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THE

Labour Gazette

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

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.] NOVEMBER 1894. [No. 11.—Vol. II.

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GENERAL ADVANTAGES OF THE ARMY.

On first joining the Army, Soldiers are supplied with Clothing and a Free Kit, and while in performance of their duty, receive a daily Free Ration of 1 lb. of Bread and ¾ lb. of Meat. Vegetables and Groceries are provided for by a daily stoppage of pay. Soldiers are also provided with Lodging, Bedding, Fuel, Light and Education without payment.

Soldiers who become good Marksmen can obtain valuable Money Prizes.

When proceeding on Furlough Soldiers may be granted an advance of full pay, and of whatever good conduct pay they may be receiving, together with **6d.** a day in lieu of the Ration of Bread and Meat, and special facilities for travelling by Railway at reduced fares.

The benefit of an Army School, the use of a Library and Recreation Room, the establishment of amusements at most places, and at some stations the opportunities to learn a trade, by which money is made while in the Army, and a livelihood may be secured on discharge, are among the advantages enjoyed by Soldiers.

AGE for the REGULAR ARMY, 18 to 25 Years.

TERMS OF SERVICE.

	With the Colours	In the Reserve
Household Cavalry	**12 years**	**Nil.**
Cavalry of the Line	*7 „	**5 years**
Royal Artillery	*7 „	**5 „**
Royal Engineers	*7 „ or 3 „	**5 „ 9 „**
Foot Guards	*7 „ or 3 „	**5 „ 9 „**
Infantry of the Line	*7 „	**5 „**
Medical Staff Corps	*7 „ or 3 „	**5 „ 9 „**
Army Service Corps	*3 „	**9 „**
Ordnance Store Corps	*7 „	**5 „**

After 5 years' service a soldier of good character may be specially allowed, under certain conditions, to join the Reserve, if the requirements of the Service admit.

Soldiers of good character may be allowed to extend their service to **12** years with the Colours, and may also, under certain restrictions, be subsequently permitted to re-engage to complete **21** years.

* In accordance with the terms of the Attestation, these periods, should they expire whilst a Soldier is serving abroad, may be prolonged for 12 months or any less period, a corresponding decrease being made in the service in the Reserve.

PAY AND DEFERRED PAY.

Warrant Officers...	**5/- to 6/- a day**
Non-Commissioned Officers above the rank of Corporal	**2/- „ 4/6 „**
Corporals and Bombardiers	**1/8 „ 2/8 „**
Gunners, Privates, &c.	**1/- „ 1/9 „**

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.—Additional pay is granted to Soldiers for good conduct, according to the length of service.

DEFERRED PAY at the rate of £3 a year for the first 12 years of service is paid to Soldiers on transfer to the Reserve, or on discharge. Men who enlist for 3 years Army Service only, and do not extend their services beyond that term, will not be entitled to Deferred Pay, nor will Soldiers who are discharged for misconduct or by purchase. Sergeants will be granted Deferred Pay up to the date of completing 21 years' service.

DISCHARGE AND PENSION.

Should a Soldier, during the first three months of his service desire to leave the Army, he may claim his discharge on a payment of £10; after that period he may be permitted to leave on payment of £18.

After 21 years' service and upwards, Soldiers become entitled to pensions on discharge, varying from 8d. to 5s. a day, according to their rank and length of service.

Soldiers discharged on account of wounds or injuries received in action, or disability caused by Military duty, are entitled to a pension, varying with the extent of the disability and with the length of service.

ARMY RESERVE.—Soldiers transferred to the Reserve receive pay at 6d. a day until the expiration of their term of service. On completing 12 years' service, either with the Colours or in the Reserve, they may join the Supplemental Reserve* for 4 years, receiving pay at 4d. a day during that period.

* Enlistments in the Supplemental Reserve are suspended until further orders.

GENERAL ADVANTAGES OF THE MILITIA.

Rations and Lodgings.—During Drill, or the Annual Training, Militiamen are entitled to accommodation in barracks, lodgings, billets, or camp, at the public expense. They also receive the daily Rations or the Regulated Allowances in lieu thereof, as in the Regular Army.

Clothing and Necessaries.—Complete Clothing will be issued to Militiamen at the public expense, for wear when on duty. Great coats, capes and leggings will also be issued if the men are encamped, or during wet or inclement weather. One pair of boots or shoes, two flannel shirts, two pairs of socks, one tin of blacking and two pieces of soap, will be supplied to each man for every training at which he attends, and these articles, with the exception of one of the flannel shirts, are taken home by the men. A Free Kit, consisting of comb, brushes, razor, braces, towels, knife, fork and spoon, will be issued to every Militiaman, and will be required to last six trainings, after which it may be retained by the man.

Travelling Expenses and Allowances.—Militiamen joining their regiments for Drill or Annual Training will receive a coupon attached to the Training notice, entitling them to conveyance by railway at Government fare from a station within the county. They will also receive an allowance of **10d.** for a hot meal on joining. If no railway be available, they will receive marching money within the county.

Hospitals and Medical Attendance.—During Drill or Training, Militiamen will be entitled to free Medical Attendance. If sick, they will be admitted to hospital and will receive the same treatment as Soldiers of the Regular Army. If at the termination of the Training they are still detained in hospital by sickness, they will continue to receive medical treatment until their recovery or discharge.

AGE for the MILITIA, 18 to 35 Years.

(also Growing Lads, 17 to 18 years).

TERMS OF SERVICE.

Original enlistment 6 years.

Militiamen may re-engage during their last training, or re-enlist within 3 years of discharge, for a further period of 4 years

DISCHARGED SOLDIERS may also re-enlist in the Militia for a period of 4 years, within three years of discharge from the Army or Army Reserve.

Militiamen may join the Militia Reserve to the extent of one-fourth of the Establishment.

DRILL AND TRAINING.

The Drills and Training required from Militiamen are as follows:—

	Drill on Enlistment, or Preliminary Drill before Musketry or Gunnery Drill.	Preliminary Musketry or Gunnery Drill previous to Annual Training.	Annual Training.	Total during the Year.
During 1st year	**49 days**	**14 days**	**27 days**	**90 days**
Following Years	...	...	**27 days**	**27 days**

PAY AND BOUNTY.

The daily Rates of Pay while out for Recruits' Drill or Training are:

	Artillery	Engineers	Infantry	Medical Staff Corps
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Sergeants	2 7	2 7	1 9	1 9
Sergeants ... ... (After discharge from the Army as Warrant or N.C. Officers).	3 2	3 3	2 4	2 8
Corporals	1 5	1 5	1 3	1 3
Bombardiers	1 3	—	—	—
Gunners and Privates ...	1 2	1 1	1 0	1 0

During the first year of service the rate of Bounty varies from 10s. to £2, and during subsequent years it varies from £1 to £1 10s., with an extra £1 if the man belongs to the Militia Reserve.

Men who, after discharge from the Army as Warrant or Non-Commissioned Officers join the Militia and are appointed Sergeant receive an Annual Bounty of £3, with an extra £1 if they belong to the Militia Reserve.

In addition to the above, Militiamen who re-enlist or re-engage, and discharged soldiers who re-enlist in the Militia within 3 years of discharge, receive a Bounty of £1 10s. If the man re-enlists or re-engages during the non-training period, this Bounty will not be paid until he joins for the Annual Training, and unless he is then found medically fit.

EMPLOYMENT ON RETURN TO CIVIL LIFE.

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT.—With the view of affording Government Employment to deserving Soldiers, the Postmaster-General has decided that certain vacancies among Provincial letter-carriers and the auxiliary postmen in London are, in future, to be offered to Discharged Soldiers and Army Reserve men. Candidates for such employment must have at least a "Good" character and not less than three years' service on leaving the Colours. Work is also provided for many old soldiers in the Royal Arsenal, the Army Clothing Department, the Ordnance Store Department and other Government Departments.

POLICE FORCES.—Many old Soldiers also obtain employment in the Metropolitan and Borough Police Forces, and in the County Constabulary throughout the United Kingdom.

RAILWAY COMPANIES AND CORPS OF COMMISSIONAIRES.—Employment for deserving Soldiers is likewise afforded by many of the Railway Companies and in the Corps of Commissionaires.

A REGISTER FOR CIVIL EMPLOYMENT is also kept at the Head-Quarters of all Regimental Districts, with the view of assisting men of good character to obtain employment in civil life when discharged from the Army, or transferred to the Army Reserve, on the expiration of their engagement.

A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION for the employment of Reserve and Discharged Soldiers has also been established for the purpose of introducing Soldiers of *reliable* character, on their discharge, or transfer to the Reserve, to employers of labour.

Men of the following classes are registered at the undermentioned Office of the Association without fee, viz.:—Attendants, Carmen, Caretakers, Clerks, Conductors, Collectors, Grooms, Messengers, Porters, Musicians, Policemen, Night Watchmen, Timekeepers, Labourers, Servants, &c., &c.

CENTRAL OFFICE: 12 Buckingham Street, Strand, London.

Detailed information as to the conditions of Service in the Army and Militia, and the advantages of the Army and Militia, will be supplied free on application at any Post Office or Barrack, or from any Sergeant-Instructor of Volunteers, or other Recruiter.

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LABOUR DEPARTMENT,

BOARD OF TRADE,

44, PARLIAMENT STREET, S.W.,

15th November 1894.

In the present number of the GAZETTE an account is given of some of the first preliminary results of the inquiry which is being conducted by the Labour Department of the Board of Trade into the question of Irregularity of Employment as affecting certain industries. The industry at present being investigated is the Engineering Trade, and the results published on page 336 are based on data contained in the Union "vacant" books, which have been kindly placed at the disposal of the Department. The Department would be glad to be assisted in their inquiries by the loan of similar books from other societies, where such books are in existence.

Attention is called to the circular reprinted on page 337, which is being sent by the Chief Librarian of the British Museum to the officials of Workmen's and Employers' Organisations, asking them to supply to the British Museum Library the periodical publications of their societies which are issued for circulation to their members.

In continuation of the articles which have appeared in the last five numbers of the GAZETTE with regard to the great coal dispute in Scotland, an account is given on page 335 of the termination of the dispute, which took place during October. The dispute had lasted seventeen weeks in Fife and East Scotland, and about fifteen weeks in the West of Scotland, where work had already been generally resumed before the issue of the last number of the LABOUR GAZETTE.

The Board of Trade desires to call the attention of employers to the Notice of Accidents Act, which came into operation on July 20th 1894, and applies to the whole of the United Kingdom. The main provisions of the Act and the classes of accidents to be reported under it to the Board of Trade were described in the LABOUR GAZETTE for August, page 247. On page 340 of the present number of the GAZETTE will be found an analysis of the accidents reported under the Act during the months of August, September and October.

An account of the recent introduction of the average 48 hours' week in the Royal Naval Ordnance Depôts is given on page 340, in continuation of the information contained in the February, March and July numbers of the GAZETTE with regard to similar changes in other establishments of the Admiralty and War Office.

The Report of the work of the Labour Department and Abstract of Labour Statistics, will be circulated in a few days. The price will be 9d., and the volume can be purchased through any bookseller.*

* Or from Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode, East Harding Street, Fleet Street, London, E.C., and 32 Abingdon Street, Westminster, S.W.; or Messrs. John Menzies & Co., 12 Hanover Street, Edinburgh, and 90 West Nile Street, Glasgow; or Messrs. Hodges, Figgis & Co., Limited, 104 Grafton Street, Dublin.

STATE OF EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER.*

I.—GENERAL SUMMARY.

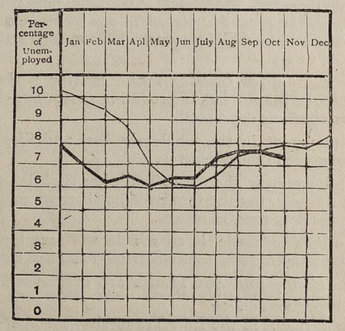
General Statistics of Employment.—So far as can be judged from the returns relating to employment received by the Department, a slight improvement has taken place in the condition of the labour market as a whole during the month of October. The effect on employment in several industries of the termination of the Scottish coal dispute is clearly perceptible.

Fifty-seven trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 358,507, have made returns to the Department showing the total number of unemployed members at the end of October to be 26,404, or 7·4 per cent., compared with 7·6 per cent. in the 53 unions from which returns were received for September. The percentage in all (32) societies making returns for October 1893 was 7·3 for October 1894. [The percentage for October 1893 for the 26 societies, which alone are included in the curve for 1893 in the chart, was 7·9.]

The following chart enables a comparison to be made with last year:—

Chart showing the percentage of unemployed members of the trade unions making returns at the close of each month of 1893, and of each month yet completed of 1894.

The thick line applies to 1894, *the thin line to* 1893.



Of the 57 trade unions making returns, 15 describe trade as "good," 17 as "moderate," and 25 as "bad."

Employment in Various Industries.—*Coal Mining.*—Returns received from the owners of 904 collieries, at which 239,959 workpeople were employed on the last pay day in October, show that in most districts there has been an improvement in the number of days worked. The average number of days on which coal was hewn and wound at the collieries covered by the returns was 4·97 days per week, as compared with 4·88 days in September and 4·63 in August.

Iron Mining.—The average number of days worked during October, according to the returns furnished by the owners of 26 iron mines in Cumberland and Lancashire employing 5,094 workpeople, was 5·93 per week. For September the figures were 5·96 days per week, and

* The reports on the state of employment refer strictly to the month of October and do not cover changes which have occurred since the end of that month.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—GENERAL SUMMARY.

for August 5·82. A report from Cleveland states that the ironstone miners continue fairly well employed.

Employment in the *Pig Iron* Trade appears to have improved. The number of furnaces in blast, owned by over three-fourths of the ironmasters in the United Kingdom, from whom returns have been received, shows a *net* increase of 22 as compared with the previous month, and an increase of 565 in the number of workpeople employed. The actual figures given by these employers for their works are 261 furnaces in blast with 17,592 workpeople in October, and 239 furnaces with 17,027 workpeople in September. A large part of the increase is accounted for by the termination of the coal dispute in Scotland.

The *Steel* Trade has continued to improve in most districts. In Scotland there has been a marked improvement following the ending of the coal dispute, few men remaining idle.

Though most branches of the *Engineering* and kindred Trades are still depressed, the proportion of unemployed members of unions connected with these trades has fallen from 9·8 to 9·5 per cent. since the end of September.

No improvement is observable in any branch of the *Shipbuilding* Trades, which continue depressed in most districts. The proportion of unemployed members of unions connected with these trades is rather higher than last month, having risen from 18·2 to 18·5 per cent.

Though fairly well employed as a rule for the time of year, the various branches of the *Building* Trades show a slight falling off; not, however, more than is accounted for by seasonal causes. The percentage of unemployed in the unions concerned has risen from 3·6 to 3·8.

The *Furnishing* and *Woodworking* Trades continue fairly busy on the whole. The proportion of unemployed in the unions connected with these trades has fallen from 4·7 to 4·6 per cent.

The improvement in the *Printing* and *Bookbinding* Trades reported in the last GAZETTE has been well maintained in most districts. The percentage of unemployed in unions making returns has consequently fallen from 6·5 to 5·1.

The ready-made *Clothing* Trade continues slack, but the bespoke branch has improved in most districts. The *Hatters* continue depressed.

Employment in the wholesale *Boot* and *Shoe* Trades is very quiet in most centres.

Employment in the *Cotton* Trade has slightly improved on the whole, but the improvement is more marked in some districts than in others.

The *Woollen* Trade is as a rule well employed, and the *Worsted* Trade in some districts has also improved.

The *Hosiery* and *Silk* Trades are on the whole only moderately employed.

Employment in the *Lace* Trade shows some signs of improvement.

The number of *Seamen* shipped at the principal ports during October shows a decrease of 5·5 per cent. as compared with the previous month, and of 6·5 per cent. as compared with October 1893. At nearly all ports the supply of seamen is reported to have been in excess of the demand.

The *Fishing* Industry, judged by the value of the catch, continues above the average for the time of year.

Dock and *Riverside* labourers have been fairly employed in London and most of the principal ports during the month.

Agricultural labourers have been fairly employed during October, owing to the heavy root crop.

Trade Disputes.—The number of new disputes reported during October shows a falling off compared with the previous month, 55 having been recorded, as compared with 69 in September, and 42 in October 1893. Seventeen of these 55 disputes occurred in connection with Mining, 13 in the Textile Trades, 6 each in the Shipbuilding and Clothing Trades, 4 in connection with Seafaring and Dock Labour, 3 each in the Building and Metal Trades, and the remaining 3 in miscellaneous industries.

No fresh disputes of great importance took place, but particulars received with respect to 49 of the 55 disputes show that 17,258 persons were involved. Eight new, and 39 old, disputes, involving together about 7,300 persons, were known to be still unsettled at the end of the month. Twenty-two old disputes, affecting about 31,000* persons, were brought to a settlement in October.

Changes in Wages and Hours of Labour.—During October 65 changes in wages and hours of labour have been reported to the Department, of which 48 were changes in wages and 17 changes in hours. The approximate number of persons directly affected by changes in wages was stated in 42 cases, and of these 27 were increases and 15 decreases, the numbers involved being about 11,500 and 10,000 respectively. The former number includes between 5,000 and 6,000 wrought nail makers in South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire, and the latter about 5,000 coal miners in Cumberland. Over 2,700 people were affected in the 17 cases of reduction of hours.

Pauperism.—The number of paupers per 10,000 of the population was 215 in October, as compared with 214 in September, a smaller seasonal increase than last year, when the figures rose from 213 to 217 in the corresponding period. The aggregate numbers relieved in the 35 selected urban districts on one day in the middle of the month were for October 315,277, and for September 313,070.

The following table, similar to those published in previous numbers, will be found useful for purposes of comparison.

Comparative Table showing the number of Paupers per 10,000 of Population in selected industrial districts on a given day in August, September and October of 1894 and 1893 respectively.

District.	1894.			1893.		
	August.	September	October.	August.	September	October.
Metropolis	227	226	231	218	225	232
West Ham	226	230	224	208	210	230
Other Districts† (England & Wales)	205	206	206	197	208	211
Scotland†	196	198	199	181	186	187
Ireland†	248	248	249	245	246	250
TOTAL (Selected Districts)	214	214	215	205	213	217

Emigration and Immigration.—The number (17,990) of British and Irish passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe shows an increase as compared with the figure (14,884) for October 1893. The number of alien immigrants arriving in this country again shows a slight increase compared with the corresponding period of last year, the figures being 5,836 for October 1894, and 5,660 for October 1893. This increase was, however, entirely in the number of aliens passing through on their way to America.

II.—EMPLOYMENT IN LONDON.

Employment in various Industries.—The *Shipbuilding*, *Engineering*, and *Metal* Trades continue depressed in all branches, with a downward tendency. Reports from 79 branches of 11 unions connected with these trades show that out of an aggregate membership of 13,143, 1,216 (or 9·3 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of October, compared with 8·1 per cent. for September. From November 3rd there will be no work in Woolwich Arsenal on Saturdays until further notice.

* About 40,000 of the Scottish miners who were reported to have resumed work by the end of September, are deducted from the 79,000 shown in Section II. Disputes Statement (page 347).

† Selected districts only.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—LONDON.

The *Building* Trades also show some falling off, due to seasonal causes, 148 branches of 4 unions with an aggregate membership of 11,027, returning 536 (or 4·9 per cent.) as unemployed, compared with 3·8 per cent. last month. The bricklayers, masons, and plasterers report trade as "moderate," the carpenters and joiners, plumbers and painters as "dull," especially the latter.

On the whole, the *Furnishing* and *Woodworking* Trades have maintained the slight improvement reported to have taken place during August and September. Returns from 26 branches of 9 unions, with an aggregate membership of 4,180, show that 267 (or 6·4 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 7 per cent. last month.

The improvement observable in some branches of the *Printing* and *Bookbinding* Trades in September has been well maintained during October. Fifteen unions, with an aggregate membership of 19,105, report that 886 (or 4·6 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 6·7 per cent. last month, and 7·7 per cent. in August.

The West-end *Clothing* Trade is reported to be "good," and the East-end "dull," both in the ready-made and bespoke branches. The *Hat* Trade is reported to be "very depressed." The hand sewn branches of the *Boot* and *Shoe* Trades are fairly well employed. The machine branch is still returned as "dull," a large number of operatives being only partially employed, but here and there a slight improvement is reported. As is usual at this season slipper making is active. Employment in the *Leather* Trades is described as "bad," with the exception of the brown saddle branch which is reported to be "good." The improvement in the *Tobacco* Trades has been maintained, and employment on best work is reported to be "good." Employment in the *Glass* Trade is depressed, some union members having been unemployed for a long period. In the *Pottery* Trades the moulders and finishers describe trade as "fair," about 5 per cent. being reported as wholly unemployed and about 6 per cent. partially so; the throwers are reported to be depressed, 25 per cent. being entirely unemployed and 10 per cent. on short time; the pipe makers are described as "busy." The number of *Seamen* shipped was about the same as in the previous month, and the supply continues to be in excess of the demand.

Dock and Waterside Employment.—The average number of dock labourers employed during October by all the dock companies in London, either directly or through contractors, shows an increase both compared with the previous month and with the corresponding period of last year. The figures for each week show that, on the whole, employment maintained about the same level throughout October, the fluctuations being much slighter than in September.

The total estimated number of dock labourers employed by all the Dock Companies in the Port of London for each week, is as follows:—

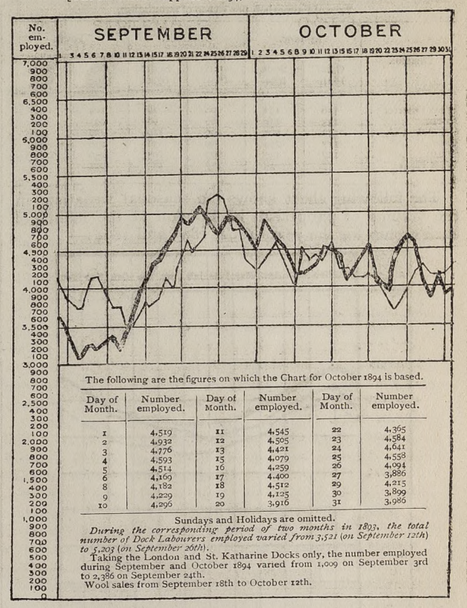
	Estimated average daily number of Dock Labourers engaged by the Dock Companies.		
	October, 1894.	October, 1893.	Increase in October, 1894.
1st week of October ...	7,195	6,848	347
2nd " " ...	7,113	6,775	338
3rd " " ...	7,140	6,666	474
4th " " ...	7,054	6,506	548
Average for October ...	7,126	6,699	427
Ditto for September ...	6,840	6,947	707†

Employment at the Surrey Commercial Docks is beginning to be affected by the gradual closing of the Black Sea ports. The Albert and Victoria Docks are reported to be slack, but a revival is expected when the Christmas cargoes begin to arrive. Work at Millwall has been steady. The daily fluctuations of work at the London and India group of docks is shown, as usual, in the following chart:—

† Decrease.

Chart showing the total number of Dock Labourers employed by the Joint Committee at the London, St. Katharine, East and West India, Victoria and Albert Docks, and the Town Warehouses, for each day during the months of September and October 1894. The corresponding curve for September and October 1893 is also given for comparison. Dock Labourers employed by Shipowners direct, Stevedores and Coal Porters are not included.

[The thick curve applies to 1894, and the thin curve to 1893.]



The following are the figures on which the Chart for October 1894 is based.

Day of Month.	Number employed.	Day of Month.	Number employed.	Day of Month.	Number employed.
1	4,519	11	4,545	22	4,365
2	4,932	12	4,595	23	4,584
3	4,776	13	4,421	24	4,641
4	4,593	15	4,079	25	4,558
5	4,514	16	4,259	26	4,094
6	4,169	17	4,400	27	3,886
8	4,182	18	4,512	29	4,215
9	4,229	19	4,125	30	3,899
10	4,296	20	3,916	31	3,986

Sundays and Holidays are omitted.

During the corresponding period of two months in 1893, the total number of Dock Labourers employed varied from 3,521 (on September 12th) to 5,203 (on September 26th).

Taking the London and St. Katharine Docks only, the number employed during September and October 1894 varied from 1,009 on September 3rd to 2,386 on September 24th.

Wool sales from September 18th to October 12th.

Wharves.—Taking the whole of the month, employment in Thames Street has been bad, there having been a diversion of some ships, which formerly discharged here, to other parts of the port. At the end of the month, however, there was the usual seasonal revival of work, owing to the beginning of the Christmas fruit trade. Employment has been steady at the Wapping wharves, while the wharves on the south side of the river have been generally quiet.

Labour Bureaux.—The four Labour Bureaux making returns, registered during October 1,470 fresh applications from workpeople and 314 from employers, as compared with 1,133 applications from workpeople and 350 from employers, in September. The number who found work through the Bureaux in October was 400, or five less than in the preceding month.

Disputes and Trade Movements.—Three fresh disputes are reported as having arisen during the month—one involving 300 fruit porters, which was settled in a few days by an agreement between the wharf manager and the Dockers' Union; another involving 40 compositors, who were replaced by non-unionists; and a third in the Building Trade. The last dispute turned on the question of the employment of non-federated plasterers, who are now stated to have been withdrawn from the job.

The Central Association of Master Builders in London, has given a six months' notice to the principal Building Trade Unions to terminate the existing rules, with a view to their amendment. (For details see page 336).

Pauperism.—The proportion of paupers in London on one day in the middle of October was higher than in the previous month, the rates per 10,000 of population being 231 and 226 respectively. It was, however, slightly less than in October 1893, when the rate was 232 per 10,000. In West Ham the rate per 10,000 last month was 224, as compared with 230 in the previous

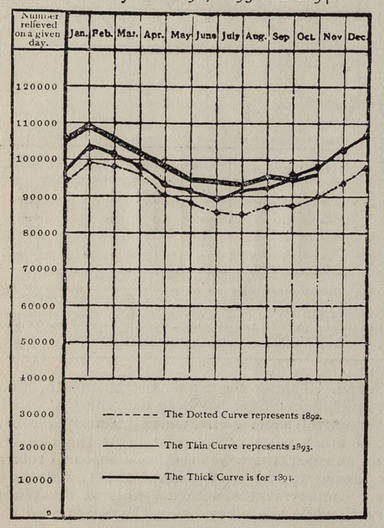
EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—PROVINCIAL REPORTS.

month, and 230 in October 1893. The table below gives the proportion of paupers to population in the different districts of London, and in West Ham on the last day of the second week in September and October 1894, respectively.

Rate of Pauperism per 10,000 of population.

District.	In-door.		Out-door.		Total.	
	Oct. 1894.	Sept. 1894.	Oct. 1894.	Sept. 1894.	Oct. 1894.	Sept. 1894.
West District ...	136	132	28	26	164	158
North " ...	133	130	88	90	221	220
Central " ...	282	268	140	140	422	408
East " ...	177	174	59	58	236	232
South " ...	127	125	109	105	236	230
West Ham ...	47	45	177	185	224	230

The following chart shows the seasonal variations in the volume of pauperism in London at the middle of each month for the years 1892, 1893 and 1894:—



The above figures and chart relate to one day in the second week of the month. Later returns show that the rate per 10,000 of population had increased from 231 in the second week to 234 and 237 in the third and fourth weeks. The number of vagrants relieved on one day had also increased from 1,067 in the second week to 1,246 in the third week and 1,279 in the fourth week of October.

III.—PROVINCIAL REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.*

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Tyne and Wear District.

Coal Mining.—Durham.—The Coal Trade remains fairly brisk; pits generally are reported as working steadily during the month. One large colliery, however, has been laid idle two days through a dispute relating to "putters," involving 2,000 men and boys. The number of unemployed miners is 478, or a percentage of 0·8 as against 1·1 in September. *Northumberland.*—The colliers have worked almost full time during the month. All union members are fully employed, except 12 in receipt of stoppage pay. The conciliation board accountants' certificate showed an increase of price of less than 2d. a ton; it was held that this did not justify a change in wages.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—On the Tyne.—The slight improvement noticed last month seems to be maintained, although several of the yards are still quiet, one or two employing much less than their usual complement of men. Employment in the engine shops is somewhat better, particularly on repairs and special work; at Elswick three or four shops in the ordnance department are busy, and there is a further decrease of unemployed of over 3 per cent. of the membership. There are 2,090 boiler-makers, shipbuilders and engineers in Unions still unemployed, or 20 per cent., as against 22·2 in September. *On the Wear.*—Shipbuilding operations continue fairly good. Two or three large yards are now employing nearly their full complement of men. Engineering firms are moderately busy. The total number of unemployed engineers, shipbuilders, and boiler-makers in the Unions is 795, or 19·2 as against 29 per cent. in September. Forge smiths are fairly employed. Dry dock and outside work is slack; one firm has discharged 60 men. On both rivers the percentage of unemployed joiners is 7·7; of pattern-makers, about 11; of iron moulders, 19. Employment in the local iron and steel industries is generally good, with the exception of one large angle-bar mill, which has been standing one week.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Coal porters and general riverside labourers report employment as not so good. The demand for sea-going men in the lower reaches of the Tyne continues to decline, a large amount of tonnage being laid up. Wherrymen are but moderately employed.

Building Trades.—Four or five contract jobs are reported as being at a standstill for want of material, and 11·4 per cent. of bricklayers are unemployed. The masons continue busy, every member being employed. The plasterers report trade as bad, and the joiners as moderate.

Miscellaneous.—The pressed-glass makers report trade as fairly good, another furnace being in operation on the Tyne, but 10 per cent. are unemployed and 5 per cent. on short time. The Bottle Trade continues bad. Chemical factories are dull; fuller time is worked, but with fewer men. White lead and cement industries are moderately employed. Coopers are slack, especially in the Brewery Trade. The Durham Coke Trade continues good. Lime and stone-quarry men are well employed. The paper makers, bookbinders, and printers report improvement, the latter having a percentage of 6·2 unemployed, as against 8·8 in September.

J. Ratcliffe.

Oldham and District.

Cotton Trade.—The Cotton Trade has slightly improved, and several mills closed in September on account of bad trade have started work again. The Oldham spinners report 3·5 per cent. of their members in receipt of out-of-work benefit, as compared with 7·8 per cent. in September. In Mossley, Ashton, and Stockport, there is little improvement, and a large number of the operatives are still out of employment. The weaving branch is unsatisfactory, and many looms are idle for want of warps. Reelers and twiners are still only partially employed.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—These trades have not improved. The engine fitters, turners, general fitters, boiler makers, and mule-spindle makers are slack. Trade in the machine shops is dull, except in the ring frame and throstle departments, where workmen are fully employed.

Building Trades.—The plumbers are moderately employed, but the painters are slack, and so are the other sections of the Building Trades, with the exception of plasterers.

Miscellaneous. — Skip-makers, tailors, brush-makers, printers, cabinet-makers and coal miners are not fully employed, and the other miscellaneous trades are quiet.—*T. Ashton.*

Bolton and District.

Textile Trades.—Some slight improvement has been experienced in the Cotton Trade, and short time is not so prevalent, very few spindles now being entirely stopped.

Iron and Engineering Trades.—In these trades improvement s observable, but the number of men out of work is still abnormal.

Coal Trade.—The pits are working longer and more regular hours. Disputes continue to crop up, but these are usually settled between the union officials and the firms affected.

Building Trades.—Employment is becoming more difficult o obtain, but these trades are fairly steady for the season.

J. T. Fielding.

Burnley, Accrington and District.

Cotton Trade.—The Cotton Weaving Industry has shown an improvement, especially in the increased number of looms working. In the Coarse Goods Trade there is a decided improvement; at one mill overtime is being worked. The Coloured Goods Trade is n a

* When it is stated in these reports that "*the* carpenters," "*the* plumbers," &c., make certain reports, reference is usually made to the Unions connected with hese trades, unless it is otherwise specified.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—PROVINCIAL REPORTS (*continued*).

languid condition, a number of looms being stopped for warps. In the Rossendale district one firm, closed for some years, is being re-opened. Taking the whole of the district, few weavers are totally unemployed. A joint committee of employers and employed have drawn up a uniform list of prices for weaving stave work, but it is not yet in operation.

Building Trades.—These trades show a decline. The joiners report work as moderate for the season, the plumbers report it as steady; the painters are fairly well employed.

Miscellaneous.—The Iron and Machine Trades show an improvement, with fewer unemployed. The Coal Industry is still quiet. The Clothing Trades have a larger percentage of partially unemployed. The Letterpress Printing Trade has been good, consequent on the work required during the elections. The tinplate workers and the Calico Printing and Dyeing Trades are moderately employed.—*W. H. Wilkinson.*

Manchester and District.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—In the Engineering Trade work is slack, the number unemployed being about the same as in September. The brass founders are also slack, and trade in Warrington, Northwich and Stockport is in the same condition. Wire-drawing shows no change.

Textile Trades.—The Cotton Trade shows little change. In Warrington it is not quite so good, whilst in Macclesfield and Stockport it is about the same. In Manchester there are fewer spinners unemployed than in September. The Silk Trade continues to improve, and hand-loom weavers are better employed than for some time. At Bollington the Cotton Trade is fairly good, whilst bleachers and print-workers are in full swing.

Building Trades.—These trades remain moderate throughout Manchester, Warrington, Northwich and Macclesfield, although declining in some places; but the plasterers and plumbers report it as good. The bricklayers and joiners report trade as moderate, the number unemployed in the latter branch having increased.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Trade remains practically the same as last month, with no change in the numbers out of employment.

Clothing Trades.—The Tailoring and Wholesale Clothing Trades are moderate with fewer unemployed. Mantle makers are busy in the ready-made trade. Shirt-makers, both at Manchester and Macclesfield, are fairly well employed. Cap-making is moderate, but the shipping houses have some fair orders. No improvement is felt in the Umbrella Trade either in the home or export branches. Waterproof garment-making is good, but there is not quite so much overtime worked just now. The Felt-hat Trade is bad at present, and the number unemployed has considerably increased.

Miscellaneous.—A slight improvement in trade is found amongst dressers, dyers, finishers, and bleachers. At Macclesfield silk dyers are well employed; fustian cutters are also busy. Coach-making, except at the railway works, is bad, and the number of unemployed has increased.—*G. D. Kelley.*

Liverpool and District.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—Employment of shipmen and quay porters along the line of docks has been slack, particularly towards the close of the month. Coal porters are only moderately employed, partly owing to the withdrawal of a line of steamships from the North Atlantic carrying trade, and to the decline in passenger traffic. Mersey flatmen are quiet, and Upper Mersey watermen report no change.

Seamen and Firemen.—Employment among seamen and firemen shows a slight decrease at the close of the month, owing to the withdrawal of several ships from the Atlantic trade. No change in wages is reported.

Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades.—Employment remains much about the same, a large number of boiler-makers and riveters being unemployed. Metal planers, brass finishers, and moulders report no change.

Metal Trades.—There is a slight improvement in the Tin-plate Trade, but the whitesmiths report no change.

Building Trades.—The carpenters and joiners, plasterers and plasterers' labourers report employment as quiet. The bricklayers report a slight decline, about 3 per cent. being unemployed in the whole of the district embracing Prescot and St. Helens.

Glass and Chemical Trades.—These trades are depressed in almost every department in St. Helens, largely owing to the stoppage of two plate-glass works reported last month. This stoppage has considerably affected all other branches of industry. A further displacement of over 300 men is reported this month. In another large glass-manufacturing firm, a reduction of 10 per cent. in wages, by which at least 3,000 men are affected, takes effect from November 1st The chemical and copper works show no change.

Miscellaneous.—Cross traffic is affected largely by the slackness of work at the docks. The Tailoring Trade shows a slight improvement. Tobacco-workers are reported as being almost fully employed. General labourersare only moderately employed.

J. Sexton.

A report from *Winsford* states that the Salt Trade has been greatly depressed, and large stocks remain unshipped. The bricklayers, joiners and painters report a decline in employment. The fustian cutters report plenty of work at low rates of pay. The Chemical Trade at Middlewich is still depressed, with many unemployed.

Barrow-in-Furness District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding. — Marine engineering shows no change, about 7 per cent. being out of employment. The shipbuilders are not busy; several iron-workers are unemployed; the ship carpenters are slack. Employment in other branches of engineering is still declining, and a large number are under notice to leave.

Iron and Steel Trades.—The Pig-iron Trade continues depressed. The steel-workers are slack; there are some small orders for ship plates and tin bars in hand, but no demand for steel rails and similar plant.

Coal and Iron Mining.—The coal miners are not so busy, and a number are out of work; some are unsettled owing to the wage question. Iron miners are only moderately employed.

Shipping and Railways.—Shipping at the Barrow Docks has been slack, but at Whitehaven fairly busy, both in imports and exports. Railway traffic has shown little or no improvement, and the workshops are still on short time.

Building Trades.—These trades are now slack, and the few contracts on hand have been delayed by the weather. The carpenters and joiners and painters have a number of unemployed, and employment in the other branches is dull.

Miscellaneous.—The Tailoring Trade is still dull. The Printing Trade is very bad, several being on short time. Paper and pulp workers are busy, but jute workers are slack. The Baking and Confectionery Trade is only moderate. The wagon building works are still closed.—*J. D. Cowper.*

Middlesbrough, Stockton and District.

Shipbuilding. — Trade has improved during the month, but principally on orders delayed through the moulders' and pattern-makers' disputes. The principal firm at Middlesbrough is exceedingly busy; the other two are nearly idle, except for some repairing work. At Thornaby and Stockton all the yards but one are going, and most of the berths are occupied, but a considerable number of men are still unemployed. At Hartlepool work is irregular, about 25 per cent. being unemployed. The yard at Whitby has again been opened. The shipyard joiners report trade as still fairly good throughout the district, with few unemployed.

Engineering.—As in shipbuilding, the percentage of unemployed in parts of the district has been reduced, but it is principally for old orders, and trade generally is reported as quiet. Darlington shows an increase in the number of unemployed, the percentage being 12·5, as against 10·0 in September. Middlesbrough shows no change. In Stockton the percentage has gone down to 10·0. At Hartlepool it is about 8 per cent. The moulders' report shows 15 per cent. at Stockton, and over 25 per cent. at the Hartlepools, as still unemployed, and trade as slack at Middlesbrough. The iron-dressers report trade as fairly good, except at Middlesbrough.

Iron and Steel Trades.—The Pig-iron Trade remains unchanged. Bridge works, with the exception of one at Middlesbrough, are slack; foundries also are quiet. Finished iron and steel works are reported as dull in most departments, but at two works at Middlesbrough and one at South Bank employment coatinues fairly good. The large steel works at Darlington, which employed 800 men, have now been definitely closed, and relief works have been started by the Poor Law authorities and others to relieve the existing distress.

Ironstone Mining.—The ironstone miners in Cleveland continue fairly well employed.

Building Trades.—These are declining, but most departments report trade as fair, except the labourers, who are only moderately employed. The house-painters are slack.

Miscellaneous.—The sailors and firemen, riverside and dock labourers continue quiet. At Hartlepool, the saw-millers are fairly

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—PROVINCIAL REPORTS (*continued*).

well employed. There is a considerable improvement in the Printing Trade, especially at the Hartlepools where it is brisk, with some out of work. The Salt Trade continues good.—*A. Main.*

Leeds and District.

Metal Trades.—The Engineering Trade continues to improve with 100 fewer unemployed. The steel-workers and boiler-makers have improved, the latter having 4 per cent. unemployed. The ironfounders are still slack, with many only partially employed, but with fewer actually out of work. The stove-grate workers, whitesmiths and locksmiths are fairly employed; the machine-workers are slack. At Wakefield the Engineering Trade is quiet, and men are still working alternate weeks. At Stanningley ironfounding has fallen off considerably, and the wrought-iron bridge department is exceptionally slack.

Mining.—Trade has shown an improvement at the pits in the Leeds district. At Waterloo Main five days per week have been worked, at Newhall and Middleton about three and a half, at Morley not more than three days; at Wakefield a day a week less has been worked; at one colliery a little over two days is the average.

Textile Trades.—The willeyers and fettlers report that trade is improving, with fewer out of work than has been the case for nearly two years; in the felting branch trade is dull. Cloth and wool dyers are better employed; stuff dyers are still on very short time. At Yeadon most mills are slack, and one mill has been stopped.

Clothing Trades.—The Boot and Shoe Industry varies considerably at the workshops, some being well employed, and even working overtime, others working short time. The ready-made Clothing Trade is quiet, and the number of unemployed has largely increased, this being usually the slack season. Bespoke tailoring is fair.

Leather Trades.—The tanners are slack, and the percentage unemployed has increased to 8. The leather shavers have improved.

Building Trades.—The joiners, bricklayers and plasterers have a low percentage of unemployed; the painters are very slack. At Morley all the Building Trades are fairly employed.

Miscellaneous.—In the Glass Bottle Industry, both medical and general branches are slack. Coach-making, cabinet-making and brush-making are slack. Cardboard box-making is fair. Lithographers are busy. The Letterpress Printing Trade has shown a slight improvement.—*O. Connellan.*

A report from *Castleford* states that there is little change in the Coal Trade of the district, four and five days being worked at the majority of mines. The Glass Trade is depressed, the majority being out of work owing to the failure of a large firm. The Pottery Trade remains fairly busy, and the brickyards and Building Trades are also fairly well employed.

Bradford, Huddersfield and District.

Textile Trades.—The Woollen Trade in and around Huddersfield has considerably improved, and is rapidly recovering from the long depression which has existed. The Heavy Woollen Trade round Dewsbury and Batley is also improving; a number of mills are working overtime, but a few are slack. The Worsted Trade is not so busy in Huddersfield as the Woollen Trade, but shows a slight improvement; in Bradford, however, the trade is reported as bad; in the Haworth Valley it is a little better; in Halifax it has not improved. The Cotton Trade in the district is no better than in September, although one or two firms are working overtime. The Silk Trade remains unchanged.

Metal Trades.—The metal trades in Bradford, Halifax, Huddersfield and Keighley are still depressed. In Huddersfield 12 out of 80 ironfounders, and 14 out of 180 engineers, are receiving out-of-work pay. The brass-workers and boiler-makers are not busy. The Wire Trade shows no change.

Miscellaneous.—Joiners, cabinet-makers, warehousemen, tailors, masons, printers in all branches, report trade as quiet; the dyers as fairly good, only 4 out of 600 in the Huddersfield branch being entirely out of work, and none at Bradford and Barnsley.—*A. Gee.*

Yorkshire Mining Districts (except Cleveland).

Coal Mining.—Some of the collieries are working one day per week longer; others are filling up stocks, and not working much more than last month. The union "contingent fund," for men out of work through no fault of their own, was abolished on and from the 22nd October, as it was considered that such men would now be able to get work. The topmen at various collieries have set the pits down for a day or two. This method of procedure has considerably annoyed the miners working in the pits at these particular collieries, causing them to play. The Council of the Yorkshire Miners' Association has decided that any member working on the top who sets down the colliery without the sanction of the Association shall forfeit membership. The boys are demanding a scale of wages, raising the standard rate for a boy on first entering the pit, and fixing periods at which his wages shall afterwards be raised. The question will ultimately be submitted to a joint meeting of owners and men. The enginemen and boilermen have met the owners, and it has been agreed that the men at each colliery meet the management and endeavour to settle the wages question amicably.

Glass Bottle Trade.—The employers are now seeking a reduction of 3s. per week off ordinary work, and a further reduction of 25 per cent. off extra work. The men have offered to give the owners 25 per cent. off extra work; this the employers consider insufficient. The lads appear to be objecting to any reduction whatever.

J. Wadsworth.

Sheffield and District.

Iron and Steel Industries.—There is a large output in the armour-plate departments, but the number of workmen employed under the new process is considerably less than under the composite system. The change affects chiefly the mould and rolling mills, where many of the men are not making more than a couple of turns per week, and some even less. Hydraulic pressmen are working full time; the Siemens steel furnaces are working well, the smelters reporting few men short of employment. Bessemer steel for billets is in better demand, but in shot and shell there is practically no work. Improvement is reported on boiler flues, patent tubes for marine purposes, and steel ship-plates. The iron and steel founders report trade as slightly better, about 12 per cent. being out of work, and a similar number on short time. In light castings a fair amount of work is being done. The makers of merchant iron are rather slacker, with 5 per cent. unemployed. The boiler-makers, although better employed, still have 7 per cent. out of work. The axle and tyre-makers engaged on rolling stock for the Indian market are doing better. The railway spring fitters have still about 5 per cent. unemployed. The wire drawers report trade as better, less than 1 per cent. being unemployed. Several makers report an improved demand in best crucible cast steel for cutlery, axles, drills, and machine knives. The engineers report trade as still bad, 8 per cent. being out of employment. At Renishaw and at Chesterfield the ironfounders are moderately employed. At Rotherham the ironfounders report trade as bad, but with this exception, the Iron Trade has improved; the Steel Trade is fair; the Brass Trade is quiet. At Parkgate the men are on short time.

Cutlery and Tools.—There is a decided improvement in the Table Cutlery Trade, especially in best qualities. The spring knife cutlers are also better employed. The scissor-makers report trade as better, and at several firms there is a decided improvement in the Razor Trade. Employment is quiet in edge tools, and bad in engineers' tools. The Wool Shear Trade is indifferent. The Saw Trade has improved, only about 2 per cent. being idle. Steel spade and shovel makers are quiet. The silversmiths report trade as depressed, with about 5 per cent. out of work, but with improving prospects.

Building Trades.—These trades are fairly well employed, with the exception of the painters.

Miscellaneous.—The railway-carriage builders are well employed. Cabinet-makers report trade as bad in best qualities, and unchanged in common work, 3 per cent. being out of work. Letterpress printers are rather better employed, with 5 per cent. unemployed. The bookbinders are fairly well employed. At Chesterfield men are finding employment on the new railway works. At Rotherham the potters report improvement.—*S. Uttley.*

Hull and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Employment in the Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades has been slack. The Engineering Trades have about 7½ per cent. unemployed, an increase on September. The boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders report fewer unemployed. The shipwrights have 15 to 20 per cent. unemployed; the brass finishers and moulders have been slack. The smiths report declining trade, with 15 per cent. unemployed. The machine men are slack. The pattern-makers have improved. From 25 to 30 per cent. of the unskilled labourers usually employed at the engineering and shipbuilding yards are reported as unemployed. In Grimsby and Goole trade is only moderate; in Doncaster it is normal.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment for both seamen and dock labour has been moderate. The lumpers and deal carriers, the coal porters, tip-hoist and crane men, have been fairly well employed.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—PROVINCIAL REPORTS (*continued*).

Employment for river, canal, and lightermen has slightly improved. Employment at both Grimsby and Goole has been fair, especially on imported timber cargoes and in the exportation of coal.

Fishing Industry.—The fishing vessels are settling down to their winter work. The sailing vessels are making shorter excursions, and the bulk of the steam-trawlers are now making their customary winter voyages. The season for imported herrings is commencing. Employment in the fishing industry has been moderate. The bulk of the men who work at the fish pontoons and in refitting the vessels are casually employed.

Seed-crushing, Oil, Paint, and Varnish Trades.—The Seed-crushing Trade continues to improve. The demand for linseed cake is steady. Some mills have been stopped for want of cotton seed. Employment in the colour mills is moderate, and a few men have been discharged.

Building Trades.—Employment is not so brisk. The bricklayers, masons, plasterers and slaters have a small number unemployed. The bricklayers report 1½ per cent. out of work. The joiners, on account of the depression in the shipyards, have 9 per cent. unemployed, an increase on September. The Painting Trade is bad, a large percentage being reported as unemployed.

Miscellaneous.—The Printing Trades have been well employed. The coopers have 4 per cent. unemployed, as against 5 per cent. in September. The sailmakers have 41 per cent. unemployed. The general trade of the district is quiet.—*W. G. Millington.*

Wolverhampton and District.

Iron and Engineering Trades.—The Iron Trade shows no change. Work is still scarce amongst the engineers and constructive machinists, and about 7 per cent. are unemployed. The improvement amongst the iron safe and door-makers has been maintained. The tank and boiler-makers, bridge and girder constructors, and gasometer erectors are busy, and the men at the railway works are fully employed. The steel-workers remain busy, but the tool-makers and machinists report a decline. There is no alteration amongst the heavy ironfounders.

Hardware Trades.—The hand-made Nut and Bolt and the Lock Trades continue depressed. The latter continues very low; more men are out of work and shorter time is being worked than last month. The spring-trap workers are now working full time. In the Tin-plate Trade short time is general. The Iron-plate Trade shows a slight improvement, as do the export branches of the Brass and Copper Trades. The Cycle, Vice, Anvil, Fender, Galvanising, Japanning and Enamelling Trades have improved; the Electrical Trades are busy. There has been a decline in the Edge Tool and Agricultural Implement Trades. The fire-iron makers, iron-moulders, hollow-ware casters, file smiths, tube workers, gun-lock filers, cut-nail, tack, and steel-toy makers, are slack. Makers of latches, hinges, coach-builders' and builders' ironmongery, and railway fittings, are moderately employed. There is no material improvement amongst the cable and small-chain makers. The saddlery industry in Walsall has slightly improved in the home trade branch. The Bridle Bit Trade is fairly good.

Building Trades.—The masons, carpenters, plasterers and general labourers are fully employed. The bricklayers and labourers, tilers and slaters moderately so; the plumbers are busier; the painters and decorators are rather slack; the brickmakers, mill-sawyers and machinists are fairly busy, some of the latter working overtime. Fire-brick makers still continue slack. Taking the returns for the four counties of Staffordshire, Shropshire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire (exclusive of Birmingham), the average of the unemployed in the Building Trades is about 2 per cent., but amongst the carpenters alone slightly over 1 per cent.

Miscellaneous.—The boot and shoe makers are slack. The printers were busy at the end of the month. The tailors are moderately busy. There is no improvement amongst the dry cask coopers, packing case or crate makers, furniture or cabinet makers. Bakers and confectioners are busy. Railway men and canal boatmen are busier, carters are steadier, wheelwrights and smiths are slack, coachbuilding has somewhat revived; oil, colour and varnish makers, and rope and twine spinners, are well employed; gas stokers are busy; cart sheet and tent-makers are not doing so much. At Kidderminster a slight improvement is recorded in the Brussels and Tapestry Trade. Weavers of Axminster rugs are fairly busy, and worsted spinners are fully employed. A slight improvement in the Glass Trade is reported from Dudley, but in the Wordsley and Stourbridge district one furnace has been stopped. Fire brick makers in these districts are rather slack.—*W. F. Mee.*

Birmingham and District.

Brass and Copper Workers.—The Brass Trade is now fairly busy, the season demand having suddenly improved. The out-of-work pay is lighter than for the last 18 months. Plumbers' brass-workers are slack. Coppersmiths' work has slightly improved. Lamp makers are a little busier.

Bedstead Workers.—The home trade is busiest, but all are on short time. Forty society men are out of employment.

Engineers and Metal Workers.—Engineers, tool-makers and machinists report trade as slack, but improving. At one place overtime is being worked, but at others only ordinary time. None are reported as making short time, and an average number are out of employment. Pattern-makers report a falling off. Safe-makers are on short time, with many unemployed, and one firm closed. Cycle-workers are but partially employed. File-cutters are working four days a week, and 8 per cent. are unemployed. Railway carriage and wagon-workers report trade as quiet in all branches. Two coach-building shops are busy, the rest dull. Sporting gun work is below the average, but the small arms and ammunition factories are busy. Ironfounders report continued depression, though fewer are on the funds. Ironplate workers also report bad trade, only four days a week being worked. Japanners are fairly employed. Tin-plate workers have slightly improved, but many are working short time, and there are 100 unemployed.

Jewellers, Silversmiths, and Electro-Platers.—The jewellers report trade as improving, with no unemployed, and a few working overtime. Silversmiths and electro-plate workers are fairly occupied. The Spoon and Fork Trade is better, 15 per cent. being on short time, and 10 per cent. unemployed.

Other Trades in Birmingham.—The Building Trades are reported as quiet. The bricklayers are busiest, and carpenters slackest, but the latter have only 3 per cent. unemployed. Cabinet-makers are fairly busy. Packing-case makers are slack, with 12 per cent. unemployed. Glassblowers are still on short time, with many unemployed. Glass-bevellers and silverers report trade as good. Button-workers are fairly busy. Wiredrawers are slack, wireworkers are fairly busy. Brushmaking is slightly improving, with 10 per cent. unemployed. Saddlers and harness-makers have 10 per cent. unemployed.

Iron Trade in South Staffordshire.—The trade shows no change. The blast furnaces at Congreave's are being re-started, but they will only give employment to few out of the number thrown out by the stoppage of these works.

Mining.—Some difficulties which arose between employers and workers as to what precisely constituted a drop of 10 per cent., according to the varied systems of payment, are all now practically settled.

Other Trades in South Staffordshire.—In all principal features the general state of this district's industry remains unchanged. There will be good employment at some places for several months on Government orders, and on newly-placed contracts for railway ironwork. The brick workers will also have two or three years' employment, on account of new railway extensions and the Birmingham water scheme. Chain workers are still in a distressed condition. The nailers have succeeded in getting an advance of about 12½ per cent.—*W. J. Davis.*

A report from *Coventry* and *South Warwickshire* states that the Coal Trade is not busy, but three new pits are being sunk. The quarries are making full time. The Building Trade is quiet. The brick, tile, sanitary pipe, and terra cotta works have been on full time. The Hat Trade is unsatisfactory. The Watch and Ribbon Industries are depressed. The trimming, plush, velvet, woollen, and hosiery trades are fairly well employed. In the Cycle Trade some branches are active, and a few firms are fairly busy preparing for the pattern and show-room department; one or two houses are making parts which are sent to other districts. The supply of labour in all trades is plentiful, but few are altogether unemployed.

Potteries District.

Pottery Trades.—A marked improvement has set in, mainly due to increased American trade, and at many important manufactories full time is being worked. The hollow-ware pressers report a slight improvement in the general trade, with about 2 per cent. unemployed, 4¾ days per week being the average worked. The sanitary pressers report no improvement, 4 days per week being worked. The printers and transferrers, the ovenmen and firemen, report improvement. The flat-pressers report no change. The Women's Union report a decided improvement at Hanley and also at Tunstall, about 2 per cent. being unemployed. The cratemakers report

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—PROVINCIAL REPORTS (*continued*).

trade as not quite so good, 2 per cent. being unemployed, and 5 days the average time worked.

Metal Trades.—In the Iron Trade the depression is still acutely felt. The Steel Trade is moderately brisk. The Coal Trade is dull. At Kidsgrove, owing to a gob fire at one of the collieries, 200 men and boys are thrown out of employment. The engineers, ironfounders and boiler-makers in the Stoke district report an improvement in the general shops, but a decline at the railway works. In the northern part of the district trade is not quite so good, 5 per cent. being out of work. At Crewe all are still on short time, about 3½ per cent. being unemployed. At Stafford no change is reported; at Congleton trade remains bad.

Textile Trades.—The trimming weavers and general silk workers at Leek report no improvement. At most of the mills short time prevails, and disputes are constantly arising owing to the introduction of female labour in silk weaving. At Congleton silk dressers are generally working short time. The throwers report a slight improvement. The trimming weavers report 5 per cent. unemployed. The Fustian Trade at Congleton and Biddulph is slightly improving, while at Sandbach a mill, which has been standing idle for a considerable time, will shortly be re-opened.

Building Trades.—In the Potteries the bricklayers are slack, with 10 per cent. unemployed; the carpenters and joiners are fairly well employed, with 1 per cent. out of work, but non-union men show a much larger proportion. At Leek 2 per cent. are unemployed. The stonemasons at Leek are also working very little. The builders' labourers throughout the district report great slackness, with from 10 to 20 per cent. unemployed. The painters in the Potteries report trade as quiet, with 5 per cent. out of work; the plumbers at Crewe as slack, but with no unemployed.

Printing and Kindred Trades.—In the Potteries the improvement in the letterpress branch has been well maintained, but at Stafford 6 per cent. are unemployed. The lithographic artists and printers report no change.

Miscellaneous.—The Enginemen and stokers report no change; the bakers report trade as slack, with 8 per cent. out of work. The tailors in the Potteries report an improvement; at Stafford trade is dull, but with no unemployed; at Crewe it is slightly better. The railway servants are only moderately employed. Wood sawyers and machinists report an improvement. At Stafford the Boot and Shoe Trade is quiet, but has improved. At Stone no change is reported.—*I. S. Harvey.*

Nottingham and District.

Lace Trade.—The return of the unemployed for the Lace Trade is about 12½ per cent. The plain net branch is busy, but the levers and curtain branches are rather quiet. The warp lace branch again reports 6 per cent. unemployed. The warpers are partially employed, and have 5 per cent. out of work. The designers and draughtsmen report no unemployed and trade slightly brisker. The curtain readers and correctors are depressed. Threaders, winders and menders in plain net branches are very busy, but many in the levers and curtain branches are not fully occupied. The female operatives in the finishing departments report a slight improvement, with about 5 per cent. unemployed. Lace dressers and finishers report trade a little better, but many firms are only working four days per week. The bleachers report a slight improvement. The dyers have a great number unemployed. Trade in Kimberley, Beeston and Stapleford remains about the same. At Bulwell lace dressers are slightly brisker.

Hosiery Trade.—The rotary-power framework knitters report trade as bad. In the circular hosiery many are working only two and three days per week. The ribbed top branch report a decided improvement. Griswold knitters are fairly well employed, but female labour is not fully occupied. The hand-frame branch reports trade as bad. At Mansfield and Sutton the power machine operatives report trade as moderate in common goods. The hand-frame branch at Sutton-in-Ashfield and Kirkby reports trade as bad, quite 30 per cent. being unemployed. Reports from Carlton, Hucknall and Arnold confirm the depression in the hand-frame branch. At Hucknall the Shetland shawl and wool trades find operatives fairly good employment.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—The engineers report trade as bad, with 12 per cent. unemployed; the steam-engine makers have still 8 per cent. idle; the boiler-makers, 25 per cent.; the iron-dressers, 6 per cent.; the tool machinists, 20 per cent; the iron-founders, 23 per cent.; the bobbin and carriage makers, 8 per cent., an improvement on September; the brass workers, 8 per cent. The engineers and boiler-makers at Newark report trade as moderate, but with only 4 per cent. on the funds. At Mansfield iron-founders are fairly well employed, with about 4 per cent. unemployed. The engineers and fitters are slack, but have none idle. At Retford the iron-founders report trade as bad. The Cycle Trade is not brisk. Lace machine building is moderate, but hosiery machinists slack. Stove-grate fitters are rather slack.

Building Trades.—The carpenters and joiners report a slight improvement. The stonemasons are fairly busy, bricklayers are well employed The painters report trade as bad, and the plumbers as rather bad, with about 7 per cent. unemployed. Mill sawyers report about 4 per cent. unemployed. Plasterers and builders' labourers are fairly busy. The cabinet-makers report trade as quiet but with no unemployed.

Coal Mining.—Trade is fairly good, and many pits are now working full time.

Railway Works.—Employment continues good at Worksop, Mansfield and Retford. At Toton sidings work is brisk in all grades. At Colwick work is good in engine shops and also in sidings.

Miscellaneous.—Lithographic printers report a decided improvement, with hardly 2 per cent. unemployed. Bookbinders are fairly busy. Letterpress printers report no change. Tailors report trade as quiet; boot and shoe workers as declining; the wheelwrights and leather dressers as fairly good; the gasworkers and boxmakers as improving; the French polishers, upholsterers, farriers, elastic bandage makers and silk dressers as quiet; the bakers as declining; the cotton doublers as slack, and the coachmakers as bad.

W. L. Hardstaff.

Derbyshire District.

Coal Mining and Quarrying.—A slight improvement is noticeable in coal mining, particularly in Kilburne, Clay Cross, Codnor and Stanley districts; in Clay Cross gas coal seams are being worked five days, but house coal only 2½ to 3 days per week. In the Codnor and Stanley districts, in hard coal seams, about 4 to 4½ days have been worked at Ripley, Hartsy, and Stanley, six days at Alfreton, and 3 to 3½ at Dale Abbey, and in soft coal seams from four to six days have been worked in most cases. In Alfreton cannel coal seams 2¾ days per week are worked. At Kilburne full time is being worked. The Quarrying Trade is fair in all districts.

Iron Trade.—Employment in Chesterfield and Butterley districts has improved; in Alfreton another furnace has been put in blast during October, and one in Denby district. The Malleable Iron Trade continues fair; the Finished Iron Trade is better.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers and machinists are fairly active; one firm is working a night shift. The locomotive works are well employed; the boiler-makers report trade as moderate, with about 3 per cent. out of work. The bridge, girder and boiler yards are rather quiet. The brass-moulders and finishers have no unemployed. The Stove-grate Trade is dull; the shoeing and general smiths are fairly well employed. In Long Eaton district lace machine builders are fully employed; the Cycle Trade is slack. The Engineering Trade in Glossop is moderate, with about 5 per cent. unemployed. In Burton-on-Trent, Ilkeston, New Mills and Ripley, trade is declining, but few are totally unemployed. Trade in Chesterfield is dull.

Building Trades.—The bricklayers continue fairly well employed. The carpenters and joiners, stonemasons and plasterers report trade as fair; the painters and decorators as quiet. These trades are busy at Belper, Burton-on-Trent, and Long Eaton, moderate in Buxton and Bakewell districts.

Textile Trades.—The Lace Trade in Derby slowly improves, but at Long Eaton is still depressed. The Silk Industry is quiet. In Belper district, the Cotton Trade remains dull.

Clothing Trades.—The Tailoring Trade is improving in all its branches. Dress and mantle-makers are well employed. Boot and shoe operatives are busier. The frame-work knitters in Belper district are slack. The Lea hosiery mills are busy.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress printers are quiet, and the lithographic printers report trade as bad, with 12 per cent. unemployed; the bookbinders are slack, with about 2 per cent. out of work.

Miscellaneous.—The Baking, Confectionery, Milling and Gas-stoking Trades continue to improve. The railway men, electrical engineers, gasfitters, plumbers, dyers, bleachers, and paper-makers are well employed. The basket-makers and surgical bandage-makers are quiet. The elastic web weavers are slack, with 5 per cent. unemployed. The upholsterers, cabinet-makers and coach builders in private shops are fairly busy; the paper-stainers and colour-mixers are slack; the railway carriage and wagon-builders are improving; the Crown China Trade is depressed.

C. White-Deacon.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—PROVINCIAL REPORTS (*continued*).

Leicester and Northampton District.

Boot and Shoe Industry.—The Leicester Boot and Shoe Trade continues quiet, the percentage of unemployed being greatest in the clicking and finishing branches. In Northampton and district trade is also depressed, and except with the few firms engaged in the export trade, the artizans are mainly working short time. A slight improvement is reported in the Leather and Currying Industries.

Hosiery, Yarn and Wool Spinning Trades.—The Hosiery Trade is scarcely so brisk, and many workpeople are reported to be on short time. Those employed in the manufacture of heavy goods and specialities are busiest. In some branches of the Yarn Trade there is a slight improvement. In the Wool Industry employment is fairly regular.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—The general engineering firms report trade as fairly good, and employment regular. The men engaged on electrical engines, dynamos and similar appliances are in full work. Trade is good with brass-founders, pattern-makers and boiler-makers, and moderate with iron-founders. In the boot and hosiery machinery department employment is not so good. The Cycle Industry is quiet.

Coal Mining and Quarrying.—The Coal Trade is exceptionally bad for the time of year, and both underground and banksmen are very irregularly employed. The men engaged in the kerb and sett branches of stone quarrying are working full time. In the broken stone department trade is rather slack.

Building Trades.—The bricklayers, stonemasons and builders' labourers are but moderately employed, from 8 to 10 per cent. being reported out of work. The painters are fairly busy for the time of year, but house decorators are not in full work. The plasterers, carpenters and joiners are mostly working full time. The plumbers, glaziers, brick, tile and terra cotta workers are in full work.

Miscellaneous.—Elastic web makers are busier. Employment is fair in the wholesale and retail clothing firms, but moderate in the Cigar and Letterpress and Lithographic Printing Trades, about 10 per cent. of the two latter being out of work. Employment is regular with hatters, boxmakers, dyers and trimmers, coach and wagon-builders, upholsterers, cabinet-makers, sawyers, basket-makers, bell-hangers and bakers; slack with general out-door labourers and bone button makers; good with navvies, gasfitters and men employed in gas production, and also with railway men in the goods and mineral departments.—*T. Smith.*

Eastern Counties.

Norwich and District.—The Building Trade is bad and many bricklayers and carpenters are out of employment. The Boot and Shoe Trade is bad, short time being made by many of the workers. Cabinet-makers are still slack. The Printing Trades are at present fairly brisk throughout the district. At Yarmouth and Lowestoft trade generally is dull, while the same state of affairs exists in other districts.—*G. Cleverley.*

Ipswich and District.—A report from Ipswich gives the following information:—

Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades.—The engineers report trade as moderate at Ipswich. At the principal establishment they are fairly well employed, but those engaged on agricultural implements report trade as moderate; other firms are slack. At Leiston and Wickham Market short time prevails. At Colchester, however, trade is reported good, overtime being worked. The Shipbuilding Trade is reported as fair, only a small proportion being unemployed. The boiler-makers report trade as moderate.

Building Trades.—The carpenters and joiners report trade at Ipswich as moderate, several members being out of work. The bricklayers are dull, with only a few out. At Colchester the Building Trades are busy.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—There is a considerable falling off in employment; two firms are on three-quarter time. Employment is also declining at Colchester.

Printing and kindred Trades.—These trades are temporarily busy on the printing of the registers, the demand for men being greater than the supply.

Clothing Trades.—There is a slight depression in the Clothing Trades, the Wholesale Trade being moderate. The stay and corset makers are busy.

Bristol, Somerset and Gloucestershire District.

Building Trades.—Painters and decorators are exceedingly slack. Trade is improving with carpenters and joiners, and the proportion of unemployed has decreased to about 3 per cent. The bricklayers report employment as dull; the plasterers as fair; the stonemasons as slack. The plumbers report trade as bad, with 15 per cent. of their members unemployed. These industries are reported as fair in Bath, but dull in Stroud.

Furnishing Trades.—The cabinet-makers and upholsterers are busier. Box and packing case makers remain short of work. Brush-makers are now fully employed. The basket-makers are in steady work. The Stick-making Trade in Stroud is improving.

Coal Mining.—There is a continued improvement in the Radstock district. More men are being taken on, and some of the pits are working full time. In the Bristol and Forest of Dean districts trade is improving, and the number of unemployed miners has decreased.

Metal, Engineering, and Shipbuilding Trades.—The Hollow-ware Trade has improved, and galvanizers continue busy. The iron-founders, tool-makers and machinists report trade as bad. The slight improvement reported last month with fitters and pattern-makers has not been maintained. Boiler-makers and iron ship-builders are depressed, with about 17 per cent. unemployed. Fully three-fourths of the shipwrights in Bristol are reported to be idle.

Food and Clothing Trades.—The bakers and confectioners show an improvement, the proportion of unemployed having decreased to 10 per cent. The cocoa and chocolate workers report trade as fair; the tobacco and cigar workers as busy. The Ready-made Clothing Trade is more depressed, and most of the houses are only working three-quarter time. Bespoke tailoring has improved. The Cloth Trade at Stroud is brisk, some of the mills working overtime. There is no change in the Boot and Shoe Industry.

Printing and kindred Trades.—These trades in Bath are in a very depressed state. In Bristol lithographic printers report trade as improving; bookbinders as dull; paper-bag, envelope and card-board boxmakers as fair. There has been a rapid improvement with letterpress printers, and trade is now reported as good.

Leather Trades.—Trade with tanners and curriers continues good. Brown saddle-makers report employment as moderate; harness-makers as slack.

Dock and General Labour.—There has been an average amount of employment for quayside labourers. The Grain Trade has been fair; general cargo, timber, and Continental trade slack. The number of general and builders' labourers out of work is increasing. Gasworkers are busy.—*J. Curle.*

Plymouth and South Western District.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The imports of grain, coal, timber, &c., have generally increased in the various ports during the month. Dock labourers have been fairly busy at Plymouth and moderately employed at other ports. Employment for seamen remains quiet.

Engineering and Ship Repairing.—There has been a further decline in these industries. Employment in the various branches is reported as bad, and the number of unemployed in the district has increased.

Building Trades.—The carpenters and joiners, bricklayers, plasterers and stone-cutters are slack; the wall masons and the plumbers quiet. The painters and glaziers report trade as bad.

Mining, Quarrying and Clay Industry.—The Metal Mining Industry of Cornwall remains depressed. The quarrymen and stone-cutters are well employed. The Clay Industry is reported as fairly busy.

Clothing Trades.—The Boot and Shoe Trade is still fairly busy, except in the Cornwall district, where, however, it has improved. The Ready-made Tailoring Trade remains fairly busy, and the bespoke branch has shown an improvement.

Miscellaneous.—The cabinet-makers, upholsterers, French polishers and furniture workers show a decline. The printers, bakers and confectioners are quiet. The saddlers, wheelwrights, coach-builders and smiths report trade as steady. Owing to the erection of labour-saving machinery, some gas-workers have been discharged. General labourers greatly exceed the demand.—*J. Welland.*

Cardiff and District.

Ship Repairing and Engineering.—The engineers, boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders report trade as bad throughout the district; the percentage of unemployed is greater than it has been for many years. A large number of shipwrights are out of work. The moulders also report trade as bad. Several large firms are on short time.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The dock hobblers have averaged few days a week during October. The sailors and firemen are reported as slack.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—PROVINCIAL REPORTS (*continued*).

Building Trades.—The carpenters and joiners, masons, bricklayers, and labourers, report trade as bad; the plasterers as slack. The plumbers have been better employed.

Metal Trades.—The iron and steel works have been fairly busy, and the reports indicate an improvement in the Steel Trade. The Tin Trade has slightly improved, and works closed for a long time have been re-started. The copper works and spelter works are not brisk, but report no change.

Miscellaneous.—The patent fuel works are not so busy. The chemical works are still slack, some being on short time. The Printing Trade has been rather busy in all branches.—*T. Davies.*

South Wales Mining District.

Coal Mining.—The collieries have experienced great loss of time, in consequence of the rough weather during the latter half of the month having delayed the arrival of shipping. The workmen of one colliery, numbering about 1,100, were idle for 14 days owing to some alterations made to one of the screens; work was resumed on the understanding that the workmen's coal should not be tipped upon the disputed screen. The workmen of another colliery, about 40 in number, left work on October 1st owing to their inability to agree upon a list of prices for working one of the seams. Work was resumed at the end of three weeks, on day wages, upon the same terms as previously.

Miscellaneous.—The exports in patent fuel and tin plates in the Western district have shown an increase on the corresponding period of last year.—*W. Evans.*

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh and District.

Mineral Oil and Coal Mining Trades.—Since the settlement of the dispute in the Coal Trade employment in the Mineral Oil Industry has been steadier in some districts, but the shale miners are not working full time. In West Lothian the coal miners have been getting five and six days' work per week since the resumption of work. In East and Mid Lothian, and in Fife and Kinross, a number of miners are still idle owing to the mines being out of repair, otherwise the men are steadily employed.

Shipbuilding Trades.—In the shipyards trade is exceptionally bad. The ship-joiners report trade as quiet; the boiler-makers return 34·2 per cent. out of work; the shipwrights at the end of the month had a very large proportion of their members unemployed.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The blacksmiths, pattern-makers and engineers report trade as bad generally, with an increase in the number of unemployed. In the Falkirk and Edinburgh districts the light moulders are fairly well employed, but in the heavy trade work is scarcer. The brassfounders report trade as good, and the tinsmiths and gas-meter-makers as fair. Returns from 12 branches of unions show 8·9 per cent. idle.

Printing and allied Trades.—The compositors report trade as exceptionally bad for the season; the press and machine men, stereotypers, lithographic printers and artists report trade as good; the bookbinders as improving, but dull for the season. The typefounders are still working only four days per week. Returns from seven branches of unions show 5 per cent. on the idle roll.

Building Trades.—The masons, bricklayers, slaters and joiners report trade as falling off in Edinburgh and Leith, but as still good in the country districts. The lath-splitters and plasterers report trade as brisk, the plumbers as above the average for this season of the year, and the glaziers as still dull, although better than last month. The painters report trade as exceptionally bad.

Cabinet-making and Furnishing Trades.—The cabinet-makers report trade as dull, the French polishers as improved, the upholsterers as fair, the brush makers as better, but still bad. Returns from seven branches of unions show 4·2 per cent. unemployed.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The Shipping Trade remains much the same, although the number idle is not quite so large. The coal porters are fairly well employed; the dock labourers are quiet.

Textile Trades.—The Woollen Industry in Hawick and Galashiels, and the frame-work knitters in Hawick report employment in the hand-made Hosiery Trade as improving; the machine-made department also shows signs of improvement. The Midlothian carpet weavers report trade as fair.

Miscellaneous.—The sett-makers and the coopers report trade as good. The tailors, shoe makers, indiarubber workers, saw mill operatives, glass makers, glass cutters and horse-shoers as fair; the saddlers, paper-makers and bakers as quiet. The curriers report trade as better, the skinners and coach-makers as dull, and the hatters as very bad. With the general labourers work is not so good.—*J. Mallinson.*

Glasgow and West of Scotland.

Shipbuilding.—Since the termination of the coal dispute the steel makers are endeavouring to clear off arrears of work, and a much better delivery of material is being made. The shipwrights report no improvement, and all yards on the upper reaches of the river, with one exception, have been paying off men for the want of material. Carpenters and joiners report that trade in the Shipbuilding and Engineering Industry is bad, with a number idle. At Port Glasgow and Dumbarton work is slack, many men are out of work, and many on short time.

Iron and Steel Trades.—The steel smelters report that at the end of the month work was being resumed, although not to its fullest capacity. The millmen report a marked improvement, nearly all their men now working. The blast furnacemen report that all furnaces in the Coatbridge and Motherwell districts are now in blast, and that few men are idle.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers report a slight change for the better; at Coatbridge they are well employed; at Paisley trade is dull; and at Motherwell not so brisk. The ironmoulders have hardly maintained the improvement noticed last month. The blacksmiths and the tinplate workers show little change, but the latter have a few less unemployed. The electrical workers report that they are busy in Glasgow and district, with good prospects. The range fitters have improved, but the ornamental fitters are still quiet, and most of the shops are on short time. The iron dressers report trade as bad; the horseshoers as fair, with few men idle; the pattern-makers as dull, but improving; the brass-moulders as fair with good prospects.

Building and Wood-working Trades. — The masons, slaters, plasterers, bricklayers, lath-splitters, glaziers, sett-makers, quarry workers, and wood-turners, report trade as good on the whole; the paviors as dull; the joiners and saw-millers as declining; the painters and plumbers as bad; the coach-builders, cabinet and chairmakers as quiet.

Textile Trades.—Considerable improvement is reported in silk and coloured cloth weaving; white weaving is good; jute weaving has improved. The power loom beamers report trade as improved, but not good. The carpet weavers are still only working eight hours, but have more constant employment. The spindle and flyer-makers and calender-men are all fully employed. The warpers and dyers report improvement.

Clothing Trades.—The tailors report trade as better; the clothiers' operatives and pressers as fair; the tailoresses as exceptionally dull for the season. The Boot and Shoe Trade has improved.

Miscellaneous.—The letterpress printers report trade as worse; the lithographic printers, bookbinders, flint and plate-glass makers, curriers, railway servants, carters, general and dock labourers, and seamen and firemen, report improvement. The cork cutters, bakers, and calico engravers report trade as dull, the wire weavers as fair, and the tobacco-pipe makers as good.—*A. J. Hunter.*

[An account of the settlement of the Scottish coal dispute will be found in another column.

Aberdeen and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—The boiler-makers and iron-shipbuilders report trade as bad, with 11·9 per cent. idle; the shipwrights as dull, with 15·3 per cent. idle; the blacksmiths as good; the moulders as bad, with 14·7 per cent. idle and no sign of improvement; the engineers and pattern-makers as moderate. Tinplate workers report the Provision Shops Trade as very quiet, but the General Workshops Trade as good. There are 7·5 per cent. of tinplate workers idle.

Building Trades.—The masons report employment as good.

Quarries and Granite Works.—A few granite cutters are idle, but the American trade is better. The granite polishers are working full time, with one or two exceptions. The sett-makers and quarrymen report trade as very good, with none idle; the carpenters, joiners and plasterers as good; the slaters and plumbers as fair; the painters as depressed.

Fishing.—In October the trawl boats landed 33,783 cwts., realizing £20,292, and steam line boats 8,725 cwts., realizing £4,185, an increase both in the quantity of fish landed and in the sum realized on October 1893.

Miscellaneous.—The letterpress printers report trade as worse, with 10 per cent. umemployed; the lithographic printers as good, with none idle; the cabinet-makers as good; the wood carvers as dull; the monumental masons as moderate; the rope and twine spinners and hemp dressers, the bookbinders and carpet weavers, as improving; the jute, flax, cotton, and paper workers, and the boot and shoemakers as fair; the tailors as bad; the bakers as bad, with 14·3 per cent. idle; the saw millers and machinists have all hands employed. The dock labourers as very dull, especially in the Coal Trade. General labourers are fairly busy.—*W. Johnston.*

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

Building, Woodworking, and Iron Industries.—The Building Industry has been materially affected owing to the heavy rains, but the stonecutters, bricklayers, joiners, carpenters, plasterers, sawyers, and lath-splitters report trade as fair; the painters as not so good; the plumbers and slaters as dull. The Drogheda and Curragh Building Trades continue busy. The builders' labourers are fairly employed. The cabinet-makers are still depressed, but trade is fair with the upholsterers and packing-case makers. The boiler-makers, shipbuilders and whitesmiths report trade as fair, the engineers as dull. The coach-makers and horse-shoers are fairly employed; the saddlers are still slack.

Food and Clothing Trades.—Work is improving among the bakers, and the confectioners report trade as good. Employment in the Tailoring Trade is not so good, and the Shoemaking Trade has not improved. The dressmakers and women-workers are fairly busy. Trade in these lines continues good in Drogheda.

Printing and allied Trades. — Great dulness prevails among the compositors, 58 receiving unemployed benefit in the last week of the month. The Lithographic Trade has improved slightly, the binders and machine rulers are steadily employed. The stereotypers, machine assistants, paper cutters, despatch assistants, and bookfolders report trade as fair.

Miscellaneous.—The bottle-makers report an improvement; the factory stopped in September has re-started. The brush-makers show an improvement, but the cork cutters are slack. The basket-makers and coopers report trade as middling. The quay labourers, seamen and firemen are fairly employed, as are the railwaymen and tramwaymen. The girls in the spinning mills and those engaged in the Tobacco Industry are fairly employed.

J. P. Nannetti.

Belfast and District.

General.—The returns received from 88 branches of 54 societies, with a membership of 19,536, show 1,263, or 6·5 per cent., to be unemployed, as against 1,334, or 6·6 per cent. of the membership in September.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Of the 8,757 members employed in these trades, 743, or 8·5 per cent., are reported to be idle, as against 691, or 7·6 per cent. of the membership in September. The blacksmiths' strikers and helpers report trade as bad; the engineers and general labourers, as dull; the boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders and machine workers as slack; the pattern-makers as moderate; the iron-founders as declining; the brass-founders as improving; the carpenters and joiners as quiet; the shipwrights, enginemen, firemen, and cranemen, as fair.

Linen Trades.—There is a slight decrease in the number of unemployed in these trades. Returns received from the societies connected with them show that 208, out of a membership of 3,967, or 5·2 per cent., are in search of work, as against 385, or 8·9 per cent. of the membership in September. The flax roughers, hackle and gill makers, yarn dressers, spindle and flyer-makers report trade as bad; the power loom tenters, beetling enginemen, shirt, collar, and apron cutters as dull; the flax-dressers as improving; the bobbin-turners and linen lappers as fair.

Building Trades.—Out of 2,364 members, 112, or 4·7 per cent., are unemployed, as against 46, or 2·0 per cent. of the membership in September. The house painters report trade as dull; the carpenters and joiners as declining; the plasterers and bricklayers as fair; the mill-sawyers and wood-cutting machinists as good.

Miscellaneous.—In this group 200 members out of 4,448, or 4·5 per cent., are unemployed, as against 212, or 4·7 per cent. of the membership in September. The tin-plate workers report trade as bad. The boot and shoe operatives, coach-builders, furnishing operatives and letterpress printers, as dull; the tailors as improving; the bakers, bookbinders and machine rulers, lithographic printers and artists, railway servants, and packing-case makers, as fair; the coopers, locomotive engine drivers, hotel and club assistants, and paviors, as good.—*R. Sheldon.*

Cork and District.

Building Trades.—No change has taken place in Cork during the month. The masons, stonecutters, plasterers, carpenters, mill-sawyers, and builders' labourers, are still well employed. The plumbers and gasfitters report a slight improvement. In Limerick and Waterford trade has improved.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—The boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders report trade as good in Cork and Passage West, but dull in Limerick. The engineers, smiths, moulders, copper-smiths, and brass-moulders and finishers, show no change. The shipwrights, sail-makers, and riggers, are dull in Cork, but show an improvement in Queenstown and Passage West.

Food and Clothing Trades.—Beef and pork butchers, bacon curers, creamery workers, and grocers' and wine merchants' assistants, are fairly busy, but bakers and confectioners are dull. The tailors report trade as still bad. Boot and shoe operatives are busy. The tweed and flax factories in Blarney, Douglas and Millfield, and the feather operatives in Cork report trade as good.

Miscellaneous.—Coach-makers, brush and bellows-makers, cork-cutters and tin-smiths are busy. Letterpress printers and bookbinders show an improvement. Coopers, coal porters, dock and quay labourers, gas workers, corporation labourers, enginemen, cranemen, and firemen, are fairly well employed.—*P. O'Shea.*

IV.—REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

(*a*) COAL MINING IN OCTOBER.

NOTE.—*The following tables only profess to state the number of days* on which coal was hewn and wound at the collieries at which a certain number of persons were employed at the last pay day in October. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed at these collieries worked the whole number of days.*

Returns giving particulars of the number of days worked during the four weeks ended 27th October have been received from the owners of 904 collieries, at which 239,959 workpeople were employed on the last pay day in the month. A summary of these returns shows that the improvement noticed in the previous month in the number of days on which coal was hewn and wound has continued, the average for the four weeks ended 27th October being 4·97* days per week, as compared with 4·88* days per week in September and 4·63* days in August.† As stated in last month's GAZETTE, this improvement is partly accounted for by the season of the year, more coal being now required for domestic purposes and the manufacture of gas than in the summer months. The most exact comparison is with the corresponding period of the previous year, when, however, returns were not collected.

On grouping the workpeople employed at the 904 collieries respecting which information has been supplied, according to the number of days on which coal was hewn and wound at the collieries, as in the following table, it will be seen that 59·0 per cent. were employed at pits which worked 20 days or more during the 4 weeks; 36·8 per cent. at pits working 12 and under 20 days, and 4·2 per cent. only at pits working less than 12 days, or half time.

I.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE WORKPEOPLE ACCORDING TO THE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED BY THE COLLIERIES.

Number of days on which Coal was hewn and wound in the four weeks ended October 27th, 1894.	Number of Workpeople employed at the Collieries working the number of days stated in Column 1.	Percentage proportion employed at Collieries working the number of days stated in Column 1.	
Under 4 days	890	·4	4·2
4 and under 6 days	1,397	·6	
6 ,, ,, 8 ,, ...	268	·1	
8 ,, ,, 10 ,, ...	2,895	1·2	
10 ,, ,, 12 ,, ...	4,637	1·9	
12 ,, ,, 14 ,, ...	12,034	5·0	36·8
14 ,, ,, 16 ,, ...	12,297	5·1	
16 ,, ,, 18 ,, ...	20,866	8·7	
18 ,, ,, 20 ,, ...	43,288	18·0	
20 ,, ,, 22 ,, ...	56,275	23·5	59·0
22 ,, ,, 24 ,, ...	57,354	23·9	
24 days	27,818	11·6	
Total	239,959	100·0	

* Allowance is made in all the calculations for short days.

† In the September returns the mines thrown idle for the whole month by the Scottish coal dispute were excluded from the calculation.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (continued).

In the table which follows, the districts, in which the number of days worked per week in October exceeds the number worked in September, are distinguished from those in which there has been a fall. It thus appears that in 11 districts accounting for 161,229 of the workpeople to which the returns relate there has been an improvement as compared with September, while in 5 districts with 78,730 workpeople the number of days worked has declined.

II.—Comparison of the Average Number of Days Worked per Week by Collieries in September and October.

District.	No. employed in Oct. at the Collieries included in Table.	Days per Week.	
		October.	September.
(a) Districts in which October exceeds September.			
Cumberland	3,746	5·89	5·72
North Wales	6,109	5·21	5·14
Lancashire and Cheshire	39,009	4·99	4·82
Salop, Worcester and Warwick	6,463	4·88	4·39
Yorkshire	34,149	4·83	4·77
The Lothians †	1,702	4·73	4·51†
Gloucester and Somerset	6,423	4·67	4·42
West of Scotland †	16,089	4·64	3·09†
Staffordshire	17,600	4·61	4·15
Derby	18,915	4·46	4·38
Notts and Leicester	11,024	4·14	4·13
(b) Districts in which September exceeds October.			
Durham	31,053	5·50	5·59
South Wales and Monmouth	40,230	5·41	5·56
Northumberland	5,294	5·19	5·57
Ireland	410	5·19	5·44
Fife†	1,743	3·65	5·86†

Arranging the districts in descending order according to the number of days worked by the collieries, they may be divided into two groups; (*a*) working more than 5 days, and (*b*) working less than 5 days per week respectively.

III.—Classification of Districts according to Number of Days Worked per Week.

District.	No. employed at the Collieries included in Table.	Average No. of days on which coal was hewn and wound per week.
(a) 5 Days and upwards per week.		
Cumberland	3,746	5·89
Durham...	31,053	5·50
South Wales and Monmouth	40,230	5·41
North Wales	6,109	5·21
Northumberland	5,294	5·19
Ireland	410	5·19
(b) Less than 5 days per week.		
Lancashire and Cheshire	39,009	4·99
Salop, Worcester and Warwick	6,463	4·88
Yorkshire	34,149	4·83
The Lothians	1,702	4·73
Gloucester and Somerset	6,423	4·67
West of Scotland	16,089	4·64
Staffordshire	17,600	4·61
Derbyshire	18,915	4·46
Notts and Leicester	11,024	4·14
Fife	1,743	3·65

A comparison of the number of days worked by the collieries for the two fortnights in the month shows that the only English district in which there is a marked difference is Northumberland, viz., 5 days per week in the first fortnight, and 5½ days per week in the second. In the Scottish districts many of the pits were idle in the first fortnight of the month in consequence of the dispute, and the difference between the average number of days worked in the two fortnights is considerable. The number of days worked by the pits for which returns have been furnished may be thus stated.

	1st Fortnight.	2nd Fortnight.
West of Scotland	7·5 ...	11·1
The Lothians	8·9 ...	10·0
Fife	6·0 ...	8·6

† The comparison in these districts is not an exact one. Only a few collieries were at work in September, and the figures given for that month apply solely to this small number, and are exclusive of those collieries at which no coal was hewn and wound.

(*b*) IRON MINING INDUSTRY IN OCTOBER.
(CUMBERLAND AND LANCASHIRE.)

From returns furnished by the owners of 26 iron mines in Cumberland and Lancashire, it is shown that the average number of days worked during the four weeks ended October 27th was 5·93 per week, or nearly full time. The average for September was 5·96 days, and for August, 5·82 days per week.

The total number of workpeople employed at the 26 mines on the last pay day in October was 5,094, and of these 3,881 were employed at mines which worked full time, or 24 days in the four weeks, 1,141 at mines working 22 and under 24 days, and 72 only at mines working 20 and under 22 days.

(*c*)—PIG IRON INDUSTRY IN OCTOBER.

Returns received from more than three-fourths of the ironmasters of the United Kingdom give the following particulars with regard to the number of furnaces in blast worked by the ironmasters making returns:—

Comparison of the number of furnaces in blast at end of October 1894 with the number in blast at end of October 1893, and at end of September 1894, so far as included in the returns made to the Department:—

Districts.	Present time compared with a *year* ago.			Present time compared with a *month* ago.		
	Oct. 1894.	Oct. 1893.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in Oct. 1894.	Oct. 1894.	Sept. 1894.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in Oct. 1894.
Cleveland	95	85	+10	95	95	—
Other English and Welsh districts	143	98	+45	143	141	+2
Total England and Wales...	238	183	+55	238	236	+2
Scotland	*23*	*15*	*+8*	*23*	*3*	*+20*
Total from which returns have been received	261	198	+63	261	239	+22

It thus appears that, as compared with October 1893, there has been a decided improvement in the Pig Iron Industry, the number of furnaces in blast owned by the ironmasters making returns having increased by 63, viz., 10 in the Cleveland district, 45 in other districts of England and Wales, and 8 in Scotland. It should, however, be remembered that in October 1893 the Pig Iron Industry was seriously affected by the coal dispute in the English federation districts.

As compared with September 1894, there is a *net* increase of two in the number of furnaces in blast in the English districts. With regard to Scotland, it is satisfactory to note that with the termination of the coal miners' dispute the furnaces have been re-lit, the number in blast owned by the employers from whom returns have been received, having increased from 3 at the end of September to 23 at the end of October.

The number of workpeople employed in October shows a distinct advance over both September 1894 and October 1893. As compared with September, employment was found for 565 additional men. The increase, as compared with October 1893, cannot be so accurately stated, the numbers employed at two furnaces at work in both months not having been stated. Excluding these two furnaces, the net increase last month was 3,380, the English districts accounting for 3,217 of these workpeople, and Scotland for 163.

The following additional information respecting the Pig Iron Industry in Cleveland is taken from the monthly statement issued by the Cleveland Ironmasters' Association:—

Production.—During October, 262,309 tons of pig iron were produced in the Cleveland district, as compared with 252,271 tons in the previous month, and 229,925 tons in October 1893.

Stocks.—These amounted at the end of the month to 196,874 tons, an increase on the figures for the previous month and for October 1893, when they were 192,185 tons and 182,820 tons respectively.

Shipments.—From Middlesbrough the shipments for October were 80,253 tons; for September, 80,139 tons; and for October 1893, 95,673 tons.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (continued).

(*d*) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN OCTOBER.

The Agricultural Correspondent to the Department reports as follows:—

SUMMARY.

Employment.—During the month of October employment has been generally obtained by agricultural labourers, owing to the heavy root crop, and also to there being a good deal of threshing work. Generally speaking, however, more men have been in irregular work throughout the country in October 1894 than in the corresponding month of 1893.

In the *North of England*, where the number of odd men is comparatively small, owing to the hiring system, work has been regular in Northumberland, Westmoreland, Cumberland, Cheshire, Yorkshire, and Derbyshire, but a few men in irregular work are reported in certain districts in Westmoreland, Lancashire, and Yorkshire.

In the *Midlands*, some men were in want of work in Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire, but generally employment in those counties and in Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Worcestershire, and Rutland, has been satisfactory.

In the *Home Counties* of Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Kent, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Sussex, and Surrey, employment has generally been fair, but men in irregular work were reported in districts in Oxfordshire, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Kent, and Hertfordshire.

In the *Eastern Counties*, employment appears to have been very fairly good in Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire, particularly in the root producing districts. Men in Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire, are reported out of employment in certain villages.

Employment in the *Western Counties* appears to have been normal in the counties of Gloucestershire, Monmouthshire, Herefordshire, Devonshire, and Cornwall, but in parts of Wiltshire, Dorsetshire, and Somersetshire employment has been irregular.

Wages.—Weekly wages generally dropped in October in all parts of the country in rural districts, except the Northern Counties, where they only fell in a few localities.

In some cases these changes were partly seasonal, but in most cases wages have fallen lower than they were at the corresponding period of 1893.

The fall of wages has been most general in the corn growing counties of Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex.

In the first-named county they have frequently fallen from 2s. 6d. or 2s. 3d. to 2s. In the winter of 1893 2s. 3d. a day was usually the minimum wage. A wage of 2s. a day has not been so general in the county for six years.

Wages in North Cambridgeshire have in many cases fallen from 13s. to 12s., and in South Cambridgeshire from 11s. to 10s.

In Essex, wages were generally reduced 1s. a week in October, and in some cases 2s. They now usually vary from 10s. to 12s., but in the Braintree district some are receiving 9s. and even 8s., which is a lower rate than has been paid for years.

The Norfolk wages are 11s. and 10s. Throughout West Norfolk 10s. is being paid. In Suffolk, wages have generally been reduced to 10s., and in one village to 9s.

Wages in Wiltshire have in a number of districts been reduced from 11s. to 10s., and at Avebury they are 9s.

Hiring Fairs.—In the month of October hiring fairs took place in certain districts in the counties of Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Staffordshire, Oxfordshire, Berkshire, Wiltshire, and Gloucestershire; but from all these counties it is reported that the custom of hiring at the fairs is rapidly dying out, the engagements of farm servants chiefly taking place through the medium of newspapers or by private arrangement.*

The above summary is based on reports received from 200 districts in the United Kingdom, including returns from two Agricultural Labourers' Unions. The following extracts from a few of the district reports give additional information on certain points:—

Lancashire.—*Lancaster.*—Farmers with no potato lifting, draining, or hedge cleaning have since harvest reduced their labour. Hence some are out of work, and are now waiting to be hired at the November hirings.

St. Michael's-on-Wyre.—No able-bodied men in irregular work. £1 a week has been paid for potato lifting.

Pilling.—A few men are in irregular work. In October wages dropped from 3s. 6d. a day to 3s. and 2s. 6d.

Inskip.—Men are all fully employed. Farmers are in want of men.

Cumberland.—*Penrith.*—Men have been well employed at potato lifting by piece-work in October.

Yorkshire.—*Ripon and Castle Howard.*—All able-bodied men in full work at present. Weekly wages 15s.

Derbyshire.—*Keith Langley.*—Most men are hired, but a few odd men in irregular work. Wages fell in October from 19s. to 17s.

Staffordshire.—*Burton.*—The hirings took place on October 8th, but far fewer hands than formerly seek situations there. A room was set apart in the Market Hall for the accommodation of the women and girls through the efforts of a committee of ladies. The following rates were obtained:—*Men*, £10 to £18; *Lads*, up to £10; *Women*, £12 to £14; *Girls*, £5 to £9.

Nottinghamshire.—*Newark-on-Trent.*—Very few men out of work. Weekly wages 15s. since harvest.

Rutland.—*Oakham.*—Men have generally been well employed in October. Wages dropped from 2s. 6d. to 2s. a day after harvest.

Northamptonshire.—*Harleston.*—Weekly wages are 13s. In parish of Haddon (4 miles off) 11s.

Kettering.—A number of farm hands are being dispensed with, and are going to the towns. Weekly wages are about 12s.

Warwickshire.—The following rates of wages were obtained at the undermentioned hiring fairs. [These engagements are for a year, but with a month's notice on either side.]

Stratford-on-Avon.

Class.	Cash Wages.	Perquisites.
Wagoners	14s. per week	Free house and garden.
Shepherds	13s. ,,	Ditto.
Stockmen	14s. ,,	Ditto.
Big lads	5s. to 9s. per week	
Young boys	£6 to £8 per year	With board and lodging.

The following rates of wages are being paid to farm servants recently engaged through advertisements or by private arrangement in the districts of Stratford-on-Avon, Alcester, and Warwick:—

Class.	Cash Wages.	Perquisites.
Foremen or bailiffs ...	20s. od. to 25s. a week	Cottage and garden.
Wagoners	12s. 6d. ,, 14s. ,,	Ditto.
Shepherds	12s. od. ,, 14s. ,,	Ditto.
Stockmen	13s. od. ,, 15s. ,,	Cottage and garden and sometimes coal.
Ordinary labourers ...	10s. od. ,, 12s. ,,	Piece-work, extra at haytime and harvest.
Big lads...	4s. 6d. ,, 9s. ,,	Extra wages in harvest.
Young boys	3s. od. ,, 5s. ,,	Ditto.
Women...	10d. to 1s. a day.	—

Note.—Men in charge of horses or cattle generally either take part in the harvest or have Michaelmas money, and usually have £1 extra for haymaking.

Atherstone.—The hiring fair took place on September 25th. There was a small attendance of males. Men obtained wages of £8 to £16, with board, and £20 to £30 without board. Women obtained £8 to £18, with board.

Alcester, Wellesbourne, Kineton, and Henley-in-Arden.—Weekly wages are 12s. a week for young men, and 11s. for old.

* The particular hiring fairs which are specially reported to have chiefly degenerated into pleasure fairs are Stratford-on-Avon, Warwick, Atherstone in Warwickshire, Evesham in Worcestershire, Burton-on-Trent in Staffordshire, Henley-on-Thames and Wallingford in Oxfordshire, Newbury and Hungerford in Berkshire, Cirencester, Cheltenham, Chipping Sodbury and Thornbury in Gloucestershire, Buckingham and Chesham in Buckinghamshire, and Swindon and Marlborough in Wiltshire.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (*continued*).

Oxfordshire.—*Henley-on-Thames and Wallingford.*

Class.	Cash Wages.	Perquisites.
Foremen	£1 per week	Free house and garden.
Secondmen	14s. ,,	Free house and garden, £2 Michaelmas money.
Wagoners	13s. to 14s. per week	Ditto.
Shepherds	12s. to 15s. ,,	Ditto.
Stockmen	13s. ,,	Ditto.
Big lads...	9s. to 10s. ,,	£1 at Michaelmas.
Young boys	4s. to 7s. ,,	

The following rates of wages are being paid to farm servants recently engaged through advertisements or by private arrangements in the Thame district :—

Class.	Cash Wages.	Perquisites.
Foremen	15s. to 20s.	House, garden, £2 Michaelmas money, and fuel.
Wagoners	13s. to 14s.	Ditto.
Shepherds	13s. to 15s.	Ditto.
Stockmen	13s.	Ditto.
Ordinary labourers ...	12s.	Piece-work and harvest.
Big lads...	7s. to 10s.	
Boys	4s. 6d. to 6s.	

NOTE.—The ordinary labourers at Thame were reduced from 13s. to 12s. in October.

Wallingford.—The fair was held on Michaelmas Day. Very little hiring was done, the men being usually engaged privately now.

Buckinghamshire.—*Buckingham.*—A number of young men are in irregular work, and are seeking employment on railways and elsewhere. Ordinary labourers' wages are 12s., and for men in charge of cattle and horses, 14s. to 15s.

Gloucestershire.—At the October hirings there were but few men seeking situations. Carters got about £40 to £42 a year (paid weekly), with cottage and garden, also wood and coal (value £6). Ordinary labourers, 10s. to 11s. Piece-work is given in the district.

Monmouth.—*Llangattock, Rockfield, Llanfihangel.*—Labourers have been fully employed in October.

Herefordshire.—*Bishop's Frome.*—All men employed. Weekly wages of 13s. and 15s. changed in October to 12s. and 14s.

Devonshire.—*Crediton.*—Weekly cash wages are now 12s. More men have been in irregular work in October 1894 than in the same month of 1893.

Wiltshire.—*Marlborough.*—The following rates of wages are being paid to farm servants recently engaged through advertisement or private arrangement :—

Class.	Cash Wages.	Perquisites.
Wagoners and carters...	12s. per week	House and garden, potato land, 50s. at Michaelmas.
Shepherds	12s. ,,	Ditto, 40s. at lambing time.
Stockmen and cowmen	11s. ,,	House and garden, 50s. at Michaelmas.
Ordinary labourers ...	10s. per week.	Piece-work and harvest.
Big lads	8s. to 10s. per week	40s. to 60s. at Michaelmas.
Young boys	3s. 6d. to 8s. ,,	15s. to 40s. at Michaelmas.

Lincolnshire.—*Appleby (Doncaster).*—Men have been fully employed all October with the roots. One employer offered 20 Irishmen 18s. per acre for picking and filling carts with potatoes after ploughing them out; but they refused the work unless paid 20s. The employer got Englishmen to do it at 18s.

Little Carlton, South Reston, Gayton-le-Marsh.—Since the end of September about a third of the men have been in irregular work. Wages dropped from 13s. 6d. a week to 12s. in October.

Keelby and Laceby.—Wages were 2s. 6d. per day up to end of harvest, 2s. 3d. from end of harvest to November 1st, and after November 1st 2s. No men are out of work.

Cambridgeshire.—*March.*—No men out of work. No reduction in staff of farms. Weekly wages 12s., but many men have been earning higher wages getting up roots by piece-work.

Emmeth and Elm.—Plenty of work in October getting up roots. Wages dropped from 13s. to 12s. that month.

Norfolk.—*Denver.*—A few labourers in want of regular work, but nearly all work on allotments when not able to get farm work.

Thetford.—Good labour is rather scarce. In October there was a considerable demand for labour, as a large beet crop has to be secured before the frosts. There is a demand for beaters, this being a game district.

Suffolk.—*Barrow.*—All men will be busy getting up roots until the third week in November. After that a considerable number must be out of work. Weekly wages 10s.

Gazeley and Higham.—Employment has been plentiful in October. Weekly wages are 10s. But pulling and carting mangolds has been done by piece-work, and beer or 4d. a day extra has been paid during threshing.

Belstead.—About 10 per cent. of the labourers in irregular work. Wages reduced from 12s. to 11s.

Washbrook.—Wages reduced from 12s. to 11s.

Woodbridge.—No able-bodied men out of work. Many young men have gone to Barton for the maltings.

Great Thurlow.—Farmers in neighbourhood of Great Thurlow have reduced ordinary labourers from 10s. to 9s., and stockmen 12s. to 11s.

Essex.—*Halstead and Braintree.*—About 400 labourers had their wages reduced 1s. a week. Previously wages were 13s., 12s. and 10s. But some who were receiving 10s. have had their wages reduced by 2s. Most farmers have reduced their staff to the lowest point. Some able-bodied men are out of work in the Braintree district.

Dengie Hundred.—Wages are now 12s. and 11s. a week.

Latchingden.—Very few able-bodied men in irregular work.

(*e*) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN OCTOBER.

(*Based on information supplied by the Marine Department of Board of Trade.*)

The number of seamen shipped at the principal ports of the United Kingdom during October was 31,599, or 2,206 less than in October 1893. For this decrease Cardiff, London, Liverpool and Swansea are mainly responsible, the Tyne ports and Hull showing a considerable increase.

The supply of seamen was stated to exceed the demand at Newcastle, Sunderland, London, Bristol, Liverpool, Belfast, and, to a small extent, at Leith. There was a plentiful supply of men also at North Shields, Hull, Southampton, Newport (Mon.), Cardiff, Swansea and Glasgow, while supply and demand were reported as about equal at South Shields, Grimsby, Grangemouth, and for steamships at Dublin. For sailing vessels men were reported to be scarce at Dublin.

The only reports of changes in rates of wages are from Middlesbrough, Newport and Cardiff, where decreases are reported, full particulars of which will be found in the table of "Changes in Wages," on page 338. At all other ports the rates of wages were stated to be the same as in September.

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 October 1894 and 1893 respectively :—

Principal Ports.	Number of Men, &c., shipped in October 1894.			Total in Oct. 1893.	Increase in 1894.	Decrease in 1894.
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total.			
ENGLAND.						
East Coast.						
Tyne Ports	133	2,950	**3,083**	*2,661*	422	...
Sunderland	...	666	**666**	*755*	...	89
Middlesbrough ...	29	536	**565**	*598*	...	33
Hull	124	1,189	**1,313**	*941*	372	...
Grimsby	28	251	**279**	*30*	249	...
Bristol Channel.						
Bristol	6	206	**212**	*122*	90	...
Newport, Mon. ...	83	750	**833**	*910*	...	77
*Cardiff	597	3,805	**4,402**	*5,538*	...	1,136
Swansea	30	327	**357**	*761*	...	404
Other Ports.						
Liverpool	430	9,036	**9,466**	*10,295*	...	829
London	329	5,374	**5,703**	*6,587*	...	884
Southampton ...	...	1,561	**1,561**	*1,302*	259	...
SCOTLAND.						
Leith, Kirkcaldy and Grangemouth	3	556	**559**	*587*	...	28
Glasgow	68	2,233	**2,301**	*2,457*	...	156
IRELAND.						
Dublin	17	69	**86**	*71*	15	...
Belfast	...	213	**213**	*190*	23	...
Total **October** 1894 ...	**1,877**	**29,722**	**31,599**	...	...	**2,206**
Ditto, *October* 1893 ...	*2,585*	*31,220*	...	*33,805*	...	...

* Including Barry and Penarth.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (*continued*).

(*f*) EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE TEXTILE AND KINDRED TRADES IN OCTOBER.

FROM the reports received from women correspondents the improvement in the Cotton Trade does not appear so marked amongst the female operatives (mainly weavers) as amongst the men in the spinning mills. The Woollen and Worsted Trades, except in Bradford, are giving good employment on the whole.

Cotton Trade.—Reports have been received on 166 mills in Burnley, Accrington, Chorley, Barrowford, Ramsbottom, West Houghton, Bury, Heywood, Rochdale, Bolton, Horwich, Oldham, Failsworth, Prestwich and Stockport. Of these 117 were reported as running full time, 26 as running full time but giving only partial employment, 18 as running short time, and 5 as closed from various causes. In addition to the above, reports show that at Darwen and Oswaldtwistle the mills are working full time, but with slackness in the winding and warping departments. At Middleton, employment is very bad, mills in several cases being either closed or on short time. In Oldham, reeling is still very slack, but winding has improved. At Congleton, the Turkish towel weavers are working short time; the fustian cutters are busy.

Woollen and Worsted Trades.—Reports have been received on 70 mills in Leeds, Morton, Keighley, Slaithwaite, Huddersfield, Bingley, Morley, Ravensthorpe, Dewsbury, and Batley, 47 being principally engaged in woollen and 23 in worsted manufacture. Of these 70 mills, 55 were working full time and 15 were slack. In Bradford, 11 mills are reported on, of which only 3 were working full time. In Rochdale, employment in the woollen mills is said to be only moderate.

Linen Trade.—This trade has improved in Leeds, the mills giving fuller employment than for some time past. A hemp spinning-mill has been re-started, but the flax mills remain closed.

Clothing Trade.—In Leeds, some of the largest wholesale clothing firms are working short time.

(*g*)—FISHING INDUSTRY IN OCTOBER.

THE value of the fish landed at ten of the principal ports in England and Wales still continues to be in excess of the average for the corresponding month of the four years 1890-3, though the increase is somewhat smaller than that shown for September. The largest increase was at Hull, while the increase at Lowestoft was very nearly balanced by a decline at Yarmouth.

Table showing the value of fish landed from the fishing grounds at the principal Ports in England in October 1894, as compared with the average for October in the years 1890-1893.

Ports.	Oct. 1894.	Average for Oct. 1890-93.	Increase in Oct. 1894.	Decrease in Oct. 1894.
EAST COAST.	£	£	£	£
N. Shields	13,187	11,399	1,788	—
Hull	50,927	38,030	12,897	—
Grimsby	114,920	114,086	834	—
Yarmouth	59,448	56,149	—	5,701
Lowestoft	73,069	66,582	6,487	—
Ramsgate	8,318	6,523	1,795	—
London	52,776	58,583	—	5,807
Total	**363,645**	**351,352**	**12,293**	—
SOUTH AND WEST COASTS.				
Plymouth	7,626	7,238	388	—
St. Ives	3,336	5,180	—	1,844
Milford	12,939	10,839	2,100	—
Total	**23,901**	**23,257**	**644**	—
Grand Total, Oct. 1894...	**387,546**	**374,609**	**12,937**	—
Ditto for Sept. 1894... ...	*335,208*	*319,741*	*15,467*	—

The total quantity of *white fish* landed in the United Kingdom last month was 1,064,350 cwts., valued at £558,707, or decreases of 188,841 cwts. and £26,688 respectively, as compared with October 1893, when the quantity landed was 1,253,191 cwts. and the value £585,395. The quantities and values for England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland respectively, are as follows:

—	Quantity.		Value.	
	Oct. 1894.	Oct. 1893.	Oct. 1894.	Oct. 1893.
	cwts.	cwts.	£	£
England and Wales	748,579	840,186	454,710	471,541
Scotland	255,618	320,815	84,187	87,022
Ireland	60,162	92,190	19,810	26,832
Total	1,064,350	1,253,191	558,707	585,395

The value of the *shellfish* landed in October was £24,516 in England and Wales, £6,781 in Scotland, and £1,403 in Ireland, as compared with £27,782, £5,306, and £1,410 respectively in October 1893.

TERMINATION OF THE SCOTCH COAL TRADE DISPUTE.

IN the last issue of the GAZETTE the record of the great stoppage in the Scotch Coal Trade was brought down to the 13th October. At that time the resistance of the men in the West of Scotland to a reduced wage rate had entirely collapsed. So far as work could be found for them they had returned to the pits in Lanarkshire, Ayrshire, and the remainder of the western districts. In Fife, Clackmannan, and the Lothians only, the men still remained out, encouraged somewhat by the promise of continued support made by the executive of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain at its meeting on October 12th. It was generally felt, however, that, after the return to work of the western miners, further perseverance in the struggle was hopeless.

By the 17th October mass meetings of East and Midlothian miners had decided in favour of a return to work, and on the 18th the executive of the Fife Miners' Association decided to take a vote of their members for and against a return to work. On the same date the West Lothian miners decided to resume work. On the 19th the result of the voting in Fife and Kinross was declared in favour of a return to work on Monday, October 22nd. In the meantime, preparations for the ejectment of miners from the houses which were the property of the coalowners had been continued in Fife, but the decision to return to work rendered further action unnecessary. Thus October 22nd may be fixed as the date of the actual termination of this prolonged struggle. Since then employment has been found for most of the men, but in all the districts there are some for whom places have not yet been found. In Fife one week after the resumption 324 men were reported to be not employed, and it was decided that all whose enforced idleness could be traced to the strike should continue to receive support from the association. On November 3rd 204 men were still reported to be out in Fife.

On October 17th it was announced by the treasurer that the fortnightly levies and subscriptions from other miners' associations amounted to £5,600 from the Federation, £400 from Durham, and £100 from Wales. This amount was distributed among those still standing out for the Federation terms, and also among a small proportion of those who had been relieved at the previous payment, but who had since resumed work. This allowed a payment of 5s. 6d. per man; but in Fife there was a balance in hand from the previous fortnight, and the payment was made at the rate of 8s. per man. In the Lothians the final payment was 5s. per single man and 6s. per married man. The total of the levies subscribed by the English miners reaches about £80,000.

The strike commenced on June 25th, so that the period covered from the beginning to the return to work of the Fife men was 17 weeks. In the West of Scotland the bulk of the miners had given up the struggle a fortnight earlier, and the mean duration of the stoppage would be between 15 and 16 weeks.

Previous to the dispute the miners generally in the West of Scotland had one idle day in each week for the purpose of restricting production. In many cases, however, the coalowners are reported to insist upon the men working 11 days out of the fortnight when able to do so.

IRREGULARITY OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE ENGINEERING TRADE.

THE Labour Department has for some time been engaged on an inquiry with regard to irregularity of employment in certain industries. The whole inquiry is of an elaborate character, and some time must elapse before the full results can be published. It is proposed here to give only a few preliminary figures with regard to one industry and locality, which may serve as an indication of the general lines of the inquiry and the kind of results obtained.

The industry referred to is the Engineering Trade, and the particulars given are based on an analysis of the "vacant" books of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers for the Leeds district. The years dealt with below are 1888, 1889 and 1890, the tabulation of the results for later years not being yet complete.

The mean membership of the Society in the Leeds district for the years in question was 1,715, 1,895 and 1,978 respectively, or, deducting superannuated members, 1,625, 1,796 and 1,885.

The books show the amount of time lost, as recorded in the "vacant" book, to have been as under:—

Year.	Mean number of Members in District, excluding Superannuated Members.	Total Number of Days lost.	Number of Working Days lost per Member.
1888	1,625	20,421	12·5
1889	1,796	5,172	2·9
1890	1,885	16,870	8·9

The above figures show clearly the fluctuations in the proportion of days lost, corresponding to upward and downward changes in the state of trade. The fluctuations are also brought out in another way by the figures showing the daily average number of persons signing the "vacant book." To economise space, the figures are only given here for the last week in each month, during the three years 1888-90.

Period.	1888.	1889.	1890.
Average daily number signing the book in—			
Last week of January	109	20	16
" February	110	20	12
" March	95	23	13
" April	79	27	20
" May	69	16	45
" June	48	13	72
" July	45	14	67
" August	44	14	50
" September	40	13	49
" October	42	13	63
" November	39	10	105
" December	28	12	123

The figures give a measure of the magnitude and fluctuations of the margin of unemployed members. They throw no light, however, on the internal *distribution* of want of employment among the members. For this purpose we need to classify the members according to the number of days lost in each year. The analysis of the books shows that the number of *separate individuals* who signed the "vacant" book at any time during each of the years was as follows:—

Year.	Number of Individuals who signed the "vacant" book during the year.	Approximate proportion of Total Members (not Superannuated).
		Per Cent.
1888	437	27
1889	196	11
1890	525	27

If it can be assumed that all persons not signing the "vacant" book were employed,* it appears that the total number of lost days was spread over a percentage of the members varying from about 11 in 1889, to 27 in 1888 and 1890. The number of days lost calculated on the total number signing the "vacant" book during each year amounted to about 47, 26 and 32 respectively.

The classification is carried further in the following table, which shows in detail the distribution of employment among the members of the Society:—

	1888.	1889.	1890.
Number who did not sign the "vacant" book at all ...	1,188	1,600	1,360
" Signed on 1 day and up to a week ...	109	79	165
" Over a week and up to 4 weeks	134	78	165
" " 4 " 8 " ...	68	16	85
" " 8 " 12 " ...	42	8	48
" " 12 " 16 " ...	19	3	22
" " 16 " 20 " ...	17	0	7
" " 20 " 24 " ...	11	3	9
" " 24 " 28 " ...	8	0	10
" " 28 " 32 " ...	6	2	6
" " 32 " 36 " ...	3	1	3
" " 36 " 40 " ...	3	2	3
" " 40 " 44 " ...	6	1	0
" " 44 " 48 " ...	4	1	0
" " 48 " 52 " ...	7	2	2
Total number of working members ...	1,625	1,796	1,885

Summarising the above figures for the three years, we get the following results:—

	1888.	1889.	1890.
Approximate percentage of men who:—			
Did not come on the books	73	89	72
Lost 4 weeks and under	15	9	18
" over 4 weeks and up to 12	7	1	7
" " 12 weeks	5	1	3

It would clearly not be legitimate to draw any general inferences as to irregularity of work in the Engineering Trade as a whole from figures applicable only to so limited a body of men, and relating only to three years. The inquiry which the Department is now pursuing extends over a longer period of years and a larger number of persons. The above preliminary information is, however, published to give a general indication of some of the results which may be expected to be obtained from the wider inquiry, and in the hope that any Trade Societies which have "vacant" books similar to those placed at the disposal of the Department by the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, may be induced to furnish the materials for a corresponding analysis with regard to their trades.

* The question how far this assumption is legitimate will be discussed in detail in the main report. It may be sufficient here to state that no one can receive "unemployed benefit" without signing. Persons on sick benefit do not sign, and are not regarded as "unemployed" in the above tables. A few of the superannuated members may do a certain amount of work.

PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE RULES FOR THE BUILDING TRADES OF LONDON.

IN view of the six months' notice recently given by the Central Association of Master Builders of London to terminate on May 1st 1895, the working rules agreed upon on June 10th 1892, it may be of interest to reprint the existing rules, together with the substance of the additions and alterations suggested by that Association. The exact wording of the proposed amendments has not yet been submitted, but the general effect of the proposed new rules has been verbally communicated to the representatives of the Trade Unions concerned.

PRESENT WORKING RULES FOR THE BUILDING TRADES OF LONDON.*

1. That the working hours in summer shall be 50 per week (*see Note A, page* 337).

2. That during 14 weeks of winter, commencing on the first Monday in November, the time shall be worked for the first three weeks 8½ hours per day; during the eight middle weeks 8 hours per day; and the three following weeks 8½ hours per day (*see Note A, page* 337).

3. That the present (June 10th 1892) rate of wages for skilled mechanics and labourers shall be advanced one halfpenny per hour.

4. That overtime when worked at the request of employers, but not otherwise, shall be paid at the following rates, namely:—from leaving off time until 8 p.m., time and a quarter; from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., time and a half; after 10 p.m., double time. No overtime shall be reckoned until each full day has been made, except where time is lost by stress of weather. On Saturdays the pay for overtime, from noon to 4 p.m., shall be time and a half, and after 4 p.m., and Sundays, double time. Christmas Day and Good Friday shall be paid for the same as Sundays. (*Continued on page* 337.)

* These rules were agreed upon by the Central Association of Master Builders of London on the one hand, and by representatives of the bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, masons, plasterers, painters, smiths, fitters, &c., and labourers.

The following agreement was made between the Operative Plumbers' Association and the Central Association of Master Builders, on October 24th 1892.

WORKING RULES FOR LONDON PLUMBERS.

1. That the working hours in summer shall be 47 hours per week.

2. That during 14 weeks of winter, commencing on the first Monday in November, the time shall be for the first and last three weeks 44½ hours, during the eight middle weeks 42 hours per week, in all cases where the other trades cease work at 4 p.m.

3. That the present rate of wages for skilled plumbers shall be advanced one halfpenny per hour from the first Monday in November 1892.

4. Payment for overtime and all other rules to remain in force as at present.

5. That employers shall give one hour's notice or pay one hour's time, on determining an engagement. All wages due shall be paid at the expiration of such notice, or walking time if sent to yard (*see note B below*).

5A.* Any workman desiring to leave work during the week shall be entitled to receive his money at 5 p.m., as provided for by Rules 5 and 7, subject to his having given the foreman notice before 12 noon.

Notwithstanding the above arrangement, in the event of more than 10 per cent. of the workmen of each trade employed at the shop or job giving notice to leave during the week, they shall not be entitled to receive their money until the usual time on the following Saturday.

6. That men who are sent from the shop or job, including those engaged in London, and sent to the country, shall be allowed as expenses, 6d. per day for any distance over six miles from the shop or job; exclusive of travelling expenses, time occupied in travelling, and lodging money.

7. That payment of wages shall commence at noon, or as soon thereafter as practicable, on Saturdays, and be paid on the job. But if otherwise arranged, walking time at the rate of three miles per hour shall be allowed to get to the pay table at twelve noon.

8. That employers shall provide, where practicable and reasonable, a suitable place for the workmen to have their meals on the works, with a labourer to assist in preparing them.

9. That wages earned after leaving off time on Fridays and Saturdays only shall be kept in hand as back time.

10. That the term "London district" shall mean 12 miles radius from Charing Cross.

11. That six months' notice, on either side, shall terminate the foregoing rules, to expire on the 1st of May. The foregoing rules shall come into force on the first Monday in November 1892, but the increase of pay to bricklayers shall commence from the first week in July.

Note A.—HOURS OF LABOUR.—*Summer.*—First five days 6.30 a.m. to 8 a.m., 8.30 a.m. to 12 noon, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday 6 30 a.m. to 8 a.m., 8.30 a.m. to 12 noon. *Winter.*—First five days 7 a.m. to 8 a.m., 8.30 a.m. to 12 noon, 12.30 p.m. to 4 p.m. During the first three weeks and last three weeks of winter the time of leaving off shall be 4.30 p.m., Saturday 7 a.m. to 8 a.m., 8.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Note B.—Carpenters and joiners who are in receipt of full wages, and who have been employed for two hours less than the hours mentioned above, shall on discharge receive one hour's notice, to be occupied, so far as practicable, in grinding tools, with one hour's pay in addition.

The following is the substance of the suggested alterations in and additions to the existing rules:—

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING RULES.

To Rule 2.—That men employed on outdoor jobs shall during certain weeks in the winter start work after breakfast instead of before, and that during those weeks there should be a shorter dinner time. The same number of hours (2,538) would be worked, taking the whole year, under the proposed new arrangement as before.

To Rule 11.—That six months' notice of alteration of rules may be given at any time of the year.

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED NEW RULES.

(*a*) That no difference shall be made between union and non-union workmen.

(*b*) That no strike shall take place on any job without a week's written notice to the Secretary of the Central Association of Master Builders.

(*c*) That sub-contracting be not objected to if the standard rate of wages is paid, and all other rules complied with by the sub-contractor.

(*d*) That the employer be in all cases the judge of whom he may consider the proper person to do any work he may require.

RAILWAY SERVANTS' HOURS OF LABOUR.†

THE first annual report of the proceedings of the Board of Trade with regard to the hours of labour of the servants of railway companies under the Railway Regulation Act 1893, which came into operation on the 27th July 1893, states that during the year the Board of Trade have made inquiry and set the powers of the statute in motion in 72 cases, namely—

24	affecting the hours of signalmen,		
14	"	"	drivers and firemen.
14	"	"	men employed at stations, such as station masters, ticket collectors, porters, &c.
7	"	"	guards and brakesmen.
6	"	"	shunters.
4	"	"	gatekeepers.
1	"	"	train signal clerks.
1	"	"	platelayers.
1	"	"	wagon examiners.

* This rule was agreed to on the 3rd March 1893.
† Railway Servants (Hours of Labour). P. P. 320.

As a rule, the representations were not made by or on behalf of individuals, but affect a class or classes of servants on a section or sections of a company's line.

It is impossible, therefore, to compute the number of servants whose hours of work have been dealt with under the provisions of the Act, but it is, no doubt, very considerable.

The cases dealt with affect 31 railway companies. A detailed schedule of them is given in the report.

In the course of inquiry the Board of Trade have had under consideration returns showing the actual hours of a large number of railway servants of different classes, and in some cases these returns have disclosed very long periods of duty. Thus although signalmen are rarely returned as being accustomed to be on duty for much more than 12 hours, it appeared that at one cabin a man was at work for 25½ hours, and on each of the four following days was on duty for from 13 to 15 hours. On the same line, at other cabins, signalmen in the course of changing from the late to the early turn of duty have been required to work from 16 to 19 hours. Many cases have occurred in which drivers, firemen and guards have worked, principally on goods trains, for from 16 to 18 hours.

The Board have not experienced any difficulty in inducing the companies to deal promptly and effectively with such hours of labour. They have found that the revised schedules submitted by order of the Board of Trade always bring the actual hours down to 12, or under. In outstanding cases, the subject of dispute between companies and the Board of Trade, the points involved are of comparatively minor importance.

INDUSTRIAL LITERATURE IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM LIBRARY.

THE principal Librarian and Secretary of the British Museum has forwarded to the Labour Department a copy of a circular which is being addressed to the secretaries of trade unions and employers' associations, asking them to supply to the British Museum Library copies of reports, rules, pamphlets, and other papers printed for private circulation among their members. The Labour Department desires to call the special attention of officials of industrial organisations of all kinds to this circular, and to point out the great importance of enriching the national collections with all documents published by them, which in future years may supply invaluable material for historians and economic students which might otherwise be entirely lost.

At the same time, the Department would be glad if, so far as possible, duplicate sets of reports and pamphlets were supplied to the library of the Labour Department of the Board of Trade with a view to facilitate its work and complete its sources of information on industrial questions.

The following is the text of the Circular alluded to:—

BRITISH MUSEUM, *3rd November* 1894.

SIR,—The Library of the British Museum is unfortunately defective in its collection of literature dealing with industrial questions. The principal reason for this deficiency is the fact that reports, pamphlets, and other papers which are printed for private circulation by societies and associations do not find their way to the British Museum in the ordinary course under the provisions of the Copyright Act.

The want of such documents in the National Library of reference is much to be regretted, not only for the sake of the student of our own day who is interested in the particular subjects with which they deal, but also for the historian of the future.

This want, however, cannot be supplied, unless privately printed documents are presented to the Museum by the courtesy of the several societies. Under these circumstances, I venture to appeal to you for assistance, and would ask you kindly to forward to me copies of documents issued by your society which are not already supplied to the British Museum under the Copyright Act, and you would increase the obligation if you could arrange that they should be sent as soon as possible after they are issued.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
E. M. THOMPSON,
Principal Librarian and Secretary.

CHANGES IN WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN OCTOBER.

(Based on information obtained from Local Correspondents, Superintendents of Mercantile Marine, and from Newspapers and other sources, with corrections and additions supplied by many of the principal Employers' Associations and Trade Unions, and in some cases by the Employers concerned.)*

THE number of changes in rates of wages and hours of labour reported in October is about the same as in the two previous months, being 65, as compared with 65 in September, and 67 in August. Of the increases in rates of wages two are of considerable importance. One is an advance in the piece rates paid to wrought nail makers in South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire. The earnings of the outworkers engaged in this trade have been declining for some time, and a general movement to secure better wages has resulted in a return to the 1892 price list, less 10 per cent. This is said to represent an advance of about 12½ per cent. on previous earnings, and affects between 5,000 and 6,000 workpeople. The other noteworthy increase is one of 5 per cent. on the earnings of dyers in the Leeds and Bradford districts to the number of about 3,500. This advance has followed the new combination in the Dyeing Trade, particulars of which were given in last month's GAZETTE.

Prominent among the reductions is one in the wages of coal miners in Cumberland. The decrease in the rates for hewers is 10 per cent. off 40 per cent. above standard wages, and for the others, 8 per cent. off 28 per cent. The approximate number of men and lads affected is 5,000. There has also been a 10 per cent. decrease in the piece rates paid to about 3,000 glass-blowers and gatherers at St. Helens.

The rates at which seamen and firemen have been signing on at the Bristol Channel ports show considerable fluctuation. The increased rate of wage obtained during August and September is not being generally maintained either at Newport or Cardiff.

Of the decreases in hours of labour, by far the most important affects the workpeople engaged in the Royal Naval Ordnance Depôts. Additional particulars to those given in the table are published concerning this change, together with the time table of the present working hours, on page 340.

Three printing firms at Manchester have adopted a 48 hours' working week, in addition to the four concerning whom particulars were published last month.

INCREASES IN RATES OF WAGES.

Employment and Locality.	Date of Change.	Number of workpeople directly affected.	Particulars of Increase.
Building Trades.			
Carpenters and Joiners— Southport ...	1st Nov.	400	½d. per hour (8d. to 8½d.) from November 1st to January 31st. ½d. per hour (8d. to 8½d.) from February 1st to October 31st.
Plumbers— Coatbridge ...	8th Oct.	22	½d. per hour (7½d. to 8d.).
Plasterers— Blackburn ...	1st Oct.	52	½d. per hour (8½d. to 8¾d.).
Oldham	1st Nov.	35	½d. per hour (8d. to 8½d.).
Wishaw	17th Sept.	6	½d. per hour (8d. to 8½d.). A further ½d. promised in March 1895.
Dunoon	9th Oct.	10	½d. per hour (7½d. to 7¾d.). A further ¼d. from 1st January 1895.
Dumbarton ...	13th Oct.	6	½d. per hour (8d. to 8½d.)
Slaters— Glasgow	1st Nov.	500	½d. per hour (8d. to 8½d.). Country allowance increased 1s. per week (3s. to 4s.), or for a period not exceeding 4 days, 3d. per day (9d. to 1s.).
Lathrenders— Newport, Mon. ...	11th Oct.	12	4d. per 1,000 laths (3s. to 3s. 4d.). Advance averages about 2s. 8d. per week (24s. to 26s. 8d.).
Cardiff	29th Oct.	30	2d. per 1,000 laths (3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.). Advance averages about 1s. 4d. per week (26s. 8d. to 28s.).
Plasterers' Labourers Glasgow† ...	About 1st Oct.	70 to 80†	½d. per hour (6d. to 6½d.).
Ironstone Mining.			
Ironstone Miners— Guisborough ...	15th Oct.	130	1s. per week.
Skelton Park, Cleveland	5th Nov.	6	⅛d. per ton to men with three machines.
Metal Trades.			
Wrought Nail Makers— South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire	27th Oct.	5,000 to 6,000	1892 list of prices, less 10 per cent. adopted for out-workers. Estimated increase of 12½ per cent. on previous wages. Approximate weekly earnings of men before change, 10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d.; after, 12s. to 13s.; of women, before change, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.; after, 5s. to 6s.
Small Chain Makers— Cradley Heath and District	6th Oct.	450	Average of 3s. per week (12s. to 15s.).
Iron Moulders— Cork	15th Oct.	12	2s. per week (28s. to 30s.).
Seamen, &c.			
Enginemen on Sea Fishing Boats— The Tyne ...	3rd Nov.	Not stated	⅛th of a share of the catch (1 to 14th share out of 13 shares), or weekly wages increased from 20s. to 22s. 6d. per week.
Dock Labour.			
Fruit Porters— London	13th Oct.	350	¾d. per package (1d. to 1¾d.) equal to an advance of 3s. per day (6s. to 9s.) when employed to unload "pulp goods."
Textile Trades.			
Weavers— Yeadon	13th Oct.	18	6d. per cut on some kinds of cloth, equal to an advance of about 8 per cent.
Dyers— Bradford ... Lowmoor ... Heckmondwike Shipley ... Leeds ... Newlay ...	4th Oct.	2,080 300 300 120 350 300	5 per cent. on earnings.
Bradford	3rd Nov.	67	11 of 2s. (20s. to 22s.), 16 of 1s. (21s. to 22s.), and 40 of 6d. (22s. to 22s. 6d.).
Warpers— Nottingham ...	5th Oct. 12th Oct.	5 2	Average of 6s. per week (32s to 38s.) One an average of 8s. per week (30s. to 38s.), and one of 7s. (19s. to 26s.).
Clothing Trades.			
Boot and Shoe Operatives— London	1st Jan., 1895	‡	Adoption of a minimum weekly wage of 30s. for clickers, and 25s. for pressmen.
Cloggers— Bolton	4th Oct.	100	15 per cent.
Manchester District	12th Nov.	160 to 180	Sole-makers, 3d. per dozen upon men's and women's; equal to an advance of 5 per cent. Seat-makers, 6d. per dozen upon men's and women's; equal to an advance of 10 per cent.
Printing Trade.			
Compositors (News Department)— Leicester... ...	27th Oct.	45	½d. per 1,000 ens (6½d. to 7d.) for Bourgeois type. Advance averages about 1s. per week.
Miscellaneous.			
Corporation Employees: Lamp Checkers— Leeds§	27th Oct.	6§	1s. per week (7s. to 8s.)§.
School Board Employees: School Cleaners (Women)— Glasgow‖	15th Oct.	123‖	1s. per week (7s. to 8s.)‖.
Fuel Workers— Swansea: Coalmen and Ashmen; Pugmen: Oldsidemen, Newsidemen, Topbin Men ... Labourers (Laddermen)	22nd Oct.	50	Increase per week on Day Work. 6d. (22s. to 22s. 6d.); Night Work. 1s. (23s. to 24s.) 1s. (20s. to 21s.) — 1s. (20s. to 21s.) 1s. (23s. to 24s.) 1s. (21s. to 22s.) — 1s. (21s. to 22s.) 1s. (23s. to 24s.)

* In all cases the accuracy of Newspaper reports is inquired into before the information is used here.

† A general demand was made by the plasterers' labourers of Glasgow for this increase, but it has been refused by those employers who are members of the Master Plasterers' Association. It was granted to the number of workpeople given above by non-associated firms, but on the collapse of the general movement on October 30th, the old rate was in many cases reverted to.

‡ The number of boot and shoe operatives in London who will obtain an advance cannot at present be stated.

§ The Lamp Checkers at Leeds are employed only about 1½ hours per night.

‖ The school-cleaners at Glasgow are employed 3 hours in the morning and 3 hours in the evening.

DECREASES IN RATES OF WAGES.

Employment and Locality.	Date of Change.	Number of workpeople directly affected.	Particulars of Decrease.
Coal Mining.			
Coal Hewers— Cumberland ...	22nd Oct.	4,000	10 per cent. off 40 per cent. above standard wages.
Other underground men and lads— Cumberland ...		1,000	8 per cent. off 28 per cent. above standard wages.
Coal Hewers, Drawers and Oncost Men— Prestonpans ...	25th Oct.	240	10 per cent.
Coal Miners— Fife, Clackmannan and Kinross; West of Scotland— Lanarkshire ... Stirlingshire ... Ayrshire ...	Various dates in Oct.	‡	6d. per day. See note.‖
Coal Miners— Denny	26th Oct.	Not stated	When the colliery is open 12 days per fortnight, miners in ordinary health who do not work 11 days will be paid at a reduction on their rate of 2d. per ton
Metal Trades.			
Steelworkers— Middlesbro' ...	1st Oct.	600	½ per cent. under sliding scale. Present wages 2 per cent. below standard rates of November 1888.
Iron and Steel Workers— Staveley ... Boilermakers, Box Fitters, Engineers, Smiths, Joiners, Patternmakers, and Labourers	About 29th Oct.	00	10 per cent.
Engineering.			
Platers' Apprentices— Newcastle-on-Tyne; Caulkers' Apprentices— Newcastle-on-Tyne	22nd Oct.	85 45	5 per cent., making present wages 30 per cent. off journeymen's present net prices. Reduction averages 2d. per day; wages after change varying from 1s. 10d. to 4s. 6d. per day.
Seamen, &c.			
Able Seamen (Steamships)— Middlesbro' ...	24th Oct.	11	5s. per month (85s. to 80s.).
		16	2s. 6d. per month (82s. 6d. to 80s.).
Newport, Mon. ...	19th Oct.	‡	5s. per month (75s. to 70s.).‡
Cardiff	About 12th Oct.	¶	10s. per month (80s. to 70s.).¶
Firemen— Middlesbro' ...	24th Oct.	13	5s. per month (85s. to 80s.).
		17	2s. 6d. per month (82s. 6d. to 80s.)
Newport, Mon. ...	19th Oct.	‡	5s. per month (80s. to 75s.).‡
Cardiff	About 12th Oct.	¶	10s. per month (85s. to 75s.).¶
Textile Trades.			
Flannel Weavers— Saddleworth ...	4th Oct.	8	2s. per warp. Reduction averages 1s. per week (15s. to 14s.).
Lace Weavers— Darvel	2nd Oct.	64	12½ per cent.
Clothing Trades.			
Machinists (Button-hole hands)— Leeds	20th Oct.	600 girls	6d. per dozen on one class of goods, and 3d. on another. Reduction varies from 9d. to 1s. 3d. per week.
Wood-working Trades.			
Coopers in Merchant Yards— London	About 16th Oct.	150 to 200	Reversion from 1892 list to 1886 list, making an average reduction of about 10 per cent.
Miscellaneous.			
Glass Blowers— St. Helens; Glass Gatherers— St. Helen's	1st Nov.	3,000	10 per cent. on piece rates. Earnings before change, 50s. to 55s.; after, 45s. 6d. to 50s. 6d. 10 per cent. on piece rates. Earnings before change, 45s. to 50s.; after, 41s. 6d. to 45s. 6d.
Firebrick Makers (Clay-getters)— Thornton, Bradford	3rd Oct.	30	8 per cent., and a further 8 per cent. in two months if prices do not advance.

* *Reductions in the Wages of Agricultural Labourers.*—In addition to the ordinary seasonal change which occurs in some districts at this time of the year in the wages of weekly paid agricultural labourers, there appear to have been numerous instances of a real fall in wages. Further particulars will be found on page 333 in the report on agricultural labour.

† In cases where 6d. per day advance was granted provisionally during the Scottish coal strike to certain miners, it has been taken off on termination of the dispute and general resumption of work at the old rates. The exact number of men affected cannot be given.

‡ The number of men affected during the month (Seamen and Firemen) was 19.

¶ The general decrease in seamen's wages at Cardiff, in October, as compared with September was, as stated above, 10s. per month, and the predominant rates 70s. for A. B.'s, and 75s. for Firemen. Several other rates were paid, however. Taking the numbers shipped on steamships during the two months, there were, during October, 16 more A. B.'s shipped at 60s., 99 at 70s., and 25 at 75s. than in September, but a decrease of 117 at 80s. Among Firemen, 8 more were shipped at 65s. 8 at 70s., 121 at 75s., and 14 at 80s. than in September, with a decrease of 99 at 85s.

DECREASES IN HOURS OF LABOUR.

Employment and Locality.	Date of Change.	Number of workpeople directly affected.	Particulars of Decrease.
Government Employees.			
Workpeople in the Royal Naval Ordnance Depôts— Plymouth ... Bull Point ...	8th Nov.	98 201	Average of 3 hours per week (51 to 48).
Portsmouth ... Priddy's Hard... Marchwood ... Chatham ... Upnor	9th Nov.	215 272 8 81 50	Average of 3 hours per week (51 to 48).
Building Trades.			
Carpenters and Joiners— Southport ...	1st Nov.	400	Winter hours reduced 3 per week (47 to 44).
Plumbers— Coatbridge ...	8th Oct.	22	3 hours per week for 9 months (54 to 51) and 9 hours for 3 months (54 to 45).
Metal Trades.			
Brass Workers (Chandelier and Electric Fittings)— Aston, Birmingham	11th Oct.	130	5½ hours per week (54½ to 49).
Cabinet Brass-workers— Birmingham ...	1st Oct.	425	Half-hour per day (9½ to 9).
Wire Nail and Rivet Makers— Birmingham ...	1st Nov.	14	3 hours per week (53 to 5
Engineering.			
Makers of Bolts, Screws, Tools and Machinery— Leeds	22nd Oct.	120	5 hours per week (54 to 49).
Clothing Trades.			
Cloggers— Bolton ...	4th Oct.	100	3 hours per week. Work to cease at 1 o'clock on Saturdays instead of 4. Hours after change about 50 or 51.
Printing, &c., Trades.			
Printers Warehousemen, Parcelmen and General Hands— Newcastle-on-Tyne	26th Oct.	100	3½ hours per week (51½ to 48).
Compositors— Manchester ...	1st Oct.	25	3½ hours per week (51½ to 48).
Compositors, Readers, Apprentices, &c.— Manchester ...	1st Oct.	13	4½ hours per week (52½ to 48).
Compositors, Machinemen, Rulers, Binders, and Lithographers— Manchester ...	5th Oct.	220	3½ hours per week (51½ to 48).
Local Board Employees.			
Bricklayers— New Swindon ...	13th Oct.	5	7 hours per week (55 to 48) when on underground work.
Miscellaneous.			
Cabmen*— Huddersfield ...	9th Oct.	12	1 day off per fortnight instead of 1 in 3 weeks. Wages to remain the same.
Shop Assistants— Edinburgh ...	1st Oct.	200	5 hours per week (68 to 63). Shops to be closed at 8 p.m. instead of 9 p.m. on the first 5 days of the week.
Co-operative Society Employees— Radstock... ... St. Mary Cray ...	15th Oct. 5th Nov.	13 7	3 hours per week (59½ to 56½). 4 hours per week (64½ to 60½).

* These men are paid a fixed weekly wage, irrespective of earnings.

TRADE DISPUTES AND CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION IN FRANCE IN 1893.*

SOME particulars on this subject, based on information supplied to the Department by the *Office du Travail*, were given in last month's GAZETTE. The report itself, of which a copy has since been received, goes into much greater detail regarding each dispute than any of the previous strike volumes issued by the *Office du Travail*. The additional information includes the average number engaged in each dispute, based on the numbers participating at different times during its progress, the numbers of men, women, and children engaged; the number affected in addition to those who struck; particulars as to whether the strikers were unionists or not; wages and hours before and after the strike, and methods of remuneration. A detailed account is also given of each of the 109 cases in which recourse was had to the means for settling disputes provided by the Arbitration and Conciliation Law of 27th December 1892.

* Statistique des Grèves et des Recours à la Conciliation et à l'Arbitrage survenus pendant l'Année 1893. Paris, 1894.

THE FORTY-EIGHT HOURS' WEEK IN THE ROYAL NAVAL ORDNANCE DEPÔTS.

THE following particulars with regard to the introduction of the average forty-eight hours' week into the Royal Naval Ordnance Depôts are based on information supplied by the Lords of the Admiralty.

The reduction of hours took effect on November 8th at the Plymouth and Bull Point Depôts, and on the succeeding day at the Depôts at Portsmouth, Priddys Hard, Marchwood, Chatham and Upnor. The previous hours worked were on an average 53 per week, and the total number of workpeople affected is 925.

The average forty-eight hours' week has been in operation at the Woolwich Depôt since the 2nd April last. The number of people affected was 398, and their previous hours averaged 53 per week.

It will be seen from the table below that the weekly hours are not uniform throughout the year, but are arranged with reference to the amount of daylight during the winter months. Thus during December 41¼ hours only will be worked each week. On the other hand, for over 7½ months of the year the working hours of the men employed in these depots will be 50 each week.

Statement showing New Working Hours in the Royal Naval Ordnance Depôts, excepting Woolwich.

Period of Year.	Period of Week.	Hours of beginning and leaving off Work. Morning.	Afternoon.	Total No. of working hours per Day. H.	M.	Total No. of working hours per Week.
January 1st to 15th (13 days)	Mon. to Fri.	7.45 to 12.30	1.30 to 4.15	7	30	42½
	Saturday.	7.45 to 12.45	...	5	0	
January 16th to 31st (14 days)	Mon. to Fri.	7.45 to 12.30	1.30 to 4.30	7	45	43¾
	Saturday.	7.45 to 12.45	...	5	0	
Feb. 1st to 29th (24 days)	Mon. to Fri.	7.30 to 12.30	1.30 to 5.0	8	30	47½
	Saturday.	7.30 to 12.30	...	5	0	
Mar. 1st to Oct. 18th (199 days)	Mon. to Fri.	7.30 to 12.30	1.30 to 5.30	9	0	50
	Saturday.	7.30 to 12.30	...	5	0	
Oct. 19th to Nov. 10th (20 days)	Mon. to Fri.	7.30 to 12.30	1.30 to 5.0	8	30	47½
	Saturday.	7.30 to 12.30	...	5	0	
Nov. 11th to 30th (17 days)	Mon. to Fri.	7.45 to 12.30	1.30 to 4.30	7	45	43¾
	Saturday.	7.45 to 12.45	...	5	0	
December 1st to 31st (26 days)	Mon. to Fri.	8.0 to 12.30	1.30 to 4.15	7	15	41¼
	Saturday.	8.0 to 1.0	...	5	0	
			Averages	8	0	48

NOTICE OF ACCIDENTS ACT.

THE following tables give a summary of the accidents notified to the Board of Trade during August, September, and October, under the Notice of Accidents Act, 1894. The classes of accidents to be reported are those occurring to persons engaged in the following employments*:—

1. Construction, use, working or repair of any railway, tramroad, tramway, gaswork, canal, bridge, tunnel, harbour, dock, port, pier, quay or other work authorised by any local or personal Act of Parliament.

2. Construction or repair by means of a scaffolding of any building which exceeds 30 feet in height, or use or working of any such building in which more than 20 persons, not being domestic servants, are employed for wages.

3. Use or working of any traction engine or other engine or machine worked by steam in the open air.

As the Act under which these accidents are reported only came into operation on July 20th 1894, and is probably very imperfectly known as yet to the proprietors and managers of many classes of works which are included under its provisions, the number of accidents reported to the Board of Trade, and included in the tables, is doubtless very far below the total number which have occurred in all such works. The tables must not, therefore, be considered to have any definite statistical value, but are printed with a view of illustrating the operation of the Act, which applies to the whole of the United Kingdom.

* Section 6 of the Act states that "Nothing in this Act shall apply to any employment which is for the time being regulated by any Act of Parliament administered by the Secretary of State or by inspectors appointed by him, or shall require notice to be given of any accident of which notice is required by any other Act to be given to the Board of Trade."

Table showing the number of separate accidents reported to the Board of Trade under the Notice of Accidents Act during the months of August, September, and October 1894, and the number of persons killed and injured in such accidents.

A.—Distinguishing nature of employment.

Group.	Nature of Employment or Industry.	No. of Accidents	No. of persons killed.	No. of persons injured.
I.	Construction, use or repair of:—			
	Canal	20	1	19
	Dock	207	3	204
	Gaswork	61	4	57
	Harbour	8	1	7
	Pier	2	1	1
	Quay	3	...	3
	Railway	37	1	36
	Tramway	12	1	11
	Tunnel	7	...	7
	Other Works*	21	...	24
II.	Construction, &c., of Buildings† ...	12	...	12
III.	Use, &c., of Buildings‡	118	...	120
IV.	Use of any steam engine or machine in the open air	4	1	3
	Total	512	13	504

B.—Distinguishing Nature of Injury.
(The Groups are the same as in Table A.)

Nature of Injury.	Group I.	Group II.	Group III.	Group IV.
Fractures	37	3	4	3
Dislocations	4	...	...	...
Ruptures and other severe injuries to body	27	1	6	1
Injuries to eye	8	...	10	...
Other injuries to head or face	53	3	8	...
Other injuries to arms or hands	80	3	53	...
Other injuries to legs or feet	123	...	26	...
Miscellaneous injuries	37	2	13	1
Total	369	12	120	3

CONDITIONS OF WORK OF WAITERS IN GERMANY§

THE results of an inquiry undertaken at the end of last year by the German Government into the conditions of employment, &c., of waiters and waitresses in hotels, restaurants, public-houses, &c., are now published. Information was obtained from 6,808 establishments in Germany, in 3,675 of which the schedules were filled in by the employer, and in 2,933 by one of the waiters or waitresses. In no case were schedules sent to an employer and a worker in the same establishment. The establishments covered by the inquiry employed 34,471 persons in various capacities, of whom 5,477 were waiters (including 1,099 head waiters), 4,093 waitresses, and 2,895 apprentices. The regular working hours (including intervals of rest) of head waiters, waiters, and waitresses are shown in the following statement, based on figures given on pages 40, 46 and 52 of the report:—

Statement showing the percentage proportion of Waiters (male and female) whose hours of duty per day, including intervals of rest, were as under:—

—	12 hours or less.	Over 12 and up to 14 hours.	Over 14 and up to 16 hours.	Over 16 and up to 18 hours.	Over 18 hours.
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
Head Waiters...	2·7	7·6	46·6	40·6	2·5
Waiters...	4·3	7·9	49·2	36·0	2·6
Waitresses	5·0	19·3	51·8	23·4	0·5

A fixed salary was paid to 82·5 per cent. of the waiters, 79 per cent. of the waitresses, and 74·8 per cent. of head waiters, the proportion of each of these classes who boarded and lodged with their employers being respectively 64, 88, and 78 per cent.

Particulars as to the conditions of apprenticeship, and as to the operations of employment registries in procuring situations for waiters, &c., are also given in the report.

As regards the latter, the tables (pages 63, 69 and 75) show that 50·8 per cent. of the waiters, 57·3 per cent. of waitresses, and 47·1 per cent. of head waiters, obtained their present situations through employment agencies, mostly private ones, the actual proportion of each of these classes who secured their places through private agencies being 32·8, 55·5, and 31·1 per cent. respectively. The report quotes statements made on the schedules by employers and employees, condemning the operations and charges of private employment agencies.

* Authorised by any local or personal Act of Parliament.
† More than 30 feet high.
‡ More than 30 feet high in which more than 20 persons are employed for wages.
§ Erhebung über die Arbeits und Gehalts-Verhältnisse der Kellner und Kellnerinnen. Drucksachen der Kommission für Arbeiterstatistik. Berlin, 1894.

PAUPERISM IN OCTOBER.

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

(1.) The number of persons relieved in the 35 selected urban districts on one day in the middle of October was 315,277, or 215 per 10,000 of population, an increase of 2,207 persons, or one per 10,000, as compared with *September*. Each of the Metropolitan districts shows some increase. In the English provincial districts there were no considerable increases, the greatest being 6 per 10,000 each at Barnsley and Bristol. A decrease of 10 per 10,000 of population took place at Stockton; of 8 each in the North Staffordshire and the Galway districts, of 7 at Coatbridge and Airdrie, and of 6 each at Wolverhampton and West Ham.

Vagrants in London numbered 1,067 on one day in the middle of October, as compared with 845 in the previous month, and 1,101 in October 1893.

(2.) As compared with *October 1893*, 2,743 fewer persons were in receipt of relief in the selected urban districts this year than last, a decrease of 2 per 10,000 of population. This decrease amounted to 55 per 10,000 at Wigan and 41 each in the Stockton and Bristol districts. On the other hand, there was an increase of 18 per 10,000 at Hull, and each of the selected districts of Scotland shows an increase. There was a slight decrease in pauperism in London.

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of October 1894. In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.	Rate per 10,000 of Population.*	Paupers on corresponding date in 1893. Total Number.	Rate per 10,000 of Population.*
ENGLAND & WALES.†						
Metropolis.						
West District	10,087	2,059	12,146	**164**	*11,955*	*161*
North District	13,257	8,720	21,977	**221**	*22,413*	*226*
Central District... ...	6,983	3,453	10,436	**422**	*10,736*	*434*
East District	12,526	4,147	16,673	**236**	*17,405*	*247*
South District	19,357	16,552	35,909	**236**	*35,270*	*231*
Total Metropolis	62,210	34,931	97,141	**231**	*97,779*	*232*
West Ham	1,716	6,463	8,179	**224**	*8,412*	*230*
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District ...	1,509	4,537	6,046	**183**	*5,747*	*174*
Stockton & Tees District	961	4,738	5,699	**312**	*6,462*	*353*
Bolton, Oldham, &c. ...	3,065	7,642	10,707	**155**	*10,832*	*157*
Wigan District	1,387	6,807	8,194	**234**	*10,112*	*289*
Manchester District ...	7,488	5,835	13,323	**167**	*13,816*	*173*
Liverpool District ...	8,890	8,432	17,322	**201**	*17,229*	*200*
Bradford District ...	1,026	3,922	4,948	**145**	*4,916*	*144*
Halifax & Huddersfield	1,037	4,763	5,800	**164**	*5,611*	*159*
Leeds District	1,656	5,620	7,276	**188**	*6,993*	*181*
Barnsley District ...	678	3,324	4,002	**214**	*4,268*	*228*
Sheffield District ...	2,261	3,797	6,058	**177**	*6,474*	*189*
Hull District	1,142	5,109	6,251	**293**	*5,886*	*275*
North Staffordshire ...	1,688	5,855	7,543	**245**	*7,499*	*244*
Nottingham District ...	1,453	5,228	6,681	**202**	*6,370*	*192*
Leicester District ...	1,071	2,399	3,470	**199**	*3,585*	*205*
Wolverhampton District	3,070	13,931	17,021	**326**	*17,160*	*328*
Birmingham District ...	4,113	2,040	6,153	**122**	*5,868*	*116*
Bristol District	2,384	8,377	10,761	**330**	*12,114*	*371*
Cardiff & Swansea ...	1,517	5,306	6,823	**237**	*6,881*	*239*
Total "Other Districts"...	46,396	107,682	154,078	**206**	*157,822*	*211*
SCOTLAND.†						
Glasgow District	3,252	12,914	16,166	**209**	*15,584*	*202*
Paisley & Greenock Dist.	678	2,230	2,908	**194**	*2,745*	*183*
Edinburgh & Leith Dist.‡	1,212	4,921	6,133	**184**	*5,533*	*166*
Dundee & Dunfermline ...	941	2,666	3,607	**194**	*3,417*	*184*
Aberdeen	401	2,265	2,666	**216**	*2,408*	*195*
Coatbridge & Airdrie ...	203	929	1,192	**152**	*1,093*	*139*
Total for the above Scottish Districts ...	6,747	25,925	32,672	**199**	*30,780*	*187*
IRELAND.§						
Dublin District	5,679	2,704	8,383	**240**	*7,971*	*228*
Belfast District	3,244	308	3,552	**123**	*3,562*	*123*
Cork, Waterford, & Limerick Districts	4,387	6,237	10,624	**421**	*11,016*	*437*
Galway District	348	300	648	**167**	*677*	*175*
Total for the above Irish Districts	13,658	9,549	23,207	**249**	*23,226*	*250*
Total for above 35 districts in October	**130,727**	**184,550**	**315,277**	**215**	**318,020**	**217**
Total in September... ...	*127,588*	*185,482*	*313,070*	*214*	*311,586*	*213*

* Based on the populations in 1891, revised in accordance with subsequent changes in Poor Law areas.

† 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.

‡ The apparent increase of Pauperism in the Edinburgh and Leith District is due chiefly to an alteration made by one of the parishes in the principle of making the Return.

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

WORK OF LABOUR BUREAUX IN OCTOBER.

THE number of new applicants for work registered during the month of October by the nine bureaux making returns was 2,548, an increase of 643 on the number for September.

The number of old and new applicants on the registers of the nine bureaux in October was 4,810 (as against 4,175 in the previous month), and of these, 585, or 12·2 per cent., were found work by the bureaux, being 51 more than in September. Of the 2,490 persons remaining on the registers at the end of October, 2,112 were men, 160 lads and boys, and 218 women and girls. Of the men, 795 were general labourers, 441 belonged to the Building, Engineering and Metal Trades, 261 were porters and messengers, 245 carmen, stablemen, &c., and 103 clerks and warehousemen, while 267 were of other occupations.

(1) Work Done in October.

Name of Labour Bureau.	No. of Workpeople on Register. At end of Oct. 1894.	At end of Sept. 1894.	No. of Applicants during October. Workpeople. Fresh Applicants.	Re-newals.*	Employers.	No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureaux. During Oct. 1894.	During Sept. 1894.
London.							
Chelsea (King's Road)	125	144	270	260	89	87	74
St. Pancras (Gt. College St.)	285	295	323	25	47	88	90
Battersea (High Street)	187	101	367	197	45	75	47
Islington (Barnsbury St.)	832	539	510	1,992	133	150	194
Provincial.							
Salford (Town Hall)	210	340	280	...	18	47	17
Ipswich (Tower St.)	188	159	75	...	44	33	25
Egham (High St.)	47	47	23	...	16	19	23
Plymouth (East St.)	268	231	252	1,077	34	43	59
Liverpool (Municipal Bdgs.)	348	406	448	...	6	43	5
Total	**2,490**	**2,262**	**2,548**	**3,551**	**432**	**585**	**534**

* The figures in this column do not show the number of individual persons.

(2) Occupations of Applicants on Registers at end of October.

Name of Labour Bureau.	Men. Building, Engineering and Metal Trades.	Carmen Stablemen, Horsemen, &c.	Clerks and Warehousemen.	Porters and Messengers.	General Labourers.	Other Occupations.	Total Men.
London.							
Chelsea	6	1	6	26	11	7	**57**
St. Pancras ...	48	30	7	60	15	35	**195**
Battersea	33	14	7	10	87	22	**173**
Islington	150	76	15	87	347	42	**717**
Provincial.							
Salford	52	14	13	9	87	35	**210**
Ipswich	9	48	5	21	25	44	**152**
Egham	14	9	1	4	9	2	**39**
Plymouth	93	27	19	41	38	39	**257**
Liverpool	36	26	30	3	176	41	**312**
Total Number ...	**441**	**245**	**103**	**261**	**795**	**267**	**2,112**

Name of Labour Bureau.	Lads and Boys.	Women and Girls.* Charwomen, Daily Work, &c.	Servants.	Others.	Total Women and Girls.	Grand Total. Oct.	Sept.
London.							
Chelsea	**13**	37	12	6	**55**	**125**	*144*
St. Pancras ...	**55**	20	4	11	**35**	**285**	*295*
Battersea	**5**	7	...	2	**9**	**187**	*101*
Islington	**30**	64	16	5	**85**	**832**	*539*
Provincial.							
Salford	...	*	*	*	*	**210**	*340*
Ipswich	**13**	6	12	5	**23**	**188**	*159*
Egham	**8**	...	...	...	...	**47**	*47*
Plymouth	**11**	*	*	*	*	**268**	*231*
Liverpool	**25**	8	2	1	**11**	**348**	*406*
Total Number ...	**160**	**142**	**46**	**30**	**218**	**2,490**	*2,262*

* Women and Girls are not at present registered at Salford and Plymouth.

NOTE.—The Labour Department would be glad to receive similar monthly returns from other Labour Bureaux.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN OCTOBER.*

THE number of fatal accidents to the undermentioned classes of workpeople reported in October was 266, which compares with 295 in October 1893, distributed as follows:—

	Railway Servants.	Miners.	Factory and Workshop Operatives.	Seamen.	Total
October 1894	**36**	**75**	**38**	**117**	**266**
October 1893	31	77	31	156	295

On the total of the four classes there was a decrease of 29 as compared with October 1893. Th only class which shows any considerable variation in the two periods is that of seamen.

Of the 1,591 non-fatal accidents reported, 255 were to railway servants, 377 in mines, and 959 in factories and workshops, as compared with 201, 291 and 699 respectively in October 1893. Accidents of a non-fatal character at sea are not reported.

NOTE.—The exact percentage which the number killed in each of these classes of employment bears to the total number employed cannot be stated, the figures, where given, being either for the number employed at a previous date, or for a portion only of those liable to accident, but the following particulars may be useful in forming some idea of the proportion that the numbers employed bear to the persons injured or killed:—

Railways.—A Parliamentary Paper (402 of 1890) gives the number of persons employed on 31st December 1889 by railway companies in the United Kingdom as 381,626.

Mines.—The number employed in and about mines can be given more closely, being 718,747 in 1893, including persons employed on private branch railways and in washing and coking coal.

Factories and Workshops.—From a Parliamentary Paper (402 of 1890) it appears that the number of persons actually at work in factories when the returns were furnished to the Home Office was 3,270,835, but there are no figures available as to the number of persons employed in workshops, although the number is very large.

Seamen.—The returns of the number of seamen employed in British registered vessels in 1893 give 240,974 persons, all grades being included.

Railway Servants.

(Supplied by the Railway Department of the Board of Trade.)

Table showing the number of railway servants reported as killed or injured on the premises of the railway companies during the month of October 1894.

A.—Distinguishing the various classes of persons and nature of injuries.

Class of Service.	Killed	Number of Persons injured, distinguishing Class of Accident.					
		Causing Amputations.	Fractures.	Crushes.	Dislocations, Cuts, Sprains, Bruises, Burns, &c.	Unspecified and Miscellaneous Injuries.	Total Persons Injured.
Brakesmen and Goods Guards	2	...	1	5	12	27	45
Engine Drivers	3	...	2	2	6	14	24
Firemen	3	2	1	2	9	14	28
Guards (Passenger)	1	...	...	2	2	3	7
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers) ...	6	...	2	...	3	6	11
Porters	4	4	...	6	6	25	41
Shunters	3	1	2	8	11	25	47
Miscellaneous (including Contractors' Servants)	14	2	3	9	8	30	52
Total for October 1894 ...	**36**	**9**	**11**	**34**	**57**	**144**	**255**
Total for October 1893 ...	*31*	*7*	*21*	*32*	*62*	*79*	*201*

B.—Distinguishing England, Scotland and Ireland; and accidents in connection with public traffic from other accidents.

	England and Wales.		Scotland.		Ireland.		United Kingdom.	
	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured
From Accidents to Trains, Rolling Stock, Permanent Way, &c. ...	1	7	...	2	...	...	1	9
By Accidents from other causes† ...	29	217	5	23	1	6	35	246
Total for October 1894	**30**	**224**	**5**	**25**	**1**	**6**	**36**	**255**
Total for October 1893	*19*	*164*	*8*	*34*	*4*	*3*	*31*	*201*

† Including Accidents from their own want of caution or misconduct.

Miners.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Table showing the number of persons reported as killed or injured in or about mines, during the month of October 1894.

Cause of Accident.	England and Wales.		Scotland.		Ireland.		United Kingdom.	
	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured
Underground:—								
Explosions of Fire-damp ...	6	33	3	10	...	...	9	43
Falls of ground ...	24	121	7	20	...	...	31	141
Miscellaneous in shafts	8	14	1	1	...	...	9	15
Miscellaneous underground ...	15	125	3	10	...	2	18	137
Surface:—								
Miscellaneous ...	6	37	2	4	...	...	8	41
Total for October 1894	**59**	**330**	**16**	**45**	**...**	**2**	**75**	**377**
Total for October 1893	*65*	*241*	*12*	*49*	*...*	*7*	*77*	*297*

Factory and Workshop Operatives.†

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Table showing the number of persons reported to H.M. Chief Inspector by Certifying Surgeons as killed or injured during the month of October 1894.

—	Killed	Number of Persons Injured, distinguishing Class of Accident.					
		Causing Amputations.	Fractures.	Injuries to Head or Face.	Loss of Sight of one or both Eyes.	Lacerations, Contusions and other Injuries.	Total Persons Injured.
Males.							
Adults (over 18) ...	29	77	54	47	3	399	490
Young Persons ...	8	48	23	11	...	189	271
Boys	...	2	2	...	...	11	15
Total Males ...	37	127	79	58	3	599	776
Females.							
Adults (over 18) ...	...	14	8	7	1	64	94
Young Persons ...	1	11	6	5	...	61	83
Girls	...	1	...	...	...	5	6
Total Females ...	1	26	14	12	1	130	183
Total Males and Females for Oct. 1894	**38**	**153**	**93**	**70**	**4**	**639**	**959**
Total for October 1893	*31*	*123*	*88*	*57*	*2*	*429*	*699*

† The classes of accidents reported are those specified in the LABOUR GAZETTE for July 1893, page 66.

Seamen.

(Supplied by the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen.)

Table showing the number of masters, seamen, and other persons forming the crews of vessels belonging to the United Kingdom, reported to the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen during the month of October 1894 as having lost their lives at sea, or in rivers or harbours, from the undermentioned causes.

(Deaths on yachts and on vessels employed exclusively in rivers and inland navigation are not included.)

Class of Vessels.	Number of Deaths, exclusive of deaths from disease, homicide, suicide and unknown causes.						
	By Wreck and Casualty.		By Accidents other than Wreck and Casualty.		Total.		
	Sailing.	Steam.	Sailing.	Steam.	Sailing.	Steam.	Total.
Vessels registered under Merchant Shipping Act:							
Trading	32	14	17	38	49	52	101
Fishing	1	...	9	...	10	...	10
Vessels not so registered:							
Trading	2	2	...	...	2	2	4
Fishing	2	...	...	...	2	...	2
Total for Oct. 1894	**37**	**16**	**26**	**38**	**63**	**54**	**117**
Total for Oct. 1893	*74*	*9*	*28*	*45*	*102*	*54*	*156*

* For Accidents reported under the Notice of Accidents Act of 1894 see page 340

FOREIGN TRADE IN OCTOBER.

Imports.—The total declared value of the imports during last month was £35,668,385, being an increase of £311,088, or nearly 1 per cent., on the amount for October 1893. The items mainly contributing to this increase are raw materials for textile manufactures (especially raw cotton and wool) and general manufactured articles, the increases under these heads being £611,486 and £649,560 respectively. Articles of food and drink not liable to duty, show a large decrease of £1,031,423, or 7·8 per cent., the articles showing the most marked decline being wheat and sugar.

The total imports for the first ten months of 1894 are valued at £340,312,998, an increase of £7,777,048, or 2·3 per cent. on the estimated value for the same period of 1893. Raw materials for manufactures show an increase of £7,240,541, living animals for food, of £2,469,444, and manufactured articles, £1,918,859, while articles of food and drink, duty free, and metals show respective declines of £3,169,819 and £1,240,670.

British and Irish Exports.—The exports of British and Irish produce, which on comparison with 1893 have decreased in every month since April last, show for the month of October an increase compared with October 1893, of £968,204, or 5·3 per cent., the declared value being £19,147,996. Of this increase, yarns and textile fabrics contribute £564,835, manufactured or partly manufactured articles classed as miscellaneous, £218,259, and raw materials, £217,557. The increase in raw materials was almost wholly due to the increased export of coal, October 1893 being a month in which the English coal dispute was in progress.

The aggregate value of the exports for the first ten months of 1894 is stated as £180,610,567, a figure which still shows a decrease as compared with the same period of 1893, in which the amount was £183,573,413. The decline is made up of decreases of £3,201,993 for the exports of metals and articles manufactured therefrom (except machinery), £1,524,334 for unspecified articles, wholly or partially manufactured, and £728,565 for apparel and articles of personal use, only partly counterbalanced by an increase of £2,523,934 for raw materials, which is wholly due to the larger export of coal.

Re-exports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.—The total value for last month of the exports thus classified was £5,831,638, an increase of £1,082,521 on the amount for October 1893, but the figures for the first ten months of this year still show a decrease of £1,942,283, as compared with the same portion of 1893, the amount for 1894 being £48,713,297.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Cotton Statistics.—The imports of raw cotton in October amounted to 225,086 bales, as compared with 166,593 bales in 1893, and 279,090 in 1892. An increased activity is also observable in the exports as compared with last year, the figures being 49,205 bales in October 1894, as against 43,289 bales in October 1893, and 35,735 bales in October 1892. The following table shows the figures for the ten months ended October 31st in each of the last three years:—

	Imports. Bales.	Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns. Bales.	Exports. Bales.
1894 ...	2,576,157 ...	2,702,847 ...	412,867
1893 ...	1,942,088 ...	2,335,832 ...	388,643
1892 ...	2,604,300 ...	2,528,366 ...	381,378

British Corn.—The average prices of British corn per quarter for the week ended October 27th, were again considerably below the prices at the corresponding week in 1893, as will be seen from the following figures:—

	Average price per Quarter at— October 1894.	October 1893.	Decrease.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Wheat ...	17 7 ...	27 6 ...	9 11
Barley ...	23 8 ...	29 6 ...	5 10
Oats ...	13 3 ...	18 2 ...	4 11

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 21 of the principal railways in the United Kingdom for the four weeks ended October 27th, amounted to £5,679,444, an increase of £334,956 as compared with the corresponding period of last year. The passenger receipts amounted to £2,353,666, and those from goods and minerals to £3,325,778, being increases of £60,867 and £274,089 respectively.

The total receipts for three Scottish railways included in the above figures were £607,745, or £72,563 less than in the corresponding period of last year. The decline, which is not so great as in the four previous weeks, is entirely in the goods and mineral traffic, and is partly owing, no doubt, to the stoppage of mines in Scotland during the first part of the month. The figures for goods and minerals were £383,186 or £75,611 less than last year, while the passenger receipts amounted to £224,559, an increase of £3,048.

Hay Imports.—The total importation of hay in October was 8,981 tons, or 20,342 tons less than in October 1893, in which yea the small crop in the South of England was followed by a large increase in imports. For the ten months ended October 31st 1894, the imports were 237,496 tons, as against 184,689 tons for the corresponding period of 1893.

Bankruptcies.—During October, 395 bankruptcies were gazetted, as against 442 in October 1893, a decrease of 47. Of the 395 bankrupts, 32 were publicans, hotel-keepers, &c., 28 builders, 23 farmers, 18 grocers, 11 bakers, and 10 butchers.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The total number of British and foreign passengers who left this country during October for places out of Europe, was 24,948, being 5,946 more than in October 1893, when the number was 19,002.

British and Irish.—For the first time for several months the number of passengers of British nationality to places out of Europe, shows an increase, the number in October being 17,990, an increase of 3,106 over the figure for October 1893. This increase is wholly made up of passengers to the United States and to Australasia, a decline being observed in the numbers of passengers to all other places, especially to South Africa. The figures are as follow:—

	October 1894.	October 1893.
United States	12,280 ...	8,841
British North America	1,203 ...	1,367
Australasia	1,533 ...	1,200
South Africa	1,367 ...	1,702
Other places	1,607 ...	1,774
Total ...	17,990	14,884

Foreign.—In addition to the above, there were 6,958 foreigners and others whose nationality was not distinguished, as compared with 4,118 in October 1893, an increase of 2,840.

Alien Immigration.—The total number of aliens who arrived from the Continent at various ports of the United Kingdom last month was 5,836, or almost the same as in October 1893, when the figure was 5,660, the difference being 176 only. The number of immigrants stated to be *en route* to America shows, for the first time this year, a slight increase over the corresponding number for last year, the figures being 2,764 and 2,564 respectively. The number of aliens not stated to be *en route* to America was 3,072 (including 818 sailors), while for October 1893, it was 3,096 (including 828 sailors). For the ten months of the present year the number of aliens passing through this country *en route* to America is 31,501 only, as against 75,925 for the corresponding period in 1893, showing a decrease of 58 per cent.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE COAL INDUSTRY IN BELGIUM IN 1893.*

THE report of the Inspector General of Mines for 1893 shows that the mean number of workpeople employed at the Belgian mines was 116,861, of whom 30,556, or 26 per cent., were surface workers. The total number of persons engaged in the industry is, of course, somewhat larger than this, owing to lost time. The number of girls and women under 21 years of age working underground, which, in 1891, was 2,968, has been reduced to 1,549, in consequence of the Law of December 1889, which forbade their employment underground from 1st January 1892, though not affecting those so employed at that date. The number of boys under 14 employed underground was 1,638, compared with 2,535 in 1891. Owing to strikes, the average number of days worked per individual was 285, compared with 292 in 1892. £4,145,944, or 4s. 3d. per ton, was spent in wages, amounting, on an average, to 1s. 11d. per day for surface workers, and 2s. 7½d. for underground workers, after deducting contributions to provident funds, and other expenses (including fines) devolving on the workpeople.

The total output of Belgium coal mines in 1893 amounted to 19,410,519 metrical tons (2,204 lb.), compared with 19,583,173 tons in 1892. The actual amount marketed was 17,641,247 tons, the value per ton at the pit's mouth being stated at 9·75 francs (7s. 9½d.), compared with 10·69 francs (8s. 6½d.) in the preceding year.

* Statistique des Mines, Minières, Carrières, Mines Métallurgiques, etc., pour l'Année 1893, par M. Em. Harzé, Inspecteur Général des Mines à l'Administration Centrale. Bruxelles, 1894.

INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN OCTOBER.

During October there were 285 industrial prosecutions under the Acts included in the following tables, compared with 163 in September. Of these 285 prosecutions, 219 were under the *Factory and Workshop Acts*, and resulted in 206 convictions, with an average penalty including costs of £1 9s. 8d. Under the *Mines Acts*, out of 48 prosecutions, 38 convictions were obtained, 4 being against owners or managers, and 34 against workmen, the average penalty and costs imposed on the former being £4 7s. 5d., and on the latter in 32 convictions, £1 5s. 2d. In two convictions against workmen the defendants went to prison. Under the *Merchant Shipping Acts*, a conviction was obtained in each of the 18 prosecutions, of which 13 were against owners or masters of vessels, 4 against seamen, the penalties and costs averaging £10 18s. 11d. and £2 18s. 8d. respectively; and 1 against a man for acting as a passage broker without a certificate, in which the penalty and costs amounted to £125 5s.

I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.*

Particulars of Offences.	Prosecutions.	Convictions.	Total Amount of Penalties.	Total Amount of Costs.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Neglecting to Limewash	2	2	0 5 0	0 17 6
Overcrowding Factory or Workshop ...	...	...	...	...
Neglecting to Fence Machinery	5	4	23 10 0	2 13 8
Employing Young Persons under Illegal Conditions	15	14	20 13 6	11 17 0
Illegal Hours or Times of Employment.				
Before or after the legal hour	34	32	22 5 6	26 8 11
During meal times, or without proper intervals for meals	12	12	14 13 0	20 7 4
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted	23	21	10 18 6	8 4 6
On Sundays, holidays, or children on successive Saturdays	8	6	4 17 0	3 16 10
(Children) Full time or otherwise than in morning or afternoon sets, &c.	2	2	2 2 6	0 19 6
Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts, Notices, &c.				
Not keeping registers	11	10	6 12 6	4 18 8
„ affixing or properly filling up notices, abstracts, &c.	79	76	21 9 6	23 6 7
„ sending notices required by Act ...	20	20	22 18 6	16 15 10
Other Offences	8	7	28 0 0	7 4 0
Total for October 1894	**219**	**206**	**178 5 6**	**127 10 4**
Total for October 1893	*165*	*161*	*177 6 6*	*100 14 9*

* Supplied by the Home Office.

II.—Under the Mines Acts.*

Nature of Offence.	Prosecutions.	Convictions.	Cases withdrawn.	Cases dismissed.	Fines and Costs imposed on Defendants.
					£ s. d.
By Owners, Managers, &c.—					
Fencing	1	...	...	1†	...
Ventilation	...	...	...	...	...
Shafts and Manholes	...	...	...	...	...
Shot firing and Explosives ...	5	1	1	3	10 0 0
Miscellaneous	5	3	2	...	7 9 6
By Workmen—					
Safety Lamps	12	10‡	...	2	9 14 6
Shot-firing and Explosives ...	2	2	...	...	3 15 6
Timbering	3	3	...	...	2 16 6
Lucifer Matches, &c.	6	5§	...	...	9 6 6
Riding on trams...	2	2	...	...	1 6 0
Miscellaneous	12	12	...	...	13 7 0
Total for October 1894 ...	**48**	**38**	**3**	**6**	**57 15 6**
Total for October 1893 ...	*26*	*26*	...	...	*61 6 0*

* Supplied by the Home Office. † Defendant had to pay all his own costs.
‡ In two of these cases defendants went to prison for 10 days as an alternative.
§ In one case defendant absconded.

III.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

Nature of Offence.	Prosecutions.	Convictions.	Total Penalties.	Total Costs.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By Owners or Masters of Ships:—				
Submerging Disc	4	4	47 0 0	6 4 10
Carrying excessive deck cargoes...	...	...	...	...
Carrying grain in bulk between decks	4	4	55 0 0	2 14 8
Carrying passengers in excess of certificate	1	1	13 3 0	3 7 6
Illegally engaging seamen	1	1	2 0 0	...
Giving false certificate	...	...	...	...
Not providing lights	2	2	10 0 0	2 9 6
Under Sea Fishery Act 1883 ...	...	...	...	...
Miscellaneous...	1	1	0 5 0	0 1 6
By Seamen	4	4	9 0 0	2 14 6
By Boarding-House Keepers ...	...	...	...	...
By other Persons:—				
Acting as passage broker without certificate	1	1	120 0 0	5 5 0
Total for October 1894 ...	**18**	**18**	**256 8 0**	**22 17 6**
Total for September 1894 ...	*14*	*14*	*144 1 6*	*30 14 8*

LABOUR CASES IN OCTOBER.

The following are among the legal cases of the month under various Statutes specially affecting labour, of which the Department has received information. The accounts are based principally upon reports appearing in local newspapers. The list is not intended to be in any way exhaustive of all such cases decided during the month. Prosecutions under the Factory and Workshop Acts, the Mines Regulation Acts, and the Merchant Shipping Acts, are summarized in another column.

(1) Employers' Liability Act.

Marylebone County Court, October 1st.—Labourer sued builders for damages for injuries received, owing to fall of piece of brick from scaffolding, due, as alleged, to neglect of foreman to provide protection. Defendants offered £10 in compensation, but this was refused by plaintiff. Verdict for plaintiff, damages £7 10s. Costs on higher scale.

Manchester County Court, October 5th.—Painter sued employer for damages for injuries received through fall from an insecure and unsuitable ladder, owing to which he had lost nine weeks' work. Defence, that the ladder was a proper one and in good condition. Judgment for plaintiff, damages £50 and costs.

Cardiff County Court, October 5th.—Labourer sued stevedore for damages for injuries received through defective plant while unloading a cargo of bales of compressed hay. The bales were bound with wire bands, through which the hooks of the crane were slipped; the wire bands frequently broke, and in one case the bale fell from a considerable height on to plaintiff. Defence, that there was no negligence, and bales were raised in a right and proper way. Verdict for plaintiff, £75 damages and costs.

City of London Court, October 14th.—Dock labourer sued Docks Joint Committee for £50 damages for injuries received through fall of marble slab owing to improper hoisting. Defence denied negligence. Verdict for plaintiff for £25.

Bristol County Court, October 18th or 19th.—Plaintiff sued currier for £195 damages under the Act, or alternatively, £50 damages at common law, for injuries received while working a glazing machine. Plaintiff had agreed to go on with the glazing, instead of the man who had been working the machine, the latter not wishing to work overtime, and alleged that owing to defective light and absence of fencing, his hand was dragged into machine. Defendants admitted that machine was not properly fenced, but pleaded contributory negligence on plaintiff's part in undertaking work for which he was not competent. Verdict for plaintiff for £180.

Oldham County Court, October 18th.—Forge labourer sued employers for £214 10s. damages for injuries received through explosion of cylinder in smelting furnace, alleging negligence on the part of manager of forge and furnaceman in charge. Plaintiff stated that manager had neglected to test the cylinder before passing it for the furnace into which it was placed by order of furnaceman. Defendants pleaded that furnaceman had no authority; that there was nothing to show that cylinder was hollow, or to suggest danger to either manager of forge or furnaceman, and that there was no trace of unsoundness in cylinder. Verdict for defendant company.

City of London Court, October 19th.—Builders' labourer sued builders for £35 damages for injuries received owing to alleged defective machinery. Plaintiff was assisting to raise a girder by means of a pulley; in doing this the hook holding the pulley gave way and fell on to plaintiff's head. Defence that it was plaintiff's duty to see that the tackle was properly fixed. Verdict for plaintiff for £30.

Bow County Court, October 19th.—Stevedore claimed £250 damages from master stevedore for injuries received while unloading a ship owing to defective plant. Plaintiff had been caught in a rope detached from the winch end owing to defective gearing. Defence that the gear was properly rigged, and that plaintiff had been negligent. Judgment for plaintiff for £120.

Greenwich County Court, October 19th.—Plaintiff sued mineral water company for damages for injuries received while feeding a machine known to be in a defective condition. Defence, plaintiff's negligence. Verdict for plaintiff, damages £40.

Birmingham County Court, October 25th.—Press-worker sued brass founders for £100 damages for injuries received in working a steam-stamp. She alleged that the stop action was defective, and the treadle insufficiently guarded. Defence, that plaintiff, a piece-worker, in order to lose no time, kept her foot on the treadle and unconsciously pressed it at the wrong time. Verdict for defendants, who contested the case at the instance of an insurance company.

Clerkenwell County Court, October 24th.—Ironer sued laundry owners for £30 damages for injuries received in using a wringing machine. Verdict for plaintiff, damages £5.

Bristol County Court, October 26th.—Coal carrier sued contractor for £50 damages for injuries received owing to defective machinery. Plaintiff was working in hold of ship when a tub, which was being lowered, struck against an obstacle, became unhooked, and fell on plaintiff's foot. Plaintiff contended that the hook was open instead of closed, that the foreman allowed the tubs to be lowered too rapidly, and that a hatchman was required to guide them. Plaintiff admitted that hatchmen were rarely employed in unloading coal vessels. Defence, that tackle was suitable and that it was duty of man in hold to guide descending tubs. Judgment for defendant, with costs.

City of London Court, October 26th.—Boy, employed as "cropper hand," sued printers for £50 damages for injuries to hand, received while cleaning machine on which he worked. Defence, plaintiff's negligence. Verdict for Plaintiff for amount claimed.

Westminster County Court, October 29th.—Sawyer sued ladder-maker for damages for injuries sustained to his hand whilst working a steam planer, owing to a knot in the wood causing it to "kick." Verdict for £25. Judgment reserved.

(2) Employers and Workmen Act.

Burslem County Court, October 11th.—Hollow-ware presser sued earthenware manufacturers for £6 3s. 11½d. wages due and moneys improperly deducted from his earnings. It was stated that a rule of the Staffordshire Potteries Conciliation Board provided that operatives should be paid for all work spoiled through causes beyond their own control, but not for bad work proved to be the fault of the operative. Plaintiff received a month's notice, and in that period, his ware was counted in a green state (before being fired in the oven), and defective pieces being eliminated, he was paid on account for the remainder less 10 per cent. for contingencies. Plaintiff contended that after this Defendants could not plead that bad ware from oven was due to Plaintiff's bad workmanship, and that he was entitled to the return of the deductions from his earnings. Defendants urged that until this kind of ware had been fired certain defects in the work could not be discovered; and that Plaintiff's work had been found defective. The judge stated that the main issue rested on the rule of the Conciliation Board, which was indeed the common law of England. Judgment for plaintiff for £2 2s. and costs on higher scale.

Wolverhampton Police Court, October 12th.—Lockmaker sued lock manufacturers for £2 10s. 10d. damages for not finding him work, he being in defendants' exclusive employment. Plaintiff was employed under agreement to make lever locks; as no orders for these came in, he was offered inferior work, but objected to the price paid; he was told he could either go on as he was, or wait till lever lock orders came in. Stipendiary held that though a man doing a particular kind of work was entitled to a fair share of that work, if there was any, and, if dismissed, was entitled to average wages; if there was no work he was not entitled to average wages. It was pointed out that a man under a fortnight's notice would be prevented by his agreement from obtaining work elsewhere. Stipendiary held that it was custom of trade, and gave verdict for defendants with costs.

Dublin Northern Division Police Court, October 31st.—Compositor sued printer and publisher for £1 15s., one week's wages. Plaintiff was under notice of dismissal and got one week's wages, but claimed for a second week, on ground that a fortnight's notice was customary. He had declined to work overtime at the end of the first week's notice, and was told he need not return. He adduced evidence that overtime was voluntary, and that it was not customary for a man under notice to do it. Defence, that the general working contract was 54 working hours per week, and whatever overtime was required. Verdict for plaintiff for one week's wages, judge agreeing to state a case.

Five cases of carpenters successfully claiming "grinding" money were reported during the month (viz., at *Westminster County Court* (4), and at *Croydon County Court* (1).)

(3) Factory Acts.

Stranraer Sheriff Court, October 6th.—Judgment was given in the case of a creamery company, which had been prosecuted for employing a woman and two young persons on a Sunday. Defendants pleaded that creameries did not come under the Act. Sheriff held that a creamery is a factory under the Act, and inflicted a fine of 1s. for each of the three persons employed. Notice of appeal was given.

Particulars Clause. Factory Act, 1891, Sect. 24.

Heywood, October 10th.—H.M. Inspector of Particulars (Mr. T. Birtwistle) summoned a firm of cotton manufacturers for supplying false particulars of work to four weavers, by which means they were defrauded out of 5 per cent., or 1s. each, per week of their earnings. Defence, manager being new to the business had erred unconsciously. Fined 10s. and costs in first case and costs in remainder. Total, £2 3s. 6d.

Blackburn, October 15th.—H.M. Inspector of Particulars (Mr. T. Birtwistle) summoned a firm for supplying incorrect particulars of work to four weavers, three of whom were being defrauded out of 5¼ per cent., or 1s. 3d. each per week, and in the fourth case 3½ per cent., or 9d. per week, of their earnings. Fined 20s. and costs in two cases, and costs in the rest. Total, £3 6s.

(4) Miscellaneous.

Clerkenwell Police Court, October 22nd.—Cab proprietor was summoned for defacing license of cab driver. Plaintiff had been unable to pay 5s. 6d. for cab hire on day it was due, but paid the arrears later. On getting back his license he found the entries of entering and leaving proprietor's service, in large figures instead of words—he contended this was a "chairmark"—warning other proprietors that he had not paid up his cab hire, and that he had been unable to get work in consequence. Defence, that entries were made in accordance with Act, and no chairmarking intended. Magistrate held that secret signs should not be used. Judgment for plaintiff, 10s. compensation and £3 costs.

Wolverhampton County Court, October 8th.—Joiner sued firm of builders, with their foreman and clerk as co-defendants, for £10 10s. damages for alleged illegal detention of tools, and for £1 1s. 5d. paid to recover tools. Defendant's agent engaged plaintiff in Manchester to take work in Wolverhampton, paying his fare, £1 1s. 5d., and taking charge of his luggage. Plaintiff, on reaching Wolverhampton, found there was a strike of carpenters and joiners, and declined to work. On applying for his box containing goods, chiefly tools, to value of £100, defendant firm's foreman and clerk declined to surrender it until plaintiff paid fare from Manchester. Defence stated that foreman took his orders from agent, head of firm not interfering between them. Judge held there was no evidence against head of firm, but gave a verdict against foreman and clerk for £1 15s., the amount of fare, and two days' wages, with costs on higher scale.

Wolverhampton Police Court, October 12th.—Carpenter appealed against a conviction in which he had been fined £3 for intimidating another carpenter, and ordered to pay £1 15s. compensation. Recorder, in giving judgment, said no violence had been used, but appellant had carried off a man's tools to the strike committee rooms when he knew the owner wished to go to work, and could recover his tools only by facing a strong hostile organisation which would bring pressure to bear upon him. Appeal dismissed with costs.

NEW MINES AND MINES ABANDONED.

(*Supplied by the Home Office.*)

The number of mines reported as opened or re-opened during October was 27, and as abandoned 13, the numbers in the previous month being 20 and 5 respectively. There were 25 collieries opened or re-opened out of the total of 27 mines, and 12 of the 13 abandoned mines were also collieries. Of the new collieries 4 each are in Lancashire and Lanarkshire, 3 in Glamorganshire, and 2 each in Durham and Carmarthenshire, while 5 of the abandoned collieries were in Yorkshire, and 3 in Staffordshire.

New Mines.

Coal:—

Durham.—Middridge Colliery (Harvey Seam); White Lea, Crook. (2)

Yorkshire.—Green Top (Coal and Fireclay), near Leeds.

Lancashire.—Moorside (Sinking), Altham, Accrington; Lowside (Adit Level to Great Mine Seam), Oldham; Moss Hall (Sinking) Westhoughton, Bolton; Rivington (Adit Level Driving), Chorley. (4)

Staffordshire.—Red Hall Colliery (Searching), Mow Cop.

Salop.—Mossy Green Farm, Ketley.

Staffordshire.—Coppice (Bass Seam), Brownhills.

Worcestershire.—Newbury Lane (Thick Seam), Oldbury.

Monmouthshire.—Hendon, near Crumlin.

Carmarthenshire.—Cilsaig (Golden Vein), near Llanelly; Lambert's (Anthracite Coal—Gwendraeth Vein), Pontyeates. (2)

Glamorganshire.—Cwmblacks, Merthyr Tydfil; Ty du (Llantwit Seam), Tonyrefail; Ty fodwg (No. 3 Rhondda Seam), Ton, Pentre. (3)

Lanarkshire.—Newarthill Colliery, Newarthill; Craigend (Splint Seam), Shettleston; Wattstown (Drumgray Seam), Airdrie; Greenfield (Hurlet Seam), Tarbrax. (4)

Edinburgh.—Polbeth Mine (Houston Seam), West Calder.

Fifeshire.—Dundonald, No. 1. Mine (Fourteen feet Seam), Cardenden.

Stirling.—Callender Colliery, Mairsbank Mine (Coxrod Seam), Falkirk.

Tyrone.—Aunagher (Sinking), Coalisland, Dungannon.

Limestone:—

Lanarkshire.—Netherton Mine, Auchenheath.

Gold Ore:—

Merionethshire.—Figre, Bontddw, Dolgelly.

Mines Abandoned.

Coal:—

Yorkshire.—Lundhill (Kent's Thick Seam), Barnsley; Hepworth (Hard Bed), Holmfirth; Hill End (Coal and Fireclay), Leeds; Morley West End (Cannel Seam), Leeds; Rylands Main (Melton Field Seam), Barnsley. (5)

Leicestershire.—Swannington (Main Seam), Coalville.

Staffordshire.—Old Hayswood, Halmerend; Goscote Hall (4 yard Seams in Nos. 3 and 4 Pits), Walsall; Black Lake (New Mine Seam), West Bromwich. (3)

Salop.—Ketley (Grainger's) (Sinking abandoned), Ketley.

Lancashire.—Besom Hill (Little Seam), Oldham.

Edinburgh.—Polbeth Mine (Houston Seam), West Calder.

Zinc Ore:—

Anglesey.—Morfa du, Amlwch.

Erratum.—In the list of mines abandoned, published on page 284 of the September Gazette, "Ferney Field (Bent and Black Seams), Oldham," was included by an error. The working of these Seams was only temporarily discontinued.

EMPLOYMENT OF SOLDIERS IN THE POST OFFICE.*

A Return just published by the Post Office, May 31st 1894, as to the number of soldiers employed in the Post Office since 1892 shows that in 1892, 1893 and the first quarter of 1894, 1,107 soldiers obtained established situations in the United Kingdom, and 1,110 obtained unestablished situations in London.

*Post Office (Employment of Soldiers), P.P. 205.

TRADE DISPUTES.

(Based on information obtained from Local Correspondents, Trade Union periodical returns, and newspaper reports. Application for particulars is made to the Employers and Trade Unions affected in each dispute, and the information so obtained up to the latest moment is used.)

FIFTY-FIVE new disputes took place in October, as compared with 69 in the previous month, and 42 in October 1893.

In the Building Trades 3 disputes occurred, 1 of which was for an advance in wages, and the others arose upon questions of unionism. Of the 6 disputes in the Clothing Trades, 3 were more or less due to questions of wages, and 3 to dissatisfaction with working arrangements. The 3 disputes in the Metal Trades were all due to wages questions, as also were 3 of the 4 disputes in connection with Seafaring and Dock Labour, the remaining 1 being upon a wages question. Seventeen disputes took place in the Mining Industry, 9 of which were due to wages questions, and 3 to questions of unionism, while 5 were caused by dissatisfaction with working arrangements. Six disputes occurred in the Shipbuilding Trade, 5 of which were due to questions of working arrangements, and 1 was a demand for an advance in wages. Of the 13 disputes in the Textile Trades, 3 were due to wages questions, and the others to dissatisfaction with working arrangements. Two of the 3 disputes in Miscellaneous Industries were due to wages questions, and 1 arose in respect of working arrangements.

The geographical distribution of the 55 disputes is as follows:—Northern Counties 25, Midland Counties 8, Western Counties and Wales 10, London 3, Scotland 7, and Ireland 2.

Twenty-two old disputes were settled in October, and at the end of the month it was known that 8 new and 39 old disputes were still unsettled.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN OCTOBER 1894.

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Establishments.	Persons	Commencement.	Termination.	Result.
Building Trades.					Oct.	Oct.	
Plasterers' Labourers	Glasgow ...	For advance in wages of ½d. per hour (from 6d. to 6½d.)	49	316	1	30	Work resumed without any advance in wages.
Building Trades generally	London, E. ...	Refusal to work with certain plasterers not connected with the London Building Trades Federation	1	147	18	...	Men in question withdrawn from the job and work resumed. Full details not yet to hand.
Sawers	Curragh ...	Against employment of non-union men	1	6	16	...	Still unsettled.
Clothing Trades.							
Boot and Shoe Operatives	Barwell, Hinckley,	Against frequent changes from day to piecework, and for payment of minimum district rate of wages to day workers	1	20 dir. 100 indir.	1	19	The men returned to work at piece rates. The demand for the minimum day wage rates being withdrawn.
Tailors	Rochdale ...	Against introduction of machinery worked by female labour	1	17	5	...	Still unsettled.
Boot and Shoe Finishers	Kettering ...	Against payment at 1d. per pair below list prices	1	10	9	11	Employer agreed to pay full list prices.
Tailors	Dundee ...	Against employment of a workman at weekly wages, the rest of the men being on piecework	1	40	15	...	Still unsettled.
Boot and Shoe Finishers	Desborough, Northants	Objection to work under new foreman	1	17	22	29	Men agreed to give the new foreman a trial, the district minimum wages being paid, and a discharged man re-instated.
Tailors	Manchester ...	Against a change in the method of working, alleged to have the effect of reducing wages	1	40	2	5	Men resumed work: terms of settlement not yet to hand.
Metal Trades.							
Nail Makers	Newton, near Glasgow	Against reduction in prices	1	100	1	...	Still unsettled.
Wrought Nail Workers	South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire	For advance of 10 to 15 per cent. upon list prices	About 30	3,000	2	8	Advance of about 12½ per cent. granted
Boiler Makers, Engineers, Carpenters, &c.	Staveley, Chesterfield	Against reduction in wages of 10 per cent. ...	1	330	15	...	About 200 men have returned to work at the reduction.
Mining.							
Coalmen	Wath, Yorkshire	Against reduction in wages	1	...	1	1	Work resumed at the reduction.
Miners	Llanwit Vardre	Objection to rate of wages offered upon change of system from day to piecework	1	40	1	22	Work resumed at day rates.
Ditto	Llanelly ...	For advance in wages	1	150	1	...	Details of settlement.
Hauliers, &c.	Merthyr ...	To compel the payment of a fine by one of their number who had infringed a rule of the union	1	About 1,800 dir. & indir.	2	3	Workman in question (a blacklayer) paid the fine.
Miners	Near South Shields	Against a deputy being shifted out of his proper turn, contrary to the custom of the colliery	1	1,400	3	4	Former custom to be adhered to.
Ditto	Wattstown, Rhondda Fach	Against alteration in the method of "screening," alleged to increase amount of "small coal"	1	1,100	3	18	Employers agreed to adhere to old method of "screening," except for daymen.
Ditto	Near Motherwell	Against partial reduction of ¼d. per ton	1	250	4	5	Reduction withdrawn.
Bankmen	Near Sheffield	Against employment of non-unionists instead of re-engaging old hands as promised	1	80	12	12	Settlement stated to be satisfactory to the men arrived at.
Miners	Near Wakefield	Against suspension of men for sending up too large a quantity of dirt with coal	1	250	15	17	Manager agreed to relax rule as to amount of dirt allowable.
Masters, &c.	Near Mansfield	Against proposed reduction of 2d. per ton in consequence of the tubs being filled by shovel instead of fork	1	201	17	...	Still unsettled.
Hauliers	Aberaman ...	Refusal of hauliers to do shacklers' work ...	1	1,500 dir. and indir.	16	...	Former mode of working to be adhered to.
Ditto	Rhondda ...	Refusal of employer to pay more than half a day's wage in consequence of a breakdown at mid-day	1	800 dir. and indir.	17	...	Work resumed upon employer's terms.
Miners	Near Caerphilly	Objection to non-payment of fortnight's wages	1	421	19	...	Legal proceedings taken, and wages secured.
Ditto	Seaham ...	To compel the "putters" to join the union, and to prevent them hewing coal in the men's places	1	2,000	23	24	Putters agreed to join the union; other grievances amicably arranged.
Deputies	Sheepbridge ...	Against reduction in wages of 10 per cent.	1	...	...	...	No details of settlement.
Miners	Near Barnsley	Dispute as to prices to be paid on a change from day to piece-work	1	...	26	...	Still unsettled.
Ditto	Ditto	Objection to a medical officer chosen by the employer, and other grievances	1	...	31	...	The men have returned to work, and the questions at issue are to be settled by deputation to employer.
Seafaring, Dock, &c. Labour.							
Firemen ... (on steam trawlers)	The Tyne ...	For an increased share in profits	18	180	1	...	20 men have been granted the increase.
Dock Labourers ...	Hull	Alleged unfair preference for non-unionists ...	1	120	8	...	No details of settlement.
Foreign Porters	London, E.C.	Against employment of non-unionists on certain work and at certain rates	1	300	11	13	Unionists to be employed at an increased rate per package on certain classes of work.
Dock Labourers ...	Hull	Alleged victimisation for attending meeting of men, and for interviewing employer in above dispute	1	11	15	...	Still unsettled.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN OCTOBER 1894—(*Continued*).

Trade.	Locality	Alleged Cause or Object.	Establishments.	Persons	Commencement.	Termination.	Result.
Shipbuilding.					Oct.	Oct.	
Platers' Helpers ...	Hull	Dispute with platers, six helpers being desired in each squad on "shell" work instead of five	1	150	8	27	Six men to each squad to be granted in working "bogies," and five whe hanging up plates.
Rivet Heaters	Dumbarton ...	Refusal to use coal instead of coke for heating rivets	1	208	12	16	Work resumed when a supply of coke had been procured.
Platers	Hull	Platers objected to one of the helpers on strike (see above) working at inside work	1	20	17	27	Platers withdrew their objection, the former strike having been settled. (See above.)
Engineers	Greenock ...	Against certain work (boiler chokes), alleged to belong to engineers, being given to boiler-makers	1	76 dir. and indir.	18	24	Work in question to be machined in the foundries by engineers, and to be fixed by boiler-makers.
Ship Painters	Liverpool ...	Refusal to accept a new code of working rules drawn up by Employers' Association allowing employers to take on men for a quarter of a day	...	600	22	...	Still unsettled.
Boilermakers' Helpers	Barry, Cardiff	For advance in wages of 1s. per day	1	16 dir. and indir.	26	27	Work resumed without the advance.
Textile Trades.							
Weavers	Padiham ...	Alleged bad material	1	104	2	3	Employer agreed to improve material.
Winders	Heywood ...	Dissatisfaction with wages earned under new system of weighing out the yarn	1	30	3	10	Compromised on the basis of former method, with slight alterations.
Silk Braid Weavers ...	Leek	Against introduction of women as weavers ...	1	14	8	...	No details of settlement.
Reelers	Oldham ...	For advance on piece-work prices...	1	112 dir. and indir.	9	13	Work resumed at old rates.
Weavers	Preston ...	Dismissal of one of their number for alleged bad work	1	...	4	11	Satisfactory arrangement arrived at.
Pieceers	Farnworth ...	Objection to conditions of work	1	12	17	27	Conditions improved.
Weavers	Ditto	Against the fining of some of their number for too much waste yarn	1	400	18	18	Fines not to be imposed in future.
Weavers, &c.	Preston ...	For dismissal of an official for alleged tyrannical conduct	1	250 (lasted	30 min 18	utes) 19	Official in question dismissed.
Cotton Weavers ...	Blackburn ...	Alleged bad material, and unnecessary discharge of a weaver	1	230	19	26	An inquiry promised into the quality of the material, but the weaver in question not to be re-instated.
Ditto	Brierfield, Burnley	Alleged bad material		50	20	23	Work resumed on a promise to supply better material as far as possible.
Linen Weavers... ...	Dundee ...	Alleged bad material	1	100	23	25	Work resumed on the understanding that weavers would be remunerated for extra trouble in case of bad webs.
Operatives (Sail Cloth Factory)	Crewkerne ...	For advance in wages of 10 per cent., and against introduction of workpeople from Scotland	1	...	29	...	No details of settlement.
Woolcombers	Bradford ...	Refusal to work on Saturday afternoons... ...	1	80	13	13	Replaced by non-unionists.
Miscellaneous Trades.							
Compositors	London, E.C.	Against a reduction in the wages agreed to be paid while learning the Linotype machine	1	40	12	...	Ditto
Box Makers	Bristol... ...	Disagreement as to price to be paid for a new class of box	1	12	19	20	Satisfactory price list arranged.
Compositors	Dublin ...	Alleged employment of female type-setters, and an undue proportion of apprentices	1	8	20	...	Replaced by non-unionists.

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE OCTOBER, AND WERE SETTLED IN THAT MONTH.

						Oct.	
Framework Knitters (Hosiery)	Radford, Notts	Against refusal of employer to pay full prices when working for samples	1	21	31 Mar.	29	Twelve men to be immediately re-in stated at old rate of wages, the re mainder to be re-employed as soon as vacancies arise, employer undertaking to dispense with non-unionists.
Filemakers	Willenhall ...	Against proposed reduction in wages of 15 per cent.	1	6	25 June	...	Replaced by other men.
Coal Miners	Scotland (generally)	For return of amount of reduction made during 1894	...	70,000	25 June	...	Work resumed at the old rate of wages.
Shale Miners	West Calder...	Against reduction in wages of 25 per cent. ...	1	250	7 July	11	Ditto.
Engineers	Lowca, Whitehaven	For increase in wages on return to full working after a long period of short time	1	39	7 July	13	Men resumed at old rate of wages, with a promise of an advance at end of six months if warranted by state of trade.
Builders' Labourers ...	Nelson ...	Employers desiring to break a rule which gives one labourer to each waller	25	145	16 July	29	Men returned to work on employers' terms.
Compositors	Ipswich ...	Objection to the employment of men at less than the trade union rate	1	12	20 July	...	The strikers obtained work elsewhere.
Boot & Shoe Finishers	Rushden ...	Against introduction of the team system without machinery in the finishing department	1	20	23 July	27	Shop closed to trade unionists.
Carters	Liverpool ...	Against refusal to pay for overtime worked ..	1	30	28 July	...	Replaced by non-unionists.
Miners	Blackheath, Dudley	Against reduction alleged to be in excess of the 10 per cent. generally accepted	1	130	10 Aug.	17	Men resumed work at a smaller reduction.
Cotton Spinners ...	Heywood ...	Against discharge of two of their number, alleged to be without proper notice	1	108	22 Aug.	4	Work resumed, the men in question being re-instated.
Compositors	Goole	Against excessive number of apprentices and alleged underpaid labour	1	10	27 Aug.	29	Office closed to trade unionists.
Lace Weavers	Darvel, Ayrshire	Against proposed reduction in wages of 16 to 20 per cent.	1	64	1 Sept.	2	Reduction of 12½ per cent. accepted.
Flax Roughers	Belfast... ...	Against alteration in the method of working, alleged to have the ultimate effect of reducing the number of men required	1	30	1 Sept.	...	A different method of roughing the flax introduced, employer stating that men's services were no longer required.
Shipyard Apprentices (Plating, Riveting, Caulking)	River Tyne ...	Against reduced rate of wages, arranged by the Employers' Association and Boilermakers' Society	6	272	5 Sept.	24	Work resumed at the reduced rates by the apprentice platers and caulkers
Finishers and Lasters	London, E. ...	Refusal to take out work at prices alleged to be a reduction on previous rates	1	24	5 Sept.	Not known	Shop closed to trade unionists.
Platers' Helpers ...	Hull	Against proposal of platers to reduce the number of helpers in each squad from six to five	1	34	15 Sept.	29	Helpers agreed to work five to the squad hanging up the plates, and six when working the "bogies."
Plumbers	Coatbridge ...	For increase in wages of ¼d. per hour, reduction in hours, and increased overtime rates	7	18	17 Sept.	8	Men obtained advance in wages and reduction in hours, but the overtime rates were not increased.
Boiler Makers	Chepstow ...	Against employment of apprentices, alleged to be in excess of the number, and beyond the age agreed to by the employer	1	41	19 Sept.	19	Satisfactory re-arrangement of apprenticeship question.
Clay Getters	Thornton, Bradford	Against reduction in wages of 16 per cent.... ...	1	30	20 Sept.	3	Half the reduction to take effect at once, and the rest in two months time, unless a rise in prices takes place.
Engineers	Worcester ...	Objection to a newly-appointed foreman ...	1	37	20 Sept.	...	Places filled by others.
Cutlery Workers ...	Sheffield ...	Against proposed reduction in wages of 10 per cent.	1	43	29 Sept.	...	Most of the strikers have obtained work elsewhere.

III.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN PREVIOUS TO OCTOBER, AND WERE STILL UNSETTLED AT THE END OF THAT MONTH

The following disputes reported in last month's issue as commencing in September are still unsettled:—Carpenters and joiners, Dublin; dock labourers, Liverpool; Cotton Operatives, Heywood; weavers, Nelson; miners, Denaby, Dronfield and Batley (since settled—Nov.); silk weavers, Macclesfield; glass-bottle makers and apprentices, Blyth (since settled—Nov.).

The following, which commenced before September, are also still unsettled:—Cotton spinners, Preston; weavers, Droylsden, Cliviger, Stacksteads and Barrowford; tailors, Barrow; boot and shoe operatives, Street and St. Alban's; small chain workers, Cradley Heath; miners, Batley; carpenters, Basingstoke and Wolverhampton; wool sorters, Saltaire; silk dressers, Brighouse; wire drawers, Halifax; filemakers, Willenhall; wool shear grinders, Sheffield; compositors, Dublin; lock-makers, Willenhall (since settled—Nov.); pattern-makers, N. E. Coast; wherrymen, River Tyne; hat and cap-makers, Newcastle.

In addition to the above, the following disputes commencing in previous months, of which information has only recently been received, were still unsettled.

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Establishments.	Persons.	Commencement.
Spinners	Padiham	Dissatisfaction with material supplied	1	48	14 July.
Ship Painters	Blackwall	Alleged violation of working rules	1	5	21 Aug.
Tinsmiths	Glasgow...	Against employment of a non-unionist	1	9	27 Aug.
Platen Printing Machine Minders	London, S.E.	Objection to piece-working	1	12	17 Sept.
Loomers and Drawers	Preston	For payment of list prices	3	16	26 Sept.

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN OCTOBER.

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

FROM the following summary of the changes in the Register of English and Welsh Industrial Organisations in October, it will be seen that 2 Trade Unions, 1 Federation of Trade Unions, 5 Co-operative Associations of Consumers, 1 miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Society, 12 new Friendly Societies, and 27 new branches of existing Friendly Societies, have been added to the Register during the past month. Eight Building Societies, 2 Trade Unions, and 1 Federation are reported as having ceased to exist.

NEW ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

I.—Trade Unions.

Associated Engineers, Sir Wilfred Lawson Café, Westbar, Sheffield.
Builders' Labourers, ElmTree Inn, Crossgate, Durham.
General Union of Lancashire & Yorkshire Warp Dressers' Associations, Forest St., Nelson.

II.—Industrial and Provident Societies.

(A) *Associations of Consumers.*

Broompark Co-op. Soc., Broompark, Durham.
Fairford Co-op. Soc., London St., Fairford (Glos.).
Cullompton Co-op. and Ind. Soc., Fore St., Cullompton (Devon).
Bourne Co-op. Ind. & Pro. Soc., Star Lane, Bourne (Linc.)
Leeds Household Coal Supply, 5 South Parade, Leeds.

(B) *Miscellaneous Associations*

St. Albans Club & Institute, High St., Teddington (Middlesex).

III.—Friendly Societies.

New Societies.

Ordinary Friendly	6	Specially authorised ...	1
Dividing	1	Working Men's Clubs ...	4

New Branches of Existing Societies.

I.O. Rechabites	9	G.I.O.L. Cal. Corks ...	2
U. Industrial O.O.F. ...	3	O. Sons of Temperance ...	2
B.O.A. Free Gardeners ...	2	United A.O. Druids ...	2

Various others 7

OLD ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

I.—Trade Unions.

Lodge No. 4 Miners' Defence Salop District of the Midland Counties Federation.
International Federation of all Trades & Industries.
Hull Riggers & Hobblers Union.

Eight Building Societies were dissolved.

CO-OPERATION IN OCTOBER.

DURING the month five new distributive associations have been registered.

Reports with regard to trade during the quarter ending in September compared with the corresponding quarter of 1893, have been received with regard to 65 Associations of Consumers (distributive societies) with 120,137 members. They show quarterly sales amounting to £766,400, a decrease of £13,450, or 1·7 per cent., compared with the corresponding period of 1893. The falling off is mainly attributable to the Scottish societies in the districts affected by the recent coal dispute. The English societies making returns show a net increase in sales of £6,552, or 1·4 per cent. A further analysis of the figures shows that, of the 36 English societies making returns, 27 with a membership of 28,115, and quarterly sales amounting to £176,258, show an increase of £18,995, while 9 with a membership of 56,032, and sales to the value of £304,629, show a decrease of £12,443.

In Scotland out of 29 societies making returns, 15 with 18,195 members, and sales to the value of £147,713, show an increase of £7,277, while 14 with 17,795 members, and sales £137,800, show a decrease of £17,289.

On October 15th and five following days, an exhibition of goods produced by co-operative manufacturing societies was held in Manchester, in connection with which the question of Co-operative Production was discussed by representatives of the various societies.

Four of the co-operative boot manufacturing societies in the Midland counties report improvement in trade. A co-operative clothing factory in the same district reports that it is "very busy."

On October 6th a Co-operative Convention was held at Dumfermline in Scotland, at which delegates were present, representing 8 co-operative productive societies, and 12 sectional and district associations covering the whole of Scotland. Reports received by the Conference from societies and district associations were satisfactory as regards productive societies; and also as regards distributive societies, except in the Falkirk district and among the societies immediately affected by the recent coal dispute. In Ayrshire several societies have commenced bread-baking departments. In Lanark one distributive society has opened a new branch, and two others have amalgamated. One society has decided to discontinue paying bonus to its employees.

A baking society in Glasgow (a federation of stores) which a few months ago entered upon the experiment of opening public restaurants in the city, has during the month added another establishment to those already opened.

THE ORGANISATION OF THE BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

THE Federation of Boot and Shoe Manufacturers have submitted to the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives the following proposals, the object, as stated by the president of the Federation, being "by affirming certain principles, to restrict the operation of the Conference and Arbitration Boards to the work for which they were originally intended." The propositions are submitted as a condition of the continuance of the joint boards and the conference. An answer has been requested by the 19th inst., and the Federation meets on the 21st to consider the matter further.

1. That there shall be no advance or reduction of the present minimum rate of wages or piece-work statements, or alteration of the hours of labour applying to a town or district within two years of the 31st December 1894, or within two years of the date of any subsequent award.

2. That the present is not an opportune time for the introduction of piece-work in connection with lasting and finishing machinery. That whenever such time arrives, the wage list shall be based on the average wages earned on day work, and the time fairly occupied in each operation.

3. That every employer is entitled (*a*) to the fullest control over the management of his factory, and to make such regulations as he deems necessary for time-keeping and good order; (*b*) to pay either the recognised piece or day rates of wages; (*c*) to introduce machinery at any time without notice.

4. That there shall be no interference with the output either from machine or hand labour by the union or its officials, and instructions shall not be given by them to restrict the amount of work to be performed by workmen in connection therewith.

5. That every employer is entitled to have his work, or any part of it, made in any town or place, provided he pays (*a*) the recognised rate of wages in such town or place, or, if no rate of wages has been fixed, then (*b*) such wages as may be fixed by mutual arrangement with his workpeople.

6. That each employer has the sole right to determine what workmen he shall employ.

7. That the statement of the secretary of an association, or of a branch of the union, shall be accepted on either side as proof of membership for federation purposes.

Change in Address of a Factory Inspector.—The official address of W. A. Beaumont, Esq. (Bradford district) is the Bradford Club, Bradford, Yorks.

LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.*

(*Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31 Broadway, Westminster, S.W., from official and other reports, and newspapers mostly dated in September and October last.*)

Canada.—A report from Sault Ste. Marie, in the scantily-populated district of Algoma, Ontario, states that there is no employment for farm labourers during winter, but that for an able-bodied man there is plenty of employment in the lumber woods, or in chopping cord-wood for farmers. There is a very limited opening for mechanics in the district at 1 dol. 50 cents. to 2 dols. a day, and the Mining Industry is very small at present. The report of the British Columbia Board of Trade, for the year ending July last, points out (as has been done from time to time by this office) that the supply of labour is in excess of the demand, and especially warns emigrants without a trade from coming to the Province.

New South Wales.—The Printing firms in Sydney have resolved to reduce the minimum wages for compositors from £3 to £2 12s. a week, with a corresponding reduction in other branches of the trade. The men have declined to accept this reduction, and a strike is apprehended.

Victoria.—The report of the Chief Inspector of Factories for 1893, just received, states that the Building, Clothing and Dressmaking Trades suffered in that year more severely than any other trade; but that distilleries, perfumeries, tanneries, butter factories, hats and packing-cases factories, sugar works, and waterproof works were employing more hands than before. The Furniture Trade has also been very bad. A strike has occurred in the Bootmaking Trade on the question of wages; it is not expected that an early settlement will be effected.

South Australia.—A strike has occurred at the smelting works at Port Adelaide, owing to the directors refusing to increase wages by 1s. a day. The chief demand lately in the Colony has been for shearers. There is an ample supply of these on the spot, as well as of mechanics and experienced farm labourers.

Queensland.—In the district of Rockhampton, the chief place in Central Queensland, there is very little demand for station hands or mechanics, but there is a good demand for female cooks and general servants. At Brisbane the prospects in the Building Trades are a little better, but at present there are more than enough hands on the spot. Union shearers have been on strike, but other labour being plentiful shearing has not been greatly hindered, and most of the sheep have been shorn; the strike is now at an end. A report from Bundaberg states that land is being taken up for sugar-cane planting by farm labourers and others, but that there is no demand for more labour.

Tasmania.—There is no opening at present in the Colony for any labour from the outside. Government is finding work in the country districts for a few of the unemployed.

New Zealand.—The Government have introduced a Bill to enable them to advance money to settlers, on mortgage, at reasonable rates of interest. The September Report of the Department of Labour, states:—The Building Trades are fair at Auckland, very dull at Gisborne, fairly busy at Napier, dull—but with better prospects—at Wanganui, very dull at Wellington, slightly improved at Christchurch, noticeably improved at Dunedin, and dull at nearly all smaller places except at Greymouth and Marton, where it is brisk. The Boot Trade is fully employed at Nelson, but is generally dull, or only fairly busy elsewhere. Sawmills are very busy at Auckland. The Engineering and Iron Trades are fully employed at Napier, and busy at Wanganui. Unskilled labourers are plentiful everywhere, but the number of unemployed has in several places decreased.

Cape Colony.—A report from Kimberley, in the North, states that there is a good demand for cooks at 20s. and female general servants at 10s. a week, with board and lodging in both cases, and a fairly good demand for country blacksmiths and carpenters at 30s. a week, with board and lodging; and also that there is an opening for skilled mechanics and miners in connection with the diamond mines. Owing to the scarcity of bricks at Cape Town, many bricklayers, carpenters and labourers are out of work there.

Natal.—The weekly employees in the Durban workshops of the Government railways have petitioned that they should receive the same privileges as monthly workmen. The Government have partially allowed their claim, and have decided that they shall, equally with the monthly men, receive their pay for the public holidays prescribed by law, and that they shall be entitled to draw their pay, when disabled by injuries received in discharged of their duties.

British Bechuanaland.—An official report states that British Bechuanaland is not at present a suitable field for emigrants with little or no capital.

Paraguay.—An official report states that some of the Australian settlers in Paraguay, who had seceded from the "New Australia" Colony, and had been given grants of land at the Government Colony at Gonzales, arrived at Buenos Ayres towards the end of September in a destitute condition.

* And in Paraguay.

LABOUR ABROAD.

FRANCE.*

Labour Disputes in October.†—Twenty-five fresh disputes were recorded in October, as compared with 24 in the preceding month, and 9 old disputes remained unsettled at the beginning of October. In 18 of the fresh disputes about which full particulars are given, 2,624 strikers were engaged. Seven disputes occurred in the Textile Trades, 4 were among leather workers, 3 in the Building Trades, 2 in the Clothing Trades, 2 among navvies, and 7 in various miscellaneous trades. Of 17 disputes ended in October, 7 failed, 6 were compromised, 3 were successful, and 1 was partially so. In one strike 1,000 weavers belonging to 30 establishments at Avesnes-les-Aubert (Department of Nord), were concerned. It lasted 4 days, the operatives compromising their demand for increased wages.

State of Employment in October.—Among 121,300 members belonging to 576 branches of Trade Unions reporting to the *Office du Travail*, 11 per cent. were stated to be out of work on October 15th. Unions representing 75 per cent. of the members reported the situation as less favourable than at the corresponding period of 1893, while, in the opinion of 4 per cent. it was better, and in that of 21 per cent. it was about the same. *Building Trades.*—Work is slack in the Department of the Seine, and though no reduction of hours is notified fewer men are occupied. *Metal and Engineering Trades.*—Engineering shops, boiler works and foundries in the Seine Department are slack. In the Nord, a want of orders for railway material is complained of, though foundries keep occupied. In the Ardennes, there has been a slight falling off of business in metal works, while in Creuzot work is brisk, especially as regards agricultural machine making. *Coal.*—Trade in the Nord coal district is normal. *Textiles.*—In the Nord, flax spinners have had little to do for some months, and several establishments are either wholly or partially idle. Linen weaving has suffered in consequence, and wages and hours have been reduced. All branches of the Wool Trade are slack, and several factories have closed. The same is the case in the Ardennes, where besides, wages have declined to some extent.

* From information supplied by the *Office du Travail.*

† Owing to the *Gazette* having gone to press a day earlier than usual last month the information relating to labour disputes, and conciliation and arbitration in September, had to be omitted. The fresh strikes recorded in September numbered 24, in 21 of which an aggregate of 1,842 persons were engaged; of the 20 strikes ended during the month, 9 failed, 6 were compromised and 5 succeeded. The Law on Conciliation and Arbitration was resorted to on 3 occasions during September, twice at the workers' initiative, and once owing to that of the *juge de paix*. Mediation was successful in only one case.

Conciliation and Arbitration.—The Law on Conciliation and Arbitration was resorted to on six occasions during October. On three of these the initiative was taken by the workpeople, on one by the *juge de paix*, on another by employers and workers together. Information is wanting as to the remaining case. In all cases the proceedings resulted in a settlement of the dispute.

GERMANY.

The following is based on information supplied by Mr. Mulvany, H.M. Consul at Düsseldorf, under date of October 3rd :—

Iron Industry.—In October the Iron Trade was somewhat steadier and shipments larger. Pig iron and finished iron works were busy, and manufacturers had enough work to keep them going till the end of the year.

Coal Industry.—The trade in coal was good, especially for household and manufacturing purposes. In many cases, in the Rhenish-Westphalian district, collieries were idle for the want of empty railway trucks, which the State Railway finds it difficult to supply in sufficient numbers.

*Labour Disputes.**—Nine fresh disputes and 11 old ones were reported during October. Of the fresh disputes, 4 were in the Building Trades, 2 among metal workers, and the remaining 3 among printers, tailors and chairmakers. None of these was of a serious character. Of 8 strikes reported as terminated during the month, 2 succeeded, 1 failed, 3 were compromised, and in the case of two the result is not known.

The boycotting of breweries in Berlin continued throughout the month, and meetings of the representatives of the brewery interest and the Boycott Committee were held on the 8th, 13th and 16th of October, but no settlement could be effected, as the men's representatives rejected the conditions proposed by the brewery owners for the re-instatement of a number of the locked-out men. At a meeting held at the end of the month it was decided to continue the boycott.

In Brunswick the boycott also continued, and owing to the accumulation of beer in the cellars it was being exported at very low prices. The Social Democrats of Kastel, near Mainz, have boycotted a brewery, the owners of which had prohibited their men from holding social democratic meetings.

With regard to the boycotting, by the Social Democrats, of a large brewery in Dresden, referred to in the GAZETTE of June last, Mr. G. Strachey, H.M. Minister at Dresden, reported on November 4th to the Foreign Office, that the private establishments affected suffered such losses that they prevailed on the brewery owners to agree to terms by which the park and gardens of the brewery are to be at the disposal of the hands and their party on May 1st 1895, and on two or three Sundays during next summer. The brewery hands will be free to belong to any labour association, and the company to engage or discharge persons without reference to their opinions or party. This is regarded as a complete victory for the boycotters.

Contrary to the practice of the authorities in some other parts of Saxony, the local police have not treated boycotting as a breach of the law.

New Miners' Union.—At a meeting of coal-owners at Essen, attended by about 500 delegates from different parts of Germany, it was proposed that, in the Rhenish-Westphalian Coal District, an association should be formed styled "Gewerkverein Christlicher Bergarbeiter für den Oberbergamtsbezirk Dortmund," with its seat in Essen, the stated object being "to raise the moral and social standing of the miners upon a Christian and legal basis."

National Miners' Congress.—The first German National Miners' Congress will assemble at Essen on December 26th. The following subjects will be discussed :—Eight hours' shifts from bank to bank for all classes of miners ; prohibition of employment of women and children ; abolition of piece-work ; a uniform mining law for all the mining districts of Germany ; uniform miners' insurance funds (*Knappschaftskassen*) ; uniform rules of work in mines ; prevention of accidents and ventilation ; election of mining inspectors by workmen and their payment by the State ; and the question of combination of workers.

* Supplemented by information published in the *Deutscher Reichsanzeiger*.

SWITZERLAND.

The following is based on information transmitted by Mr. Angst, H.M. Consul at Zürich, on October 8th, from notes supplied by Herr Greulich, the Swiss workmen's secretary :—

Federation of Embroiderers.—Statements made at the general meeting of the Federation of Embroiderers on October 9th show that that once powerful organisation is in course of decay. It has now only 3,784 members, with 5,009 machines, against 14,088 members, with 21,372 machines, in 1880. All the important provisions and regulations as to the payment of wages, the trade in embroidered articles, hours, stitch counting, &c., were abolished, or have become inoperative in consequence of the fall of the Federation. The initiative committee for organising insurance against want of employment has been dissolved. A proposal to dissolve the Federation was only rejected because the latter is answerable with its funds for the compensation to the inventors of the steam embroidery loom, for technical reasons connected with the acquisition of the American patent. With the collapse of the Federation it is said that the position of the workers is likely to deteriorate. Already those embroiderers who are not under the Factory Act, work, it is said, 13 or 14 hours at the machine, compelling their families, who must help at the threading table, to do the same. It is further stated that wages have been depressed to a point not hitherto reached.

Unemployed Insurance.—The LABOUR GAZETTE of June, July, August and September contained references to the action of certain Swiss Cantons in the matter of insurance against want of work. The resolution given below, which was adopted at the annual meeting of delegates of the Grütli Union, the largest and most important union in Switzerland for promoting the interests of the working classes, shows its attitude towards these measures and towards the general question of unemployed insurance. The following is the text of the resolution :—

"The Grütli Union is convinced that the question of out-of-work insurance can only be solved on the basis of a Federal Institution by means of large workers' organisations, having legal protection and adequate financial support from the Federal Government, the Cantons, and the Communes. The Grütli Society nevertheless welcomes the action of different towns in regulating to some extent the unemployed question, and in insuring the unemployed against the consequences of being out of work. It considers the chief claims of the working classes in the organisation of such funds to be :—(*a*) In the drawing up of the statutes the workers should participate proportionately to their number, and should have the chief share in the administration of the funds ; (*b*) employers should acquire due interest in the insurance by contributing directly to it ; (*c*) the premium payable by workpeople should not be so high as to make it impossible for them to subscribe to their trade unions ; (*d*) no insured person should be compelled to accept work in lieu of umemployed benefit, if such work pay less than the local wages of his trade, nor should the unemployed benefit be so small as to virtually compel him to accept work paying less than the local wages of his trade."

Labour Disputes.—In Aarberg 45 Italian masons engaged in building a school struck in October for a 10-hours day and increased wages. During the month a strike at a large cycle works in Arbon was in progress. A large proportion of the men having been dismissed owing to alleged slackness in business the rest struck in sympathy.—*Der Grütlianer.*

Nine-hours Day.—A 9-hours day has been adopted in the offices of a Zürich newspaper, the rates of piece-work remain, however, the same.—*Ibid.*

BELGIUM.

Councils of Industry and Labour.—*Le Peuple* reports the establishment, during October, of councils of this kind in Eccloo and Ninove (E. Flanders), and in Ypres (W. Flanders). Under the Law of August 16, 1887, such councils are established spontaneously or at the request of the Communal Council, or of the employers and employed in a district, being made up of equal numbers of each. Their chief function is the collection of statistical data on matters connected with trade and labour ; they also attempt to settle amicably questions affecting new contracts, &c., between employers and employed before any dispute has actually arisen.

The jurisdiction of the Council just established at Eccloo extends to 6 neighbouring communes, and consists of the five following sections : (1) Flax, cotton, hemp and jute weaving ; (2) the woollen industry ; (3) furniture and trades accessory to building ; (4) trades accessory to clothing, and (5) the manufacture of foods, &c. The Council of Ninove also consists of five sections, viz.—(1) Spinning ; (2) weaving ; (3) industries accessory to clothing ; (4) chemical industries ; and (5) manufacture of foods, &c.

Reduction of Colliers' Wages.—Surface workers at the collieries of Hornu and Wasmes have been notified of a 10 per cent. reduction of wages.—(*Le Peuple.*)

Labour Dispute.—The same paper reports that the men at four printing offices in Arlon struck for increased wages in the second week of October.

HOLLAND.

The following is based on a report forwarded to the Foreign Office by Sir H. Rumbold, H.M. Minister at the Hague, under date of October 30th :—

Strike in the Printing Trade.—A strike broke out in the Printing Trade in Amsterdam on September 28th, which in a few days extended to various towns throughout the Netherlands including the Hague.

It was known to employers that the men were dissatisfied with the existing wages, but matters were, it is said, precipitated by the impending introduction of a new type-setting machine. Her Majesty's Consul at Amsterdam states that the average wages of fairly skilled men did not exceed 3¾d. an hour, or about 3s. per working day of 10 hours, though skilled and steady workmen by working overtime could earn 40s. a week or more. The strike began at certain newspaper printing offices, the men demanding 4⅝d. per hour for all workmen over 23 years of age, 4d. per hour for those from 20 to 23 years old, and 3⅛d. per hour for those from 18 to 20 years old, a working day of 10 hours, and 25 per cent. extra for overtime. After about a fortnight all the employers had given way on every point, though the concession is said to be only temporary. Some houses, however, rather than allow the men the benefit of the overtime increase, have augmented their staffs. A Publishers' and Printers' Association was in course of formation, by which it was proposed to regulate and organise on a common basis, the question of wages, apprenticeship, &c., in conjunction with the union of the employed.

Work in Bakeries.—Describing the conditions of work in the Baking Trade, Mr. W. C. Robinson, H.M. Consul at Amsterdam, reports as follows : "The rate of wages in the trade is low and insufficient ; in the large manufactories it is possible to arrange the hours of labour in such a manner that the employed shall, at all events, have some reasonable leisure ; but the vast number of small bakeries, employing one or two men besides the proprietor, condemn the journeymen to a wretched existence ; they have to work through the night and generally a large proportion of the forenoon ; they sleep in the afternoon, and have literally no time at their own disposal ; the unmarried men generally lodge and board, very indifferently, at the bakery ; their average earnings do not exceed 17s. weekly, yet there is no lack of hands in the trade, wretched as it appears."

Labour Bureau.—A labour bureau has been established at Kampen for promoting good feeling between employers and employees. It is divided into as many sections as there are branches of labour at Kampen, each division consisting of an equal number of employers and workers elected under certain specified conditions for a period of three years, and at the expiration of that period eligible for re-election. A committee of managers, composed of the presidents and secretaries of the various sections, has the power of calling meetings of those sections, or a general meeting for the discussion of subjects affecting labour. A duly appointed legal adviser, who is also a member of the bureau, is to act as arbitrator in cases of differences between employers and workers.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Eight Hours Day.—The *Arbeiter Zeitung* states that the eight-hours day has been adopted by a large firm of manufacturers of lighting apparatus in Vienna. Its introduction, tentatively, into the railway workshops of Bodenbach, in Bohemia, is reported by *Der Grütlianer.*

Labour Disputes.—The *Arbeiter Zeitung* during October contained accounts of seven fresh disputes, and of two old ones. Of the former, two each were in the Metal-working, Building, and Textile Trades, and one among colliers. Only one of these was general—a strike of joiners at Rakonitz, in Bohemia, for a 10-hours working day, 15 per cent. increase in wages, and abolition of overtime and Sunday work. Two out of three strikes reported as ended were successful, the other failed. Of the former, one was a strike of 500 leather workers in Vienna, belonging to thirteen establishments, which began on July 26th. The demands, which included minimum wages of £1 a week and increased piece rates, were conceded by all but one establishment.

ITALY.

Dissolution of Workmen's Unions.—According to information supplied for the use of the Department by a correspondent in Italy, 271 workmen's societies, including benefit and co-operative societies, were dissolved in 35 out of the 60 provinces of Continental Italy on October 22nd, in conformity with a Royal Decree of August 23rd last, in consequence of their adhesion to the Italian Socialist Labour Party, which has been declared by Law of July 19th 1894, to be a Revolutionary Association. The prefects of provinces have, it appears, been instructed to investigate the consequences of the dissolution in the case of benefit and co-operative societies connected with the Socialist Labour Party, and these will, it is thought, be able to resume work on being reorganised on an independent basis.

International Congress on Workmen's Accident Insurance.—An account of the proceedings of this Congress which met in Milan in the beginning of October (*see* July GAZETTE, page 224) has been obtained by the Department from the French *Office du Travail.* The resolutions passed aimed chiefly at : (*a*) State co-operation with associations created by private initiative for the prevention of industrial accidents and the promotion of hygiene in workshops ; (*b*) the establishment of "social museums" in different countries for exhibiting documents and models bearing on the matter ; (*c*) the devoting of attention by governments and insurance institutions to measures for minimising the degree of personal injury resulting from accidents ; and (*d*) the compiling of annual statistics by the various countries on a uniform basis regarding the circumstances and results of industrial accidents, and the maladies peculiar to certain trades. On the question of the obligatory system of workers' insurance, the Congress maintains the same attitude as it did at Berne in 1891, viz., that the insurance should be effected according to the system best adapted to the special conditions of each country.

*International Co-operative Congress at Milan.**—On October 7th, 8th and 9th, an International Congress of Representatives of Co-operative Societies was held at Milan, under the auspices of the "Lega Nazionale fra le Societá Cooperative Italiane." One hundred and eighty societies were represented, of which 20 were other than Italian. A paper upon Co-operative Production was read by the General Secretary of the British Co-operative Union, and among the other subjects discussed were the definition of co-operation, upon which an animated discussion took place ; the promotion of co-operative building societies with a view to the erection of cheap working-class dwellings ; and a proposal to establish an international bureau for statistical and propagandist purposes.

Child Labour in the Silk Industry.—Information on this subject is furnished by a memorandum laid before the Congress on Workmen's Insurance in Milan by the Association of the Italian Silk Industry and Trade. The data, which refer to August last, show that of 31,843 persons employed by 26 firms in Lombardy in spinning and throwing, 9,360, or about 29½ per cent. are under 15 years old (9,174 being girls), while 2,599, or 8·16 per cent., are between 9 and 12 years old.

These figures may be taken as typical for the whole of Italy of

* Based upon a report published in "Credito, e Cooperazione."

the industries to which they refer. They cover about one-fifth of the total number of silk spinners and throwsters in the country.

The law of February 11th 1886, which fixed an 8-hours maximum working day for children under 12 years of age, caused a considerable falling off in the proportion of children of that age in the Silk Industry, and especially in the spinning branch, in which the work of adults and children must proceed simultaneously. The effect of the Law on the Silk Industry may be seen from the following statement, showing the ratio borne by children of the undermentioned ages to the total number of operatives in 1886 and in 1894:—

	1886.	1894.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
Children, 9 to 10 years old	11·0	1·13
,, 10 to 12 ,, ...	15·0	7·03
,, 12 to 15 ,, ...	19·0	21·23
Adults...	55·0	70·61

The figures for 1886 are based on data collected in the same district in that year, and relate to 25,000 operatives.

NORWAY.

Reduction of Hours at Government Establishments.—Mr. Thomas Michell, H.M. Consul-General at Christiania, has reported, under date of October 18th, that, as the result of a motion passed by the *Storthing* on the 23rd July 1894, a weekly working time of 53 hours was introduced experimentally on September 1st last at the Kongsberg Arms Factory, at the chief military factory at Christiania, and in the shipbuilding yard of Carljohannsvoern at Horten. The new regulation affects in all 1,075 men, of whom 216 hitherto worked 60 hours weekly, 723 worked 56½, and 136 worked 54½. The rates of wages of employees remain the same, and the prices for piece work are unaltered. The established hours must not be exceeded unless urgent necessity demand it, and if extending beyond a week, overtime may only be worked by permission of the War Office.

In the case of road and railway works piecework may be concluded experimentally with gangs of workmen who may declare themselves willing to undertake it at a normal working price, and with an undertaking not to work more than eight or nine hours a day while the piecework lasts.

RUSSIA.

The Labour Market.—The downward tendency in labourers' wages usually observed in the autumn manifested itself in the middle of August. Where, however, the prosecution of field work was dependent on migrated labourers, the cost of getting in grain was higher than last year, owing partly to the labourers having begun to return home, and partly to unfavourable weather. The latter cause operated in keeping up wages in the Petrovsk district, where the execution of railway works has kept them at a high level throughout the present year. In the southern provinces, where, as stated in previous reports, wages have been abnormally high this year, the rates, though affected by the general decline, were still high. They were also high in the south-eastern Volga region, but in some of the south-western regions they were lower even than last year.

The migratory movements of peasants in search of work had almost ceased, a few only continuing to cross the Volga, counting on good wages for getting in grain crops.

Most of those stated in previous reports to have started from Cosmodemiansk as lumber shovers have returned home.—*Vjestnik Finançoff* 28 (16) *Oct.*

Peasants' Land Bank.—A brief account of this institution was given in the GAZETTE of November last, page 171. An account of the operations of the Bank in 1893, published in the journal of the Russian Ministry of Finance (*Vjestnik Finançoff*) shows that in that year 1,488 out of 2,185 applications for loans were granted, The total sums advanced amounted to 5,175,814 roubles (£539,147) which, together with 2,711,384 roubles (£282,436) subscribed by the borrowers themselves, was devoted to the purchase of 424,705 acres of land. Since its establishment in 1882, the Bank has advanced 70,347,442 roubles (£7,327,858) in order to enable communes, associations, or private individuals to acquire 5,528,647 acres of land.

UNITED STATES.

PHILADELPHIA CONSULAR DISTRICT.

The following is based on information furnished by Capt. C. Clipperton, H.M. Consul at Philadelphia, under date of October 30th:—

The improvement in business referred to in last month's report continues slowly.

Labour Disputes.—Scarcely any strikes have been reported during the past month. On October 12th, 40 garment workers in Pittsburg struck owing to the refusal of their employers to sign an agreement undertaking to pay the existing scale of wages for six months, and to give work to none but members of the Union. A strike of glass workers in Tarentum is also in progress.

Legal Decisions as to Combinations of Workers.—A decision of the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has reversed in part the injunction of the Lower Court against the Northern Pacific strikers, striking out the feature of the original decision with regard to commanding the strikers not to quit the service of the road so as to prevent or hinder its operation, while, on the other hand, it holds very decidedly against the combination of individuals to prevent by active measures the operation of the road. (*See* GAZETTES of February and May last, pages 63 and 159 respectively.) A question is shortly to be brought before the Courts in Pittsburgh as to whether the use of money to induce a workman to leave an employer is unlawful. The question has arisen in connection with the strike of glassworkers in Tarentum referred to above.

New Labour Organisation.—The electric trolley men of Philadelphia have organised a brotherhood, and appointed a grievance committee to look after the interests of the men.

United States Circuit Court and Naturalisation.—An opinion of a judge of the United States Circuit Court has been filed, in which the practice of admitting aliens to citizenship without careful investigation is criticised. With regard to the declaration to support the Constitution of the United States required of applicants for naturalisation, the judge stated that "the Court ought not to admit any alien to citizenship without being satisfied that he had, at least, some general comprehension of what the Constitution is."

United States Tariff.*—A return has been issued by the Board of Trade respecting the Customs Tariff of the United States, containing a complete statement of the rates of import duty leviable under the new Tariff Act, passed by Congress on the 14th August 1894, compared with those which were previously leviable under the Tariff Act of 1890, and various statistical tables relating to the present and past tariffs and the imports into and the exports from the United Kingdom in its trade with the United States, &c.

* (C.—7,579.) Price 9d.

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