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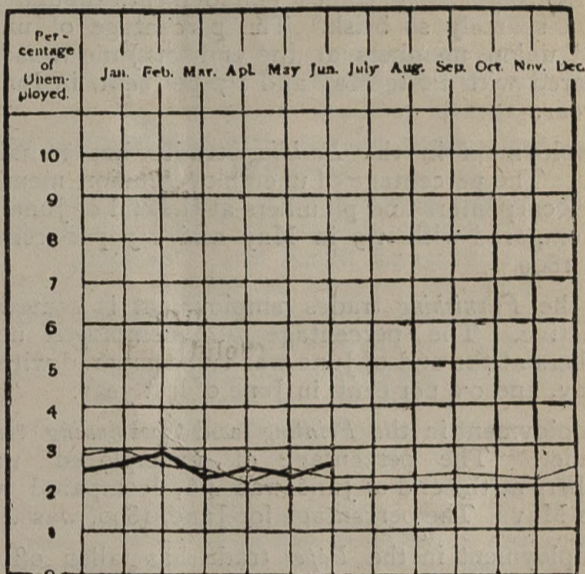
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EMPLOYMENT CHART, 1899-1900.

Chart showing the percentage of unemployed members of the Trade Unions making returns at the close of each complete month of 1899 and 1900.

[The thick line applies to 1900, the thin line to 1899.]



STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN JUNE.

[Based on 2,505 returns, viz.: 1,752 from Employers, 617 from Trade Unions, and 136 from other sources.]

In several of the more important industries the state of employment showed a slight falling off during June, though on the whole employment remained fairly good.

In the 138 Trade Unions making returns, with an aggregate membership of 533,119, 13,992 (or 2.6 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of June, compared with 2.4 per cent. in May, and with 2.3 per cent. in the 123 Unions with a membership of 502,712 from which returns were received for June, 1899.

Employment in Various Industries.—Coal Mining.—Employment in June has continued good. At collieries at which 458,056 workpeople were employed, the pits worked on an average 5.18 days per week in the four weeks ended June 23rd. This average was reduced by the Whitsuntide holidays, so that it cannot be compared with the figures for a month or a year ago.

Iron Mining.—Employment continues good, although the number of days worked, owing to the interruption caused by Whitsuntide holidays is less than a year ago. The average number of days worked by iron mines and open works, at which 16,569 workpeople were employed, in the four weeks ended June 23rd, was 5.54 per week.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment continues good and has improved slightly. At the works of 117 ironmasters 383 furnaces were in blast at the end of June, employing about 26,100 workpeople, as compared with 381 furnaces at the end of May and 379 a year ago.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Employment continues good, and is much better than a year ago. At 208

works covered by the returns, employing 83,324 workpeople at the end of June, the total volume of employment (taking into account both the numbers employed and the number of shifts worked) has increased by 0.5 per cent. as compared with May, and by 4.6 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Tinplate Trade.—Employment shows a decline as compared with May, but is still better than a year ago. At the end of June 401 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of black-plates), compared with 416 mills at the end of May, and 380 mills at the end of June, 1899. The number of workpeople employed at the end of June, 1900, is estimated to be about 20,000.

Employment in the *Engineering* and *Metal* trades has remained fairly good. The percentage of unemployed union members in this group of trades at the end of June was 2.5, compared with 2.3 per cent. in May and also in June, 1899.

In the *Shipbuilding* trades employment, though still good, is scarcely so brisk. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of June was 2.1, compared with 1.6 in May and 1.7 per cent. in June of last year.

Employment in the *Building* trades has remained good. The percentage of unemployed union members among carpenters and plumbers at the end of June was 2.0, compared with 1.9 in May and 1.5 per cent. in June, 1899.

In the *Furnishing* trades employment is somewhat less active. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of June was 1.6, compared with 1.0 in May, and 0.9 per cent. in June of last year.

Employment in the *Printing* and *Bookbinding* trades is quiet. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of June was 4.6, compared with 4.4 in May. The percentage for June, 1899, was 4.0.

Employment in the *Paper* trade has fallen off, the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of June being 3.7, compared with 2.8 in May and 2.4 per cent. in June, 1899.

In the *Glass* trades the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of June was 10.2, compared with 9.9 in June of last year.

Employment in the *Leather* trades remains good. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of June was 1.5, compared with 1.6 in May. The percentage for June, 1899, was 2.9.

Employment in the *Boot* and *Shoe* trade shows a further decline, and is dull in most centres.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the *Tailoring* trade is fair, but declining; in the ready-made branch it continues good in most centres, but shows a decline in London.

Employment continues good on the whole in the spinning branch of the *Cotton* trade; a marked decline is apparent in the weaving branch, in which employment is only fair. Information respecting cotton factories employing about 83,000 women and girls shows that 83 per cent. of those in spinning mills and 75 per cent. of those in weaving factories were working in factories giving full employment during the month, compared with 87 and 93 per cent. respectively in May, and with 96 per cent. and 90 per cent. respectively a year ago.

Employment in the *Woollen* and *Worsted* trades shows a decided falling off. In the *Hosiery* trade it is not quite so good.

Agricultural labourers were generally well employed during the month of June. In parts of Suffolk and Essex there was some slight irregularity of work in the latter part of the month, owing to wet weather. Hay-making had hardly commenced in June in many districts as the crop was a backward one and wet weather at the end of the month postponed harvest operations.

There was, however, plenty of employment at hoeing roots and weeding, and a number of employers complain that it was not possible to get sufficient men for this purpose.

Trade Disputes.—Forty-five fresh disputes occurred in June, 1900, involving 22,978 workpeople, of whom 14,380 were directly, and 8,598 indirectly affected. The corresponding number of disputes in May was 44, involving 15,931 workpeople, and in June, 1899, 59, involving 14,254 workpeople. Of the 45 fresh disputes in June, 1900, 10 occurred in the building trades, 10 in the mining industry, 9 in metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades, 3 in textile trades, 8 in transport trades, and 5 in miscellaneous industries. Of the 42 new and old disputes, involving 16,085 workpeople, of which the termination is reported at the time of writing, 8, involving 657 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 11, involving 6,635 persons, in favour of the employers; and 20, involving 6,356 persons, were compromised. With regard to the remaining 3 disputes, involving 2,437 persons, certain points are still under consideration.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—Changes in the rates of wages of about 35,000 workpeople were reported during June, of which number 30,000 obtained advances averaging 1s. 6d. weekly per head, and about 5,000 sustained decreases averaging 1s. 9d. weekly per head. The net result was an increase of about 1s. 0½d. per head in the weekly wages of the 35,000 workpeople affected. The principal increases were in the iron and steel industries. The decreases affected about 200 building trade operatives in Scotland, 4,000 slate quarrymen in North Wales, and 800 steel rail workers at Barrow. Changes affecting about 1,850 workpeople were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work. Changes affecting about 17,820 workpeople took effect under sliding scales, and changes affecting about 1,600 workpeople were determined by arbitration or conciliation. The remaining changes, affecting about 13,730 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople, or their representatives.

RECENT PROGRESS IN CO-OPERATION.

Farming by Co-operative Societies.—Tables published in the Annual Report of the Co-operative Union show that 75 co-operative distributive societies were engaged in farming a total of 6,203 acres during the year 1899. Only 51 of the societies had made a return as to the financial result of the year's working. Of these, 32 societies farming a total of 2,986½ acres showed profits amounting to £3,220, and 19 societies with 1,895½ acres losses amounting to £1,468, the net result of the working of the 51 societies being a profit of £1,752. In addition to the above, three special farming societies with 493 acres showed a total profit of £74.

Co-operative Insurance Society.—This society reports that during the year 1899 the number of fire, life and fidelity policies issued was 62,576, compared with 56,001 during 1898, and that its premium income amounted to £23,909, compared with £21,427 in 1898.

Extensions of business.—Returns obtained from distributive societies show that during the year 1899 183 societies opened 219 new branches, 110 societies commenced businesses not previously carried on, 26 commenced land and building departments, and 30 started small savings or penny bank departments.

Co-operative Banking.—The Banking Department of the English Co-operative Wholesale Society shows total receipts for the year 1899 amounting to £28,311,202, and profit amounting to £12,146, compared with £24,260,932 receipts, and £11,245 profit in 1898.

Co-operative Shipping.—The Shipping Department of the same society shows gross earnings for the year amounting to £167,557, and profits amounting to £4,986, compared with £154,905 gross earnings and £1,705 profit in 1898.

RECENT CHANGES IN AGRICULTURAL WAGES.

Rates of Wages of Ordinary Agricultural Labourers in England, June, 1900, and June, 1899.

INFORMATION has been received from a large number of correspondents in England as to the rates of weekly cash wages paid to ordinary agricultural labourers* exclusive of piecework earnings, special rates for hay-making, and all extra allowances in cash or kind, in June, 1900, compared with June, 1899. In many districts, particularly outside the Northern Counties, labourers are largely engaged on piecework at this time of year.

The general effect of the Returns is to show that there has been an upward movement in agricultural wages.

It has been assumed for the purposes of calculation that where the predominant rates of wages of ordinary labourers have changed in a district, a similar change has taken place in the wages of all classes of agricultural labourers. Although, strictly speaking, this assumption is not absolutely correct in all counties, it may be said that the wages of shepherds and of men in charge of horses and cattle roughly follow the movement in the wages of the ordinary labourers, although they do not necessarily change by the same amount, nor do the changes always take place at the same time.

The following Table shows the number of agricultural labourers (according to the Census of 1891) in the Poor Law Unions reported on, grouped by districts, and also by the extent to which the rates of weekly cash wages are stated to have changed in June, 1900, as compared with June, 1899.

Districts.	No. of Poor Law Unions reported on.	Number of Agricultural Labourers in Poor Law Unions in which there has been—					
		No change.	An increase per week of				Total.
			6d.	1s.	1s. 6d.	2s.	
Midland Counties ...	35	28,048	—	23,276	1,443	2,695	56,362
Eastern Counties ...	41	26,829	—	47,363	24,109	—	98,301
Southern and South-Western Counties	58	35,692	3,693	31,363	—	6,244	76,992
Total ...	134	91,469	3,693	102,002	25,552	8,939	231,655
Percentage ...	—	89.5	1.6	44.0	11.0	3.9	100.0

It will be seen from this Table that out of a total of 231,655 agricultural labourers in the districts named, 91,469 or 39.5 per cent. were in Poor Law Unions where the wages remained stationary, while 140,186, or 60.5 per cent., were in Unions in which wages rose, the increases varying from 6d. to 2s. a week. Of the 140,186 in Unions where wages were increased, 3,693 were in Unions showing increases of 6d. per week, 102,002 in Unions showing increases of 1s. a week, 25,552 in Unions showing increases of 1s. 6d., and 8,939 in Unions showing increases of 2s. The average rise, spread over the whole number of labourers included in the Returns, was about 8½d. a week per head.

The greatest number of changes took place in the corn-growing counties comprising Huntingdon, Cambridge, Lincoln, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex. Out of the total of 140,186 agricultural labourers in Unions reported on in which wages were changed, 71,472 (or 51 per cent.) were in the Eastern Counties, forming nearly 73 per cent. of all the labourers covered by the Returns received from those counties. In Norfolk a general rise of 1s. a week took place between March and May of this year, bringing the weekly rate of cash wages up to 13s. a week in most districts, that is 1s. a week higher than they were in the summer of last year. In a number of districts in Essex and Suffolk the wages were 1s. a week higher in June, 1900, than in June, 1899. Though the predominant rate in Suffolk is 12s., in some districts 13s. is being paid. In Lincolnshire 16s. 6d. a week is being paid in many districts, compared with 15s. in 1899. In the Midland Counties a rise of 1s. a week was frequent in the counties of Bedfordshire, Cheshire, Hertfordshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, and Warwickshire. In the Southern and South-

* Men not exclusively engaged with the charge of animals, such as shepherds, cattlemen, carters and waggons.

Western Counties a rise of 1s. a week was frequent in the counties of Devonshire, Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Kent, Somersetshire, Sussex, and Wiltshire.

The Northern Counties, namely, Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland, Westmorland, Lancashire, and Yorkshire have been excluded from these calculations, as the greater number of labourers there are hired by the year or half-year. Generally speaking there has been an upward movement in these counties. At the Northumberland and Durham yearly hirings held in the spring for ploughmen or "hinds" a rise in wages frequently took place, particularly in Durham, and near the large towns in Northumberland. In many of the rural portions of Northumberland, particularly the northern part, the movement was not generally sufficient to alter the predominant rates of wages paid. Near the Border, 16s. a week, with the usual allowances in kind (free house, potatoes, and coals carted free), was the rate most generally paid in 1899, but at the hirings in 1900 a considerable number obtained from 17s. to 18s., though the majority still received 16s. In both Northumberland and Durham a rise in the wages of women workers is said to have frequently taken place. In Yorkshire there was generally an upward movement at the May hirings.

Whitsuntide Hirings in Cumberland, Westmorland and Lancashire.

Information as to the rates of wages agreed upon at the half-yearly hirings held at Whitsuntide in Cumberland, Westmorland, and North Lancashire has been received from a number of farmers, and also from a correspondent who made special enquiries on behalf of the Department. Particulars have been obtained as to the rates agreed upon at the hiring fairs held at Carlisle, Penrith, Lancaster, Kendal, and Ulverston. Compared with the corresponding fairs last year there was generally a rise of from 10s. to 20s. for the half-year in the case of all classes of men, and, in the case of some of the best men, up to 40s. Best men generally obtained from about £14 to £20, though a good many employers paid as much as £22 and in exceptional cases £23 or £24. Second-class men and youths obtained from about £10 to £14. In addition, board, lodging and washing is provided free in the farmhouses. Women for farmhouse work were most difficult to obtain, and generally received a rise in wages. It is stated that in a number of cases second-class men had to be engaged at best men's wages, as many of the most experienced men had been called out with the Reserves.

SICKNESS INSURANCE IN GERMANY IN 1898.*

The mean number of persons insured against sickness under the laws regulating sickness insurance of workpeople in Germany was 9,325,722 in 1898, as compared with 8,865,685 in 1897. These figures include miners (555,665 in 1898, 528,566 in 1897) insured in special funds for the mining industry, the statistics of which, however, are not embodied in the tables on which the following figures are based:—

	1897.	1898.
Mean number of Sick Funds operating ...	22,000	22,130
Mean Membership ...	8,337,119	8,770,057
Number of cases of Sickness paid for ...	2,664,937	3,008,593
<i>per 100 Members</i> ...	31.6	34.2
Number of days of Sickness paid for ...	51,513,783	53,201,173
<i>per Member</i> ...	5.7	6.07
Expenditure on sick pay ...	2,356,547	2,715,534
<i>per day of Sickness</i> ...	1 0½	1 0½
Expenditure on doctors' fees ...	1,345,712	1,455,393
" " medicines, &c. ...	1,034,950	1,100,560
" " hospital treatment, lying-in money, care of convalescents, and funerals ...	1,057,146	1,127,389
Total cost of sickness and funerals ...	6,024,395	6,402,866
<i>per Member</i> ...	14 6½	14 7
Total expenditure of Sick Funds ...	6,896,989	7,144,571
Receipts from employers' and workmen's contributions and from entrance fees ...	6,774,335	7,262,030
Total revenue of Sick Funds ...	8,380,503	9,028,131
Property of Sick Funds at end of year ...	6,872,878	7,388,793

* Vierteljahrshefte zur Statistik des Deutschen Reichs. 9. Jahrgang, 1900. Zweites Heft. Issued by the German Imperial Statistical Office, Puttkammer and Mühlbrecht, Publishers, Berlin, 1900.

Of the various kinds of sick funds for effecting the insurance prescribed by the law, the *Local Funds* have the largest membership (4,078,958 in 1898). After these, in order of importance, come the *Factory Funds* with 2,280,651, the *Communal Funds* with 1,409,730, the *Friendly Society Funds* with 823,464, the *Trade Guild Funds* with 159,154, and the *Building Works Funds* with 18,100 members in 1898. (For a description of these different classes of sick funds, see GAZETTE, November, 1899, pp. 323-4.)

STANDARD PIECE RATES AND SLIDING SCALES.*

In the Report on standard piece rates of wages and sliding scales in force in the United Kingdom at the beginning of 1900, which has just been issued by the Labour Department of the Board of Trade, a selection has been made from some of the more important piece price lists now in operation in various trades,† with introductions and notes designed to render the lists intelligible to students unconnected with those industries. The Report also gives an account of some of the more important sliding scales.

The object of the Report, it is stated, is to give information with regard to the varied and complicated systems of calculating wages which prevail in many important British industries, and may thus be of some practical service in facilitating an understanding of the nature of the questions at issue between employers and employed in many trade disputes, which are often difficult to follow owing to the highly technical character of the points involved.

No attempt is made to give a complete account of the method of piece-wage as a whole, nor at offering a critical review of its advantages and defects. What is aimed at is to illustrate the nature and operation of the standard lists of piece-work rates by which the remuneration of the workpeople employed is governed in a large number of industries. The essential nature of a standard list of piece prices is that this list expresses the rates of remuneration to be received by a large number of workpeople engaged in the work to which the list relates. But a great deal of piece-work is done quite independently of any recognised wage scale of this nature. There are, indeed, numerous industries in which, from the great variety in the work done, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to frame lists applicable to the remuneration of the employees. A standard piece list, in fact, presupposes a more or less uniform production. With piece-prices other than those comprised in standard lists this report does not, as a rule, attempt to deal. It may, however, be noted that in some industries the lists of prices, which are in force in relation to particular establishments, are themselves subordinate to a specific standard, and form an integral part of a general wage-scale governing the remuneration of the workpeople throughout a large area. Thus, in the cotton-spinning industry at Bolton different mills may have different wage-lists, but the piece rates specified in all these lists alike are, by virtue of the agreement between employers and employed in this trade, required to be such as will yield to an operative of average efficiency the average earnings of the district, and are adjusted, as occasion may require, by representatives of the two parties, so as to conform to this basis. So again in mining, although the tonnage rates paid to hewers vary not only from colliery to colliery, but from seam to seam within the same pit, according to the nature of the coal and to the conditions under which the coal has to be won in each place, yet in some districts (as, for example, in Northumberland and Durham) the agreement, which governs wages, requires that the tonnage rates through out the county shall be so fixed that each collier shall be able to make at least certain agreed earnings, i.e., the "county average." It

* Cd. 144. Price 1s. 4d.

† Principally the metal, textile, clothing, printing, coopering, glass-bottle and brushmaking trades.

will be obvious that arrangements of the nature here indicated come within the scope of a report on systems of standard piece rates, and accordingly wage-lists of this kind are included among the sample lists given in the detailed portion of the report.

It is of interest to observe that, while in many industries piece-wages are governed by lists having reference only to particular establishments or particular localities, in several important trades there is manifested a tendency to supersede these narrow wage-scales by lists having a wider application, "shop lists" being absorbed in local lists, and local lists in "uniform" lists, whose operation is co-terminous with that of organisations of employers and of employed, and which, indeed, not seldom extend their influence over an area wider than that covered by either of these organisations. By way of illustration of the tendency here referred to, mention may be made of the gradual replacement of a large number of local lists for spinning and weaving in Lancashire by the "Oldham" list for spinners, and "uniform" lists for weavers, and of the replacement of "shop statements" in the boot and shoe trade by "uniform" statements regulating piece-prices throughout large districts.

No attempt has been made to set forth all the piece-rate statements in existence, but to exemplify the general nature and application of standard piece-rates by selecting and printing the more important parts only of certain typical lists. Lists, however, of the 358 Piece Rate Statements and the 19 Sliding Scales known to the Department are given in appendices to the report. Of the piece-price lists included, only two are in operation in the building trades, 59 affect various branches of the metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, 91 are in the textile trades, 143 in the boot and shoe and other branches of the clothing trades, and 63 in the printing, coopering, glass bottle, and other trades. Of the 19 sliding scales, 3 belong to the mining and quarrying group of trades, and the remaining 16 to the iron and steel trades.

STRIKE OF COTTON WEAVERS IN GHENT.*

THE cotton-weaving operatives of Ghent having asked for a 20 per cent. increase of wages, a working day of 10 hours (or 60 hours per week), and the posting of the wages list in a conspicuous place in the factory, the Employers' Association on May 6th, while refusing to grant the increase asked for, offered to discuss the question of a uniform wages list for the whole of the cotton-weaving industry of Ghent. The operatives decided not to strike at once, but to obtain answers from the employers individually; and also to ask that a meeting of the weaving trade section of the Council of Industry and Labour be convened, and that special delegates from both sides be allowed to take part in the meeting. The president of the Ghent Council held, that the proposal made by the weavers was impracticable, the law not allowing any but members of a council to take part in its deliberations. On May 10th and 11th the workpeople (some 4,500 in number) at all the principal cotton-weaving establishments in Ghent came out on strike. At the request of the operatives the mayor of the city intervened, but his attempt to effect a settlement failed. Thereupon, the strikers sent a deputation to the Minister of Industry and Labour asking him to intervene. After receiving the deputation, the Minister announced that there was no legal objection to the weaving section of the Council of Industry and Labour allowing six special delegates from each side to attend its meetings, in a purely consultative capacity, for the purpose of bringing about conciliation or arbitration. A meeting of this section was convened for May 30th, but the majority of the employer-members failed to attend, and for this reason nothing could be done by the meeting.

On June 2nd and succeeding days work began to be gradually resumed, and on June 8th the distribution of strike benefit was stopped.

* *Revue du Travail* (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department) June, 1900.

NEW CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION LAW OF GENEVA.

By a law passed on February 10th, 1900, by the Legislature of the Republic and Canton of Geneva, which came into operation on March 21st, provision is made for settling by negotiation or conciliation, or, failing such settlement, by arbitration, the terms of employment applicable to the general body of workmen in a trade, subject, however, to any special arrangements between employers and employed made in particular cases. The parties to the proceedings in connection with the settlement of the general terms of employment in any trade will be the employers' association or associations and the workmen's trade union or unions concerned, provided that every such association or union be duly registered, and that its rules have been sanctioned by the Council of State. In order that the required sanction shall be given, the following conditions must be observed:—(1) The rules must contain nothing contrary to the law, and especially nothing inconsistent with the liberty of labour; (2) the rules must provide for their revision at any time on the demand of the majority of the members of the organisation; and (3) all persons engaged in the trade must possess an absolute right to be members of the organisation, and its executive committee must be elected by a majority vote of the members. If, however, there are no such organisations in existence, then the parties to the proceedings will be all such persons as shall have been engaged as employers or employed, as the case may be, at Geneva for more than three months previous to such proceedings being taken.

The procedure to be adopted for settling the terms of employment under the law are as follows:—

Negotiation.—The employers' associations and workmen's unions concerned will call general meetings of their members; if there is no such association or union, the Council of State, on the written demand of one-fifth of the persons entitled to vote for the election of *prud'hommes* in the trade in question (as employers or as workmen, as the case may be), is to call the meeting. Each meeting will elect as delegates an equal number of employers or of workmen; if there are several distinct associations or unions, each will elect a proportion of the delegates corresponding to its membership. The decisions arrived at by the delegates must, to be valid as a settlement, be voted by a majority of 3 to 1.

Conciliation.—If no settlement is arrived at, an attempt to settle the matters at issue must be made on the demand of either party addressed to the Council of State, the Council being empowered to nominate from its members a conciliator or conciliators, who shall call the delegates of employers and of workmen together, and endeavour to induce them to effect a settlement by a 3 to 1 majority vote. If there does not exist any employers' association or trade union in the trade concerned, the Council of State is to call a meeting of the persons concerned, who will elect delegates.

Arbitration.—Should the attempted conciliation fail, the Central Committee of the *Prud'hommes* is to be notified by the conciliators, and must within six days hold a meeting, summoning the delegates of the parties to attend and to take part in the meeting. (If the delegates have not been named by the parties, the Committee is itself to name them.) The meeting thus constituted will decide the questions at issue as arbitrators by ballot of those present, by a simple majority vote. If any member of the Central Committee is himself engaged in the trade in question, the other members of this committee will fill up his place by co-opting another *prud'homme* chosen from the same group (an employer or a workman, as the case may be). The Board of Arbitration thus constituted will have as its chairman the president, and as its secretary the secretary of the Central Committee. The arbitrators will receive pay for their services at the rate fixed for attendance at the Courts of *Prud'hommes*, and if absent without reasonable excuse, will be subject to a fine of £2.

When once the terms of employment applicable to any trade have been settled, whether by negotiation, conciliation, or arbitration, it shall be unlawful, during the period for which these terms are in force, for any general suspension of work to be instituted, whether by the employers or the employed, with a view to secure alterations in the terms in question. Any person who shall incite others to cease work, either by way of a general or a partial suspension of work, in violation of the terms fixed as is provided by the law or otherwise in contravention of the law, shall be punishable by the pains and penalties provided by the police regulations and the penal law.

The new statute further provides that if any dispute other than a dispute as to the matters referred to above shall take place between employers and employed of such a nature as to involve a general or partial suspension of work, block, etc., the same procedure shall be followed, and the same results ensue in all respects as is provided in relation to disputes of the class first referred to.

RECENT CONCILIATION & ARBITRATION CASES & COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.

(a) CONCILIATION ACT, 1896.

Arbitration in the Newcastle-on-Tyne and Gateshead Gas Trades.

REFERENCE was made in the GAZETTE for May, page 133, to the appointment by the Board of Trade of Mr. G. R. Askwith to act as arbitrator between the Newcastle and Gateshead Gas Company and the men employed at the Elswick and Redheugh Gas works. The original demands of the workpeople were as follows:—

- (1) *Retort House Men* employed at carbonizing, one shilling per shift advance on present rate of wages;
 - (a) Double time for Sunday work for all three shifts;
 - (b) Double time for Good Friday;
 - (c) Fourteen days' holiday without loss of pay; and
 - (d) All casual or winter hands, to receive holiday pay at the same rate.

(2) *Yardmen*, an advance of ten per cent. on present rate of wages; with

- (a) Double time for Sunday work;
- (b) One week's holiday without loss of pay, and all existing privileges.

(3) *The Men in the Sulphate of Ammonia House*, an advance of ten per cent. on present rate of wages, and

- (a) One week's holiday without loss of pay.

On February 10th it was agreed between the parties that the Company should grant to all the workpeople included in this application an advance of 2½ per cent from February 1st, 1900, and the remainder of the claims should be referred to arbitration.

The Arbitrators appointed by the two parties, having failed to agree upon an umpire, applied to the Board of Trade in accordance with the agreement between the parties.

Mr. G. R. Askwith's award is dated July 3rd, 1900, and the operative clauses are as follows:—

(1) With respect to the claim of the retort house men employed at carbonizing for double time on Good Friday I allow the said claim.

(2) I award and determine that the existing conditions of Sunday work for the retort house men and yardmen shall remain unchanged.

(3) I award and determine that the existing conditions of holidays for the retort house men and yardmen and the men in the sulphate of ammonia house shall remain unchanged.

(4) I award and determine that the present rate of wages, in addition to the 2½ per cent. already agreed to, shall be increased from the 8th day of February, 1900, the date agreed to, by a further amount of one and a-half per cent for the retort house men employed at carbonizing and the yardmen and the men in the sulphate of ammonia house.

Arbitration in the Coal Trade at Merthyr.

Reference was made in the GAZETTE for April, page 102, to the appointment by the Board of Trade of Mr. T. Bell to act as umpire in the fixing of the prices to be paid in two seams, the colliery company and the workmen having nominated two arbitrators. The arbitrators having failed to agree on the points at issue, called upon Mr. Bell to act. The umpire met the arbitrators on May 8th, and visited the workings, holding an inquiry during the following four days. His award is dated June 11th, and gives a detailed list of the prices to be paid for various operations in each of the two seams. The price for cutting and filling large clean coal is fixed at 1s. 8d. in the four-foot seam, and 1s. 9½d. in the six-foot seam.

(b) OTHER.

Demarcation Award in the Tyne Shipbuilding Trade.

A dispute having arisen between the engineers and boilermakers regarding the use of an electric machine at work at Jarrow for cutting circular holes, the matter was referred to the referees of the Tyne Shipbuilding

Demarcation Board. Their decision, issued June 22nd, is as follows:—

1. For all through-cutting, whether single or multiple thickness of plate not necessarily of the same diameter, the work shall be done by the boiler-makers.
2. All holes half checked or faced, whether in a single or multiple thickness of plate, including the cutting of the hole itself by the machine in one or more operations, shall be done by the engineers.

Arbitration in the Leeds Boot and Shoe Trade.

The clickers and pressmen at Leeds having applied for an advance in wages, the question was discussed by the Arbitration Board and referred to the Arbitrators. Their award given under date June 15th fixed the minimum rates at 27s. for clickers, and 24s. for pressmen, from July 1st, 1900, to the end of the year, and at 28s. for clickers and 25s. for pressmen from January 1st, 1901. The previous minimum rates were 26s. for clickers and 23s. for pressmen. About 260 clickers and 50 pressmen are affected by the change.

Arbitration in the Coopering Trade.

Differences having arisen between the London Master Coopers' Association and the United Society of Coopers respecting the payment for certain items in a proposed new price list in connection with brewers' work, the matter was referred to arbitrators appointed by the London Labour Conciliation and Arbitration Board. The award of the Arbitrators was issued on June 21st, and, in addition to the decision on the disputed points, includes and confirms an agreement between the parties by which any dispute as to the interpretation of the award, or any other dispute as to existing agreements is to be referred to the London Labour Conciliation and Arbitration Board. In the event of either party desiring to terminate their award six calendar months' notice is to be given and the matter referred to the arbitration of the Board.

West Cumberland Limestone Quarrying Trade.—New Board of Conciliation.

A new Board of Conciliation has been formed to deal with disputes affecting the limestone quarrying industry of West Cumberland under the title "The Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the West Cumberland Limestone Trade." From a copy of its rules dated June 15th, which has been received by the Department, it appears that the full Board is to consist of two representatives (one an employer and one a workman) from each quarry within the owners' association. The Board will annually elect a Joint Committee of three representatives of each side. This committee will "consider, and have power to settle, all matters relating to local disputes or other questions referred to it by the Board." If any member feels aggrieved by its decision, or if it fails to decide, the questions at issue are to be submitted to the full Board which will also deal with "questions respecting adjustment of district wages or conditions of employment." In case of the voting of the Board being equal, the question in dispute is to be referred to a standing arbitrator (appointed annually), whose decision will be final and binding.

Liverpool Boot and Shoe Makers.

First and second rate statements of wages for making and repairing hand-sewn boots and shoes have been agreed to by the employers and the Amalgamated Society of Boot and Shoe Makers at Liverpool, and came into operation on June 4th. About 150 workpeople are paid according to the statements and their adoption is reported to have resulted in an increase of 12½ per cent. on new work, and 7½ per cent. on repair work.

Coloured Goods Twisters and Drawers, Colne.

On the 11th April a price list for twisting and drawing coloured goods was agreed to by the Colne and District coloured goods manufacturers, and the Colne twisters and drawers' associations. It came into operation on the first pay day in May, and is estimated to have resulted in an advance of from 3½ to 5 per cent. in the earnings of the 80 workpeople paid under it.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

(1) Workmen's Compensation Act.

WORKMAN, OR CONTRACTOR?

By the Act it is provided, that "If in any employment to which this Act applies personal injury by accident arising out of and in the course of the employment is caused to a workman, his employer shall, subject as hereinafter mentioned, be liable to pay compensation" as in the Act provided.

The widow of a plater, who had been killed by an accident while working as one of a squad of four men in a ship-building yard, claimed compensation from the owners of the yard. The question arose as to whether the deceased had been a workman, within the meaning of the Act, or an independent contractor. The arrangement to do the work, upon which the deceased was engaged when the accident occurred, was made by the leading man of the squad, the agreement being, that the squad should mark, punch, set and screw together frames ready for riveting sufficient for the construction of two vessels in the defenders' yard at 42s. per frame, with extra allowances for double bulk-heads and double reverse bars. The squad worked with their own hands apportioning the work as they thought fit, but they required to engage, and did engage, from twelve to sixteen ordinary labourers, known as "helpers," to work under them. The leader of the squad received from the defenders once a week the sum due to the whole squad for the work done in the previous week, and after paying the helpers' wages he divided the balance equally among the four members of the squad. All the requisite machinery, tools, appliances, and material were supplied by the defenders, and the whole work was carried on within their premises. Printed rules and regulations were hung up in the defenders' premises, and formed part of the bargain between the parties, it being expressly declared, that every person engaged at piece-work would in all respects be subject to these rules and regulations (unless modified by special agreement, which was not the case in this instance). The defenders' foreman supervised the work of both time-workers and piece-workers. He required to be satisfied before any skilled man was taken into the squad, but he never interfered with platers, who were doing their work in the recognised way, unless it were badly done, in which case he made them put it right. The sheriff-substitute held, that under these circumstances the dependants of the deceased were entitled to compensation under the Act, and awarded the pursuer and her children £300 as compensation. On appeal, the Court of Session upheld this decision, with expenses, holding, that the plater had been a workman and not a contractor. The rules and regulations spoke of "workmen employed by the firm"; the platers were liable to be put out of the yard by the employers; and, if one of them were absent from work for a day without leave, he would not be admitted again. The circumstances were not consistent with the contention, that these men were not workmen, but independent contractors.—*D. J. Dunlop & Co. and Mary Laing M'Culloch or M'Cready, Court of Session, June 16th.*

"SERIOUS AND WILFUL MISCONDUCT."

The Act provides, that "If it is proved that the injury to a workman is attributable to the serious and wilful misconduct of that workman, any compensation claimed in respect of that injury shall be disallowed."

The father of a workman, who had been killed by an accident at a colliery, claimed compensation from his employers. At the time of the accident the deceased was carrying several cartridges of gunpowder in his hand, and had at the same time a lighted naked lamp in his cap, and a spark from the lamp ignited the cartridges, thus causing the accident. The deceased was not directly told not to carry the cartridges in that way, but the officials did not know that the deceased and those working with him carried cartridges in that way. A special canister was provided to carry cartridges from the place where the principal supply was kept to the coal face; but the men, without the knowledge of the officials, did not always make use of it. The management of the pit did not consider it necessary to place such a canister in any other part of the section. The sheriff-substitute held that the deceased was guilty of a breach of the rule, which directs that "while charging shot-holes or handling any explosive not contained in a securely closed case or canister, a workman should not smoke or permit a naked light to remain in his cap," but that such a breach of the rule was not serious and wilful misconduct, within the meaning of the Act, and he awarded £49 8s. compensation. The employers appealed, and the Court of Session, holding that the contravention by the deceased of the rule in question was serious and wilful misconduct, reversed the decision of the sheriff-substitute.—*John Watson, Limited, v. James Dailly, Court of Session, June 19th.*

TIME FOR TAKING PROCEEDINGS.

The Act provides, that, "Proceedings for the recovery under this Act of compensation for an injury shall not be maintainable . . . unless the claim for compensation with respect to such accident has been made within six months from the occurrence of the accident causing the injury, or, in case of death, within six months from the time of death."

A workman in the employment of a colliery company was, in December, 1898, injured by an accident arising out of and in the

course of his employment. In May, 1899, he sent to the company a notice of claim for compensation for the injuries so received, claiming 15s. a week from January 4th, 1899, until he should be able to resume work. In October, 1899, he filed in the County Court a request for arbitration to assess compensation under the Act. The company contended before the County Court judge, that the proceedings were not maintainable, on the ground that "the claim for compensation," which the Act requires to be made within six months, meant the filing of the request for arbitration in the County Court, and was not satisfied by a notice of claim for compensation being sent by the workman to his employers. The County Court judge overruled the objection, and awarded the workman 13s. 11d. a week from January 7th, 1899. The company appealed; and the Court of Appeal decided in favour of their contention, held that the proceedings were taken too late, and allowed the appeal, but stayed execution pending an appeal to the House of Lords (see GAZETTE, April, 1900, p. 103). When the case came before the House of Lords, they allowed the appeal, and restored the judgment of the County Court judge, holding that the claim made in May, 1899, was such a "claim for compensation" as was intended by the Act.—*Powell v. The Main Colliery Company, Limited, House of Lords, June 26th.*

WHO ARE "THE UNDERTAKERS"?

The Act applies only to certain specified classes of employment, including employment by the undertakers as therein defined, on or about any building which exceeds 30 feet in height, and is being constructed by means of a scaffolding. The expression "undertakers" is defined to mean in relation to a building in course of construction "the persons undertaking the construction." The widow of a workman, who had met with a fatal accident while at work, claimed compensation. A firm, carrying on business as builders, who had acquired a piece of land, determined to build on it a number of houses. They themselves erected the scaffolding, which was to be used in building the houses (including the execution of the joinery work), and they did all the brickwork and stonework. They also superintended generally the construction of the houses. But they entered into a contract with a master joiner, by whom the deceased workman was employed, that he should do all the carpentry and joinery work. While this workman was at work on the houses in question, he accidentally fell from the scaffolding above referred to, and was killed. The claim for compensation made by his widow was made against both the firm of builders and the master joiner. The Act provides, that (subject as therein mentioned), where the undertakers contract for the execution of any work, and they would, if such work were executed by workmen immediately employed by them, be liable to pay compensation, they shall be liable to pay to any workman employed in the execution of the work any compensation payable to him by the contractor, or which would be so payable if the contractor were an employer to whom the Act applies.

The County Court judge found, that the master joiner was the undertaker, within the meaning of the Act, and that the deceased was his servant at the time of the accident, and was employed by him on his work. He also found, that the firm of builders were building owners, and were not undertakers, within the meaning of the Act. He made an award ordering, that the master joiner should pay £200 as compensation to the widow of the deceased and her children. The master joiner appealed from this decision; and it was contended on his behalf, that there was no evidence, on which the County Court judge could rightly find, that he was the undertaker in the construction of the houses, and that the only true inference to be drawn from the facts proved was, that the building owners were the undertakers. The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal. The Court held, that appeals under the Act were limited to questions of law, and if there was any evidence to support the finding of the County Court judge, then this finding ought to be left undisturbed. Did the firm of builders in the present case undertake the construction of the whole of the building, and then sublet a part of the work to the master joiner? Or was the true view of the evidence, that they only undertook the erection of the scaffolding and the walls of the houses, and that the master joiner, by whom the deceased workman was employed, undertook a substantial part of the construction—the carpentry and joinery work? That was a question of fact to be determined by the County Court judge, who had determined it by drawing the inference that the firm of builders had only undertaken that part of the work which was in their particular line, leaving a substantial part of the construction (the carpentry and joinery) to be undertaken by the master joiner. The appeal must, therefore, be dismissed.—*Stead v. Moore & Others, Court of Appeal, June 16th.*

WHAT IS "A FACTORY"?

Among the classes of employment, to which the Act applies, is employment by the undertakers as therein defined, on or in or about a factory; and in the Act "factory" has the same meaning as in the Factory and Workshop Acts, 1878 to 1891. By the Factory Act, 1878, the expression "non-textile factory" is defined to mean (amongst other things) "any premises wherein, or within the close or curtilage or precincts of which, any manual labour is exercised by way of trade or for purposes of gain or incidental to the following purposes, or any of them; that is to say (a) In or incidental to the making of any article or part of any article, or (b) In or incidental to the altering, repairing, ornamenting, or finishing of any article, or (c) In or incidental to the adapting for sale of any article, and wherein, or within the close or curtilage, or precincts of which steam, water, or other mechanical power is used in aid of the manufacturing process carried on there," and "the

expression 'factory' in this Act means textile factory and non-textile factory, or either of such descriptions of factories."

A workman, who had been injured by an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, claimed compensation from his employer, a builder. The workman at the time of the accident was engaged in dressing stones on the premises of the builder, a piece of metal from a chisel striking and severely injuring his left eye. The premises consist of a yard, in which stones for building purposes are dressed, and include an engine-house, which is entered from the yard, and which contains a grindstone on which the tools used by the workmen are sharpened from time to time, and a gas-engine used for the purpose of driving the grindstone. The sheriff-substitute held that the premises were a non-textile factory, within the meaning of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1878, and therefore constituted a factory, within the meaning of the Compensation Act. He accordingly awarded the pursuer 5s. weekly until he should be able again to earn wages as before the accident. The case came, on a stated case, before the Court of Session, which adhered to the judgment of the sheriff-substitute, holding that, as there was a gas-engine on the premises, that constituted the premises a factory, within the meaning of the Act.—*Petrie v. Weir, Court of Session, June 19th.*

"WHO ARE DEPENDANTS"?

The father and mother of a boy, who had been killed by an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment by a colliery company, claimed compensation from his employers, as being partially dependent upon his earnings. The father was an able bodied collier earning the usual wages in the locality; the boy's wages averaged 8s. a week for the 115 weeks preceding the accident. He lived with his parents, and gave them all his wages, but they found him in food, lodgings, clothes, etc., and gave him an occasional sixpence for pocket-money. His parents had five other children, of whom two earned wages, which they gave to their mother. The County Court judge found that the parents were in part dependent on the son's earnings, and after taking into consideration the amount necessary for the boy's keep and clothing awarded £23 8s. The employers appealed; and the Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal. (See GAZETTE, July, 1899, p. 199.) The case was taken, on appeal, to the House of Lords, which dismissed the appeal. Their Lordships held that, the County Court judge having found as a fact that there was a dependency in this case, the extent to which such dependency existed was not a matter for them to consider. If any dependency whatever existed, the appeal must be dismissed. The father was under a legal obligation to provide for his family, and was to some extent dependent upon his son's earnings to enable him to discharge that obligation.—*The Main Colliery Company, Limited, v. Davies, House of Lords, June 22nd.*

(2) Employers' Liability Act.

DEFECT IN THE CONDITION OF PLANT: FAILURE BY WORKMEN TO NOTIFY.

It is provided by the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, that a workman shall not be entitled under that Act to any right of compensation or remedy against the employer "in any case where the workman knew of the defect or negligence which caused his injury, and failed within a reasonable time to give, or cause to be given, information thereof to the employer or some person superior to himself in the service of the employer, unless he was aware that the employer or such superior already knew of the said defect or negligence."

A workman in the employment of a firm of carriers was given a chain and collar for a horse while he was in charge of a vehicle carrying a large boiler. While this was being drawn into the yard, one of the horses, in straining to draw the load, broke the chain, which the workman alleged to have been defective. The chain struck him in the eye, causing considerable injury. He brought an action against his employers to recover damages for the injury, and the County Court judge gave judgment in his favour. The employers appealed, contending that it was the duty of this workman, when he considered that anything was wrong with the harness, to take it to the saddler or blacksmith. This he neglected to do. The Queen's Bench Division held that the workman was responsible, the negligence resting on him, and allowed the appeal, with costs.—*Leith v. Carter, Queen's Bench Division, June 14th.*

(3) Truck Acts.

WHO IS AN "ARTIFICER" OR "WORKMAN"?

By the Truck Act, 1831, it is provided, "that the entire amount of the wages earned by or payable to any artificer in any of the trades hereinafter enumerated, in respect of any labour by him done in any such trade, shall be actually paid to such artificer in the current coin of this realm, and not otherwise"; and any employer making any payment thereby declared illegal becomes subject to such penalties as therein specified. The Truck Amendment Act, 1887, enacts, that the provisions of the Truck Act, 1831, shall extend to, apply to, and include any workmen as defined in the Employers and Workmen Act, 1875, Section 10, and the expression "artificer" in the Truck Act, 1831, shall be construed to include every workman to whom that Act is extended and applied by the Amendment Act. By Section 10 of the Employers and Workmen Act, 1875, it is provided, that in that Act "the expression 'workman' does not include a domestic or menial servant, but save as aforesaid, means any person who, being a labourer, servant in husbandry, journeyman, artificer, handicraftsman, miner, or otherwise engaged in manual labour . . . has entered into or works under a contract with an employer, whether the contract . . . be express or implied, oral or in writing, and be a contract of service or a contract personally to execute any work or labour."

A member of a firm, which had given yarn out to a woman to be converted into socks at her own home, was summoned for having paid her by a ticket, in exchange for which she was to receive goods in a shop forming part of the firm's premises. It was contended on behalf of the defendant, that this woman was not an artificer or workwoman, within the meaning of the Truck Acts, and that such Acts accordingly did not apply to her; that the work given out to her need not be done by the woman herself, but could be done by anyone under her, and that therefore the relation of master and servant did not exist between the defendant and her. The magistrates dismissed the summons, and in obedience to a mandamus stated a case. The Queen's Bench Division (Ireland) held, that the contention put forward by the defendant was correct, and accordingly affirmed the decision of the magistrates, with costs against the Crown.—*Queen's Bench Division, Ireland, June 28th.*

(4) Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896.

EXPLOSIVES IN COAL MINES ORDER.

By an Order issued from the Home Office on July 24th, 1899, under Section 6 of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896, it is provided:

"On and after the 1st day of October, 1899, no detonator shall be used in any mines unless the following conditions are observed:—

"(a) Detonators shall be under the control of the owner, agent, or manager of the mine, or some person specially appointed in writing by the owner, agent, or manager for the purpose, and shall be issued only to shot frers or other persons specially authorised by the owner, agent, or manager in writing.

"(b) Shot frers and other authorised persons shall keep all detonators issued to them until about to be used in a securely locked case or box separate from any other explosive."

The agent and the manager of a colliery were summoned for contravening and not complying with the provisions of this Order. The under-manager of the colliery gave evidence to the effect, that, although instructed by the manager to supply detonators to colliers at the face only, he had actually furnished them to men on their way to work. The magistrates imposed a penalty of £2 upon the agent, the manager being ordered to pay a fine of £10.—*Aberdare Police Court, June 12th.*

(5) Public Health (London) Act, 1891.

WHAT IS A WORKPLACE?

By Section 38 of the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, it is provided, that (1) "Every factory, workshop, and workplace . . . shall be provided with sufficient and suitable accommodation in the way of sanitary conveniences, regard being had to the number of persons employed in or in attendance at such building, and also where persons of both sexes are, or are intended to be, employed, or in attendance, with proper separate accommodation for persons of each sex. (2) Where it appears to a sanitary authority that this section is not complied with in the case of any factory, workshop, or workplace, the sanitary authority shall, by notice served on the owner or occupier of such factory, workshop, or workplace, require him to make the alterations and additions necessary to secure such compliance, and if the person served with such notice fails to comply therewith he shall be liable to a fine."

The owner of a building, in which persons of both sexes were employed, was summoned for failure to comply with a notice requiring him to make alterations in accordance with the Act. A firm leased from the owner two floors, one of which was used by the principals and the other by lady-clerks (typists). The non-compliance charged consisted in the fact, that the sanitary arrangements were for the use of all, without distinction of sex; it was also alleged that these arrangements were insufficient. For the defence it was contended, that the room used by the lady-typists was not a workplace, within the meaning of the Act. The magistrate held, that the place in question was not a workplace, and on this ground dismissed the summons.—*Guildhall, June 12th.*

In another case a cab proprietor was summoned as the owner or occupier of a cab-yard, consisting of ten stables and a stable yard, the non-compliance charged being failure to provide sufficient and suitable accommodation in the way of sanitary conveniences for the persons employed in or in attendance at the premises. He kept upon the premises 110 horses and a large number of cabs of which he was the owner, and employed upon the premises a number of men as horse-keepers and cab-cleaners for the purpose of attending to the horses and cabs. His business consisted in letting out the cabs by the day to drivers, and the cab-drivers were daily in attendance at the premises for the purpose of hiring the horses and cabs, changing horses, and returning the horses and cabs after use. The horse-keepers and cab-cleaners, when not at work, lived with their families in different rooms, having sanitary conveniences, situate over the premises; but in the stables and stable yard there was no accommodation in the way of sanitary conveniences for the horse-keepers and cab-cleaners. On behalf of the cab proprietor it was contended, that the premises were not a workplace within the meaning of Section 38 of the Act, and, even if they were, the cab-drivers were not "in attendance" at the premises. The magistrate was of opinion that the premises were not a "workplace" of a similar nature to a factory or workshop, that the cab-drivers were in attendance only as customers, and that there was no duty on the cab proprietor to provide accommodation for them. He accordingly dismissed the complaint. On appeal, the Queen's Bench Division held that the premises were a "workplace" within the section referred to, and that the cab-drivers were "in attendance" within the meaning of the Act, and allowed the appeal.—*Queen's Bench Division, June 14th.*

LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.

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

Canada.—There is good demand for competent farm labourers, and large numbers of harvest men will be wanted during the next few weeks. The usual demand for female servants, both in towns and on farms, continues. There is a good demand for coal miners at the Cape Breton Mines in Nova Scotia.

New South Wales.—There have been serious disputes in the coal trade at Newcastle on the matter of wages. An agreement has at length been arrived at under which the selling price of coal will be raised to 9s. a ton from January next, with a consequent advance in the hewing rate to 3s. 6d. from 3s. 2d. a ton. Reports from Bourke, Orange, Wilcannia, and Young, state that there is practically no demand for anyone in these country districts, except female servants.

Victoria.—The demand for labour has not increased, and emigrants are not advised to go to the colony, unless they are specially skilled or have a little money. The wages of male apprentices employed in making men's and boys' clothing have been fixed by the special board appointed under the Factories Act at 2s. 6d. a week for the first year, rising to 35s. a week in the seventh. The Minister of Labour and Industry is drawing up a scheme for dealing with the unemployed during the winter.

South Australia.—With the exception of copper mining there is no unusual activity in any trade, and the demand for labour is small.

Queensland.—There is a good demand for farm labourers and ploughmen, and free or assisted passages to the Colony are being granted to these, as well as to female servants. There is also a good demand for miners, and a fair demand for mechanics.

Western Australia.—There has been a strike of truckers for higher wages at one of the Coolgardie mines. They have now returned to work at an increased wage of 10s. 6d. a day.

Tasmania.—Competent miners who do not mind roughing it can obtain employment on the West Coast.

New Zealand.—Work has been plentiful both in town and country districts. There are good openings for competent mechanics, farm labourers, and female domestic servants, but they should land with sufficient money to keep them till they find suitable places.

South Africa.—All persons are warned against going to South Africa in search of work. It has been officially notified that no one without a special pass will be allowed to go to Johannesburg at present.

LABOUR ABROAD.

FRANCE.†

Employment in May.†—Employment continued satisfactory in the building, mining, quarrying, metal, engineering, electrical, scientific instrument making, watch and clock making, jewellery, flax and cotton spinning and weaving, dyeing and finishing, clothing, glove-making, printing and bookbinding, joinery and cabinet-making, carpentry, coachbuilding, coopering, glass and pottery, lime-burning, and food preparation trades, in the preparation of hides and skins, in the transport and warehousing trades, and among blast-furnacemen. It continued quiet in the silk and woollen industry, in the manufacture of ribbons (the velvet branch excepted) and in hatmaking. The slack season commenced in boot and shoemaking.

Slightly less than 7 per cent. of the 130,000 members of 710 trade unions (not including the trade unions of miners in the Nord and Pas-de-Calais districts) which made returns as to the state of employment on May 15th,

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

† Information supplied through the courtesy of the French Labour Department.

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

were out of work on that date. The corresponding proportion for April was 7 per cent., and for May, 1899, slightly less than 8 per cent.

Employment in June.*—Employment continued satisfactory in the building, mining, quarrying, metal, engineering, electrical, scientific instrument making, watch and clock making, jewellery, cotton spinning and weaving, garment-making, glove-making, printing and bookbinding, carpentry, joinery and cabinet-making, coachbuilding, coopering, glass and pottery, lime-burning, and food preparation trades, in the preparation of hides and skins, and in the transport and warehousing trades. It continued quiet in the silk and woollen industry, and in the manufacture of ribbons. Boot and shoemaking and hatmaking were less slack than in May.

Slightly less than 6 per cent. of the 110,000 members of 670 trade unions (not including the trade unions of miners in the Nord and Pas-de-Calais districts) which made returns as to the state of employment on June 15th, were out of work on that date. The corresponding proportion for May was slightly under 7 per cent., and for June, 1899, it was the same.

Labour Disputes in May.†—Ninety-four fresh disputes (including one lock-out) were reported to the French Labour Department in May, the number of workpeople known to have taken part in 90 of these disputes being 12,614. The corresponding number of disputes in April was 84, in 78 of which 21,271 workpeople were known to have taken part, while in May, 1899, there were 57 disputes, in which 16,693 workpeople took part. Of the 94 new disputes in May last, 37 occurred in the textile trades, 22 in the building trades, 7 in the metal trades, 7 in the transport trades, 5 in the clothing trades, 4 in the woodworking trades, 3 in the printing and paper trades, 2 in the glass trade, and 7 in other miscellaneous trades. The most important of the new disputes was a strike of 1,819 cotton spinners at 14 establishments at Lille on May 2nd. This dispute was caused by the putting into operation of the new law of March 30th, 1900 (*see GAZETTE*, June 1900, p. 170), and the consequent diminution in the wages of the workpeople, whose hours were reduced from 12 to 11 per day under that law. Sixteen disputes were mainly attributable to this cause, in addition to the strike just referred to. Of the 90 new and old disputes, of which the termination is reported, 8 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 36 in favour of the employers, and 46 were compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in May.†—Twelve cases of recourse to the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported to the French Labour Department in May, the workpeople having taken the initiative in 7 cases, and the employers and workpeople jointly in 2, while in 3 cases information is not given on this point.

Meetings of the parties in the presence of the justice of the peace took place in 7 cases, and resulted in one strike being settled by arbitration, while in another of these cases the strikers subsequently returned to work on the old conditions. In one case the employers and workmen appointed arbitrators, who failed to agree either upon terms of settlement or upon the choice of an umpire. An umpire was accordingly appointed by the president of the civil tribunal, as the law directs, and duly made his award. The employers, however, declined to comply with this award. In this and in the remaining 4 cases the strike was stated to continue.

In two of the 5 cases in which the parties did not meet in the presence of the justice of the peace, the disputes were settled before the dates on which such meetings were to have taken place. In one case the employer rejected the proffered intervention on the ground that the strikers' places had been filled. In one case the result of the application for intervention is not known. The remaining case occurred in connection with the general dispute in the cotton trade in Lille, Turcoing, Roubaix and other districts in

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the French Labour Department.

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

the North of France, consequent on the reduction of wages which followed the application of the law of March 30th (*see above*). In this case a conference took place in the presence of the Prefect, but without effecting a settlement.

Coal Mining in May.*—The average number of days per week worked by those employed underground in coal mines in May was 5.98, being the same as in the previous month, while it was 5.92 in May, 1899. During the month, full time (six days and over per week) was worked by 95 per cent., and from 5 to 6 days by 4 per cent. of all employed in and about the mines, the percentages in the previous month being 94 and 6 respectively. The above particulars were supplied to the French Labour Department by the Committee of Coalowners, and relate to over 100,000 workpeople (three-fourths of all employed in and about the mines).

GERMANY.

Employment in June.—According to the Berlin journal, *Der Arbeitsmarkt*, the state of employment changed somewhat for the worse in June, the proportion which applications for work bore to every 100 offers of situations at public employment registries throughout the Empire being 104.3, as compared with 101.2 in the previous month.

Labour Disputes in June.—The same journal reports 54 disputes as having begun in Germany in June, as compared with 106 in May. The groups in which the greatest number of disputes took place in June were the building trades, which had 13 disputes, and the woodworking trades, which had 12 disputes. The metal and engineering group of trades had 6 disputes; food preparation trades, 5; textile trades, 4; clothing trades, 3; the glass, pottery, etc., group had also 3; while 8 disputes occurred in trades not coming within any of the foregoing groups.

Law relating to Breach of Contract by Agricultural Labourers.—A law recently enacted in the Duchy of Anhalt contains the following provisions:—Agricultural labourers, who illegally refuse to enter upon their work, or who illegally abandon the same, are punishable by a fine up to 30 shillings or by imprisonment up to 10 days; they may also be forcibly conducted to the place of work by the police. The penalty of a fine up to £7 10s., or imprisonment up to six weeks, is incurred by any person who induces agricultural labourers to commit either of the foregoing offences; any such person is also liable to make good to the employer any loss caused to him in consequence of the illegal act. Similar penalties are incurred by any person, who, knowing agricultural labourers to have illegally refused to enter upon work for which they are under contract, or to have illegally abandoned the same, nevertheless engages them to work for him at a time for which they have hired their services to another employer. Any employer, who illegally declines to allow agricultural labourers to enter upon the work for which he has contracted with them, or who so discharges them from such work without giving them the compensation provided in the contract, is liable to a penalty up to 60 shillings, or imprisonment up to 14 days.

The penalty of imprisonment up to a year is incurred by all agricultural labourers who, by concerting together to stop work or to prevent the performance of work for any employer or employers, endeavour to induce their employers to modify the terms of an existing contract.

The foregoing law took effect from the date of its promulgation (April 16th, 1900).

BELGIUM.‡

Employment in May.—In the building and clothing trades employment was seasonally active. Coal mining and quarrying were very busy, it being difficult in both industries to supply the demand for workpeople. The metal and engineering trades continued in a prosperous condition, except in the case of rolling mills, certain of which were working short time to the extent of one day per week, owing to scarcity of orders. A decrease in activity was also reported in the manufacture of enamelled goods, and in nailmaking by machinery. The important dispute in Ghent (*see p. 196*) had a very disturbing effect upon the cotton spinning

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

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

trade, and towards the end of May the depression began to make itself felt in the weaving branch. The disputes had less effect upon the flax industry, in which employment was fairly regular. Signs of slackness were observed in the various branches of the woollen trade due to fluctuations in the market quotations for the raw material. The opening of the election campaign throughout the country did not have the usual favourable effect upon the printing trade, in which there was still some want of employment. Considerable scarcity of agricultural labourers is reported from several districts. At Antwerp the diamond working trade had not recovered from the critical state reported during the past months, and many dock labourers in that city were also out of work.

Labour Disputes in May.—Twenty-one new disputes (including one lock-out) were reported to the Belgian Labour Department in May, involving in all about 11,000 workpeople. The corresponding number of fresh disputes in April was 16, involving 954 workpeople, and in May, 1899, 8, involving 413 workpeople. The majority of the fresh disputes took place in the textile industry of East Flanders, the most important of these being the strike at Ghent, of which an account appears on page 196. Of the remaining fresh disputes, 6 were in the mining group of trades, 6 in the textile trades, 2 in the woodworking trades, 2 amongst dock labourers and navvies, and one among each of the following classes of workpeople: masons, chainmakers, boot and shoemakers, matchmakers.

Of 15 new and old disputes reported in May as having terminated, and involving 2,772 workpeople, 3, involving 362 workpeople, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 11, involving 2,325 workpeople, in favour of the employers; and one, involving 85 workpeople, was compromised. In one other dispute (a strike of 2,100 textile operatives at Renaix for increased wages) 1,000 workpeople had resumed work by June 3rd upon the old conditions.

HOLLAND.

Reports on labour in Holland for the quarter ended June 30th have been received, through the Foreign Office, from Sir Henry Howard, H.M. Minister at the Hague, under date of July 7th.

AMSTERDAM CONSULAR DISTRICT.

A report dated June 27th stated that the masons and bricklayers of Amsterdam were on strike for higher wages and shorter hours. Efforts made by the employers to bring in outside labourers had resulted in several collisions between the latter and the strikers.

Serious strikes broke out in the beginning of June on the part of the dock labourers and rafters employed in receiving cargoes of timber from ship's side. The employers eventually gave way to the demands of the men, and these strikes were, at all events, partially settled at the time of reporting.

The dock labourers engaged in discharging ships now claimed that not only the lightermen, but also all employees of the consignees, such as controllers, weighers and labourers, should be members of the Dockers' Union; and enforced their demand by refusing to assist in the discharge of cargoes, whose receivers declined to agree to their conditions.

The iron-ore workers employed in discharging ore cargoes in Amsterdam had already succeeded in obtaining better terms for their labour from the principal firms engaged in this extensive trade. One large firm, however, had stood out against these demands, and had imported labourers from outside. This resulted in serious riots and collisions with the police, and the firm in question had finally to give way, and found itself in a serious difficulty with the imported men, who refused to leave the ship without heavy compensation for the loss of their engagement.

ROTTERDAM CONSULAR DISTRICT.

The dock labourers of Rotterdam have for some time past been agitating for the abolition of all work during

the night and on Sundays except at an increased rate of wages. Practically all Sunday labour has ceased at Rotterdam, being performed only in extreme cases, and therefore the issue now at stake is a demand for double rates of payment for night labour. On May 31st a meeting of dock labourers was convened, at which a motion was unanimously carried that work should cease at 6 p.m., and the increased rate be paid for all work done for the succeeding 12 hours. On June 1st the leaders of the movement paraded the quays in the evening, and work ceased at six o'clock in some instances. In others it was continued till about 8.30 p.m., when the threatening attitude of the crowd towards those still working induced the latter to knock off.

The conditions of labour attaching to the several branches of trade at Rotterdam are, however, so dissimilar, that united action on the part of all classes of labourers has thus far proved impracticable, and with a view to remedy this state of affairs, a federation has been inaugurated to include all the different existing unions. The local shipbrokers, who are the principal employers of dock labourers, formed a committee which had several interviews with the men, and offered to increase the rate of wages for work between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m. by 50 per cent. The men, however, declined to be content with these concessions, and the shipbrokers' committee was dissolved. About the beginning of July the position became more acute; men who had hitherto abstained from following the movement joined it; and on July 4th on several steamers work ceased at 2 p.m., but was resumed on the following morning. On July 6th, however, work had ceased on nearly all vessels in port, the Great Eastern Railway Company's labourers, with the exception of 10 men, joining the strikers.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Employment in Austria in April.*—For every 100 offers of situations at labour registries (public and private) furnishing returns of their operations to the Austrian Labour Department, there were, on an average, 114 applications for work in April as compared with 132 in March. The figures point to a more favourable situation for workpeople, especially for males, in whose case the average number of applications for each situation offered dropped from 2 to 1.6.

The total number of registries furnishing returns for April was 693, of which 546 were attached to the relief stations for unemployed wayfarers existing throughout the country, chiefly in rural districts.

Labour Disputes in Austria in May.†—Forty-three disputes (of which 6 are classed as lock-outs) were reported to the Austrian Labour Department in May, the number of workpeople involved in 29 of these disputes being approximately 8,000. The corresponding number of disputes in April was 37 (including 1 lock-out) involving, so far as the numbers were known, about 7,000 workpeople. Of the 43 fresh disputes in May, 4 occurred in the mining industry, 17 in the textile trades, 5 in the clothing trades, 6 in the wood-working and furnishing trades, 2 in the glass, pottery, &c., trades, and 9 in miscellaneous trades. Of 21 disputes (not counting those classed as lock-outs), of which the results were reported, 6 were decided in favour of the workpeople (4 of these involved about 700 workpeople); 7 were decided in favour of the employers (6 of these involved about 450 workpeople), and 8 (involving some 5,000 workpeople) were compromised.

Five of the 6 disputes classed as lock-outs were in the textile trades, and were due to unauthorised absence from work on May 1st. In 3 of these cases the operatives (about 1,100 in number) were reinstated within a week. In the fourth case, the locking-out of 16 operatives was followed by a strike of the other 64 employed in the factory, who drew up a list of demands, of which some were conceded, and work was resumed within a fortnight. In the fifth case, all except 3 of the 17 locked-out operatives were discharged.

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

† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Austrian Labour Department.

Hungarian Law regulating the relations between Employers and Employed in relation to the construction of Waterworks, Roads, Railroads, etc.—By a law passed on December 15th, 1899, and coming into operation on January 1st, 1900, of which a translation has been received, through the Foreign Office, from Mr. C. Conway Thornton, H.M. Consul-General at Buda-Pesth, under date of June 12th, provisions are made regulating the relations between employers and employed, so far as concerns persons employed as day labourers or artisans to execute earthworks or any work connected therewith on waterworks or construction of roads and railways. These provisions are generally of a similar nature to those made by the law of January 28th, 1898, in relation to agricultural labourers. (See GAZETTE, April, 1898, p. 107.)

Every workman, to whom the law applies, is bound to obtain from the public authorities of the place wherein he has his fixed abode a certificate which he is to give up to his employer as soon as the employer has shown him the place where he is to work. The employer has the right to enter upon the certificate a note of the conclusion of the contract, and must return the certificate to the workman. It is provided that all engagements shall be made by a formal contract fulfilling the requirements stated in the law. Except in cases (a) in which the work is to be performed entirely, or for the most part in the workmen's place of abode, or (b) in which less than 10 workmen are to be employed, the contract must be evidenced by writing. A workman, who hires himself for the same period to two or more employers, may be punished by fine up to 600 kronen (£25) and imprisonment (up to 8 days); and an employer, who knowingly hires a workman already engaged by another employer, or entices a workman away from his employer, is liable to similar penalties. It is also made an offence punishable by a fine of similar amount for an employer to engage a workman without a certificate, or to fail to pay the stipulated wages, and for a workman to enter into service without a certificate, or to fail to fulfil the duties which he has engaged himself to perform.

The provisions contained in the law of 1898, which require the public authorities, upon the request of the employer, to have day labourers, who fail to come to work, taken to work by force, are to apply to day labourers employed upon works coming within the operation of the present law; and the sections of the former law making the promotion of general strikes and intimidation of workpeople, who have taken, or may wish to take, employment, punishable by fine and imprisonment are also incorporated in the new law. All practices in the nature of the truck system are prohibited by this law.

SPAIN.

Strike of Rio Tinto Miners.—With reference to the strike of Rio Tinto miners mentioned in last month's GAZETTE, p. 171, information has been supplied, through the Foreign Office, by Sir H. Drummond Wolff, H.M. Ambassador at Madrid, in a series of despatches of various dates from June 12th to June 20th.

On June 4th and 5th the agitation which had been going on amongst the operatives at the Huelva Town Pier for some time, came to a crisis, and the men struck work until their demands for increased wages and reduced hours of labour were fully conceded by the contractors. Encouraged by this, the workmen employed (under similar contractors) by the Rio Tinto Company in loading and discharging mineral, &c., at the Company's deposits in Huelva and at their private pier, also decided to strike and left their work, some on June 8th, and the remainder on June 9th. They demanded the dismissal of the contractors or middlemen, and that the full amount hitherto received by the contractors should be paid to them as wages. At the same time the operatives at the mines, who had for some weeks been in a very restless state, threatened to come out, and eventually about 6,000 failed to go to work on June 11th. They appear not to have formulated any definite demands. On June 12th, 10,000 men were out; numerous bodies of men paraded Huelva, stopped

the traffic, engines, &c., and forced those, who still remained at work, to leave.

The Rio Tinto strike terminated on June 18th, the men resuming work unconditionally. The men engaged in loading and discharging steamers at Huelva had all resumed work on June 16th.

REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

(a) COAL MINING IN JUNE.

[NOTE.—The following tables only profess to state the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal was hewn and wound at the collieries included in the returns received. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed at these collieries worked the whole number of days.]

EMPLOYMENT in June continued good. The comparison of the average time worked in June, 1900, with a month and a year ago is affected by the Whitsuntide holidays last month, and the decrease shown in the tables below is mainly owing to this cause.

Returns relating to 1,293 pits, at which 458,056 workpeople were employed, show that an average of 5.18 days per week was worked by those pits in the four weeks ended June 23rd.

In England and Wales nearly one-half of the workpeople were employed at pits which were idle for one or two days during the four weeks ended June 23rd, 1900, principally on account of the Whitsuntide holidays, while a similar number were employed at pits idle for three or four days.

The following Table shows the average time worked in each division of the United Kingdom in the three periods specified:—

District.	No. employed in June, 1900, at the collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the pits in four weeks ended		
		23rd June, 1900.*	24th June, 1899.	26th May, 1900.
England and Wales	417,568	5.19	5.43	5.65
Scotland	39,910	5.09	5.21	5.42
Ireland	578	5.43	4.72	5.42
United Kingdom	458,056	5.18	5.42	5.63

The number employed at the pits from which returns have been received for both periods was about 2.9 per cent. higher than in June, 1899.

In the following table the workpeople are grouped according to the number of days worked at the pits at which they were employed. It will be seen that 76.3 per cent. were employed at pits working 5 or more days per week in June.

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

Number of days on which Coal was hewn and wound in four weeks.	June, 1900.*		Corresponding percentages in—	
	No. of Workpeople employed.	Percentage proportion to total.	June, 1899.	May, 1900.
24 days (full time)	9,159	2.0	21.4	83.5
20 and under 24 days	340,528	74.3	68.4	69.1
16 " " 20 " "	102,316	22.3	18.7	7.2
12 " " 16 " "	5,423	1.2	2.6	0.1
8 " " 12 " "	389	0.1	0.7	0.1
Under 8 days	241	0.1	0.3	0.0
Total	458,056	100.0	100.0	100.0

From the Table below, which gives detailed particulars for the different mining districts, it will be seen that owing to the Whitsuntide Holidays the average number of days worked was in most districts less than in May or in June, 1899.

The highest averages during the month were worked in the Lothians (5.62 days), Cumberland (5.58 days), and South Wales and Monmouth (5.51 days). The lowest average was worked in the Fife district (4.48 days), where employment was affected by the annual holidays. In the Lothians and West Scotland, however, employment was not affected by holidays during June.

* The Whitsuntide Holidays fell within this period.

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—IRON MINING INDUSTRY; PIG IRON INDUSTRY; IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

COMPARISON OF THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED BY COLLIERIES IN JUNE, 1900 AND 1899, AND IN MAY, 1900.

District.	No. employed in June, 1900, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average No. of Days worked per Week by the Collieries in four weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in June, 1900, as compared with	
		23rd June, 1900.*	24th June, 1899.	26th May, 1900.	A year ago.	A m'th ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.						
Northumberland ...	34,761	5'16	5'28	5'52	- '12	- '36
Durham ...	86,998	5'37	5'56	5'64	- '19	- '27
Cumberland ...	6,108	5'58	5'67	5'83	- '09	- '25
Yorkshire ...	67,163	5'03	5'44	5'87	- '41	- '84
Lancashire and Cheshire	47,449	5'04	5'31	5'47	- '27	- '43
Derbyshire ...	36,551	5'16	5'21	5'87	- '05	- '71
Nottingham and Leicester	25,244	4'70	4'84	5'25	- '14	- '55
Staffordshire ...	25,537	4'94	5'24	5'54	- '30	- '60
Salop, Worcester and Warwick ...	7,348	5'18	5'48	5'66	- '30	- '48
Gloucester and Somerset	8,447	5'26	5'23	5'81	+ '03	- '55
North Wales ...	10,767	5'21	5'49	5'43	- '28	- '22
South Wales & Mon. ...	61,195	5'51	5'87	5'78	- '36	- '27
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland ...	22,405	5'37	5'27	5'27	+ '10	+ '10
The Lothians ...	3,824	5'62	5'53	5'70	+ '09	- '08
Fife ...	13,681	4'48	5'02	5'57	- '54	- '10
IRELAND.						
	578	5'43	4'72	5'42	+ '71	+ '01
Grand Total & Averages	458,066	5'18	5'42	5'63	- '24	- '43

The Exports of coal, coke, cinders and patent fuel during June amounted to 4,169,724 tons, as compared with 4,170,220 tons in May, and 3,901,804 tons in June, 1899.

(b) IRON MINING IN JUNE.

EMPLOYMENT remains good. The average time worked at iron mines in June was diminished by the Whitsuntide holidays, and this must be borne in mind when comparing June, 1900, with a month and a year ago. The number employed so far as shown by the returns was less by about 3'7 per cent. than in June, 1899.

Returns relating to 127 iron mines and open works show that the average number of days worked during the four weeks ended June 23rd was 5'54 per week. The number of workpeople employed at these mines was 16,569, of whom 67'3 per cent. were employed in mines working 22 days or more in the four weeks.

The following table summarises the returns received:

District.	No. employed in June, 1900, at the Mines included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the mines in 4 weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in June, 1900, as compared with	
		23rd June, 1900.*	24th June, 1899.	26th May, 1900.	A year ago.	A month ago.
ENGLAND—						
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	5460	5'62	5'92	5'80	- '30	- '18
Cleveland ...	6,781	5'52	5'81	5'74	- '29	- '22
Lincolnshire and Leicestershire ...	722	5'80	5'98	5'95	- '18	- '15
Northamptonshire	707	5'83	5'96	5'97	- '13	- '14
Staffordshire and Shropshire ...	1,562	5'15	5'70	5'70	- '55	- '55
Other places in England ...	139	5'32	5'46	5'51	- '14	- '19
SCOTLAND ...	1,079	5'36	5'93	6'00	- '57	- '64
IRELAND ...	119	5'92	5'94	5'85	- '02	+ '07
Total ...	16,569	5'54	5'86	5'79	- '32	- '35

(c) PIG-IRON INDUSTRY IN JUNE.

EMPLOYMENT continues good, the number of furnaces returned as in blast at the end of June being greater than either a month or a year ago.

At the works of 117 ironmasters covered by the returns four furnaces were re-lit and two blown out in England and Wales during the month. Thus at the end of June there were two more furnaces in blast than at the end of May. As compared with a year ago there is an increase of four furnaces in blast (two in England and Wales and two in Scotland).

The estimated number of workpeople employed at the 383 furnaces in blast at the end of June was 26,100.

* The Whitsuntide holidays fell within this period.

The following Table shows the number of furnaces in blast in the different districts of the United Kingdom at the three periods specified:—

Districts.	Present time compared with a year ago.			Present time compared with a month ago.		
	June, 1900.	June, 1899.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in June, 1900.	June, 1900.	May, 1900.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in June, 1900.
ENGLAND & WALES—						
Cleveland ...	96	98	- 2	96	96	...
Cumberland & Lancs. S. and S.W. Yorks...	52	51	+ 1	52	51	+ 1
Lincolnshire ...	18	19	- 1	18	18	...
Midlands ...	16	16	...	16	16	...
Gloucester and Mon. Other districts ...	103	99	+ 4	103	103	...
	23	23	...	23	22	+
	8	8	...	8	8	...
Total England and Wales...	316	314	+ 2	316	314	+ 2
SCOTLAND ...						
	67	65	+ 2	67	67	...
Total furnaces included in returns ...	383	379	+ 4	383	381	+ 2

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

EMPLOYMENT in these industries shows no decline as compared with May, and continues better than a year ago.

Numbers Employed.

At 208 works covered by the returns, 83,324 workpeople were employed in the week ended June 23rd, as compared with 82,919 in the week ended May 26th, and 79,790 a year ago.

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

District.	Numbers employed in week ending			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in June, 1900, as compared with	
	June 23rd, 1900.	June 24th, 1899.	May 26th, 1900.	a year ago.	a month ago.
England and Wales ...	70,242	66,539	70,013	+ 3,703	+ 229
Scotland ...	13,082	13,251	12,906	- 169	+ 176
Total ...	83,324	79,790	82,919	+ 3,534	+ 405

Weekly Number of Shifts Worked.

Information as to the number of shifts worked has been received with respect to works employing about 89 per cent. of these workpeople, and the particulars are summarised in the Table below. The average number of shifts worked was 5'53 per man in the week ended June 23rd, as compared with the same average in the week ended May 26th, and 5'52 in the corresponding week a year ago.

Number of Shifts worked.	Number employed in June, 1900, so far as returned.	Percentage proportion to Total.	Corresponding percentage in	
			May 1900.	June 1899.
Under 5 per week ...	3,875	5'3	6'8	4'2
5 per week ...	26,023	35'2	32'0	36'2
5½ per week ...	1,398	1'9	3'3	2'2
6 per week ...	41,737	50'5	56'8	56'1
Above 6 per week ...	814	1'1	1'1	1'3
Total ...	73,847	100'0	100'0	100'0

Assuming that the workpeople not included in this Table worked the same number of shifts as those who are included, the total number of shifts worked by all the people included in the first Table may be estimated at 461,014 in the week ended June 23rd, 458,821 in the week ended May 26th, and 440,680 in the corresponding week a year ago. Thus the volume of employment at the works included in the returns was 0'5 per cent. greater than in the week ended May 26th, and 4'6 per cent. greater than a year ago.

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

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—TINPLATE WORKS; SHIPBUILDING; AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

(e) EMPLOYMENT AT TINPLATE WORKS* IN JUNE.

EMPLOYMENT at the end of June showed a decline as compared with the end of May, but was better than at the corresponding period a year ago.

At the end of June, 52 works with 267 mills had all their mills at work, whilst 31 others, with 210 mills were giving partial employment, with 134 of their mills at work. Thus in all, 401 mills were working, compared with 416 mills at the end of May, and 380 mills a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at the mills in operation at the end of June, 1900, is estimated to be about 20,000.

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

Works giving full employment ...	No. of Works open.	No. of Mills in such Works		
		Working.	Not Working.	Total.
Works giving partial employment ...	52	267	—	267
	31	134	76	210
Total at end of June, 1900† ...	83	401	76	477
Corresponding Total for May, 1900†	85	416	71	487
Corresponding Total for June, 1899††	77	380	60	440

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

	Tinplates.			Blackplates.		
	June, 1900.	May, 1900.	June, 1899.	June, 1900.	May, 1900.	June, 1899.
To United States ...	Tons. 4,751	Tons. 4,979	Tons. 5,032	Tons. 4	Tons. 5	Tons. 156
Other Countries ...	19,626	23,067	17,069	7,822	6,892	5,653
Total ...	24,377	28,046	22,101	7,826	6,897	5,809

(f) SHIPBUILDING.

Tonnage under Construction. §

RETURNS compiled by Lloyd's Register show that on June 30th, 1900, the number of vessels (excluding warships) under construction in the United Kingdom was 499 of 1,265,313 tons gross, an increase of 4,891 tons compared with the previous quarter, and a decrease of 121,054 when compared with the figures for a year ago. There were 16 warships under construction at the Royal Dockyards, with a displacement tonnage of 158,000 tons, and 56 at private yards, with 274,075 tons displacement, a total of 72 warships and 432,075 tons, representing a decrease of 22,035 tons as compared with the previous quarter, and of 20,000 tons as compared with a year ago.

The following table summarises the above figures:—

Description of Vessels.	Tonnage under construction on			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) at end of June, 1900, as compared with	
	June 30th, 1900.	Mar. 31st, 1900.	June 30th, 1899.	Three months ago.	A year ago.
Merchant Vessels—					
Tons gross ...	1,265,313	1,260,422	1,386,367	+ 4,891	- 121,054
War Vessels—					
Tons displacement ...	432,075	454,110	452,075	- 22,035	- 20,000

* The figures relate not only to the manufacture of tinplates but also to the manufacture of blackplates.
† It will be understood that, in addition to the works returned as giving full or partial employment, a certain number of tinplate works were wholly idle at each of the dates to which the returns relate, but the figures quoted are believed to give approximately the total number of works and mills actually in operation.
‡ Revised figures.
§ By "tonnage under construction" is meant the gross tonnage of the vessels when completed. As at any given time the ships are at various stages of completion, the "tonnage under construction" is not an exact measure of the amount of work remaining to be done.

The 499 merchant vessels include 473 steam vessels of 1,250,838 tons gross, and 26 sailing vessels of 14,475 tons gross, being a decrease as compared with a year ago in the case of steamers of 68 vessels and 132,047 tons, and in the case of sailing vessels of one vessel, but an increase in the tonnage of 10,993.

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

District.	At June 30th, 1900.	At Mar. 31st, 1900.	At June 30th, 1899.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with	
				Three months ago.	A year ago.
Clyde ...	407,884	425,672	495,424	- 17,788	- 87,540
Tyne ...	242,038	232,168	245,266	+ 9,870	- 3,228
Belfast ...	193,804	185,454	215,069	+ 8,350	- 21,265
Wear ...	168,057	162,763	170,418	+ 5,294	- 2,361
Middlesbro' and Stockton	107,114	108,325	101,958	- 1,211	+ 5,156
Hartlepool and Whitby ...	94,160	84,160	82,358	+ 10,000	+ 11,802
Barrow, Maryport and Workington	2,490	2,690	10,680	- 200	- 8,190

There is a noticeable decrease in the Clyde district, as compared with the previous quarter, but increases are shown in the Tyne, Wear, Hartlepool and Whitby, and Belfast districts. As compared with the tonnage under construction at the end of June, 1899, there is a falling off in every district except Hartlepool and Whitby, and Middlesbro' and Stockton, the decrease on the Clyde amounting to 18 per cent.

(g) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN JUNE.

THE Agricultural Correspondent to the Department, on the basis of 210 Returns from various parts of England, reports as follows:—Generally speaking employment was regular during the month of June. There was some slight irregularity of work in parts of Suffolk and Essex during the last part of the month owing to wet weather. At this time of year many men in practically all counties outside the North of England are engaged at piecework. In the Northern, Midland, and Eastern Counties, and also in many districts in the Southern and South-Western Counties, hay making had scarcely begun by the end of June. The hay crop was generally backward owing to the dry cold weather in the earlier part of the year, and the wet weather at the end of June was the cause of delay in commencing hay harvest operations. The rain in June caused vegetation to grow very fast, and there was much employment at hoeing and singling roots and weeding. A number of employers complain of the difficulty in getting sufficient labour, particularly for hoeing, but, owing to hay harvest not having commenced before July 1st in many districts, less inconvenience was experienced in June in consequence. Several employers in districts where haymaking commenced in June refer to a scarcity of men, but they state that, owing to the light crops and the possibility of cutting it quickly with machines, they have been able to manage without great difficulty.

An account of recent changes reported in rates of wages of Agricultural labourers is given on page 195.

Northern Counties.—In the Northern Counties employment is said to have been regular during the month of June. Reports from Northumberland state that employment was quite regular, and similar conditions are said to prevail in Cumberland in the Unions of Bootle, Carlisle, Cockermouth, Longtown, Penrith, and Whitehaven. Labour is said to be generally scarce throughout the county. A correspondent in the Longtown Union (referring to the whole county) writes as follows:—"Labour is becoming scarcer than ever, and farmers are in great difficulties." A correspondent in the Cockermouth Union writes:—"All farm hands have been fully employed, and extra labourers for hoeing, etc., are difficult to get. At the half-yearly hirings held here on the 4th and 11th, servants were in great demand and wages ruled higher than they have done for many years past. Many farmers have not yet got their full stock of servants and are not likely to do so." A

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

report from *South Westmorland* and from *Lancashire* from the Unions of Fylde, Garstang, Lancaster, Luneside, and Ulverston states that all hands are fully employed, and that labour is generally scarce. At the hay hirings held in June at Garstang (*North Lancashire*), Kirkby Stephen (*Westmorland*), Bentham and Kettlewell (*Yorks, W.R.*) men obtained from £6 10s. to £8 10s. for the month with board and lodging in addition. At the Teesdale hiring (*Durham and Yorks, N. R.*) Irish labourers obtained about £7 10s. to £7 15s. for the month with board and lodging, and Englishmen got about £8 with board and lodging. Reports of a similar character come from *Durham* from the Unions of Chester-le-Street, Durham and Darlington (*Durham and Yorks, N. R.*). In *Yorkshire* there is said to be regular employment in the Unions of Beverley, Easingwold, Guisborough, Howden, Malton, Ouseburn, Knaresborough, Pocklington, Ripon, and Thirsk. The supply of labourers is said to be short in the Unions of Howden, Guisborough, Pocklington, and Thirsk. An employer in the Guisborough Union states that "the supply of labour is scarce and bad to get. Irishmen coming over find work easy to obtain. I am paying these men 3s. a week more than last year for the summer months."

Midland Counties.—Agricultural labourers are said to be well employed in *Cheshire* in the Unions of Macclesfield, Nantwich, and Tarvin. A correspondent in the Tarvin Union writes that there is not labour to do the work needed to be done. Regularity of work is reported from *Derbyshire* from the Unions of Ashbourne, Chesterfield, and Hayfield (*Derby and Cheshire*), from the *Derbyshire* portions of the Worksop Union (*Notts, Derby, and Yorks, W.R.*), of the Burton-on-Trent Union (*Staffs and Derby*) and of the Mansfield Union (*Notts and Derby*). Several reports refer to a scarcity of labour. An employer in the Mansfield Union writes that "Turnips require more labour, but it cannot be found." Regularity of work is reported in *Shropshire* in the Unions of Bridgnorth, Drayton (*Salop and Staffs*), Ellesmere (*Salop and Flint*), Oswestry (*Salop and Denbigh*), Wellington, and Wem, and in *Staffordshire* in the Unions of Leek, Lichfield, and Tamworth (*Staffs and Warwick*). In both these counties labour is said to be generally scarce. A correspondent in the Warwickshire portion of the Tamworth Union writes that "Agricultural labour of all descriptions very scarce. Many farmers are unable to get sufficient men to properly work their holdings."

Employment in *Warwickshire* is said to be regular in the Unions of Alcester, Atherstone (*Warwick and Worcester*), Coventry, Meriden, and Stratford-on-Avon (*Warwick and Gloucester*) and in the *Warwickshire* portion of the Banbury Union (*Oxon, Northants, and Warwick*). A large employer of labour in the Alcester Union writes that "A few Irish labourers have come to us this month, and they have been a great help. The month has been stormy and weeds have grown very fast. People have had some trouble to get their roots singled."

Agricultural labourers in *Leicestershire* are said to be fully employed in the Unions of Barrow-on-Soar, Blaby, Loughborough (*Leicester and Notts*), Lutterworth (*Leicester and Warwick*), Market Harborough (*Leicester and Northants*), Market Bosworth, and Melton Mowbray. A report from the Blaby Union states that "extra men for haymaking are difficult to get"; another from the Barrow-on-Soar Union says that "supply of labour is short. There is difficulty in obtaining sufficient"; another from the Market Bosworth Union says that "the greater portion of the corn crops have not been hoed owing to the want of labour." In *Nottinghamshire* employment is said to be regular in the Unions of Southwell and Retford, and in *Rutland* in the Uppingham Union. A correspondent in the Retford Union writes that "In colliery districts farmers complain of a shortage of labour. In other districts supply and demand are about right. In this district June has been a very dry month, affecting very much all crops, and causing less labour to be required." Regularity of employment is reported in *Worcestershire* in the Unions of Evesham (*Worcester and Gloucester*), Martley, Tenbury (*Worcester and Salop*), and Upton-on-Severn. A report from the Evesham Union, on July 1, states that "No labourers are to be had. Haymaking has commenced and will be secured with difficulty."

Reports from *Oxfordshire* state that agricultural labourers are fully employed and generally scarce in *Oxfordshire*, in the Unions of Thame (*Oxon and Bucks*) and Witney, and in the *Oxfordshire* portion of the Wallingford Union (*Oxon and Berks*). A correspondent in the Witney Union writes as follows:—"Labour is very scarce, especially hoers. Most young men in the district are going to towns. The showery weather retards hoeing and haymaking,

so all farm work much behind." Employment in *Northamptonshire* is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Brixworth, Hardingstone, Kettering, Potterspury, Towcester (*Northants and Bucks*) and Wellingborough, and in the *Northamptonshire* portion of the Banbury Union (*Oxon, Northants, and Warwick*). Several reports state that men are scarce, and that extra men for hoeing are difficult to obtain. A large employer of labour in the Wellingborough Union writes as follows:—"Men are wanted for hoeing, etc. The weather is rather showery, but not sufficiently so as to cause even odd men, where such can be got, to lose any time." A correspondent in another part of the same Union describes the supply of labour as "very short." Regularity of work is reported in *Huntingdonshire* in the Unions of Huntingdon, St. Ives, and St. Neots (*Hunts and Beds*). An employer in the St. Neots Union writes as follows:—"The weather has been very hindering for securing clover, sanfoin, hay, etc., but there has been full work in clearing growing root crops, which were generally foul and the work in arrear."

Agricultural labourers in *Buckinghamshire* are said to have full employment in the Unions of Aylesbury, and Buckingham, in *Hertfordshire* in the Unions of Buntingford, Hatfield, Hemel Hempstead, Hertford, Hitchin (*Herts. and Beds.*), Royston (*Herts. and Cambs.*), and Watford, and in *Middlesex* in the Barnet Union (*Middlesex and Herts.*). Most reports from *Hertfordshire* refer to a scarcity of labour. A report from the Bedford Union of *Bedfordshire* states that "Root crops wanted hoeing badly, so there was plenty of employment for everyone. Labour gets scarcer every year, and we have to pay higher wages for hoeing, etc."

Eastern Counties.—In *Essex* agricultural employment is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Billericay, Braintree, Colchester, Dunmow, Epping, Halstead, Lexden and Winstree, Maldon, Orsett, and Tendring. Scarcity of labour is reported in the Unions of Braintree, Billericay, Epping, Lexden and Winstree. In the Unions of Colchester and Dunmow the supply of labour is said to be sufficient. An employer in the Dunmow Union writes as follows: "In consequence of the weather being fine during the month, all farm work is in a very forward state and the supply of labour is quite sufficient." A correspondent in the Halstead Union says: "Labour is most scarce in out-of-the-way parts of parishes. There is not any real scarcity near populous centres." Reports from *Suffolk* state that agricultural labourers were generally well employed in the Unions of Blything, Bosmere and Claydon, Cosford, Hartismere, Hoxne, Mildenhall, Mutford and Lothingland, Plomesgate, Risbridge (*Suffolk and Essex*), Samford, Sudbury (*Suffolk and Essex*) and Thingoe. In the following Unions there is, however, said to have been some slight irregularity of work owing to wet weather, namely, Cosford, Hartismere, Hoxne, Plomesgate, Risbridge, Sudbury, and Thingoe. Several reports from the county refer to a scarcity of labour, but a large employer of labour in the Bosmere and Claydon Union writes as follows: "I think there are sufficient hands to do the necessary work. I see no reason to apprehend a scarcity of harvest labour."

Reports from *Norfolk* state that employment was regular in the Unions of Aylsham, Blofield, Depwade, Docking, Downham, East and West Flegg, Erpingham, Forehoe, Freebridge Lynn, Guiltcross, Henstead, Loddon and Clavering, Milford and Launditch, St. Faith's, Smallburgh, Swaffham, Thetford (*Norfolk and Suffolk*) and Walsingham. In the St. Faith's and Smallburgh Unions a little time is said to have been lost owing to wet weather. In the following Unions the supply of labour is said to be scarce, or somewhat scarce:—Erpingham, Docking, East and West Flegg, Freebridge Lynn, Guiltcross, Henstead, and Thetford. In the following Unions the supply of labour is said to be sufficient, or just sufficient, namely, Aylsham, Blofield, Depwade, Forehoe, Loddon and Clavering, Smallburgh, St. Faith's, Swaffham, and Walsingham. A correspondent in the Loddon and Clavering Union writes as follows: "There are no loose hands; men are working overtime to keep pace with the work." In *Cambridgeshire* employment is said to be regular in the Unions of Chesterton, North Witchford, Royston (*Cambs and Herts*), Whittlesea, and Wisbech (*Cambs and Norfolk*). The supply of labour in the Whittlesea Union is said to be sufficient, in the Chesterton Union "rather short," and in the Royston Union "very short." In *Lincolnshire* there is said to be regularity of employment in the Unions of Boston, Brigg, Caistor (*Notts and Lincoln*), Grimsby, Lincoln, Louth, Sleaford, and Spilsby, and in the *Lincolnshire* portion of the Newark Union (*Notts and Lincoln*). Reports from the following Unions state that the supply of labour is short—Brigg, Boston, Caistor, Grimsby, and Lincoln. In the Unions of Boston and Lincoln young men

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR; DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR; SEAMEN.

to go with horses are said to be especially scarce. A report from the Louth Union says that the supply of labour is sufficient.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—Reports state that employment has been regular in *Kent* in the Unions of Bleas, Eastry, Elham, Faversham, Hollingbourne, Hoo, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, and Tenterden, and in *Surrey*, in the Unions of Godstone, and Hambledon, and the *Surrey* portion of the Farnham Union (*Surrey and Hants*). Labour continues to be very scarce in most of the districts reported on. A correspondent in the Farnham Union states that full employment was found hoeing root crops when the weather was too wet for haymaking. Agricultural labourers are said to be well employed in *Sussex* in the Unions of Chailey, Cuckfield, Hailsham, Horsham, Newhaven, Petworth, Rye, and Uckfield. Most of the reports from this county refer to a scarcity of labour, particularly for haymaking. In the Cuckfield Union, however, the supply of labour is stated to have been "just about sufficient" while a correspondent in the Horsham Union states that owing to the shortness of the hay crop and the unsatisfactory weather, the scarcity of labour has not been so much felt as it would have been had the crop been heavier. In *Hampshire* employment has been generally regular in the Unions of Basingstoke, Christchurch, Hartley Wintney, Havant, Lymington, Petersfield, Stockbridge, and in the *Hampshire* portion of the Farnham Union (*Hants and Surrey*). A report from the Christchurch Union states that "a somewhat backward season has brought hay-making and turnip hoeing pretty much together, consequently employment has been very regular." Scarcity of labour, on account of railway and building operations, is reported from the Basingstoke and Hartley Wintney Unions, and a correspondent in the Havant Union reports that an advertisement for hoers only brought one reply. Work has been regular and labour difficult to procure in *Berkshire* in the Unions of Bradfield (*Berks and Oxon*), Newbury, and Wantage. A report from the Wantage Union states: "Weather very changeable, which makes more work among the hay—the crop of hay rather light, so that it can all be cut with the machine, or the difficulty would be greater—the roots are very much neglected through want of labour."

Agricultural labourers are said to be well employed in *Dorsetshire* in the Unions of Blandford, Dorchester, Wareham and Purbeck, and Wimborne and Cranborne. Some scarcity of labour is reported, and it is stated that in the Wareham and Purbeck Union no extra hands are to be had for turnip hoeing and consequently roots are spoiling. In *Wiltshire* employment is reported as regular in the Unions of Bradford-on-Avon, Chippenham, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett, Devizes, Marlborough, Pewsey, Warminster, and Westbury and Whorwellsdown. Most of the reports from this county refer to scarcity of labour, particularly for hoeing roots. A correspondent in the Warminster Union states that the grass crop being heavy more hands are required, while a report from the Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Union states that the delay in haymaking has enabled hay hands to be occasionally employed in hoeing roots, &c.

In *Gloucestershire* agricultural labourers are said to be fully employed in the Unions of Barton Regis, Dursley, Gloucester, Northleach, Stow-on-the-Wold (*Gloucester and Worcester*), Thornbury, and Wheatonhurst. Scarcity of labour appears to have been less severely felt in this county than in many others in the South West, as the haymaking had not commenced at the end of June in some districts. In the Northleach Union, however, the supply of labour is described as very short. Employment has been quite regular in the Unions of Dore, and Ross, in *Herefordshire*. It is reported from the Dore Union that scarcity of labour had not been much felt up to 1st July, as the haymaking had hardly commenced, and root crops had also been retarded by cold weather.

Reports from *Somersetshire* from the Unions of Bridgwater, Frome, Langport, Taunton, Wells, Wellington (*Somerset and Devon*) and Yeovil state that agricultural labourers are well employed. Scarcity of labour is reported from these Unions, with the exception of Frome and Yeovil. A correspondent in the Langport Union writes that the dearth of labour has been partially met by increased use of machinery. Regularity of work is reported from *Devonshire* from the Unions of Axminster, Barnstaple, Crediton, Holsworthy, Kingsbridge, Tavistock (*Devon and Cornwall*) and Torrington; and from the Unions of Bodmin, Camelford, and Stratton in *Cornwall*. In the Holsworthy Union the supply of labour is said to have been equal to the demand, but in all other Unions reported on in *Devonshire* and *Cornwall* there has been a general scarcity of labour, although the haymaking has been delayed by unfavourable weather.

(h) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN JUNE.

EMPLOYMENT at the docks has been disorganised owing to a strike which has chiefly affected labourers employed by shipowners. The following figures relate to labourers employed at the docks by Dock Companies or through contractors, and at the principal wharves, the usual figures respecting men employed by shipowners not being available. The average number of labourers employed daily during the five weeks ended 30th June was 11,954, as compared with averages of 11,693 in the preceding four weeks and 11,246 in the corresponding period of 1899.

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

Period.	Labourers employed by Dock Companies or through Contractors	Labourers employed at 115 Wharves making Returns.	Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.
Week ending June 2	6,860	5,518	12,378
" " " 9	6,822	5,287	12,109
" " " 16	6,420	5,302	11,722
" " " 23	6,486	5,162	11,648
" " " 30	6,853	5,085	11,938
Average for 5 weeks ending June 30th, 1900	6,684	5,270	11,954
Average for June, 1899	5,725	5,521	11,246
Average for May, 1900	6,061	5,632	11,693

(2) **Daily Fluctuation.**—The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers included in the returns during June is shown in the following table. The numbers during June ranged from 12,440 on the 8th to 11,316 on the 16th:—

Table showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by Dock Companies, and at 115 of the principal Wharves for each day during the month of June.

Day of Month.	Number employed.	Day of Month.	Number employed.	Day of Month.	Number employed.
1	12,235	13	11,725	23	11,390
2	11,697	14	11,753	25	11,711
3	11,742	15	11,854	26	11,757
4	12,144	16	11,316	27	11,906
5	12,011	17	11,396	28	12,126
6	12,440	18	11,536	29	12,190
7	12,203	19	11,769	30	11,936
8	11,912	20	11,744		
9	11,771	21	11,744		
10		22	12,051		

Sundays and Holidays are omitted.

Particulars respecting the employment of other classes of dock and riverside labourers will be found under "District Reports, London," on page 209.

(i) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN JUNE.

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

THE number of seamen shipped during June as the crews of foreign-going vessels from certain selected ports (at which about 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared) was 33,879, or 4,375 less than in June, 1899. The supply of men is reported to have been equal to or in excess of the demand at the majority of the ports. Some slight scarcity of labour has, however, been experienced at Sunderland, Barry, London (Poplar), and Southampton. During the six months ended June 30th, the number of men shipped was 189,772, as compared with 199,261 in the corresponding period of last year.

Of the total number shipped during the first six months of 1900, 28,201 (or 14.9 per cent.) were foreigners, the percentage for the corresponding period of 1899 being also 14.9. Lascars who are engaged in Asia are not included in these figures.

Particulars of a change which has taken place in the rates of wages of seamen and firemen at Grimsby will be found in the table on page 217.

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—SEAMEN; WOMEN IN TEXTILE TRADES; LONDON.

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 June, 1900 and 1899 respectively, together with the number* shipped in the six months ended June in each of these years:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Men, &c., shipped in June, 1900.*			Total in June, 1899.*	Total number shipped in 6 months ended June*	
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in June, 1900.		1900.	1899.
ENGLAND.						
East Coast.						
Tyne Ports ...	156	2,441	2,597	4,279	13,078	13,476
Sunderland ...	—	591	591	681	2,493	2,599
Middlesbrough ...	—	132	132	333	1,445	1,753
Hull ...	49	911	960	1,625	6,473	7,157
Grimaby ...	—	48	48	70	388	457
Bristol Channel.						
Bristol ...	1	272	273	661	2,233	2,653
Newport, Mon. ...	23	770	793	1,176	4,782	6,505
Cardiff ...	649	3,509	4,158	6,143	24,403	31,822
Swansea ...	28	651	679	749	3,504	3,664
Other Ports.						
Liverpool ...	305	10,360	10,665	11,653	55,927	63,127
London ...	363	6,431	6,794	6,585	37,519	34,341
Southampton ...	—	2,315	2,315	1,460	13,931	8,521
SCOTLAND.						
Leth, Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth Glasgow ...	125	2,532	2,657	2,921	13,649	13,539
IRELAND.						
Dublin ...	—	210	210	73	704	697
Belfast ...	12	368	380	210	1,894	1,611
Total, June, 1900 ...	1,728	32,193	33,879	—	189,772	—
Ditto, June, 1899 ...	2,268	35,996	—	35,254	—	199,761

(b) EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE TEXTILE TRADES IN JUNE.

ACCORDING to returns from women correspondents, employment for women in June showed a slight decline in the spinning branch of the cotton trade; a greater decline was apparent in the weaving branch. In the woollen and worsted trades employment became irregular in some districts, less than half the women reported on being in mills giving full employment throughout the month. Information has been received with regard to 593 cotton, woollen and worsted mills, employing about 103,160 women and girls, and is summarised in the following table, which also gives for comparison the corresponding figures for the previous month, and for a year ago:—

Trade and Month.	Percentage ordinarily employed in Mills which were			
	Working full time.		Working Short Time.	Closed for repairs, bad trade, or other causes.
	With Full Employment.	With Partial Employment.		
Cotton Trade—Spinning—				
June, 1900 ...	83	3	2	12
May, 1900 ...	87	2	—	11
June, 1899 ...	96	1	1	2
Cotton Trade—Weaving—				
June, 1900 ...	75	17	4	4
May, 1900 ...	93	2	2	3
June, 1899 ...	90	9	1	—
Woollen and Worsted Trades—				
June, 1900 ...	47	50	2	1
May, 1900 ...	95	3	—	2
June, 1899 ...	96	4	—	—
Total of above Trades—				
June, 1900 ...	72	20	3	5
May, 1900 ...	92	2	1	5
June, 1899 ...	93	6	1	—

Cotton Trade.—Spinning.—The number of women and girls usually employed in cotton spinning mills reported on is 27,630; of these 83 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 87 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in May, and with 96 per cent. in June, 1899.

Cotton Trade.—Weaving.—The number of women and girls usually employed in cotton weaving factories reported on is 55,660; of these, 75 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 93 per cent. among

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

those for whom returns were received in May, and with 90 per cent. in June, 1899.

Woollen and Worsted Trades.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted mills reported on is 19,870; of these, 47 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 95 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in May, and with 96 per cent. in June, 1899.

DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

LONDON.

General.—Several of the more important industries showed a slight downward tendency, but, on the whole, the state of employment during June continued fairly good. Returns from 467 branches of 125 unions, having an aggregate membership of 79,197, show that 2,348 (or 3.0 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 2.6 in May, and 2.5 per cent. in June, 1899.

Employment in the *Engineering, Metal and Shipbuilding* trades has remained good. Reports from 155 branches of 30 unions, with an aggregate membership of 22,692, show that 408 (or 1.8 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.0 in May. The percentage for June, 1899, was also 1.8. Employment with sailmakers has remained good.

The *Building* trades continue well employed in most branches. Returns from 182 branches of 8 unions paying unemployed benefit, with a membership of 13,294, show that 246 (or 1.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.4 in May, and 0.8 per cent. in June, 1899. The bricklayers describe employment as good; the painters and decorators as moderate; the carpenters and joiners, stonemasons and stonecarvers as fair; the plasterers as slack; the plumbers as bad.

Employment in the *Furnishing* trades is scarcely so good. Reports from 47 branches of 14 unions, with a membership of 6,592, show that 187 (or 2.8 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.5 per cent. in May, and 0.7 per cent. in June, 1899.

The *Woodworking* trades are less busy. Reports from 3 unions, with a membership of 870, show that 19 (or 2.2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.5 per cent. in May.

Coopers still remain busy. Reports from 2 societies, with a membership of 1,060, show that less than 1 per cent. were unemployed, as in May and also in June of last year.

Employment with *Coachbuilders* and *Wheelwrights* is still good. Reports from 12 branches of 8 unions, with a membership of 1,462, show that 15 (or 1.0 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.2 in May, and 0.9 per cent. in June, 1899.

The *Printing* and *Bookbinding* trades are slack. Returns from 25 unions, with a membership of 24,407, show that 1,108 (or 4.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.6 per cent. in May and also in June of last year.

Employment in the *Clothing* trades is not good. The West End bespoke tailors were fairly well employed at the commencement, but fell off towards the end of the month; the East End contract trade has been fair, the bespoke trade good, the stock trade quiet; the East End military and uniform tailors and tailoresses have only been partially employed; with ladies' tailors and mantle makers employment has been fair. Employment with hatters has been quiet; with capmakers good. Fur skin dressers have been fairly well employed, but are slacker.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—Employment with West End hand-sewn boot and shoemakers has been good, but fell off towards the end of the month; with the East End sewround trade, bad; with boot and shoe clickers also bad; with boot and shoe operatives, quiet.

Employment in the *Leather* trades is good. Returns from 6 unions, with a membership of 1,501, show that 17 (or 1.1 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.5 in May and 2.3 per cent. in June, 1899.

In the *Glass and Pottery* trades returns from 8 unions, with a membership of 1,477, show that 57 (or 3.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.2 in May, and 6.5 per cent. in June of last year.

Hair, Fibre, and Cane Workers.—In these trades returns from 5 unions, with a membership of 917, show that 11 (or 1.2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.1 in May and 0.9 per cent. in June, 1899.

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

Gold and Silver Workers have continued to be better employed. Returns from 8 unions, with a membership of 1,152, show that 20 (or 1.7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.9 in May and 2.7 per cent. in June of last year.

Employment in the *Tobacco* trades is still slack. Returns from 4 unions, with a membership of 2,348, show that 223 (or 9.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 9.6 per cent. in May and 4.6 in June, 1899.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—Employment has been disorganised owing to a strike (see p. 221). The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks, by Dock Companies or through contractors, and at the principal wharves was 11,954 in the five weeks ended June 30th, as compared with averages of 11,693 in May, and 11,246 in June, 1899. The men employed by shipowners are not included in these figures, no return having been received in June. Employment in mid-stream has been irregular, owing to the strike; with the corn porters it has been good at the Millwall and Surrey docks, moderate at other docks; stevedores and lumpers have been fairly well employed; with deal porters employment has been good; with lightermen, coalporters, and winchmen, moderate to slack. The fruit porters in Thames-street have had fair employment, the average daily number employed being 296 as compared with 284 in May and 338 in June, 1899.

ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES.

Tyne and Wear District.

Coal Mining.—Northumberland.—At some pits less time has been worked owing to holidays. Steam and house coal collieries have averaged respectively 5.10 and 5.37 days per week, as against 5.45 and 5.50 days in May. Of the 25,080 union miners, deputies, mechanics and engine and firemen, 5 are idle. **Durham.**—Gas, house, manufacturing and coking coal pits have averaged during the four weeks ending June 23rd, 5.19, 5.26, 5.48 and 5.60 days per week respectively. The returns received from 138 pits employing 66,138 men and boys show an average working week of 5.37 days, as compared with 5.61 days in May. The union miners have 0.1 per cent. unemployed, the same percentage as at the end of May. The coeyard men are fully employed.

Metal Mining.—Employment is good at three lead mines in Weardale. Iron ore mines are reported as having worked better.

Quarrying.—The limestone quarries at Haswell and Stanhope, with two exceptions, are fully employed. In the Blyth and Gateshead district all quarries are fairly brisk. Stone breakers in Weardale have been moderately employed.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—On the Tyne.—At a few engine and locomotive shops and at one or two shipyards, employment has been interrupted by holidays of 10 and 12 days. Copper-smiths are better employed. Boiler shops are still busy. All departments of ordnance work continue brisk. Branches of these trades, with 12,628 members have 549 (or 4.3 per cent.) off work, as against 137 (or 1.1 per cent. of their membership) in May. **On the Wear.**—Ship-smiths and forges are slightly easier. Fitters and turners remain steadily employed. Riveters are in fairly good demand. Branches with 4,944 members have 60 (or 1.2 per cent.) idle, the same percentage of their membership as in May. Employment with drillers and hole cutters on both rivers is reported as good; with brassfinishers and shipwrights as fair. At Sunderland sail-makers are busy; on the Tyne a slight improvement is reported. Branches with 1,184 iron and steel moulders have 16 unemployed. Except for holidays, steel smelting shops at Consett, Newburn and Spennymoor have worked full time; plate and angle mills 5 and 6 shifts per week; forges and cogging mills 4 and 5 shifts. One mill has been laid off a fortnight. Employment in the shipyards at Blyth is not so good.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment with quayside labourers on the Tyne has been good; with coal porters and shippers it has not been so regular. The supply of sailors and firemen has been in excess of the demand. Trimmers and teemers, lumpers and riggers, and tugboat men, on both rivers, report employment as good.

Building Trades.—Employment in the Newcastle district continues unsettled owing to a dispute. On the Wear all branches except joiners are fairly well employed.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers are better employed. Bookbinders are not so busy. Five paper mills have worked full time, two others a little over half time.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Millsawyers in shipyards are quiet; in merchant mills and cabinet shops brisk; lathenders remain fully employed. Coopers on the Tyne are moderately busy.

Chemical and Glass Trades.—Pressed glassmakers have a number of furnaces idle. Glass bottleworkers on the Wear and at Seaham Harbour are all employed. Except in the bleaching powder departments, employment in the chemical factories continues to be only moderate. Copper, white lead and cement works are steadily employed.

Fishing.—Between 40 and 50 boats have been engaged in the herring fishing during the month; the catches have been larger than a year ago. Trawl and line boats have landed good supplies; prices are reported as below the average.—*J. Ratcliffe.*

Middlesbrough, Stockton and District.

Ironstone Mining.—The Cleveland miners report employment as fairly good. The average number of days worked by the 21 mines furnishing returns was 5.52 per week during the four weeks ending June 23rd. The number of workpeople employed at the mines was 6,781, the corresponding number a year ago being 6,769.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment generally is reported as good at the finished iron works, steel works, metal expansion works, bridge works, blast furnaces, and general foundries. Pipe foundries continue busy. At chair foundries employment is moderate.

Engineering and allied Trades.—The engineers report employment as good at Bishop Auckland, Middlesbrough, Stockton and South Bank, fair at Darlington and Hartlepool; ironfounders as moderate at Stockton, good at Darlington, Middlesbrough and Hartlepool; patternmakers as fairly good; smiths and strikers as good. Branches of these trades, with 4,414 members, have 55 (or 1.2 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 44 (or 1.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Shipbuilding.—Employment continues good throughout the district.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is fairly good. **Shipping and Dock Labour.**—Sailors and firemen report employment as quiet at Middlesbrough, moderate at Hartlepool. Dock and riverside labour generally is good.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is good with pulp, cement, and concrete workers, cabinetmakers, tailors, and saltworkers; fairly good with sawyers and woodcutting machinists. With printers it is bad at Hartlepool, moderate at Stockton, fair at Middlesbrough, and good at Darlington.—*A. Main.*

Cumberland and Barrow District.

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

Coal Mining.—Employment is good in this industry in Cumberland. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended June 23rd, at the 20 pits from which returns were received, was 5.58 per week. During this period, however, employment was interrupted by the Whitsuntide holiday. The number employed at these pits was 6,108, the corresponding number a year ago being 6,065.

Iron Mining.—Employment at the Cumberland and North Lancashire iron mines continues good. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended June 23rd at the 43 mines covered by the returns was 5.62 per week. In this industry also employment was interrupted by the Whitsuntide holidays. The workpeople employed at these mines in June 1900, and 1899, numbered 5,460 and 6,030 respectively.

Pig Iron Manufacture.—Employment has continued good in this industry. The number of furnaces in blast in Cumberland and North Lancashire at the end of June was 52, being 1 more than at the end of both May 1900, and June 1899, the estimated number of workpeople employed at these furnaces being 4,289.

Shipbuilding.—According to the returns compiled by *Lloyds' Register* there were 6 vessels other than warships under construction (see Note, page 205) in the Barrow, Maryport and Workington district at the end of June, with a gross tonnage of 2,490 tons, as compared with 10 vessels with a gross tonnage of 2,690 at the end of March, and 7 vessels and 10,680 tons a year ago. The tonnage of warships under construction at Barrow at the end of June was 66,571 tons displacement, the same as at the end of the previous quarter, and 13,781 tons more than a year ago.

LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.

Oldham and District.

Cotton Trade.—Spinning.—Employment in Oldham and the surrounding districts, including Ashton-under-Lyne, Stalybridge, Mossley, Rochdale and Milnrow, still remains good. In the carding and ring-spinning department employment is reported as active;

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

in twining as fair; in winding as moderate. *Weaving*.—Employment has improved with velvet-weavers; with calico weavers it is reported as fair; with fustian weavers as still slack. Beam and sectional warpers and ball warpers report employment as moderate; twisters, drawers and slashers as good; reelers as slack.

Woolen and Silk Trades.—Employment in the woolen industry in Rochdale, Milnrow and Stockport districts is reported as good; in the silk dressing trade of Rochdale as moderate.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment is again reported as good in the engineering trade, and as slack with textile machinery makers. Gas meter makers, plate and machine moulders, and iron grinders report employment as slack; toolmakers, tinplate workers and core makers as moderate; boiler-makers, ironfounders, spindle and flyer makers, pattern-makers and brassfounders as good.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is fair.

Coal Mining.—Full time continues at the pits in the district.

T. Ashton.

Bolton and District.

Cotton Trade.—*Spinning*.—Employment in Bolton, Farnworth and Moses Gate continues fairly good. At Bury, Heywood, Ramsbottom, Leigh and Tyldesley operatives are reported as well employed; in Chorley and Wigan, a slight slackness is experienced at a few firms. Card-room operatives are fairly well employed throughout the district, except at Wigan and Chorley, where a little slackness is reported. *Weaving*.—Employment in Bolton and vicinity is fairly good; in Bury, Walkden and Chorley some firms are slightly less active; in Wigan employment is more irregular owing to a dispute.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—Engineers, steam engine makers and iron moulders are fairly well employed in Bolton, Bury and Wigan. Machine-making firms are reported as slack in several departments, short time being worked at two leading firms. In Wigan, Chorley and Bury iron workers are reported as slightly less active.

Building Trades.—Employment with most branches is reported as improved in Bolton. In Chorley and Wigan some branches are not so busy.

Coal Trades.—Coal miners are fairly busy throughout the district.

Miscellaneous.—Tanners, brushmakers, carters, cabinet makers, shoe-makers and cloggers are moderately employed.—R. Tootill.

Blackburn, Burnley and District.

Cotton Trade.—*Weaving*.—Employment in the Blackburn district is showing a marked decline, some 1,600 looms having been stopped. In Burnley employment is moderate; in Preston fair; in Darwen and Nelson a number of firms have gone on short time; in Colne short time is being worked at some firms. Employment with hard waste weavers is only moderate throughout the district. Twisters and drawers are not so busy; winders and warpers, tape sizers, and overlookers are fairly well employed. Warp dressers are still reported as slack. *Spinning*.—Employment is reported as good at Preston, Darwen, Blackburn, and Accrington. Branches of spinners, twisters and drawers, and warp dressers, with 4,101 members, have 132 (or 3.2 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 119 (or 2.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Building Trades.—Painters report employment as good; carpenters, masons, and bricklayers as fair; plumbers as moderate.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—Ironfounders at Blackburn again report employment as good; engineers at Colne, Todmorden and Blackburn as fair; tinplate workers as good.

Mining and Quarrying.—Coal miners and stonequarrymen continue well employed.

Miscellaneous.—Cabinetmakers report employment as steady; woolen block printers and bleachers as fair; letterpress printers, calico printers, and boot, shoe and slipper makers as moderate; brickmakers as good.—W. H. Wilkinson.

Manchester and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 22,609 members have 469 (or 2.1 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 527 (or 2.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—In Manchester engineers, brassfounders and sheet metal workers describe employment as fair. Ironfounders and machine workers throughout the district report employment as good. In Northwich and Warrington all branches of the metal trades are busy.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the cotton trade is moderate; in the silk trade it is not good. Dyers, bleachers and finishers report employment as moderate. Fustian cutters are not busy.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the bespoke department of the tailoring trade is reported as moderate, in the wholesale department

as good. Boot and shoe makers are not busy. Felt hatters and trimmers are slack. Mantle makers and cap makers report employment as moderate; waterproof garment makers as improving; shirt makers as fairly good.

Building Trades.—In Manchester stonemasons, plasterers, bricklayers and carpenters and joiners report employment as moderate; plumbers as bad; painters, decorative glass workers, and concreters as good. In Warrington Northwich, and Macclesfield employment generally is moderate; at Stockport improving. Bricklayers' labourers report employment as fair throughout the district.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Cabinetmakers, coachmakers and French polishers report employment as good; wheelwrights and coopers as fair.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers and electrotypers report employment as slightly improved; lithographic artists, lithographic printers, and bookbinders as moderate; pattern card makers as fair.

Transport Trades.—Employment is good.—G. D. Kelley.

Liverpool and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Engineers, brassfounders boiler-makers and iron-shipbuilders, drillers and hole-cutters report employment as moderate; shipjoiners as dull; shipwrights and white-smiths as good; copper-smiths as slack.

Transport Trades.—Seamen and firemen report employment as good; Mersey flatmen, quay and railway carters and dock labourers as moderate; timber carriers as improved; salt and coal-heavers as dull.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Coachmakers, French polishers and coopers report employment as good; cabinet makers and upholsters as fair; millsawyers and wood working machinists as quiet.

Building Trades.—Plumbers, carpenters and joiners report employment as moderate; other branches as fair.

Clothing Trades.—All branches of the tailoring trades and the boot and shoe makers report employment as good.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment is reported as moderate.

Coal Mining and Quarrying.—Coalminers and quarrymen have been well employed.

Glass and Chemical Trades.—Glass workers report employment as good in all branches; chemical workers as dull.—C. Rouse.

A report from Winsford states that employment in the salt trade has declined, and is dull in the block salt branch. Chemical workers at Middlewich report employment as fair; moulders at Winsford as moderate. In both towns employment is reported as good by shipwrights, boiler-smiths, fitters, printers and fustian cutters. In the building trades employment is good at Middlewich, dull at Winsford.

YORKSHIRE.

Hull and District.

Shipbuilding, Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment in the shipbuilding yards continues slack, and in the engineering works and boiler shops, and on general repairs, moderate. The engineer at Hull report employment as good; the iron founders as declining; the machine workers, smiths, strikers, patternmakers, braziers, sheet metal workers, drillers and hole cutters and shipwrights as moderate; the brass founders and finishers, iron and steel dressers, boiler-makers, sailmakers and general labourers as bad. Employment is good at Goole and Selby, moderate at Beverley. At Grimsby it is good with engineers, and smiths and strikers, moderate in other branches.

Building Trades.—Employment at Hull is not very brisk. At Goole, Grimsby and Selby it is reported as good; at Beverley, Doncaster and Driffield as moderate.

Transport Trades.—The railway workers report employment as good; the dock labourers as moderate; the seamen and firemen as good at Grimsby, moderate at Hull.

Fishing Industry.—The trawl and line fishermen at Grimsby report employment as good, at Hull as moderate; the steam fishing vessel engineers at Hull and Grimsby as fair; the curing house workers and general labourers as moderate. Prices are high.

Seed-crushing, Oil Cake, Oil Refining, Paint and Colour Trades.—The oil refining and paint and colour and varnish workers report employment as moderate; the seed-crushing and cakemill workers as bad.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment generally continues moderate.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—The coopers and coachbuilders report employment as good; the cabinet makers as moderate; the millsawyers and woodworking machinists as bad.

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

Miscellaneous.—The brushmakers, Jewish tailors, pressers and machinists, and bakers report employment as good; the tanners, leather belt and lace makers as fair.—W. G. Millington.

Leeds and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 8,209 members have 165 (or 2.0 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 173 (or 2.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers, ironfounders, boiler-makers, steel workers, blastfurnacemen, spindle and flyer makers, machine-workers, wheelwrights, smiths and tinplate-workers report employment as good; wool-comb, hackle, and gill makers as improving; stove-grate workers and brass-founders and finishers as moderate. At Wakefield employment in the engineering and iron trades continues good.

Clothing Trades.—Employment at the clothing factories in Leeds has been fair. Bespoke tailors are well employed. In the boot and shoe industry in Leeds employment has been only moderate; at Pudsey and Bramley quiet.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the Leeds mills has varied, some being fairly busy, others on short time. Blanket raisers continue well employed; linen workers are fairly so; warp dressers and twisters are quiet. Stuff dyers are fairly employed; cloth dyers are slack. At Wakefield employment has been moderate.

Building Trades.—In Leeds bricklayers and masons are well employed; joiners and plumbers moderately so. At Harrogate employment is fair.

Mining.—All pits in Leeds and district are working full time.

Leather Trades.—Tanners report employment as fair; curriers as slack; leather shavers as quiet. Saddlers and harness makers are busy.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment with letterpress printers is quiet; with lithographers moderate; with bookbinders and machine-rulers fairly good. Paper mill workers continue well employed.

Glass Trades.—Employment with glass bottle makers in Leeds and Wakefield is good; with flint glass makers fair.

Woodworking Trades.—Coachmakers are busy; cabinet makers are quiet.—O. Connellan.

Bradford, Huddersfield and District.

Worsted Trade.—Employment has fallen off in all parts of the district. Machine woolcombers and woolsorters report employment as bad.

Woolen Trade.—In Huddersfield and the Colne Valley employment is quiet, and at several firms overtime has been suspended. In Dewsbury and Batley a decline is reported.

Other Textile Trades.—Employment in the silk trade is quieter at Manningham and Brighouse, but better at Halifax. Dyers report employment as bad at Huddersfield, good at Bradford. In the cotton trade employment is moderate at Brighouse, fairly good at Huddersfield, quieter in Bradford.

Metal Trades.—The engineers report employment as fair in Bradford, good in Keighley, Huddersfield, Halifax and Dewsbury; ironfounders as good generally.

Building Trades.—Employment continues good.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is quieter with ready-made and bespoke tailors, printers and bookbinders, and rag and shoddy workers; moderately good with glass workers and miners.—A. Gee.

Sheffield, Barnsley, and Rotherham District.

General.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 15,743 members have 136 (or 0.9 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 109 (or 0.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Iron and Steel Industries.—Employment is reported as good with all branches, except with makers of stove grates and baths, who are quiet. Branches with 6,652 members have 40 (or 0.6 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 36 (or 0.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Cutlery and Tools.—Employment is good with makers of engineers', miners' and joiners' tools, pen and pocket knife cutlers, and haft and scale pressers; fair with makers of files, razors, saws and table and butchers' knives; quiet with handle and scale cutters and saw handle makers, and in the general edged tool trade.

Other Metal Trades.—Except the platers and gilders, all branches of the silver and Britannia metal trades are slack. Brass workers also report employment as slack.

Coal Mining.—Returns from 73 of the principal collieries employing about 54,000 men and boys show an average of 5.15 days per week worked during June.

Building Trades.—Employment in all branches continues fairly good in Sheffield and Barnsley; good elsewhere.

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

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Coachmakers, railway carriage and wagon builders, box and bobbin makers, cabinet makers and upholsters are fairly well employed.

Linen Trade.—Employment is moderate.

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

Glass Trades.—Flint glass workers and bottle makers report employment as good.

Miscellaneous.—Railway servants, quarrymen, street paviors, brickmakers, chemical workers, papermakers, and general labourers are well employed; down quilt makers are slack; potters are fairly well employed.—S. Uttley.

ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Derbyshire District.

General.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners), with 7,031 members have 26 (or 0.4 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 70 (or 1.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Coal Mining.—Returns from 68 collieries, employing upwards of 28,600 men, show an average of 5.4 days per week worked during June.

Quarrying.—Limestone quarrymen continue fairly well employed. Chert quarrymen are busy.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Employment with the engineers is moderate. Lace machine builders are fairly well employed. Brass moulders and finishers, iron and steel dressers, and ironfounders report employment as good.

Building Trades.—Painters report employment as good; other branches as moderate or fair.

Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailors, factory tailoring operatives, dress and mantle makers and milliners are well employed. Boot and shoe operatives in Derby report employment as good, at Chesterfield as moderate.

Textile Trades.—Employment is reported as fair with cotton weavers; good with surgical bandage makers, hard silk winders, drawers and doublers. Elastic web weavers report employment as bad, many working short time; lace workers as rather dull; hosiery workers as good; calico printers, dyers and bleachers as moderate.

Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades.—Employment continues good with railway carriage and wagon builders. Most timber yards are fairly well employed. Coopers at Burton-on-Trent report employment as quiet.

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

C. White-Deacon.

Nottingham and District.

Lace Trade.—Employment generally shows no improvement. It is reported as good in the plain net section; fair in the curtain, levers and warp lace branches and with warpers; moderate with curtain readers and correctors. Auxiliary employees are not so busy. At Beeston, Stapleford and Kimberley employment is fair. In the finishing and dyeing departments employment is reported as moderate; with bleachers as satisfactory.

Hosiery Trade.—Employment is not so good in the power branches. In other branches it continues good on the whole.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment is reported as bad with electric workers; as moderate with mechanics, steam engine makers and fitters, smiths on general work, and cycle workers; as fair with farriers, smiths and strikers; as good in other branches. Employment generally is good at Grantham, moderate at Beeston and Mansfield. Branches with 3,277 members have 54 (or 1.6 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 48 (or 1.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Building Trades.—Carpenters and joiners and plumbers report employment as dull; bricklayers as moderate; painters as not brisk; stonemasons, slaters and tilers as well employed. Employment is reported as good at Newark, Retford, Grantham, Mansfield and Worksop.

Woodworking Trades.—Employment is reported as fair with coopers, boxmakers, coachmakers, upholsters, and millsawyers; good with cabinet makers.

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

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

Clothing Trades.—Employment with boot and shoe operatives is reported as moderate at Nottingham, fair at Mansfield; with tailors as good at Grantham and Newark, moderate at Mansfield and Nottingham; ready-made tailoring operatives and dress and mantle makers are busy.

Coal Mining.—Returns from 25 collieries employing some 15,000 men show an average of slightly over 4½ days per week.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is reported as not so good with female cigarmakers; as slack with gasworkers; as good with saddle and harness makers, cab and hackney drivers, bakers, silk dressers, colliery enginemen, engine and cranemen and stationary engine drivers.—*W. L. Hardstaff.*

Leicester and Northampton District.

Boot and Shoe Industry.—Employment in the boot and shoe trade is duller. At Northampton, Kettering, Higham and Wellingborough it is moderate; at Leicester and Hinckley it is slack, many departments being on short time. The makers of army boots continue busily employed.

Other Clothing Trades.—In the wholesale tailoring trade work continues fairly regular. Bespoke tailors and hatters are slacker. Corset-makers, dressmakers and milliners remain busy.

Hosiery and Woolspinning Trades.—Employment has fallen off in the hosiery trade. Dyers, trimmers, scourers and woolspinning operatives are fully employed.

Elastic Web Trade.—In the cord, braid and narrow goods branches work continues fairly regular, but it is rather slacker with the makers of boot and shoe webs.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—At Leicester, Northampton and Rugby employment generally is good. At Loughborough it is moderate with tool makers, slacker with engine builders and turners. Needle-makers and cycle-makers are well employed.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment continues brisk with coal miners and stone quarrymen.

Printing and allied Trades.—Work is more regular with letterpress printers at Leicester, fair at Rugby and slack at Northampton. Bookbinders are fairly well employed.

Building Trades.—Most branches of the building trade report employment as quieter.

Woodworking and Coachmaking Trades.—Employment is good with coach, road and tram car builders, cabinet makers, upholsterers and French polishers; dull with millsawyers.

Leather Trades.—At Northampton and Wellingborough tanners and curriers are fully employed.

Miscellaneous.—Employment continues good with railway workers, except at Northampton. It is dull with cigar-makers and box makers, slacker with brick and tile makers and gas stokers, good with bakers and confectioners.—*T. Smith.*

Potteries District.

Pottery Trades.—Employment in the earthenware trade is now fairly good. All branches of clay-workers are averaging about 5½ days per week. Printers and transferrers, designers, modellers, mould makers, ovenmen, kilnmen, and saggar makers are moderately busy. Women gilders and decorators are indifferently employed. Encaustic tilemakers and women still and spur makers are well employed.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment continues good in all departments.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment in North Staffordshire is brisk, with an improvement at Burslem. At Crewe all branches are working well. Wire-workers at Oakamoor and Froghall, and agricultural engineers at Uttoxeter and Rugeley continue busy.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment continues good in most coal and ironstone mines. At Alton and Hollington stone quarrymen are working well.

Textile Trades.—At Leek, in the silk trade, employment continues good. At Congleton silk dressers and throwsters report employment as good; fustian cutters are busy. Silk and tape workers at Cheadle and Tean are fully employed.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors continue busy, except at Stafford. Boot and shoe makers at Stafford report a slight decline. At Stone employment continues fair. Corsetmakers at Uttoxeter and Ashbourne continue busy.

Building Trades.—Employment continues fair.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers in the Potteries report a further decline. At Stafford employment continues fair. Lithographic artists and printers are moderately employed. Bookbinders and machine rulers have no unemployed.

I. S. Harvey.

Wolverhampton and District.

Iron and Steel Trades.—In South Staffordshire, East Worcestershire and South Shropshire works are running full time, but employment is not quite so good as in May.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Engineers report employment as slightly improved; moulders and bridge, boiler, girder, tank and gasometer makers as busy; cycle makers as declining. At Walsall malleable iron workers are well employed. At Madeley and Coalbrookdale employment in the engineering department is good; in the foundry department it has improved.

Hardware Trades.—There is a slight falling off in nuts, bolts and tubes; employment is good with makers of iron fences, hurdles, electrical and gas fittings, spring traps, horseshoes, black castings, builders' ironmongery, gun locks, malleable nails and protectors, and with japanners, stampers and piercers; moderate with makers of edge tools, stamped and light hollow-ware, tacks, cut nails, and steel toys, and with filesmiths, tinplateworkers and galvanizers; makers of locks, keys and latches are quiet; spectacle frame makers and brass-workers are slack. In the iron plate trade at Wolverhampton employment is moderate; at Bilston and the Lye fairly good. The chain-makers and strikers at Old Hill report employment as fair; the block chain-makers at Cradley Heath as good. The wrought nail-makers at Halesowen as dull; the spike and rivet makers at Blackheath as fair; the anvil and vice makers at Dudley as slack. At Wednesbury the railway axle, tyre and carriage workers and steel forgers continue busy.

Coal Mining.—The Cannock Chase, Tamworth, Halesowen, Old Hill, and Shropshire collieries are working full time. At Tipton, Oldbury and Dudley the average worked is five days per week.

Building Trades.—Painters, bricklayers, and builders' labourers report employment as good; plasterers, carpenters and plumbers as moderate.

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

Leather Trades.—At Walsall employment is good, overtime being general.

Textile Trades.—At Kidderminster carpet firms are working full time; some looms are standing; spinners are steadily employed. At Bridgnorth employment in the carpet trade continues good. The Tamworth tape mills are busily employed.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the ready-made and bespoke tailoring departments and in the boot and shoe trade is good.

C. Anthony.

Birmingham and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 20,916 members have 594 (or 2·8 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of May.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Six branches of the engineering industry return employment as moderate, four as good. Toolmakers report employment as moderate; ironfounders, patternmakers, and smiths and strikers as good. At Redditch employment is only moderate. At West Bromwich and Coventry engineers and machine toolmakers are fully employed. Cycle makers at Coventry and Redditch are quiet. Motor makers are fairly well employed.

Brass and Copper Trades.—In the brass trade employment is again reported as quiet. Brass and copper wire drawers, copper and brass tube makers (solid drawn) are moderately employed. Fender and fire brass makers are quiet at Birmingham, slack at Dudley.

Jewellers, Silversmiths and Electroplaters.—Silversmiths, electroplaters and Britannia metal workers return employment as moderate; jewellers as quiet.

Other Metal Trades.—Tinplate workers, wire nail makers, edge tool makers, and wrought iron and steel tube makers report employment as good; makers of heavy and light steel toys, machine-made nuts and bolts, and machine-made rivets as fairly good; ironplate workers and cut nail makers as moderate; file cutters (by hand) as brisker; bedstead makers as bad. At West Bromwich employment is fair with hollow-ware makers, good in other trades. At Redditch fishing tackle makers continue brisk, but employment generally is quieter. In the Lye district ironplate workers are slack.

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—MIDLANDS; E. AND S.W. COUNTIES; WALES.

Building Trades.—Employment throughout the district is fair.

Glass Trades.—The flint glass makers report employment as bad; flint glass cutters as unsatisfactory; plate glass bevellers and silverers as fair.

Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailors and Jewish workers return employment as moderate; boot and shoe makers as improved.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—Millsawyers and wood-working machinists and coachmakers report employment as good; cabinet makers, carvers and coopers as quiet. The railway and wagon shops continue fully employed.

Miscellaneous.—Gasworkers and general labourers and saddlers report employment as good; gasfitters as fair; letterpress printers and brickmakers as moderate; gunmakers as busy in the military, bad in the sporting section. At Redditch the fancy case makers are improving. At Coventry watchmakers are fairly employed; ribbon weavers are quieter.—*A. R. Jephcott.*

ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES.

Norfolk and neighbouring District.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoe operatives are fairly well employed. Bespoke tailors are busy. Ready-made tailoring factories are on full time. Corset, dress, blouse and shirt makers are fairly busy.

Textile Trades.—Silk and crape factories are on full time. Mat and matting weavers are busy.

Building Trades.—In Norwich employment is disturbed by a bricklayers' dispute; elsewhere employment is good.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Electrical engineers, shipwrights and boat builders are busy; general engineers, boilermakers and fitters are fairly so.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress and lithographic printers and bookbinders are well employed.

Miscellaneous.—Employment continues good in steamflour mills and saw mills; organ builders, horticultural builders and brick-makers are busy; navvies, dock labourers and riverside workers confectioners, mineral water workers and cocoa workers are fully employed.—*G. Cleverley.*

Suffolk, Essex and District.

Engineering, Shipbuilding, and Metal Trades.—Engineers continue well employed throughout the district. Boilermakers and moulders report employment as good; shipwrights as fair.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoe operatives report employment as moderate at Ipswich, good at Colchester; bespoke and wholesale tailors, dressmakers and milliners as good; corset-makers as fairly good.

Textile Trades.—The furniture silk weavers report employment as quiet at Braintree; good at Sudbury with factory hands, but moderate on hand-loom; good at Halstead. Mat weavers report employment as good at Sudbury, Hadleigh, Lavenham, and Long Melford; short time prevails at Glemsford.

Building Trades.—Employment on the whole is satisfactory.

Furnishing Trades.—Cabinet makers and upholsterers report employment as good.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as good at Ipswich, Bury St. Edmunds, Bungay, and Southend, moderate at Colchester and Chelmsford, slack at Beccles; bookbinders as moderate; lithographers as dull.

Miscellaneous.—General labourers are well employed throughout the district. Employment is good with horticultural builders, organ builders, brickmakers and farriers. Shipping and dock labour has been good at Harwich and Parkeston; slack at Ipswich.

R. W. Mather.

ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES.

Bristol and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 10,029 members have 107 (or 1·1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 156 (or 1·6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailors and glove makers report employment as good; silk hatters as moderate; boot and shoe operatives as slack. The wholesale tailoring operatives are busy on government and export work, but the ordinary home trade is reported as slack.

Engineering and allied Trades.—All branches except shipwrights are reported as busy.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment at the coal mines is reported as good. Stone quarrymen report employment as moderate near Bristol, good in the Forest of Dean. Iron ore workers are busy.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is reported as fairly good.

Textile Trades.—Clothworkers are fully employed at Tiverton. In the Trowbridge district employment has slackened. Overtime has been discontinued in the silk industry, but all hands are fully employed. Cotton operatives report employment as fair.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—French polishers and upholsterers report employment as good, cabinet-makers as fair.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers and paper makers report employment as good; lithographic artists, printers, and engravers as fair; bookbinders as quiet.

Transport Trades.—Railroad men and carters are fully employed and there is a demand for sailors and firemen. Disputes have interfered with employment at the Bristol docks.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is reported as quiet with curriers, fair with basket makers, moderate with coopers, good with lath-renders, saddle and harness makers and brushmakers.—*J. Curle.*

Plymouth and South-Western District.

Mining, Quarrying, and China Clay Industries.—Tin and copper miners, granite quarrymen and china clay workers are well employed; limestone and slate quarrymen fairly so.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Engineers report employment as moderate; boilermakers, iron and steel shipbuilders and iron-founders as good; brass and tinplate workers as improved; shipwrights as good in Plymouth and Devonport, moderate at Falmouth and Dartmouth. Work is brisk in the Government yards. Branches with 2,843 members have 4 unemployed, as compared with 13 at the end of May.

Building Trades.—Stonemasons, bricklayers and carpenters report employment as fair; plumbers and painters as moderate; plasterers as quiet. In Torquay and Penzance employment is dull. Branches of societies with 3,611 members have 65 (or 1·8 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 110 (or 3·1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as moderate; lithographers and papermill workers as quiet; bookbinders and paper-rulers as dull.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors continue busy in the bespoke department, and are fairly employed in the ready-made. Tailoring factories are well supplied with work. Boot and shoe operatives report employment as fair. At collar and cuff factories it is quiet; at lace factories busy.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Millsawyers and woodwork-machinists report employment as dull. At cabinet and furniture factories it is fair; with upholsterers and French polishers moderate.

Dock and Quayside Work.—Work at the quays is reported as slack.

Fishing Industry.—Trawlers have made fair catches. Hook and line boats have done well. Some boats have already left for the Irish herring fishery, and others are leaving for the North Sea. Prices have been good.

Miscellaneous.—Navvies, excavators, quarrymen, brickyard workers, and builders' labourers continue well employed. At the artificial manure works employment is falling off. In market and fruit gardens workpeople are busy.—*W. Hedge.*

WALES.

North Wales District.

Mining.—Employment has been good at the coal and lead mines. **Quarrying.**—Employment continues good at the slate, granite sett, freestone, limestone, and roadstone quarries.

Building Trades.—The bricklayers at Oswestry report employment as moderate; the carpenters and joiners at Colwyn Bay and Wrexham as fair. At Llandudno the carpenters and joiners report employment as quiet; the painters as moderate; the plasterers as slack.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers at Ruabon report employment as fair, at Oswestry as moderate. Employment is good with steel and iron workers and coach makers.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—Employment in the flannel and tweed industries has been good. The bespoke tailors at Wrexham report employment as good, at Carnarvon as moderate, at Rhyl as fair.

Printing Trades.—Employment is good with letterpress printers at Wrexham and Carnarvon.

Brick and Terra Cotta Trades.—Employment continues good.

G. Rowley.

South Wales District.

Coal Mining.—Except where disputes are pending, nearly all collieries have worked regularly.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Returns from the larger works show that mills and furnaces have been working briskly.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN JUNE, 1900.

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

Summary.—The changes in wages reported during June affected about 35,000 workpeople, and the net effect of all the changes on the weekly wages of those affected was an increase of 1s. 0½d. per head. About 30,000 received advances averaging 1s. 6d. weekly per head, and about 5,000 sustained decreases averaging 1s. 9½d. weekly per head.

Increases.—The principal increases were those granted to 8,100 blastfurnacemen in Cleveland and Durham, Cumberland, and South Wales and Monmouthshire; 5,000 iron and steel workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire; and 4,590 building trade operatives in Bristol.

Decreases.—The decreases affected about 4,000 workpeople employed in slate quarries in North Wales; 800 steel rail-mill workers at Barrow; and 200 operatives in the building trades in Scotland.

Methods of Arrangement.—Changes affecting about 1,850 workpeople were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work. Changes affecting about 17,820 workpeople in the metal and iron-ore mining and limestone quarrying trades took effect under sliding scales, and changes affecting about 1,600 workpeople were determined by Arbitration or Conciliation. The remaining changes, affecting about 13,730 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives.

Summary for First Six Months of 1900.—For the six months, January-June, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) reported as having received advances or sustained decreases is about 970,000. Of these 960,000 obtained a net average increase of 2s. 2½d. weekly per head, and 10,000 sustained a net average decrease of 1s. 9½d. weekly per head. The general effect of all the changes was a rise of 2s. 2d. weekly per head in the wages of the 968,817 workpeople affected.

NOTE.—It will be understood that increments accruing under scales of pay, as in the case of policemen, some municipal employees, and many railway servants, &c., are not recorded here. The same remark applies to the changes in pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c.

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which change takes effect in 1900, Approximate Number of workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week. Includes sections for BUILDING TRADES, MINING AND QUARRYING, IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE.

* Exclusive of overtime. † Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade, the weekly rate given in the table is, in the absence of exact figures, the result of averaging the wages for five summer and two winter weeks. When a change in wages is accompanied by a change in hours of labour, the weekly wages before and after change are computed on the basis of the old and new hours respectively. ‡ See also under Changes in Hours of Labour. § At a meeting of the Conciliation Board in the Northumberland Coal Trade on 7th July, an advance of 12½ per cent. was awarded to the miners making the wages of hewers, 52½ per cent. above the standard of 1879. Further particulars will be given in the August GAZETTE.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN JUNE—(continued).

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which change takes effect in 1900, Approximate Number of workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in full week. Includes sections for IRON AND STEEL MANUFACTURE, METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES, TEXTILE TRADES, CLOTHING TRADES, EMPLOYEES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES, MISCELLANEOUS TRADES.

* Exclusive of overtime. † See also under Changes in Hours of Labour.

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN JUNE, 1900.

THE changes in hours of labour reported in June were, with two exceptions, all decreases, and affected 28,133 workpeople, whose hours were reduced on an average by 5.63 per week.

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which change takes effect in 1900, Approximate number of work-people directly affected, Hours of labour in a full week (Before change, After change), Extent of Change per week.

* Exclusive of overtime. † See also under Changes in Rates of Wages. ‡ A reduction of 1 hour was made from 15th June, and of a second hour from 21st July.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN JUNE.

DURING June 480 fresh applications for work were registered by seven bureaux (see LABOUR GAZETTE, February, 1899, p. 36) furnishing returns, and 664 offers of situations were made by employers; work was found for 152 persons, of whom 85 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers and mothers' helps).

The returns for the London Girls' Friendly Society business agency and the Liverpool and Edinburgh Bureaux are for the present grouped together in the following table, which shows the work done by the seven bureaux during June.

Table with columns: Bureau/Occupation, No. of Fresh Situations offered by Employers, No. of Fresh Applications of Work-people seeking Situations, No. of Workpeople engaged by Employers (Permanently, Temporarily).

The number of fresh applications for domestic servants fell from 587 to 459, and the number of servants applying from 316 to 249; the number permanently engaged fell from 84 to 55.

Of the 41 situations offered at the Dundee Labour Bureau, 30 were for mill and factory operatives. Of the 73 wanting situations, 40 were mill and factory operatives and 26 were charwomen.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during June, was 28,167, or 7,431 more than in June, 1899.

British and Irish.—Of the 28,167 passengers in June, 14,664 were of British or Irish origin, being 3,214 more than in June, 1899, chiefly owing to an increase in the numbers proceeding to South Africa and the United States.

During the six months ended June, 1900, the number of passengers of British or Irish origin was 73,138, an increase of 5,974 as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

Table with columns: Destination, June, 1900, June, 1899, Total for six months ended (June, 1900, June, 1899).

Foreign.—The remainder of the 28,167 passengers in June, viz., 13,503, were foreigners, or persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being an increase of 4,217 as compared with a year ago.

The total number of foreigners, etc., who left the United Kingdom during the six completed months of the year was 59,249 in 1900, and 39,819 in 1899.

Alien Immigration.—The number of aliens that arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent during June was 15,880; of these 7,580 were stated on the Alien Lists to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, compared with 5,243 so stated in June, 1899.

Table with columns: June, 1900, June, 1899, Total for six months ended (June, 1900, June, 1899).

* These figures are inclusive of sailors, to the number of 1,191 in June, 1900; 1,095 in June, 1899; and 7,734 and 6,959 respectively for the six months ended June in each year.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN JUNE.

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

THE total number of workpeople reported as killed by accidents during June was 282, or 158 less than in May, and 6 less than in June, 1899.

In the first group of industries shown in the following summary table, including railways, mines, quarries, shipping, and factories, and employing 5,447,140 persons (according to the latest available figures), 257 were reported killed, and 6,745 injured by accidents in June, as compared with 259 reported killed and 7,055 injured in June, 1899.

SUMMARY TABLE.

Table with columns: Industry, Killed (June, 1900, June, 1899), Injured (June, 1900, June, 1899), Number Employed according to latest Returns.

DETAILED TABLE.

Table with columns: Industry, Killed, Injured, Total, subdivided by accident types like Railway Service, Mines, Quarries, Shipping, Factories, Workshops, etc.

Table with columns: Shipping, Killed, Injured, Total, subdivided by vessel types like On Trading Vessels, On Fishing Vessels.

Table with columns: Factories, Killed, Injured, Total, subdivided by categories like (a) Accidents reportable by Certifying Surgeons, (b) Other Accidents.

Table with columns: Workshops, Killed, Injured, Total, subdivided by types like Adults, Young Persons, Children.

Table with columns: Factories & Workshops (classified by trades), Killed, Injured, Total, subdivided by trades like Textiles, Cotton, Wool and Worsted, etc.

Table with columns: Under Factory Act, 1895, Killed, Injured, Total, subdivided by types like Docks, Wharves and Quays, Warehouses, etc.

Table with columns: Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894, Construction or Repair, Use or Working, Total, subdivided by types like Bridge, Canal, Railway, etc.

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

TRADE DISPUTES.

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

Number and Magnitude.—Forty-five fresh disputes were reported as having begun in June, 1900, compared with 44 in May, 1900, and 59 in June, 1899. In these 45 disputes 14,380 workpeople were directly and 8,598 indirectly affected, a total of 22,978, which compares with 15,931 in May, 1900, and 14,254 in June, 1899.

Trades Affected.—In the building trades 10 disputes took place, involving 3,785 workpeople; in the mining industry 10 disputes, involving 9,596 workpeople; in the metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades 9 disputes, involving 785 workpeople; in the textile trades 3 disputes, involving 428 workpeople; in transport trades 8 disputes, involving 7,766 workpeople; and in miscellaneous trades, 5 disputes, involving 618 workpeople.

Causes.—Of the 45 disputes, 30 resulted from demands for advances and 5 from objections to reductions in wage-rates. Three disputes arose on other wages questions, 3 on questions of working arrangements, and 4 on miscellaneous questions.

Results.—Thirty-one new disputes, involving 13,535 workpeople, and 11 old disputes, involving 2,550 workpeople, were reported as having terminated. Of the 42 new and old disputes terminated, 8, involving 657 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 11, involving 6,635 persons, in favour of the employers; and 20, involving 6,356 persons, resulted in compromise. With regard to the remaining 3 disputes, involving 2,437 persons, certain points were still under consideration. At the end of June 21, old disputes were reported to be still unsettled, involving altogether about 7,000 workpeople.

Duration of Disputes in Working Days.—The aggregate duration in June of all the disputes, new and old, was about 388,000 days, compared with 780,000 in May, 1900, and 250,000 in June, 1899.

Summary for the First Six Months of 1900.—For the six completed months of 1900 the aggregate number of workpeople involved in the 288 disputes which commenced in these months was 105,795, as compared with 80,141 in the 390 disputes reported in the corresponding period of 1899. The aggregate duration of working days was about 1,743,000, as compared with 1,360,000 in the corresponding period of 1899.

Table with 6 columns: Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople Affected (Directly, Indirectly), Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN JUNE, 1900.

Table for Building Trades (3,785 Workpeople affected) and Mining (9,596 Workpeople affected). Includes entries for Wakefield, Barrow-in-Furness, Newark, Pershore, Norwich, Edinburgh and Leith, Falkirk, Peterhead, Cleator Moor, Barnsley, Mostyn, South Wales, Ognore Valley, Risca, New Tredegar, Ystalyfera, Lanark (near), Wishaw.

Table for Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades (785 Workpeople affected). Includes entries for Sunderland, Derby, Oldbury, Shrewsbury, Wolverhampton, Ebbw Vale.

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

TRADE DISPUTES—(continued.)

Table with 6 columns: Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected (Directly, Indirectly), Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN JUNE, 1900—(continued.)

Table for Metal Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades (continued). Includes entries for Londore, Glasgow (near), Belfast.

Table for Textile Trades (428 Workpeople affected). Includes entries for Accrington, Leigh, Macclesfield (near).

Table for Transport Trades (7,766 Workpeople affected). Includes entries for Middlesbrough, Runcorn, Port of London, Bristol, Leith, River Clyde.

Table for Miscellaneous Trades (618 Workpeople affected). Includes entries for Maryport, Ferrybridge, Huddersfield, Birmingham, Nottingham.

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE JUNE, 1900, AND TERMINATED IN THAT MONTH.

Table for Building Trades (865 Workpeople affected). Includes entries for Stockton and Thornaby, Earlestown, Cheltenham, Nottingham, Bournemouth, Llandudno, Ayr, Dunfermline.

Table for Other Trades (1,585 Workpeople affected). Includes entries for Dalkeith (near), West of Scotland, Limerick.

* The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly affected," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishment where the dispute occurred, but not themselves on strike or locked out. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons. † A large number of casual labourers is here included, and the actual vacancies at any time were considerably under this figure.

EXAMINATION FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

South Durham District.—An examination for Certificates of Competency as Manager or Under Manager of a Mine will be held on 26th and 27th July, 1900. Intending candidates should communicate on or before the 19th July with the Secretary of the Examination Board, Mr. G. W. Bartlett, Red Hall, near Darlington.

Workmen's Compensation Scheme.—A scheme under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, affecting coal miners at Brownhills, near Walsall, and entitled the Brownhills Collieries Mutual Accident Fund, has been certified by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.

PAUPERISM IN JUNE.

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

THE number of paupers relieved in 35 selected Urban Districts of the United Kingdom on one day in the second week of June was 314,344, corresponding to a rate of 194 per 10,000 of the estimated population of those districts in 1900.

Compared with May, 1900, there is a decrease of 2,572 in the number relieved, and of 2 in the rate per 10,000 of population. Twenty-four districts show decreased rates, which, however, do not amount to more than 4 per 10,000, except in the case of the Central London district, where there is a decrease of 10. In 5 districts the rate remains unchanged, and the remaining 6 show slight increases.

Compared with June, 1899, the number relieved has decreased by 2,903, and the rate per 10,000 by 4. Decreases are shown in 24 districts, the most important being in the Stockton and Tees district (35 per 10,000), Cork, Waterford and Limerick (28), Wolverhampton (18), and Barnsley and Leicester (16 each). In 11 districts increases are shown, the largest being in Galway (19), Coatbridge and Airdrie (18), and Dublin (14).

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of June, 1900.			Rate per 10,000 of estimated population.	Increase (+) or decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of population as compared with	
	In-door.	Out-door.	Total.		Month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.*						
Metropolia.						
West District...	9,944	2,462	12,406	153	- 4	- 4
North District...	13,668	7,773	21,441	199	- 2	- 1
Central District...	6,466	2,815	9,281	417	- 10	- 5
East District...	12,092	4,263	16,355	225	- 4	- 2
South District...	19,739	17,689	37,428	215	- 3	- 7
Total Metropolia...	61,909	35,002	96,911	212	- 3	- 4
West Ham ...	2,220	7,845	10,065	214	- 1	+ 6
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District...	1,624	3,880	5,504	141	- 3	- 2
Stockton & Tees District...	979	3,639	4,618	209	- 3	- 35
Bolton, Oldham, &c.	3,129	7,329	10,458	189	- 1	- 6
Wigan District...	1,611	6,780	8,391	208	+ 1	- 7
Manchester District...	7,578	7,231	14,809	168	- 1	+ 1
Liverpool District...	8,916	7,072	15,988	172	- 3	- 5
Bradford District...	1,152	2,856	4,008	109	+ 1	- 3
Hullax & Huddersfield	968	3,317	4,285	113	- 1	- 5
Leeds District...	1,720	5,167	6,887	186	+ 2	- 14
Barnsley District...	561	2,859	3,420	160	- 2	- 16
Sheffield District...	2,193	2,947	5,140	121	- 2	- 3
Hull District...	1,178	5,021	6,199	252	+ 4	- 2
North Staffordshire...	1,650	6,151	7,801	226	- 2	+ 3
Nottingham District...	1,585	5,121	6,706	176	- 1	- 6
Leicester District...	1,025	2,657	3,682	176	+ 1	- 16
Wolverhampton District...	2,970	12,299	15,269	271	- 4	- 18
Birmingham District...	4,017	2,545	6,562	120	- 4	+ 3
Bristol District...	2,515	6,620	9,135	255	- 1	- 13
Cardiff & Swansea ...	1,627	6,834	8,461	221	- 2	+ 3
Total "Other Districts" ...	46,998	100,325	147,323	476	- 1	- 6
SCOTLAND.*						
Glasgow District...	3,287	15,289	18,576	214	- 4	+ 8
Paisley & Greenock District...	521	2,462	2,983	189	- 2	- 14
Edinburgh & Leith District...	1,358	5,270	6,628	182	- 1	+ 5
Dundee & Dunfermline ...	864	2,815	3,679	184	+ 2	- 7
Aberdeen ...	477	2,598	3,075	222	- 2	+ 2
Coatbridge & Airdrie ...	290	1,295	1,585	175	- 4	+ 18
Total for the above Scottish Districts ...	6,797	29,729	36,526	201	- 2	+ 4
IRELAND.†						
Dublin District...	6,090	4,327	10,417	294	- 3	+ 14
Belfast District...	3,175	280	3,455	103	- 3	- 15
Cork, Waterford & Limerick District...	4,169	4,727	8,896	385	- 2	- 28
Galway District...	346	396	742	213	- 1	+ 19
Total for the above Irish Districts ...	13,780	9,739	23,519	246	- 1	- 7
Total for above 35 districts in June, 1900...	131,704	182,640	314,344	191	- 2	- 4

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

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

LABOUR BUREAUX IN JUNE.

DURING June the 9 bureaux furnishing returns registered 1,651 fresh applications for work, as compared with 1,320 in June, 1899, an increase of 331. Work was found by these bureaux for 1,013 persons, of whom 697 (460 males and 237 females) were engaged by private employers, 142 by Local Authorities, and 174 males by the Salvation Army.

The number remaining on the registers at the end of June was 1,104, as against 1,079 a year ago.

(I.) Work done in June.

Name of Labour Bureau.	No. of Fresh Applications by Workpeople during		No. of Situations offered by Employers during		No. of Workpeople found by Bureaux.			
					Engaged by Private Employers.		Engaged by Local Authorities.	
	June, 1900.	June, 1899.	June, 1900.	June, 1899.	June, 1900.	June, 1899.	June, 1900.	June, 1899.
London.								
St. Pancras ...	151	139	167	244	91	110	1	5
Battersea ...	71	104	30	37	30	32	...	5
Islington ...	257	322	97	107	89	99	...	59
St. Martin ...	214	88	188	119	121	49	...	66
Hackney ...	71	66	22	19	11	8	...	74
Salvation Army ...	182	142	12	50	11	97	...	...
Provincial.								
Plymouth ...	190	130	149	152	138	110	...	...
Liverpool ...	134	111	6	...	...	...	...	...
Glasgow ...	381	218	190	162	206	123	...	...
Total of 9 Bureaux	1,651	1,320	861	896	697	619	142	143

(II.) Employments found for Workpeople during June, 1900.

	No. permanently engaged.	No. temporarily engaged.	Total.
Engaged by Private Employers			
Men:			
Building Trades ...	42	38	80
Carmen, Stablemen, Horsemen, &c. ...	39	22	61
Porters and Messengers ...	59	42	101
General Labourers ...	38	11	49
Other Occupations ...	30	36	66
Lads and Boys ...	60	23	83
Total Males ...	288	172	460
Women and Girls:			
Dressmakers and Sempstresses ...	4	2	6
Domestic Servants ...	84	12	96
Charwomen, daily work, &c. ...	22	57	79
Other Occupations ...	18	38	56
Total Females ...	128	109	237
Total engaged by Private Employers ...	416	281	697
Engaged by Local Authorities			
Men, Lads and Boys:			
Roadmen ...	4	66	70
Dustmen ...	...	8	8
Stone Breaking ...	...	14	14
Other Occupations ...	13	35	48
Women and Girls ...	2	...	2
Total engaged by Local Authorities ...	19	123	142
Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities			
Men ...	...	174	174
Grand Total for 9 Bureaux ...	435	678	1,113

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

Occupation.	No. on Register at end of	
	June, 1900.	June, 1899.
Men.		
Building, Engineering and Metal Trades ...	168	52
Carmen, Stablemen, Horsemen, &c. ...	95	111
Clerks and Warehousemen ...	39	40
Porters and Messengers ...	104	109
General Labourers ...	207	367
Other Occupations ...	122	108
Total Men ...	736	787
Lads and Boys ...	120	108
Women and Girls.		
Charwomen, Daily Work, &c. ...	157	112
Servants ...	41	47
Others ...	50	25
Total Women and Girls ...	248	184
Grand Total for 9 Bureaux ...	1,104	1,079

NOTE.—The usual return for Ipswich has not been furnished this month.

* Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities.

† Of these, 37 were Laundry Workers.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

(Compiled from returns supplied by the Home Office.)

THE following Table shows the number of cases* of lead poisoning and of anthrax reported during June as having occurred in factories and workshops. Of the 67 cases of lead poisoning reported during the month 25 (21 males and 4 females) occurred in white lead works, and 11 (5 males and 6 females) in the china and earthenware industry, the number of cases in these industries in June, 1899, being 27 and 30 respectively. One death of a female from 'Phthisis lead poisoning' is included among the cases in the china and earthenware industry. Five deaths from lead poisoning (4 males and 1 female) were reported during the month.

Disease and Industry.	June, 1900.				Total June, 1899.
	Adults.		Young Persons.		
	M.†	F.†	M.†	F.†	
Lead Poisoning.					
White Lead Works ...	21	4	—	—	25
China and Earthenware ...	5	5	—	1	11
Red and Yellow Lead Works, Enamelling of Iron Plates, Electrical Accumulator Works ...	4	—	—	—	4
Manufacture of Paint and Colours... Smelting Metals ... Plumbing and Soldering, Sheet Lead and Lead Piping, Printing, File Cutting ... Coach Making, &c. ... Other Industries ...	3	—	—	—	3
	7	—	—	—	7
	—	—	—	—	1
	—	—	—	—	8
	3	1	1	1	6
Total Lead Poisoning ...	52	41	2	2	67
Anthrax ...	1	—	1	1	3

In addition to the cases included in the Table, 12 cases of lead poisoning (with one death) were reported among journeymen painters, and one case of arsenic poisoning in a paperhanger.

FOREIGN TRADE OF UNITED KINGDOM.

THE following statement has been communicated to the LABOUR GAZETTE by the Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

Summary for June.

The trade returns for June, 1900, show an increase as compared with the corresponding period of 1899 in the value of the imports from foreign countries and British possessions, and in the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures, but a decrease in the exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

The Imports for June, 1900, were valued at £42,016,307, as compared with £38,348,943 for June, 1899, an increase of £3,667,364 or 9.5 per cent., and the Exports amounted in value to £30,337,219 as against £27,531,283 in June, 1899—a net increase of £2,805,936. The exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures alone were valued at £24,895,335 in June, 1900, and £21,980,067 in June, 1899—an increase of £2,915,268, or 13.2 per cent. The value of foreign and colonial merchandise exported in June, 1900, shows a decrease as compared with June, 1899, of £109,332, or 1.9 per cent.

Imports.—The following table shows the value of the imports for June, 1900, as compared with June, 1899, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

	Month ended June 30th.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1899.	1900.		
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	£ 17,248,243	£ 18,490,327	£ 1,242,084	—
Metals ...	2,139,977	2,670,833	530,856	—
Chemicals, Dyestuffs, and Tanning Substances ...	430,561	416,879	—	13,682
Oils ...	869,062	980,251	111,189	—
Raw Materials for Manufactures ...	8,859,192	10,436,475	1,577,283	—
Manufactured and Miscellaneous Articles ...	8,801,908	9,021,542	219,634	—
Total ...	£ 38,348,943	£ 42,016,307	£ 3,667,364	—

There is a net increase in the value of corn imported of £467,530. Wheat shows an increase of 1,027,400 cwt. in quantity and £344,519 in value; wheat meal and flour of 554,948 cwt. in quantity and £282,983 in value; oats of 300,890 cwt. in quantity and £68,691 in value; and oatmeal of 16,950 cwt. in quantity, and £7,310 in value. Other kinds of corn show decreases in quantity and value.

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

With reference to the imports of raw materials for textile manufactures, the imports of raw cotton show a decrease in June, 1900, as compared with June, 1899, of 150,246 cwt. in quantity, but an increase of £31,970 in value. Sheep or lambs' wool shows an increase of 2,710,074 lbs. in quantity, and £207,459 in value, and the imports of alpaca, vicuna, and llama, and of goats' wool also show increases in both quantity and value.

Exports.—The following table shows the value of the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures for the month ended June 30th, 1900, as compared with a like period of 1899, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

	Month ended June 30th.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1899.	1900.		
Animals, living ...	£ 86,394	£ 70,339	—	£ 16,055
Articles of Food and Drink ...	1,000,365	1,049,803	49,438	—
Raw Materials ...	2,346,662	3,710,921	1,364,259	—
Articles Manufactured and Partly Manufactured, viz.—				
Yarns and Textile Fabrics ...	8,135,003	8,104,590	—	30,413
Metals, and Articles Manufactured therefrom (except Machinery and Ships) ...	3,361,824	3,861,175	499,351	—
Machinery and Millwork ...	1,723,886	1,648,907	—	74,979
Ships, new (not registered as British) ...	521,931	1,711,705	1,189,774	—
Miscellaneous ...	4,804,002	4,737,895	—	66,107
Total ...	£ 21,980,067	£ 24,895,335	£ 2,915,268	—

The exports of coal, coke and fuel have increased 267,920 tons in quantity and £1,413,625 in value. Wool, sheep and lambs', has also increased in both quantity and value.

The exports of cotton yarn in June, 1900, show a decrease of 5,528,000 lbs. in quantity, and £50,821 in value, as compared with June, 1899. Cotton piece-goods have also decreased 65,709,700 yards in quantity, and £65,084 in value. Jute yarn has increased in both quantity and value, but jute piece-goods show a decrease of 2,641,800 yards in quantity and an increase of £22,577 in value. Linen yarn, silk, thrown twist and yarn, and woolen and worsted yarn have all decreased both in quantity and value, whilst linen piece-goods show a decrease in quantity of 1,662,500 yards, but an increase in value of £19,667. All kinds of woolen and worsted piece-goods have increased in both quantity and value, except wool damasks, tapestry, and other furniture stuffs, which show a slight decrease in value.

Tonnage of Vessels entered and cleared with Cargoes.—The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes during June, 1900, amounted to 3,099,857 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,760,584 tons, as against 3,262,442 tons entered, and 3,902,567 tons cleared in June, 1899. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes, during June, 1900, amounted to 2,616,785 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,593,127 tons, as against 2,690,898 tons entered and 2,651,796 tons cleared in June, 1899.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Cotton Statistics.—The following Table shows the number of bales of cotton imported, forwarded from ports to inland towns, and exported during the month of June, and also during the six completed months of 1900, with comparative figures for 1899:—

	Month of June.		Six months ended June—	
	1900.	1899.	1900.	1899.
Imported				

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN JUNE.

(Supplied to the Department by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.)
From the following summary of the changes in the Register of Industrial Organisations in June it will be seen that 6 Trade Unions, 5 Co-operative Associations for Distribution, 4 Co-operative Associations for Production, 4 Miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Societies, 33 Friendly Societies, 26 branches of existing Friendly Societies and 3 Building Societies were added to the Register of the United Kingdom during June. Three Trade Unions, 2 Industrial and Provident Societies, 31 Friendly Societies (including 13 branches) and 14 Building Societies are reported as having ceased to exist, commenced to "wind-up," or had registration cancelled.

ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

Trade Unions.—*England and Wales.*—Manchester and Suburban Hairdressers' Trade Union and Sick and Burial Union, Land o' Cakes Hotel, Lever-street, Great Ancoats-street, Manchester; New Block Chainmakers' Assoc., 5, Lomey Town, Cradley Heath; Photographic Cabinetmakers' Soc., Two Blue Posts, Mount Pleasant, Gray's-inn-road, W.C.; Camberwell Municipal Labour Union, 63, Mosedale-street, Camberwell, S.E.; Grimsby Builders' Labourers' Protective Sick, Accident and Burial Society, Oddfellows' Hall, Victoria-street, Great Grimsby; Birmingham Society of Operative Goldsmiths and Jewellers, Star Coffee House, Hockley Hill, Birmingham. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—(A) *Associations for Distribution.*—*England and Wales.*—Llandudno Junction and District Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Llandudno Junction, Conway Carnarvon; Horsmonden Industrial Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Bassetts, Horsmonden, Kent; East Markham Co-op. Agric. Soc., Ltd., Bowerhayes Cottage, East Markham, Notts.; Chatteris Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Chatteris, Cambs. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Manorhamilton Home Industries Soc., Manorhamilton, co. Leitrim. (B) *Associations for Production.*—*England and Wales.*—None. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Cork Co-op. Creameries Federation, Rock-savage, co. Cork; Carrick-on-Shannon Co-op. Agricultural and Dairy Society, Carrick-on-Shannon, co. Leitrim; Columbkille Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Columbkille, co. Longford; Carnahalla Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Carnahalla, co. Limerick. (C) *Miscellaneous.*—*England and Wales.*—Crown Freehold Land Society, Ltd., 28, Cockspur-street, S.W.; Blackburn Socialist Hall, Ltd., Venetian Hall, Darwen-street, Blackburn. *Scotland.*—Victoria Working Men's Club and Institute, Ltd., 95, Dumbarton road, Partick; Empire Club and Literary Institute, Ltd., 98, Renfrew-street, Glasgow. *Ireland.*—None.

Friendly Societies.—(A) *New Friendly Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—Ordinary Friendly, 11; Dividing, 8; Female, 1; Orders, 2; Collecting, 1; Specially Authorised, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 5. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Ordinary, 2; Specially Authorised, 2. (B) *New Branches of Existing Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—22. *Scotland.*—4. *Ireland.*—None.

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

ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

Trade Unions.—*England and Wales.*—Notice of Dissolution received.—Operative Sanitary Pressers' Protection Association of the United Kingdom, 17 Seaford-street, Hanley; North Staffordshire Building Trades Federation, 37, Heath-street, Newcastle-under-Lyne. Registry cancelled by request.—West End Foreman Tailors' Society, Burlington Arms Inn, Old Burlington-street, W. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—*England and Wales.*—Registry cancelled by request.—Poplar Inn Loan Soc., Ltd., Poplar Inn, Ilkeston. Liquidators' final return received.—Halesowen and District Prudential Co-op. and Ind. Soc., Ltd., Birmingham-street, Halesowen. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Friendly Societies.—*England and Wales.*—By instrument of dissolution: Ordinary Friendly, 8; Dividing, 3; Working Men's Clubs, 1; Branches, 1. Registry cancelled: Ordinary Friendly, 1; Orders, 1; Cattle Insurance, 1. Dissolved otherwise: Ordinary Friendly, 1; Juvenile, 1; Branches, 12. *Scotland.*—By instrument of dissolution: Ordinary Friendly, 1. *Ireland.*—None.

Building Societies.—*England and Wales.*—By instrument of dissolution, 3; notice of commencement of dissolution, 3; notice of termination of dissolution, 6. *Scotland.*—Notice of termination of dissolution, 2.

INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN JUNE.

I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Cases taken.	Con- victions.	Amount of Penalties.	Amount of Costs.
By Owners, Managers, &c.:				
Neglecting to maintain instantaneous communication between tenements and engine and boiler house ...	1	1	£ 5 0 0	£ 1 2 0
Neglecting to Fence Machinery ...	6	6	14 0 0	2 18 7
Employing Young Persons without necessary Certificates ...	36	36	27 4 2	16 9 6
Illegal Hours or Times of Employment—				
Before or after the legal hour ...	78	78	44 8 8	32 12 0
During meal times, or without proper intervals for meals ...	21	19	14 10 6	7 11 6
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted ...	32	30	30 11 0	8 17 2
On Sundays or holidays, or children on successive Saturdays ...	6	6	5 1 0	1 3 0
At night ...	24	23	26 11 6	8 7 6
In workshop and shop beyond total legal period ...	3	3	0 13 6	0 7 6
Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts, Notices, &c.—				
Not keeping Registers ...	18	17	10 3 6	7 16 6
Not affixing or properly filling up Notices and Abstracts ...	9	9	8 16 0	2 15 0
Not sending Notices required by Act ...	7	6	4 2 0	3 13 0
Obstructing an Inspector in the execution of his duty ...	2	1	4 0 0	0 8 0
Prosecutions for Breach of (or not affixing) Special Rules ...				
Prosecutions under Truck Acts... ..	5	1	2 0 0	0 8 6
Other offences	3	1	5 0 0	0 6 0
By Workmen:				
Allowing children to clean machinery in motion, &c. ...	1	1	0 5 0	0 18 6
Prosecutions for Breach of Special Rules ...	3	3	0 1 0	0 17 0
On Sundays or holidays, or children on successive Saturdays ...	1	1	1 0 0	0 19 6
By Parents:				
Allowing children to be illegally employed ...	1	1	...	0 5 0
Total for June, 1900	280	216	215 18 0	99 14 3
Total for June, 1899	393	383	257 12 6	164 2 4

II.—Under Mines and Quarries Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Con- victions.	Cases with- drawn.	Cases dis- missed.	Amount of Fines and Costs.
UNDER THE MINES ACTS.					
£ s. d.					
By Owners, Managers, &c.:					
Breaches of Explosives Order ...	2	2	—	—	14 5 6
By Workmen:					
Safety Lamps ...	1	1	—	—	0 17 6
Shot-firing and Explosives ...	8	7	—	1	13 12 0
Timbering ...	1	1	—	—	1 3 0
Lucifer Matches, Smoking, &c. ...	15	15*	—	—	14 17 6
Riding on Trams ...	4	4	—	—	3 2 0
Miscellaneous ...	25	25†	—	—	35 1 6
Total for June, 1900	55	53	—	1	82 19 0
Total for June, 1899	65	62‡	—	2	58 18 0
UNDER THE QUARRIES ACT.					
£ s. d.					
By Owners, Managers, &c.:					
Registers, Notices, Returns, &c. ...	3	2	1§	—	6 11 10
Fencing ...	3	3	—	—	3 4 10
Other Special Rules ...	5	3	—	2	7 0 4
Total for June, 1900	11	8	1	2	16 17 0
Total for June, 1899	7	7	—	—	4 1 0

III.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

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

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Convictions.	Total Penalties.	Total Costs.
By Boarding House Keepers and Others—				
Illegal Boarding ...	1	1	£ 10 0 0	£ 0 3 0†
Illegal Supply... ..	1	1	2 0 0	0 3 0†
Demanding Remuneration ...	1	1	10 0 0*	—
Illegal Engagement ...	1	1	—	—
Total for June, 1900	4	4	22 0 0	0 6 0
Total for June, 1899	5	5	19 0 0	2 18 6

* Two offenders were each sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment.

† One offender was sentenced to 1 month's imprisonment.

‡ One defendant was committed for trial at Assizes.

§ Withdrawn on payment of costs.

|| 21 days' imprisonment.

¶ Same defendant. In default of sufficient distress in the case of "illegal supply," one month's imprisonment; and in the case of "demanding remuneration," 14 days additional imprisonment.

** Or 30 days' imprisonment.

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