

THE LABOUR GAZETTE

THE JOURNAL OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

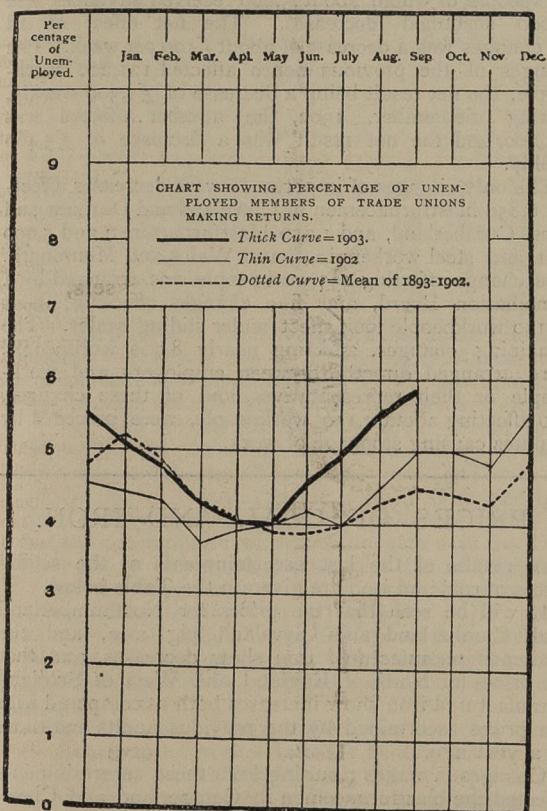
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PRICE ONE PENNY.

EMPLOYMENT CHART.



STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN SEPTEMBER.

[Based on 3,506 returns, viz.: 2,187 from Employers, or their Associations, 1,254 from Trade Unions, and 65 from other sources.]

EMPLOYMENT in September continued to decline, except in the mining industry, and in a few trades of lesser importance. As compared with a year ago there is a considerable falling off in the general state of employment, particularly in the cotton and shipbuilding industries, and the percentage of unemployed members of Trade Unions is higher than the mean percentage for September in the past ten years.

In the 226 Trade Unions, with an aggregate membership of 558,508 making returns, 32,179 (or 5.8 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of September, as compared with 5.5 per cent. in August, and 5.0 per cent. in the 221 Trade Unions, with a membership of 553,870 from which returns were received for September, 1902. The mean percentage of unemployed returned at the end of September during the past decade was 4.5.

Employment in various Industries.—*Coal Mining.*—Employment during September was slightly better than a month ago, but was not so good as a year ago. At collieries employing 500,364 workpeople, the pits worked an average of 5.22 days per week in the four weeks ended September 26th, as compared with 4.89 in August, and 5.35 in September, 1902. The average for August,

1903, is lowered on account of holidays. The number of workpeople employed at the pits for which returns were received for both periods was 1.7 per cent. greater than a year ago.

Iron Mining.—Employment in this industry continues good. In the 136 mines and open works covered by the returns received from employers, and employing about 15,650 workpeople, the average number of days worked by the mines was 5.78, compared with 5.76 in August and 5.81 in September, 1902.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment in this industry continues on the whole fairly good, but it shows a slight falling off compared with a month and a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 113 ironmasters show that 318 furnaces, employing about 22,150 workpeople, were in blast at the end of September, as compared with 322 at the end of August, and 325 a year ago.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Employment shows little change compared with a month or a year ago. At 199 works covered by the returns received from employers 74,917 workpeople were employed during the week ended September 26th, and the total volume of employment (taking into account both the number employed and the number of shifts worked) shows a decrease of 0.7 per cent., as compared with a month ago, and an increase of 0.9 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Tinplate Manufacture.—Employment in this industry shows a decline compared with both a month and a year ago. The widespread stoppage of work which took place on August 31st terminated on September 7th, and at the end of the month 356 mills were working, compared with 367 at the end of August, and 400 a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at the 356 mills was about 17,800.

Engineering Trades.—Employment generally is quiet, and worse than a month ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members was 4.8 at the end of September, as compared with 4.2 in August and 4.9 in September, 1902.

Shipbuilding Trades.—Employment generally is bad and worse than a month and a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members was 13.4 at the end of September, as compared with 11.2 in August and 10.9 in September, 1902.

Building Trades.—Employment continues moderate, and shows a decline as compared with a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members among *Carpenters* and *Joiners* was 4.0 at the end of September, compared with 2.9 at the end of August, and 3.3 a year ago. The percentage for *Plumbers* was 6.4 at the end of September, compared with 7.1 at the end of August, and 5.9 a year ago.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment in these trades shows a slight decline as compared with August, and is worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of September was 4.7, as against 4.2 in August, and 3.9 in September, 1902.

Employment in the *Printing* and *Bookbinding* trades remains quiet, though rather better than a month ago and a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of September was 5.1, as compared with 6.0 in August and 6.2 in September, 1902.

Employment in the *Papermaking* trade remained fairly good, the percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of the month being 2·8, against 3·5 at the end of August and 2·4 in September, 1902.

Employment in the *Glass* trades has further declined, and is bad in the bottle making branch; in other branches it is slack generally. In the *Pottery* trades employment has improved. In the *Brick* and *Tile* trades it is fair.

Owing to the continued high price of raw cotton, employment in the *Cotton* trade has been bad, being worse than in August and much worse than a year ago. Information respecting cotton factories employing about 100,000 women and girls shows that 32 per cent. of those in spinning mills were working in mills giving full employment during the whole month, compared with 46 per cent. in August and 82 per cent. in September, 1902. The corresponding percentage of full time for those employed in weaving factories was 22 during September, compared with 30 per cent. in August, and 79 per cent. in September, 1902.

Employment in the *Woolen* trade is good. In the *Worsted* trade it is slack. Returns from firms employing 83,220 workpeople in the woolen and worsted trades show an increase of 0·2 per cent. compared with a month ago, and a decline of 0·7 per cent. compared with a year ago. Of the total number of operatives reported on, 27 per cent. were employed in firms reporting short time or machinery standing in one or more departments.

Employment in the *Hosiery* trade shows a further decline and is slack. Employment in the *Jute* trade shows an improvement, and is good. In the *Flax* trade it is fairly good.

Leather Trades.—The general condition of employment continues dull and worse than a year ago, with more short time. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of September was 7·4, as compared with 7·6 at the end of August, and 5·6 in September, 1902.

Employment in the *Boot* and *Shoe* trade is quiet generally, but shows an improvement in some centres. Returns from firms employing 68,769 workpeople show practically no change in the number employed at the end of September, as compared with a month ago, but a decrease of 0·4 per cent. as compared with a year ago. Of the total number of operatives reported on, 61 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout September, compared with 55 per cent. among those for whom returns were received for August.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the *Tailoring* trade continues bad in London and is slack generally in the provinces. In the ready-made branch employment generally has been quiet.

Employment in the *Hat-making* trade has been fairly good with felt hatters, and better than a month ago; with silk hatters it has been quiet. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of September was 2·6, compared with 3·3 per cent. at the end of August and a year ago.

The employment of *Agricultural Labourers* was on the whole regular, though casual labourers were in irregular work in several districts owing to bad weather. Harvest continued nearly the whole month, and the supply of extra harvestmen was generally equal to the demand.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—Employment in September was fair, and showed little change as compared with August. As compared with a year ago it shows a decline. The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves in London during the four weeks ended September 26th, was 13,794, an increase of 1 per cent. as compared with the average for August, but a decrease of 5 per cent. as compared with the corresponding period of last year. The average number employed in September during the six years 1897-1902 was 15,449.

Trade Disputes.—The total number of workpeople involved in disputes which began or were in progress during September, 1903, was 11,577, compared with 29,523 in August 1903, and 25,059 in September, 1902.

The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old, amounted to 120,000 working days, compared with 266,000 in the previous month, and 250,300 in the corresponding month of last year.

Twenty-four disputes began in September, involving 5,852 workpeople, compared with 19 in August, 1903, and 18 in September, 1902.

Definite results were reported during the month in the case of 25 disputes, new and old, affecting 6,476 workpeople.

Of these disputes, three, involving 497 persons were decided in favour of the workpeople; thirteen, involving 4,237 persons, in favour of the employers; and nine, involving 1,742 persons, were compromised.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes in rates of wages reported during September affected about 23,000 workpeople, of whom about 5,000 received advances and 18,000 sustained decreases. The net effect of all the changes was a decrease of about £400 per week. The changes of the previous month affected 121,200 workpeople, the net result being a decrease of £1,300 weekly. During September, 1902, the number affected was 135,000, and the net result was a decrease of £5,460 weekly.

The only changes of importance were decreases affecting 6,850 blastfurnacemen in Cleveland and Durham and West Cumberland, and 1,250 blastfurnacemen and 5,000 iron and steel workers in South Wales and Monmouth. One change affecting 135 workpeople was arranged by a Conciliation Board, and five changes affecting about 14,150 workpeople took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting nearly 8,700 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople or their representatives, and of these changes, two affecting about 2,150 workpeople, were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

PRICES OF COAL AND IRON.

THE results of the last ascertainment of the selling prices of coal and iron are given in the Table below.

It will be seen that the prices for Northumberland coal, Cumberland and Cleveland pig iron, and the Midlands manufactured iron show decreases, and that the prices for North of England and West of Scotland manufactured iron show increases both as compared with the prices ascertained by the previous audits and those of a year ago.

Changes in wages resulting from these ascertainment affected the blastfurnacemen in Cumberland and Cleveland. For further particulars see p. 292.

Product and District.	Period covered by last Audit.	Ascertained average selling price per ton.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) of last Audit as compared with	
		Last Audit.*	Previous Audit.	A Year ago.	Previous Audit.	A Year ago.
Coal.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Northumberland— (Average for all classes of coal at pit's mouth)	June-Aug.	6 11'86	7 0'64	7 4'44	-0 0'78	-0 4'58
Pig Iron.						
Cumberland ...	July-Sept.	56 1'67	58 3'56	60 7'34	-2 1'89	-4 5'67
Cleveland ...	...	46 6'95	48 4'74	48 1'01	-1 9'79	-1 6'06
Manufactured Iron.						
North of England— (Rails, plates, bars and angles)	...	126 1'98	124 11'80	123 11'03	+1 2'18	+2 2'95
Midlands— (Bars, angles, tees, hoops, sheets, plates, and strips, &c.)	July-Aug.	135 10'87	137 1'82	138 4'01	-1 2'95	-2 5'14
West of Scotland— (Rounds, squares, flats, angles, tees, hoops and rods)	...	124 9'83	124 2'41	123 9'13	+0 7'42	+1 0'70

* Under the various sliding scale agreements, changes in wages, if any, resulting from these audits take place in the pig iron industry immediately after the period to which the audit relates, while in the manufactured iron trades they follow one month later. In Northumberland there is no sliding scale, but the ascertainment are taken into consideration by the Coal Trade Conciliation Board when determining the rate of wages of the miners.

THE SITUATION IN THE COTTON TRADE.

FOR the last three months there has been a very considerable amount of unemployment and short time in the cotton trade on account of the comparative scarcity of the raw material and the high values which have resulted therefrom.

Short time has been general throughout the four Northern Counties, Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cheshire and Derbyshire, since the end of June, and the lateness of the new American cotton crop is prolonging the period of short time.

The following Table shows the monthly average prices of two of the principal sorts of raw cotton since January last, with the corresponding prices a year ago.

Month.	Mean daily price per lb. of							
	Middling American.				Good Fair Egyptian.			
	1903.		1902.		1903.		1902.	
	Amount.	Per cent.	Amount.	Per cent.	Amount.	Per cent.	Amount.	Per cent.
January ...	d. 0'26	6	d. —	d. 2'08	37	d. —	d. —	—
February ...	0'49	11	0'80	12	2'52	46	2'76	26
March ...	0'55	12	0'81	12	2'80	51	2'72	25
April ...	0'54	7	0'43	6	2'74	45	2'25	19
May ...	0'89	17	0'88	12	2'51	38	1'97	16
June ...	1'49	28	1'67	23	3'33	48	2'72	22
July ...	1'48	30	1'59	22	1'56	21	2'05	17
August ...	1'89	39	1'95	28	1'98	26	2'19	18
September ...	1'38	27	1'77	25	2'12	29	2'59	22
October* ...	1'04	22	1'40	20	0'89	12	2'00	17

From the above Table it appears that there has been an almost continuous rise in the price of American raw cotton since the commencement of the year, but that it first became acute in May, when the price was more than 17 per cent. in excess of May, 1902. From June to September the percentage increase as compared with a year ago varied from 28 to 39 per cent., and was at its maximum in August (39 per cent.). The rise in the price of Egyptian cotton has been still more considerable, but the consumption of American cotton in the United Kingdom is very much greater than that of Egyptian.

The rise in prices is no doubt connected with the increase during the last year or two in the world's demand for raw cotton, which has up to now not been adequately met by a larger production. This state of affairs has been accompanied by increased speculation in the cotton markets.

The Liverpool Cotton Association reported that the estimated stocks in the United Kingdom and the visible supply were on 9th October only about 61 per cent. and 64 per cent. respectively of the stocks and supply at the corresponding period a year ago, but this is partly accounted for by the lateness of this season's cotton harvest. It is estimated that the American crop is from two to four weeks late, and that no great quantity of this year's supply is likely to arrive much before the end of the present month. On the 9th October there were only 141,000 bales of American cotton afloat for this country, as compared with 202,000 bales on 10th October, 1902.

The total imports of raw cotton into the United Kingdom and the quantity forwarded from ports to inland towns since the rise in price became acute are shown below.

Month.	Cotton imported.			Cotton forwarded to Inland Towns.		
	1902.	1903.	Per cent. Increase or Decrease (1903 over 1902).	1902.	1903.	Per cent. Increase or Decrease (1903 over 1902).
May ...	Cwts. 935,916	813,915	-13'04	Bales. 248,865	261,499	+5'08
June ...	469,692	458,115	-2'46	201,641	176,206	-12'61
July ...	327,766	385,759	+17'69	254,520	157,951	-37'94
August ...	307,868	297,452	-3'38	178,459	120,944	-32'23
September ...	426,223	359,782	-15'59	216,594	155,596	-28'16
Total for 5 months	2,467,465	2,315,023	-6'18	1,100,079	872,196	-20'72

The total amount of American raw cotton imported from 1st September, 1902, to 31st August, 1903, was 12,080,000 cwts., as compared with 12,896,000 cwts. in

* 1st to 13th of October.

the previous year, a decrease of 816,000 cwts., or over 6 per cent.

The decline in the quantity forwarded to inland towns, it will be observed, was no less than 21 per cent. during the period, May to September.

It may be of interest to compare the amount of the rise in raw cotton with the rise in the price obtained for the yarn. This is done in the next Table.

	Increase in 1903 as compared with 1902.							
	Middling American.		32's twist.		Good Fair Egyptian.		60's twist.	
	Amount per lb.	Per cent.	Amount per lb.	Per cent.	Amount per lb.	Per cent.	Amount per lb.	Per cent.
January ...	d. 0'26	6	d. —	d. 2'08	37	d. —	d. —	—
February ...	0'49	11	0'80	12	2'52	46	2'76	26
March ...	0'55	12	0'81	12	2'80	51	2'72	25
April ...	0'54	7	0'43	6	2'74	45	2'25	19
May ...	0'89	17	0'88	12	2'51	38	1'97	16
June ...	1'49	28	1'67	23	3'33	48	2'72	22
July ...	1'48	30	1'59	22	1'56	21	2'05	17
August ...	1'89	39	1'95	28	1'98	26	2'19	18
September ...	1'38	27	1'77	25	2'12	29	2'59	22
October* ...	1'04	22	1'40	20	0'89	12	2'00	17

In consequence of the increased cost of cotton the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners resolved in May last to close their mills during the whole of Whit week and on every Saturday and Monday from the 27th June inclusive. At least 90 per cent. of the members of this Federation, representing 75 per cent. of the spinning trade of Lancashire, appear to have adhered to this resolution to work short time, which it has been agreed shall last until the 20th October. In many cases the average time worked by spinning mills has not been more than 3 days a week. At the beginning of October it was estimated by the Trade Correspondent of the Department that at least 450,000 cotton operatives were working short time out of a total of about 580,000 operatives in England and Wales engaged in the cotton industry.

A report issued by the United States Government on 3rd October gives an unfavourable estimate of this year's crop, the average condition of which is stated as 65·1 (100 representing a condition of normal vitality and growth). The figure given a month ago was 81·2, and a year ago 58·3.

The distress in the textile manufacturing towns of Lancashire and district is reported to be very considerable, Burnley, Bury, Rochdale, Oldham, Bolton, Glossop, Ashton-under-Lyne and Macclesfield being some of the principal centres affected. Relief funds have been opened at Bury and Macclesfield and other places. At Bury and Glossop the co-operative societies have been distributing tickets for food. A number of the Cotton Trade Unions have made large grants from their funds, especially those unions the rules of which do not allow weekly payments for unemployment and short time through depression in trade, and the majority of the Weavers' unions come under this head. The Burnley Weavers' Association has specially voted £5,500 to their members, and the two Weavers' unions at Blackburn about £8,000. The Oldham Spinners' Union has paid £25,000 in stoppage benefit, and other unions have voted varying amounts for the relief of their members.

The total number of indoor and outdoor paupers relieved in Bolton, Bury, Rochdale, Oldham and Wigan on one day in September was 16,630, showing an increase of 1,493 compared with the corresponding date in 1902.

Bankruptcy Statistics for 1902.

THE total number of failures in 1902 was 7,507, a decrease of 106 compared with the total (7,613) for 1901. The estimated loss to creditors was also less by £851,229, being £7,463,077 in 1902, as compared with £8,314,306 in 1901. The number of failures in which the unsecured liabilities amounted to £20,000 and upwards, was 30 in 1902, 40 in 1901, and 32 in 1900.

* Mean of prices on 1st and 8th October.
† Twentieth General Annual Report of the Board of Trade under Section 131 of the Bankruptcy Acts, 1883. (H.C. 292 of 1903. Eyre and Spottiswoode. Price 9d.)

TRADE UNIONS IN 1902.

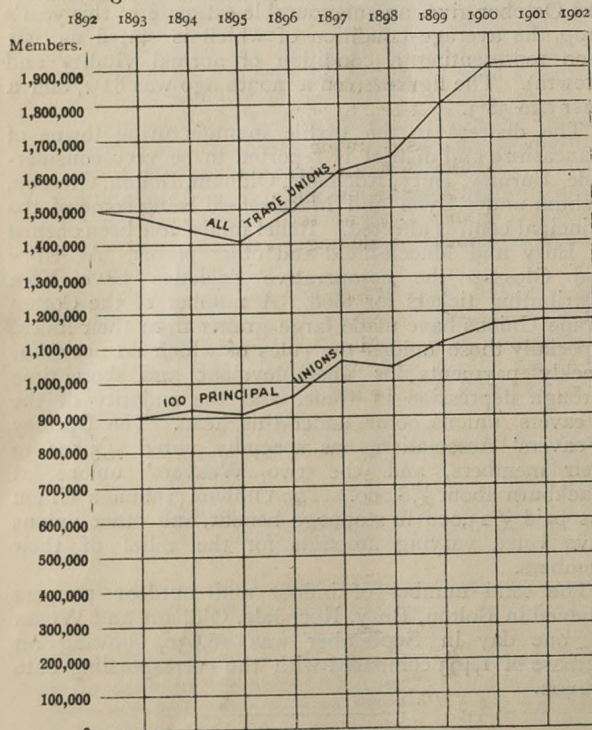
Membership of Trade Unions.

At the end of 1902, there were in existence 1,183 Trade Unions with a total membership of 1,915,506, as compared with 1,221 Unions with 1,927,952 members at the end of 1901, a decrease in membership of 12,446 or 0.6 per cent. Over 69 per cent. of the total membership is found in the building, mining and quarrying, metal, engineering and shipbuilding, and textile trades. The mining and quarrying trades alone contain 520,000, or 27 per cent. of the total number of Trade Unionists in the United Kingdom.

The Table below gives at the end of each of the years 1892-1902, the membership (1) of the 100 principal Unions, and (2) of all other Unions, with the percentage increase or decrease compared with the previous year.

Year.	100 Principal Trade Unions.		Other Trade Unions.		All Trade Unions.	
	Total.	Increase (+) or decrease (-) per cent.	Total.	Increase (+) or decrease (-) per cent.	Total.	Increase (+) or decrease (-) per cent.
1892	900,636	—	601,602	—	1,505,238	—
1893	905,019	+ 0.5	577,211	- 4.5	1,482,230	- 1.5
1894	920,001	+ 1.7	520,145	- 9.9	1,440,146	- 2.8
1895	910,404	- 1.0	500,248	- 3.8	1,410,652	- 2.0
1896	958,018	+ 5.2	539,034	+ 7.8	1,497,052	+ 6.1
1897	1,061,311	+ 10.8	554,582	+ 2.9	1,615,893	+ 7.9
1898	1,038,686	- 2.1	613,307	+ 10.6	1,651,993	+ 2.2
1899	1,112,576	+ 7.1	694,313	+ 13.2	1,806,889	+ 9.4
1900	1,159,246	+ 4.2	756,467	+ 9.0	1,915,713	+ 6.0
1901	1,169,222	+ 0.9	758,730	+ 0.3	1,927,952	+ 0.6
1902	1,169,333	+ 0.0	746,173	- 1.6	1,915,506	- 0.6

From the above Table it will be seen that very little change has taken place in the total membership during the last two years, but over the period of ten years (1892-1902) the total membership has increased by 27 per cent., the increase in the 100 principal Unions being nearly 29 per cent., and in the other Unions rather more than 23 per cent. The fluctuations over the period are shown in the following chart.



One hundred and thirty-nine Unions included women and girls as members in 1902, the total number of whom at the end of the year was 122,128, as compared with 120,409, in 146 Unions, at the end of 1901.

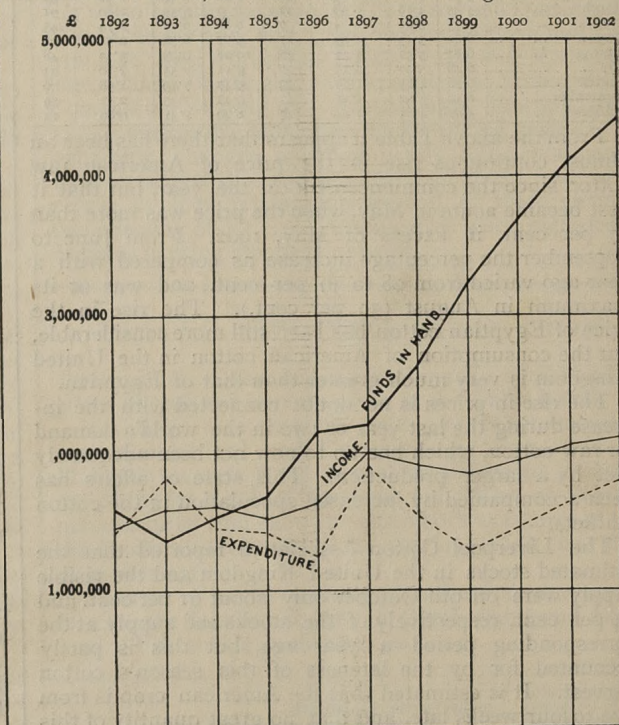
Accounts of the 100 Principal Trade Unions.

An analysis of the accounts of 100 of the principal Unions for the 11 years 1892-1902 has been made, the results of which are shown in the following Table:—

Year.	Membership at end of Year.	Income.		Expenditure.		Funds at end of Year.	
		Amount.	Per Member.	Amount.	Per Member.	Amount.	Per Member.
1892	900,636	£ 1,464,440	s. 32	d. 6 1/2	£ 1,432,871	s. 31	d. 28
1893	905,019	1,617,968	35	9	1,839,118	40	7 1/2
1894	920,001	1,623,409	35	3 1/2	1,427,633	31	0 1/2
1895	910,404	1,548,251	34	0 1/2	1,382,037	30	4 1/2
1896	958,018	1,663,268	34	8 1/2	1,225,619	25	7
1897	1,061,311	1,986,476	37	5 1/2	1,912,081	36	0 1/2
1898	1,038,686	1,917,310	36	1 1/2	1,498,776	28	10 1/2
1899	1,112,576	1,848,479	33	2 1/2	1,270,673	22	10
1900	1,159,246	1,962,981	33	10 1/2	1,467,582	25	3 1/2
1901	1,169,222	2,060,874	35	3	1,652,110	28	3
1902	1,169,333	2,109,656	36	1	1,814,727	31	0 1/2

In the period covered by the Table, the funds of the 100 Unions have risen from £1,576,280, or 35s. 0d. per head of total membership, to £4,424,596, or 75s. 8 1/2d. per head, or an increase of 181 per cent. on the aggregate of 1892, and of 116 per cent. on the amount of funds per head in that year. The income of the Unions in 1902 was £2,109,656, the highest of all years given in the Table, and the expenditure was £1,814,727.

The fluctuations in income and expenditure, and the consequent fluctuations in the amount of funds in hand, of the 100 Unions, are shown in the following chart.

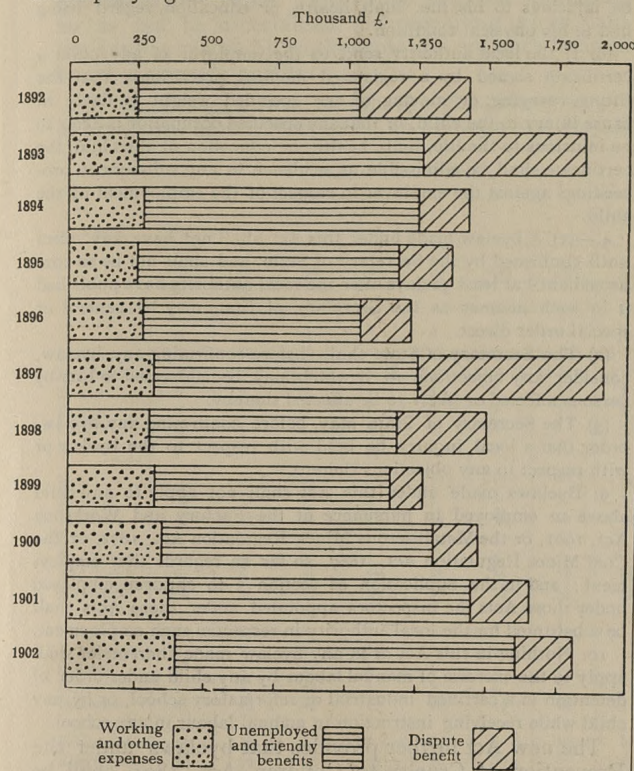


It will be seen that the slowest rate of increase was in 1897, the year of the great engineering dispute, when a sum of only about £74,000 was added to the accumulated funds and the amount of funds per head of total membership showed a decline of 2s. 11 1/2d.

The following Table gives the expenditure of the 100 Unions under the heads of (1) dispute benefit, (2) unemployed and friendly benefits, and (3) working and other expenses of management.

Year.	Dispute Benefit.		Unemployed and Friendly Benefits.		Working and other Expenses of Management.	
	Amount.	Per cent. of Total Expenditure.	Amount.	Per cent. of Total Expenditure.	Amount.	Per cent. of Total Expenditure.
1892	£ 396,548	27.7	782,270	54.6	£ 254,053	17.7
1893	574,583	31.2	1,006,882	54.8	257,653	14.0
1894	167,615	11.7	982,278	68.8	277,710	19.5
1895	197,216	14.3	931,679	67.4	253,112	18.3
1896	171,218	14.0	782,073	65.8	272,328	22.2
1897	659,126	34.5	937,866	49.0	315,149	16.5
1898	328,511	21.9	893,773	57.6	306,490	20.5
1899	119,591	9.4	826,787	65.1	324,383	25.5
1900	148,568	10.1	959,358	65.4	359,656	24.5
1901	204,603	12.4	1,067,637	61.6	379,870	23.0
1902	210,491	11.9	1,201,933	66.2	397,200	21.9

During the 11 years 1892-1902 the 100 principal Unions have expended £16,900,000, of which amount over £10,300,000, or 61 per cent., has been spent on unemployed and friendly benefits, such as payments to sick, injured, and superannuated members, and on account of funeral expenses. About £3,200,000, or 19 per cent. of the total, has been spent on dispute benefit, and the remaining 20 per cent. on working and other expenses. The lowest percentage expenditure on dispute benefit was 9.4 in 1899, and the highest 34.5 in 1897. The total expenditure in each year and the proportion on each of these 3 heads is brought out in the accompanying chart:—



The following Table gives for the years 1892-1902 the expenditure on each of the principal friendly benefits expressed as a percentage of the total expenditure:—

Year.	Unemployed.	Sick and Accident.	Superannuation.	Funeral.
1892	22.7	14.7	7.0	4.7
1893	24.9	13.2	6.0	4.1
1894	31.3	16.1	8.4	4.8
1895	30.1	19.0	9.4	5.4
1896	21.3	20.1	11.4	6.1
1897	17.1	14.0	7.8	4.1
1898	15.0	18.6	10.7	5.5
1899	14.8	23.8	13.8	7.3
1900	17.8	22.1	12.7	6.7
1901	19.6	20.9	12.1	6.0
1902	23.2	20.1	12.1	5.4
Mean of 11 years	21.7	18.2	10.0	5.4

From the above it will be seen that the proportionate expenditure on unemployed fluctuates most, the divergence from the mean expenditure over the period being in one year, 1894, nearly 10 per cent. of the total expenditure. There is generally a tendency to increase in the case of superannuation benefit, the decline in the percentage in 1897 being due to the very large amount of dispute pay in that year.

Trades Councils and Federations.

The number of Trades Councils in existence at the end of 1902 was 182, and the total number of Trade Unionists represented on them was 818,050. In 1901, the number of Councils was 184, and their membership 797,540. The number of Federations of Trade Unions fell from 106 in 1901 to 91 in 1902; the membership of the Federations being about the same at the end of each year, viz., 1,800,000. This, however, is a gross total, several Unions being affiliated to more than one Federation. The General Federation has a membership of 414,000, and the Miners' Federation a membership of 343,000.

PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACTS AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACT IN 1902.

An introductory note to the official statistics of proceedings under these Acts in 1902, recently issued, states that, while the official returns contain some information of interest, they leave untouched the great body of cases of compensation to workmen. In the majority of cases, compensation is settled by agreement, no memorandum is registered, and no official information therefore is available.

The number of cases under the Workmen's Compensation Acts taken into County Courts in England and Wales in 1902 was 1,807, compared with 1,918 in 1901. The number of cases dealt with by the Courts was 1,269 (as against 1,370 in 1901), while 538 cases were either withdrawn, settled out of Court, or otherwise disposed of. The number of claims finally settled in 1902 within the cognizance of the Courts was 968, as compared with 1,174 in 1901.

In 264 of the 968 cases finally settled in 1902, compensation averaging £168 was awarded on account of death, and in 96 cases lump sums averaging £36 were awarded on account of injury. A weekly allowance averaging 12s. 2d. was assigned in 242 cases of total incapacitation, and a weekly allowance averaging 9s. 11d. in 199 cases of partial incapacitation. The remaining 167 cases were decided in favour of the respondents—17 per cent. of the total number of settled cases, as against 14 per cent. in 1901.

In addition to the cases dealt with by the County Courts, 2,152 memoranda of agreements under the Workmen's Compensation Acts were registered in County Courts in 1902, as compared with 1,623 in 1901. It is stated, however, that these represent only a very small proportion of the agreements under the Acts.

The number of cases under the Workmen's Compensation Acts carried to the Court of Appeal in England was 59, or a little more than 3 per cent. of the cases that came before the County Courts. Of the 59 appeals, 27 were appeals by workmen and 32 by employers. Of the former, 6, and of the latter, 8, were successful.

The number of cases taken into Court under the Employers' Liability Act was 548, against 590 in 1901. The number of judgments for plaintiff was 136, and for defendant 70, against 159 and 100 respectively in 1901. The average amount of damages awarded in cases of death was £115.

In the Metropolitan Courts there were 258 cases under the Employers' Liability Act, against 186 under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, while for the rest of England and Wales the figures are 290 under the former and 1,621 under the latter.

Separate Tables for Scotland and Ireland are given in the return. The number of cases taken into Court in 1902 under the Workmen's Compensation Acts in Scotland was 338, and in Ireland 171. Under the Employers' Liability Act the numbers were 211 and 14 respectively.

On the basis of the official statistics of industrial accidents in the United Kingdom, it is estimated that in the case of deaths, where large sums would generally be payable, not more than 18 per cent. of the cases come in any way before the Court. As regards claims for injury, unofficial figures available in certain industries indicate that the number of litigated cases is less than 1 per cent. of the number of cases in which compensation is payable.

Statistics furnished by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies show that at 30th June, 1902, 47 certified "contracting-out" schemes were in operation, affecting 127,344 workmen.

*Statistics of Proceedings under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897 and 1900, and the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, during the year 1902 [Cd. 1702, Eyre & Spottiswoode. Price 4d.]

RECENT LEGISLATION AFFECTING LABOUR.

Coal Mines: Qualifications of Managers.

By the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1887, provisions are made with respect to the granting of certificates required by the Act to be held by managers and under-managers of coal mines. By one of these provisions it is enacted that "no person shall be entitled to a certificate under this Act unless he shall have had practical experience in a mine for at least five years." By an Act ["The Coal Mines Regulation Act (1887) Amendment Act, 1903"] which received the Royal Assent on June 30th, it is provided that certificates may also be granted to any person who (although not having had experience in a mine for five years) shall have received a diploma in scientific and mining training after a course of study of at least two years at any university, university college, mining school, or other educational institution approved of by the Home Secretary, or shall have taken a degree of any university to be so approved of which includes scientific and mining subjects, and shall also have had practical experience in a mine for at least three years.

Housing of the Working Classes.

An Act ("The Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1903"), which received the Royal Assent on August 14th, makes certain amendments in the existing laws with respect to the housing of the working classes. By one of the provisions of the new Act the maximum term of repayment of loans borrowed by local authorities for housing purposes is extended from 60 to 80 years. Amendments are also made as to closing orders (in relation to premises unfit for habitation), demolition, and other matters.

The Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, provided that in contracts for letting for habitation by persons of the working classes a house or part of a house, there should be implied a condition that the house was at the commencement of the holding in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. The new Act provides that, as respects any contract made after the passing of this Act, the provision just referred to shall take effect notwithstanding any agreement to the contrary.

Employment of Children.

"The Employment of Children Act, 1903," which also received the Royal Assent on August 14th, amends the previous law as to the regulation of the employment of children, and confers on local authorities wide powers of regulating such employment. Under the new Act it is enacted that:—

1. Any local authority may make byelaws—
 - (i) prescribing for all children, or for boys and girls separately, and with respect to all occupations or to any specified occupation,—
 - (a) the age below which employment is illegal; and
 - (b) the hours between which employment is illegal; and
 - (c) the number of daily and weekly hours beyond which employment is illegal;
 - (ii) prohibiting absolutely or permitting, subject to conditions, the employment of children in any specified occupation.
2. Any local authority may make byelaws with respect to street trading by persons under the age of 16, and may by such byelaws—

- (a) prohibit such street trading, except subject to such conditions as to age, sex, or otherwise, as may be specified in the byelaw, or subject to the holding of a licence to trade to be granted by the local authority;
- (b) regulate the conditions on which such licences may be granted, suspended, and revoked;
- (c) determine the days and hours during which, and the places at which, such street trading may be carried on;
- (d) require such street traders to wear badges;
- (e) regulate generally the conduct of such street traders:

Provided as follows:—

 - (1) The grant of a licence or the right to trade shall not be made subject to any conditions having reference to the poverty or general bad character of the person applying for a licence or claiming to trade;
 - (2) The local authority, in making byelaws under this section, shall have special regard to the desirability

of preventing the employment of girls under 16 in streets or public places.

- 3.—(1) A child shall not be employed between the hours of 9 in the evening and 6 in the morning: Provided that any local authority may, by byelaw, vary these hours either generally or for any specified occupation.
- (2) A child under the age of 11 years shall not be employed in street trading.
- (3) No child who is employed half-time under the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, shall be employed in any other occupation.
- (4) A child shall not be employed to lift, carry, or move anything so heavy as to be likely to cause injury to the child.
- (5) A child shall not be employed in any occupation likely to be injurious to his life, limb, health, or education, regard being had to his physical condition.
- (6) If the local authority send to the employer of any child a certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner that the lifting, carrying, or moving of any specified weight is likely to cause injury to the child, or that any specified occupation is likely to be injurious to the life, limb, health, or education of the child, the certificate shall be admissible as evidence in any subsequent proceedings against the employer in respect of the employment of the child.

4.—(1) A byelaw made under this Act shall not have any effect until confirmed by the Secretary of State, and shall not be so confirmed until at least 30 days after the local authority have published it in such manner as the Secretary of State may by general or special order direct.

(2) The Secretary of State shall, before confirming any byelaw, consider any objections to it which may be addressed to him by persons affected or likely to be affected thereby.

(3) The Secretary of State may, before confirming any byelaw, order that a local inquiry be held with respect to the byelaw or with respect to any objections thereto.

9. Byelaws made under this Act shall not apply to any child above 12 employed in pursuance of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, or the Metalliferous Mines Regulation Act, 1872, or the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1887, so far as regards that employment; and in the application of section 3 to children employed under those Acts the inspectors appointed under those Acts shall be substituted for the local authority in respect of such employment.

10. Nothing in this Act or in any byelaw made thereunder shall apply to the exercise of manual labour by any child under order of detention in a certified industrial or reformatory school, or by any child while receiving instruction in manual labour in any school.

The new Act further provides that byelaws under the Prevention of Cruelty to Children Act, 1894, shall be made by the same authority and confirmed in the same way as byelaws under this Act; and also enacts that Section 3 of the same statute (which regulates the employment of children in public entertainments) shall have effect as if re-enacted in this Act: "Provided as follows:—(1) A licence under that section shall not be granted to any child under the age of 10 years; and (2) Any inspector or other officer charged with the execution of this Act shall have and may exercise all the powers of an inspector of factories and workshops under that section, and that section shall apply accordingly."

Local authorities for the purpose of the Act are, in the City of London, the Corporation; in a municipal borough with a population of over 10,000 at the last census, the Town Council; in any other urban district with a population of over 20,000 at the last census, the District Council; and elsewhere the County Council.

The Employment of Children Act, 1903, will come into operation on January 1st, 1904.

RAILWAY SERVANTS' HOURS OF LABOUR.

A REPORT* has recently been issued by the Board of Trade respecting their Proceedings under the Railway Regulation Act, 1893, during the year ended 27th July, 1903. The number of complaints of long hours made under the Act shows a marked decrease, being only 28, of which 13 affected the hours of work of signalmen and 9 those of engine-drivers and firemen. In 1902 there were 123 complaints, while in 1901 the number was 19 only. For the ten years since the passing of the Act the total number of complaints is 708. Of this total 222 affected signalmen, 125 drivers and firemen, 116 the staff at stations, 135 guards and brakemen and 110 various other grades. The number of servants whose hours are dealt with upon any representation, however, is often considerably larger than the number referred to in the original complaint.

* P.P. 333. Price 2½d. Eyre and Spottiswoode.

PRICE OF BREAD, WHEAT AND FLOUR.

Bread.

THE returns as to the price of bread furnished by the Local Correspondents of the Department relate to London and 24 large Provincial Towns at the beginning of October and of each of the twelve preceding months. Though it is not possible to state that the quality of the bread referred to is in all cases the same, the figures for each place are believed to be, generally speaking, comparable over the whole period. Other qualities of bread are sold at both higher and lower prices than those quoted in the Table. The prices selected represent, so far as can be ascertained, the prevailing prices paid at the various places by workpeople for ordinary household bread of average quality.

As compared with a month ago the price per 4 lbs. of bread has been advanced ½d. in Oldham and Belfast.

Place.	Present Price, 1st Oct., 1903.	Price of 4 lbs. of Bread.						
		1903.						1902.
		1st Sept.	1st Aug.	1st July.	1st June.	2nd April.*	2nd Feb.*	1st Oct.*
London ...	d. 5 & 5½	d. 5 & 5½	d. 4½ & 5	d. 4½ & 5	d. 4½ & 5	d. 4½ & 5	d. 4½ & 5	d. 4½ & 5
Birmingham ...	5 & 6	5 & 6	4½ & 5	4½ & 5	4½ & 5	4½ & 5	4½ & 5	4½ & 5
Bolton ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Bristol ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Cardiff ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Hudders- field	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Hull ...	4 to 5	4 to 5	4 to 5	4 to 5	4 to 5	4 to 5	4 to 5	4 to 5
Ipswich ...	5½	5½	5	5	5	5	5	5
Leicester ...	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
Liverpool ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Manchester	4½	4½	4	4	4	4	4	4
Middlesbro'	6	6	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½
Newcastle- on-Tyne	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½
Norwich ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Nottingham ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Oldham ...	4½	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Plymouth ...	5	5	4½	5	5	5	5	5
Potteries	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4
District								
Wolver'pton	5½	5½	5	5	5	5	5	5
Aberdeen ...	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½
Dundee ...	6	6	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½
Edinburgh ...	6	6	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½
Glasgow ...	5½	5½	5	5	5	5	5	5
Belfast ...	5½	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Dublin ...	5½	5½	5	5	5	5	5	5

Wheat and Flour.

The imports of wheat from foreign countries and the colonies during September, 1903, amounted to 8,205,800 cwt., compared with 7,899,673 cwt. in the corresponding month of 1902. The imports of wheat-meal and flour amounted to 1,843,640 cwt., compared with 1,822,827 cwt. in September, 1902. The Table below gives the mean *London Gazette* price of British wheat, and the average declared value of the wheat and flour imports, for each of the months September, 1902, to September, 1903:—

Month.	British Wheat.		Imports.	
	Mean <i>London Gazette</i> Price.	Per cwt. s. d.	Wheat.	Wheat-meal and Flour.
			Average Declared Value.	Average Declared Value.
September 1902.				
October	6 5½	6 7½	9 3½
November	5 10½	6 6½	9 1½
December	5 10	6 6½	9 2½
January 1903.		5 9½	6 8	9 1½
February	5 10	6 8½	9 3
March	5 11	6 11	9 2½
April	5 10½	6 1½	9 2½
May	6 2½	6 8½	9 2½
June	6 5	6 10½	9 3½
July	6 7½	6 9½	9 1½
August	6 11½	6 9½	9 4½
September	6 6	6 9½	9 6½

* No change was recorded in any of the towns at 3rd November, 1st December, 1902, 1st January, 2nd March, or at 1st May, 1903.
† The Import Duty was abolished from 1st July.

UNION FOR THE PROTECTION OF LABOUR AT ANTWERP.

IN a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated September 5th, Mr. Hertslet, H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp, has supplied a report concerning an organisation known as the "Union for the Protection of Labour," which was formed at Antwerp some sixteen months ago, under the auspices of the Shipowners' and Brokers' Federation, with the object of improving the relations between employers and employed.

The Union consists of three sections of effective members, namely (1) shipowners, shipping agents and brokers, consignees of ships and cargoes, forwarding agents and coal merchants; (2) master stevedores; (3) chief master porters, carters, and other contractors of labour connected with the carrying trade. There is also a special section consisting of honorary members or labour delegates to the number of 45.

The financial requirements of the Union are met by contributions paid by the effective members belonging to the three sections. These are calculated on the following basis:—The members of the first section contribute to the Union ½ per cent. of the amount paid by them to the stevedores and contractors. They further bind themselves to pay to the Union the ½ per cent. due from the stevedores on the amount which they pay to a stevedore who is not a member of the Union and who has treated directly with the shipowner.

The members of the second section pay to the Union ½ per cent. of the amount received by them, or by the firms or associations of which they form part. They further bind themselves to pay to the Association ½ per cent. of the amount payable by shipowners with whom they treat directly, without the intervention of a ship-broker established in Antwerp.

The members of the third section contribute to the Union ½ per cent. of the total amount of wages paid by them. In addition to paying their contributions these members pledge themselves to give preference to workmen who are members of the Association.

The Union is managed by a committee of twelve effective and six assistant members, in which all four sections are represented.

The Committee have given special attention to the establishment of Labour Exchanges, to the organisation of medical assistance and to questions of arbitration. The committee receive all complaints, and make it their endeavour to settle all conflicts between members of the Union by way of conciliation. In the event of these efforts failing, the dispute is submitted to a tribunal of arbitration consisting of 5 persons. Of these, the President of the Committee is by right a member, and each of the parties at variance is represented by 2 members.

The first Labour Exchange was inaugurated on March 15th, 1902. By the end of the year over 4,000 men were inscribed members. Four Exchanges have actually been opened, and the construction of several additional buildings is now under consideration. The principal object of these Exchanges is the engagement of affiliated dockers, that is to say, men who, being members of the Union, have pledged themselves to work in an amicable spirit, and to submit all disputes in which they may be engaged to arbitration. The results have proved advantageous in every way. On the one hand the masters are sure of engaging only members of the Union, and on the other hand the Exchanges contribute greatly to the material welfare of the dockers; they can take shelter there in the best hygienic conditions, and can obtain light refreshments at cost price. Assistance in case of accident is also given.

In case of illness, a docker who has been kept from work for 4 days receives a daily allowance varying from 9½d. to 1s. 2d. a day for a period not exceeding 30 days. Eight shillings is granted on the birth of a child. During the year 1902 over 900 applications for help were received, and a total of £635 was distributed in accordance with medical assistance.

Besides this the Union has established a mutual relief fund. Those who subscribe 9s. 7d. a year

to this fund from the age of 25 to the age of 60, receive an annuity of £10.

The dues paid by the employers (shipbrokers, owners, stevedores, etc.) amounted in 1902 to some £4,400. The assets of the Union at the end of that year amounted to £6,000.

No less than 6,000 dockers are now affiliated to the Union, and work in harmony with their employers for the common welfare. Differences between employers and employed are now settled without difficulty by the committee of the Union, and the prosperity of the port has increased to such an extent that several foreign ports, including Amsterdam, have sent delegates with a view to forming unions on the same lines.

LABOUR DISPUTES IN GERMANY IN 1902.

THE Imperial Statistical Office in Berlin has issued the fourth volume* of official statistics of strikes and lock-outs in the German Empire, relating to the year 1902. The figures have reference only to disputes terminated in the year under review, and do not include strikes and lock-outs in agriculture.

The number of disputes terminated in 1902 was 1,106, an increase of 15, or 1.4 per cent., on the total for 1901. The total number of workpeople directly or indirectly affected by disputes terminated in 1902 was 70,696, as compared with 68,191 in the preceding year, an increase of 3.7 per cent.

The extent, to which the various groups of trades distinguished in the German statistics were affected by disputes in 1902, is shown by the following Table:—

Group of Trades.	Number of Trade Disputes.	Number of Workpeople Affected by Trade Disputes.		
		On Strike or Locked-out.	In-directly Affected.	Total.
Building Trades	482	32,690	4,336	37,026
Mining and Smelting	14	2,572	254	2,826
Metal Working,	77	3,960	445	4,405
Engineering and Implements	49	2,547	67	2,614
Textiles	104	10,401	366	10,767
Clothing and Cleaning	64	2,670	19	2,689
Transport	17	670	39	709
Gardening	3	43	...	43
Printing and Allied Trades	7	279	3	282
Paper Trades	4	35	...	35
Wood, &c., Trades	136	3,657	74	3,731
Chemical Trades	1	16	...	16
Gas, Oil, Soap, Varnish, &c., Manufacture	2	50	...	50
Stones and Earths Trades	72	2,241	677	2,918
Food, Tobacco, &c., Preparation	38	1,197	198	1,395
Leather Trades	20	611	1	612
Art Work	3	17	...	17
Commercial Employment	10	548	...	548
Other Trades	1	13	...	13
Total (1902)	1,106	64,217	6,479	70,696
Total (1901)	1,091	60,676	7,515	68,191

The causes or objects of disputes in 1902, as compared with 1901, will be seen from the following statement (where a dispute has more than one cause or object it is counted under each):—

Cause or Object.	Number of Disputes, the Causes or Objects of which were as shown in Col. 1.	
	1901.	1902.
Wages:—		
For Increase	578	579
Against Decrease	172	136
Other	232	246
Hours of Labour:—		
For Decrease	196	186
Other	34	30
Employment of Particular Classes or Persons ..	239	203
Working Arrangements	30	15
Other Causes or Objects	270	253

The next Table shows the results of the disputes

* *Streiks und Aussperrungen im Jahre 1902. (Statistik des Deutschen Reichs. Neue Folge. Band 157.)* Berlin, 1903. Puttkammer und Mühlbrecht. Price 2 marks 2 shillings.

settled in 1902. It will be seen that, relatively to the year 1901, there was a decrease in the proportion of disputes resulting in a compromise.

Percentage of Disputes which ended					
In favour of the Workpeople.		In favour of the Employers.		In a Compromise.	
1901.	1902.	1901.	1902.	1901.	1902.
19'34	21'43	53'80	56'69	26'86	21'88

With respect to the methods by which disputes were adjusted, the Report shows that 413 disputes were settled by direct arrangement between the parties concerned, 186 through the intervention of trade organisations or by mediation, and 43 before the Industrial Courts, acting as Boards of Conciliation (see GAZETTE, August, 1901, p. 234).

PROFIT-SHARING IN 1902-1903.

In continuation of the Report on Profit-sharing published by the Department in 1894 (C.—7,458 of 1894), and of the statements on this subject contained in previous numbers of the LABOUR GAZETTE*, the following details, obtained by correspondence with the firms concerned, are submitted, bringing the information previously published up to date.

Returns have been received from 67 out of the 75 firms with which profit-sharing was, according to the information available at the date of the statements made in the GAZETTE of July, 1902, in force (64 in the United Kingdom, 3 in British Colonies). In regard to 6 cases (all in the United Kingdom) it has been ascertained that profit-sharing has ceased to be in operation:—

Profit-sharing Schemes that have ceased to exist.

Duration of Profit-sharing.	Name.	Business.	No. of Employees.	Cause of cessation of Profit-sharing.
1886-1903	Earl Grey	Farming	53	Farms let.
1890-1903	Newman & Son	Printing	26	Transfer of business.
1893-1902	Brush Electrical Engineering Co., Ltd.	Electrical Engineering	1,315	Dissatisfaction of employers with results.
1897-1903	Richmond Gas Stove and Meter Co., Ltd. (formerly Richmond & Co., Ltd.)	Gas Engineers (Manufacturers)	820-870	Dissatisfaction of employers with results.
1898-1902	Mesth Home Industries Association	Needlework, Embroidery, Weaving and Knitting	150	Conversion of business into co-operative society.
1900-1903	Young & Marten, Ltd.	Builders' Merchants, &c., Manufacturers, Ironfounders, &c.	347	Profits did not reach reserved limit.

Particulars have been received in relation to 2 cases, in which profit-sharing has been adopted since June, 1902:—

Additional Cases of Profit-sharing.

Date of Adoption of Profit-sharing.	Name.	Business.	No. of Employees.	How Bonus Treated.
1902	British Columbia Electric Railway Company, Limited, Vancouver, New Westminster and Victoria, B.C., Canada	Electric Street Railways, Electric Lighting and Power Supply	250	Cash.
1903	P. C. Garnett, Ltd., Cleckheaton	Machine Makers and Ironfounders	75-80	Cash.

The total number of persons employed by the 69 firms known to practise profit-sharing at June 30th, 1903 (varying according to seasons, &c.), is *minimum* 42,862, *maximum* 45,210 (41,902—44,240 employed by 65 firms in the United Kingdom, 950—970 by 4 firms in British Colonies). According to the latest available information

* See July, 1895, p. 207; July, 1896, p. 208; September, 1896, p. 275; July, 1897, p. 195; August, 1898, p. 228; August, 1899, p. 227; August, 1900, p. 227; August, 1901, p. 231; March, 1902, p. 70; and July, 1902, p. 183.

the number of profit-sharing firms a year ago was 74, with 45,316—47,806 employees (44,718—47,193 employed by 71 firms in the United Kingdom, 598—613 by 3 firms in British Colonies).*

With respect to the addition made to the wages of the participating employees by the bonus allotted in 1902, details in regard to 59† cases (56 with 20,523 employees in the United Kingdom, 3 with 668 employees in British Colonies) are available, and are as shown below:—

Ratio of Bonus to Wages in 1902.

Ratio of Bonus allotted in 1902 to Wages.	No. of cases† in which the Bonus in col. 1 was paid.	No. of Employees (mean between minimum and maximum) in 1902.	Number of Participants in 1902.
Nil	15	4,310	—
Under 1 per cent.	1	117	113
2 and under 3 "	5	437	445
3 " 5 "	11	2,802	1,976
5 " 7 "	6	3,834	2,172
7 " 9 "	6	6,507	4,837
9 " 11 "	6	1,036	855
11 " 12 "	1	37	28
15 " 16 "	1	2,000	1,361
17 " 18 "	1	18	70
38 " 39 "	1	93	49

The figures show a mean bonus of 5.1 per cent. on wages paid in 1902 in the above 59 cases (compared with 5.0 per cent. paid in 1901 in the 58 cases, as to which information is available). Excluding 15 cases in which no bonus was earned, the bonus allotted in 1902 in the remaining 44 cases was (taking into account the number of participants in each case) at the mean rate of 7.4 per cent. (compared with 6.2 per cent. in 1901).

RECENT CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

Carpenters and Joiners at Sunderland.

Mr. A. A. Hudson, the arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade in connection with a dispute between the Sunderland and District Building Trades Association and the Amalgamated and Associated Societies of Carpenters and Joiners (see GAZETTE for September, p. 242), issued his award on September 23rd.

The question submitted for the arbitrator's decision was whether or not the carpenters and joiners in the Sunderland district should receive an advance of wages over 9d. per hour. The arbitrator decided that an advance should not be given.

Tinplate Workers near Newport.

The Board of Trade have received a joint application under the Conciliation Act on behalf of the Redbrook Tinplate Company, Ltd., the Tin and Sheet Millmen's Association, and the Dock, Wharf, Riverside and General Workers' Union, in connection with a dispute which has involved the stoppage of the Tynewydd Works since June 29th. The Board have appointed Mr. G. R. Askwith, barrister-at-law, to act as arbitrator.

Coal Miners at Gwaun-cae-Gurwen.

The Board of Trade have received an application for the appointment of an umpire in connection with certain matters in dispute between the Cwmgorse Colliery Co., Ltd., and their workpeople, upon which the arbitrators appointed by the parties to deal therewith have failed to agree. The Board have appointed Dr. Le Neve Foster, F.R.S., to act as umpire.

REPORT ON FACTORIES AND SHOPS ACT, NEW SOUTH WALES.

THE Annual Report of the Department of Labour and Industry of New South Wales on the working of the Factories and Shops Act, &c., &c., for the year 1902 has been received. From this it appears that there were in the Colony 2,800 factories, compared with 2,595 in 1901.

The total number of persons employed was 47,904, compared with 46,659 in 1901. Of these 34,479, or 72 per cent., were males, and 13,425, or 28 per cent., females, 5,541 of the males and 4,572 of the females being under 18 years of age.

The principal industries were the clothing and textile trades, * In addition to the firms referred to above there are at present 15 firms (as compared with 13 in 1902), which are known to have adopted profit-sharing, but as to which it has not been found possible to obtain information.

† In 1 case (in the United Kingdom), in which the bonus is stated separately for distinct branches of a business, the ratios are stated separately for each branch. The 59 cases include 4 (all in the United Kingdom) in which profit-sharing ceased to be in force after the date in 1902 for the distribution of bonus.

employing 13,488 persons, food and drink trades, employing 8,960, metal and machinery works, employing 6,236, and paper, printing and allied trades, employing 3,938, the remaining 15,282 workers being spread over fifteen other groups of trades.

The report states that there is an increasing tendency to draft women and children into the factories, and that of the increase in the number of workers in 1902 as compared with 1901, women and children were in the proportion of seven to one adult male.

RAILWAY LABOUR DISPUTES ACT: CANADA.

AN Act passed by the Legislature of the Dominion of Canada, and which received assent on July 10th, 1903, makes provision for the settlement of differences between railway employees and their employers. The Act applies to any dispute, disagreement, or dissension between any Company or Government owning or operating a railway (whether under the jurisdiction of the Parliament of Canada or of the Legislature of any province), which in the opinion of the Minister of Labour may have caused or may cause a lock-out or strike on a railway, or which has interfered or may interfere with the proper and efficient transportation of mails, passengers or freight, or the safety of persons employed upon any car or train.

For the purpose of settling such disputes the Act provides for the establishment of (a) Committees of Conciliation, Mediation and Investigation, and of (b) Boards of Arbitrators, to be constituted in the following manner:—

3. Whenever a difference exists between any railway employers and railway employees, and it appears to the Minister that the parties thereto are unable satisfactorily to adjust the same, and that by reason of such difference remaining unadjusted a railway lock-out or strike has been or is likely to be caused or the regular and safe transportation of mails, passengers or freight has been or may be interrupted, or the safety of any person employed on a railway train or car has been or is likely to be endangered, the Minister may, either on the application of any party to the difference, or on the application of the corporation of any municipality directly affected by the difference, or of his own motion, cause inquiry to be made into the same and the cause thereof, and for that purpose may, under his hand and seal of office, establish a Committee of Conciliation, Mediation and Investigation, to be composed of three persons to be named, one by the railway employers, and one by the railway employees (parties to the difference), and the third by the two so named or by the parties to the difference in case they can agree. The Minister shall in writing notify each party to name a member of said committee stating in such notice a time not being later than five days after the receipt of such notice within which this is to be done, and if either party within such time or any extension thereof that the Minister, on cause shown, may grant, refuse, or fail to name a member of said committee, the Minister or the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, as the case may be, as hereinafter provided, may appoint one in the place of the party so refusing, or in default, and if the members of said committee so chosen fail to select a third member, the Minister, or the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, as the case may be, may make such selection.

4. It shall be the duty of the Conciliation Committee to endeavour by conciliation and mediation to assist in bringing about an amicable settlement of the difference to the satisfaction of both parties, and to report its proceedings to the Minister.

5. In case the Conciliation Committee is unable to effect an amicable settlement by conciliation or mediation, the Minister may refer the difference to arbitration under the provisions of this Act.

(a) If acceptable to both parties, the Conciliation Committee may act as a Board of Arbitrators.

(b) In case of objection by either party to its representative on the Conciliation Committee acting as a member of the Board of Arbitrators, or to the chairman of said Conciliation Committee being a member of the Board of Arbitrators, new representatives on the Board of Arbitrators shall be appointed, in place of the member or members of the Conciliation Committee objected to, in like manner as the original members of the Conciliation Committee were appointed.

The Board of Arbitrators so chosen shall be established by the Minister under his hand and seal of office.

8. The third member of the said committee or board shall be the chairman.

9. In case of arbitration pursuant to the provision hereinbefore contained, the findings and recommendations of the majority shall

be those of the Board. In case of the absence of any one arbitrator from a meeting of the Board the other two arbitrators shall not proceed unless it be shown that the third arbitrator has been notified of the meeting in ample time to admit of his attendance.

10. Forthwith after the appointment of the Board the chairman shall promptly convene the same, and the Board shall in such manner as it thinks advisable make thorough, careful and expeditious inquiry into all the facts and circumstances connected with the difference and the cause thereof and shall consider what would be reasonable and proper to be done by both or either of the parties with a view to putting an end to the difference, and to preventing its recurrence and shall with all reasonable speed make to the Minister a written report setting forth the various proceedings, and steps taken by the Board for the purpose of fully and correctly ascertaining all the facts and circumstances, and also setting forth said facts and circumstances, and its findings therefrom including the cause of the difference and the Board's recommendations with a view to its removal, and the prevention of its recurrence.

11. The Minister shall forthwith cause the report to be filed in the office of the Department, and a copy thereof to be sent free of charge to each party to the difference and to any municipal corporation as aforesaid, and to the representative of any newspaper published in Canada who may apply therefor; any other person shall be entitled to a copy on payment of the actual cost thereof.

12. For the information of Parliament and the public the report shall without delay be published in the LABOUR GAZETTE, and be included in the annual report of the Department of Labour to the Governor General.

A Board of Arbitrators will have power to summon witnesses and take sworn evidence, and to compel production of documents, which may be inspected by the Board, and also by such of the parties as the Board allows, but the information obtained therefrom shall not be made public. Witnesses summoned to appear before the Board are to be carried free by railway when proceeding to and from the place of meeting of the Board. Each member of a Committee of Conciliation or a Board of Arbitrators is to receive his travelling expenses and a fee of 10 dollars (£2 1s. 8d.) per day; the remuneration of the chairman, however, is to be such sum as the Governor in Council deems reasonable. The Government also provides all clerical assistance required.

ABSTRACT OF LABOUR STATISTICS.*

THE Ninth Annual Abstract of Labour Statistics recently issued by the Board of Trade presents in summary form certain statistics relating to labour in the United Kingdom. Most of the Tables given are for a series of years, making it possible to compare the figures for the most recent with those of earlier years. The Tables are arranged in nine principal sections, related subjects being brought together where possible. Thus the first section deals with employment, production and exports. Tables are given showing the percentage number of members of Trade Unions unemployed, the average number of days worked by coal and iron mines, the number of pig iron furnaces in blast, &c., the output of coal, iron ore, pig iron, steel ingots and puddled bars, the tonnage of vessels built and the produce of corn and other crops. The quantity of coal, textiles and clothing exported is also shown.

The second section deals with wages and hours of labour, the rates of wages and hours of labour in a number of industries being given, as well as the changes which have been reported. Tables relating to profit-sharing also appear in this section. Another section includes new Tables showing the fluctuations in the prices of various commodities. Trade disputes and the work of permanent conciliation and arbitration boards are dealt with in another section. Other sections relate to industrial accidents and diseases, organisations of employers and workpeople (including co-operative, loan, building and friendly societies), the growth and movement of the population of the United Kingdom, and the housing, ages and occupations of the people; while the ninth section deals with workmen's compensation schemes, industrial actions and prosecutions, savings banks and pauperism.

* Ninth Annual Abstract of Labour Statistics of the United Kingdom. [Cd. 1,755. Eyre & Spottiswoode. Price 1s.]

EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIES.

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

Canada.

Work of all kinds has been plentiful in Canada throughout the year, but it is too late in the season for the ordinary emigrant, without friends or means of his own, to start now.

Australia.

New South Wales.—There is no demand for more labour. The Factories Report for 1902 on the Sydney and Newcastle districts shows that trade generally was depressed throughout the year, except in the wool scouring and tallow refining industries, and the soap and candle manufactories. There was an increasing tendency to employ women and children in factories. (See article on New South Wales on p. 273).

Victoria.—There is no demand for more labour, and many persons have left the State owing to the depression. The Leathersellers' Board has fixed the lowest wages payable to persons making portmanteaus, &c., at 45s. for not more than 48 hours a week, and to adult females at 16s.

South Australia and Tasmania.—The supply of labour in these States is sufficient.

Queensland.—The return of the Government Labour Bureau for the quarter ending 30th June last, shows as follows:—There was no demand for mechanics anywhere, except for a few at or near Cardwell, Charters Towers and Townsville in the North; there was a good demand for agricultural labourers in the South, but very little elsewhere; there was no demand for station hands or miners anywhere; there was a good demand for general labourers in many districts in the North and South; there was a demand for female servants in the North. The cost of a nominated passage to Queensland for male emigrants between 12 and 40 years of age has just been raised from £4 to £5, and of that for male and female emigrants from 40 to 55 years from £8 to £10.

Western Australia.—There is a demand for agricultural labourers and female servants. There is no demand for miners, and very little for mechanics.

South Africa.

Cape Colony.—There is some demand for skilled mechanics only, such as masons, blacksmiths, coach-smiths, joiners, &c. Plasterers have been on strike for some little time, on their demand for £5 instead of £4 5s. a week being refused. In Kimberley many persons in the building trades are out of work, but at East London skilled mechanics are wanted. Male or female domestic servants under 35 years of age may now obtain aided passages at £3 a head on certain conditions. Many districts are suffering severely from drought.

Natal.—Under the new regulations British subjects resident in Natal may, on application to the Secretary, European Immigration Department, Durban, obtain assisted passages for nominated immigrants of the following classes, (1) wives and families (exclusive of male children above 16 years), or female relatives, or intended wives, of bona fide Colonists, (2) female domestic servants, female shop assistants and clerks, dressmakers, governesses, (3) agriculturists. The rates are £5 5s. a head for adults, and £2 12s. 6d. for children from 3 to 12 years of age. Small capitalists and their families also may obtain reduced passages at £10 2s. to £12 12s. a head. None of the above passages are open to persons who have previously resided in South Africa. The building trade in Durban continues busy, and competent men in all branches, especially plasterers, should have no difficulty in finding work. The engineering and carriage building trades are now well supplied; female servants, mothers' helps, companion housekeepers and dressmakers are wanted, but not governesses at present.

Transvaal.—No one may enter the Colony without a permit. The supply of men in the building trades at Johannesburg is about sufficient. At Pretoria the building trades are fairly brisk and first-

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

class men can obtain work. There is no demand at Johannesburg for miners, general labourers, boiler-makers, engineers, engine drivers, firemen, iron-founders or farm labourers. There is no demand for more compositors; linotypes and monotypes are being introduced. The cost of living is two or three times as much as in England. There is some demand for female servants. They may obtain assisted passages provided they undertake to repay £12 of the expenses out of their wages; they must apply to the South African Colonisation Society, 47, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

Orange River Colony.—No one can enter the Colony without a permit. Thoroughly skilled mechanics have good prospects of employment at high wages, but the cost of living is very great. As it has been stated that much distress exists in the Colony, the Resident Magistrates have reported that though there is much poverty, no general distress exists, and that any able-bodied person, who is desirous of work, can obtain employment from private employers or at the Government Relief Works.

LABOUR ABROAD.

FRANCE.*

Employment in August.—In the building trades, quarrying, coachmaking, and pottery manufacture employment continued fairly satisfactory in August. No change took place in the textile trades since the previous month. The garment-making trades, boot and shoe trades, hair-dressing, and the furniture trades were in their slack season. The printing and bookbinding trades, as is usual in August, showed a decline. Sardine fishing off the coasts of Brittany remained at a standstill. A large number of agricultural labourers continued employed at harvesting operations and vine-tending, but many of this class were out of work in the districts where the harvest had terminated early in the month, or where the vines had been affected by the frosts in April.

Out of a total of 159,988 members of 909 Trade Unions (not including Miners' Unions in the Nord and Pas-de-Calais Departments) which made reports as to the state of employment in August, 15,157 (or 9.4 per cent.) were out of work in that month, as compared with 10.5 per cent. in the previous month, and 11.0 per cent. in August, 1902.

Coal Mining in August.—The average number of days worked per week by coal miners employed underground in August was 5.80, as compared with 5.83 in the previous month and 5.81 in August, 1902. Taking all workpeople together (surface and underground), 68 per cent. worked full time (6 days and over per week), and 28 per cent. from 5 to 6 days, as compared with 68 and 31 respectively in July. The foregoing particulars were supplied to the French Labour Department by the Committee of Coal Owners and relate to over 146,000 workpeople, or more than three-fourths of all employed in and about the mines.

Labour Disputes in August.—Forty-four fresh disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in August, 5,053 workpeople taking part in 41 of them. The number reported for the preceding month was 51, in which 6,929 workpeople took part. Seven of the disputes in August last occurred in the building trades, 2 in mining, 2 in the metal trades, 18 in the textile trades, 3 in transport and warehousing, 3 in the printing and paper trades, 3 in the woodworking and furnishing trades, 2 in the food preparation trades, and 4 in trades not falling within any of these groups. Thirty-nine disputes came to an end in August, 5 being decided in favour of the workpeople, 18 in favour of the employers, and 16 being compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in August.—Four cases of recourse to the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported to the French Labour Department in August. The Justice of the Peace took the initiative in 2 cases and the workpeople in 2. In 1 case a settlement was arrived at by direct arrangement between the parties before the preliminary formalities could be completed.

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

In the other 3 cases Conciliation Committees were formed, resulting in the settlement of 1 of the disputes. In 1 of the 2 remaining cases the workpeople abandoned their demands and resumed work about a fortnight later, while in the second no agreement could be arrived at, and the strike was still in progress at the time of reporting.

BELGIUM.*

Employment: May-July.—The proportion of the total membership reported to the Belgian Labour Department as unemployed by the Trade Unions making returns on this subject for July was 2.8 per cent., as compared with 2.6 in June and 2.9 in May. The Unions reporting for July numbered 122, with 29,501 members, as compared with 127 with 30,958 members reporting for June, and with 123 and 30,985 members reporting for May. The foregoing particulars do not relate to miners, agricultural labourers, or homeworkers.

Labour Disputes: May-July.—Twelve disputes were reported to the Belgian Labour Department as having begun in the three months May-July. The number of workpeople affected by these was 974 (viz., 811 directly and 163 indirectly). Seven of the disputes occurred in the textile trades, the remaining 5 strikes being in the chemical, cement making, quarrying, engineering and transport trades respectively. Twelve disputes came to an end in the same period, 4 (with 140 participants) being decided in favour of the workpeople, 6 (with 422 participants) in favour of the employers, and 2 (with 101 participants) being compromised.

HOLLAND.

In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated September 30th, Sir H. Howard, H.M. Minister at the Hague, transmits the reports from H.M. Consuls at Amsterdam and Rotterdam on labour in their respective districts during the quarter ended September 30th.

ROTTERDAM CONSULAR DISTRICT.

H.M. Consul at Rotterdam reports that nothing of any importance or interest has occurred in the labour market in that city during the quarter.

AMSTERDAM CONSULAR DISTRICT.

H.M. Consul at Amsterdam reports that there has not been any recurrence of actual labour disputes or strikes in this city during the past quarter. At Borne in the province of Overysel, however, a lock-out has occurred in a considerable cotton-spinning factory, owing to a strike on the part of some of the females employed. No settlement had been reached at the date of reporting.

GERMANY.†

Employment in August.—The state of employment was favourable on the whole in the majority of trades, except where they were adversely affected by seasonal conditions or by bad weather. Coal miners were very well employed, the improvement continued in the metal, engineering and electrical trades, and there was no further appreciable depression in the case of the textile trades.

Labour Disputes, April-June.—The number of disputes reported to the German Labour Department as having terminated in the three months April, May and June, 1903, was 387 (361 strikes and 26 lock-outs). The maximum number of workpeople on strike or locked out at the same time in these disputes was 42,186, but there were also 3,704 workpeople indirectly affected. The groups of trades, in which most disputes occurred during this period, were the building trades with 151 disputes, the woodworking trades with 52 disputes, metal trades with 48 disputes, and the glass, pottery and allied trades with 24 disputes. As to the results of the 387 disputes, 69 were decided in favour of the workpeople, and 184 in favour of the employers, the remaining 134 being compromised.

* Revue du Travail (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department).
† Reichs-Arbeitsblatt (Journal of the German Labour Department).

AUSTRIA.*

Employment in August.—The statistics of the public and private labour registries which furnished returns to the Austrian Labour Department for August show that, on an average, 163 applications were made for every 100 situations offered in that month, as compared with 179 in the previous month, and 177 in August, 1902. Taking the sexes separately, there were, in the case of men, 201 applications for every 100 situations, as against 217 in July; while in the case of women there were 95, as compared with 102 in July.

Labour Disputes in August.†—Twenty-seven disputes were reported to the Austrian Labour Department as having begun in August, the number of workpeople taking part in 26 of these being 2,675. Seven of the disputes occurred in the building trades, 5 in the metal trades, 3 in the textile trades, 2 in the clothing and cleaning trades, 4 in the woodworking, &c., trades, 3 in the food preparation trades, and 3 in trades not coming within any of the foregoing groups. Of 21 disputes, of which the results were reported, 5 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 9 in favour of the employers, and 7 were compromised.

ITALY.

Strike on the North-Milan Railway.—Information concerning a strike on the North-Milan Railway is contained in a series of despatches received through the Foreign Office from Sir F. Bertie, H.M. Ambassador at Rome, dated September 26th to October 3rd. From these it appears that the men's demands, which were embodied in a memorandum presented to the company on August 20th, were for higher wages, the reorganisation of their pension fund, increased contributions thereto by the company, and augmented pensions to the men on their retirement from service.

The company offered to grant £2,000 for the re-adjustment of the superannuation fund, to increase their annual contribution thereto, and to review the agreements of 1901, but stated that the financial condition of the undertaking would not allow of any increase of wages. The men, numbering about 1,300, went on strike on September 13th, and traffic on the company's lines was suspended, but was afterwards resumed to a limited extent as other hands were engaged. By October 2nd the strike had ceased, owing to the intervention of the Prefect of Milan. The company having reiterated its previous offers, the men had held a meeting at which it was resolved that "not having the support of the other railway men, it was impossible to hold out, and that the North Milan should be approached with the view of securing the re-engagement of the strikers, as they were not disposed to insist on other conditions than those offered by the company."

Suspension of Discharge of Coal Cargoes at Genoa.—According to despatches received by the Board of Trade from H.M. Acting Consul-General at Genoa, dated September 22nd and 23rd, the coal merchants at that port suspended the discharge of coal cargoes on September 19th as a protest against the practice of employing men by turn, a practice which has grown up in consequence of the supply of labour being in excess of the demand. The discharge of coal was, however, resumed on September 23rd under the old conditions.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

CHICAGO CONSULAR DISTRICT.

In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated September 21st, Mr. W. Wyndham, H.M. Consul at Chicago, states that since his report of August 27th (see LABOUR GAZETTE for September, p. 246), troops have been in charge of the mines in Cripple Creek and Victor (Colorado), and the mineowners were bringing in non-Union men from other States, and had notified the Unions that they would not employ any man whom they knew to belong to a Union. The mates on board the steamers belonging to the

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Austrian Labour Department
† Exclusive of disputes which may have occurred in the mining industry.

United States Steel Corporation had struck, and the Company was trying to run its own barges, of which it has forty-two. Reporting on September 24th, H.M. Consul stated that a strike had taken place the day before at the flour mills in Minneapolis, 1,700 men being involved. The cause is stated to be the refusal of the employers to reduce the hours from ten to eight, with the present wages. The closed mills have an output of 57,000 barrels a day. H.M. Consul adds that in Chicago both the Employers' Association and the Unions have declared arbitration a failure.

PHILADELPHIA CONSULAR DISTRICT.

Strike of Textile Workers at Philadelphia.—In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated September 4th, Mr. Wilfred Powell, H.M. Consul at that city, reports further concerning this dispute. The strike, which was referred to in the LABOUR GAZETTE for July (p. 189), involved 120,000 workpeople, who demanded the reduction of the working hours from 60 to 55 per week. Arbitration was offered by the mill owners on the entire issues involved, but refused by the workpeople. On September 4th the dispute, after lasting 14 weeks, came to an end, and nearly the entire number of employed persons who were on strike returned to work. In a limited number of cases a decrease in hours, or an increase in wages, has been secured.

Closing of Iron and Steel Works.—Reporting under date of September 25th, H. M. Consul stated that as a result of the labour disputes in New York the structural steel supplied by the Pencoyd Iron Works, of Philadelphia, could not be used in building operations in New York. The Pencoyd Works had to cease production until the material already sent to New York could be used, and, as a consequence, the force of workmen at the Pencoyd Iron Works was being steadily reduced. Notices had been posted at the works that on Saturday, October 3rd, every portion of the works would be closed, except the draughting, machine, pattern and bridge departments. Up to the date of reporting, the principal sufferers had been in the rolling mills and outlying machine shop. These men had been laid off in batches, beginning September 18th, when 200 men received notice that their services would not be required for some time. The reason given was that "this is not a busy season." The curtailing process has been going on steadily as the orders in hand were filled. The lowest pay in the steel and rolling mills is 1.35 dollars (5s. 7½d.) per day. This is paid to unskilled labourers. Skilled mechanics receive as high as 7 dollars (29s. 2d.) a day. The average for the steel rolling machine and bridge departments is said to be more than 3.5 dollars (14s. 7d.) per diem. As the Pencoyd Company is a subsidiary concern of the United States Steel Corporation, many of the men, who have availed themselves of the parent company's offer to allow its workmen to invest their surplus in preferred stock of that concern, now find themselves without their ready cash to fall back upon. (See GAZETTE, February, 1903, p. 35.)

BRAZIL.

Strikes at Rio de Janeiro.—Mr. A. Chapman, H.M. Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro, reports, in a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated August 31st, that since August 14th the manufacturing and commercial industries of that town had suffered from a succession of labour strikes, which, commencing with the mill operatives, tailors, bootmakers and quarrymen, spread on the 25th of the month to the dock labourers. The declared motives were the adoption of an eight-hours' working day and increase of wages. The movement was, however, much less serious than was anticipated, and all trades had returned to work at the time of reporting, with the exception of the dock labourers. Of these there were said to be about 1,200 on strike, but vessels managed, with the assistance of emergency labour and their crews, to load and discharge with fair regularity.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—BUILDING TRADES; COAL MINING.

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

BUILDING TRADES.

ACCORDING to returns furnished by 82 Employers' Associations whose members are estimated to employ nearly 89,000 workpeople, and by Trade Unions with an aggregate membership of 199,000, employment in the building trade continues moderate generally, and is worse than a year ago.

The returns from Employers' Associations show that employment was good with 77 per cent. of the workpeople reported on, fair or moderate with 48.9 per cent., and dull or bad with 43.4 per cent.

Employment with bricklayers is reported as showing a slight improvement on the preceding month. It is better than a year ago. With masons it continues fair. With carpenters and joiners employment has declined somewhat, and is worse than a month and a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union carpenters and joiners at the end of September was 4.0, as compared with 2.9 at the end of August, and 3.3 a year ago. With painters employment is dull, and is worse than a month and a year ago. With plasterers employment continues dull. Employment with plumbers shows a slight improvement compared with a month ago. It is, however, rather worse than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union plumbers unemployed at the end of September was 6.4, as compared with 7.1 unemployed at the end of August, and 5.9 a year ago. Slaters and tilers report employment as moderate, and worse than a month ago.

The Table given below shows the proportion of unemployed carpenters and joiners and plumbers in the principal districts according to the returns of certain Trade Unions.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Sept., 1903.*	Percentage of Members of Unions returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage for Sept., 1903, as compared with a	
		Sept., 1903.	Aug., 1903.	Sept., 1902.	Month ago.	Year ago.
CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.						
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
London	7,324	4.6	3.1	4.5	+ 1.5	+ 0.1
Northern Counties and Middlesbrough	6,022	10.7	6.5	4.7	+ 4.2	+ 6.0
Lancashire and Cheshire	10,381	3.3	2.6	3.2	+ 0.7	+ 0.1
Yorkshire	4,931	3.5	3.5	3.2	...	+ 0.3
East Midlands	4,435	2.7	2.0	1.0	+ 0.7	+ 1.7
West Midlands	3,033	2.7	2.3	1.8	+ 0.4	+ 0.9
Eastern Counties	1,198	3.7	2.7	2.3	+ 1.0	+ 1.4
S. and S.W. Counties	5,818	2.4	2.0	2.8	- 0.4	- 0.4
Wales and Monmouth	1,683	2.0	3.0	3.3	- 1.0	- 1.3
Other Districts	618	3.1	1.6	3.5	+ 1.5	- 0.4
SCOTLAND	5,221	2.4	2.3	3.6	+ 0.1	- 1.2
IRELAND	4,518	2.8	2.4	3.8	+ 0.4	- 1.0
UNITED KINGDOM	55,182	4.0	2.9	3.3	+ 1.1	+ 0.7
PLUMBERS.						
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
London	1,185	6.4	5.3	6.3	+ 1.1	+ 0.1
Northern Counties and Middlesbrough	1,466	8.6	9.1	6.4	- 0.5	+ 2.2
Lancashire and Cheshire	2,554	6.4	7.9	6.8	- 1.5	- 0.4
Yorkshire	1,061	5.9	5.9	5.5	...	+ 0.4
East Midlands	636	3.3	3.6	2.4	- 0.3	+ 0.9
West Midlands	521	4.0	4.3	3.4	- 0.3	+ 0.6
Eastern Counties	115	1.7	3.3	2.3	- 1.6	- 0.6
S. and S.W. Counties	507	6.9	5.3	6.9	+ 1.6	...
Wales and Monmouth	278	5.8	9.0	7.0	- 3.2	- 1.2
Other Districts	36	11.1	8.3	15.4	+ 2.8	- 4.3
SCOTLAND	1,506	4.4	6.4	5.5	- 2.0	- 1.1
IRELAND	416	15.9	14.6	5.7	+ 1.3	+ 10.2
UNITED KINGDOM	10,281	6.4	7.1	5.9	- 0.7	+ 0.5

London.—Employment in London has declined slightly during the month. Returns received by the Trade Correspondent from 75 employers show that in the last week of September they paid wages to 17,811 workpeople, as compared with 17,955 in August, and 16,522 in September, 1902.

Bricklayers and plumbers report employment as moderate; carpenters and joiners, and painters as dull generally; masons as fair; plasterers as bad.

* Exclusive of Superannuated Members.

Northern Counties.—Employment generally is dull with carpenters and joiners, plasterers and bricklayers; bad with plumbers; good with masons. With painters it is slack on the Tyne and Wear, fair on the Tees. With slaters and tilers it is reported as quiet on the Tyne, moderate on the Wear and Tees. A large number of labourers are also reported idle.

Lancashire.—At Liverpool employment continues quiet, masons, however, are fairly well employed. At Manchester it is fair with carpenters and joiners, slack with plasterers, bricklayers, masons and painters. At Bolton employment is good on the whole; at Wigan it is moderate; at Chorley slack. At Blackburn, Burnley and Oldham it is moderate generally.

Yorkshire.—Employment on the whole is quiet, and shows little change as compared with a month ago. At Sheffield it is slack; at Barnsley fairly good. At Leeds employment generally is quiet, with no signs of improvement, but plumbers report it as fair. At Harrogate it is bad. At Hull and Bradford employment remains about the same as last month.

East Midland Counties.—At Leicester employment shows a slight improvement on the previous month, but carpenters and joiners report it as bad. At Nottingham employment is dull generally, but with masons it is improving. At Derby, it is fair with masons, dull or quiet with other branches.

West Midland Counties.—Employment in these counties is dull generally. At Birmingham it is bad with bricklayers and plasterers. At West Bromwich and Redditch it is quiet generally. At Walsall and Wolverhampton it is dull generally, and bad with bricklayers and carpenters at Wolverhampton. In Stourbridge and Tamworth employment is good; in the North Staffordshire district it is slack.

Eastern Counties.—Employment in these counties continues slack. At Colchester bricklayers report employment as good, carpenters and joiners as fair. With masons in Norfolk, who have been fairly well employed for some time, employment is falling off. At Ipswich employment is dull generally.

Southern and South Western Counties.—Employment is hardly so good as a month or a year ago. At Chatham and Portsmouth it is quiet. It is slack at Bristol with masons and bricklayers; quiet at Plymouth with bricklayers, plasterers, painters and joiners.

Wales.—Employment generally is moderate in South Wales. At Swansea it is good. Masons are fairly well employed. With other branches employment is not so good as the seaports as at inland centres. In North Wales it is quiet generally, but fair with bricklayers at Wrexham and masons at Llandudno.

Scotland.—Employment shows little change as compared with a month ago and is fair on the whole. It is dull, however, with painters in all districts, with plasterers at Glasgow, and with joiners at Dundee and Aberdeen.

Ireland.—Employment in Dublin is moderate generally, it is bad with carpenters and joiners, good with plasterers. At Belfast employment is moderate, fair with carpenters and joiners and painters, bad with plumbers. At Cork it is fair generally, but bad with painters.

COAL MINING.

[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 during September was slightly better than a month ago, but was not so good as a year ago.

Returns received relating to 1,318 pits employing 500,364 workpeople show that the average number of days worked per week by the collieries included in the returns, during the four weeks ended 26th September, was 5.22, compared with 4.89 in August, and 5.35 in September, 1902. The average for August, 1903, was lowered on account of

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—COAL MINING; OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.

holidays. The number of workpeople employed at collieries from which returns were received for both periods was 1.7 per cent. greater than a year ago.

The following Table gives for the different mining districts a comparison of the average number of days worked per week by collieries in September, 1903 and 1902, and in August, 1903.

District.	No. employed in Sept., 1903, 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 Sept., 1903, as compared with	
		26th Sept., 1903.	29th Aug., 1903.	27th Sept., 1902.	A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ...	39,631	5'37	5'23	5'46	+ '14	- '09
Durham ...	97,956	5'47	5'30	5'52	+ '17	- '05
Cumberland ...	7,424	5'22	5'32	5'71	- '10	- '49
Yorkshire ...	76,463	5'19	4'74	4'94	+ '45	+ '25
Lancashire and Cheshire...	49,505	4'71	4'41	4'98	+ '30	- '27
Derbyshire ...	35,867	4'80	4'58	5'37	+ '22	- '52
Nottingham and Leicester	30,184	4'79	4'26	5'31	+ '53	- '57
Staffordshire ...	28,286	4'90	4'08	5'18	+ '82	- '28
Salop, Worcester and Warwick ...	10,100	5'27	4'70	5'29	+ '57	- '02
Gloucester and Somerset...	8,581	5'43	4'72	5'45	+ '71	- '02
North Wales...	12,956	5'15	5'06	5'57	+ '09	- '12
South Wales and Mon. ...	64,503	5'62	5'10	5'74	+ '52	- '42
ENGLAND & WALES ...	461,456	5'21	4'88	5'34	+ '36	- '13
SCOTLAND.		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
West Scotland ...	19,005	5'35	5'28	5'34	+ '07	+ '01
The Lothians ...	4,363	5'55	5'58	5'78	- '03	- '23
Fife ...	14,939	5'52	5'54	5'53	- '02	- '01
SCOTLAND ...	38,307	5'44	5'41	5'46	+ '03	- '02
IRELAND.		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Ireland ...	601	4'82	4'86	5'31	- '04	- '49
United Kingdom ...	800,364	5'22	4'89	5'35	+ '33	- '13

A comparison of the district averages given in the above Table shows that the districts in which the average number of days per week worked by the collieries exceeded 5½ were South Wales and Monmouthshire (5.62), the Lothians (5.55), and Fife (5.52), while in Lancashire and Cheshire, Derbyshire, Notts and Leicester, Staffordshire and Ireland less than 5 days per week were worked, the lowest average, 4.71 days, being in Lancashire and Cheshire. In the remaining districts between 5 and 5½ days were worked on the average.

Of the total number of workpeople included in the returns, 74.8 per cent. were employed in collieries working 20 or more days during the four weeks ended 26th September, 1903, compared with 83.5 per cent. in September, 1902.

Reports received from Local Correspondents and others show that in Northumberland, steam coal pits averaged about 5.4 days per week, and house coal pits 5.2 days. In Durham employment was moderate. In the Leeds district employment in house coal pits improved. In the Wigan, Oldham, Bolton and Burnley districts employment was slack. In the Sheffield district employment was good; five large collieries however were idle owing to disputes. In Leicestershire employment is reported to have been fairly good; in Notts moderate; in North Staffordshire quiet. In Cannock Chase the weekly average was 4 days; in the Old Hill, Halesowen and Blackheath district 4½ days, and in the Tipton, Oldbury and Dudley district 4¼ days; in Shropshire employment was fair. In the Bristol, Radstock and Forest of Dean coalfields employment improved slightly. Employment in North Wales was fair generally.

In Ayrshire and Dumfriesshire employment was fair, and in Lanarkshire and Stirlingshire fairly good. In Mid and East Lothian employment showed a slight falling off; in West Lothian it continued to improve. In Fifeshire employment has been fairly good.

The Exports of coal, coke, and patent fuel during September amounted to 3,976,744 tons, as compared with 3,960,065 tons in August and 3,909,752 tons in September, 1902.

OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.

INFORMATION has been received from 75 firms employing about 18,400 workpeople, from 5 Employers' Associations, a Trade Union, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment in iron and shale mines has been good; in tin and copper mines, dull; in limestone, slate, and granite quarries fairly good generally, and in other stone quarries, good.

Mining.

Iron Mining.—Employment in this industry continues good generally and shows little change compared with a month or a year ago. During the four weeks ended September 26th the average number of days worked by the 136 mines and openworks covered by the returns received from employers was 5.78, as compared with 5.76 a month ago and 5.81 in September 1902.

The following Table summarises the returns received:—

District.	No. employed in Sept., 1903, 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 Sept., 1903, as compared with	
		26th Sept., 1903.	29th Aug., 1903.	27th Sept., 1902.	A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND—		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	4,754	5'77	5'91	5'91	- '14	- '01
Cleveland ...	7,063	5'85	5'88	5'86	- '03	- '01
Lincolnshire and Leicestershire...	874	5'90	5'71	5'97	+ '19	- '07
Northamptonshire	577	5'61	5'49	5'77	+ '12	- '16
Staffordshire and Shropshire ...	1,079	5'17	4'60	4'74	+ '57	+ '43
Other places in England...	120	5'91	5'43	5'61	+ '48	+ '30
Total, England	14,467	5'77	5'76	5'79	+ '01	- '02
SCOTLAND ...	1,078	6'00	5'70	6'00	+ '30	...
IRELAND ...	107	6'00	5'95	6'00	+ '05	...
Total and Averages	15,652	5'78	5'76	5'81	+ '02	- '03

The number of workpeople employed at the mines included in the returns was 15,652, as compared with 15,624 a month ago, and 15,708 in September, 1902. During the four weeks ended September 26th, 86.5 per cent. of the workpeople were employed at mines working 22 or more days as compared with 93.3 per cent. a year ago.

Shale Mining.—With shale miners in the Lothians employment continues good. Returns received relating to 25 mines show that in September, 2,722 men were employed, as compared with 2,711 in August and 2,726 a year ago. The average number of days worked by the mines in the four weeks ended 27th September was 5.76, as compared with 5.73 in August and 5.67 in September, 1902.

Lead, Tin and Copper Mining.—With Durham lead ore miners employment has been good; in North Wales it is quiet. With tin and copper miners in Cornwall employment is dull in Calstock and Liskeard districts, moderate in the Camborne district.

Quarrying.

Slate.—With slate quarries in North Wales employment continues good, and in Devon and Cornwall moderate.

Limestone.—Full time is being worked in Cumberland. In Weardale employment continues good. In Derbyshire it is rather quiet. Limestone quarries in Leicestershire are well employed. In North Wales employment continues good, and in Devon and Cornwall moderate.

Granite.—Employment has been fairly good in Leicestershire, in the Dartmoor district good, in West Cornwall dull, and in North Wales good. In Aberdeenshire employment has been good, in Forfarshire bad.

Other Stone.—In the Gateshead district employment has improved; in the Sheffield, Barnsley and Normanton districts it has been good. At Alton and Hollington (Staffs) full time is general. At Derbyshire chert

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—QUARRYING; PIG IRON; IRON AND STEEL AND TINPLATE WORKS.

quarries, Gloucestershire pennant stone quarries, and in the Forest of Dean employment is good. With sandstone quarries in North Wales it continues good. In Devon and Cornwall it has been on the whole fair.

Settmaking.—In the Sheffield district settmakers are fairly busy. Kerbdressers in Leicestershire are fairly well employed, but at Enderby settmakers are slack. At Clee Hills (Shropshire) and in North Wales employment continues good; in the Edinburgh district it is improving; in the Aberdeen district it has been fair; in the Belfast district employment with square settmakers has been dull.

China Clay.—With china clay workers in Devon and Cornwall employment is steady.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

REPORTS have been received from Employers, a Trade Union, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment continues fairly good on the whole. In England a slight falling off compared with a month and a year ago is shown, but in Wales and Scotland little change has taken place.

Returns received relating to the works of 113 iron-masters show that 318 blast furnaces were in operation at the end of September, as compared with 322 at the end of August, and 325 in September, 1902. The estimated number of workpeople employed at the 318 furnaces in blast at the end of September was about 22,150.

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

Districts.	Present time compared with a month ago.			Present time compared with a year ago.		
	Sept., 1903.	Aug., 1903.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Sept., 1903.	Sept., 1903.	Sept., 1902.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Sept., 1903.
ENGLAND & WALES—						
Cleveland ...	80	79	+ 1	80	80	...
Cumberland & Lancs.	39	41	- 2	39	43	- 4
S. and S.W. Yorks...	15	15	...	15	15	...
Derby & Nottingham	37	37	...	37	37	...
Leicester, Lincoln and Northampton	26	26	...	26	26	...
Stafford & Worcester	32	33	- 1	32	33	- 1
S. Wales & Monmouth	14	15	- 1	14	14	...
Other districts ...	6	7	- 1	6	7	- 1
Returned from England & Wales	249	253	- 4	249	255	- 6
RETURNED FROM SCOTLAND ...	69	69	...	69	70	- 1
Total furnaces included in returns ...	318	322	- 4	318	325	- 7

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.*

RETURNS furnished by employers respecting 199 works show that they employed 74,917 workpeople during the week ended September 26th or 202 less than a month ago, and 476 less than a year ago.

Number Employed.

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

District.	Numbers employed in week ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Sept., 1903, as compared with	
	Sept. 26th, 1903.	Aug. 29th, 1903.	Sept. 27th, 1902.	A month ago.	A year ago.
England and Wales ...	62,894	63,126	62,589	- 232	+ 305
Scotland ...	12,023	11,993	12,804	+ 30	- 781
Total ...	74,917	75,119	75,393	- 202	- 476

Weekly Number of Shifts Worked.

The Table below relates to the number of shifts worked at iron and steel works at which 90 per cent. of the workpeople referred to in the preceding Table were employed. The average number of shifts worked per man in

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

the week ended September 26th was 5.42, as compared with 5.44 in the week ended August 29th, and 5.33 in the week ended September 27th, 1902.

Number of Shifts worked.	Number employed in Sept., 1903, so far as returned.	Percentage proportion to Total.	Corresponding percentage in	
			August, 1903.	Sept., 1902.
Under 5 per week ...	6,526	9'7	9'4	16'9
5 per week ...	24,467	33'3	35'8	29'1
5½ per week ...	882	1'3	1'7	1'3
6 per week ...	34,996	52'0	52'4	51'9
Over 6 per week ...	464	0'7	0'7	0'8
Total ...	67,335	100'0	100'0	100'0

Assuming that the workpeople not included in the above Table (10 per cent. of the total number returned as employed) worked the same average number of shifts as those who are included, the aggregate number of shifts worked by all the workpeople included in the first Table may be estimated to have been 405,780, compared with 408,543 in the week ended August 29th, and 402,130 in September, 1902. On this basis the volume of employment at the works included in the returns shows a decrease of 0.7 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 0.9 per cent. compared with September, 1902.

The following reports relating to the different branches of the iron and steel manufacturing industry have been furnished by Local Correspondents and others:—

Tyne and Wear District.—Steel smelters have been fairly well employed. Full time generally has been worked at steel plate mills and short time at bar and angle mills. Employment at finished iron and steel works continues fair.

Cleveland and Hartlepool District.—With iron and steel workers in the Hartlepool employment is brisk. At rail mills employment continues good generally, and at plate and angle mills very moderate, departments dealing with shipbuilding material being slack, and other departments fair. Employment at metal expansion works continues good.

South Yorkshire.—At Leeds employment with steel workers in the rolling mills has been regular, but slack in the rail finishing department. Employment with iron workers is moderate at Rotherham and Masboro', and quiet at Parkgate. With steel workers employment is fairly good at Parkgate, and slack at Rotherham. At Stocksbridge steel makers and rail rollers are better employed than for months past. Iron and steel workers at Scunthorpe (Lincs.) report employment as good.

Midlands.—In Derbyshire nearly all puddling furnaces and rolling mills are in full work, and with malleable iron workers employment is good. In North and South Staffordshire employment is better than a month ago. At many iron mills in Shropshire full time is being worked, and steel workers are busy.

South Wales.—Employment has been regular at iron and steel works in this district. The widespread stoppage of work in the tinplate industry which took place on August 31st, and in which some steel workers were involved, terminated on September 7th.

Scotland.—Employment with iron and steel workers continues fairly good.

TINPLATE WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT in the tinplate industry shows a decline compared with both a month ago and a year ago. The widespread stoppage of work which took place on August 31st terminated on September 7th, and at the end of the month 356 mills were working, as compared with 367 at the end of August and 400 a year ago. Of the 71 works open, 48 had all their mills (246) in operation, while the remaining 23 works had 110 mills going out of a total of 153. Of the 356 mills in operation and employing about 17,800 workpeople, those situated in the South Wales, Monmouth and Gloucestershire districts numbered 344, as compared with 355 in August and 388 in September, 1902.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—TINPLATE WORKS; ENGINEERING.

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 ...	48	246	—	246
Works giving partial employment ...	23	110	43	153
Total at end of Sept., 1903* ...	71	356	43	399
Corresponding Total for Aug., 1903*	71	367	55	422
Corresponding Total for Sept., 1902†	78	400	37	437

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

	Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets (Iron or Steel).			Black Plates for Tinning (Iron or Steel).		
	Sept., 1903.	August, 1903.	Sept., 1902.	Sept., 1903.	August, 1903.	Sept., 1902.
To United States ...	Tons. 1,433	Tons. 3,587	Tons. 3,380	Tons. 46	Tons. 71	...
„ Other Countries	17,952	16,881	20,935	4,921	5,022	6,763
Total ...	19,385	20,468	24,315	4,967	5,093	6,763

ENGINEERING TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from 8 Employers' Associations, 2 large Companies, 24 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents.

The general result of the information obtained shows that employment is quiet, and worse than a month ago.

Returns relating to branches of Trade Unions with 142,594 members show that 6,817 (or 4·8 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of September, as compared with 4·2 per cent. in August, and 4·9 per cent. in September, 1902.

The state of employment in the various districts, as indicated by the proportions of members of certain Trade Unions returned as unemployed at the end of the month, is shown in the following Table:—

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Sept., 1903, included in the returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of					Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in percentage unemployed for Sept., 1903, as compared with a	
		Sept. 1903.		Sept. 1902.		Month ago.		Year ago.
		1903.	1903.	1902.	1902.			
North-East Coast ...	13,607	7·0	6·2	7·1	+ 0·8	- 0·1		
Manchester and Liverpool District	17,923	4·9	3·3	4·8	+ 1·6	+ 0·1		
Oldham, Bolton and Blackburn District	11,286	4·8	4·9	6·2	- 0·1	- 1·4		
West Riding Towns ...	11,096	5·6	4·9	4·8	+ 0·7	+ 0·8		
Hull and Lincolnshire District	3,183	4·6	3·6	5·2	+ 1·0	- 0·6		
Birmingham, Wolverhampton and Coventry District	5,744	3·4	3·9	3·3	- 0·5	+ 0·1		
Notts., Derby and Leicester District	4,040	4·2	4·6	3·1	- 0·4	+ 1·1		
London and Neighbouring District	12,658	3·8	2·9	5·1	+ 0·9	- 1·3		
South Coast ...	3,497	2·5	2·9	1·7	- 0·4	+ 0·8		
South Wales and Bristol District	6,111	3·1	3·8	3·7	- 0·7	- 0·6		
Glasgow and District ...	13,919	4·7	4·4	6·0	+ 0·3	- 1·3		
East of Scotland ...	3,647	8·0	6·5	9·4	+ 1·5	- 1·4		
Belfast and Dublin ...	3,304	10·5	6·9	3·6	+ 3·6	+ 6·9		
Other Districts ...	5,428	3·9	3·5	3·9	+ 0·4	...		
United Kingdom (Including certain Unions for which district figures are not available)	142,594	4·8	4·2	4·9	+ 0·6	- 0·1		

As compared with a month ago, no district shows much improvement, and the decline is greatest in the Belfast and Dublin, Manchester and Liverpool and East

* 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.
† Revised figures.

of Scotland districts. Compared with a year ago the figures indicate considerable decline in the Belfast and Dublin district and some improvement in Scotland, London and the Oldham, Bolton and Blackburn district.

North-East Coast.—Generally employment is dull, and worse than a month ago. Pattern makers report it as declining at Newcastle and Gateshead, fair at Sunderland. In the Tyne district electrical and steam turbine shops are fairly busy. At Middlesbrough and Stockton engineers report employment as moderate, at Hartlepool bad. Bridge builders and ironfounders report it as good at Darlington, Middlesbrough and Stockton.

Manchester and Liverpool District.—Employment shows a decline as compared with a month ago. With pattern makers it is quiet generally, with ironfounders fairly good. At Crewe employment is moderate with engineers and boiler-makers. Elsewhere it is dull generally with engineers. Repair work is dull at Liverpool. At Manchester boiler-makers and brassfounders are slack, machine workers and smiths and strikers report employment as fair.

Oldham, Bolton, Blackburn and District.—Employment on the whole continues quiet, but is rather better than a year ago. At Oldham it is bad with most branches, moderately good with ironfounders. At Preston and Blackburn ironfounders report employment as good. At Bolton engineers report employment as moderate, iron-grinders as good, roller makers and spindle and flyer makers as fair, ironfounders and pattern makers as declining.

West Riding.—Employment generally is dull, and worse than a month and a year ago. At Sheffield it is good with pattern makers, moderate with ironfounders, slack with other branches. At Leeds it is moderate generally, but rather quiet in the textile machinery and tool making branches, and pattern makers report employment as dull. At Bradford and Wakefield ironfounders report employment as good.

Hull and Lincolnshire District.—Generally employment continues moderate and worse than a year ago. At Hull it is fair generally, but bad with ironfounders, slack with machine workers. Employment is bad at Doncaster, fairly good at Grantham, declining at Lincoln.

East Midlands.—Employment generally is moderate. It shows a slight improvement on a month ago, but is not so good as a year ago. It is bad with ironfounders at Derby, and some branches of engineers at Nottingham and Beeston. It is fair with lace and hosiery machine builders at Nottingham, slack in the cycle and motor industry. With shoe machinery builders in Leicester district it is fairly good. Lace machine builders at Long Eaton are well employed.

West Midlands.—Employment generally is moderate, rather better than a month ago and about the same as a year ago. In electrical engineering it is good throughout the district. Employment is good with pattern makers at Birmingham. It is bad with tool makers at Birmingham and Coventry, and also with engineers at the latter place. It is fair in the sporting gun trade, slack on military work. In the cycle trade it is dull; in the motor industry it is quiet at Birmingham, good at Wolverhampton.

London and Neighbouring District.—Employment on the whole is rather worse than a month ago, but better than a year ago. Generally it is quiet, but a few branches report it as fair.

South Coast.—Employment is rather better than a month ago and worse than a year ago. With engineers it is moderate generally, bad at Plymouth, good at Cowes. Ironfounders report employment as moderate at Portsmouth, bad at Devonport and Southampton, but at the latter place employment generally is reported fair.

South Wales and Bristol District.—Employment generally is slightly better than a month and a year ago.

Glasgow and District.—Employment generally is fair, slightly worse than a month ago, but better than a year ago. It is good with brass finishers and copper smiths, moderate with iron, steel, and brass dressers. Some

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—ENGINEERING; SHIPBUILDING; HARDWARE, CUTLERY, &c., TRADES.

overtime is reported as being worked by pattern makers brass finishers, and engineers.

East of Scotland.—Employment generally is quiet, and worse than a month ago; it is, however, not so bad as a year ago. With brassfounders at Edinburgh it is improving. At Dundee employment is slack. At Aberdeen it is fair with brassfounders.

Belfast and Dublin.—Employment is worse than a month ago and much worse than a year ago. At Dublin it is moderate in most branches, bad with engineers and brassfounders. At Belfast it has been very unsettled throughout the month on account of the pattern makers' dispute.

Other Districts.—At Barrow employment is bad and worse than a month and a year ago. It is moderate at Ipswich, Norwich and York with engineers, bad at Colchester.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from 7 Employers' Associations, 2 large Companies, 6 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents.

The information thus obtained shows that employment is bad, and worse than a month and year ago.

Branches of Trade Unions with 57,980 members had 7,757 (or 13·4 per cent.) unemployed at the end of September, compared with 11·2 per cent. in August, and 10·9 per cent. in September, 1902.

The state of employment in the various districts, as indicated by the proportions of Trade Union members returned as unemployed at the end of the month, is shown in the following Table:—

District.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Sept., 1903, included in the returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Percentage for Sept., 1903, as compared with a		
		Sept. 1903.		Sept. 1902.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		1903.	1903.	1902.	1902.		
Tyne and Blyth ...	9,169	18·6	13·1	12·3	+ 5·5	+ 6·3	
Wear ...	4,660	17·9	9·2	13·3	+ 8·7	+ 4·6	
Tees and Hartlepool ...	4,959	13·1	12·0	10·9	+ 1·1	- 6·8	
Humber ...	2,330	6·1	6·3	8·0	- 0·2	- 1·9	
Thames and Medway ...	4,329	7·6	6·1	11·4	+ 1·5	- 3·8	
Portsmouth, Devonport, and Southampton	5,623	7·5	6·2	4·0	+ 1·3	+ 3·5	
Bristol Channel Ports ...	2,631	23·4	22·5	19·2	+ 0·9	+ 4·2	
Mersey ...	4,101	10·7	13·5	22·4	- 2·8	- 11·7	
Clyde ...	12,763	13·3	12·7	6·4	+ 0·6	+ 6·9	
Dundee, Leith, and Aberdeen ...	2,280	22·2	17·1	10·1	+ 5·1	+ 12·1	
Belfast ...	2,876	4·6	4·8	1·9	- 0·2	+ 2·7	
Other Districts ...	3,531	9·9	7·4	3·0	+ 2·5	+ 6·9	
United Kingdom (Including certain Unions for which district figures are not available)	87,980	13·4	11·2	10·9	+ 2·2	+ 2·5	

Compared with a month ago, most of the districts show a decline, which is greatest on the Wear, the Tyne and the East Coast of Scotland. Some improvement is indicated on the Mersey. Compared with a year ago, the decline is greatest on the East Coast of Scotland, the Clyde and the Tyne, while most improvement is shown on the Mersey and Tees.

Employment generally on the **North-East Coast** continues bad. On the **Tyne** and the **Wear** it is much worse than a month and a year ago. With sailmakers it is fairly good on the Tyne, slack on the Wear. In the **Tees and Hartlepool** district employment is slightly worse than a month ago, but not so bad as a year ago. At Stockton shipwrights report it as good.

On the **Humber** employment generally continues bad. At Hull it is slack in nearly all branches but one branch of shipwrights reports it as fair. At Grimsby iron shipbuilders report it as moderate, shipwrights as good but falling off. Sailmakers report employment as fair at Hull, as moderate at Grimsby.

On the **Thames** employment generally is slack but not so bad as a year ago. With sailmakers it is fair. At Sheerness it is fair. At Chatham shipwrights report it as good, iron shipbuilders as moderate.

On the **South Coast** employment shows some decline, and is worse than a year ago. At Southampton it is bad. At Portsmouth it is good with shipwrights, slack with iron shipbuilders. At Devonport it is good generally, dull with

iron caulkers. At Plymouth shipwrights report it as bad. At the **Bristol Channel Ports** employment continues very bad. It is worse than a year ago. Shipwrights report it as good at Pembroke Dock.

On the **Mersey** employment has improved somewhat, chiefly with shipwrights and joiners. Though still dull it is much better than a year ago.

On the **Clyde** employment continues slack and much worse than a year ago. Ship joiners and riggers report employment as fair. At Clydebank and Whiteinch shipwrights report it as fair, iron shipbuilders as moderate.

On the **East Coast of Scotland** employment is very bad and considerably worse than a month and a year ago.

At **Belfast** employment continues moderate though unsettled. It is worse than a year ago.

Other Districts.—At Barrow employment generally is bad, and worse than a month and a year ago. At Dublin shipwrights report employment as slack, iron shipbuilders as moderate. At Yarmouth and Lowestoft shipwrights report it as fair. At Cowes employment is fair with iron shipbuilders, dull with shipwrights. At Workington it is moderate with iron shipbuilders.

HARDWARE, CUTLERY, AND MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from 3 Employers' Associations, 19 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents.

Brasswork.—Generally employment is not good, and is worse than a month and a year ago. At Birmingham it is moderate with brassworkers, with bedstead and fender makers it is bad. In London it is bad, at Leeds quiet. Elsewhere it is reported as moderate or fair.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, etc.—At Birmingham employment is moderate in the nut and bolt trade, quiet on machine-made rivets, and cut and wire nails. Spike and rivet makers at Halesowen are slack.

Tubes.—Employment generally is slack in the Staffordshire trade, but is fairly good on solid drawn copper and brass tubes at Birmingham.

Chains, Anvils, Vices, Anchors, etc.—Chain makers and strikers at Winlaton and block chain makers at Cradley report employment as fair. Other branches of the chain trade at Cradley are slack, as are also anchor smiths, vice makers at Dudley, and bit and stirrup workers and buckle, chain and cart gear makers at Wolverhampton. In the spring trade at West Bromwich employment is fairly good. At Wednesbury it is fair with workers on railway coach and wagon iron work; but slack on iron and steel forgings, railway axles and springs.

Locks, Keys and General Hardware.—In the lock, latch and key trade employment is fairly good. In the hollow-ware trade employment is bad, with short time, at West Bromwich and Wolverhampton, and only moderate at Birmingham. In the wrought iron and steel hinge trade at Birmingham it is good. In the Wolverhampton district employment is good with makers of vermin traps, hoes, malleable and electrical castings, boot protectors and spectacle frames, bad with spade finishers and fork drawers.

Files, Edge Tools, etc.—In the Sheffield file trade employment is reported as moderate or quiet. File cutters report it as moderate at Oldham, fairly good at Birmingham; file smiths as good at Warrington, fair at Wolverhampton. In the edge tool trade employment is good at Wednesbury, quiet at Sheffield.

Stoves, Grates, etc.—At Sheffield, Rotherham, Falkirk and Glasgow employment is very quiet and short time is reported at the latter two places. Employment is good at Bolton and Langley Mill; fair at Birmingham, Leicester and Nottingham; quiet at Leeds.

Sheet Metal.—Employment is good at Edinburgh, Dundee, Leeds, Hull and Aberdeen; fair at Glasgow, Manchester, Exeter and Dublin; slack at Oldham and in the Wolverhampton district; dull at Bristol. At Birmingham it is moderate with tinplate workers, quiet but improving with ironplate workers. In London it is

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—**HARDWARE, CUTLERY, &C., TRADES; COTTON, WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.**

bad and worse than a month and a year ago, except with zinc workers who report it fair.

Cutlery, etc.—At Sheffield employment is slack in nearly all branches. It is fair with pen and pocket blade forgers and saw handle makers, moderate with pocket blade grinders. At Redditch employment is quiet in the needle trade, good in the fish hook trade.

Gold, Silver, Britannia Metal, etc.—In London goldsmiths and jewellers report employment as bad, gold beaters as fairly good. In the Birmingham jewellery trade employment is quiet but improving on gold work, fair on silver work. In the silver and britannia metal trades employment is very quiet at Sheffield, good with platers and gilders; at Birmingham it is moderate with silversmiths, fairly good with britannia metal workers. In London it is fair in the silver spoon and fork trade, slack with silver plate polishers, and quiet with silversmiths and electroplate workers.

Wirework.—Employment with wire drawers is moderate at Sheffield, slack at Manchester; with wire weavers it is fair at Glasgow, good in London. Wire workers report it as bad in London and Glasgow, moderate at Oldham.

Farriers.—Employment generally is fair, and rather better than a month ago. It is quiet at Edinburgh, Sheffield and Nottingham, good at Glasgow and Newcastle.

COTTON TRADE.

INFORMATION as to the state of employment in the different branches of the cotton trade has been received from the Trade Correspondent of the Department, the estimated total number of operatives covered by the returns being 232,400. Reports have also been furnished by the Local Correspondents of the Department and by Trade Unions. (See also p. 267.)

Returns relating specially to the employment of women in the cotton trade have also been received from women correspondents with regard to 566 spinning and weaving factories, employing about 100,000 women and girls.

The general result of the information thus obtained from various sources shows that owing to the continued high price of raw cotton employment is bad, being worse than in August, and much worse than a year ago.

Employment in the *Spinning* branch during September declined and was bad; short time was more general than in August. Of the 27,200 women and girls included in the returns from women correspondents, 32 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment throughout the month, compared with 46 per cent. in August, and 82 per cent. in September, 1902.

In the *Weaving* branch employment was bad, and worse than in August; more short time was worked. Of the 72,800 women and girls included in the returns from women correspondents, 22 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment throughout the month, compared with 30 per cent. in August, and 79 per cent. in September, 1902.

The following Table summarises the returns from women correspondents as to the employment of women and girls, and 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—				
September, 1903	32	19	38	11
August, 1903	46	10	30	14
September, 1902	82	9	6	3
Cotton Trade—Weaving—				
September, 1903	22	28	37	12
August, 1903	30	29	31	10
September, 1902	79	16	3	2

COTTON SPINNING.

Ashton District.—Employment in Ashton, Stalybridge, Mossley, Dukinfield and Droydsden continues bad, and is worse than a year ago; short time has been worked in most mills.

Stockport and Manchester District.—In the Stockport, Reddish, Romiley and Compstall districts employment is reported as bad, and worse than in August; two mills have been closed, and short time has been the rule in the others. In the Manchester district employment on coarse counts continues bad, and is worse than a year ago; fine spinners are well employed.

Glossop, Hadfield and Hyde District.—Employment is reported as very bad, and worse than in August; it is reported that an average of not much more than half-time is being worked.

Oldham District (including Middleton, Shaw, Royton, Lees and Chadderton).—Employment is reported as bad, and worse than in August; short time is general.

Bolton District (including Farnworth, Leigh and Wigan).—Employment has declined. Several mills have run full time, but have given only partial employment. Short time has increased, and temporary stoppages have been frequent.

Bury, Heywood and Rochdale District.—Employment in Bury is reported as bad, and worse than in August. In Heywood it has declined and is bad, 3½ days a week being the average worked. In Rochdale it continues bad, much short time being worked.

Preston and District.—Employment is reported as bad, and rather worse than in August; the majority of the workpeople are on short time. Employment in the Blackburn district continues bad.

COTTON WEAVING.

Preston District.—Employment is reported as bad, and worse than in August; a large proportion of the workpeople are on short time, and many looms are standing.

Blackburn, Darwen and Accrington District.—Employment in Blackburn is reported as bad, and worse than in August; the number of looms standing has increased. In Darwen employment is reported as bad and worse than a month ago; four mills are closed, and many looms are idle. In Accrington employment has declined and is bad; more looms are standing than in August, and a good deal of short time has been worked.

Burnley, Nelson and Colne District.—In Burnley employment is reported as bad and much worse than a month ago. In Colne it continues moderate. In Nelson it shows a decline; short time has increased.

Other Districts.—In Bury employment continues bad, much short time being worked. In Radcliffe it is reported as quiet. In Bolton it is irregular. In Chorley many looms are standing.

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from the Trade Correspondent of the Department based on information supplied by 266 firms employing 83,220 workpeople; from women correspondents, with regard to factories in Yorkshire employing about 29,900 women and girls, and from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and the Local Correspondents.

The returns show considerable slackness in the worsted trade; in the woollen trade employment is good. The number employed by the firms making returns at the end of September was 83,220, compared with 83,084 at the end of August and 83,846 a year ago, an increase of 0.2 per cent. compared with a month ago and a decline of 0.7 per cent. compared with a year ago. Of the total number of operatives 27 per cent. were employed in firms reporting short time or machinery standing in one or more departments. Of the 29,900 women and girls in the Yorkshire factories reported on by women correspondents, 63 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment throughout the month and 32 per cent. in factories running full time but giving only partial employment, to

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—**TEXTILE TRADES.**

be compared with 60 per cent. and 34 per cent. respectively of those reported on for August, and 92 per cent. and 6 per cent. for September, 1902.

The following Table enables a comparison to be made of the number employed in the various branches in the districts reported on at the end of September with a month ago and with a year ago, so far as covered by the returns. The percentage employed in firms reporting short time and overtime in one or more departments is also given:—

District and Branch of Trade.	Number employed by firms making returns at end of			Percentage in firms reporting some	
	Sept., 1903.	Aug., 1903.	Sept., 1902.	Short Time.	Overtime.*
Bradford District—					
Woolcombing	3,747	3,908	4,270	83	—
Worsted Spinning	7,391	7,395	7,777	22	—
Spinning & Manufacture... ..	4,928	4,776	4,969	22	—
Manufacture	8,468	8,505	8,815	25	14
	24,534	24,584	25,831	32	5
Halifax District—					
Worsted Spinning	5,507	5,474	5,490	36	—
Manufacture	2,826	2,776	2,854	49	5
Carpet	1,311	1,320	1,253	21	—
	9,644	9,570	9,597	38	2
Huddersfield District—					
Worsted Combing and Spinning	884	835	970	49	—
Manufacture	4,664	4,716	4,622	33	14
Woollen	4,993	4,974	4,609	19	58
and Worsted Manufacture... ..	1,144	1,122	1,153	78	—
	11,655	11,647	11,354	32	30
Keighley and Bingley District—					
Worsted Spinning and Combing	4,089	4,121	4,015	8	—
Manufacture	4,475	4,437	4,484	42	—
Manufacture	697	586	597	38	—
	9,171	9,144	9,096	27	—
Leeds District—					
Worsted Spinning & Manufacture... ..	1,890	1,912	2,017	68	—
Woollen Manufacture... ..	3,895	3,845	3,819	10	36
	5,785	5,757	5,836	29	24
Cleckheaton, Liversedge and Heckmondwike					
Worsted Spinning... ..	2,139	2,107	2,039	26	9
Worsted Spinning & Manufacture... ..	1,100	1,093	1,169	13	51
Dewsbury, Batley, Ossett and Ravens- thorpe	2,506	2,459	2,481	—	68
	5,745	5,659	5,689	12	43
TOTAL WEST RIDING OF YORKS	66,534	66,361	67,403	30	13
Wilts, Gloucester, Devon and Oxford...	1,838	1,827	1,757	—	39
Lincolnshire	2,404	2,421	2,377	30	—
Scotland—					
Woollen and Worsted Spinning	1,505	1,503	1,451	—	—
Manufacture... ..	7,453	7,195	7,575	19	19
Carpet	2,441	2,444	2,339	—	—
	11,399	11,142	11,355	12	12
Ireland—					
Woollen Manufacture... ..	1,046	1,033	954	—	30
Total No. returned	83,220	83,084	83,846	27	13

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

Bradford District.—In the woolcombing industry employment is worse than in August, and much worse than a year ago. A good deal of machinery is standing, especially at night, employment with men being, therefore, worse than with women. In the worsted spinning branch employment is about the same as a month ago, but worse than a year ago. In the worsted weaving industry employment is about the same as a month ago, and not so good as a year ago. Short time is being worked in several departments. Of the 10,700 women and girls usually employed in the factories reported on by women correspondents only 42 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment throughout the month, the remainder being affected by slackness.

Halifax District.—Although the number of persons employed shows a slight increase compared with a month and a year ago, machinery is reported to be standing in every branch. Several departments are not working at all on Saturdays.

* The percentages in this column are based on the total numbers employed, but the men only worked overtime.

Huddersfield District.—In the worsted industry there has been much short time, but in some instances in the weaving branch overtime has been worked. In the woollen weaving industry the number of persons employed is greater than a year ago; some short time is reported, but the majority of the mills appear to be working overtime.

Keighley and Bingley.—Employment shows little change; there are several complaints of short time and machinery standing.

Leeds District.—Employment in the worsted trade is worse than in August and a year ago, much short time being reported. In the woollen manufacture it has improved, and in Leeds, Yeadon, Birstall and a few other places is overtime reported.

Cleckheaton, Liversedge and Heckmondwike.—Employment at Cleckheaton and Heckmondwike continues fairly good; at Liversedge short time is reported.

Dewsbury and Batley District.—The majority of the firms making returns report overtime in several departments. On the other hand, amongst women weavers in some mills there was slackness.

Other Districts.—In the Wakefield district overtime is reported in some cases. In the Wilts, Gloucester, Devon and Oxford district no short time and some overtime is reported. In Lancashire short time is reported.

Scotland.—In the woollen weaving industry employment is about the same as in the previous month, but not quite so good as last year. Several firms (chiefly in Glasgow and Alva) report short time and machinery standing. In the spinning and carpet weaving industries employment is the same as in August, and better than a year ago.

Ireland.—Employment is better than a year ago, and some overtime is reported.

OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.

Jute and Flax Trades.

According to information received from one Employers' Association, and from Local Correspondents, employment in the jute trade is good generally. In the flax trade in Ulster employment is fairly good.

In Dundee employment shows a slight improvement. In the spinning branch it continues good; in the weaving branch it has improved and is good. Information has been received with regard to 52 jute and flax factories, employing about 9,200 men and boys and 21,700 women and girls. From this it appears that of the 19,600 persons employed in spinning mills 82 per cent. were employed in mills running full time and giving full employment throughout the month, and 17 per cent. in mills running full time but giving only partial employment, compared with 81 per cent. and 17 per cent. respectively of those for whom returns were received for August. Of the 11,300 employed in weaving factories, 81 per cent. were employed in factories running full time and giving full employment throughout the month, and 19 per cent. in factories running full time, but giving only partial employment, compared with 73 per cent. and 19 per cent. respectively of those for whom returns were received for August. At Forfar employment is reported as dull; at Alyth and Brechin as still quiet.

Employment in the flax trade in Ulster generally is reported as fairly good. In Belfast the power loom tenters, the power loom yarn dressers and the linen lappers report employment as good; the women workers' Trade Union and the flax roughers as fair; the hackle and gill makers as improved; the beetlers and the flax dressers as dull.

Employment with linen weavers at Barnsley is reported as only moderate.

Hosiery Trade.

According to information received from Employers through the Trade Correspondent of the Department, from one Trade Union and from Local Correspondents, employment in the hosiery trade shows a further decline, and is slack.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—TEXTILE TRADES; BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

Leicester District.—Returns received from hosiery manufacturers employing 12,379 workpeople in their factories at the end of September show a decrease of 0.3 per cent. on the number employed at the end of August, but an increase of 0.6 per cent. on the number employed at the end of September, 1902. Of the total number of operatives, 63 per cent. were employed in firms reporting short time in some departments during the month, compared with 53 per cent. of those from whom returns were received in August. Employment at Leicester continues slack with makers of seamless hose, half hose and woollen shirts and pants, but shows a slight improvement with makers of golf capes, tam o'shanter, jerseys and sweaters, and in some of the fancy hosiery departments. At Loughborough it is reported as slack with makers of fashioned hose and shirts and pants. At Hinckley it is reported as fair on cotton, merino and cashmere hose; as slack generally in other branches.

Nottingham and Derby District.—Employment on the whole is worse than a month ago, short time being general with women workers in factories and in the finishing departments. Employment with frame-work knitters is reported as bad in Nottingham, as moderate at Sutton. With hand-frame workers it is bad generally. With hosiery workers at Ilkeston and Belper employment is reported as very dull.

Scotland.—Employment with hosiery workers at Selkirk and Hawick continues good.

Lace Trade.

According to information from the Employers' Association, the Trade Union, and the Local Correspondent, employment in the Nottingham lace trade is about the same as in August, but worse than a year ago. In the levers section it continues bad; in the curtain section it is bad, and about the same as a month ago; in the plain net section it continues fair. Employment at Long Eaton and Ilkeston is reported as bad; at Beeston and Stapleford as having declined; at Bulwell and Kimberley as slack.

Printing, Dyeing, Bleaching, and Finishing.

Information has been received from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions and Local Correspondents. Employment with dyers and finishers in the West Riding continues bad; much short time is still being worked. At Leeds employment is reported as moderate with black dyers, bad with blue dyers. At Bolton and Manchester it is reported as bad.

Employment with dyers and trimmers at Leicester and Loughborough is reported as slightly better than a month ago; short time has been worked. With dyers at Nottingham it continues moderate. With bleachers at Basford it is reported as bad; with trimmers at Bulwell, Basford and Nottingham as worse; with calico printers in Manchester as fair, with bleachers and finishers as slack. In the Dundee district employment continues fair in the finishing branch, and good in the dyeing branch, but is reported as worse than a year ago; bleachfield workers are still on short time; calender workers are fairly busy.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

RETURNS have been received from the Trade Correspondent of the Department based on information supplied by 582 firms employing 68,769 workpeople. Reports have also been furnished by Trade Unions and by Local Correspondents.

The reports show that employment generally is quiet, but shows an improvement in some centres. The number employed by firms making returns at the end of September was 68,769, compared with 68,796 at the end of August, and 69,059 a year ago, practically no change compared with a month ago, but a decrease of 0.4 per cent. compared with a year ago. Of the total number of operatives, 61 per cent. were employed by firms working at least full time throughout September, to be compared with 55 per cent. of those for whom returns were received for August.

The following Table enables a comparison to be made of the numbers employed in the various districts at the end of September with a month ago and with a year ago, so far as covered by the returns:—

District.	No. of firms making returns	No. employed by these firms at end of			Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on	
		Sept., 1903.	Aug., 1903.	Sept., 1902.	Aug., 1903.	Sept., 1902.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
London	75	4,960	4,899	5,108	+ 1.2	- 2.9
Leicester	73	12,414	12,395	12,321	+ 0.2	+ 0.8
Leicester Country District ...	28	2,899	2,812	2,796	+ 3.1	+ 3.7
Northampton	70	8,482	8,612	8,408	- 1.5	+ 0.9
Kettering	29	3,631	3,611	3,668	+ 0.6	- 1.0
Northampton Country District	89	9,292	9,405	9,214	- 1.2	+ 0.8
Stafford and District	17	2,589	2,605	2,628	- 0.6	- 1.3
Norwich and District	45	5,679	5,831	6,352	- 2.6	- 10.6
Bristol	20	2,316	2,326	2,234	- 0.4	+ 3.7
Kingswood	25	2,825	2,754	2,679	+ 2.6	+ 5.4
Leeds and District	40	3,628	3,615	3,591	- 0.2	- 1.7
Manchester and District	15	2,623	2,580	2,439	+ 1.7	+ 7.5
Birmingham and District ...	7	723	721	711	+ 0.3	+ 1.7
Other parts of England & Wales	25	2,103	2,066	2,097	+ 1.8	+ 0.3
Total, England and Wales ...	558	64,164	64,252	64,346	- 0.1	- 0.3
SCOTLAND	23	4,337	4,284	4,500	+ 1.2	- 3.6
IRELAND	1	268	260	213	+ 3.1	+ 25.8
Total, United Kingdom ...	582	68,769	68,796	69,059	-	- 0.4

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

London.—Returns covering 4,960 workpeople show that 62 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 55 per cent. in August. Employment amongst the Trade Union boot and shoe operatives is reported as bad, much short time having been worked; the clickers, pressmen and machinists' Trade Union reports it as dull, and about the same as a month and a year ago; the hand-sewn boot makers as bad and, worse than a month and a year ago.

Leicester and District.—Returns covering 12,414 workpeople in Leicester show that 18 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 16 per cent. in August. Employment generally is reported as bad, but shows a slight improvement with lasters and finishers. Of the 2,899 workpeople employed by firms in the Leicester country districts, covered by the returns, 73 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 51 per cent. in August.

Northampton, Kettering and District.—Returns covering 8,482 workpeople in Northampton show that 56 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 45 per cent. in August. Employment with lasters and finishers is reported as quiet; with clickers and pressmen as slack. Returns covering 3,631 workpeople in Kettering show that 64 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 56 per cent. in August. Employment is reported as bad with lasters and finishers. Of the 9,292 workpeople employed by firms in the Northampton country districts covered by the returns, 81 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 69 per cent. in August.

Stafford, Stone and Nantwich.—Returns covering 2,589 workpeople show that 42 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 29 per cent. in August. At Stafford employment is reported as quiet with lasters and finishers; as slightly improved with clickers and pressmen; as fair with hand-sewn shoe makers. At Stone employment is reported as fair.

Eastern Counties.—Returns covering 5,679 workpeople show that 39 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 49 per cent. in August. Employment at Norwich is reported as bad with hand finishers; as fair with clickers; as fairly good on men's dress goods, and in the turn shoe branch. It is reported as slack at Ipswich, good at Colchester.

Bristol and Kingswood.—Returns covering 2,316 workpeople in Bristol show that 68 per cent. were employed

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—CLOTHING TRADES; PRINTING, &C., TRADES.

by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 91 per cent. in August. Employment is reported as slack generally. Of the 2,825 workpeople in Kingswood covered by the returns, all were employed by firms working full time and in many cases overtime in their factories throughout the month.

Leeds and District.—Returns covering 3,628 workpeople show that 80 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 72 per cent. in August. Employment in most branches has improved.

Other Districts in England.—Employment at Nottingham, Derby, and Wolverhampton is reported as bad.

Scotland.—Returns covering 4,337 workpeople show that 97 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, compared with 79 per cent. in August. Employment with hand-sewn workers is reported as good; with lasters and finishers as good at Kilmarnock, Edinburgh and Dundee, as fairly good at Maybole; with clickers and pressmen at Glasgow as fairly good.

TAILORING TRADE.

INFORMATION has been received from Employers, Local Correspondents and Trade Unions.

Bespoke Branch.—The bespoke tailors' Trade Union reports employment in London as bad. In the provinces it continues slack generally, though a slight improvement is reported in some districts.

Ready-made Branch.—Employment in London has been fair with factory operatives, but is bad on the whole with outworkers. The clothiers' cutters report employment as bad and worse than a month and a year ago. Much short time has been worked.

In Leeds, according to returns received from ready-made tailoring manufacturers, employing about 9,800 workpeople in their factories, in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops, employment during September was good or fair in firms employing 31 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns, moderate in firms employing 9 per cent., and poor or bad in firms employing 60 per cent. As compared with August, firms employing 19 per cent. report employment as improved, firms employing 20 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 61 per cent. as worse. As compared with a year ago firms employing 19 per cent. report employment as improved, firms employing 23 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 58 per cent. as worse. The clothiers' operatives' Trade Union reports employment as bad; the Jewish operatives as moderate.

In Manchester employment is reported as slack generally, and worse than a year ago.

In Bristol employment is only moderate, and is worse than a month and a year ago.

In Norwich and Yarmouth the tailoring factories are running full time, but outworkers are not fully employed. In Ipswich and Colchester employment is slack.

In Glasgow employment is reported as fair, with overtime in some cases, short time in others.

HAT TRADE.

REPORTS have been received from two Employers' Associations, from two Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents. Employment with felt hatters has been fairly good and better than in August; with silk hatters it has been quiet. Trade Unions with 5,409 members have 143 (or 2.6 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 3.3 per cent. at the end of August and a year ago.

Employment with silk hatters in London has been rather better than a month ago, though worse than a year ago; short time has been worked. In Denton employment is reported as slack, and worse than a month and a year ago; half time is reported. In other districts employment is quiet.

With felt hatters, employment at Denton is reported as fairly good, and better than a month and a year ago; some short time and a little overtime is reported. In

Stockport employment is reported as moderate, and better than in August; in Hyde, Bury and Bredbury as good. In Warwickshire employment is reported as fair, and better than in August; it is about the same as a year ago; in the ladies' hat trade it has been fair; some overtime has been worked.

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

INFORMATION has been received from Employers, Local Correspondents, and Trade Unions, and from three Employment Bureaux in London.

Dress, Millinery and Mantle Trades.—In London returns from retail firms, chiefly in the West-end district, employing 1,471 dressmakers at the end of September, show an increase of 53.7 per cent. on the number employed at the end of August, and of 5.2 per cent. on the number employed at the end of September, 1902; employment generally is reported as fair by employers making returns. Manufacturers of blouses, aprons and underclothing, employing about 1,200 workpeople in their factories, report employment as bad generally and worse than a year ago. Employment in the wholesale mantle and costume trades is fairly good, and better than a month ago. With mantle makers in the retail firms it is reported as fair generally. Employment in the wholesale millinery trade is reported as quiet generally; in the retail firms it is reported as fair by most employers.

Returns from three Employment Bureaux show an increased demand for dressmakers and milliners compared with a month ago, but a decreased demand compared with a year ago, the number of fresh situations offered during the month being 60, compared with 33 in August, and 73 in September, 1902. The number requiring situations was 96, compared with 41 in August, and 107 in September, 1902.

In Manchester employment with mantle makers according to the firms making returns is fairly good. In the costume and skirt trade it continues quiet generally; returns from manufacturers employing 2,368 workpeople in their factories at the end of September show a decrease of 1.0 per cent. on the number employed at the end of August, and of 3.9 per cent. on the number employed a year ago.

In Glasgow employment with mantle makers is fair, on the whole.

Shirt and Collar Trade.—Returns received from shirt and collar manufacturers in England, Scotland and Ireland employing 9,609 workpeople in their factories at the end of September, show a decrease of 0.8 per cent. on the number employed at the end of August, and of 1.4 per cent. on the number employed at the end of September, 1902. Employment generally is quiet.

Corset Trade.—Returns received from corset manufacturers employing 4,049 workpeople in their factories at the end of September, show a decline of 0.4 per cent. on the number employed at the end of August, and of 9.6 per cent. on the number employed at the end of September, 1902. Of the total number of operatives, 61 per cent. were employed in firms reporting short time.

PRINTING, BOOKBINDING, AND PAPER TRADES.

RETURNS have been supplied by 20 Employers' Associations, by 35 Employers, by Trade Unions with upwards of 56,000 members, and by Local Correspondents. The information thus obtained is that employment in the Letterpress section of the *Printing and Bookbinding Trades* was better in September than in August, and also better than a year ago. In the Lithographic trade little change is shown; while with Bookbinders employment is much the same, on the whole, as last month but worse than a year ago.

Employment in the *Paper Trade* is fairly good in both England and Scotland.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—PRINTING, BOOKBINDING AND PAPER TRADES; FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

The following Table shows the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed as compared with a month and a year ago:—

	United Kingdom.						London.					
	No. of Members of Unions at end of Sept., 1903, included in the Returns.		Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of		No. of Members of Unions at end of Sept., 1903, included in the Returns.		Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of					
	Sept., 1903.	Aug., 1903.	Sept., 1902.	Sept., 1903.	Aug., 1903.	Sept., 1902.	Sept., 1903.	Aug., 1903.	Sept., 1902.	Sept., 1903.	Aug., 1903.	Sept., 1902.
Letterpress Printing	40,826	5'1	6'3	6'8	19,351	5'5	6'8	8'2				
Lithographic Printing	6,308	4'5	4'4	4'7	1,957	5'5	5'5	5'3				
Bookbinding	6,973	5'5	5'6	3'6	3,869	5'8	5'7	2'6				
Total Printing and Bookbinding	54,107	5'1	6'0	6'2	25,177	5'5	6'5	7'1				
Paper Manufacture	2,321	2'8	3'5	2'4	...	...	...	...

The percentages unemployed in certain Trade Unions in the *Printing and Bookbinding Trades* in the principal districts were as follows:—

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Sept., 1903, included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed for September, 1903, as compared with a	
		Sept., 1903.	Aug., 1903.	Sept., 1902.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	25,177	5'5	6'5	7'1	- 1'0	- 1'6
Northern Counties	1,445	3'8	4'7	4'7	- 0'9	- 0'9
Lanes. and Cheshire	6,597	7'0	7'5	6'6	- 0'5	+ 0'4
Yorkshire	4,088	4'4	6'8	4'9	- 2'4	- 0'5
East Midlands	2,007	4'1	4'3	3'8	- 0'2	+ 0'3
West Midlands	2,414	5'1	6'9	6'8	- 1'8	- 1'7
Eastern Counties	368	3'0	5'8	2'5	- 2'8	+ 0'3
S. & S.W. Counties	2,525	2'3	3'3	3'6	- 1'0	- 1'3
Wales and Mon.	805	1'9	6'1	4'6	- 4'2	- 2'7
Scotland	6,105	2'5	2'3	3'0	+ 0'2	- 0'5
Ireland	2,666	9'0	8'1	10'1	+ 0'9	- 1'1
United Kingdom	54,107	5'1	6'0	6'2	- 0'9	- 1'1

Percentages unemployed for *London* are shown in the first Table for the *Letterpress and Lithographic Printing and Bookbinding Trades* respectively. Employment has improved with letterpress printers, and is better than a year ago. With bookbinders it remains worse than a year ago.

Northern Counties.—Employment is quiet at Newcastle and Sunderland. In other towns it is fairly good.

Lancashire and Cheshire.—Employment with printers and bookbinders at Manchester and Liverpool is slack; papermill workers at Manchester, however, are well employed. Employment is fairly good on the whole at Bolton, Blackburn, Oldham, Burnley, Accrington, Preston, Lancaster, Barrow, Southport, Newton-le-Willows and Chester. At Ashton-under-Lyne, Stockport, Rochdale and Bury it is quiet.

Yorkshire.—Employment at Sheffield is fairly good. At Leeds it is improving with printers, dull with bookbinders. Employment is quiet at Bradford, Halifax, Wakefield, York and Barnsley; fair on the whole at Huddersfield. At Hull it is fair with lithographic printers, bad with other branches. Papermill workers are slack at Leeds; busy at Oughtibridge and Barnsley.

East Midland Counties.—Employment is slack at Nottingham and Glossop; moderate at Leicester; good at Derby and Lincoln.

West Midland Counties.—At Birmingham employment is moderate with letterpress printers, fairly good with lithographic printers, slack with bookbinders. It is quiet in the Potteries and at Wolverhampton and Worcester; fairly good at Walsall, West Bromwich, Coventry, Stafford and Shrewsbury.

Eastern Counties.—Employment is rather quiet at Norwich; fairly good elsewhere.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—Employment is fairly good, except with letterpress printers at Bath,

Portsmouth, Redhill, St. Albans and Watford, who state that it is slack.

Wales and Monmouthshire.—Employment is fairly good on the whole.

Scotland.—Employment in Edinburgh is fairly good on the whole. At Glasgow it is quiet on the whole. At Aberdeen and Dundee it remains good.

Ireland.—Employment is quiet generally.

FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

INFORMATION has been received from 2 Employers' Associations, from 34 Trade Unions with 33,985 members, and from Local Correspondents. Employment generally shows a slight decline, and is worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Unionists in the furnishing and woodworking trades at the end of September was 4'7, as compared with 4'2 in August, and 3'9 in September, 1902.

Millsawyers and Woodworking Machinists.

Employment with millsawyers is rather quiet. Three unions, with a membership of 4,890, show 212 (or 4'0 per cent.) unemployed at the end of September, as compared with 3'4 in August, and 3'9 in September, 1902.

Employment remains dull in London. At Newcastle it is dull; at Hartlepool, Hull, Bradford and Leeds fair; at Sheffield, Manchester, Liverpool, Nottingham, Birmingham and Gloucester quiet; at Bristol good. At Glasgow it is fair; at Edinburgh and Aberdeen good; at Dundee slack; at Belfast and Dublin dull.

Furnishing Trades.

Employment in the furnishing trades is quiet in all parts of the Kingdom, and is worse than a year ago. Of the 13,282 members of 14 Trade Unions making returns, 663 (or 5'0 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of September, compared with 4'8 per cent. at the end of August, and 4'0 per cent. at the end of September, 1902.

Coopers.

Employment among coopers remains dull at all the larger centres, except at Dublin, where it is reported as good, and at Hull, where it is reported as fair. Trade Unions with a membership of 5,199 report 242 (or 4'7 per cent.) unemployed at the end of September, as compared with 3'3 in August and 2'6 per cent. a year ago.

Coachbuilding.

Employment in the coachbuilding industry remains moderate, and is worse on the whole than a month ago. Trade Unions of coachmakers, wheelwrights, smiths, etc., with a membership of 7,619 report 339 (or 4'4 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 3'8 per cent. at the end of August, 1903, and 4'2 per cent. in September, 1902.

In London employment has remained quiet. At Liverpool it is moderate with wheelwrights and smiths; bad with coachmakers. At Manchester, Sheffield and Nottingham it is slack; at Birmingham declining. Employment is moderate at Glasgow, Dublin and Cork; fair at Belfast.

Miscellaneous.

Brushmakers.—Employment is still quiet, but there is a reduction in the number of Trade Union members unemployed. Trade Unions with a membership of 1,778 report 82 (or 4'6 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 7'0 per cent. in August, and 3'8 per cent. in September, 1902.

Other Trades.—Employment in London is bad with basketmakers, short time being worked; dull with packing case makers and lathrenders; good with stick makers and mounters. Employment with basketmakers at Leicester is good; at Warrington slack. Lathrenders at Edinburgh report employment as fair; at Glasgow good. Packing case makers are quiet at Glasgow; at Belfast fairly well employed.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—GLASS, POTTERY, &C., TRADES; LEATHER TRADES; AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

GLASS, POTTERY, AND BRICK AND TILE TRADES.

INFORMATION has been received from 12 Employers' Associations, 13 Trade Unions with 4,863 members, Local Correspondents and Employers.

Employment in the *Glass* trades is bad in the bottle making branch, and worse than a month and a year ago; in other branches it is slack generally. In the *Pottery* trades employment has improved. In the *Brick and Tile* trades it is fair.

Glass Trades.—Employment with glass bottle makers in the North of England continues bad, and is worse than a year ago; much short time is reported. In the St. Helens and Newton-le-Willows district it is reported as bad, and worse than a month and a year ago. In Yorkshire employment in the glass bottle trade is reported as bad generally. In the Glasgow, Alloa and Portobello district it is reported as bad generally, and worse than a month and a year ago; with medical glass bottle makers at Glasgow it has improved.

In London, the glass blowers report employment as very bad, and much worse than in August and a year ago. In Birmingham flint-glass makers report it as slack, but slightly improved; flint-glass cutters as still quiet; plate-glass bevellers and silverers as slack. Employment in the sheet glass trade at West Bromwich continues moderate. At Wordsley, Brettle Lane and Stourbridge flint-glass makers report it as having improved; as fair with engravers and intaglio workers; in other branches of the glass-cutting trade as slack, and worse than a month ago. At St. Helens the sheet glass makers and the sheet glass flatteners report employment as good. With the pressed glass workers at Newcastle and Gateshead employment is reported as bad. On the Wear a slight improvement is reported. In Edinburgh employment with glass makers continues slack; with glass cutters dull.

Pottery Trades.—In the Staffordshire Potteries a slight improvement is reported in most branches of the earthenware and china trades, but few factories are working full time; employment with hollow-ware and flat pressers has improved, an average of 4½ days a week being worked; with sanitary pressers it is reported as fair; with printers and transferers as good; in other departments as improved. In the Longton and Fenton district employment is reported as fair and better than a month ago, though not so good as a year ago; it is better in earthenware branches than in china. In the Aire and Don districts of Yorkshire short time continues. Employment in Scotland is fair.

Brick and Tile Trades.—In the brick yards in the Plymouth district employment is reported as fair. In the Market Harborough district it is reported as fair with brick and tile makers. With brickmakers in Birmingham it is reported as still bad, and worse than a year ago, short time being worked; in the Oldbury district it continues fair. In the Nottingham district employment is fairly good. In North Wales it continues good with brick and tile makers. In the Glasgow district it continues fair.

LEATHER TRADES.

(For Boot and Shoe Trades see p. 284)

RETURNS have been received from 3 Employers' Associations, 14 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents. These show that the general condition of employment continues dull with little change during the month and worse than a year ago, short time being worked in some places. The percentage of Trade Union members shown as unemployed at the end of September was 7'4, as compared with 7'6 at the end of August and 5'6 in September, 1902.

Skinner's, Tanners, Curriers, Dressers, etc.—Employment in these branches shows no improvement, and is worse on the whole than it was in August, except with the skinner's at London, Birmingham and Leeds, and the curriers at Manchester, Edinburgh and Glasgow, who report a

slight improvement. Employment is reported as fair in the Bolton district.

Saddle and Harness Makers.—In this branch employment is slack generally, and bad in the Walsall district, except with brown saddlers, who report it as fair. In Birmingham there are some signs of improvement, and in Aberdeen employment is good. With horse collar makers employment is generally fair except at Walsall and Manchester where it is bad.

Miscellaneous Leather Workers.—In London pocket-book makers and bag and portmanteau makers are not well employed and are working short time. In Suffolk and Essex bag and portmanteau makers are well employed. Fancy leather workers show some improvement.

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

INFORMATION as to the state of employment in Agriculture in September was received from 210 correspondents in various parts of England. The reports show that generally the corn harvest was prolonged over nearly the whole month, and in many cases, particularly in the Northern and Midland Counties, it was unfinished at the beginning of October. The corn in many districts had been laid by rain and storms, making cutting with the machines more difficult, and frequently entailing hand labour.

Generally speaking the corn harvest this year is said to have been an expensive one for farmers as regards labour. Men employed at harvest by the week or month had their engagements spread over a longer period than usual, but those engaged on piecework contracts, or who had contracted to do the harvest in a given time were adversely affected by the delay in harvest operations. On the whole there was generally a sufficient quantity of extra labour for requirements, and although a certain amount of time was lost, the prolongation of the harvest, and also the necessity of cutting by hand, enabled the men to earn higher wages for a greater number of days. Many farmers endeavour to find suitable work for their men when harvest operations are not possible.

In some districts in the hop-growing counties, a shortage of casual labour for picking was reported.

Northern Counties.—Correspondents in *Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland and Westmorland* report a certain amount of irregularity of employment in the case of casual labourers, due to wet weather; the supply of extra men for harvest was, generally speaking, equal to the demand. A correspondent in the Penrith Union, however, reports a scarcity of labour, owing to the absorption of a large number of men on railway works. Reports from *Lancashire* state that the demand for labour was fairly met, but the unsettled weather caused loss of time, especially to men following threshing machines. The supply of labour for the harvest in *Yorkshire* was generally equal to the demand. Cattlemen, horsemen and experienced labourers for permanent situations were stated to be scarce in some districts. Harvest was considerably interfered with by rain, and was unfinished at the end of the month.

Midland Counties.—In *Cheshire and Derbyshire* the supply and demand for casual labour were about equal, and employment was regular with the exception of some time lost in the first fortnight through rain. Harvest was generally protracted. Employment with farm labourers in *Nottinghamshire* was reported as fairly regular, the supply of casual labour sufficient, and no great interruption of work from unfavourable weather. In *Leicestershire* agricultural employment was generally regular. The supply of extra men was equal to the demand, and in the Market Harborough Union there was said to be a downward tendency in their wages. Men for permanent situations were in demand. In *Staffordshire and Shropshire* the supply and demand for both casual and permanent men were fairly balanced, and work was not delayed to any great extent by bad weather. In *Worcestershire* rain caused some loss of time to men on piecework. The supply of extra men for

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR; SEAMEN; DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

harvest and potato lifting was sufficient, but experienced men for permanent situations continued to be scarce. In *Warwickshire* the supply of casual men was fairly equal to the demand. Carters and cowmen though still scarce, are said to be somewhat easier to procure. Time was lost by some oddmen in consequence of rain. The supply of both casual and permanent farm labourers in *Northamptonshire* was sufficient for farmers' requirements. Rain interfered with harvest work, and caused loss of time to casual labourers and men on piecework. In *Oxfordshire* agricultural labourers were generally in full employment, but some casual men lost time through rain, which hindered the harvest, some corn being uncut at the end of the month. There was some shortage of both casual and permanent farm labour in *Buckinghamshire*, railway construction in one district having absorbed a number of the former class. In *Herefordshire* and *Bedfordshire* some harvest men were in irregular employment, but in many cases other work was found for these men in wet weather.

Eastern Counties.—Unsettled weather during the first half of September hindered harvest operations, and caused some loss of time to casual labourers and piecework men in nearly all districts of the Eastern Counties. Farm labourers in *Huntingdonshire* and *Cambridgeshire* were for the most part well employed, and the supply of extra labour was about equal to harvest requirements. In *Lincolnshire* the supply of men was generally sufficient. Irish migratory labourers, for potato raising, are stated by a correspondent in the Brigg Union to have been sufficient for requirements. In *Norfolk* and *Suffolk* agricultural labourers were for the most part in full employment, but some casual labourers were in irregular work in certain districts. Generally speaking the supply of extra labour was sufficient. In *Essex* the supply of extra labour was somewhat in excess of the demand. The protracted harvest threw other farm work in arrears, and caused some increase in the demand for labour towards the end of the month.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—In *Kent* interruption to farm work is reported owing to rain causing loss of time to casual labourers. The supply of men of this class for hop-picking and threshing work was stated to have been unequal to the demand in some districts. A correspondent in the Hollingbourne Union states that every year it is becoming a more frequent practice for hop-pickers to make engagements previous to the picking. In *Surrey* and *Sussex* the supply of labour of the casual class was generally about equal to requirements, but in the Rye district it is reported that there was none too much available for hop-picking, notwithstanding the reduced area of hops grown. Permanent men, such as horsemen and milkers, were in demand. In both counties heavy rains during the month delayed field work, and some casual labourers have not had constant employment. In the Farnham Union barrack building for the Government is reported to have made the supply of agricultural labour scarce. In *Hampshire* work was not much affected by weather, and the supply of labour was about normal. Spreading manure and ploughing provided ample employment when harvest was finished. In *Berkshire* agricultural employment was generally steady, the supply of both casual and permanent men being better than of late, and quite equal to the demand. Farm labourers in *Wiltshire* and *Dorsetshire* were for the most part in regular employment. Owing to interruptions of work by rain in the first part of the month casual men were in some cases kept on for longer periods than usual. Employment for agricultural labourers in *Somersetshire* was generally regular. In *Herefordshire* and *Gloucestershire* rain caused loss of time to men on piecework, and it was stated by a correspondent on September 30th that harvest in the Cotswolds would not be finished for some weeks. The supply of both temporary and permanent men was adequate. In *Devon* and *Cornwall* correspondents report that the harvest was considerably delayed. The supply of extra

men in most districts was equal to the demand, but a scarcity of good men for permanent situations is reported in several districts.

SEAMEN SHIPPED IN SEPTEMBER.

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

RETURNS received from certain selected ports (at which about 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the Foreign Trade is entered and cleared) show that, during September, 39,550 seamen were shipped on foreign-going vessels, as compared with 37,810 during September last year.

The supply of seamen is stated to have been generally equal to or in excess of the demand.

During the nine completed months of the year, 323,038* seamen were shipped, of whom 50,289 (or 15.6 per cent.) were foreigners. During the corresponding period of last year 318,218* seamen were shipped, of whom 51,769 (or 16.3 per cent.) were foreigners.

Lascars who are engaged in Asia are not included in these figures.

Advances in the rates of wages of A.B.'s and firemen at Cardiff, Barry, Penarth, Newport, Avonmouth and Portishead are reported to have taken place during September (see p. 293).

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 September, 1903 and 1902, respectively, together with the number* shipped in the nine months ended September in each of these years:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Men, &c., shipped in Sept., 1903.*			Total in Sept., 1902.*	Total number* shipped in nine months ended September,	
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in Sept., 1903.		1903.	1902.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
East Coast.						
Tyne Ports	15	2,070	2,085	3,055	25,950	27,141
Sunderland ... ..	...	415	398	3,474	3,721	3,721
Middlesbrough ... ..	...	159	189	1,837	2,427	2,427
Hull ... ..	...	1,284	936	10,028	9,528	9,528
Grimsby ... ..	...	94	94	7	1,037	739
Bristol Channel.						
Bristol ... ..	...	942	942	580	6,408	4,912
Newport, Mon. ... ..	...	873	875	745	6,955	6,955
Cardiff ... ..	...	4,553	4,597	4,438	40,322	41,411
Swansea ... ..	...	37	594	631	489	4,696
Other Ports.						
Liverpool	147	14,091	14,238	12,646	113,080	105,600
London	185	6,633	6,818	7,316	56,485	57,740
Southampton	1	2,249	2,250	2,500	17,987	23,024
SCOTLAND.						
Leith, Kirkcaldy, Methil, & Grangemouth ... ..	...	549	549	563	5,147	5,092
Glasgow	75	3,270	3,345	3,011	25,851	22,508
IRELAND.						
Dublin ... ..	...	123	123	97	1,191	799
Belfast ... ..	...	245	245	222	2,266	1,865
Total, September, 1903	506	39,044	39,550	...	323,038	...
 Ditto, September, 1902	594	36,816	...	37,810	...	318,218

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

RETURNS as to the employment of this class of labour in the Port of London have been received from the dock companies, the owners of the principal wharves, the Shipping Federation and Trade Unions. Information regarding other principal ports has been supplied by Superintendents of Mercantile Marine, Local Correspondents of the Department, and Trade Unions.

Employment during September was fair, and showed little change as compared with August, but was not so good as in September, 1902.

LONDON.

The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves during the four weeks ended September 26th was 13,794, an increase of

* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, not of separate individuals.

† Including Avonmouth and Portishead.

‡ Including Barry and Penarth.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR; FISHING.

1 per cent. as compared with the average for the previous month, and a decrease of 5 per cent. as compared with the corresponding period of last year. The average number employed in August during the six years, 1897-1902, was 15,449.

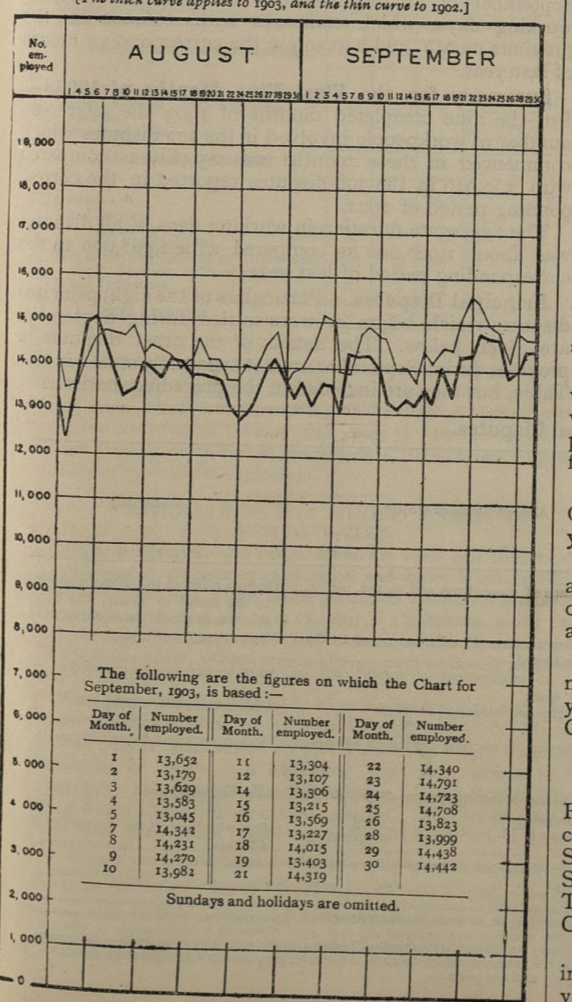
(1) **Weekly Averages.**—The following Table shows the estimated average number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily in each week of the month:—

Period.	Labourers employed in Docks			Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.	
Week ended Sept. 5th	5,104	2,549	7,653	5,742
" " " 12th	5,736	1,993	7,729	6,144
" " " 19th	6,197	1,415	7,612	5,844
" " " 26th	6,112	2,190	8,302	6,149
Average for 4 weeks ended Sept. 26th	5,787	2,037	7,824	5,970
Average for Aug., 1903	6,123	2,180	8,303	6,340
Average for Sept., 1902	6,736	1,986	8,722	6,818

(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 September ranged from 13,045 on the 5th to 14,791 on the 23rd.

During September, 1902, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed varied from 13,729 on the 16th to 15,661 on the 23rd.

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 August and September, 1903. The corresponding curve for August and September, 1902, is also given for comparison.



Employment with workers in mid-stream and with lightermen and stevedores was fair; with coal porters, winchmen and corn porters it was moderate; and with deal porters and lumpers it was good. With the fruit porters in Thames-street it was fair; the average daily number employed was 295, compared with 307 in August, and 294 a year ago.

Of the 3,414 "free labourers" on the register of the Shipping Federation in the Port of London, during September, 56 per cent. on the average, were employed by the shipowners to whom the office supplies labour, as compared with 61 per cent. in August, and 59 per cent. a year ago.

OTHER PORTS.

North-East Coast.—In the Tyne, Blyth and Wear district employment with coal porters remains good; the trimmers and teamers were moderately employed. Employment with dock and quay side labourers was fair and about the same as a month ago. On the Tyne with watermen it was quiet, and with steam packet men not so good as in August. Employment with steam packet men and tug boatmen on the Wear was fair. With dockers at Middlesbrough it was fair; at Hartlepool moderate.

Hull and Grimsby.—Employment at Hull with timber workers was good; with coal porters and trimmers fair; and with lightermen bad. Dock labourers and coal porters at Goole were fairly employed. Employment at Grimsby with dock labourers and timber workers was good; with coal workers it was only moderate.

Norfolk and Suffolk.—Employment at Yarmouth with dock and riverside labourers was not brisk and showed little change as compared with August; it was worse than a year ago. At Lynn, Lowestoft and Harwich it was fair; at Parkeston and Ipswich good.

Southampton.—Employment with dock, wharf and quay labourers at this port was fair. It was better than a month ago, but worse than a year ago.

Plymouth and District.—General dock labour was fair in the Three Towns and Falmouth, particularly with grain and coal lumpers.

Bristol Channel Ports.—Employment with dock and riverside labourers was good at Avonmouth, Bristol and Sharpness; and moderate at Gloucester. At Newport and Swansea it was fair, being better as compared with both a month and a year ago at Newport, and worse at Swansea.

Liverpool and Manchester.—At Liverpool employment with dock labourers was moderate; with flatmen fair; with timber porters a slight improvement was reported. With dockers at Manchester employment was fair.

The Clyde.—Employment with dock labourers at Glasgow was fair, and about the same as a month and a year ago.

East of Scotland Ports.—Employment with coal-porters and dock labourers at Leith was bad, and shows a falling off as compared with a month ago. With dock labourers at Dundee and Aberdeen it was fair.

Irish Ports.—With dock labourers at Dublin employment was dull; at Belfast it was fair and better than a year ago. With dock, quay and harbour employees at Cork it was fair.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

REPORTS have been received from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries and from Collectors of Fishery Statistics for England; from the Fishery Board for Scotland; from the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland; and also from Local Correspondents.

The fish landed during September shows an increase in quantity and a decrease in value as compared with a year ago.

The following Table gives the quantity and value for September, 1903, and September, 1902, respectively:—

	Quantity.		Landing Value.	
	Sept., 1903.	Sept., 1902.	Sept., 1903.	Sept., 1902.
Fish (other than Shell):	Cwts.	Cwts.	£	£
England and Wales	1,073,022	978,204	525,284	532,535
Scotland	293,682½	322,102	115,564	126,559
Ireland	63,319	48,048	27,046	25,515
Total	1,430,023½	1,349,254	667,894	684,609
Shell Fish	—	—	31,360	42,568
Total Value	—	—	699,254	727,177

From the Tyne and Wear it is reported that a good supply of white fish was landed and fair prices were obtained. The herring fishing was fairly good for the closing month of the season, and better than a year ago.

TRADE DISPUTES IN SEPTEMBER.*

Number and Magnitude.—Twenty-four new disputes began in September, 1903, compared with 19 in August, and 18 in the corresponding month of last year. By the 24 disputes 3,360 workpeople were directly and 2,492 indirectly affected, and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople affected by old disputes which began before September, and were still in progress at the beginning of that month, give a total of 11,577 workpeople involved in trade disputes during September, 1903, compared with 29,523 in August, and 25,059 in September, 1902.

New Disputes in September, 1903.—In the following Table the new disputes in September are summarised by trades affected:—

Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople affected.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building	2	83	...	93
Mining and Quarrying	11	2,597	1,514	4,021
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	5	408	100	508
Textile	3	280	785	1,065
Other Trades	3	72	93	165
Total, September, 1903	24	3,360	2,492	5,852
Ditto, August, 1903	19	23,069	163	23,232
Ditto, September, 1902	18	1,681	6,283	6,864

Causes.—Of the twenty-four new disputes, six arose on demands for advance in wages, four on objections to reductions, and two on other wage questions, six on details of working arrangements, four on questions of employment of particular classes or persons, and two on questions of trade unionism.

At Hull, Grimsby, Yarmouth and Lowestoft employment was fairly good on the whole.

Off Plymouth and Brixham an improvement was shown during the first two weeks of the month; later, owing to stormy weather, employment with fishermen was slack and irregular. With fish packers and curers it has been slack.

Reports supplied by the Fishery Board for Scotland show that at Aberdeen employment was good in all branches, and better than a month ago. At Peterhead employment was moderate in all branches. At Fraserburgh employment with fishermen and fish curers was bad; with fish dock labourers fair. At Macduff employment showed little change from that of the previous month.

A report from Cork states that mackerel fishing round the south and south west coast of Ireland has been better during the month than for some time past.

Results.—Thirteen new disputes, affecting 4,783 workpeople, and 14 old disputes, affecting 3,379 workpeople, were reported as having terminated in September. Of these twenty-seven new and old disputes, three, involving 497 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; thirteen, involving 4,237 persons, were decided in favour of the employers; and nine, involving 1,742 persons, were compromised. In the case of the remaining two disputes, involving 1,686 persons, certain points are still under consideration.

Aggregate Duration.—The aggregate duration in September of disputes that started or were settled in that month was 65,500 working days. In addition, 54,500 working days were lost in September owing to disputes that began before that month and at the end of the month were still unsettled. Thus the total duration in September of all disputes, new and old, was 120,000 working days, which compares with 266,000 in the previous month, and 250,300 in the corresponding month of last year.

Summary for the First Nine Months of 1903.—For the nine completed months of 1903 the aggregate number of workpeople involved in the 272 disputes which commenced in these months was 85,461, as compared with 209,046 in the 308 disputes reported in the corresponding period of 1902.

The aggregate duration in working days of all disputes was about 1,908,000 as compared with 2,568,000 in the corresponding period of last year.

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

Principal Trade Disputes.

Occupation.†	Locality.	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began in 1903.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.‡	Result.‡
		Directly.	Indirectly.				
Joiners	Sunderland	350	...	18 June	86	For advance of wages from 9d. to 10d. per hour	Dispute referred to arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade, who decided that wages should remain unaltered. Men returned to work.
Colliers and Labourers	Gwaun-cae-Gurwen	801	...	16 Sep.	4	Dissatisfaction with price list arranged by Conciliation Board	Amicable arrangement arrived at.
Platers' Helpers and other Workpeople	Port Glasgow	250	100	15 Sep.	7	Objection to employment of certain men on helpers' work	Work resumed on old terms.
Weavers	West Carmarthenshire	295	...	29 June	73	Against proposed reduction in wages	Work resumed on old conditions.
Flax Machine Hecklers, Reelers, Spinners, Roughers, Sorters, &c.	Newry (near)	52	686	7 Sep.	6	Dissatisfaction of machine boys with conditions of work	Work resumed on old conditions.
Tailors	Aberdeen	180	...	26 June	73	Refusal to accept certain proposals put forward by employers	Compromise effected.
Tailors	Edinburgh	650	...	23 Mar.	153	For advance of ½d. per hour on log rates	Men withdrew their demand for an advance.
Tailors	Glasgow	502	...	28 May	104	Against proposed reduction of ½d. per hour in log rates	Reduction accepted.

* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration exceeded 100 working days.
 † In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information.
 ‡ The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly affected," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the dispute occurred, but not themselves on strike or locked-out. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CASES OF LEAD, MERCURIAL, PHOSPHORUS, AND ARSENIC POISONING AND OF ANTHRAX REPORTED TO THE HOME OFFICE UNDER THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, DURING THE UNDERMENTIONED PERIODS.

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

Disease and Industry.	CASES.		DEATHS.	
	9 months ended September		9 months ended September	
	Sept. 1903.	1902.	1903.	1902.
Lead Poisoning—				
Smelting of Metals	3	19	—	—
Brass Works	—	11	—	—
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping	—	9	—	—
Plumbing and Soldering	—	14	—	1
Printing	—	3	—	1
File Cutting	—	10	—	—
Tinning and Enamelling of Iron	—	20	—	2
Hollow-ware	—	3	—	—
White Lead Works	—	82	—	2
Red and Yellow Lead Works	—	6	—	—
China and Earthenware*	—	80	—	3
Litho-transfer Works	—	4	—	—
Glass Cutting and Polishing	—	2	—	—
Enamelling of Iron Plates	—	17	—	1
Electrical Accumulator Works	—	27	—	—
Paint and Colour Works	—	33	—	—
Coach Making	—	5	—	—
Shipbuilding	—	15	—	—
Paint used in other Industries	—	34	—	—
Other Industries	—	25	—	—
Total Lead Poisoning	48	446	476	15
Mercorial Poisoning—				
Barometer and Thermometer making	—	2	—	—
Furriers' processes	—	1	—	—
Other Industries	—	4	—	—
Total Mercorial Poisoning	—	7	4	—
Phosphorus Poisoning—				
Lucifer Match Works	—	—	1	—
Other Industries	—	—	—	—
Total Phosphorus Poisoning	—	—	1	—
Arsenic Poisoning—				
Paints, Colours and Extraction of Arsenic	—	3	—	—
Other Industries	—	2	—	—
Total Arsenic Poisoning	—	5	5	—
Anthrax—				
Wool Sorting	—	4	—	—
Wool Combing	—	13	—	—
Handling of Horsehair	—	3	—	—
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.)	—	9	—	1
Other Industries	—	7	—	—
Total Anthrax	—	36	27	7

Explosives in Coal Mines.—The Home Secretary has made an Order† dated September 5th, 1903, under the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896, further amending the Order of December 20th, 1902 (see GAZETTE for January, 1903, page 5). By the New Order, Negro Powder, as defined in the Schedule to the Order, is added to the list of "permitted explosives."

EXAMINATIONS FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

Midland District.—An examination for First and Second-class Certificates of competency as Manager and under-Manager will be held at University College, Nottingham, on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 22nd, 23rd and 24th October. Candidates must, on or before 20th October, send their names to the Secretary, Mr. William Saunders, Wilson-street, Derby, from whom all particulars can be obtained.

Manchester and Ireland.—An examination for First and Second Class Certificates of competency as Manager and Under-Manager will be held at Manchester on 18th December, 1903. Candidates must, on or before 14th December, send their names to the Secretary, Mr. Thomas Ratcliffe Ellis, 18, King Street, Wigan, from whom all particulars can be obtained. Persons residing outside these districts are eligible for examination.

* Of the 7 cases in the china and earthenware industry in September, 1903, 3 affected females.
 † House Painters and Plumbers.—In addition to the cases included in the Table, 22 cases of lead poisoning (including 5 deaths) were reported during September among house painters and plumbers. The number of such cases reported for the nine months ended September, 1903, was 149 (including 32 deaths), and for the corresponding period of 1902, 120 (including 30 deaths).
 ‡ Statutory Rules and Orders, 1903, No. 729. (Eyre & Spottiswoode). Price 1d.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN SEPTEMBER.

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

The total number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during September, 1903, was 294, as compared with 349 in the corresponding month of 1902, 301 in 1901, 378 in 1900, and 294 in 1899. The average number of fatal accidents in the month of September in these five years was thus 323, so that the total for the past month is below the average.

In the classes of industries in which the number of persons employed is approximately known, viz.: Railway Service (exclusive of contractors' servants), Mines, Quarries, Shipping and Factories, the number of workpeople reported as killed was 260, compared with 310 in September, 1902. The approximate number of workpeople employed in these industries according to the latest returns was about 5,700,000. The number of persons in this group of industries reported as killed during the nine months ended September last was 2,752, as compared with 2,947 in the corresponding period of 1902.

In the following Table the accidents are classified by the trades in which they occurred, and a comparison is made between September, 1903, and a month and a year ago.

Trade.	Number of Workpeople killed during			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Sept., 1903, as compared with	
	Sept., 1903.	Aug., 1903.	Sept., 1902.	A month ago.	A year ago.
Railway Service—					
Brakemen and Goods Guards	2	6	1	— 4	+ 1
Engine Drivers	2	4	1	— 2	+ 1
Firemen	1	2	2	— 1	— 1
Guards (Passenger)	1	...	...	+ 1	+ 1
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	8	7	13	+ 1	— 5
Porters	2	2	8	— 6	— 6
Shunters	1	3	2	— 2	— 1
Miscellaneous	15	23	16	— 8	— 1
Contractors' Servants	2	2	1	—	+ 1
Total Railway Service	34	49	44	— 15	— 10
Mines—					
Underground	59	63	87	— 4	— 28
Surface	12	10	9	+ 2	+ 3
Total Mines	71	73	96	— 2	— 25
Quarries over 20 feet deep	9	5	16	+ 4	— 7
Factories—					
Textile—					
Cotton	...	1	2	— 1	— 2
Wool and Worsted	...	2	4	— 2	— 2
Other Textiles	...	1	1	—	...
Non Textile—					
Extraction of Metals	6	8	6	— 2	...
Founding and Conversion of Metals	5	7	10	— 2	— 5
Marine and Locomotive Engineering	3	4	2	— 1	+ 1
Ship and Boat Building	9	15	3	— 6	+ 6
Wood	...	1	4	— 1	— 4
Chemicals, &c.	4	2	2	+ 2	+ 2
Other Non-Textile Industries	26	33	25	— 7	+ 1
Total Factories	56	75	59	— 19	— 3
Workshops—	...	2	...	— 2	...
Seamen—					
On Trading Vessels—					
Sailing	41	31	33	+ 10	+ 8
Steam	45	83	58	— 38	— 13
On Fishing Vessels—					
Sailing	3	1	3	+ 2	...
Steam	3	8	2	— 5	+ 1
Total Seamen	92	123	96	— 31	— 4
Accidents reported under Factory Act, Ss. 103-6—					
Docks, Wharves, and Quays	20	16	13	+ 4	+ 7
Warehouses	...	1	5	— 1	— 5
Buildings to which Act applies	7	12	9	— 5	— 2
Laundries	...	1	...	— 1	...
Total under Factory Act, Ss. 103-6	27	30	27	— 3	...
Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	5	8	11	— 3	— 6
Grand Total	294	365	349	— 71	— 55

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES.*

Changes Reported in September.

The net effect of all the changes in wages reported in September was a decrease of £403 per week, as compared with a decrease of £1,296 in August, and a decrease of £5,462 in September, 1902. The number of workpeople affected was 22,991, of whom 5,007 received advances amounting to £345 per week, and 17,984 sustained decreases amounting to £748 per week. The total number affected in August was 121,188, and in September, 1902, 134,997.

The most important changes were decreases affecting 6,850 blastfurnacemen in Cleveland and Durham and West Cumberland, 1,250 blastfurnacemen and 5,000 iron and steel workers in South Wales and Monmouth, and advances affecting A.B.'s and firemen and trimmers shipped at most of the Bristol Channel ports.

One change affecting 135 workpeople was arranged by a Conciliation Board and five changes affecting 14,169 workpeople took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes affecting 8,687 workpeople were arranged directly between employers and workpeople or their representatives, two of which, affecting 2,139 workpeople, were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

Summary for First Nine months of 1903.

For the first nine months, January to September, 1903, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) known to have had their wages changed was 394,879 as compared with 812,777 in the corresponding period of 1902. Of these, 15,913 obtained a net increase amounting to about £1,115 per week, and 372,526 sustained a net decrease of £15,373 per week, whilst the remaining 6,440 had upward and downward changes which left their wages at the same level as at the beginning of the year. The net effect of all the changes reported was a decrease of £14,258 per week compared with a decrease of £77,515 per week in the corresponding period of 1902.

Summarised by trades, the number of workpeople affected and the net results of the changes in the principal groups were as follows:—

	No.	£
Building Trades	3,996	+ 309
Coal Mining	262,750	- 8,858
Other Mining and Quarrying	12,096	- 446
Iron and Steel Trades	22,493	- 895
Engineering and Shipbuilding	74,219	- 4,250
Printing, &c., Trades	1,238	+ 121
Glass Trades	5,098	- 361
All other trades†	12,989	+ 122

DETAILS OF CHANGES REPORTED IN SEPTEMBER, 1903.

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which Change takes effect in 1903.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
			Increase.	Decrease.	
COAL MINING. 1 Decrease—1,500 Workpeople.					
Cumberland	Colliery Surface Workers	7 Sept.	1,500		Decrease of 5 per cent. off standard rates.
IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE. 4 Decreases—18,200 Workpeople.					
Cleveland and Durham	Blastfurnacemen	3 Oct.	5,500		Decrease of 2½ per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 18 per cent. above the standard.
West Cumberland	Blastfurnacemen	1 Oct.	1,350		Decrease of 2½ per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 17½ per cent. above the standard.
Eston	Steel Workers	6 Sept.	1,069		Advance of 1½ per cent. under sliding scale, making wages 18 per cent. above the standard.
South Wales and Mon.	Blastfurnacemen	1 Oct.	1,250		Decrease of 2½ per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 10 per cent. above the standard.
	Iron and Steel Workers	1 Oct.	5,000		Decrease of 2½ per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 10 per cent. above the standard.
ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES. 1 Decrease—1,884 Workpeople.					
Barrow-in-Furness	Engineers and Machinemen	20 Aug.	1,884		Decrease of 1s. per week off time rates and of 2½ per cent. off piece rates. Time rates after change:—Fitters 35s. per week, Turners 36s.
Llanelli	Patternmakers	July-Aug.	18		Advance of 1s. 3d. per week 37s. to 38s. 3d.).
CLOTHING TRADES. 1 Decrease—1,500 Workpeople.					
Leicester	Clickers	10 Aug.	135		Adoption of revised price list for men's and boys' work, stated to have resulted in an average advance of about 3s. per week
Glasgow	Tailors	21 Sept.	1,500		Decrease of 2½d. per hour on "log" rate. Log rates after change 5d., 5½d. and 6d. per hour.
MISCELLANEOUS TRADES. Decreases—Nil.					
Hull	Timber Workers and Pit-prop Carriers	28 Sept.	200		Advance of 5 per cent. on time wages.
Edinburgh	Tramway Employees:— Drivers	July and Aug.	316		Adoption of a scale of pay of 5½d. per hour on appointment, of 6d. per hour after 6 months' service, and of 6½d. per hour after 18 months' service with 12 months' clear record.
	Conductors			323	Adoption of a scale of pay of 5d. per hour on appointment, of 5½d. per hour after 6 months' service, of 6d. per hour after 18 months' service with 12 months' clear record, and of 6½d. per hour after 7 years' continuous service.
Hamilton	Bakers	28 Sept.	100		Advance of 1s. per week in the minimum weekly wage (33s. to 34s.).
EMPLOYEES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES. Decreases—Nil.					
Leeds	Street Masons	16 Sept.	8		Advance to a rate of 9d. per hour. Rates before change varied from 7d. to 8½d. per hour.
Rochester	Dust Collectors	11 Sept.	6		Advance of 2s. per week (20s. to 22s.).
Poole	Carters, Labourers, and other workpeople	26 Sept.	52		Advance of 1s. per week to 46 men, of 1s. 6d. to 5, and of 2s. to one man

* Based on information obtained from all available sources, verified and corrected by direct application to the Employers, Trade Unions, and other parties concerned. 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. The same remark applies to the changes in pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c.

† Exclusive of agricultural labourers, seamen and fishermen and railway servants.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN SEPTEMBER, 1903.

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which Change takes effect in 1903.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Particulars of Change.
			Increase.	Decrease.	
SEAMEN.*					
Cardiff	Able Seamen	Sept.	588		Average advance of 8s. 1d. per month (71s. 9d. to 79s. 10d.).
	Firemen and Trimmers	Sept.	588		Average advance of 7s. per month (73s. 8d. to 80s. 8d.).
Barry	Able Seamen	Sept.	377		Average advance of 8s. 9d. per month (77s. 5d. to 86s. 2d.).
	Firemen and Trimmers	Sept.	394		Average advance of 8s. 8d. per month (78s. 6d. to 87s. 2d.).
Penarth	Able Seamen	Sept.	113		Average advance of 8s. 11d. per month (74s. 7d. to 83s. 6d.).
	Firemen and Trimmers	Sept.	103		Average advance of 9s. 1d. per month (75s. 5d. to 84s. 6d.).
Newport (Mon.)	Able Seamen	Sept.	169		Average advance of 8s. 2d. per month (80s. 4d. to 88s. 6d.).
	Firemen and Trimmers	Sept.	179		Average advance of 7s. 8d. per month (80s. 8d. to 88s. 4d.).
Avonmouth and Portishead	Able Seamen	Sept.	114		Average advance of 5s. per month (78s. 9d. to 83s. 9d.).
	Firemen and Trimmers	Sept.	165		Average advance of 6s. 4d. per month (81s. 9d. to 88s. 1d.).

* The number of men stated is the total number of men shipped during September, and it is not known exactly how many of these men obtained an increase. The average advance is arrived at by taking the difference between the computed average rate paid to the whole number of men shipped in August and September respectively.

SHIPS UNDER CONSTRUCTION.*

ACCORDING to the quarterly returns compiled by Lloyd's Register, there were 393 vessels (excluding warships) under construction in the United Kingdom at the end of September, 1903, with an aggregate tonnage of 906,608 tons gross, a decrease of 121,491 tons as compared with the end of June, 1903, and of 94,106 tons as compared with September 30th, 1902. Twelve warships of 128,120 tons displacement were being built at the Royal Dockyards, at the end of September, and 52 warships of 199,450 tons at private yards, a total of 64 vessels and 327,570 tons, showing an increase of 7,870 tons displacement, as compared with the previous quarter, and of 24,368 tons as compared with a year ago. The following Table summarises the above figures:—

Description of Vessels.	Tonnage under construction on			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) at end of Sept., 1903, as compared with	
	Sept. 30th, 1903.	June 30th, 1903.	Sept. 30th, 1902.	Three months ago.	A year ago.
Merchant Vessels— Tons gross...	906,608	1,028,099	1,000,714	-121,491	-94,106
War Vessels— Tons displacement	327,570	319,700	303,202	+7,870	+24,368

Of the 393 merchant vessels under construction at the end of September, 354 were steamships with a gross tonnage of 889,255 tons. As compared with the preceding quarter, the number of steam vessels building has decreased by 47, and the tonnage by 131,756, while as compared with September, 1902, the number has fallen off by 4 and the gross tonnage by 88,470. The number of sailing vessels in course of construction was 39, with an aggregate gross tonnage of 17,353 tons, being 14 vessels and 10,265 tons more than at the end of June, 1903, and 9 more vessels and 5,636 tons less than at the end of September, 1902.

The following Table shows the gross tonnage of vessels, other than warships, under construction in each of the principal shipbuilding districts. The figures include over 96 per cent. of the total mercantile tonnage under construction:—

District.	At			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) at end of Sept., 1903, as compared with	
	Sept. 30th, 1903.	June 30th, 1903.	Sept. 30th, 1902.	Three months ago.	A year ago.
Clyde	287,497	312,167	356,462	-24,670	-68,965
Belfast	163,095	195,648	172,219	-32,553	-9,124
Tyne	156,499	180,783	173,829	-24,284	-17,330
Wear	116,361	124,066	125,005	-7,702	-8,641
Hartlepool and Whitby	53,290	71,771	62,028	-18,481	-8,738
Middlesbro' and Stockton	69,798	69,914	46,658	+116	+23,140
Barrow, Maryport and Workington	24,930	28,340	25,580	+3,910	+650

It will be seen that every district shows a decrease in September as compared with June, the greatest decreases

* By "tonnage under construction" is meant the gross tonnage of the vessels when completed. As at any given time the ships are at various stages of completion, the "tonnage under construction" is not an exact measure of the work remaining to be done.

in amount occurring at Belfast and on the Clyde and the Tyne. As compared with a year ago there was a decrease in every district except the Middlesbrough and Stockton district, where there was a marked increase. The greatest decreases occurred on the Clyde and the Tyne.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION IN 1902.

IN the annual Return* relating to Emigration and Immigration recently issued it is stated that the general tendency of the available information is to show that the year 1902 was marked by an emigration of British and Irish persons larger than in most recent years, and by an extensive movement of foreign persons through the United Kingdom to places out of Europe, the number of foreign immigrants settling in the United Kingdom being, so far as can be deduced from the statistics, no larger than in the previous year.

The general effect of the entire passenger movement between the United Kingdom and all other countries was a balance outward of about 78,600 persons, resulting from a net efflux of about 102,400 natives, and a net influx of about 23,800 foreigners. From these latter, however, considerable deductions must be made in order to arrive at the net addition to the foreign population of the United Kingdom during the year, the most important deduction being on account of a large number of foreign sailors who arrive as passengers but leave as members of crews, and who are consequently not recorded as part of the outward passenger movement.

In the passenger movement to and from places out of Europe there were 386,779 outward passengers, of whom 205,662 were British and Irish (as compared with 171,715 British and Irish passengers in 1901), and 170,874 inward passengers, of whom 104,115 were British and Irish. The large British emigration to South Africa, and the large foreign emigration to British North America were features of the year.

The movement to and from European countries was greater than of the previous year, the net balance inward of 137,313 persons being exceptionally large.

Taking the immigrants not noted in the "Alien Lists" as being en route to other countries, and excluding seamen, there are left 66,471 alien immigrants from European ports in 1902, as compared with 55,464 in 1901. Of the total for 1902, 28,511 were Russians and Poles, 7,734 Italians, 6,965 Germans, and 6,637 French. The Russians and Poles, and Roumanians (of whom there were 1,282) consist principally of Jews.

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN SEPTEMBER, 1903.

ONLY two changes in hours of labour were reported in September. At Hartlepool the weekly hours of 50 tram drivers and conductors were reduced from 66 to 60 from 3rd August, and at Belfast 550 bakers had their weekly hours reduced from 54 to 52 from 31st August.

* Statistical Tables relating to Emigration and Immigration from and into the United Kingdom in 1902, and Report to the Board of Trade thereon. [H.C. 118 of 1903. Price 7d. Eyre & Spottiswoode.]

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE 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 September.

The trade returns for September, 1903, show an increase in the value as compared with the corresponding month of 1902 of the Imports into the United Kingdom, and also of the Exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise, but a decrease in the value of the Exports of British produce.

The value of the Imports in September, 1903, was £45,451,184, an increase of £3,686,693 or 8.9 per cent., as compared with those in September, 1902, whilst the total Exports amounted to £28,297,324, showing a total decrease of £295,452. The Exports of British produce alone show an increase of £480,350, or 2.0 per cent., as compared with September, 1902, whilst there is an increase of £184,898, or 3.8 per cent. in the Exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

Imports.*—The following Table shows the value of the Imports for September, 1903, as compared with the corresponding months of 1902 and 1901, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

Table with 5 columns: Category, 1901, 1902, 1903, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1903 as compared with 1902. Rows include Food, Drink and Tobacco; Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured; Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured; Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post); Total value of Imports.

Exports.†—The following Table shows the value of the Exports of British produce for the month of September, 1903, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1902 and 1901, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

Table with 5 columns: Category, 1901, 1902, 1903, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1903 as compared with 1902. Rows include Food, Drink, and Tobacco; Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured; Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured; Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post); Total value of Exports of British produce.

Tonnage of Ships entered and cleared with Cargoes.

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the month ended September, 1903, amounted to 3,688,217 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 4,160,136 tons, as against 3,419,015 tons entered and 3,956,472 tons cleared in the month of September, 1902. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during September, 1903, amounted to 2,711,148 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,671,747 tons, as against 2,764,216 tons entered, and 2,742,202 tons cleared in September, 1902.

* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance and freight; or, when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods. † The value of the Exports represents the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

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 September, and also during the nine completed months of 1903, with comparative figures for 1902 and 1901:—

Table with 7 columns: Description, 1903, 1902, 1901, 1903, 1902, 1901. Rows include Imported, Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns, Exported, Total.

Particulars of the various descriptions of cotton forwarded from ports to inland towns during September in each of the years 1903, 1902 and 1901 respectively, are given in the following Table:—

Table with 4 columns: Description of Cotton forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns, September, 1903, September, 1902, September, 1901. Rows include American, Brazilian, East Indian, Egyptian, Miscellaneous, Total.

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 20 of the principal railway companies of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended October 3rd amounted to £7,859,125, a decrease of £88,132 (or 1.1 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1902. The receipts from passenger traffic were £3,748,016, a decrease of £43,898 as compared with a year ago, and those from goods and mineral traffic £4,111,109, a decrease of £44,234.

Bankruptcies.—The bankruptcies gazetted during September numbered 304, being 49 less than in September, 1902, 25 more than in September, 1901, and 15 more than in September, 1900.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during September was 55,220, as compared with 51,201 in September, 1902. Comparing the nine completed months of 1903 with the corresponding period of 1902, there is an increase of 67,549 passengers, viz., from 296,830 in 1902 to 364,379 in 1903.

British and Irish.—Of the 55,220 passengers in September, 34,249 were of British or Irish origin, an increase of 5,808 as compared with a year ago. The increase was due chiefly to emigration to British North America and to the United States. For the nine completed months of 1903 the total number was 210,461, as compared with 155,854 in the corresponding period of last year, an increase of 54,607, which is more than accounted for by an increase of 32,710 passengers to British North America, of 13,926 to the United States, and of 8,775 to British South Africa.

The following Table gives the number of British and Irish passengers in the different periods:—

Table with 5 columns: Destination, Sept., 1903, Sept., 1902, Total for nine months ended Sept., 1903, Sept., 1902. Rows include British Empire (British North America, Australia and New Zealand, British South Africa, India, Other British Colonies and Possessions), Foreign Countries (United States, Other Foreign Countries), Grand Total.

Foreign.—The remainder of the 55,220 passengers in September, viz., 20,971, were foreigners or other persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being 1,789 less than in September, 1902. For the nine completed months of 1903, the number of such passengers was 153,918, of whom 106,817 were bound for the United States, 32,512 to British North America, and 9,012 to British South

Africa. In the corresponding period of 1902 the number was 140,976, of whom 100,350 were bound for the United States of America, 32,219 to British North America, and 3,554 to British South Africa.

Alien Immigration.—During September, 19,067 aliens arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent. Of these, 10,846 were stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to places out of the United Kingdom, a decrease of 761 as compared with September, 1902. Those not stated to be on their way to places out of the United Kingdom numbered 7,034 (exclusive of seamen), or 468 less than a year ago. The figures for September, 1903 and 1902, and also for the nine months ended September in each year, are as follows:—

Table with 5 columns: Description, Sept., 1903, Sept., 1902, Total for nine months ended Sept., 1903, Sept., 1902. Rows include Aliens not stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to other countries, Seamen, Aliens stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to other countries, Total.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN SEPTEMBER.

DURING September, 772 fresh applications for work were registered by seven Bureaux furnishing returns, and 673 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 179 persons, of whom 98 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps).

Compared with the previous month the number of fresh applications for domestic servants rose from 320 to 500, and the number of servants applying rose from 318 to 407; the number permanently engaged rose from 41 to 81. The demand for dressmakers, milliners, etc., rose from 33 to 60, and the number requiring such situations rose from 41 to 96; the number engaged through the Bureaux was 34, compared with 11 in August.

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 September compared with a month and a year ago:—

WORK DONE IN SEPTEMBER.

Table with 4 columns: Bureau, No. of Fresh Situations offered by Employers, No. of Fresh Applications of Workpeople engaged by Employers, No. of Workpeople engaged by Employers. Rows include Central Bureau, Society for Promoting Training and Employment, Y.W.C.A., Other Bureaux, Total of 7 Bureaux, Summary by Occupations, Total Number in Sept., 1903, Total Number in August, 1903, Total Number in Sept., 1902.

LABOUR BUREAUX IN SEPTEMBER.

At the six Bureaux, which were in operation in 1902 and 1903, 2,111 fresh applications for work were registered during September, 1903, as compared with 1,630 during September, 1902. These Bureaux found work for 830 persons during September, 1903, of whom 710 were engaged by private employers. In September, 1902, 687 persons were engaged by private employers. The number of workpeople remaining on the registers at the end of September, 1903, was 1,116, as compared with 786 a year ago.

At five other Bureaux, which were not in operation a year ago, 680 fresh applications for work were registered during September, 1903, and work was found for 99 persons.

Altogether, at the eleven Bureaux included in the Tables below, 2,791 fresh applications for work were registered during September, 1903, and work was found for 929 persons. The number of workpeople remaining on the registers at the end of the month was 3,305, including 2,642 men and boys, and 663 women and girls.

(I.) Work done in September.

Table with 8 columns: Name of Labour Bureau, No. of Fresh Applications by Workpeople during, No. of Situations offered by Employers during, No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureau, Engaged by Private Employers, Engaged by Local Authorities. Rows include London (Battersea, Salvation Army), Provincial (Ipswich, Plymouth, Liverpool, Glasgow), London (St. Pancras, Finsbury, Southwark, Westminster, Hammersmith), Total of 11 Bureaux.

(II.) Employment found for Workpeople during September.

Table with 4 columns: Category, No. permanently engaged, No. temporarily engaged, Total. Rows include Engaged by Private Employers (Men, Lads and Boys), Women and Girls, Engaged by Local Authorities (Men, Lads and Boys, Women and Girls), Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities (Men), Grand Total for 11 Bureaux.

* Engaged by Salvation Army. † Bureau not in operation in September, 1902

PAUPERISM IN SEPTEMBER.

(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 September was 345,303, corresponding to a rate of 204 per 10,000 of the estimated population of these districts in 1903.

Compared with August, there was an increase of 958 in the number relieved, and of 1 in the rate per 10,000 of the population. Increased rates are shown in nineteen districts, the increase being most marked in the Leicester district (8 per 10,000). Decreases are shown in five districts, including three out of the five Metropolitan districts and West Ham. In eleven districts no change is indicated.

Compared with September, 1902, there was an increase of 8,742 in the number relieved, and of 2 in the rate per 10,000 of the population. Increased rates are shown in nineteen districts, the greatest being in Leicester district (29 per 10,000), North Staffordshire (18), Bolton, Oldham, &c. (14) and East London (13). Decreases are shown in thirteen districts, the greatest being in the Cork, Waterford and Limerick district (42 per 10,000), and Dublin district (16 per 10,000). In three districts no change is indicated.

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of September, 1903.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.		A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.*						
Metropolises.						
West District ...	10,487	3,270	13,757	168	...	+ 4
North District ...	14,550	8,096	22,646	213	...	+ 4
Central District ...	6,499	2,841	9,340	461	- 7	- 6
East District ...	13,376	5,367	18,743	261	- 3	+ 13
South District ...	22,003	18,095	40,098	223	- 2	- 4
Total Metropolis ...	66,915	37,669	104,584	227	- 2	+ 1
West Ham ...	2,880	8,767	11,647	187	- 1	- 4
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District ...	1,844	4,539	6,383	153	+ 1	+ 11
Stockton & Tees District ...	1,076	3,817	4,893	232	+ 5	- 5
Bolton, Oldham, &c. ...	3,871	8,429	12,300	164	+ 3	+ 14
Wigan District ...	1,890	6,372	8,262	211	...	+ 4
Manchester District ...	8,752	8,078	16,830	183	+ 3	...
Liverpool District ...	10,686	8,416	19,102	191	+ 3	+ 5
Bradford District ...	1,447	2,748	4,195	116	+ 3	+ 2
Halifax & Huddersfield ...	1,162	3,669	4,831	133	...	...
Leeds District ...	2,033	5,896	7,929	171	+ 1	- 1
Barnsley District ...	644	2,756	3,400	146	+ 1	- 3
Sheffield District ...	2,886	3,558	6,444	153	+ 2	+ 8
Hull District ...	1,406	5,103	6,509	246	+ 4	- 8
North Staffordshire ...	1,976	7,237	9,213	252	+ 2	+ 18
Nottingham District ...	1,790	5,017	6,807	171	...	+ 1
Leicester District ...	1,259	3,538	4,797	219	+ 8	+ 29
Wolverhampton District ...	3,242	12,739	15,981	253	- 6	...
Birmingham District ...	4,535	3,241	7,776	137	+ 1	+ 2
Bristol District ...	2,691	6,664	9,355	247	...	- 2
Cardiff & Swansea ...	1,684	7,486	9,170	254	+ 1	- 9
Total "Other Districts" ...	54,874	109,303	164,177	188	+ 1	+ 4
* SCOTLAND.*						
Glasgow District ...	4,089	16,802	20,891	222	...	+ 6
Paisley & Greenock District ...	604	2,407	3,011	175	+ 1	+ 5
Edinburgh & Leith District ...	1,609	5,380	6,989	178	...	+ 2
Dundee & Dunfermline ...	1,001	2,824	3,825	194	+ 2	+ 1
Aberdeen ...	552	2,824	3,376	212	+ 2	+ 11
Coatbridge & Airdrie ...	319	1,314	1,633	177	...	+ 7
Total for the above Scottish Districts ...	8,174	31,551	39,725	203	...	+ 5
IRELAND.†						
Dublin District ...	6,952	4,927	11,879	308	...	- 15
Belfast District ...	3,258	222	3,480	91	+ 4	- 2
Cork, Waterford & Limerick District ...	4,311	4,816	9,127	371	...	- 42
Galway District ...	368	316	684	190	+ 1	- 9
Total for the above Irish Districts ...	14,889	10,281	25,170	239	+ 1	- 18
Total for above 35 Districts in September, 1903	147,732	197,571	345,303	204	+ 1	+ 2

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

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

INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN SEPTEMBER.

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

(1) REGISTERED.

THE total number of Industrial Unions and Societies registered in September was as follows: Under the Trade Union Acts, 1; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 15; under the Friendly Societies Act, 79 (including 49 branches of existing societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 1; in all, 96.

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

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—1, viz., Amalgamated Soc. of Coremakers of Great Britain and Ireland, Brownsfield Hotel, Brewer-street, Manchester. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—England and Wales.—Agricultural Societies.—3, viz., Evesham Growers' Assoc., Ltd., The Cottage, Beale Cooper's-lane, Bengeworth, Evesham; Nidderdale Dairy Soc., Ltd., 6, Commercial-street, Harrogate; Somersetshire Chamber of Agriculture Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Park-road, Yeovil. Miscellaneous Societies, 3. Scotland.—2, viz., Montrose Baking and Grocery Co-op. Assoc., Ltd., 75, High-street, Montrose; Tarff Valley Agric. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Ringford, Kirkcudbright. Ireland.—Co-operative Agricultural Societies, 7, viz., Feale Co-op. Poultry, Abbeyfeale, co. Limerick; Annaduff Co-op. Agric. and Dairy, Annaduff, Drumsna, co. Leitrim; Newtownards and Dist. Co-op. Beekeepers, Newtownards, co. Down; Fethard Co-op. Beekeepers, Fethard, co. Wexford; Crossboyne and Dist. Co-op. Beekeepers, Scardane, Claremorris, co. Mayo; Glynwood Co-op. Beekeepers, Rose Cottage, Athlone, co. Westmeath; Rathkeale Co-op. Poultry, Rathkeale, co. Limerick.

Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—19, viz., South Croydon Co-op. Loan and Investment Soc., South Croydon; Hasland Working Men's Club and Inst., Hasland, Chesterfield; Nelson Working Men's Inst., Nelson; Thelsford Working Men's Club and Inst., Cannock; Micklegate and Castlegate Wards Working Men's Liberal Club, York; Penrhiwceiber Working Men's Reform Club, Penrhiwceiber; Senghenith Social Workmen's Club and Band Inst., Senghenith, Cardiff; Canada Sick and Benefit Soc., Liverpool; Barrowby Juvenile Benefit Soc., Barrowby, Lincs.; Hebrew Friend in Need Benefit and Divisional Soc., Whitechapel, E.; Mantle Makers' Sick Benefit Soc., London, E.; Canterbury Arms Hand-in-Hand Sick and Provident Benefit Soc., Willesden, N.W.; Alexander Oddfellows' Juvenile Friendly Soc., Holt, Norfolk; Whitehead Road Sick and Dividend Soc., Aston, Birmingham; Gower Friendly Sick and Dividend Soc., Lozells, Birmingham; Birmingham Heath Sick and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; Oakes Independent Lodge of Modern Druids Friendly Soc., Lindley, Huddersfield; Rhyl and Dist. Tontine Sick and Burial Club, Rhyl; Italian Mutual Aid Soc. and Registry Office for Hotel and Restaurant Employees, London, W.C. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—11, viz., Glassdrummond Agric. Bank, Glassdrummond, co. Armagh; Borrmount Agric. Bank, Borrmount, Enniscorthy, co. Wexford; Kilsaran and Stabannon Agric. Bank, Castlebellingham, co. Louth; Glenbeigh Agric. Bank, Glenbeigh, co. Kerry; Cooley Agric. Bank, Carlingford, co. Louth; Glencar Agric. Bank, Glencar, co. Kerry; Dromiskin Agric. Bank, Dromiskin, Dundalk; Bellurgan Agric. Bank, Bellurgan, Dundalk; Glenisland Agric. Bank, Glenisland, co. Mayo; Kilkenny Agric. Bank, Kilkenny, co. Louth; Knockbridge Agric. Bank, Knockbridge, co. Louth.

(2) DISSOLVED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies reported as having commenced to "wind-up," or had registration cancelled in September was as follows:—Under the Trade Union Acts, 1; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 2; under the Friendly Societies Act, 69 (including 21 branches of Societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 10; in all 82.

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

INFORMATION FOR INTENDING EMIGRANTS.

THE free quarterly circulars of the Emigrants' Information Office were issued on October 1st, and contain information for intending emigrants as to the demand for labour, rates of wages, and cost of living. Particulars are also given as to the cost of reaching the various colonies, the arrangements at each for receiving emigrants, and as to various other matters of interest to emigrants. Copies of the circulars can be obtained free on application to the Chief Clerk, Emigrants' Information Office, 31, Broadway, Westminster, S.W.

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