*, to screw up and insert washers when necessary.
5. To regulate the lifts of the valves of the feed and bilge pumps to the orders of the superintendent so far as the engineers are able.
6. To renew all air, circulating and donkey-pump valves.
7. To keep all drain cocks, escape valves, pet valves, gauge cocks, salinometer cocks, etc., in working order.
8. To watch that the safety valves are at all times in proper working condition.
9. To get the engine-room stores aboard.
10. To oil the engines and auxiliary machinery before starting.

Third Hand. At Sea and in Dock.

To obey the lawful commands of the captain, and to do everything in his power to promote the success of the voyage, and to continue to perform his present duties, and in addition to be responsible for the washing of the fish-boards and the putting of them below. To do work in common with extra hands if so required by the skipper.

Deck Hands. At Sea and in Dock.

To obey the lawful commands of the captain and do everything in their power to promote the success of the voyage. To continue to perform their present duties and in addition to wash the fish boards and put them below, and to remove the ashes from the engine room according to the directions of the skipper. To do work in common with extra hands if so required by the skipper.

In voyages to Iceland or the Faroe Islands as well as in cases of emergency in any voyage deck hands to render assistance to the engineers, if required by the skipper.

Trimmer. At Sea and in Dock.

To continue to perform his present duties (except the trimming and attention to the lamps) with the addition of assisting in removing the ashes from the engine room according to the directions of the skipper.

Cook. At Sea.

To continue to perform his present duties, to keep the cabin clean, to trim and attend to the lamps and to assist on deck when required by the skipper.

In Dock.

To get his provisions and lamp oils and materials on board and to put them safely away.

Extra Hands. At Sea and in Dock.

To continue to perform their present duties.

Generally.

- (a) In all cases of dispute or difference with relation to the duties of any member of the crew under this award the decision of the skipper shall be final and conclusive.
 - (b) In construing the foregoing provisions as to the duties of the crew, the expression "at sea" shall, so far as the circumstances require, include any dock or port other than Grimsby, and the expression "in dock" shall mean in a dock at Grimsby.
- viii. The legitimate expenses to be deducted from each salvage award shall be the unrecovered costs in obtaining the award, and no other expense.
- ix. The percentage of salvage to be paid to the crew (excluding the skipper and mate) shall be sixteen per cent. of the salvage, after deducting in the case of a salvage award legitimate expenses, as above defined.
- The said 16 per cent. shall be apportioned as follows:—
- 4½ per cent. to the chief engineer;
 - 2½ per cent. to the second engineer;
 - 2½ per cent. to the third hand.
- 6 per cent. equally amongst the other members of the crew, including any extra hands employed for the voyage during which the salvage occurs, except the trimmer and cook, who shall each take half the sum taken by a deck hand.
- x. In the event of any dispute arising in respect to the amount of the unrecovered costs in obtaining an award or otherwise in respect of salvage under this award, the decision of the chief officer of the Board of Trade at Grimsby (if willing to give such decision) shall be final and conclusive.
- xi. The period of engagement of crews shall extend from the time of signing on to the next following 30th day of June or 31st day of December, or the discharge of the fish consequent on the first arrival of the vessel at Grimsby after that date.
- xii. In all vessels a settlement shall be made at the expiration of the period of engagement and earlier settlements shall be made where practicable as follows:—In the case of vessels going to Iceland or the Faroe Islands at the end of every second voyage, and in the case of all other vessels at the end of every third voyage.
- xiii. Provided that the definition of the period of engagement hereinbefore contained shall not prejudice the right of the owner to discharge the man or the right of the man to sign off on twenty-four hours previous notice as heretofore.

As witness my hand, this 16th Day of December, 1901.

Signed and published at Failand in the parish of Wroxall and County of Somerset by the above-named Sir Edward Fry, this 16th day of December, 1901, in the presence of

EDW. FRY.

SARA MARGERY FRY.

AUTUMN HIRINGS IN CUMBERLAND, WEST-MORLAND, AND LANCASHIRE.

INFORMATION as to the rates of wages agreed upon at the half-yearly hirings for farm servants, held at Martinmas (November), in Cumberland, Westmorland, and North Lancashire, has been received from a correspondent who made special inquiries at certain of the fairs. Generally speaking there was a downward tendency in the rates of wages, especially in the case of second-class men and youths. In the case of the very best men there was frequently but little (if any) change in their wages, but second-class men, youths, and boys had generally to accept a reduction of from £1 to £1 10s., and in some cases £2. The decrease in wages is attributed to there being a somewhat larger supply of men available, and also to the forward state of farm work which enabled farmers to hire fewer men for the winter term. It is stated that a number of men were not engaged. These will have to rely on odd work, and when spring ploughing commences there will be a greater demand for men for farm work than at present. Women for farmhouse work were very scarce, and there was no appreciable change in their wages. It is reported that the greatest difficulty is experienced in getting women for farmhouses, and they usually refuse to do anything but household work, so that

the women members of the family have frequently to milk, attend pigs, etc.

The following rates of wages for the half-year (in addition to free board, lodging and washing) were generally obtained: Best men, £15 to £20; second-class men and youths, £9 to £14.

Most of the farm servants in these counties are unmarried and lodge and board in the farmhouses. The term of service is generally a half-yearly one.

The principal hiring fairs in Cumberland, Westmorland and North Lancashire are: Appleby, Carlisle, Cockermouth, Kendal, Lancaster, Penrith, and Ulverston. Others are held at Brampton, Egremont, Kirkby Stephen, and Wigton.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION LAW IN SWEDEN.

THE following are the main provisions of a Workmen's Compensation (for Accidents) Law passed by the Swedish Parliament on April 24th, 1901, and signed by the King on July 5th of the same year.* The law is to come into force at a date to be fixed by the King, subsequent to the establishment of the Royal Insurance Institute, which is to be created for the purposes of the law.

The Act gives to every workman, whether journeyman or foreman, employed in an industry, to which its provisions apply, the right to receive from his employer compensation for personal injury caused by accident arising out of his employment other than injury caused by his own wilful act or gross carelessness, or by the wilful act of another person, not being a person having control or exercising supervision over the work in question.

The industries, to which the Act applies, include timber-felling and other operations of forestry, sawing, lumber yards, the ice trade, turf-cutting, mining and quarrying, brickmaking, smelting and other trades (not being handicrafts) having for their raw material some mineral product, factories of every kind, ship-building, distilling, brewing, baking, butchering, dairying and corn-milling, so far as these several industries are carried on upon lines analogous to the factory system, printing, the manufacture of explosives, chimney-sweeping, timber-floating, the loading and unloading of goods, railways and tramways, the building trades (including road-making and hydraulic engineering), rock blasting, excavations, etc., paving work, masonry, carpentry, roofing, gas, water and electric supply installation, sewer construction, also all operations carried out for the purpose of producing, transmitting, or distributing electric energy, and all gas and water distribution work. In case any industry of the classes just enumerated shall be carried on by the State or a Municipality by way of trade, the State or the Municipality concerned stands under the same obligation to its employees under the Law as all other employers.

The compensation payable under the Law is as follows:—

(1) If the injury is one entailing incapacity, whether total or partial, lasting more than 60 days—*i.e.*, 1½d. per day from the expiration of that period until recovery, or until the incapacity is shown to be permanent, or death ensues.

(2) In case of permanent incapacity, total or partial, an annual allowance of £16 13s. 4d. in the former event, and in the latter an allowance of smaller amount, corresponding with the degree of incapacity, no allowance, however, to be payable unless the man's capacity has been reduced to the extent of at least 10 per cent.

(3) In case of death resulting from, and taking place within two years from the occurrence of the accident; (a) a sum of £3 6s. 8d. for funeral expenses and (b) an allowance to the widow, until re-marriage, of £6 13s. 4d. per year, and an allowance to each child of £3 6s. 8d. per year, until the age of 15 years. But if all these allowances together would exceed £16 13s. 4d., then

* Lag angående ersättning för skada till följd af olycksfullt i arbete.—Svensk Författnings-Samling, 1901. Nr. 39.

they must abate rateably, so as not to exceed that amount.

Provision is made in the Act for the establishment of a Royal Insurance Institute, to be maintained by the State. The employer will have the right to insure himself against his liability under the Law with this Institute. But in the event of the injured workman being entitled to an allowance or other benefit from a fund maintained entirely or mainly, by contributions from his employer; or in the event of the workman being insured, at the cost of his employer, otherwise than with the Royal Insurance Institute, the employer will have the right to set-off the amounts paid to the workman in respect of such allowance, benefit, or insurance, against his liabilities under the Law. A similar set-off is allowed for any compensation paid by the employer under the general law, or in pursuance of any special arrangement. If any compensation be payable to the injured workman by a person other than the employer, then, to the extent of any compensation paid under the Law, the employer will have the right to receive the amount so payable, in the place of the injured man.

With regard to contracting-out, no agreement between employer and employed with regard to compensation in substitution for that which the Law provides will have any legal validity unless it is in writing, and is made under a scheme approved by the Royal Insurance Institute, whose approval will not be granted, if, on examination, this institute is of opinion that the scheme is prejudicial to the interests of the workpeople concerned.

The Law contains provisions allowing employers in industries outside its scope to insure their workpeople voluntarily with the Royal Institute, and enabling any workman, whether the industry in which he is employed be or be not within the scope of the Law, to insure himself against accident with that Institute.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

(1) Workmen's Compensation Acts.

WHAT IS "SERIOUS AND WILFUL MISCONDUCT"?

By the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, it is provided that "If it is proved that the injury to a workman is attributable to the serious and wilful misconduct of that workman, any compensation claimed in respect of that injury shall be disallowed."

A ganger, employed by a railway company, claimed compensation from the company in respect of injuries which he sustained under the following circumstances. This ganger, with other men, was working a lorry on the railway line for the purpose of gathering loose stones on the six-foot way, and afterwards depositing them at a particular place at a level crossing on the down line. At the time when the lorry was started on its journey to convey the stones, the down train had passed, and in the ordinary course there would be no train following it for some time. The ganger, believing that he had ample time to make the journey and unload the lorry before any other train would be due on the down line, proceeded on that line, instead of on the up line, as the company's rules required. The train, which had passed, had no tailboard to it indicating that a special train would follow; and this fact induced the ganger to believe that he was quite safe in proceeding on the wrong line. But a special train did follow. The ganger succeeded in removing the lorry off the line before the train reached the spot; but, thinking it was still too close to the rails, he went to remove it further off, and was engaged in doing this when he received the injuries in respect of which he claimed compensation. The County Court Judge held that the ganger was not entitled to compensation, because these injuries were attributable to his serious and wilful misconduct. The ganger appealed; and the Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal.—*M'Callfrey v. Great Northern Railway Company, Court of Appeal (Ireland), December 9th.*

In another case a lad's handkerchief was caught by some machinery, and his hand being dragged along with it, two of his fingers were severed. According to the lad's statement, he had tied the handkerchief round his hand, which had been previously injured, and a loose end accidentally caught in the machinery. He brought an action against his employer claiming damages in respect of the injury, but failed, the jury finding that the accident occurred through the lad's incautiousness, and his ignorantly wrapping the handkerchief round his hand, which he was in a position to know rendered him liable to accident. Thereupon application was made to the Judge on his behalf to assess compensation under the Compensation Act, and the judge made an

award under that Act in his favour. The employer applied to the Court of Appeal for leave to appeal against this decision, on the ground that the injury, in respect of which compensation had been awarded, was attributable to the lad's serious and wilful misconduct. The Court dismissed the application.—*Webber v. Martin, Court of Appeal, December 20th.*

"ON OR IN OR ABOUT A RAILWAY."

The Act applies only to certain classes of employment, including employment by the undertakers as therein defined, on or in or about a railway or factory. A firm of cartage contractors had a contract with a railway company for the cartage of goods to and from one of their stations. A carter in the employment of this firm, who had been collecting goods and carting them to this station, was leaving the station with his horse and lorry in order to go to the stables, having finished his work, when the horse took fright at the gate of the station, and ran away, as the result of which the carter was injured. The place, at which his injuries were received, was 315 yards from the entrance to the station. He claimed compensation from the railway company; and the Sheriff-Substitute held that on the occasion in question the carter was employed on or in or about a railway, within the meaning of the Act, and made an award in his favour. The company appealed; and the Court of Session recalled the judgment of the Sheriff-Substitute, with expenses, holding that at the time of the accident the carter was not employed on or in or about a railway, the lorry having left the station, and the horse having bolted on the street.—*Bathgate v. Caledonian Railway Company, Court of Session, December 10th.*

WHAT IS A "FACTORY"?

In the Act "Factory" has the same meaning as in the Factory and Workshop Acts, 1878 to 1891. The expression "non-textile factory" in the Factory and Workshop Act, 1878, means certain works, etc., named in that 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." A cable car driver, employed by a tramways company, claimed compensation from his employers in respect of injuries sustained by him in their shed, where he was oiling his car when he was struck by a travelling platform, his leg being crushed between this platform and the wall. In this shed no mechanical power is used apart from the power employed for moving the travelling platform. But adjoining the shed, and separated from it by a brick wall, pierced by two doors, is the machine room, in which are lathes and turning and boring machinery. These are used in connection with the repairs executed in the machine room, and are put in motion by two electric motors. After the pieces requiring repair have been mended in the machine room, they are taken to the sheds and affixed to the cars there. The Sheriff-Substitute found that the accident took place in a factory, within the meaning of the Act. The company appealed; and the Court of Session agreed with the Sheriff-Substitute, and found the company liable in expenses.—*James Mooney v. The Edinburgh and District Tramways Company, Court of Session, December 20th.*

(2) Friendly Societies Acts.

ASSIGNMENT OF POLICY: NO NOMINATION.

A member of a Friendly Society, which is governed by the Friendly Societies Act, 1875, had taken out a policy on his life, insuring the sum of £30 with the Society, and had assigned this policy, but had not made any nomination under the Act. On his death the assignee of the policy applied for the appointment of a receiver of the policy money; but this money was claimed by the widow of the assignor, who was his administratrix. By Section 15 of the Act just mentioned it is provided that "(3) A member of a Society (other than a Benevolent Society or Working Men's Club), not being under the age of 16 years, may, by writing under his hand delivered at or sent to the registered office of the Society, nominate any person, not being an officer or servant of the Society, to whom any moneys payable by the Society on the death of such member, not exceeding £50, shall be paid at his decease, and may from time to time revoke or vary such nomination by a writing under his hand similarly delivered or sent; and on receiving satisfactory proof of the death of a nominator, the Society shall pay to the nominee the amount due to the deceased member, not exceeding the sum aforesaid." "(4) If any member of a Society, entitled from the funds thereof to a sum not exceeding £50, dies intestate and without having made any nomination under this Act which remains unrevoked at his death, such sum shall be payable, without letters of administration, to the person who appears to a majority of the trustees, upon such evidence as they may deem satisfactory, to be entitled by law to receive the same."

The Judge of the Chancery Division, to whom this application was made, held that the policy was not assignable otherwise than by nomination, and made no order on the motion. The assignee appealed; and the Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, holding that the policy had been validly assigned, and that the assignee was entitled to the policy money.—*In re Griffin—Griffin v. Griffin, Court of Appeal, December 4th.*

LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.

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

Canada.—There is no demand for more labour in Canada during the winter season, but several indoor trades—notably that of the tailors—have been very busy. Although the strike of miners at Roseland, British Columbia, has not formerly been declared off, work has been for the most part resumed, and the supply of labour is quiet sufficient.

New South Wales.—There have been disputes and strikes in the glass bottle trade, among tailoresses in the clothing trade, and at the Hillgrove mines: but they are now for the most part settled, a rise in wages having been conceded. Many persons at the Broken Hill silver mines complain of want of work: a reduction in the wages is contemplated, owing to the low price of lead. Reports state that at Mudgee there is a demand for farm and general labourers, female servants, carpenters, joiners, wheelwrights and engine drivers; that at Walgett "a few good steady men, able to turn their hands to anything, could earn £3 a week," but that at Willcannia there is no demand for any kind of labour.

Victoria.—The Boards appointed under the Factories Act have determined that the lowest wages which may be paid to a copper plate engraver shall be 80s. a week, of 48 hours, to male tailors' cutters and machinists in the clothing trade 7s. 6d. a day and to females 3s. 4d., to a harness maker or saddler 48s. per week for males (48 hours), and 20s. for females (45 hours). There is no demand at Melbourne for more mechanics. The carpenters at Melbourne have struck for a rise in their wages from 9s. to 10s. a day; the latter rate is already being paid to the more expert hands. Round Bendigo and in other country districts there is an opening for competent farmers and farm labourers.

Queensland.—The Report of the Government Labour Bureau for the quarter ending 30th September last, shows that there was a demand for a few mechanics at Charters Towers, Townsville, &c., but none elsewhere; that there was a good demand for agricultural labourers, and general labourers, especially in the South; that plantation hands were wanted in the districts of Bundaberg, Maryborough, &c.: that neither station hands nor miners were wanted anywhere; and that female servants were wanted in the North.

Western Australia.—Many of the carpenters at Fremantle, who are being paid less than the 12s. a day which others receive, have struck work. There is a good demand for farm labourers and female servants. There is no demand for miners, and very little for mechanics, unless they bring a little money, or are specially skilled.

New Zealand.—The building trades have been busy almost everywhere (but not at Wellington or Dunedin), and at Invercargill bricklayers have been in demand. The engineering trade is not giving full employment to men at Dunedin and Wellington: but elsewhere it is fairly good, and in Auckland blacksmithing and boiler-making have been brisk. The boot trade has been very good at Blenheim, and one or two other places, but very slack at Wellington and dull elsewhere. Both men and women in the clothing trades have been busy everywhere, and in Auckland, Dunedin and Invercargill there has been a scarcity of hands. Coal miners have been busy at Westport. Unskilled labour has been for the most part well employed, but there is no demand for more, except in parts for dairyhands and milkers.

South Africa.—No one is now allowed to land in South Africa without a permit. This must be applied for at the Permit Office, 39, 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. Only refugees, Government employees, and persons engaged

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

in a service of a public nature will be permitted to proceed to the Transvaal. Candidates for the new South African Constabulary in the Transvaal and the Orange River Colony 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.

Employment in December.—The building trades and quarrying were in the middle of their slack season in December. Employment was plentiful in the larger textile establishments, in the manufacture of silk, ribbons and trimmings, and in the leather trades. There was a noticeable improvement in glove-making; but velvet manufacture, artificial flower making and hat making continued quiet. Activity was well maintained among boot and shoemakers and milliners, and employment was also good in the printing and book trades, among pastrycooks and confectioners, and in certain food and drink purveying businesses. There was improved employment in forestry, but no change in agriculture or horticulture.

Out of 163,000 members of 862 Trade Unions (not including the miners' Unions in the Nord and Pas-de-Calais districts) which made reports to the French Labour Department as to the number out of work in December, 16,527, or about 10 per cent., were stated to be unemployed. The corresponding percentage for the previous month was 10.7.

Labour Disputes in November.—Twenty-nine disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in November, the number of workpeople known to have taken part in 26 of these disputes being 8,503. In the previous month 40 disputes, 39 of which involved 4,160 workpeople, were reported, and in November 1900, 70 disputes, involving 10,779 workpeople. Two of the 29 disputes of November 1901, occurred in the building trades, 2 in mining, 4 in the metal and shipbuilding trades, 10 in the textile trades, 3 in the transport trades, 3 in the printing and paper trades, 2 in the cane, fibre, etc., working trades, and 3 in trades not included in any of the foregoing groups. The number of disputes which terminated in November was 22; of these 3 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 12 in favour of the employers, and 7 were compromised.

Of the 8,503 workpeople known to have taken part in disputes in November 1901, 6,434, or a little over three-fourths, were miners of the Nord and Pas de Calais districts. A general strike movement was begun in these districts on November 9th, and ended on November 25th, without achieving its object, which was to obtain legislation fixing eight hour shifts and minimum wages and superannuation allowances for miners.

Coal Mining in November.—The average number of days worked per week by those employed underground in coal mines in November was 6.00, as compared with 5.98 in the previous month, and 5.95 in November 1900. During the month, full time (6 days and over per week) was worked by 90 per cent., and from 5 to 6 days by 10 per cent. of all employed in and about the mines. The above particulars were supplied to the French Labour Department by the Committee of Coal Owners, and relate to over 136,000 workpeople (that is, more than three-quarters of all employed in and about the mines).

Conciliation and Arbitration in November.—Five cases of recourse to the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported to the French Labour Department in November, the initiative being taken in one case by the workpeople and the other cases by the Justice of the Peace. The employers declined to form committees of conciliation in four cases. In the one case, in which a conciliation committee was formed, an agreement was arrived at, and the employees returned to work on the same day.

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the French Labour Department. † Bulletin de l'Office du Travail. (Journal of the French Labour Department.)

GERMANY.

Employment in December.—The state of employment, according to *Der Arbeitsmarkt*, was again worse in comparison both with the previous month and with the corresponding month of last year. The average number of applications for work per 100 situations offered at the employment registries making returns was 240.6 in December, as compared with 223.9 in the previous month and 177.9 a year ago.

Labour Disputes in December.—The same journal reports that 14 disputes began in December, as compared with 13 in the preceding month. Of these 2 occurred in the building trades, 4 in metal and engineering trades, 2 in textile trades, 3 in woodworking trades, and 3 in trades not included within any of these groups.

LUXEMBURG.

*Sickness Insurance Law.**—A law of July 31st, 1901, makes provision for the introduction of compulsory insurance against sickness in the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg. It is provided that the law shall take effect from a date to be fixed by decree of the Grand Duke, and may be applied in the first instance to particular classes of workmen only. The classes referred to in the Law itself are very numerous, and include practically all workpeople employed in every form of industrial and commercial enterprise, other than persons whose employment is of a temporary or casual nature. The Law, speaking generally, follows the lines of the German Sickness Insurance Laws, and, as under those Laws, two-thirds of the expense of the insurance will, as a rule, be borne by the workpeople, and one-third by their employers; but an employer, in whose factory the nature of the work involves special risk to health, may if the ordinary contributions of himself and his workpeople to the Insurance Fund prove insufficient to furnish the sick relief provided by the law, be called upon to make good the deficiency. The contributions may vary as between different classes of workpeople exposed to risks of different degrees, but must in all cases be fixed on such a scale that the share payable by the workman shall not, to start with, exceed 2 per cent. on his average daily wages; the scale may subsequently be raised so that the workman has to pay up to 3 per cent., but not higher, except with the assent of both employers and employed.

The minimum relief to be provided in sickness is as follows: (a) Free medical treatment and medicines; (b) in case of sickness rendering a workman unable to work, after the illness has lasted three days, an allowance equivalent to one-half of the average daily wages of workmen belonging to the class concerned, payable for every working day during which the illness continues, but neither (a) nor (b) can be claimed for more than 13 weeks; (c) in case of death, a funeral grant equivalent to 20 times the daily wage, but not to be less than £1 12s., or more than £3 4s. After her confinement, a woman will receive sick relief for 4 weeks, if she has, for not less than 6 out of the preceding 12 months, been a member of a Sickness Insurance Fund.

HOLLAND.

Amsterdam and Rotterdam Consular Districts.—In a despatch to the Foreign Office, under date of January 3rd, Mr. A. F. G. Leveson-Gower, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at the Hague, states that H.M. Consul at Amsterdam reports the last quarter to have been, with very trifling exceptions, one of nearly complete tranquillity in that Consular district. The diamond trade still continues in an unsatisfactory state, and the various branches have not yet been able to come to a definite settlement as to the fair proportions of their respective earnings. With regard to the dock labourers, the establishment of a Federation among shipowners and shipbrokers is stated to have had an excellent effect in calming the constantly recurring agitation among the labourers, who appear, too, to be well satisfied with the present arrangement for the mutual discussion of questions which formerly gave immediate occasion for strikes and lock-outs.

* Based on the text of the Law as published in the *Bulletin du Comité permanent du Congrès International des Accidents du Travail*, 1901. No. 3. Paris Secrétariat général du Comité, 20, Rue Louis-le-Grand.

The general conditions of labour in this Consular district are stated to be not more unsatisfactory than usual at this date.

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires reports that, in regard to the state of the labour market in Rotterdam, H.M. Consul at that port states that nothing of any importance has occurred during the last quarter.

Royal Decree Determining Obligation of Chambers of Labour to Furnish Labour Returns.—Under a Royal Decree of July 9th, 1901, it is required of every Chamber of Labour established under the Law of May 2nd, 1897, to supply the Ministry of Dykes, Commerce and Industry with returns on certain specified subjects in each trade represented in the Chamber.

As regards strikes and lock-outs, the Chambers are required to report the cause and nature of the dispute as soon after its commencement, and the result, as soon after its termination as possible.

The returns on other subjects will be either quarterly or annual. Those relating to the following subjects must be sent in by the 15th of April, July, October and January of each year, and have reference to the three preceding calendar months: (a) wages, (b) hours of labour; (c) the state of the labour market, (d) labour disputes not involving a stoppage of work; (e) schemes regulating wages and hours of labour (such as "fair wages" clauses in public contracts, and wages and hours agreements); and (f) Trade Unions and Employers' Associations formed and dissolved.

The returns on the following subjects are to be sent in annually by January 15th: (a) extent to which female and child labour are utilised, distinguishing home-work from factory work, where both obtain in a given trade; (b) practices in the nature of truck, where such prevail in the trade; (c) the conditions under which trades are learnt, apprenticeship; and (d) the nature and relative importance of home work and factory work, where both obtain in a given trade.—*De Economist*.

The Dutch Chambers of Labour are established on the recommendation of the Minister of Dykes, Commerce and Industry, wherever their establishment appears necessary and practicable. Their objects (in addition to the collection of information on questions affecting labour) are: To advise Government Departments or Local Authorities on subjects relating to the interests of labour; to give advice and frame agreements and regulations at the request of the parties interested; and to prevent and adjust disputes in regard to questions affecting labour, and, if necessity should arise, to bring about the reference of such disputes to arbitration between the parties. The Royal Decree establishing a Chamber fixes the number of its members, of whom one half must be employers, elected by the employers concerned, and the other half workmen, elected by the workmen concerned. The members hold office for five years, and are eligible for re-election. Each Chamber has two chairmen, one an employer and one a workman. The number of Chambers in existence at the end of 1900 was 76 (see GAZETTE, August, 1897, p. 229, and June, 1901, p. 174).

*Inspection of Factories and Workshops in 1900.**—The number of factories and workshops visited by the Factory Inspectors in Holland in 1900 was 10,067, employing 110,610 workpeople, viz., 10,265 boys and 6,611 girls of 12 to 16, and 78,150 male and 15,584 female workpeople over 16 years of age.

The number of contraventions of the Factory and Workshops Acts, in respect of which convictions were obtained in 1900, was 2,344. Among these were 52 cases of employment of children under the age of 12 years; 704 instances of persons under 16, or of women being employed at hours forbidden by the law (e.g., before 5 a.m. or after 7 p.m.); 579 cases of failure to produce the labour certificate required in respect of every person under 16 years old employed in an establishment coming under the law, and 822 cases of failure to enter the names of persons under 16, and women in the registers required to be posted in establishments in which such persons are employed. In the case of 2,197 (94 per cent.) of these convictions the fines inflicted were sums of 5 gulden (8s. 4d.) or less. The number of accidents reported was 5,305, of which 94 were fatal. Forty of the fatal accidents occurred in the building trades and 15 in the food and tobacco trades.

* *Verslagen van de Inspecteurs van den Arbeid in het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden over 1899 en 1900.* The Hague, Van Cleef Bros.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.*

Employment in Austria in October.—The returns of the Labour Registries (public and private) furnishing reports to the Austrian Labour Department show that the proportion of applications for work per 100 situations offered rose from 132 in September to 158 in October. Taking the sexes separately, we find that in October the proportion of applications per 100 situations offered was 210 in the case of male, and 97 in the case of female workpeople, the corresponding proportions in September being 190 and 76 respectively.

Labour Disputes in Austria in October.—Thirteen disputes were reported to the Austrian Labour Department as having begun in October, as compared with 17 in September. The number of workpeople involved in the October disputes is stated to have been about 1,050, as compared with some 900 who took part in those of the previous month. Two of the October disputes occurred in mining, 2 in the textile trades, 3 in the clothing trades, 4 in woodworking and cognate trades, and 2 in trades not included within these groups. Particulars as to 9 disputes begun and ended in October show that 2 resulted in favour of the workpeople, and 4 in favour of the employers, while 3 were compromised.

Collection of Statistics of Accidents in Agriculture in Hungary.—The collection of statistics of accidents in Hungary, which has hitherto been confined to accidents occurring in factories and on railways, has now been extended to those occurring in agriculture (including stock-rearing), forestry and allied occupations.

In regard to every person, who has met with an accident in any of the occupations just referred to, and for whom medical aid has been summoned, a return is to be made to the Central Statistical Office by the doctor or hospital concerned, on a form prescribed for that purpose. By way of recompense for the trouble involved in the making of these returns, the Ministry of Agriculture will contribute to each local branch of the Medical Association, in aid of the Provident and Widows' Fund of that Association, a grant at the rate of one penny for every notification of an accident received during the year from the doctors and hospitals of the locality.

SPAIN.

Strikes in Barcelona.—Reporting to the Foreign Office under date of January 4th, Mr. J. F. Roberts, H. M. Consul-General at Barcelona, stated that various industrial and trading communities in that locality had, during the previous week, placed themselves on strike, their demands being a working day of nine hours and increase of wages. The strike was commenced by the metal workers, then shortly followed by the carters, who, however, resumed work on January 3rd. On that day, however, work was suspended in all the spinning factories, dye-works, tanneries, etc., in and near Barcelona.

(According to a newspaper report, work had been resumed at all the factories by January 10th.)

DENMARK.

Workmen's Compensation for Accidents, 1900.—The *Statistisk Aarog*, 1901, published by the Danish Government Statistical Office, gives some figures relating to proceedings under the Workmen's Compensation Law of January 7th, 1898, during the second year of its operation. (For an account of this Law see GAZETTE, February 1898, p. 41.)

The total number of persons injured by accidents, as reported to the Insurance Council in 1900 was 2,280, as against 1,906 in the previous year (January 15th to December 31st). The number of cases dealt with in the course of the year under review was 2,237. In 473 cases the claims made were rejected either because the injured persons were shown to have been engaged in occupations not within the scope of the Law, or because the accidents, which they met with, were not of a nature entitling them to compensation under the Law. Of the remaining 1,764 cases dealt with in 1900, 53 had relation to fatal accidents, 529 related to accidents which entailed permanent impairment of working power, and 1,182 had reference to persons whose injuries were cured, no permanent incapacity resulting. In all the 53 cases of death, burial money was paid; but so far as concerns compensation to dependents for loss of breadwinners, such

* *Sociale Rundschau* (Journal of the Austrian Labour Department).

compensation was paid in 40 cases only, the deceased in 13 cases leaving no dependents.

The total amount paid in compensation for loss of breadwinners was £7,005, or £175 on an average for every such person whose injuries proved fatal. The total amount paid in respect of permanent incapacity was £24,953, viz., £12,232 to 404 persons whose working powers had been reduced by one-fourth or less, and £12,721 to 125 persons whose working powers had been impaired to an extent exceeding one-fourth, or had been entirely destroyed.

In regard to 481 of the accidents reported to the Insurance Council in 1900, no decision had been pronounced at the end of the year.

Old-Age Relief in 1897-99.—The same volume contains the latest figures relating to the working of the Old-Age Relief Law of April 9th, 1891 (see GAZETTE, April, 1899, p. 105). The number of persons in receipt of relief under this Law and the cost of such relief in 1897-99 are shown below.

	1897 (Dec. 31st).	1898 (Dec. 31st).	1899 (Dec. 31st).
	Number.	Number.	Number.
I. Direct recipients of relief—			
Heads of families ...	12,737	13,130	13,384
Single persons ...	26,311	27,629	28,490
II. Indirect recipients of relief—			
Persons dependent on heads of families...	15,240	15,897	15,895
Total (I. and II.) ...	54,288	56,656	57,769
	£	£	£
Cost of relief—			
To Municipalities ...	115,527	126,426	134,684
„ State ...	117,220	126,426	134,857
Total ...	232,747	252,852	269,541

It is stated that the direct recipients of relief (taking the average for the three years 1897-99) formed 21 per cent. of the total population of Denmark over 60 years of age. This is exclusive of persons in receipt of temporary assistance under the Law, who are not included in the Table, and who numbered 388 in 1899, as against 369 in 1898, and 417 in 1897.

The relief granted under this Law is not fixed in amount, but "must be sufficient for the support of the person relieved, and of his or her family, and for their treatment in case of sickness; but it may be given in money or in kind, as circumstances require, or consist in free admission to a suitable asylum or other establishment intended for that purpose." Of the direct recipients of relief in 1899, 927 were being maintained in establishments of the kind referred to.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

NEW YORK CONSULAR DISTRICT.

The National Civic Federation of the United States.—In a report dated December 20th, 1901, and transmitted through the Foreign Office, Sir Percy Sanderson, K.C.M.G., H.M. Consul-General at New York, states that the annual meeting of the Industrial Department of the National Civic Federation was held in New York on December 16th and 17th. The convention met to discuss the best method to ensure harmony between capital and labour and to avert strikes. It was presided over by Mr. Oscar S. Straus, President of the New York Board of Trade and Transportation, and was attended by representatives of both capital and labour, as well as by Bishop Potter and Archbishop Ireland, representing respectively the Protestant Episcopal and Roman Catholic Churches.

Speeches were made by Senator Hanna, Mr. Schwab (President of the United States Steel Corporation), Archbishop Ireland, Mr. Phillips (Secretary of the Hatters' Union), Mr. Sargent (President of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen), and Mr. Samuel Gompers (President of the American Federation of Labour). A Committee of 36 members was appointed, composed of 12 representatives each of the general public, capitalists and labour leaders, the duty of the Committee being to devise means whereby the relations between capital and labour might be improved and strikes averted or settled. The Committee is to be called the Industrial Department of the National Civic Federation. Its object is to prevent strikes and lock-outs, and to aid in renewing industrial relations when a rupture has occurred. It will not consider abstract industrial problems, and will assume no powers of arbitration, unless such powers be conferred by both parties to a dispute.

EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER—COAL AND IRON MINING.

REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

(a) COAL MINING IN DECEMBER.

[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 December continued good, and showed an improvement in nearly every district as compared with November. As compared with a year ago employment showed, on the whole, no change.

The average number of days worked per week in December, 1901, by collieries included in the returns, was 5.46, as compared with 5.33 days in November; the number of persons employed also showed a slight increase. In December, 1900, the average number of days worked was also 5.46 per week, but the number employed was less than in December, 1901.

The following Table, relating to 1,353 pits, at which 488,599 workpeople were employed, gives the figures for December, 1901, in comparison with those for a month and a year ago:—

District.	No. employed in Dec., 1901, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the pits in four weeks ended		
		21st Dec., 1901.	22nd Dec., 1900.	23rd Nov., 1901.
England and Wales ...	446,172	5.46	5.46	5.32
Scotland ...	41,780	5.44	5.41	5.38
Ireland ...	647	5.36	5.67	5.06
United Kingdom ...	488,599	5.46	5.46	5.33

The number of workpeople employed at the pits from which returns have been received for both periods was 2.4 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 88.8 per cent. were employed at pits working 5 or more days per week in the four weeks ended December 21st, as compared with 82.1 per cent. in November and 84.4 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.	December, 1901.		Corresponding percentages in	
	No. of Workpeople employed.	Percentage proportion to total.	December, 1900.	November, 1901.
24 days (full time) ...	124,393	25.5	25.0	20.4
20 and under 24 days ...	309,561	63.3	63.4	61.7
16 " " 20 " " ...	43,509	8.9	13.7	15.9
12 " " 16 " " ...	2,937	0.6	2.2	2.5
8 " " 12 " " ...	787	0.2	0.2	0.4
Under 8 days ...	7,392	1.5	0.1	1.1
Total ...	488,599	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 in nine districts and less in six than a year ago. The increase was greatest in Gloucester and Somerset (35 days per week). The decrease was greatest in Yorkshire and in Ireland (31 days per week each). In Yorkshire, however, employment in December, 1901, was interrupted by disputes chiefly connected with the interpretation of the Home Office rule as to the supply of timber. There was no change in West Scotland.

Compared with the previous month every district showed an increase except North Wales and Fife, in which districts there was practically no change. The increase was greatest in Ireland (30 days per week), Northumberland and Yorkshire (26 days per week each). In South Wales and Monmouth where the next greatest increase occurred (22 days per week), the miners stopped work on one day in the four weeks ended December 21st, and two days in the preceding four weeks with a view to restrict the output and maintain the price of coal.

The highest averages during the month were worked in Salop, Worcester and Warwick, Gloucester and Somerset, and the Lothians (5.76 days per week each), North Wales (5.74 days), South Wales and Monmouth (5.65 days), Derbyshire (5.61 days), and Durham (5.54 days). In no case was the average less than five days per week, the lowest being worked in the Nottingham and Leicester district (5.09 days).

COMPARISON OF THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED BY COLLIERIES IN DECEMBER, 1901 AND 1900, AND IN NOVEMBER, 1901.

District.	No. employed in Dec., 1901, 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 Dec., 1901, as compared with	
		21st Dec., 1901.	22nd Dec., 1900.	23rd Nov., 1901.	A year ago.	A month ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ...	38,595	5.39	5.29	5.13	+ .10	+ .26
Durham ...	92,074	5.54	5.49	5.49	+ .05	+ .05
Cumberland ...	7,165	5.46	5.39	5.28	+ .07	+ .18
Yorkshire ...	72,726	5.22	5.53	4.96	-.31	+ .26
Lancashire and Cheshire...	51,741	5.42	5.47	5.24	+ .05	+ .18
Derbyshire ...	39,620	5.61	5.41	5.53	+ .20	+ .08
Nottingham and Leicester	27,456	5.09	4.88	5.08	+ .21	+ .01
Staffordshire ...	27,666	5.49	5.53	5.30	-.04	+ .19
Salop, Worcester and Warwick ...	9,414	5.76	5.47	5.62	+ .29	+ .14
Gloucester and Somerset...	8,751	5.76	5.41	5.64	+ .35	+ .12
North Wales ...	12,332	5.74	5.48	5.75	+ .26	-.01
South Wales and Mon. ...	58,632	5.65	5.70	5.43	-.05	+ .22
SCOTLAND.		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
West Scotland ...	22,283	5.42	5.42	5.34	...	+ .08
The Lothians ...	4,408	5.76	5.87	5.66	-.11	+ .10
Fife ...	15,089	5.36	5.26	5.36	+ .10	...
IRELAND.		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
... ..	647	5.36	5.67	5.06	-.31	+ .30
Grand Total & Averages	488,599	5.46	5.46	5.33	...	+ .13

The Exports of coal, coke, cinders, and patent fuel during December amounted to 3,431,973 tons, as compared with 3,469,365 tons in November and 3,604,997 tons in December, 1900.

(b) IRON MINING IN DECEMBER.

RETURNS relating to employment in this industry show that it continues good, with practically no change in the average number of days worked per week as compared with a month or a year ago. The number employed in December was considerably less than a year ago.

The average number of days worked in the four weeks ended December 21st by 135 iron mines and open works to which the returns relate was 5.77 per week, as compared with 5.72 days in the four weeks ended November 23rd, and 5.83 days in December, 1900. The number of workpeople employed at the mines covered by the returns was 15,479 (or 1,354 less than a year ago), of whom 83.5 per cent. were employed at mines working 22 or more days during the four weeks ended December 21st, compared with 93.5 per cent. a year ago.

The following Table summarises the Returns received:

District.	No. employed in Dec., 1901, 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 Dec., 1901, as compared with	
		21st Dec., 1901.	22nd Dec., 1900.	23rd Nov., 1901.	A year ago.	A month ago.
ENGLAND—		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	4,811	5.93	5.90	5.89	+ .03	+ .04
Cleveland ...	6,404	5.69	5.77	5.64	-.08	+ .05
Lincolnshire and Leicestershire ...	765	5.57	5.66	5.35	-.09	+ .22
Northamptonshire	659	5.76	5.90	5.81	-.14	-.05
Staffordshire and Shropshire ...	1,415	5.48	5.82	5.46	-.34	+ .02
Other places in England...	80	5.72	5.54	5.86	+ .18	-.14
SCOTLAND ...	1,252	6.00	5.98	5.91	+ .02	+ .09
IRELAND ...	93	6.00	5.91	+ .09
Total and Averages	15,479	5.77	5.83	5.72	-.06	+ .05

EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER—PIG IRON; IRON AND STEEL AND TINPLATE WORKS.

(c) PIG-IRON INDUSTRY IN DECEMBER.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry shows little change as compared with a month ago. The number of furnaces in blast is however distinctly less 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 December, as compared with 316 in November, and 326 in December, 1900. During December four furnaces were re-lit in England and Wales, and four were damped down or blown out; in Scotland one furnace was blown out.

The estimated number of workpeople employed at the 315 furnaces in blast at the end of December was 22,000. 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.		
	Dec., 1901.	Dec., 1900.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Dec., 1901.	Dec., 1901.	Nov., 1901.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Dec., 1901.
ENGLAND & WALES—						
Cleveland ...	79	82	- 3	79	80	- 1
Cumberland & Lancs.	43	43	...	43	43	...
S. and S.W. Yorks...	16	15	+ 1	16	16	...
Lincolnshire ...	13	12	+ 1	13	13	...
Midlands ...	81	84	- 3	81	79	+ 2
Glamorgan and Mon.	13	16	- 3	13	14	- 1
Other districts ...	8	8	...	8	8	...
Total England and Wales...	253	260	- 7	253	253	...
SCOTLAND ...	62	66	- 4	62	63	- 1
Total furnaces included in returns ...	315	326	- 11	315	316	- 1

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

EMPLOYMENT in these industries shows a decline in the numbers 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, on the whole, less, although Scotland shows a large percentage increase.

Numbers Employed.

At 201 works covered by the returns, 77,956 workpeople were employed in the week ended December 21st, as compared with 79,275 in the week ended November 30th, and 78,048 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 Dec., 1901, as compared with	
	Dec. 21st, 1901.	Dec. 22nd, 1900.	Nov. 30th, 1901.	A year ago.	A month ago.
England and Wales ...	64,987	66,100	66,154	- 1,113	- 1,167
Scotland ...	12,969	11,948	13,121	+ 1,021	- 152
Total ...	77,956	78,048	79,275	- 92	- 1,319

Weekly Number of Shifts Worked.

Information as to the number of shifts worked has been received with respect to works employing about 88 per cent. of these workpeople, and the particulars are summarised in the Table below. The average number of shifts worked was 5.38 per man in the week ended December 21st, as compared with 5.43 in the week ended November 30th, and 5.30 in the corresponding week a year ago.

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

Number of Shifts worked.	Number employed in Dec., 1901, so far as returned.	Percentage proportion to Total.	Corresponding percentage in	
			Dec., 1900.	Nov., 1901.
Under 5 per week ...	8,091	11.9	14.6	7.7
5 per week ...	23,721	34.7	33.3	37.6
5½ per week ...	971	1.4	1.6	1.5
6 per week ...	34,851	51.0	49.3	52.1
Over 6 per week ...	659	1.0	1.0	1.1
Total ...	68,293	100.0	100.0	100.0

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 419,344 in the week ended December 21st, 430,729 in the week ended November 30th, and 413,496 in the corresponding week a year ago. Thus the volume of employment at the works included in the returns was 2.6 per cent. less than a month ago, and 1.4 per cent. greater than a year ago.

(e) EMPLOYMENT AT TINPLATE WORKS* IN DECEMBER.

EMPLOYMENT shows a decline as compared with November, but is still much better than a year ago. During Christmas week the majority of the works were closed for a part or whole of the week.

At the end of December 44 works with 211 mills had all their mills in operation, whilst 33 others had 167 mills at work out of a total of 231. Thus in all 378 mills were working, as compared with 393 at the end of November, and 342 mills a year ago. The number of people employed at the mills in operation at the end of December is estimated to be about 18,900.

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	211	...	211
Works giving partial employment ...	33	167	64	231
Total at end of December, 1901† ...	77	378	64	442
<i>Corresponding Total for Nov., 1901†</i>	78	393	55	448
<i>Corresponding Total for Dec., 1900†</i>	72	342	72	414

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

	Tinplates.			Blackplates.		
	Dec., 1901.	Nov., 1901.	Dec., 1900.	Dec., 1901.	Nov., 1901.	Dec., 1900.
To United States ...	8,406	7,542	4,923	37	34	...
Other Countries ...	16,367	17,371	19,409	4,145	3,777	3,866
Total ...	24,773	24,913	24,332	4,182	3,811	3,866

* 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.

EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

(f) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN DECEMBER.

THE Agricultural Correspondent to the Department on the basis of 242 returns from various parts of England reports as follows: Agricultural labourers were generally speaking, regularly employed during December. Casual labourers, however, in many cases lost some time owing to unfavourable weather. There was in many districts but little demand for extra men, farm work being in a forward state owing to the open weather during the Autumn. The weather in the early part of the month was favourable for outdoor employment, such as ploughing, threshing, hedging, and ditching, etc. During the latter part of the month, however, rain, snow, or frost interrupted field work for a time, but in wet weather work under cover was generally found for the regular men, and in frosty weather threshing, manure carting, and wood cutting were proceeded with.

Northern Counties.—Reports from *Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland and Westmorland* state that rain and snow occasioned loss of time to casual labourers. There has been no scarcity of agricultural labour in these counties during the month. A report from the Carlisle Union states that the men who have been in irregular work are "mainly young men who did not engage at the Martinmas Term." Farm labourers in *Lancashire* have been, generally speaking, regularly employed during the month. Some casual men, however, have been in irregular work owing to bad weather, and a correspondent in North Lancashire states that "work was very irregular; just a day's work off and on, such as a day's threshing, &c." The reports from this county state that the supply of farm labour has been equal to the demand.

Agricultural employment in the *East Riding of Yorkshire* has been affected by unfavourable weather, but the regular men have been employed under cover on days when outdoor work has been impracticable, casual labourers being the only class who have lost time. The supply of this class of labour has been plentiful, but a report from the Bridlington Union states that the supply of ploughmen and horsemen is decidedly less than the demand. In the *North Riding* a few farm labourers have been in irregular employment in some districts owing chiefly to stormy weather. The supply of labour is generally stated to be sufficient, but there has been some scarcity of extra men for threshing in the *Darlington and Scarborough Unions*. A correspondent in the Ripon Union writes that "a few young men who failed to get an engagement at Martinmas are yet out of employment." In *Guisborough Union* a report states; "Weather wintry the last two weeks [of December]. Work pretty well forward. A good deal of threshing going on which keeps all hands employed." Employment has been fairly regular in the *West Riding* except in the case of some casual labourers. A report from the Goole Union states that frost and rain "considerably checked farmers delivering potatoes, also stopping threshing operations and causing casual hands to be only half their time employed." The supply of labour is stated to be better than of late, but a correspondent in the Goole Union writes that though there is "quite sufficient labour of a kind, skilled men who can hedge, dyke and under-drain are scarce. Ploughboys are also rather scarce."

Midland Counties.—The regular farm labourers in *Derbyshire and Cheshire* have been in constant employment, but a few casual men have lost some time owing to snow and rain. Labour is said to be scarce in the *Tarvin Union (Cheshire)*, and some scarcity of men for threshing is reported in the *Derbyshire* portion of the Worksop Union. In the other unions reported on the supply of labour appears to be sufficient. A correspondent in the *Nantwich Union (Cheshire)* writes as follows:—"In consequence of the stormy, wet weather, ploughing is somewhat backward; the week's frost enabled farmers to cart out their manure to the land. A good deal of threshing has been done during December." In *Nottinghamshire* outdoor work was interrupted during the last fortnight of the month by snow and frost, and some casual hands were consequently in irregular employment. With reference to the supply of labour a correspondent in the *Retford Union* states that labourers are "not more plentiful in numbers, but less are wanted," while in the *Southwell Union* it is reported that the supply of regular farm labourers is about the same, but that casual labour is more abundant and farmers have had no difficulty in getting extra hands from a distance for threshing.

Farm labourers in *Leicestershire* have for the most part been regularly employed, although there was a good deal of frosty weather in the latter part of the month. A correspondent in the *Market Bosworth Union* states that "the weather has not

in any way affected agricultural labour during the frost; attending to the stock and manure carting has filled up men's time." The supply of skilled labour is generally said to be scarce. Reports have been received from the Unions of *Barrow-on-Soar, Blaby, Loughborough, Lutterworth, Market Harborough, Melton Mowbray, and Uppingham*. Agricultural employment in *Staffordshire and Shropshire* is said to have been generally regular, but a few casual labourers have not had constant employment in consequence of bad weather. Farm work is well forward and few extra men have been required. The supply of labour is reported as sufficient, except in the *Oswestry Union*, where labour is said to be scarce. Regularity of employment is reported in *Worcestershire*, and the supply of labour is stated to be equal to the demand. A correspondent in the *Shipston-on-Stour Union* writes that: "the weather has been very changeable during the month but it has not interfered with labour." In *Warwickshire* employment has been regular. Labour is said to be scarce in the *Foleshill Union* ("no extra hands to be had"), but in the other unions reported on the supply is stated to be sufficient and more plentiful than of late. Reports have been received from the Unions of *Alcester, Atherstone, Coventry, Foleshill, Meriden, Rugby, and Stratford-on-Avon*.

In *Oxfordshire* agricultural employment is said to have been regular, but not so good as a year ago. The supply of labour is stated to be generally sufficient, but cattlemen are reported to be scarce in the *Headington and Thame Unions*. Reports from *Northamptonshire* state that, with few exceptions, farm labourers have been well employed during December, and that there has been a sufficient supply of labour. In the *Kettering Union*, however, skilled men are said to be scarce. Reports have been received from the Unions of *Banbury, Brixworth, Hardingstone, Kettering, Oundle, Potterspury, and Wellingborough*. Agricultural labourers in *Buckinghamshire* have been, generally speaking, regularly employed. Farm work is well forward and the supply of labour is quite equal to the present limited requirements of farmers. Employment in *Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire* has been generally regular but some casual labourers have not had constant work. The supply of extra men has been ample in most districts, and an employer in the *Bedford Union* writes: "All work being so far forward owing to the fine autumn, there was very little to do this month (December). Labour was easier to get than has been the case for years."

Eastern Counties.—Reports from *Huntingdonshire* show that agricultural employment has been generally regular, though a few men have been in irregular work in the *St. Neot's Union*. Farm labourers in *Cambridgeshire* have been, with few exceptions, regularly employed. The weather was fairly good during the greater part of December, and farm work is said to be in a forward state. A slight scarcity of labour is referred to in a report from the *Wisbech Union*. In *Lincolnshire* outdoor work was interrupted for a few days owing to wet weather, and a few casual labourers have experienced some irregularity of employment. Reports have been received from the Unions of *Brigg, Caistor, Holbeach, Louth, Newark, Sleaford, and Spilsby*. The supply of labour is said to have been sufficient in most of the Unions reported on. A correspondent in the *Brigg Union* writes: "Outside labourers could this year be got if required, for pulling swedes, from neighbouring small towns."

Employment is said to have been fairly regular in *Norfolk*. There has been some wet and cold weather, but suitable work has generally been found under cover, while on frosty days threshing and manure carting has provided employment. During the open weather ploughing, ditching, hedging, etc., has gone forward. In some districts a few casual labourers have had some difficulty in finding regular employment. A report from the *Smallburgh Union* states that owing to building operations along the coast being slack, a good many labourers are spread over the various parishes in the Union looking for odd jobs. The supply of labour is generally said to be sufficient for requirements. Reports have been received from the following Poor Law Unions:—*Aylsham, Blofield, Depwade, Docking, Downham, Erpingham, East and West Flegg, Forehoe, Freebridge Lynn, Gaultcross, Henstead, Loddon and Clavering, St. Faiths', Smallburgh, Swaffham, Thetford, and Walsingham*.

Regularity of employment is reported in *Suffolk*, except in the case of a few casual labourers in certain districts, who have not had full employment during wet weather. Reports have been received from the Unions of *Blything, Bosmere and Claydon, Cosford, Hartismere, Hoxne, Mildenhall, Mutford and Lotingland, Plomesgate, Risbridge, Samford, Sudbury, Thingoe, and Wangford*. The supply of labour is reported to be generally quite sufficient. A correspondent in the *Hoxne Union* writes: "Root crop short, having a tendency to decrease the demand for labour, and

EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR; WOMEN IN TEXTILE TRADES.

and an employer in the *Bosmere and Claydon Union* reports as follows: "Labour has been more plentiful in December than it has been for some time. All farm work is unusually forward; a small root crop and a short threshing season through small bulk of straw, with the aid of a very fine autumn to push on all kinds of labour, makes us now very independent of extra hands."

Agricultural employment in *Essex* is stated to have been generally good during the month, the weather being for the most part favourable for outdoor work, but some casual labourers have been in irregular employment in about half of the Unions reported on. Reports have been received from the Unions of *Billerica, Braintree, Colchester, Dunmow, Halstead, Maldon, Ongar, Orsett, and Tendring*. There has been, generally speaking, an ample supply of labour, and an employer in the *Tendring Union* states that: "We have certainly a better supply of labour than we have had for the last few years." A correspondent in the *Billerica Union* writes: "Farm work very forward, and farmers can contrive to afford to do without some of their labourers, hoping to be able to put them on later when spring work begins."

Southern and South-Western Counties.—In *Kent* farm labourers have been in regular employment, with the exception of a few casual men in certain districts. In the *Hollingbourne Union*, however, it is reported that "a good many casuals are asking for work." Some wet weather towards the end of the month interfered with outdoor operations, but work under cover was generally found for the permanent farm labourers. The supply of labour is said to be sufficient. Reports have been received from the Poor Law Unions of *Blean, Bridge, Elham, Faversham, Hollingbourne, Hoo, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, Thanet, and West Ashford*. Reports from *Surrey* state that agricultural employment has been regular, a few casual men only having been in irregular work. A correspondent in the *Hambleton Union* states that there has been "work in the woods for all men who knew how to do it, wood-cutting having got behind for some years."

Regularity of employment is reported in *Sussex*, though a few casual men and men on piecework have lost some time owing to wet weather. A report from the *Newhaven Union* states that "ploughing has been going on without interruption, as the frost has not been hard enough to stop it. All work is forward." Reports have been received from the Unions of *Battle, Chailey, Cuckfield, Hailsham, Horsham, Newhaven, Petworth, Rye, Ticehurst, and Uckfield*. Most of the reports refer to a sufficiency of labour. In the *Petworth Union*, however, men continue to be scarce, especially carters and cowmen. Farm labourers in *Hampshire* have been fairly well employed, though outdoor work has been interrupted to some slight extent by unfavourable weather. In the *Havant Union*, however, it is reported that several casual labourers were thrown out of employment during the last nine days of the month, owing to wet weather. The supply of labour is generally said to be about sufficient for the small amount of work at present in hand, but a correspondent in the *Hartley Wintney Union* states that hands for working in the woods are scarce, though there are enough men for ordinary farm work. In *Berkshire* employment has been regular for able-bodied farm labourers. On some days outdoor work, especially wood-cutting, has been stopped owing to bad weather, but on such occasions work under cover has been found for the regular men.

Agricultural employment in *Wiltshire* has been regular during the month. Frost and rain have at times interrupted work in the fields, but during frosty weather men have been engaged in carting manure, threshing, &c., while, during the rainy weather, suitable indoor work has generally been provided. A correspondent in the *Mere Union* writes as follows: "Snow, frost and rain we have had, but all men kept fully employed. Stone cracking, hedging, draining, wood cutting, threshing, and sending off corn have kept men fully employed." Scarcity of shepherds, carters and stockmen is reported in the *Tisbury and Warminster Unions*, but there appears to have been about sufficient ordinary farm labourers in the county for present needs. Reports have been received from the Unions of *Bradford-on-Avon, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett, Devizes, Marlborough, Mere, Pewsey, Tisbury, Warminster, and Westbury and Whorwellsdown*. In *Dorsetshire* employment has been generally regular, and farming operations are well advanced. Some men on piecework have, however, been hindered by wet weather. The supply of labour is said to be equal to the demand in all the Unions reported on. Farm labourers in *Somersetshire*, with the exception of a few casual men in certain districts, have been well employed in December. Reports have been received from the Unions of *Axbridge, Bridgwater, Chard, Clutton, Frome, Langport, Taunton, Wellington, Wells, and Yeovil*. In most of these Unions the supply of labour has been sufficient, and a

correspondent in the *Axbridge Union* states that there has been "plenty of labour available as several public works were completed." On the other hand a report from the *Taunton Union* states that in the case of competent labourers the demand exceeds the supply, and in the *Wells Union* scarcity of labour is reported.

Regularity of employment is reported in *Herefordshire*. There has been some snow and rain, but employment has not been affected to any appreciable extent. Some casual labourers have however, lost time owing to frost. In *Gloucestershire* outdoor work was interrupted towards the end of the month by unfavourable weather, but labourers were generally found suitable work. During the frosty weather threshing, carting manure and wood-cutting provided employment for all hands. The supply of ordinary farm labourers is said to be sufficient for present needs, but men, for work involving Sunday labour, such as milkers, continue to be scarce. Reports have been received from the Poor Law Unions of *Barton Regis, Chipping Sodbury, Dursley, Gloucester, Northleach, Stow-on-the-Wold and Thornbury*.

Agricultural employment is reported as having been generally regular in *Devonshire and Cornwall*, and although bad weather was experienced in the last two weeks of December, very few men lost time on that account. Several reports refer to a continued scarcity of labour, while others state that the supply has been "sufficient" or "barely sufficient." A correspondent in the *Kingsbridge Union* writes as follows:—"Men very scarce in some districts; farmers in some instances having to do all the work themselves assisted by their children."

(g) EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE TEXTILE TRADES IN DECEMBER.

ACCORDING to returns from women correspondents, employment for women showed a slight decline in the spinning branch of the cotton trade, and a slight improvement in the weaving branch; in the woollen and worsted trades there was a decline due to increased slackness in the *Dewsbury and Bradford districts*. Information has been received with regard to 589 cotton, woollen and worsted mills, employing about 100,400 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—				
December, 1901	91	6	1	2
November, 1901	94	4	2	...
December, 1900	89	9	1	1
Cotton Trade—Weaving—				
December, 1901	73	20	4	3
November, 1901	71	23	6	...
December, 1900	85	9	1	5
Woollen and Worsted Trades—				
December, 1901	57	42	1	...
November, 1901	84	12	4	...
December, 1900	65	17	18	...
Total of above Trades—				
December, 1901	74	21	3	2
November, 1901	80	15	4	...
December, 1900	82	11	4	3

Cotton Trade—Spinning.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton spinning mills reported on is 27,400; of these, 91 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 94 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in November, and with 89 per cent. in December, 1900.

Cotton Trade—Weaving.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton weaving factories reported on is 51,500; of these, 73 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 71 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in November, and with 85 per cent. in December, 1900.

* Excluding the annual holidays.

EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER—SEAMEN; DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR.

Woollen and Worsted Trades.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted mills reported on is 21,500; of these, 57 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 84 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in November, and with 65 per cent. in December, 1900.

(b) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN DECEMBER.

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

THE number of seamen shipped during December as crews of foreign-going vessels, from certain selected ports (at which about 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared), was 30,090,* or 24.8 less than in December, 1900. The supply of seamen and firemen is stated to have been equal to or in excess of the demand at nearly all the ports. At Glasgow, however, there was a scarcity of men for sailing vessels towards the end of the month.

The number of men shipped during the year 1901 amounted to 416,821,* as compared with 397,035 shipped in 1900, the greatest increase occurring at the port of Liverpool.

Of the total number of seamen shipped during the year, 65,434 (or 15.7 per cent.) were foreigners, as compared with 14.9 per cent. in 1900. Lascars who are engaged in Asia are not included in these figures.

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 December, 1901 and 1900 respectively, together with the number* shipped in the twelve months ended December, in each of these years:—

Table with columns: Principal Ports, Number of Men, &c., shipped in December, 1901, Total in Dec., 1900, Total number shipped in year ended December, 1901, 1900. Rows include England and Wales (East Coast, Bristol Channel, Other Ports), Scotland, and Ireland.

(c) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN DECEMBER.

EMPLOYMENT at the docks and wharves during December showed an improvement as compared with a month ago but was not so good as a year ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and the principal wharves during the four weeks ended December 28th was 16,322, as compared with 15,909 in the preceding five weeks, and 17,440 in December, 1900.

(1) Weekly Averages.—The following Table shows

* 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.

the estimated average number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily in each week of the month:—

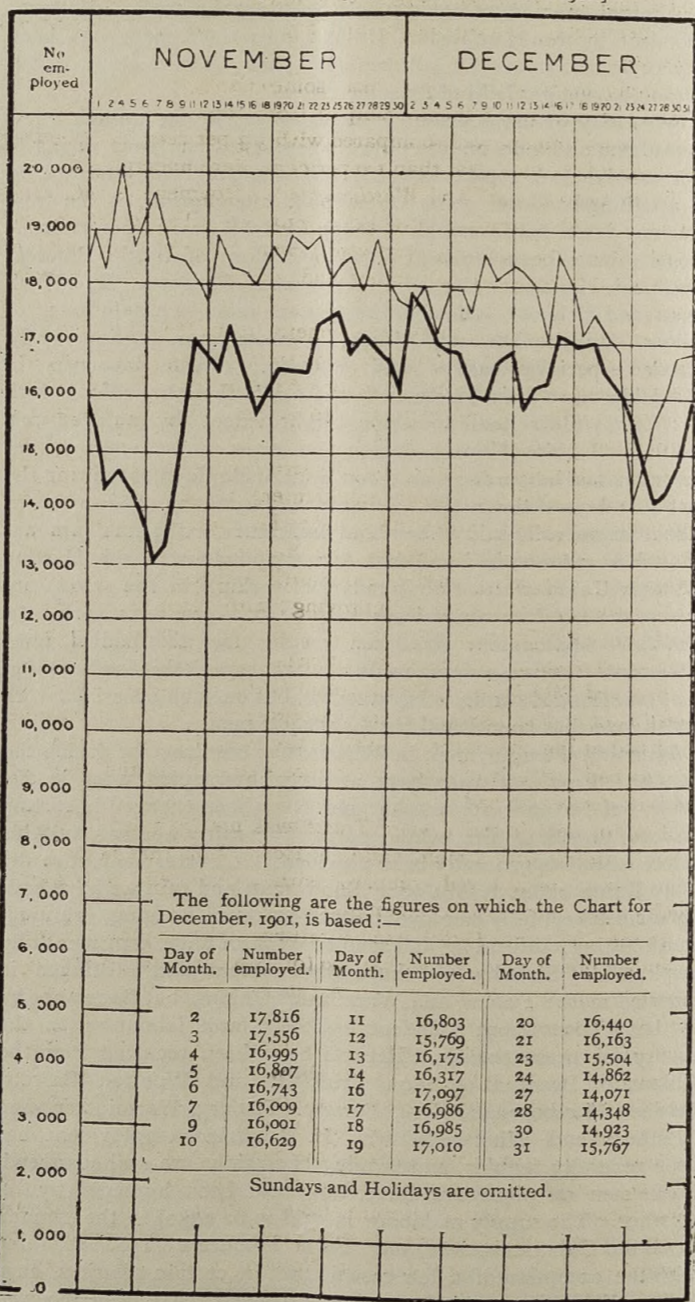
Table with columns: Period, Labourers employed in Docks (By Dock Companies or through Contractors, By Ship-owners, &c., Total), Labourers employed at 115 Wharves making Returns, Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns. Rows include Week ended Dec. 7, 14, 21, 28, Average for 4 weeks ended Dec. 28th, 1901, Average for Dec., 1900, Average for Nov., 1901.

(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 December ranged from 17,816 on the 2nd to 14,071 on the 27th.

During December, 1900, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed varied from 18,598 on the 17th to 14,014 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 November and December, 1901. The corresponding curve for November and December, 1900, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1901, and the thin curve to 1900.]



The following are the figures on which the Chart for December, 1901, is based:—

Table with columns: Day of Month, Number employed. Rows for days 2 through 10 of December 1901.

Sundays and Holidays are omitted.

Particulars respecting the employment of other classes of dock and riverside labourers will be found under "District Reports, London," on page 19.

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

DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

LONDON.

General.—Returns from 469 branches of 127 unions, having an aggregate membership of 81,549, show that 4,259 (or 5.2 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of December, compared with 3.6 per cent. in November and 4.8 per cent. in December, 1900.

Employment in the Engineering, Metal and Shipbuilding trades shows a slight falling off. Returns from 160 branches of 29 unions, with a membership of 24,734, show that 1,002 (or 4.1 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.7 per cent. in November and 3.1 per cent. in December a year ago. Employment with sail-makers remained bad.

In the Building trades employment has continued to fall off. Returns from 188 branches of 8 unions paying unemployed benefit, with a membership of 13,318, show that 532 (or 4.0 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.5 per cent. in November, and 3.8 per cent. in December, 1900. The plumbers describe employment as moderate; the stone carvers as quiet; the bricklayers, stonemasons, carpenters and joiners, and painters and decorators as dull; the plasterers and glaziers as bad.

Employment in the Furnishing trades is bad. Returns from 35 branches of 16 unions, with a membership of 5,965, show that 589 (or 9.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 5.0 per cent. in November, and 11.8 per cent. in December, 1900.

In the Woodworking trades employment has continued to fall off. Returns from 7 branches of 3 unions with a membership of 949 show that 34 (or 3.6 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.5 per cent. in November and 1.5 per cent. in December a year ago.

Employment with Coopers has somewhat improved. Returns from 2 unions with a membership of 1,080 show that 37 (or 3.4 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 5.3 per cent. in November. In December, 1900, less than 1.0 per cent. were unemployed.

With Coachbuilders and Wheelwrights employment is scarcely so good. Returns from 12 branches of 7 unions with a membership of 1,496, show that 59 (or 3.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.9 per cent. in November. The percentage for December, 1900, was 5.3.

Owing to seasonal causes employment in the Printing and Book-binding trades has fallen off. Returns from 26 unions with a membership of 25,142 show that 1,419 (or 5.6 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.9 per cent. in November. The percentage for December, 1900, was 5.3.

Employment in the Clothing trades still remains quiet. The West End bespoke tailors report employment as bad; the East End bespoke and stock trades are quiet; the contract trade fair; the military and uniform tailors and tailoresses are rather better employed; the ladies' tailors and mantle makers report no change; with hatters employment is improving; with capmakers it is dull; with fur skin dressers it was slack at the commencement but improved towards the end of the month.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—Employment with the West End hand-sewn boot and shoe makers was quiet at the commencement and bad at the end of the month; in the East End sewaround trade it was bad; with boot and shoe clickers and boot and shoe operatives it was also bad.

Employment in the Leather Trades was not so good. Returns from 9 unions with a membership of 1,985, show that 84 (or 4.2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.1 per cent. in November and 3.8 per cent. in December, 1900.

In the Glass and Pottery trades returns from 8 unions, with a membership of 1,338, show that 200 (or 14.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 12.4 per cent. in November and 7.8 per cent. in December a year ago.

Hair, Fibre and Cane Workers.—In these trades returns from 5 unions with a membership of 962, show that 42 (or 4.4 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.8 per cent. in November. The percentage for December, 1900, was 10.8.

Gold Workers continue slack for the time of year; Silver Workers remain fairly well employed; Diamond Workers are slack; Electro Plate Workers are quiet. Returns from 7 unions, with a membership of 1,111, show that 31 (or 2.8 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.3 per cent. in November and 1.9 per cent. in December, 1900.

Employment in the Tobacco trades is bad. Returns from 4 unions, with a membership of 2,261, show that 152 (or 6.7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.9 per cent. in November and 2.7 per cent. in December a year ago.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—The average number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves was 16,322 in the four weeks ended December 28th, as compared with 15,909 in the preceding five weeks, and 17,440 in December, 1900. Employment in mid-stream has been fair. It has been fair with deal porters, coal porters, winchmen and lightermen; moderate with lumpers and stevedores; fair with corn porters at Surrey and Millwall docks, moderate at other docks. With fruit porters in Thames-street employment has been fairly good, the average daily number employed being 355, compared with 365 in November and 395 a year ago.

ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES.

Tyne and Wear.

Coal Mining.—Northumberland.—The steam and house coal pits averaged during the four weeks ending December 21st, 5.26 and 5.45 days per week, as against 4.99 and 5.21 days in November. Durham.—In the four weeks ending December 21st, the average number of days worked at the gas, manufacturing, house, and coking coal collieries, was 5.44, 5.68, 5.59 and 5.69 days per week, as compared with 5.38, 5.59, 5.66 and 5.63 days respectively in November.

Metal Mining.—The ironstone miners have worked rather less than full time. At the lead mines 5 days per week was worked.

Quarrying.—Employment in the limestone quarries at Scarborough and Wearhead has been fairly good; in the Gateshead district most of the quarries have been idle several days through bad weather. At Ferryhill, Haswell, and Coxhoe, an average of 4 days per week was worked. Employment with the Blyth quarrymen has declined slightly.

Iron and Steel Trades.—The steel plate and bar mills at Consett have been idle a fortnight. The mills at Newburn have worked 4 and 5 shifts per week, at Jarrow 2 and 3 shifts, except one unit which has been fully employed. Furnacemen are rather slack. Employment at the finished iron and steel works is moderate; with the steel smelters good.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—On the Tyne.—Electrical engineers are busy. There has been a fair demand for outside fitters on special work. In the higher and lower reaches of the river, employment in the engine shops has not improved; in the boiler shops it is somewhat slack. Platers and riveters are fairly employed. Branches with 13,116 members have 777 (or 5.9 per cent.) unemployed, as against 573 (or 4.4 per cent.) of their membership in November. On the Wear.—A number of yards and shops have had ten days holidays, otherwise employment has been regular. The demand for boilermasters and shipyard riveters remains good. Branches with 5416 members have 376 (or 6.9 per cent.) idle, as compared with 167 (or 3.1 per cent. of their membership) in November. Employment with sailmakers on both rivers has been better. With iron and steel moulders it continues to decline; with drillers and hole cutters it is fairly good on new work, slack on old; with brassfinishers, pattern-makers and shipwrights moderate; with whitesmiths and heating engineers good but declining.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment with dock and quayside labourers is moderate; with the Tyne watermen it continues dull; with trimmers and teamers on both rivers and at Blyth it is fairly good; with the Wear steam tug boatmen rather slack. Coal porters and shippers have averaged four and five days per week. Lumpers, riggers, and pit prop carriers have had less average employment. The demand for sailors and firemen has not been good.

Building Trades.—Slaters and tilers are fully employed. Bricklayers, painters, plasterers and house joiners are not so busy.

Printing and allied Trades.—One or two paper mills have only worked half time. Letterpress printers are busy; bookbinders continue well employed.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Upholsterers report employment as bad; cabinet makers as quiet; coopers as fairly good; mill-sawyers and woodcutters as moderate.

Chemical and Glass Trades.—Wastehouse workers and white lead separators in lead factories are slack. Copper and cement works have not been so busy. The soda and bleaching departments in chemical factories have been better employed. The Manchester makers are fairly brisk. Employment at Seaham Harbour with dark bottle workers is good; with pale metal workers it is quiet. Pressed glass makers are working short time.

Fishing.—Bad weather has again interrupted trawl fishing.

J. Radcliffe.

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

Middlesbrough, Stockton and District.

Ironstone Mining.—Employment with the Cleveland miners is reported as moderate, four or five mines working one and two days per week short. The average number of days worked by the mines furnishing returns was 5'69 days per week during the four weeks ending December 21st, as compared with 5'64 days per week in November, and 5'77 days per week in December, 1900. The number of workpeople employed at these mines was 6,404, the corresponding number a year ago being 6,876.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment at the finished iron and steel works is reported generally as moderate; at pipe foundries and blastfurnaces as fair; at metal expansion works as brisk; at chair and general foundries and bridge works as moderate.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment with engineers is reported as moderate at Bishop Auckland, Stockton, Middlesbrough and South Bank; bad at Darlington and Hartlepool. Pattern-makers, smiths and strikers, ironfounders, enginemen, and cranesmen report employment as moderate. Branches with 4,559 members have 202 (or 4'4 per cent.) unemployed, as against 208 (or 4'7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. In addition 312 men have been suspended a fortnight for holidays.

Shipbuilding.—Employment is reported as fair at Stockton, moderate at Middlesbrough, Hartlepool, and Whitby. On repair work generally it is fair.

Building Trades.—Painters report employment as bad; slaters as good; other branches as moderate.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Sailors and firemen report employment as moderate at Middlesbrough; quiet at Hartlepool; dock and riverside labourers as slack.

Miscellaneous.—Printers and pulp workers report employment as good; mill-sawyers and woodcutting machinists as fairly good; cabinetmakers as quiet; cement and concrete workers as dull; tailors as slack.—*A. Main.*

Cumberland and Barrow.

The following is a summary of the returns received as to the state of employment in the above district:—

Coal Mining.—Employment at the coal mines of Cumberland in December showed an improvement as compared with November, when the Martinmas fair holidays interrupted employment to some extent. As compared with a year ago, there was a slight improvement. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended December 21st, by the 21 pits covered by the returns was 5'46 per week, as compared with 5'28 days in November, and 5'39 days in December, 1900. The number of workpeople employed at these pits increased from 6,873 in December, 1900, to 7,165 in December, 1901.

Iron Mining.—The average number of days worked by the Cumberland and North Lancashire iron mines in December shows a slight improvement as compared with both a month and a year ago. The number of workpeople employed continues to show a marked falling off as compared with a year ago. At 47 mines covered by the returns, the average number of days worked during the four weeks ended December 21st was 5'93 per week, as compared with 5'89 days in November, and 5'90 days in December, 1900. The number of workpeople employed at these mines declined from 5,661 in December, 1900, to 4,811 in December, 1901.

Pig Iron Manufacture.—During December no change occurred in the number of furnaces in blast in the Cumberland and Lancashire district. At the end of December the number of furnaces in blast was 43, the same number as at the end of November, and also December, 1900. The number of workpeople employed at these furnaces in December was estimated to be about 3,540.

LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICT.

Oldham and District.

Cotton Trade.—Spinning.—In Oldham and district employment is again reported as fairly good. It is slack in Mossley, moderate in Stalybridge, Rochdale, Milnrow, Stockport, Droylsden, Ashton-under-Lyne and Dukinfield. In the carding and ring-spinning departments employment is reported as fair. **Weaving.**—Velvet weavers are fairly well employed; calico weavers moderately so. Reelers report employment as fair; sectional warpers and winders as moderate; ballwarpers as slack. Employment in the twinning branch is irregular.

Woollen and Silk Trades.—Workers in the woollen mills in Rochdale, Milnrow and Stockport report employment as good. With silk-dressers at Rochdale it is slack.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers report employment as slack, with short time at several shops. Tinplate workers and boiler-makers report employment as good; pattern-makers, iron-

founders, plate-moulders, gasmeter makers and brassfounders as moderate; toolmakers and irongrinders and glazers as slack.

Building Trades.—Bricklayers, painters and plasterers report employment as slack; plumbers, joiners and stonemasons as moderate.

Coal Mining.—Employment has improved and full time is being worked.—*T. Ashton.*

Bolton and District.

Cotton Trade.—Spinning.—Employment in Bolton continues good; in Bury, Heywood, Ramsbottom and Radcliffe it is moderate; in Chorley, Wigan, Hindley and Westhoughton it is somewhat irregular. Employment with cardroom operatives is slightly better in Bolton, but continues rather quiet in Bury, Heywood, Wigan and Chorley.—**Weaving.**—Employment is not brisk, and there is much waiting for beams.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers and steam-engine makers continue fairly well employed; spindle and flyer makers, roller makers, iron moulders and metal workers are still irregularly employed. In Bury, Heywood, Chorley and Wigan employment is reported as only moderate.

Building Trades.—Employment with painters, plasterers, slaters and plumbers is still irregular. Flaggers, paviors, stone dressers, masons and pipe fitters are moderately well employed.

Coal Trade.—Employment with colliers in the Bolton district is irregular. In Walkden, Radcliffe and Hindley miners are working an average of four days per week.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with shoemakers, tailors, carters and lorrymen is reported as moderate. Farriers and leather workers are not well employed.—*R. Tootill.*

Blackburn, Burnley and District.

Cotton Trade.—Weaving.—Employment is still bad at Blackburn and Preston, moderate at Burnley and Accrington. At Colne and Nelson there is a further decline, a number of looms being on short time; at Darwen 1,500 looms are stopped. Employment with hard waste weavers is moderate; with coloured check weavers in the Colne district bad; it continues slack with twisters, drawers and warp dressers; fair with winders, warpers and tape sizers. **Spinning.**—Employment is reported as moderate at Blackburn and Accrington, fair at Burnley, good at Darwen. Ring spinners and cardroom workers are in full employment. Branches of spinners, twisters and drawers with 2,243 members have 47 (or 2'1 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 43 (or 1'9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

Building Trades.—Employment with painters is bad at Blackburn and Burnley; with plasterers moderate at Accrington, bad at Blackburn; with masons and builders' labourers slack generally.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment with engineers is bad at Todmorden, moderate at Colne; with ironfounders and at the machine shops slack.

Coal Mining.—Coal miners in the Burnley and Accrington district report employment as good.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with tailors is slack; with cabinet-makers quiet; with woollen block printers bad; with calico printers and letterpress printers moderate; with brick makers fair; with stone quarrymen slack on account of the weather. *W. H. Wilkinson.*

Manchester and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 24,757 members have 1,496 (or 6'0 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 1,234 (or 5'0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers, boiler-makers, smiths and strikers report employment as moderate; sheet metal workers, brassworkers and filesmiths are busy; ironmoulders and brassfounders are slack; wire drawers are busy at Warrington, slack in Manchester.

Textile Trades.—Cotton spinners and weavers report employment as moderate. Employment in the silk trade shows no improvement. Machine printers are fully employed; bleachers and dyers are slack.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors and boot and shoe makers report employment as bad; cloth cap makers as moderate; felt hat makers and trimmers, and umbrella makers as quiet; shirt cutters and makers are busy.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is bad. It is moderate with plumbers, with carpenters and joiners at Stockport and Warrington, and with bricklayers at Northwich and Warrington.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Cabinet makers and upholsterers report employment as moderate; wheelwrights and coopers as bad; coachmakers as moderate in the railway shops, as bad in the private trade.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment

EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—LANCASHIRE; YORKSHIRE.

as fair; stereotypers and bookbinders as good; pattern card makers as fair; lithographic artists as moderate; lithographic printers as slack.

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

Liverpool and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades.—Boiler-makers and iron ship-builders report a decline. Shipwrights report employment as fair; shipjoiners as slightly improved; brass and ironfounders, iron and steel dressers, hammermen, fitters, iron turners and patternmakers as moderate.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Cabinet makers, coach-builders and car painters report employment as bad; mill-sawyers and woodcutting machinists, upholsterers, coopers and French polishers as quiet.

Building Trades.—Employment is dull.

Transport Trades.—Seamen report employment as rather dull; firemen and engine-room workers as fair; Mersey flatmen and quay and railway carters as quiet; dock labourers as rather better; coal and salt heavers as dull.

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

Clothing Trades.—All branches of the tailoring trade report employment as dull; boot and shoemakers as quiet.

Glass and Chemical Trades.—Decorative glass workers report employment as bad; glass bottle makers as moderate; other branches of the glass trade as fair. Chemical workers are slack.

Mining and Quarrying.—Coal miners are averaging five days per week. Quarrymen report employment as dull.—*C. Rouse.*

A report from Winsford states that employment in the salt trade is moderate. In the chemical works at Middlewich it is fair. In the building trades generally it is dull. With boiler-smiths, shipwrights and brass workers and fitters it is regular; with moulders at Winsford moderate.

YORKSHIRE.

Hull and District.

Shipbuilding, Engineering and Metal Trades.—At Hull the engineers, brassfounders and finishers, shipwrights, and whitemiths report employment as moderate; other branches as bad. At Doncaster the brassfounders and finishers report employment as moderate; the engineers and brassworkers as bad; the engineers at Goole as moderate, shipwrights as bad. Employment is bad at Grimsby, fairly good at New Holland and Selby, moderate at Scunthorpe and Beverley.

Building Trades.—The stonemasons, and slaters and tilers report employment as good; carpenters and joiners as moderate; the bricklayers, plasterers, plumbers, painters, and builders' labourers as bad. At Doncaster the bricklayers report employment as moderate; carpenters and joiners as slack. At Beverley, Scunthorpe, and Selby employment is moderate; at Bridlington, Driffield and Grimsby bad.

Transport Trades.—At Hull, the dock labourers report employment as good in some departments, and as moderate and bad in others. The seamen and firemen, coal porters and heavers, and lightermen report employment as moderate; pit prop and railway workers as bad. At Grimsby dock and general labourers report employment as good, seamen and firemen as moderate. At Goole employment is good.

Fishing Industry.—Employment is moderate generally; fair with the steam fishing vessel engineers at Grimsby.

Seed-crushing, Oil and Paint Trades.—Employment is fairly good at the seed-crushing and oil extraction works; moderate at the paint, colour and varnish works.

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

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—Coopers report employment as good; mill-sawyers and wood-cutting machinists as quiet; cabinet makers and coachbuilders as moderate.

Miscellaneous.—Bakers and confectioners report employment as good; boot and shoemakers, leather workers, tailors, enginemen and cranesmen, and general labourers as moderate; brushmakers as bad.—*W. G. Millington.*

Leeds and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 9,206 members have 625 (or 6'8 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 473 (or 5'1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment in the engineering

trade at Leeds, Wakefield, and Stanningley shows no improvement; with ironmoulders and steel workers it is quiet; with boiler-makers moderate; with pattern makers, brassworkers, and wool-comb hackle and gill makers slack; with stove grate workers fair.

Clothing Trades.—In the boot and shoe trade in Leeds employment has been moderate; at Bramley and Heckmondwike fair. In the ready-made tailoring factories in Leeds employment continues bad. Bespoke tailors are slack.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the mills at Leeds has been moderate, and at Wakefield and Bramley fairly good. Willeyers and felters, warp dressers and twisters report employment as moderate; linen workers as good; blanket raisers as fair.

Building Trades.—Masons, bricklayers and joiners report employment as bad; plumbers as moderate.

Mining.—In the pits at Leeds and Castleford employment is good, full time being worked. At Dewsbury it is moderate, with fire-clay pits working short time.

Leather Trades.—Employment with tanners, curriers, and leather shavers continues moderate.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment with printers is rather quiet; with lithographers and bookbinders moderate; with paper-mill workers fair.

Glass Trades.—Glass bottle makers are slack in Leeds; dull at Castleford and Wakefield. Flint glass makers are slack.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Employment with brush-makers, coachmakers and cabinet makers is moderate; with French polishers slack; with wheelwrights and smiths quiet.—*O. Connellan.*

Bradford, Huddersfield and District.

Worsted Trade.—Employment in Bradford in the piece trade is stated to be bad; woollsorters report it as moderate; machine woolcombers as bad. In Halifax employment continues quiet; in Huddersfield and Keighley it is rather better.

Woollen Trades.—Employment in and around Huddersfield continues good. In the Colne Valley overtime and night work were worked until Christmas. In the heavy woollen district of Dewsbury and Batley employment is reported as fair to quiet.

Other Textile Trades.—Employment in the silk trade at Manningham is reported as slightly better; at Brighouse as moderate; and at Halifax as quiet. In the cotton trade it shows a slight improvement; dyers at Bradford are busy; at Huddersfield they are fairly well employed.

Metal Trades.—Engineers in Keighley report employment as improving; at Huddersfield and Dewsbury as moderate; at Bradford as declining. Ironfounders at Halifax and Huddersfield report employment as bad; at Dewsbury as fair; at Keighley as good.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is quiet.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with letterpress printers, bookbinders and lithographers continues fair; with glass workers it is quiet; with miners it is good.—*A. Gee.*

Sheffield, Barnsley and Rotherham District.

General.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 12,190 members have 575 (or 4'7 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 441 (or 3'6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

Iron and Steel Industries.—Branches with 6,636 members have 350 (or 5'3 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 260 (or 3'9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. Employment generally is slack at Barnsley. Engineers and ironfounders are fairly well employed.

Cutlery and Tool Trades.—Employment is good in the various branches of the spring knife cutlery trade; quiet with makers of table cutlery and saw makers; moderate with file forgers by hand, file grinders, and edge tool grinders; slack with file cutters and hardeners, engineers' tool makers and saw handle makers; fair with razor forgers, grinders, and hafters.

Other Metal Trades.—Silver platers and gilders report employment as good; brass workers as moderate; braziers and sheet metal workers as fair; hollow-ware buffers as quiet; silver and electroplate finishers as slack; silversmiths and plate and spoon filers as bad. At Rotherham brass workers are fairly well employed.

Coal Mining.—Returns from 75 collieries show an average of 5'29 days worked per week.

Building Trades.—Plumbers and slaters and tilers report employment as fairly good; other branches as slack. At Barnsley employment is moderate; at Rotherham quiet.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as good; lithographic printers as fair; bookbinders and machine rulers as good.

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

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—Coach makers and cabinet makers report employment as slack; wood sawyers and machinists, and railway carriage and wagon builders as quieter; box and bobbin makers at Barnsley as moderate.

Linen Trade.—Linen workers continue to be moderately well employed.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is slack with bespoke tailors; fairly good with ready-made tailoring operatives at Barnsley; bad in the boot and shoe trade.

Glass Trades.—The flint glass workers are fairly well employed; bottle makers at Barnsley are slack, at Mexbro' quiet.

Miscellaneous.—Gas workers, bakers and confectioners, farriers and electrical workers are busy; upholsterers are quiet. Railway workers report employment as moderate; saddlers and harness makers, paviors and street masons as slack. At Barnsley down quilt makers are well employed, paper makers moderately so. Brickmakers, chemical workers and general labourers in the Normanton district are well employed.—S. Utley.

ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Derbyshire District.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers, brassmoulders and finishers report employment as moderate; iron and steel dressers as fair; ironfounders in Chesterfield as good, in Derby as bad; boiler-makers, electric wire and cable-makers and farriers as good. Branches with 2,124 members have 42 (or 2.0 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 68 (or 3.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

Quarrying.—Employment in limestone quarries is reported as fair, but interrupted during the month by severe weather.

Coal Mining.—Reports from 70 collieries employing upwards of 26,000 men and boys show an average of 5½ days worked per week.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is declining in all branches.

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

Building Trades.—Employment generally is dull; outdoor work has been considerably affected by the weather.

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

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as good; lithographic printers, bookbinders and machine rulers as fair.—C. White Deacon.

Nottingham and District.

Lace Trade.—The improvement reported last month has not been maintained, and employment is reported as bad. Bleachers and dyers are moderately employed at Basford and Bulwell.

Hosiery Trade.—Employment is reported as better in underwear and best goods, but as short on hose and half-hose. Framework knitters report employment as moderate, hand-frame workers as good at Nottingham, bad elsewhere; Shetland shawl workers at Hucknall Torkard as bad; elastic bandage makers as slack; hosiery trimmers at Bulwell and Basford as moderate.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment is reported as having declined with ironfounders, fitters, and general mechanics; as slack with fitters and smiths, and lace and hosiery machine builders; as moderate with cycle makers, steam engine makers, wheelwrights and boiler makers; as bad with engineers and brass workers; as satisfactory with bobbin makers; as good with carriage straighteners. Employment is reported as moderate at Newark, Mansfield, Retford, Beeston, and Grantham. It is good with blast-furnacemen at Bulwell. Branches with 3,251 members have 174 (or 5.4 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 111 (or 3.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

Coal Mining.—Returns from 32 collieries employing 18,641 men show an average of 5.03 days worked per week as against 5.04 days per week in November.

Building Trades.—At Nottingham employment is reported as moderate with bricklayers and plumbers; as bad or dull with other branches; in outlying districts it is moderate.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Employment is reported as slack with mill-sawyers; as bad with cabinet makers, coachmakers and basket-makers; as good with brushmakers and packing case makers and coopers; as quiet with French polishers and upholsterers.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment is good with letterpress printers; bad with lithographic printers; quiet with bookbinders; slack with lithographic artists.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is reported as bad with bespoke tailors, as not good with ready-made tailoring operatives. Mantle and blouse makers are fully employed; boot and shoe operatives are slack.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is fair with gas workers; good with stationary engine drivers and colliery engine drivers; fair with engine and cranemen, silk dressers and bakers; slack with female cigar makers; dull with saddlers.—W. L. Hardstaff.

Leicester and Northampton District.

Boot and Shoe Trade.—Employment has improved slightly in all branches of the trade in Leicester and district. It is better with clickers at Northampton and good with hand sewn army bootmakers, except at Raunds.

Other Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailors report employment as slack and short time is more general in the ready made branch. Employment is good with corsetmakers, quiet with milliners, improving with dressmakers.

Hosiery and Woolspinning Trades.—Employment is regular in most branches of the hosiery trade at Leicester and Market Harborough; fairly brisk in the pant and seamless hose departments at Loughborough. The improvement with dyers and trimmers reported last month has been maintained. Woolspinning continues to be fully employed.

Elastic Web Trade.—In the boot gusset branch work continues good; other departments report a slight improvement.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment is quieter in the principal branches of the engineering trades. It is good with type-founders and with dynamo, lamp, and electric fitting makers at Loughborough; fairly good throughout the district with fitters, smiths, strikers, shoe and hosiery machinery builders and needle-makers; slack with ironfounders; improving in the cycle trade.

Mining and Quarrying.—Coal miners are busier, and all branches of the stone quarrying trade report employment as brisk.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment is good with letterpress printers at Leicester, Kettering, and Northampton, fairly good at Loughborough and Rugby. Lithographic printers are busy, bookbinders are fairly well employed.

Building Trades.—Employment is moderate with plumbers; dull with bricklayers; slack with joiners, slaters, and plasterers; bad with painters.

Leather Trades.—Employment is slack.

Woodworking and Coachmaking Trades.—Tram and road car builders, painters and polishers are in full work at Loughborough. Employment is slack with coachmakers and cabinet makers; quiet with sawyers and woodcutting machinists.

Miscellaneous.—Employment has improved with railway men. It is good with farriers, bakers, gasfitters and gas stokers; fair with cigarmakers, button makers, basket makers and brush makers; slack with brick and tile makers.—T. Smith.

Potteries District.

Pottery Trades.—Employment generally has been scarce throughout the month. The improvement reported in the sanitary and electrical departments, and with printers and transferrers, has been fairly well maintained.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment continues good.

Mining and Quarrying.—Full time has been general both with coal and ironstone miners. At Alton and Hollington stone quarrymen are well employed.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers and boiler-makers report an improvement, except at Stafford. Agricultural engineers at Uttoxeter and Rugeley are well employed.

Textile Trades.—At Leek trimming weavers are fairly busy, but braiders and dyers report a decline. At Congleton silk dressers and dyers report a slight improvement; fustian cutters report an improvement, towel weavers a decline.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors report a seasonal decline. Boot and shoe operatives at Stafford have two-thirds working short time. At Stone employment continues slack.

Building Trades.—Employment continues bad.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment has been good.

Miscellaneous.—Brushmakers report employment as scarce; railway servants, gas workers, and electric light fitters continue busy.—I. S. Harvey.

Wolverhampton and District.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Steel smelters continue working full time; the mills and forges are generally quiet.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Electrical engineers are working

EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—MID.; E. AND S.W. COUNTIES.

ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES.

Norfolk and Neighbouring Districts.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoe operatives at Norwich are slack, with large numbers on short time. Ready made tailoring operatives are not busy; bespoke tailors are well employed; dress-makers are slack; corset makers are fairly well employed.

Building Trades.—Employment is slack throughout Norfolk; at Cambridge it is fair.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Electrical and general engineers are fairly busy in Norwich, Thetford and Lynn. A slight decline has taken place at Yarmouth and Lowestoft. Boiler-makers and shipwrights are well employed.

Textile Trades.—Mat and matting weavers are fairly well employed; silk and crape factories are not busy.

Fishing Industry.—Trawl fishing at Yarmouth and Lowestoft is dull.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with electric light workers, horticultural builders, flour and oil-cake mill workers and maltsters is good; with organ builders and coach builders fair; with confectionery workers dull. Steam joinery workers are not busy, letterpress printers are slack.—G. Cleverley.

Suffolk, Essex and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Employment with engineers is good at Halstead, fair at Bury St. Edmunds and Beccles, moderate at Ipswich, bad at Colchester and Chelmsford; it is moderate with boiler-makers, bad with shipwrights.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoe operatives report employment as moderate; ready-made tailoring operatives as improved at Ipswich, as slack elsewhere; corset-makers as good.

Textile Trades.—Employment with mat and matting operatives is fairly good; it is good with horse-hair weavers; quiet with silk weavers at Braintree; good with factory operatives, but slack with hand-loom weavers at Sudbury.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is quiet.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as moderate at Ipswich, fair at Bungay and Colchester, good at Beccles and Chelmsford. Employment has declined with bookbinders, and is moderate with lithographers.

Miscellaneous.—Shipping and dock labour has improved at Ipswich; it is good at Harwich and Parkeston. Employment is reported as good with maltsters, fair with farriers, dull with brick-makers and general labourers.—R. W. Mather.

ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES.

Bristol and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 10,591 members have 733 (or 6.9 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 554 (or 5.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

Clothing Trades.—The boot and shoe operatives report a slight decline; glove makers are busy, bespoke tailors moderately so; wholesale garment makers, hatters, and stay makers are slack.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Tin-plate workers and tool-makers report employment as fair; engineers, boiler-makers, brass founders and finishers as moderate; smiths, strikers and wheelwrights as dull; shipwrights as bad; ironfounders at Trowbridge as good, at Gloucester as bad, at Bristol as moderate. Slackness continues in the railway shops at Swindon and Gloucester.

Coal Mining.—The miners in the Forest of Dean and Bristol coalfields report employment as good; in the Radstock district as fair.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is dull.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the Trowbridge district and a Twerton-on-Avon is reported as slack in all branches.

Woodworking Trades.—The mill sawyers and machinists and cabinet makers report employment as dull; coopers as bad; lath-renders as moderate.

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

Glass and Pottery Trades.—The glass bevellers report employment as moderate; glass-bottle makers as good; earthenware potters and tile makers as fair.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is fair with dock labourers, seamen, railway workers, brickmakers, cocoa and chocolate workers, bakers, and brushmakers; dull with curriers, saddle and harness makers, basket makers, and upholsterers.—J. Curle.

full time. Employment with engineers and moulders shows a decline; with boiler, bridge, girder, tank and gasometer makers it is fairly good; with cycle and motor makers it remains quiet. At Coalbrook Dale and Madeley it continues slack.

Hardware Trades.—Employment is good with makers of nuts and bolts, iron fences, hurdles, electrical and gas fittings, best gunlocks, Brazil and plantation-hoes and spectacle frames and with stampers and piercers and the chain makers at Cradley Heath. It is moderate with makers of spades and shovels, tips and cut nails, brassworkers, tinplate-workers, filesmiths and japanners; with spike and rivet makers at Black Heath; with axle, spring and carriage iron workers at Wednesbury and iron plate workers at Wolverhampton, Bilston and the Lye. It is quiet with makers of builders' ironmongery, black castings, cast hollow-ware, agricultural implements, locks, keys and latches and with tinner and turners; slack with makers of tubes and edge tools, with anchor smiths at Cradley and iron and steel forgers at Wednesbury.

Coal Mining.—Employment is poor for the time of year on Cannock Chase. In the Tipton, Oldbury, Wednesbury, Old Hill, Halesowen and Dudley districts the average time worked was 4½ days per week up to the holidays. In the Shropshire pits employment is regular.

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

Building Trades.—Employment generally is moderate.

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

Textile Trades.—Employment in the carpet trade at Kidderminster and Bridgnorth is brisk. The Tamworth tape mills are fairly well employed.

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

Printing and allied Trades.—The letterpress printers report employment as bad; other branches as moderate.—C. Anthony.

Birmingham and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 17,594 members have 599 (or 3.4 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 535 (or 3.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Nine branches of engineers return employment as moderate, one as good, and one as bad; ironfounders report employment as good; smiths and strikers, tool-makers, and pattern makers as moderate; motor and cycle makers as quiet; electrical engineers as good. At West Bromwich engineers report employment as good, at Redditch and Coventry as moderate.

Brass and Copper Trades.—Employment is reported as fair in the copper tube, brass and cased tube branches, and in the brass trade; as fairly good in the fender trade at Dudley, quiet in Birmingham.

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

Other Metal Trades.—Makers of wrought iron and steel hinges, machine made rivets, wrought iron and steel tubes, steel pens, scale and weighing machines, and iron plate workers report employment as good; bedstead makers, tin plate workers, wire and cut nail makers, wire drawers, axle makers, iron railway workers and light and heavy steel toy makers as moderate; filecutters as bad. At West Bromwich employment is fair. At Redditch employment in the needle and fish-hook trades is reported as good.

Building Trades.—Employment throughout the district is quiet.

Glass Trades.—Flint glass makers report employment as bad; flint glass cutters, and glass bevellers and silverers as quiet.

Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailors report employment as fair, Jewish tailors as quiet; boot and shoe makers as moderate.

Woodworking Trades.—Cabinet makers report employment as quiet; coopers, packing case makers, coachmakers, mill-sawyers, woodworking machinists and carvers as bad. In the railway and wagon shops employment is moderate.

Miscellaneous.—Gas workers, gasfitters, military gun workers, ammunition makers and saddlers report employment as good; letterpress printers, sporting gunmakers and general labourers as moderate; brickmakers as bad. At Redditch employment in the fishing tackle trade is quiet. At Coventry it is fairly good in the watch trade, quiet in the weaving trade.—A. R. Jephcott.

EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—S.W. COUNTIES; WALES; SCOTLAND.

Plymouth and South Western District.

Mining, Quarrying, and China Clay Industries.—In tin and copper mines employment continues good. In granite and slate quarries work is moderate; in limestone quarries it has improved. China clay workers continue moderately employed.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—In the Government yards engineers, boiler-makers, ironfounders and shipwrights are well employed, but in private yards work is quiet. Iron caulkers and pattern makers are moderately employed; brass and tinplate workers fairly so. Shipwrights at Dartmouth and Falmouth are quiet, and foundry work is dull in Cornish towns, with some short time. Branches with 3,117 members, have 19 (or 0.6 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 24 (or 0.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

Building Trades.—Stonemasons report employment as moderate; carpenters as fair generally, but one or two branches as dull; plumbers as moderate; plasterers, painters, and bricklayers as dull. Branches with 3,702 members have 139 (or 3.8 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 77 (or 2.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

Clothing Trades.—Employment with tailors is quiet; with boot and shoe makers moderate; in shirt and collar factories fair and improving; with lace workers moderate.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as moderate; lithographers as good; bookbinders and paper-rulers as fair.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Millsawyers and wood-working machinists continue fairly employed; carriage builders, French polishers, upholsterers and cabinet and furniture makers in factories are quiet.

Dock and Quayside Work.—Employment has been dull on the quays; bad with fish packers and carters; moderate at china clay and stone ports.

Fishing Industry.—Fair catches were made the first week of the month, but since then, owing to bad weather, catches have been very light.

Miscellaneous.—Outdoor work has been greatly hindered by bad weather; in market and fruit gardens work has been at a standstill.—*W. Hedge.*

WALES.

North Wales District.

Mining.—Employment continues brisk at the coal mines, fair at the lead and blende mines.

Quarrying.—Employment continues good.

Building Trades.—The bricklayers at Wrexham and Llandudno report employment as fair, at Oswestry as dull; carpenters and joiners, painters and plasterers as slack generally.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers at Oswestry report employment as fair; at Ruabon as quiet. Employment is steady with steel workers; slack with blastfurnacemen; fair with engine and boiler men; good with spelter workers.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—Employment in the woollen and tweed industries of Montgomeryshire has been fully maintained. Bespoke tailors report employment as quiet.

Printing Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as good at Wrexham and Oswestry, as fair at Carnarvon.

Brick and Terra-Cotta Trades.—Employment is good.—*G. Rowley.*

South Wales District.

Coal Mining.—During the month the collieries in several districts have stopped 6 days. Coal miners from nearly all parts report employment as good.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment generally has not been so good. Dock hoblors and general labourers report it as dull. The shipment of crews has been quiet.

Engineering and Ship Repairing.—Employment has not been so good. Branches of engineers and iron foundry with 3,375 members have 157 (or 4.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 158 (or 4.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. Boiler-makers and shipwrights have a larger percentage of unemployed, and helpers and general labourers have been proportionately affected. All the engineering works and foundries in the inland districts are busy.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment generally is good.

Building Trades.—Nearly all branches in the inland and colliery districts report employment as moderate; in the seaport towns it is dull.

Miscellaneous.—Patent fuel workers report employment as brisk at Swansea, moderate elsewhere. Chemical and metallurgical workers

are slack. Wagon builders and repairers, letterpress printers and lithographers are busy.—*T. Davies.*

Tinplate Trade in South Wales, Monmouthshire, and Gloucestershire.—Employment shows a decline, but is still much better than a year ago. At the end of December 365 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of black-plates), as against 380 at the end of November, and 331 at the end of December, 1900. The number of workpeople employed at the end of December, is estimated to be about 18,200.

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 12,921 members have 486 (or 3.8 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 527 (or 4.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

Coal Mining.—Employment has improved somewhat in the Lothians. The miners generally have been fully employed, especially during the last two weeks of the month.

Shale Miners and Oil Workers.—Returns from 26 mines, employing 3,002 workpeople, show that 1,489 were employed in mines working 24 days, 601 in mines working 22 and under 24 days, and 912 in mines working under 22 days, during the four weeks ended December 21st.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Branches with 2,156 members have 81 (or 3.8 per cent.) idle, as against 113 (or 5.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. The horse shoers and tin-smiths report employment as good; the ironmoulders, engineers, brassfounders, blacksmiths, pattern makers and hammermen as quiet. Branches in Falkirk with 3,690 members have 89 (or 2.4 per cent.) idle, as against 82 (or 2.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. The ironmoulders and pattern makers report employment as fair; the range and stove fitters as good.

Shipbuilding.—Branches with 610 members have 31 (or 5.1 per cent.) idle, as against 63 (or 10.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. The shipwrights report employment as good; the boiler-makers as fair.

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

Building Trades.—The masons, bricklayers, joiners, plasterers, painters and plumbers report employment as bad; the glaziers as fair.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Branches with 1,108 members have 90 (or 8.1 per cent.) idle, as against 82 (or 7.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. The coopers, coach-makers and lathsplitters report employment as bad; the French polishers, upholsterers and sawmillers as quiet; the cabinet makers as fair.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The seamen, firemen, dock labourers and coal porters report employment as bad.

Printing and allied Trades.—Branches with 2,451 members have 30 (or 1.2 per cent.) idle, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of November. The bookbinders, stereotypers, press and machine men report employment as good; compositors as fair; lithographic artists, lithographic printers and typefounders as bad.

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

Glasgow and West of Scotland.

Shipbuilding.—Employment continues fairly good, although rather quieter. Branches with 15,812 members return 669 (or 4.2 per cent.) as idle, as against 543 (or 3.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

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 22,716 members return 887 (or 3.9 per cent.) as idle, as against 851 (or 3.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. Iron and steelworkers report employment as fair.

Building Trades.—Employment continues dull generally.

Mining.—In Stirlingshire and Renfrewshire employment has been good. In Lanarkshire and Dumbartonshire most of the men are working 5 days per week. In Ayrshire coal and ironstone miners are working full time.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is dull in the tailoring trade; mantle makers are rather busier. Employment with boot and shoe operatives, slipper makers, and knee boot and shoe makers is quiet.

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

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

Building Trades.—Carpenters, plasterers, slaters, and whiteners report employment as fair; other branches are slack.

Metal Trades.—Brassfounders, boiler-makers, smiths, tinsmiths, and farriers are well employed; ironfounders, whitesmiths, and steam engine makers report employment as fair; engineers as moderate. Branches of societies with 1,168 members have 52 (or 4.5 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 53 (or 4.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Coopers report employment as good; cabinet makers, cart and wagon builders, brush-makers, and saddlers as fair; coachmakers as moderate; upholsterers and carpet-planners as dull.

Printing and allied Trades.—All branches are busy.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—Employment with tailors and bootmakers is fair.

Miscellaneous.—Employment in all branches of the provision trade is brisk. Bottle makers are busy; mineral water operatives are slack. Hair dressers and stationary engine drivers are fairly employed. Railway men, tramway men, and carriage drivers report employment as regular.—*E. L. Richardson.*

Belfast and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades.—Branches of societies with 8,909 members, have 331 (or 3.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 317 (or 3.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. The platers' helpers and general labourers report employment as bad; blacksmiths as moderate; drillers, engineers, ironfounders and carpenters and joiners as quiet; smiths' helpers and strikers, iron shipbuilders and boiler-makers, machine workers, pattern-makers, steam-engine makers, enginemen, crane-men and firemen as fair; brassfounders, furnishing trades and shipwrights as good.

Linen Trades.—Societies with 2,798 members have 116 (or 4.1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 101 (or 3.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. The women workers report employment as dull; flax dressers, flax roughers, beetling enginemen and hackle and gill makers as quiet; linen lappers, power loom tenters and power loom yarn dressers as fair.

Building Trades.—Employment in the building trades continues dull.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Branches of societies with 941 members have 59 (or 6.3 per cent.) out of employment, as against 43 (or 4.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. The coachbuilders report employment as bad; cabinet makers as quiet; coopers, French polishers, packing case makers, and upholsterers as fair; brushmakers as good.

Printing and allied Trades.—Branches of societies with 886 members, have 65 (or 7.3 per cent.) unemployed, as against 54 (or 6.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. Lithographic printers report employment as bad; bookbinders as quiet; letterpress printers as fair; lithographic artists as good.

Clothing Trades.—The tailors and boot and shoe operatives report a decline at the end of the month.

Miscellaneous.—Branches of societies with 1,845 members have 39 (or 2.1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 36 (or 1.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November. Bakers, butchers, carters, municipal employees and sett makers report employment as fair; locomotive engine drivers and railway servants as good.

R. Sheldon.

Cork and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Boiler-makers, iron shipbuilders, and shipwrights report employment as fair; engineers as moderate.

Building Trades.—Employment continues good with carpenters and joiners in Cork, dull in Limerick and Waterford; the other branches of these trades are dull throughout the district.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Millsawyers and woodworking machinists, coachmakers, wagon makers and packing-case makers report employment as good; cabinet makers and cork cutters as fair; coopers as quiet.

Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailors and ready made-tailoring operatives report employment as dull; boot and shoe operatives as moderate.

Printing and allied Trades.—The lithographers, bookbinders and letterpress printers report employment as dull.

Miscellaneous.—Municipal and harbour employees, railway and tramway employees, and stationary engine men report employment as fair; coal porters, general quay labourers and hackney car drivers as quiet.—*P. O'Shea.*

Textile Trades.—Employment in Glasgow is fair; at New Milns it continues dull; at Darvel it is fairly good; at Kilbirnie, Greenock and Port Glasgow it is good. Paisley thread workers are still working short time.

Printing and allied Trades.—Bookbinders report employment as good; letterpress printers as improved; lithographic printers as quiet; lithographic artists, electrotypers and stereotypers as dull.

Glass Trade.—Glass bottle makers and flint glass makers are busy; flint glass cutters and decorative glass workers have been dull.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Employment continues quiet.

Transport Trades.—Dock labourers, sailors and firemen report employment as excellent; railway and tramway men are busy. Employment has improved with hackney carriage drivers and carters.

Miscellaneous.—Calender men, power loom beamers, tobacco pipe makers and finishers, curriers, shop assistants, rope spinners, basket makers, labourers, paviors, sett makers, gilders, stoneware throwers, cork cutters, French polishers, scale beam makers, wipers, ham curers and potters are well employed; saddlers, brush makers, dyers, spindles and flyer makers, bakers and mattress makers are dull.—*A. J. Hunter.*

Dundee and District.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the jute industry remains good, the number of unemployed being comparatively few. In the linen trade employment is fair.

Coal Mining.—Employment at the Fifeshire collieries has continued fairly steady. Reports from pits employing 13,922 workpeople show an average of 5.3 days per week worked during the four weeks ending December 21st, as compared with 5.3 days per week in November.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—The engineering industry is less brisk, and there is a scarcity of work in some sections. The shipbuilding yards still show considerable activity, and employment remains fairly good. Branches of societies with 2,295 members, report 121 (or 5.3 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 93 (or 4.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

Building and Woodworking Trades.—Employment in the building trade continues dull, and in the furnishing trades there is considerable slackness. Societies with 1,734 members return 189 (or 10.9 per cent.) as idle, as compared with 175 (or 10.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

Dock Labour.—Briskness still prevails at the harbour, and employment has been plentiful at the docks and wharves.

Fishing Industry.—Fishing operations have been interfered with by the stormy weather, and takes of white fish have been light.

Miscellaneous.—In the printing and allied trades employment has been good on the whole; in the tailoring trade only moderate. Boot and shoe workers have continued fairly well employed; bleach-field workers moderately so; floorcloth and linoleum makers remain slack.—*P. Reid.*

Aberdeen and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 3,026 members have 174 (or 5.8 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 141 (or 4.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

Quarrying.—The masons and granite polishers report employment as fair; settmakers as good.

Building Trades.—Slaters report employment as fair, all other branches as dull.

Transport Trades.—The railway servants report employment as good; dock labourers as bad; hackney carriage drivers as fair.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—The boiler-makers and iron and steel shipbuilders, and shipwrights report employment as moderate; engineers as dull; blacksmiths, ironmoulders, patternmakers and brassfinishers as fair; tinplate workers as bad; horseshoers as good. Branches of societies with 1,182 members have 64 (or 5.4 per cent.) idle, as against 46 (or 3.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of November.

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

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

Fishing.—At the Port of Aberdeen trawl and line boats landed 93,809 cwt., valued at £76,004, a decrease in quantity, but an increase in value as compared with the previous month.

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

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN DECEMBER, 1901.

(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 December affected 44,701 workpeople, and the net effect of all the changes was a decrease averaging 1s. 0½d. weekly per head.

The principal decreases of the month were those sustained by 35,000 coal miners in Northumberland and 6,850 blast-furnacemen in Cleveland and West Cumberland.

Methods of Arrangement.—One change affecting 35,000 workpeople was settled by a conciliation board, and five changes affecting 8,042 workpeople took effect under sliding scales.

Summary of Changes in 1901.—See special article on page 3.

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 1901, Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week.

NOTE.—For particulars of change in system of payment of wages, and conditions of employment affecting the crews of steam trawlers at Grimsby, under Sir Edward Fry's award, see page 6.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN DECEMBER.

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

The total number of workpeople reported as killed by accidents during December was 461, or 37 more than in November, and 49 more than in December, 1900.

In the first group of industries shown in the following summary Table, including railways, mines, quarries, shipping, and factories, and employing 5,607,310 persons (according to the latest available figures), 430 were reported killed and 7,580 injured by accidents in December, 1901, as compared with 383 reported killed and 7,756 injured in December, 1900.

In the remaining occupations included in the Tables, 31 persons were reported killed and 1,057 injured in December, as compared with 29 reported killed and 1,096 injured in December, 1900.

SUMMARY TABLE.

Summary Table showing industrial accidents by industry: Railway Service, Mines, Quarries, Shipping, Factories, Workshops, etc. Columns include Killed and Injured for Dec 1901 and Dec 1900.

DETAILED TABLES.

Detailed Tables showing industrial accidents by type: Under Factory Act, 1895, Railway Service, Brakesmen and Goods, Guards, etc. Columns include Killed and Injured.

Table showing industrial accidents by type: Shipping, Factories, Workshops, etc. Columns include Killed and Injured.

Table showing industrial accidents by sex: Males, Females, Total. Columns include Killed and Injured.

Table showing industrial accidents by age group: Adults, Young Persons, Children. Columns include Killed and Injured.

Table showing industrial accidents by industry: Textiles, Non-Textiles, etc. Columns include Killed and Injured.

Table showing industrial accidents by industry: Under Factory Act, 1895, Docks, Wharves and Quays, etc. Columns include Killed and Injured.

Table showing industrial accidents by industry: Under the Notice of Accidents Act, 1894, Bridge, Canal, etc. Columns include Killed and Injured.

* 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.

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

Number and Magnitude.—Fourteen trade disputes began in December, 1901, compared with 25 November last, and 20 in December, 1900. In the 14 new disputes, 1,851 workpeople were directly, and 1,385 indirectly, affected a total of 3,236, which compares with 6,809 in November last, and 3,648 in December, 1900.

Trades Affected.—In the coal mining industry 3 disputes took place, involving 1,054 workpeople; in the shipbuilding trades, 1 dispute, involving 50 workpeople; in the textile trades, 7 disputes, involving 1,976 workpeople; and in other trades 3 disputes, involving 156 workpeople.

Causes.—Of the 14 disputes, 3 arose on demands for advances in wages, and 4 on other wages questions on questions of employment of particular classes of persons, and 3 from other causes.

Results.—Ten new disputes, involving 3,096 workpeople, and 14 old disputes, involving 7,649 workpeople, were reported as having terminated. Of the 24 new and old disputes terminated, 3, involving 146 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 14, involving 8,577 persons, were decided in favour of the employers; and 5, involving 1,422 persons, were compromised. In the case of the remaining 2 disputes, involving 600 workpeople, certain points are still under consideration.

Duration of Disputes in Working Days.—The aggregate duration in December of all the disputes, new and old, was about 164,000 days, compared with 239,000 in November last, and 210,000 in December, 1900.

Summary for the Year 1901.—See special article on page 4

Locality.	Occupation.*	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.*	Result.*
		Di-rectly.	Indi-rectly.*				

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN DECEMBER, 1901.

3 Disputes.		COAL MINING.		1,054 Workpeople affected.		
Hanley...	Coal Miners and Other Colliery Workpeople	120	380	Dec. 12	Dispute as to rates to be paid for coal and slack respectively	Prices mutually arranged.
Tredegar...	Coal Miners	540	...	9	Refusal to work because of non-presentation of federation cards by a few of their number	Men arranged their differences and resumed work next morning.
New, Cumnock	Coal Miners	14	...	26	For advance in tonnage rates...	No settlement reported.

1 Dispute.		SHIPBUILDING.		50 Workpeople affected.		
Hartlepool...	Labourers in Ship-yard	50	...	5	Dispute as to time rate to be paid on change from piece to time work	No settlement reported.

7 Disputes.		TEXTILE TRADES.		1,976 Workpeople affected.			
Burnley...	Cotton Weavers, Tacklers, Winders, &c.	296	...	7	Alleged bad material	Material to be tested in a month if necessary.	
Padiham	Cotton Weavers	160	...	12	Dissatisfaction with conduct of manager	Amicable settlement effected.	
Preston	Cotton Weavers	50	...	11	Alleged bad material	Slight compensation granted.	
	Cotton Piecers and Spinners	10	...	2	Against employment of an outsider instead of promotion of one of their number	Work resumed on payment of fine for leaving work without notice.	
	Cotton Weavers	250	...	9	Against dismissal of a fellow weaver	Work resumed without reinstatement of the discharged weaver.	
Nottingham	Lace-Curtain Readers, Correctors and Punchers	16	...	16	Dispute as to rate of wages to be paid to an apprentice over twenty-one years of age	No settlement reported.	
Dundee...	Jute Weavers, Preparers, Spinners, Winders, &c.	195	994	2	7	For advance in price on a certain class of work	Work resumed on old conditions.

3 Disputes.		OTHER TRADES.		156 Workpeople affected.			
Raunds...	Riveters	60	...	9	Against the introduction of machinery	No settlement reported.	
Merthyr Tydvil	Gas Stokers	16	...	13	2	For introduction of system of eight hour shifts	Eight hour shifts granted as from 1st January, 1902
Cork	Solderers, &c., Mechanics and Labourers	74	6	4	6	Against the introduction of female labour	Female labour withdrawn.

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE DECEMBER, 1901, AND TERMINATED IN THAT MONTH.

3 Disputes.		BUILDING TRADES.		492 Workpeople affected.			
Bradford	Builders' Labourers	152	...	1 May	For advance in wages of 3d. per hour	Demand withdrawn.	
Weston-super-Mare	Carpenters and Joiners	40	...	1 May	188	For advance in wages from 7½d. to 8d. per hour	Work resumed on old conditions.
Paisley...	Masons and Labourers	200	100	1 July	133	Against proposed reduction in wages from 9½d. to 9d. per hour	Reduction accepted by workpeople.

5 Disputes.		COAL MINING.		6,155 Workpeople affected.			
Maryport (near)	Coal Miners and Other Colliery Workpeople	46	14	14 Oct.	59	Against proposed reduction of 1½d. per ton in the standard heaving price for a certain seam	Work resumed pending arbitration.
Barnsley	Coal Miners	160	...	13 Nov.	41	Dispute as to interpretation of special rule as to timber supply	Work resumed on conditions existing before the stoppage.
	Colliery Workpeople generally	600	...	21 Nov.	29½	Dispute as to interpretation of special rule as to timber supply and other matters	Work resumed on conditions existing before the stoppage.
Rotherham	Coal Miners and Other Colliery Workpeople	2,313	2,252	31 Oct.	34½	Dispute as to interpretation of special rule as to timber supply	Work resumed on conditions existing before the stoppage.
	Coal Miners and Other Colliery Workpeople	420	350	31 Oct.	32	Dispute as to interpretation of special rule as to timber supply	Work resumed on conditions existing before the stoppage.

* 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.

TRADE DISPUTES—(continued).

Locality.	Occupation.*	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.*	Result.*
		Di-rectly.	Indi-rectly.*				

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE DECEMBER, 1901, AND TERMINATED IN THAT MONTH—(continued).

2 Disputes.		ENGINEERING.		123 Workpeople affected.			
Dundee	Pattermakers	57	...	25 Oct.	47	For advance in wages of rs. per week	Work resumed on old conditions.
Falkirk...	Ironmoulders, Irondressers and Furnacemen	58	8	22 Nov.	10	Against charge of 3d. per week for use of sand mixing machine	Conditions arranged as to sand mixing by machine.

4 Disputes.		OTHER TRADES.		879 Workpeople affected.			
Hayfield (Derbyshire)	Cotton Weavers	220	...	28 Nov.	15	Dispute as to alleged defective work	Work resumed on old conditions.
Epsom	Bricklayers, Carpenters and Labourers	117	120	21 Nov.	24	Against employment of tilers on roof tiling	Work resumed on old conditions.
Belfast	Tailors	400	...	26 Nov.	27½	Dispute at one shop as to the arrangement of work, followed by a general refusal to take work.	Work resumed pending reference to joint committee of employers and workpeople, by whom an amicable settlement was arrived at.
Newry	Bakers	22	...	30 Nov.	—	Dispute as to trade union conditions	Men replaced.

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

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN DECEMBER, 1901.

The changes in hours of labour reported in December affected 350 workpeople, whose working time was reduced by about 2½ hours per week per head.

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which change takes effect.	Approximate number of Workpeople affected.	Hours of labour in a full week.*		Extent of Decrease per week.
				Before change.	After change.	
York	Engineers, Pattermakers, Smiths, Carpenters and Labourers	6 Dec.	201	54	53	1
Gloucester	Employees in Engineering works	15 Nov. 1902.	90	54	53	1
Merthyr Tydvil	Gas Stokers	1902. Jan.	16	84	56	28
Paisley	Letterpress Printers	1 Jan.	43	52½	50	2½

NOTE.—The following clauses of the Factory and Workshop Act of 1901, with regard to the hours of labour of women, young persons, and children in textile factories on Saturdays, came into operation on January 1st, 1902:—
The period of employment on Saturday shall begin either at six o'clock or at seven o'clock in the morning. Where the period of employment on Saturday begins at six o'clock in the morning, that period—
(a) If not less than one hour is allowed for meals, shall end at noon as regards employment in any manufacturing process, and at half past twelve o'clock in the afternoon as regards employment for any purpose whatever; and
(b) If less than one hour is allowed for meals, shall end at half-past eleven o'clock in the forenoon as regards employment in any manufacturing process, and at noon as regards employment for any purpose whatever. Where the period of employment on Saturday begins at seven o'clock in the morning, that period shall end at half-past twelve o'clock in the afternoon as regards any manufacturing process, and at one o'clock in the afternoon as regards employment for any purpose whatever.
There shall be allowed for meals during the said period of employment in the factory on Saturday not less than half-an-hour.

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 December, and also during the year ended December 31st, 1901, with comparative figures for 1900:—

	Month of Dec.		Year ended 31st December—	
	1901.	1900.	1901.	1900.
Imported	Bales. 675,693	Bales. 584,270	Bales. 3,742,844	Bales. 3,672,938
Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns	296,201	300,376	3,092,517	3,061,887
Exported	57,709	69,546	357,799	400,254

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 20 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended January 4th amounted to £6,411,390, an increase of £69,489 (or 1.1 per cent.), as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. The receipts from passenger traffic were £2,892,163, a decrease of £70,772, and those from goods and mineral traffic £3,519,227, an increase of £140,261.

* Exclusive of overtime.

Fishery Statistics.—The total quantity of the fish (exclusive of shell fish) landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom during December was 828,572 cwts., a decrease of 98,353 cwts. as compared with December, 1900. In England and Wales there was a decrease of 95,192 cwts., in Scotland a decrease of 2,779 cwts., and in Ireland a decrease of 382 cwts. During the year 1901, the total quantity of fish landed in the United Kingdom was 15,738,789 cwts., as against 14,572,987 cwts. in 1900, an increase of 1,165,802 cwts. The quantity landed shows an increase of 48,096 cwts. in England and Wales, 1,015,745 cwts. in Scotland, and 101,961 cwts. in Ireland.

Bankruptcies.—The bankruptcies gazetted during December numbered 336, being 7 more than in December, 1900, 10 less than in December, 1899, and 1 less than in December, 1898. The total number for the year was 4,232 in 1901, 4,386 in 1900, 4,121 in 1899, and 4,315 in 1898.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

(Compiled from returns supplied by the Home Office.)

The following Table shows the number of cases* of lead, mercurial and arsenic poisoning and of anthrax reported during December as having occurred in factories and workshops. The deaths of 2 men (from lead poisoning) were reported during December, 1901. In December, 1900, the deaths of 4 men (also from lead poisoning) were reported.

Disease and Industry.	December, 1901.				Total Dec. 1900.
	Adults.		Young Persons.		
	M.+	F.†	M.+	F.†	
Lead Poisoning—					
White Lead Works...	11	2	—	—	13
China and Earthenware ...	6	6	—	—	12
Red and Yellow Lead Works, Enamelling of Iron Plates, Electrical Accumulator Works	1	—	—	—	1
Manufacture of Paints and Colours ...	3	—	—	—	3
Smelting of Metals, Tinning and Enamelling of Iron Holloware	7	—	—	—	7
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping, Printing, File Cutting	4	—	1	—	5
Coach Making, Shipbuilding, &c. ...	12	—	—	—	12
Other Industries ...	8	1	1	—	10
Total Lead Poisoning	52	9	2	—	63
Mercurial Poisoning	1	—	—	—	1
Phosphorous Poisoning	—	—	—	—	1
Arsenic Poisoning	1	—	—	—	1
Anthrax—					
Wool Sorting ...	—	—	—	—	—
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins	1	—	—	—	1
Other Industries ...	1	—	—	—	1
Total Anthrax	2	—	—	—	2

In addition to the cases included above, 11 cases of lead poisoning (including 6 deaths) were reported among house painters and plumbers. The number of such cases reported in December, 1900, was 14 (including 4 deaths.)

* 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. † M.=Males. F.=Females.

PAUPERISM IN DECEMBER.

Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland and Ireland. The number of paupers relieved in 35 selected Urban Districts of the United Kingdom on one day in the second week of December was 345,459, or 209 per 10,000 of the population* of those districts in 1901.

Compared with November, 1901, there is an increase of 6,984 in the number relieved, or of 4 in the rate per 10,000 of the population. Increases are shown in 34 districts, the largest being in Galway (14 per 10,000), Cork, Waterford and Limerick (12 per 10,000), Dublin (10 per 10,000), and Cardiff and Swansea (9 per 10,000). In the remaining district (Bradford) the rate is unchanged.

Compared with December, 1900, the number of persons relieved has increased by 12,015 and the rate per 10,000 by 5. Of the 35 districts 28 show increased rates, the largest increases being in Cork, Waterford and Limerick (20 per 10,000), Central London District (19), Leicester (18), East London District (17), Cardiff and Swansea (13), Dublin (12), and Leeds (10 per 10,000). In 6 districts the rate has decreased, the most marked falling-off occurring in Paisley and Greenock (4 per 10,000), and in West Ham, Bolton, Oldham, &c.; District, Bradford, and Bristol (3 each per 10,000).

Table with columns: Selected Urban Districts, Paupers on one day in second week of December, 1901 (In-door, Out-door, Total), Rate per 10,000 of Population, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with A month ago, A year ago. Includes sections for ENGLAND & WALES, SCOTLAND, and IRELAND.

* The rates per 10,000 of population for December and November, 1901, are based upon the 1901 census figures in the case of districts in Great Britain, and the rate for December, 1900, upon the estimated populations in that year deduced from the 1901 figures. In the case of the Irish districts, however, the figures for 1901 are not yet available for Poor Law Unions, and the rates are, as in previous months, based upon the estimated populations deduced from the 1891 census returns.

LABOUR BUREAUX IN DECEMBER.

DURING December the six Bureaux furnishing returns registered 1,236 fresh applications for work, as compared with 921 in December, 1900. The increase of 315 is accounted for by a rise in the figures for the Salvation Army and Glasgow Bureaux. Work was found by the six bureaux for 674 persons, of whom 498 (364 males and 134 females) were engaged by private employers, 4 by Local Authorities, and 172 by the Salvation Army. The number engaged by private employers in December, 1900, was 432.

The number remaining on the registers at the end of December was 583, as compared with 513 at the end of December, 1900.

(I.) Work done in December.

Table with columns: Name of Labour Bureau, No. of Fresh Applications by Workpeople during Dec. 1901, Dec. 1900, No. of Situations offered by Employers during Dec. 1901, Dec. 1900, No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureaux (Engaged by Private Employers, Engaged by Local Authorities) during Dec. 1901, Dec. 1900. Includes London, Provincial, and Total of 6 Bureaux.

(II.) Employments found for Workpeople during December, 1901.

Table with columns: Engaged by Private Employers, Engaged by Local Authorities, Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities, Grand Total for 6 Bureaux. Includes sub-sections for Men, Lads and Boys, Women and Girls.

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

Table with columns: Occupation, No. on Register at end of Dec., 1901, Dec., 1900. Includes Men, Lads and Boys, Women and Girls, and Grand Total for 6 Bureaux.

* Engaged by Salvation Army.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN DECEMBER.

DURING December 450 fresh applications for work were registered by seven Bureaux (see LABOUR GAZETTE, February, 1899, p. 36) furnishing returns, and 518 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 166 persons, of whom 94 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps).

The number of fresh applications for domestic servants fell from 367 to 231, and the number of servants applying from 367 to 231; the number permanently engaged fell from 89 to 63. The demand for dress-makers, milliners, etc., rose from 38 to 75, whereas the number requiring such situations fell from 99 to 50; the number engaged through the Bureaux was 22, compared with 35 in November.

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 December.

WORK DONE IN DECEMBER.

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

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 December.

The trade returns for December, 1901, show an increase as compared with the corresponding month of 1900 in the values of the imports into the United Kingdom, and of the exports of British and Irish produce, and also in the exports of foreign and colonial merchandise.

The value of the imports in December, 1901, was £46,770,097, an increase of £323,435, or 0.7 per cent., as compared with those in December, 1900, whilst the total exports amounted to £30,226,024, thus showing a net increase of £16,544,073. The exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures alone show an increase of £701,805, or 3.0 per cent., whilst there is an increase of £825,027, or 16.2 per cent. in the exports of foreign and colonial merchandise.

Imports.—On reference to the table of imports for the month, the increase above noted is found to be mainly accounted for by a rise of £629,753 in "raw materials for textile manufactures," of £314,702 in "dutiable articles of food and drink," and of £151,870 in "raw materials for sundry industries and manufactures," against a decrease of £541,704 in the imports of "metals."

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., £629,753 increase in raw materials for textile manufactures, that its chief components are wool of all kinds £400,847, hemp £111,834, and raw cotton £93,383.

The second figure (£314,702 increase in "dutiable articles of food and drink") is mainly accounted for by an increase of £189,608 in sugar, and £170,315 in currants, whilst the third increase (£151,870 in "raw materials for sundry industries and manufactures") chiefly results from an increase of £142,644 in caoutchouc. The decrease of £541,704 in "metals" is mainly due to decreased imports of iron ore, quicksilver and tin.

Exports.—The increase of £701,805, to which attention has been called in the second paragraph of this article, is mainly the result of the following increases, viz., £1,093,525 in "ships, new, not registered as British," and of £422,819 in "yarns and textile fabrics," with a net decrease of £730,692 in the value of the exports of "raw materials." The detailed tables show that the increase of £422,819 in the value of yarns and textile fabrics is chiefly accounted for by an increase of £609,536 in that of cotton piece-goods, against which there are small decreases under the headings of "cotton, other manufactures of," "woollen tissues," "worsted tissues," and some others. The decrease in the value of the exports of coal, coke, and fuel was £736,021. Under "articles manufactured and partly manufactured, metals and articles manufactured therefrom," appears a decrease of £217,204 in value of iron, unwrought and wrought, and an increase of £117,011 in copper, wrought and unwrought.

Tonnage of Shipping 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 December, 1901, amounted to 3,184,189 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,358,332 tons, as against 2,999,299 tons entered and 3,384,798 tons cleared in the month of December, 1900. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during December, 1901, amounted to 2,429,853 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,409,662 tons, as against 2,326,588 tons entered, and 2,289,375 tons cleared in December, 1900.

The Year's Trade—1901.—The total aggregate value of the trade of the United Kingdom for the year 1901, as compared with 1900 and 1899 was as follows:—

Table with columns: 1899, 1900, 1901. Includes Imports, Exports, and Total.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION IN DECEMBER.

Total Emigration.—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during December was 12,523, or 1,119 more than in December, 1900. During the year 1901* the number of passengers was 302,848, being 4,287 (or 1.4 per cent.) more than in 1900.

British and Irish.—Of the 12,523 passengers in December, 7,214 were of British or Irish origin, being 453 more than in December, 1900. The number of passengers of British and Irish origin during the twelve months shows an increase of 3,315 (or 2.0 per cent.), the figures for 1901*, being 172,140, and for 1900, 168,825.

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

Table with columns: Destination (Country in which passengers contracted to land), Dec., 1901, Dec., 1900, Total for year ended (Dec., 1901, Dec., 1900). Includes United States, British North America, Australasia, South Africa, Other places, and Total, British and Irish.

Foreign.—The remainder of the 12,523 passengers in December, viz., 5,309, were foreigners or persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being an increase of 666 as compared with a year ago. For the years 1901* and 1900 the numbers are 130,708 and 129,736 respectively.

Alien Immigration.—During December 6,548 aliens arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent. Of these 2,492 were stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, an increase of 469 as compared with December, 1900. Those not stated to be on their way to America or other places out of the United Kingdom numbered 4,056, or 709 less than a year ago. For the year 1901* the number of aliens en route to America or elsewhere was 79,143, and the number not so stated 70,755.

* The figures for the year 1901 are subject to correction in the annual returns. † See footnote (†) on page 32.

compared with 71,687 and 78,600† respectively in 1900. The figures for the different periods are shown in the following Table:—

	Dec., 1901.	Dec., 1900.	Total for year ended—	
			Dec., 1901.*	Dec., 1900.*
Aliens not stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom ...	4,056†	4,765†	70,765†	78,600†
Aliens en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom ...	2,492	2,023	79,143	71,687
Total ...	6,548†	6,788†	149,908†	150,287†

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN DECEMBER.

(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 December it will be seen that 4 Trade Unions, 3 Co-operative Associations for Distribution, 10 Co-operative Associations for Production, 2 Miscellaneous Industrial Associations, 19 Friendly Societies, and 19 branches of existing Friendly Societies were added to the Register of the United Kingdom during December. Six Industrial and Provident Societies, 29 Friendly Societies (including 9 branches), and 15 Building Societies, are reported as having ceased to exist, commenced to "wind-up," or had registration cancelled.

ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—Amal. Soc. of Brickmakers and General Labourers, Grove Tavern, Snells Park, Edmonton; Independent Tailors' Machinist's and Pressers' Union, 145, Whitechapel-road, E.; Amal. Soc. of Metropolitan Cab Drivers, 24, York-road, King's Cross, N.; Federationists' Trade Union of Great Britain and Ireland, Labour Club, Oxford-street, Workington. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—(A) Associations for Distribution.—England and Wales.—Bridgnorth and District Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 13, Listley Street, Bridgnorth; Craige-fnparc Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Craige-fnparc, Clydach, Glam. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—St. Brigids Co-op. Home Industries Ltd., Ballinamore, co. Leitrim. (B) Associations for Production.—England and Wales.—Long Eaton Printing Soc., Ltd., 16, Gibb Street, Long Eaton, Derbyshire; Coventry Builders, Ltd., 53, Springfield Road, Coventry. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—Sligo Manufacturing Soc., Ltd., Cornmarket, Sligo; Billis Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Billis, Virginia, co. Cavan; Copany Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Copany, co. Donegal; Ballyarton Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Ballyarton, co. Derry; Suirvale Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Market Street, Cahir, co. Tipperary; Black Abbey Co-op. Agric. Dairy, Soc., Ltd., Adare, co. Limerick; Kilfinny Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Kilmacow, co. Limerick; Croom and Banogue Co-op. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Croom, co. Limerick. (C) Miscellaneous.—Durham City Workmen's Club and Institute, Ltd., 2 and 3, Old Elvet, Durham; West Southwark Liberal and Radical Club, Ltd., 45, Charlotte Street, Southwark, S.E. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Friendly Societies.—(A) New Societies.—England and Wales.—Ordinary Friendly, 1; Dividing, 3; Juvenile 1; Specially Authorised, 4; Working Men's Clubs, 5. Scotland.—Ordinary Friendly, 1. Ireland.—Specially Authorised, 4. (B) New Branches of Existing Societies.—England and Wales.—16. Scotland.—2. Ireland.—1.

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

ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—None. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—England and Wales.—By Instrument of Dissolution.—Esperance Co-op. Stores, Ltd., 45, Grafton-street, London, W.; Bingham and District Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Market-street, Bingham; Taylors Co-op. and Ind. Soc., Ltd., Stores, Staveley, Westmorland. Liquidators Final Return Received.—Gwawr-y-Gweithwyr Ind. and Prov. Soc., Ltd., 1A, John-street, Abercwmboye, Aberdare. Commenced to "wind-up."—Neath Ind. Co-op. Soc. Ltd., Windsor-road, Neath. Scotland.—Registration Cancelled.—Ochilvale Co-op. Soc., Ltd. Ireland.—None.

Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—By instrument of dissolution.—Ordinary Friendly, 4; Dividing, 1; Female, 1; Specially authorised, 1. Registration cancelled.—Ordinary Friendly, 2; Dividing, 1; Female, 1; Collecting, 1; Benevolent, 1; Specially authorised, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 2. Dissolved otherwise.—Juvenile, 3; Collecting, 1; Branches, 9. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Building Societies.—England and Wales.—By instrument of dissolution, 4. Notice of termination of dissolution, 9. Scotland.—Notice of termination of dissolution, 2. Ireland.—None.

* The figures for the year 1901 are subject to correction in the annual returns.
† These figures are inclusive of sailors, to the number of 884 in December, 1901; 1,129 in December, 1900; and 15,315 and 15,702 respectively for the years 1901 and 1900.

INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN DECEMBER.

I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Cases.	Con- victions.	Amount of Penalties.		Amount of Costs.	
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Owners, Managers, &c.:						
Neglecting to Limewash...	5	3	2 10 0	1 2 10		
Allowing Factory or Workshop to be overcrowded ...	2	2	5 0 0	1 3 0		
Neglecting to Fence Machinery ...	11	11	41 13 0	5 1 0		
Employing Young Persons without necessary Certificates ...	54	52	34 19 0	24 8 0		
Illegal Hours or Times of Employment—						
Before or after the legal hour ...	72	72	50 2 6	28 6 0		
During meal times, or without proper intervals for meals ...	63	63	20 5 0	27 2 6		
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted ...	13	13	6 13 6	4 14 6		
On Sundays or holidays, or children on successive Saturdays ...	2	2	4 0 0	0 14 0		
At night ...	11	9	9 10 0	3 8 6		
Employing Children full time, otherwise than in morning and afternoon sets, &c. Outside Workshop, after employment therein, before and after dinner ...	6	6	2 16 6	3 0 0		
Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts, Notices, &c.—						
Not keeping Registers ...	31	28	27 8 6	9 19 0		
Not affixing or properly filling up Notices and Abstracts ...	17	16	17 15 0	4 3		
Not sending Notices required by Act ...	4	4	3 17 6	1 18		
Not supplying sufficient or correct particulars	7	7	6 13 0	3 8 0		
Prosecutions under Truck Acts ...	5	5	20 10 6	3 15 6		
Other Offences ...	4	3	9 0 0	1 5 0		
By Workmen—						
Allowing children to clean machinery in motion, &c. ...	1	1	1 0 0	1 2 6		
Prosecutions for Breach of Special Rules ...	2	2	0 3 6	0 13 0		
By Parents—						
Allowing Children to be Illegally Employed	7	7	1 9 0	1 2 0		
Connivance at Personation of young person	1	1	0 1 0	0 3 6		
Total for December, 1901 ...	319	308	265 7 6	127 0 10		
Total for December, 1900 ...	323	319	286 7 6	137 16 4		

II.—Under the Mines and Quarries Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Con- victions.	Cases with- drawn.	Cases dis- missed.	Amount of Fines and Costs.
By Owners, Managers, &c.:					
Ventilation ...	3	2	—	1	11 0 0
Miscellaneous ...	4	3	—	1	11 10 0
By Workmen:					
Safety Lamps ...	15	15	—	—	22 9 6
Shot-firing and Explosives ...	3	3	—	—	3 14 0
Timbering ...	9	9	—	—	7 14 0
Lucifer Matches, Smoking, &c.	14	14	—	—	15 8 0
Riding on Trams ...	14	9*	—	5	5 10 0
Miscellaneous ...	11	10†	—	1	11 17 8
Total for December, 1901 ...	73	65	—	8	89 3 2
Total for December, 1900 ...	94	91	—	3	106 6 5

UNDER THE QUARRIES ACT.—There were no actions taken under this Act either in December, 1901, or in December, 1900.

III.—Under the Merchant Shipping Acts.

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

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Convic- tions.	Total	
			Penalties.	Costs.
By Owners or Masters of Ships:				
Submersion of Disc ...	1	1	20 0 0	2 16 0
Excessive deck Cargo ...	1	1	10 0 0	2 2 0
By Seamen:				
False Discharge ...	1	1	1 0 0	0 4 6
By Others:				
Misdealing with Wreck ...	9	8	4 0 0	†
Total for December, 1901 ...	12	11	35 0 0	5 2 6
Total for December, 1900 ...	9	9	137 0 0	9 10 2

* In four cases defendants were admonished.
† In one case defendant was admonished.
‡ Including costs-warrant issued for the arrest of one Defendant.