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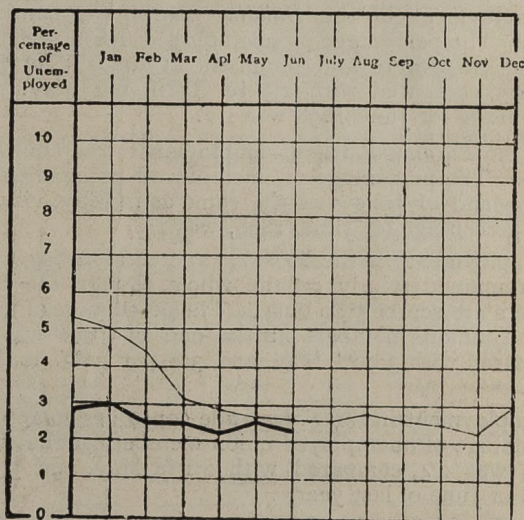
STATE OF EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE.

[Based on 2,517 returns, viz.: 1,739 from Employers, 621 from Trade Unions, and 157 from other sources.]

DURING the month of June the general state of employment continued good, and the percentage of unemployed was lower than at any similar period since 1890. In the 123 trade unions making returns, with an aggregate membership of 502,712, 11,604 or (2·3 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of June, compared with 2·5 per cent. a month before, and 2·6 per cent. in the 116 unions, with a membership of 465,143 from which returns were received for June 1898.

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

Chart showing the percentage of unemployed members of the trade unions making returns at the close of each completed month of 1898 and 1899. [The thick line applies to 1899, the thin line to 1898.]



Employment in Various Industries.—Coal Mining.

—In June the average time worked shows a falling off in every district from the high averages of the preceding month. At collieries, at which 391,508 workpeople were employed, the average time worked during the four weeks ended June 24th was 5·34 days per week, as compared with 5·61 days in May. The above statements do not include pits in South Wales and Monmouthshire, owing to the disturbance of employment in June 1898, occasioned by the disputes in that district. (For further details see page 203.)

Iron Mining.—Employment continues good on the whole and shows practically no change as compared with May. At mines employing 17,207 workpeople the average number of days worked per week during the four weeks ended June 24th was 5·86, as compared with 5·83 days in May. The comparison with June 1898 is affected by the occurrence of Whitsuntide holidays in that month. (For further details see page 203.)

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment shows a slight falling off as compared with May, but is considerably

better than a year ago, when it was affected to some extent by the dispute in the South Wales coal trade. Returns relating to the works of 113 ironmasters show that they had 374 furnaces in blast at the end of June, or 2 less than at the end of May, and 28 more than a year ago. The estimated number of workpeople employed was 24,785, or 32 less than at the end of May and 2,124 more than a year ago. (For further details see page 203.)

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Employment at the end of June was not quite so good as at the end of May, but it continues considerably better than a year ago. At the 221 works from which returns have been received, 80,530 workpeople were employed in the week ended June 24th, 81,021 in the week ended May 20th and 76,017 in the week ended June 25th, 1898, the average number of shifts worked in these three weeks being 5'54, 5'60 and 5'51 respectively. (For further details see page 204.)

Tinplate Trade.—Employment in this industry has further improved, and continues considerably better than a year ago. The number of mills working at the end of June was 391, employing an estimated number of 19,422 workpeople, compared with 380 mills at work employing 19,101 workpeople at the end of May, and 325 mills with 16,789 workpeople at the end of June 1898. (For further details, see page 204.)

Employment in the *Engineering* and *Metal* trades has remained good. The percentage of unemployed union members in this group of trades at the end of June was 2'3 compared with 2'4 in May. The percentage for June 1898 was 3'1.

In the *Shipbuilding* trades employment has continued brisk and has improved, the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of June being 1'7, compared with 2'4 in May, and 3'3 per cent. in June 1898.

Employment in the *Building* trades has continued good. The percentage of unemployed union members, among carpenters and plumbers at the end of June, was 1'5, compared with 1'3 in April and May. The percentage for June 1898 was 1'2.

In the *Furnishing* trades employment has continued brisk. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of June was the same as in May, viz., 0'9. The percentage for June, 1898, was 1'3.

Employment in the *Printing* and *Bookbinding* trades has remained steady on the whole, though the bookbinders are scarcely so busy. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of June was 4'0, compared with 3'9 in May, and 3'8 per cent. in June, 1898.

Employment in the *Paper* trade continues good. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of June was 2'4, compared with 2'1 in May, and 3'3 per cent. in June of last year.

In the *Glass* trades the percentage of unemployed at the end of June was 9'9, compared with 10'2 in June of last year.

Employment in the *Leather* trades has remained fairly steady. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of June was 2'9, compared with 3'1 in May, and 4'7 per cent. in June 1898.

Employment in the *Boot* and *Shoe* trade shows a seasonal decline at some centres, but is still fairly good generally.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the *Tailoring* trade continues good. In the ready-made branch it has fallen off somewhat in the more important centres, but is fairly good generally.

Employment continues very good in the *Spinning* branch of the *Cotton* trade, and shows a slight improvement in the *Weaving* branch. Information respecting *Cotton* factories employing about 80,000 women and girls, shows that 96 per cent. of those in *Spinning* mills and 90 per cent. of those in *Weaving* factories, were working in factories giving full employment throughout the month, compared with 97 and 87 per cent.

respectively in May, and with 90 and 74 per cent. a year ago. (For further details see page 207.)

Employment in both the *Woolen* and *Worsted* trades continues good, with a further improvement; in the *Hosiery* trade it continues good on the whole.

Dock and Riverside Labour in London.—During the four weeks ended June 24th, an average number of 13,862 labourers were employed daily at all the docks and the principal wharves, as compared with averages of 14,251 in the preceding five weeks, and 13,595 in June, 1898. (For further details see page 206.)

Agricultural labourers in June were generally fully employed, the weather during the greater part of the month being favourable for out-door employment. (For further details see page 205.)

Trade Disputes.—Fifty-nine fresh disputes occurred in June, 1899, involving 14,254 workpeople. The corresponding number of disputes in May was 94, involving 23,577 workpeople, and in June, 1898, 49, involving 12,087 workpeople. Of the 59 fresh disputes in June, 1899, 22 occurred in the building trades, 9 in mining and quarrying, 9 in the metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, 7 in the textile trades, 7 in transport trades, and 5 in other industries. Of the 66 new and old disputes, involving 18,263 workpeople, of which the termination is reported, 12, involving 2,760 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 23, involving 5,459 persons, in favour of the employers; 30, involving 9,744 persons, resulted in a compromise; while in the case of the remaining dispute, involving 300 workpeople, the points involved are still under consideration. (For further details see page 220.)

Changes in Rates of Wages.—Changes in the rates of wages of about 51,500 workpeople were reported during June, all of whom received advances, the average amount of the advance being 1s. 11d. per head. The increases were mainly in the iron and steel trades, (17,316), tinplate trades (15,000), and textile trades (8,793). Changes affecting about 5,200 workpeople were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work. Changes affecting about 13,800 workpeople were arranged under sliding scales, and the remaining changes affecting about 32,500 workpeople were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople, or were conceded voluntarily by the employers. (For further details see page 216.)

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION FOR ACCIDENTS IN FRANCE.

The French law of April 9th, 1898 (see GAZETTE, May, 1898, pp. 132, 133), providing compensation for accidents to workmen, has, by a law passed on June 30th, 1899, been extended to accidents caused by the use of agricultural machines driven by mechanical power so far as concerns injuries arising out of or in the course of the employment and suffered by persons engaged in driving or otherwise in direct connection with the use of such machines, or with the motive power by which they are driven. If the injured person is not working for wages, or not for fixed wages, he is to be assumed, for the purpose of calculating the compensation due to him, to be working at the current wages for agricultural labourers of the district. Save as aforesaid, the law of 1898 does not apply in relation to agriculture.

PROPOSED LAW AGAINST INTIMIDATION (LABOUR DISPUTES) IN GERMANY.

Bill for protection against intimidation in Labour Disputes.—With respect to the Bill which (as stated in the June GAZETTE) was laid before the German Reichstag for affording protection against intimidation in connection with labour disputes, Viscount Gough, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Berlin, in a dispatch to the Foreign Office, under date of June 24th, 1899, states that this Bill was introduced into the Reichstag on June 19th, and, after a debate of four days, was defeated by an overwhelming majority.

MONEY WAGES OF DOMESTIC SERVANTS.

THE report recently issued* on the Money Wages of Domestic Servants is based on returns received from 2,067 households.

Of the 5,338 women servants concerning whom sufficient particulars were given in the returns, 1,867 were employed in London, 2,461 in other parts of England and Wales, 651 in Scotland, and 359 in Ireland.

Average Wages of Female Domestic Servants of all ages.—The average rates are calculated by applying for each district the average rates for servants at each age period (as shown in the returns) to the numbers of servants at each age period (as shown in the census). These averages are further corrected by making deductions to allow for the deficiency of the returns with regard to the least skilled class and worst paid young servants. The average money wages so corrected amount to £17 16s. in London, £15 10s. in the rest of England and Wales, £17 6s. in the three principal Scottish towns, while for reasons stated in the report it has not been found possible to state a general average for Ireland, although particulars are given for various Irish towns.

Average according to Age and Number in Household.—The following Tables give for female domestic servants, the average rates of wages at different age periods, and in households of different sizes as shown in the returns. It will be seen from the second of these Tables that the average wage is higher the greater the number of servants employed in the household.

I.—AVERAGE WAGES OF FEMALE DOMESTIC SERVANTS CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE.

Age.	London.	England and Wales (excluding London).	Scotland.	Ireland.
Under 16 years ...	£ 7'9	£ 7'1	£ 7'6	£ 8'0
16 years ...	9'3	9'0	10'4	10'2
17 " ...	10'6	10'6	11'5	7'6
18 " ...	12'8	12'2	13'5	9'6
19 " ...	14'1	12'7	13'8	10'6
20 " ...	15'7	14'4	15'6	12'8
21 and under 25 years ...	17'5	16'5	17'4	12'6
25 " 30 " ...	20'6	19'5	19'8	15'1
30 " 35 " ...	23'2	21'5	21'5	17'7
35 " 40 " ...	27'0	23'1	22'8	16'9
40 years and upwards ...	27'8	24'7	23'5	18'0

II.—AVERAGE WAGES OF FEMALE DOMESTIC SERVANTS CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF SERVANTS IN HOUSEHOLD.

Households employing	London.	England and Wales (excluding London).	Scotland.	Ireland.
One Servant ...	£ 14'9	£ 13'2	£ 15'5	£ 11'3
Two Servants ...	16'6	15'9	16'2	13'3
Three " ...	18'8	17'8	18'5	15'5
Four " ...	20'7	18'4	20'6	15'9
Five " ...	21'3	19'1	20'6	18'4
Six " ...	24'4	20'3	20'5	17'5
Over six " ...	25'3	23'2	23'7	20'5

Average rates according to Class of Work.—The following table shows the average wages earned by the different classes of servants at selected age periods. That age period has been selected which in England and Wales includes the largest group of each class of servants under consideration:—

Class of Work.	Age Period.	London.	England and Wales (excluding London).	Scotland.	Ireland.
Between Maid ...	Years.	£	£	£	£
Scullery Maid ...	19	12'4	10'7	—	—
Kitchen Maid ...	19	13'7	13'0	—	—
Nurse-housemaid ...	21 & under 25	14'9	16'0	14'0	—
General ...	21 " 25	14'9	14'6	15'0	10'3
Housemaid ...	21 " 25	17'5	16'2	17'1	13'5
Nurse ...	25 " 30	21'0	20'1	19'5	15'8
Parlour Maid ...	25 " 30	22'2	20'6	20'1	16'0
Laundry Maid ...	25 " 30	27'3	23'6	20'0	—
Cook ...	25 " 30	21'8	20'2	20'6	17'2
Lady's Maid ...	30 " 35	28'1	24'7	24'4	24'0
Cook-housekeeper ...	40 & upwards	41'6	35'6	22'0	—
Housekeeper ...	40 " "	34'3	32'2	45'0	—

Length of Service.—From the returns it appears that the average length of service already completed at the

* Report by Miss Collet on the Money Wages of Indoor Domestic Servants. [C.—9346.] Price 3d.

time of inquiry in the households making returns was about three years, being practically the same in each division of the United Kingdom. The great majority of servants, however (about two-thirds), had served less than the average length of service. The average time during which servants remain in one situation will naturally be about twice as great, i.e., about six years.

AGRICULTURAL WAGES IN 1898 & 1899.

INFORMATION has been received from a number of correspondents in England as to the rates of weekly cash wages paid to ordinary agricultural labourers (men not exclusively engaged with the charge of animals, such as shepherds, cattlemen, carters, and wagoners) exclusive of piecework earnings, special rates for hay-making, and all extra allowances in cash or kind, in June, 1899, compared with June, 1898. 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, as on former occasions, 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 men in charge of horses, cattle, and sheep, roughly follow the movement in the wages of the ordinary labourers, although they are not necessarily of the same amount, nor do they always take place at the same time.

The following Table shows the changes of wages of agricultural labourers in certain Poor Law Unions in the Midland, Eastern, Home, and Southern and South Western Counties in June, 1899 compared with June, 1898.

CHANGES IN THE SUMMER RATES OF AGRICULTURAL WAGES. (1899 COMPARED WITH 1898).

Districts.	No. of Poor Law Unions reported on.	Increase per week of				Total.
		No change.	1s.	1s. 6d.	2s.	
Midland Counties ...	39	41,564	10,806	2,040	1,443	56,853
Eastern Counties ...	42	71,090	28,540	99,630
Home Counties ...	19	13,016	11,848	5,960	...	30,824
Southern and South-western Counties	49	46,952	10,870	2,559	1,491	61,872
Total ...	149	172,616	62,064	10,559	2,934	248,173

It will be seen from this Table that out of a total of 248,173 agricultural labourers in the districts named, 172,616 or 70 per cent. were in Poor Law Unions where the wages remained stationary, while 75,557, or 30 per cent., were in Unions in which wages rose, the increases varying from 1s. to 2s. a week. Of the 75,557 in Unions where wages were increased, 62,064 were in Unions showing increases of 1s. a week, 10,559 in Unions showing increases of 1s. 6d., and 2,934 in Unions showing increases of 2s. The average rise, spread over the whole number of labourers included in the returns, was about 4d. a week per head.

The greatest number of changes took place in the corn-growing counties comprising Cambridge, Essex, Lincoln, Norfolk, and Suffolk. Out of the total of 75,557 agricultural labourers in Unions reported on in which wages were changed, 28,540 (or 38 per cent.) were in the Eastern Counties, forming nearly 29 per cent. of all the labourers covered by the returns received from those counties.

The Northern Counties have been excluded from these calculations, as the greater number of labourers there are hired by the year or half-year. Wages in these counties in 1899 have been well maintained, and at some of the hiring fairs there has been an upward tendency (see page 196).

AGRICULTURAL HIRINGS.

Whitsuntide Half-Yearly Hirings in Cumberland, Westmorland and Lancashire.

INFORMATION has been obtained as to the rates of wages paid for the half-year at the principal Whitsuntide hiring fairs in Cumberland, Westmorland and Lancashire, namely, Carlisle, Penrith, Kendal, Lancaster, and Ulverston. It is reported that men farm servants were generally scarce, particularly the more experienced ones, and that wages were generally higher than at the corresponding period last year. It is further stated that women for farm house work were almost impossible to obtain, and that in consequence a good deal of dairy and house work will have to be done by the farmers' families.

The rates of wages generally obtained for the half-year (board and lodging in addition) were as follows:— For best men £16 to £18 10s. and up to £20 at Kendal and Ulverston, and up to £19 at Penrith. Second men and youths, £10 to £17. Boys, £5 to £10. Best women, £12 to £14; second women, £9 to £11 10s.; girls, £5 to £8.

GAIN-SHARING.

In a Report on "Gain-sharing and certain other Systems of Bonus on Production" (C.—7848), published by the Department in 1895, a description was given of a system of bonus on production in force in relation to a considerable proportion of the work done in the engine-making factory of Messrs. Willans & Robinson, Limited, then of Thames Ditton, now of Rugby. "The manner in which this system is applied is (in general outlines) as follows:—For the purpose of calculating this bonus, a certain sum, known as 'the reference rate,' is fixed in relation to each operation; if the amount earned as time-wages (including overtime pay) in respect of this operation falls below the reference rate, then the balance (i.e., the difference between the actual cost in time-wages and the reference rate) is divided equally between the employers and the workman, or the group of workmen, employed on the job."

The GAZETTE for June 1896, contains details with respect to the ratio between bonus and time-wage earnings under this system in 1895. The following table, based on information supplied by the firm, gives figures* showing the ratio of bonus to wages in their Works in 1896-98:—

Trade.	1896.		1897.†		1898.	
	Amount of Bonus.	Ratio of Bonus to Wages.	Amount of Bonus.	Ratio of Bonus to Wages.	Amount of Bonus.	Ratio of Bonus to Wages.
Millwrights ...	£	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	£	Per cent.
Grinders ...	55	25.0	49	36.5	67	41.7
Erectors ...	5	8.3	2	49.6	8	5.6
Turners ...	1,330	46.3	1,328	43.0	1,648	49.6
Fitters ...	133	40.6	115	33.1	210	37.7
Machinists ...	324	47.9	347	46.3	500	56.6
Labourers ...	25	89.3	84	68.5	34	80.2
Apprentices ...	10	59.0	15	78.6	33	71.6
Pattern Makers ...	213	36.7	157	35.5	395	39.1
Smiths and Strikers ...	4	198.3	1	150.8	8	107.5
Foundry ...	198	6.5	147	5.0	411	13.9
Totals & General Averages	2,300	29.6	2,245	28.7	3,340	37.0

In the firm's Outside Department in 1896 and 1897 the whole of the work was done on the bonus system, the amount of the bonus being £112 in the former, and £95 in the latter year, and the ratio of bonus to wages being in each year 2.8 per cent. In 1898, in which year a part only of the work done in the Outside Department was done under the bonus system, the total wages paid to the 31 men (3 under-foremen, 14 fitters, and 14 labourers) employed at times under this system amounted to £2,791† and the bonus received by them to £73.

* The figures relate to workmen only, and do not relate to foremen, clerks, time keepers, storekeepers, or draughtsmen. The total number of employees (workmen) in 1898 was 628 (577 in Works, 51 in Outside Department), of whom 322 (291 in works, 31 outside) were at times employed under the bonus system. The ratios stated in the table are those between the bonus and the time-wages of the workmen in relation to work done under the bonus system. † It is stated that the circumstances attendant upon the removal of the firm from Thames Ditton to Rugby operated in 1897 to reduce the amount of wages received and bonus paid under the bonus system to such an extent as to make the figures for that year not strictly comparable with those for previous years. ‡ This sum represents the wages of these workmen in relation to all work done by them in the year, including work not done under the bonus system; it has not been found possible to state separately the amount of their wages in relation to the work done under this system.

LABOUR DISPUTES IN ITALY IN 1897.

THE Report of the Statistical Department of the Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, in Rome, upon Strikes and Lock-outs in Italy in 1897* shows that strikes were more frequent, and involved the loss of a greater number of working days in 1897 than in 1896. The following table shows the figures for the two years:—

	1896.		1897.	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Strikes ...	211	229	211	229
Workpeople who took part in Strikes ...	96,151	100,705	96,151	100,705
Working Days lost by Strikers and Non-Strikers ...	1,183,502	1,435,553	1,183,502	1,435,553

The extent, to which certain principal groups of trades were affected by strikes in the two years, will be seen from the following:—

Group of Trades.	Strikes.		Strikers.		Working Days lost by Strikers.	
	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.	1896.	1897.
Building Trades ...	No. 17	No. 38	No. 3,137	No. 5,356	No. 19,104	No. 21,240
Mining and Quarrying ...	61	10	34,007	1,261	362,801	5,317
Metal Trades ...	21	17	2,816	1,988	26,112	16,938
Textile Trades ...	52	74	9,979	16,053	70,229	328,273
Clothing Trades ...	15	18	43,763	43,652	644,160	699,068
Dock Labour and Transport ...	8	9	1,201	2,114	1,201	18,714
Agriculture ...	1	12	100	24,135	100	322,020
Miscellaneous ...	36	51	4,148	6,166	28,896	83,985
Total ...	211	229	96,151	100,705	1,182,603	1,435,553

In 1897, 181,109 working days (compared with 30,899 in 1896) are stated to have been lost by persons—other than the actual strikers—affected by strikes. These figures are not included in the foregoing table.

The strikers of the two years may be grouped as follows according to the principal causes or objects of the strikes in which they took part:—

Principal cause or object of Strikes.	Number of Workpeople who took part in Strikes.	
	1896.	1897.
Wages.—For increase ...	78,822	82,744
" Against decrease ...	5,723	4,576
Total ...	84,545	87,320
Hours of Labour.—For decrease ...	980	3,551
" Against increase ...	267	230
Total ...	1,247	3,781
Other causes or objects ...	10,359	9,604
Grand Total ...	96,151	100,705

Both in 1896 and 1897 the percentages of workpeople who succeeded or failed in their strikes were considerably affected by single strikes of straw plaiters (Florence district), which took place in each of those years; 40,950 workpeople taking part in the former year, when the strike ended in their favour, and 41,550 in the latter year, when it ended in a compromise. The results of strikes in the two years will be seen from the following table, the figures being in the one case inclusive and in the other exclusive of the straw plaiters' strike:—

Result of Strikes.	Percentage proportion of all Workpeople who took part in Strikes in Italy in			
	1896.		1897.	
	Including straw plaiters' strike.	Excluding straw plaiters' strike.	Including straw plaiters' strike.	Excluding straw plaiters' strike.
In favour of Workpeople ...	70.5	48.5	14.5	24.6
In favour of Employers ...	11.6	31.2	11.3	56.1
Compromised ...	17.9	20.3	74.2	19.3

The foregoing particulars do not include lock-outs, most of which, however, appear to have been stoppages of work having no connection with any dispute between employers and employed. Excluding stoppages of this class, there were 3 lock-outs in 1897 (with 468 locked out) compared with 2 in 1896 (with 1,351 locked out).

* Statistica degli Scioperi avvenute nell' Industria e nell' Agricoltura durante l'Anno 1897. Rome. Government Printing Works, 1899.

RECENT CONCILIATION & ARBITRATION CASES AND COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.

(a) UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

Leicester Plumbers.

IN this case the effect of a clause in the working rules was disputed between the Master Plumbers and Operative Plumbers of Leicester. The rule provides that:—

The standard rate of wages shall be 9d. per hour, except in the case of a man who has just served his apprenticeship when he may receive at the rate of not less than 8d. per hour for one year, and if by the end of that time he is not qualified under Section C, the time to be further extended at the discretion of the Joint Committee under Bye Law 7.

The Operative Plumbers contended that the payment of 1d. less per hour was only permitted in the case of men who had served their apprenticeship within the town of Leicester. The employers contended that the rule was of general application.

Joint application was made on June 5th to the Board of Trade for the appointment of an arbitrator, and the Board appointed Sir W. Markby, K.C.I.E., who gave his award on June 23rd, deciding that the application of the rule is general.

After the parties had been heard on the disputed point referred to, a further submission was drawn up asking Sir William Markby to decide the following question:—

"When notice is given under Bye-law 3 and afterwards withdrawn, and work resumed by mutual consent or agreement, can the Bye-law be ignored by instant dismissal on the one side, or instant leaving on the other, or is it necessary to again receive or give a week's notice, as though no notice had been given in the first instance: providing always that at the time of such re-engagement it is not stipulated that such further notice is not required?"

The decision was that under the circumstances referred to the position is precisely the same as if no notice whatever had been given, and that the week's notice on either side, contemplated by Rule 3, is, therefore, necessary.

(b) OTHER CASES.

Arbitration in the Boot and Shoe Trade. Lord James' Awards.

ON February 20th, 1899, about 40 boot and shoe operatives employed at a factory in Hackney, London, went out on strike, demanding that certain work should be raised a class in the statement. The firm was prepared to submit the goods for classification by the London Boot and Shoe Trade Conciliation and Arbitration Board, but a difficulty arose out of the fact that the London Branch of the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives had refused to elect representatives, being dissatisfied with the mode of working of the Board, the result being that the Board was in abeyance. On March 16th a conference was held between representatives of the Federated Boot and Shoe Manufacturers' Associations and the National Union, and a resolution was adopted, in accordance with which the president of the Union addressed a meeting of London unionists, promising that the goods should be classified by arbitrators on their returning to work. The members of the London Branch, however, persisted in their refusal to resume work or to appoint representatives on the Board. The majority of those on strike were stated not to be members of the Union.

The Federation accordingly made a claim for £985 out of the £1,000 deposited by the Union in accordance with section 6 of the Terms of Settlement of the 1895 dispute. The claim was referred to Lord James of Hereford, the umpire named in the Terms of Settlement, who heard the parties on April 29th, and afterwards addressed a letter to the President of the London branch of the National Union, making the following suggestions.

(a) The quorum existing under Rule 5 to be reduced to 3. (b) In the event of a quorum representing one of the parties (either manu-

facturers or workmen) only being present, the Board to proceed as if a quorum of both such parties were present. (c) If at a meeting of the committee of inquiry a quorum representing only one of the parties above mentioned be present, the matter standing for consideration shall at once be transferred to the local board for determination. (d) In the case of a meeting of a local board being called to hear a complaint of which due notice has been given, the absence of the complainant or respondent shall not constitute a ground of adjournment, and the hearing of the case shall proceed notwithstanding such absence unless the Board agree that there is good and sufficient cause for excusing it.

On May 11th, a meeting of the London workmen accepted these suggestions, and appointed representatives on the London Board of Arbitration. A meeting of the reconstituted Board was held on June 6th, when proposals (a), (c) and (d), referred to above, were agreed to, the consideration of proposal (b) being adjourned. A further amendment was agreed to providing that the umpire and arbitrators "shall give their decision within 14 days of the date of the matter being referred to them, unless both arbitrators agree to extend the time for good cause."

The award of Lord James on the claim of the Federation for damages in respect of breach of the Terms of Settlement was dated June 10th, and is as follows:—

THE LONDON STRIKE.

The Federated Associations of Boot and Shoe Manufacturers of Great Britain, and

The National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives.

Whereas,

I, the undersigned, being the umpire named in the trust deed bearing date the 6th day of March, 1898, entered into by the above parties, have had brought before me by the above-named Federated Associations a request to adjudicate upon a disputed point arising out of the agreement of April 19th, 1895, viz., the claim of the Federation for damages to be paid by the National Union out of the guarantee fund vested in the trustees under the provisions of the Trust Deed, dated the 6th day of March, 1898, by way of compensation in respect of the following breaches of the terms of settlement, dated the 19th day of April, 1895:—

1. "The strike which took place on February 20th, 1899, and which has since been continued and is now in operation at the factory of Mr. W. S. Clark, Hackney, London, a member of the London Federated Association, being a breach of Resolution 8 of the Terms of Settlement."

2. "The refusal of the London workmen to appoint representatives to the London Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the settlement of disputes, being a breach of Resolution 4 of the Terms of Settlement."

And whereas I have considered the above claims and the evidence and arguments placed before me by the representatives of the above parties, now I hereby determine that out of the sum of £1,000 deposited with the Trustees named in the said Trust Deed by the above-named Union the sum of £300 shall be forfeited and paid to the above-named Federation.

June 10th, 1899.

JAMES OF HEREFORD.

Lord James also considered the contention of the National Union that the employers' representatives on the Leeds Board were not justified in refusing to consider and settle a piece-work statement for clickers and pressmen in Leeds. His award on this question is also dated June 10th, and is as follows:—

THE LEEDS DISPUTE.

Between the Federated Association of Boot and Shoe Manufacturers of Great Britain, and

The National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives.

Whereas,

I, the undersigned, have been called upon by the above-named Union to determine whether the employers' representatives on the Leeds Board of Arbitration are justified in refusing the demand of the representatives of the workmen upon the said Board that the Board should proceed to consider and settle a piece-work statement for the clickers and pressmen of Leeds,

And having heard the statements of the representatives of the above parties, I do now determine that no dispute has arisen within the meaning of Resolution 5 of the Board of Trade Terms of Settlement, or of pars. 14 and 15 of the revised rules for Boards of

Arbitration, and that, therefore, there is under present conditions no obligation on the said Leeds Board of Arbitration to consider or settle the said piece-work statement.

JAMES OF HEREFORD.

June 10th, 1899.

Conciliation in the Building Trades.

The following are among the principal cases in which disputes in the Building Trades have been reported to the Department as settled during June through the conciliation of independent persons:—

(1.) *Plumbers at Edinburgh and Leith.*—This was a strike of about 500 plumbers, commencing on May 15th, for an advance in wages of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour, and alterations in the rules with regard to overtime, number of apprentices, etc. Conferences were arranged by the intervention of Sir James Russell, and at that held on June 9th the rules were adjusted, and the advance conceded. Work was resumed on June 12th.

(2.) *Carpenters, Bricklayers and Labourers at Lowestoft.*—In this case the carpenters and bricklayers asked for an advance from 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 8d., and the labourers from 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. (Scaffolders, 5d.) to 5d. (scaffolders, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.) per hour, together with certain modifications in working rules. On June 1st they struck work to the number of about 200. On June 7th a conference was held between representatives of the two parties, with the Mayor of Lowestoft in the chair. At this conference it was agreed to resume work at an advance of 1d. per hour to mechanics and $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to scaffolders and labourers. The number of apprentices has been fixed at one to four journeymen. The men have given an undertaking not to object to working with non-union men. Overtime is to be paid at the rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour extra for the first two hours, and time and a quarter afterwards.

(3.) *Masons at Dumfries.*—This was a strike of about 140 masons, commencing on March 13th, for an advance in wages from 8d. to 9d. per hour, and certain modifications in the working rules. At a conference on June 13th, presided over by the Provost of Dumfries, it was agreed that work should be resumed at a rate of 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour, employers being at liberty to pay a lower rate, not less than 7d., to men who are not fully competent tradesmen.

Winding Enginemmen in South Wales Collieries.

An agreement dated 2nd June has been made between the Monmouthshire and South Wales Coal Owners' Association and the South Wales Colliery Winding Enginemmen's Association, providing that the owners of the Associated Collieries shall enter into agreements with those enginemmen who are members of the Trade Union for employment at a fixed wage for a period of five years. The memorandum of agreement, which is to be signed by the individual workmen, provides that:—

"The undersigned shall serve the company as a winding enginemman for five years certain from the signature hereof upon the following conditions:—

"1. That the standard rate existing at this colliery in May, 1899, shall remain in force, and an advance of 10 per cent. shall be added to the percentage which was then paid upon such rate.

"2. No alteration shall be made in the standard rate of wages, percentage, and advance hereby agreed for a period of five years from this date.

"3. During his shift the care of the engines rests with the enginemman, who shall continue under this agreement to discharge efficiently to the satisfaction of the colliery manager all the duties which have hitherto been performed by him."

Wages Settlement in the Welsh Tinplate Trade.

At a conference held at Swansea on June 27th, between representatives of the Welsh Sheet and Plate Manufacturers' Association, and the various Trade Unions concerned in the tinplate trade, a provisional agreement was arrived at, that wages should be fixed during August and September at 10 per cent. below the amended 1874 list, and that the full 1874 list should come into force on the first Monday in October, and remain in force until March, 1900. This agreement has been subsequently endorsed by the Trade Unions concerned. About 15,000 workpeople are stated to be affected by this arrangement.

MINERS' PROVIDENT SOCIETIES IN FRANCE IN 1897.*

The special provident societies for persons employed in the mining industry in France, organised since July 1st, 1895, in accordance with the law of June 29th, 1894, are Friendly Societies in the ordinary sense, except that membership is obligatory for persons employed in and about mines, and that the employers are bound to contribute at least half as much as the workpeople, towards their funds. The chief object of the societies is to secure to their members, during illness or incapacity, sick pay with medical attendance and medicine, and to assist the families of deceased members. The nature and amount of the two classes of benefit referred to must be set forth in the bye-laws of every miners' society, but the bye-laws may also authorise the granting of pecuniary and medical assistance to the families of members. For the support of the societies' funds, the law provides that a deduction shall be made from the wages of all workpeople, clerks, etc., employed in or at mines. The amount of this deduction is fixed by the governing board of each society, but must not exceed 2 per cent. of wages, nor £1 18s. 5d. per annum. The governing board of each society consists of at least nine members, of whom two-thirds are elected by the employee members of the society and one-third by the employers.

There were, in 1897, 190 of these societies with 158,770 active members. In 1896 the number of societies was the same, but the membership was smaller, viz., 154,696. Of the 190 societies existing in 1897, 143, with a membership of 147,947, were connected with coal or lignite mines.

The total receipts of all the societies in 1897 amounted to £205,873, of which the main items were:—Contributions of workpeople, £124,015 (60.24 per cent.); contributions of employers, £62,107 (30.17 per cent.); and fines for breaches of rules in mines, £12,445 (6.04 per cent.). The expenditure amounted to £187,091, in which it is impossible to separate voluntary from obligatory benefits. The bulk (£166,330) went in sick and funeral benefits to members and their families. The aggregate of the reserve funds of the societies at the end of 1897 was £70,289.

It may be added that, under the law of June 29th, 1894, mentioned above, a scheme of compulsory provision for old age in the mining industry (distinct from the system of sick and funeral benefits just described) was also introduced.

EMIGRATION & IMMIGRATION in 1898.†

THE returns with regard to the passenger movement between the United Kingdom and other countries for 1898, compared with those for 1897, show a diminished passenger traffic with countries out of Europe, but an increase in the Continental traffic. The net effect of the whole traffic was an outward movement from this country of about 36,000 persons, a decrease of over 4,000 as compared with the corresponding figures for 1897.

The total number of the passengers outwards in 1898 was about 795,000, and that of the passengers inward about 759,000, the excess in the number of persons leaving the United Kingdom over the number of persons arriving here from all parts being thus 36,000 as stated above. This excess of 36,000 is shown in the Report to be the result of a net balance outwards of 51,000 natives and a net balance inwards of 15,000 foreigners. Among the latter, however, are included 12,300 foreign sailors, who, coming to the United Kingdom as passengers, are reckoned among the immigrants, but of whom no corresponding record is made when they leave as members of the crews of outgoing ships.

The number of emigrants to places out of Europe was less in 1898 than in any preceding year since 1878. Of these emigrants 69 per cent. were British and Irish,

* *Statistique de l'Industrie Minière en France, for 1897, and Lois Sociales, by MM. Joseph Chailley-Bert and Arthur Fontaine, Paris, 1895.*
† *Statistical Tables relating to Emigration and Immigration in 1898. PP. 183 of 1899. Price 6d.*

among whom English formed 65 per cent., Scotch 11 and Irish 24. All these percentages were the same in 1897.

As compared with the figures for 1897, emigrants to North America were fewer by 3,500, those to Australasia by 1,400, and those to South Africa by 3,200.

So far as concerns the occupations of adult emigrants, it is noted that the number of those described as "mechanics" was 7,852 in 1898, as against 5,615 in 1897, this increase occurring among emigrants to the United States, to which country there went last year 1,130 more British and Irish mechanics than in 1897, and 1,218 more foreign mechanics.

With regard to Russian and Polish immigrants (other than seamen)—the most important class for the purposes of any inquiry into "destitute alien immigration"—it appears that 15,248 of these, not stated in the Alien Lists to be *en route* to other countries, arrived from European ports in 1898 (compared with 14,775 in 1897 and 12,773 in 1896). Of these, 80 per cent. arrived at the Port of London; a large number of these Russians and Poles, although not stated in the Alien Lists to be *en route* to other countries, were ascertained by the Customs officers to be proceeding forthwith to other countries, in addition to those who left the country subsequently, either without assistance, or through the aid of the Jewish Board of Guardians, or the "Conjoint Committee" of that body and the Russo-Jewish Committee, who together assisted about 2,400 Jews (mostly Russians and Poles) to emigrate during 1898.

From information obtained through the Local Government Boards of England, Scotland, and Ireland it appears that relief (chiefly medical aid) was granted to aliens by Poor-Law Authorities to a slightly increased extent in 1898 (compared with 1897) in London, Birmingham and Glasgow, but to a diminished extent in the rest of the country generally, and particularly in Cardiff, Leeds and Liverpool.

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.

"ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF THE EMPLOYMENT."

A lad of 13, who had been injured under the following circumstances, claimed compensation from his employers. The lad was employed doing a variety of odd jobs. Amongst other things he acted as signal boy to a crane worked by a certain foreman. By the orders of this foreman he oiled a crusher a fortnight before the accident. On the day of the accident, a workman in the same employment, but not under the orders of the foreman above referred to, told the lad that this foreman had given orders for him to oil a machine of which the workman was in charge, and insisted on his doing so, but refused to stop the machine. While oiling the machine, the lad was injured. The statement that the foreman had given orders for the lad to oil the machine was not correct. The County Court judge held that, although oiling the machine was not part of the applicant's regular work, yet as he did so pursuant to the workman's orders, the accident arose out of and in the course of his employment, and made an award in his favour. On appeal, this decision was confirmed, the Court of Appeal holding that the question was whether there was any evidence on which the County Court judge could find that this accident arose out of and in the course of the lad's employment, and that it could not be said that there was no evidence to support the finding of the judge, which accordingly ought not to be upset by the Court.—*Brown v. Scott, Court of Appeal, June 10th.*

FAILURE OF ACTION UNDER EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACT: ASSESSMENT OF COMPENSATION UNDER COMPENSATION ACT: COSTS.

In a case mentioned (with regard to security for costs) in the June GAZETTE, a workman who had been injured by an accident, brought an action in the County Court against his employers under the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, but failed in that action; and thereupon, at his request, the judge proceeded to assess compensation under Section 1 (4) of the Compensation Act. Subsequently, the judge, after stating that the defendants admitted their liability under the Compensation Act, but refused to make an offer under the Employers' Liability Act, as they considered that the applicant had no case under that Act, but the action was brought instead, said that he found as a fact, that practically all the costs, which the defendants had incurred, had been occasioned by the applicant bringing the action under the Employers' Liability Act, and declined to give him his costs of assessing compensation. On appeal, this decision was confirmed by the Court of Appeal.—*Sheggs v. Keen, Court of Appeal, June 17th.*

CONTRACTOR AND SUB-CONTRACTOR: INDEMNITY.

The widow and children of a workman who had met with a fatal accident while in the employment of a company which was carrying out work as sub-contractors under a principal contractor, who was the "undertaker" within the meaning of the Act, claimed compensation; and the County Court judge made an award in favour of the applicants against the sub-contractors and the contractor, awarding further that the sub-contractors should indemnify the contractor. No notice of any claim on the part of the contractor for such indemnity had been given to the sub-contractors; but the judge held that such notice was not necessary. The Act provides that: "Where . . . the undertakers as hereinafter defined contract with any person for the execution by or under such contractor of any work, and the undertakers would, if such work were executed by workmen immediately employed by them, be liable to pay compensation under this Act to those workmen . . . the undertakers shall be liable to pay to any workman employed in the execution of the work any compensation which is payable to the workman . . . by such contractor, or would be so payable if such contractor were an employer to whom this Act applies. Provided that the undertakers shall be entitled to be indemnified by any other person who would have been liable independently of this section." The Workmen's Compensation Rules, 1898, provide, by rule 19, that: "Where a respondent claims to be entitled . . . to indemnity over against any person not a party to the arbitration, he shall, five clear days before the day fixed for proceeding with the arbitration, file a notice of his claim . . . and the registrar shall seal such notice and deliver it to the respondent, who shall serve the same, together with a copy of the applicant's request and particulars . . . upon the person against whom such claim is made . . ." By Rule 22 (1), "Nothing in these Rules shall empower the judge to decide (otherwise than by consent) any question as to the liability of such third party to indemnify the respondent . . ."; and by Rule 23, "(1) Where a respondent claims to be entitled to indemnity against any other respondent, a like notice may be issued, and the like procedure may be adopted for the determination of questions between the respondents as might be issued and adopted if such last-mentioned respondent were a third party. (2) Provided that where both the undertakers as defined by the Act and a contractor with them are made respondents to an arbitration, and it is decided in such arbitration that the contractor is liable to pay compensation under the Act, the judge may, without any consent or admission of liability on the part of such contractor, make an award . . . in favour of the undertakers against the contractor." On appeal, it was held by the Court of Appeal that, where both the undertakers and a contractor with them are made respondents to a claim for compensation, a claim for indemnity by the undertakers against the contractor cannot be made in the arbitration unless the notice prescribed by rule 19 has been given. The appeal was accordingly allowed.—*Appleby and others v. The Horsley Company, Limited, and Lovatt (No. 2), Court of Appeal, June 5th and 10th.*

WHAT IS AN "ENGINEERING WORK"?

A heavy air compressor, which had been used in connection with a new bridge, but, having served its purpose, had been sold, had to be removed. The purchaser accordingly made a contract with an employer to lift the compressor from where it was lying sufficiently high to enable a lorry to be placed underneath, and to place it upon the lorry. While this was being done, the hydraulic jack which was being used got off the plumb, and the compressor, in consequence, fell upon and killed a labourer employed by the contractor, against whom a claim for compensation was made by the labourer's widow. The sheriff-substitute dismissed the claim, on the ground that the accident was not one for which compensation fell to be awarded under the Act. On appeal, the Court of Session affirmed the decision of the sheriff-substitute. By the Act, "'engineering work' means any work of construction or alteration or repair of a railroad, harbour, dock, canal, or sewer, and includes any other work for the construction, alteration, or repair of which machinery driven by steam, water, or other mechanical power, is used." The Court held that "alteration" here means structural alteration only, and did not apply to the raising of an air compressor by means of a hydraulic jack so as to place it on a lorry.—*F Janet Ferret or Rao v. A. Fraser, Court of Session, June 29th.*

WHO ARE "DEPENDANTS"?

The father and mother of a boy who had been killed by an accident while in the employment of a colliery company, claimed compensation from his employers as being in part dependent upon his earnings. The family consisted of the father and mother and six children, including the deceased. The father was a collier, earning 25s. a week—the ordinary wages of a collier in the district. The eldest child, a daughter, was earning 12s. a week; the second, also a daughter, was earning 7s. 6d. a week; and the deceased (16 years of age) was earning 8s. The three youngest children and the mother were not earning anything. The children who were earning wages gave them to their mother to put into a common fund. The County Court judge held that the parents were in part dependent upon their son's earnings, and made an award in their favour. The employers appealed, and it was argued on their behalf that the words, "dependent upon his earnings" in the Act meant dependent for some of the ordinary necessities of life, of which there was in this case no evidence. The Court of Appeal held that, unless there was no evidence on which the County Court judge could find that the parents were in part dependent upon the earnings of their son, the appeal must be dismissed, and that there was some evidence of this; the appeal was accordingly dismissed.—*Davies and wife v. The Main Colliery Company, Limited, Court of Appeal, June 5th.*

With respect to the meaning of "dependants" in Scotland, the Act provides that this word shall there mean "such of the persons entitled according to the law of Scotland to sue the employer for damages or solatium in respect of the death of the workman, as were wholly or in part dependent upon the earnings of the workman at the time of his death." A petition was presented in the Dundee Sheriff Court at the instance of the illegitimate child of a female spinner who had met with a fatal accident while in the employment of a firm of spinners and manufacturers, claiming compensation from the employers of the deceased. The employers resisted the claim on the ground that the child, being illegitimate, had no title to sue. The sheriff adopted this view, and gave decree in favour of the defenders, and on appeal to the Court of Session his decree was confirmed.—*Clement v. Bell and Sons, Court of Session, June 13th.*

In another case a claim for compensation in respect of the death of a workman, who met with a fatal accident while in the employment of a firm of builders, was made by the widow of his deceased son and her children, all of whom were dependent upon the earnings of this workman at the time of his death. The sheriff-substitute dismissed the petition in so far as brought at the instance of the daughter-in-law, but sustained the title to sue of the grandchildren; and upon the question of the title to sue of the grandchildren coming upon a stated case before the Court of Session, that Court upheld the view taken by the sheriff-substitute, on the ground that there existed between the grandfather and his grandchildren a reciprocal obligation of support arising from relationship.—*Hanlin v. Melrose and Thomson, Court of Session, reported June 28th.*

SCALE OF COMPENSATION: AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS.

The compensation provided under the Act where a workman leaves dependants wholly dependent upon his earnings at the time of his death is "a sum equal to his earnings in the employment of the same employer during the three years next preceding the injury, or the sum of £150, whichever of these sums is the larger, but not exceeding in any case £300 . . . and if the period of the workman's employment by the said employer has been less than the said three years, then the amount of his earnings during the said three years shall be deemed to be 156 times his average weekly earnings during the period of his actual employment under the said employer."

The widow of a quay labourer, who had been killed on November 4th, 1898, while in the employment of a firm of general weighers and samplers, claimed compensation from his employers on behalf of herself and her children. The sheriff-substitute found that the deceased had been employed by the defenders at irregular intervals from October 29th, 1896, to the date of his death, the total number of days' employment in that period having been 77, for which he had received, in all, £21 15s. 9d. as wages. He was employed by the hour, and paid daily. The sheriff-substitute divided 77 by six, to bring out the weeks, and then divided the £21 15s. 9d. by the number of weeks, bringing out £1 13s. 6d. as the average weekly wage. Then, multiplying this sum by 156, he brought out a sum of £261 5s., for which he gave decree. The employers appealed to the Court of Session, and raised the questions: (1) whether, looking to the nature of the employment of the deceased, his widow was entitled to compensation; and (2) whether, if so, the amount awarded was correct. The Court of Session held that the case was one for compensation under the Act, but that the amount awarded was incorrect. From October 29th, 1896, to November 4th, 1898, being 105 weeks, the amount earned by the deceased in that period (£21 15s. 9d.) must be divided by 105, which gave an average weekly wage of 4s. 2d., and the correct amount to be awarded as compensation was 4s. 2d. multiplied by 156. The case was accordingly sent back to the sheriff to give a decree for £32 9s. 2d.—*McCormick and Ewing v. Mary Waterston or Small and others, Court of Session, June 6th.*

In another case the widow and children of a workman, who had been killed by an accident in the course of his employment, claimed compensation. Alterations were being carried out at a railway station, the work being undertaken as a whole by Henry Lovatt, but that contractor got the bridge and iron work done by the Horseley Company under a sub-contract. The deceased workman was in the employment of these sub-contractors. He had been in the employment of the company from September 27th, 1895, to March 16th, 1896, as a riveter, earning wages at the rate of £2 10s. a week. On the latter date he met with an accident, which made him unable to work for eleven months, and, though he was not dismissed, he received no wages during that period. In February 1897 the company employed the deceased as a time-keeper and storekeeper at £1 10s. a week, and he continued in such employment until the date of the accident which caused his death. The County Court judge held that there had been a break in the employment of the deceased, and arrived at the sum to be awarded as compensation by taking the period before the break, when the workman was earning £2 10s. a week, and the period after the break, when he was earning £1 10s. a week, calculating the average weekly earnings of those two periods added together, and then multiplying this average by 156, which gave £269 15s. The company appealed, and the Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, holding that "employment" meant continuous employment (in this case from February 1897 to the death of the workman in September 1898), and that the amount of the award ought, accordingly, to be £234 (156 times the weekly earnings of £1 10s.)—*Appley and Others v. The Horseley Company, Limited, and Lovatt (No. 1), Court of Appeal, June 10th.*

FAILURE TO FILE ANSWER TO PARTICULARS.

By the Workmen's Compensation Rules, 1898, it is required that every application for the settlement of any matter by arbitration shall be made by the applicant filing with the registrar a request

for arbitration, which shall have appended or annexed to it particulars of the claim, and Rule 17 provides that: "(1) If any respondent . . . considers that the applicant's particulars are in any respect inaccurate or incomplete, or desires to bring any fact . . . to the notice of the judge . . . or intends to deny his liability to pay compensation under the Act, he shall, five clear days at least before the day fixed for proceeding with the arbitration, file with the registrar an answer, stating . . . in what respect the particulars are inaccurate or incomplete, or stating concisely any fact . . . which he desires to bring to the notice of the judge, or on which he intends to rely, or the grounds on and extent to which he denies liability. . . . (3) Subject to any answer so filed, and to the provisions of the next following paragraph, the applicant's particulars, and, in the case of a claim for compensation, the liability to pay compensation under the Act, shall be taken to be admitted. (4) Provided, that in case of non-compliance with this Rule, and of the applicant's not consenting at the arbitration to permit a respondent to avail himself of any matter of which he should, pursuant to this rule, have given notice by filing an answer, the judge may, on such terms as he shall think fit, either proceed with the arbitration and allow the respondent to avail himself of such matter, or adjourn the arbitration to enable the respondent to file such answer."

A bricklayer's labourer, who had sustained injuries in the course of his employment on or about a building, claimed compensation from his employer. The particulars did not allege that the building exceeded 30 feet in height. The employer did not file any answer. At the hearing evidence was given in support of the application, but the height of the building was not stated, and the employer proposed to give evidence to prove that it did not exceed 30 feet in height. The County Court judge refused to allow the employer to give such evidence, on the ground that he had failed to file an answer, found as a fact that the building did exceed 30 feet in height, and made an award in favour of the applicant. The employers appealed from this decision, but the Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal.—*Silvester v. Cude, Court of Appeal, June 24th.*

(2) Merchant Shipping Act.

DISCHARGE IN FOREIGN PORT: "PASSAGE HOME."

The Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, requires a master, who discharges a seaman in a foreign port, either to provide him with employment on a British ship bound to the port in Her Majesty's dominions at which he was originally shipped, or to a port in the United Kingdom agreed to by the seaman, or to "furnish the means of sending him back to some such port, or provide him with a passage home . . ." A fireman shipped at Newport, Monmouth, for a voyage to Rio de Janeiro, and back to any port within specified limits, including Antwerp, where the voyage ended, and he was paid off. The master of the vessel then tendered him his fare to Harwich, the nearest British port. This offer the fireman refused, claiming the amount of his passage and maintenance money to Newport, and, on the master declining this demand, he brought an action against the owners for that amount, and judgment was given in his favour. On appeal, this decision was confirmed, the Court of Appeal holding that British shipowners are under an obligation to send a seaman, who was paid off at a foreign port, back to the port in the United Kingdom where he was originally shipped, or to some port in the United Kingdom agreed to by the seaman.—*Purves v. Straits of Dover Steamship Company, Limited, Court of Appeal, June 29th.*

(3) Miscellaneous.

DISMISSAL WITHOUT NOTICE; REFUSAL TO DO WORK OUTSIDE ORDINARY EMPLOYMENT.

A stripper and grinder, who had been discharged without notice by his employer, a cotton manufacturer, for refusing, when ordered by the under-carder, to fix a frame strap on a machine other than that upon which he was engaged, brought an action in the County Court to recover a fortnight's wages in lieu of notice. The rules of the mill made operatives liable to dismissal without notice for "bad conduct or wilful neglect," and on behalf of the employer it was urged that refusal to obey a reasonable order was "bad conduct." On behalf of the plaintiff it was contended that the fixing of frame straps was no part of the work which he was engaged to perform, and it was urged that if a workman were injured in performing work for which he was not engaged, and which was outside his ordinary employment, he could not recover under the Workmen's Compensation Act, and it was stated that for this reason the secretary of the Cardroom Association had notified the members that they must not leave their own work and do things that were not their work. The judge said there was a good deal in the secretary's view of the matter, "because (though doing this work under the direct orders of the under-carder might be held to bring them within the term 'regular employment') the question might arise, where they do it without direct orders, what would happen in the event of an accident." He held that the plaintiff's refusal to do work, which he believed not to be included in the work which he was engaged to do, could not be considered "bad conduct," and did not justify his peremptory dismissal, and he accordingly gave judgment for the plaintiff for the amount claimed, with costs.—*Smith v. Taylor, Blackburn County Court, June 5th.*

State of Nebraska.—The Department has received a copy of the Sixth Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labour and Industrial Statistics of Nebraska, giving various information of a statistical character with regard to the industries and manufactures of that State for the years 1897-98.

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 will be a good demand in New Brunswick, Ontario, and to a still greater extent in Manitoba, for harvest hands during the next few weeks.

New South Wales.—The superintendent of the labour bureau states that there are a considerable number of unemployed persons in Sydney. Some 2,000 men are about to be employed in reducing the gradients on the railways.

Victoria.—The unemployed continue to petition the Government for work. Railway grading, municipal work, and employment on the land are all being considered with the view to help the deserving, and, where money is available, recourse has been had to them. From 5,000 to 7,000 candidates have applied for the 400 vacancies recently open on the railways.

South Australia.—There is no demand for more labour, but harvest prospects are better than they have been for many years, so that farm hands are likely to be well employed. There has also been a marked increase in mining development, more especially in the North in connection with the copper industry; hundreds of men are engaged in prospecting.

Queensland.—There is a good demand for farm and general labourers, carpenters, and female servants.

Western Australia.—The supply of labour offering for the extension works on the Fremantle Harbour is greater than the demand, and no further applications for work are being received. The timber trade is busy, and the increasing number of sawmills is giving plenty of employment. The tin mines at Greenbushes, the smelting works, and tramway construction are providing work for many more. There is a good demand for farm hands. Speaking generally, therefore, prospects are certainly better than they were a year ago, and those who left the colony during the depression are beginning to return. Rents have fallen, and the cost of living has declined.

Tasmania.—The mining industry has been active, and over 6,000 men have been employed; the output of copper on the West Coast has considerably increased, and also the output of gold at Beaconsfield. There is a good demand for railway navvies and female servants, and from December to April for farm hands.

New Zealand.—The building trades are busy at Auckland, Gisborne, Napier, Palmerston North, New Plymouth, Westport, Christchurch, Timaru, Waimatē, Invercargill and elsewhere, but at Wellington many carpenters have been out of employment. The engineering trades are very busy at Christchurch and Dunedin, and fairly busy elsewhere. The boot and clothing trades are busy generally, except the boot trade at Dunedin. Several printers are out of employment at Christchurch. Work for general labourers is not so brisk at this season of the year.

Cape Colony.—A report from Bechuanaland states that there is no work for European mechanics or labourers. In other parts of the colony there are a few openings for skilled mechanics.

Transvaal.—The labour market at Johannesburg is overcrowded, and the number of unemployed is stated to be increasing; persons are warned against going there at the present time.

New Order under Factory and Workshop Acts.—The Factory and Workshop Acts contain a special exception to the effect that the provisions regulating the employment of women shall not prevent the employment, in the non-textile factories and workshops or parts thereof to which the exception applies, of women during a period of employment beginning at 6 a.m. and ending at 8 p.m., or beginning at 7 a.m. and ending at 9 p.m., or beginning at 8 a.m. and ending at 10 p.m., provided that at least two hours are allowed for meals (of which half-an-hour must be after 5 p.m.), and that no woman is so employed on the whole for more than 3 days in any one week, or for more than 30 days in any twelve months; and power is given to the Home Secretary to extend such exception to other classes of non-textile factories and workshops

* And the South African Republic (Transvaal).
† Handbooks with maps on the different Colonies may be obtained from the Emigrants' Information Office at a penny each, post free.

or parts thereof. By an Order dated June 28th, 1899, the Home Secretary has extended this special exception to factories and workshops, or parts thereof, in which the washing of bottles for use in the preserving of fruit is carried on. The Order came into effect on July 1st.

LABOUR ABROAD.

GERMANY.

Employment in June.—According to *Der Arbeitsmarkt*, the state of employment remained extremely satisfactory in June. The proportion, which applications for work bore to offers of situation at the 56 public employment registries, from which comparable returns were received, was 93.6 per cent. (compared with 113 per cent. in June 1898).

Labour Disputes in June.—The same journal notes 52 disputes as having begun in June (compared with 84 in the previous month). Of the new disputes 18 (compared with 21 in May) were in the building trades; 8 (compared with 12 in May) in the woodworking, etc. trades; 9 (compared with 12 in May) in the metal, engineering, etc., trades; 5 (compared with 4 in May) in the textile trades; 1 (compared with 9 in May) in the glass, pottery, brick, etc., group, and 11 (26 in May) in trades not coming within any of the foregoing groups.

BELGIUM.

Strike in the Coal Mining Industry.—The following particulars with respect to the strike in the Belgian coal mining industry (see GAZETTE for May, page 137, and June, page 168) are given in the current number of the journal of the Belgian Labour Department (*Revue du Travail*). The further meetings of the coal mining sections of certain of the councils of industry and labour ordered by the Government took place in the first half of May, in the presence of the officials instructed to attend, when the question of the wages paid was fully discussed, but the employers did not concede any immediate advance. On May 15th, the Committee of the National Federation of Belgian Miners passed a resolution declaring the suspension of the strike, and announcing that it would shortly be resumed, if the employers failed to raise wages in accordance with their promises. This was at once followed by the general resumption of work, the last of the strikers to come in going back to the pits on 23rd May.

Workshop Rules.—By the Belgian law of June 15th, 1896, employers with ten or more employees are bound to have in force a written code of workshop rules, dealing with the points specified in this statute, which must be displayed in the factory, and of which any workman may take a copy; and this requirement may be extended by Royal decree to employers with less than ten employees. By a decree dated May 31st this extension has now been made, so far as concerns employers with five or more employees. Such employers are given until the end of the current year to bring their workshop rules into conformity with the law.

HOLLAND.

The National Labour Secretariat.—This institution was established at the end of 1893 in accordance with a resolution passed at the Brussels Socialist Congress of August, 1891. Its main objects are to bring the various federations, both of general workmen's societies and of trade unions in to touch with one another, so as to facilitate joint action and to collect and distribute information relative to workmen's organisations. (See GAZETTE, March, 1895, pp. 86-7.) The federations and unions affiliated to the Secretariat in February, 1895 (the date to which the first annual report referred), was 22, with an aggregate membership of 25,728. From information published in *Sociaal Weekblad* of June 10, 1899, it appears that in 1896, 41 federations and unions, with 17,533 members; in 1897, 44 federations and unions, with 15,000 members; and in 1898, 40 federations and unions, with 12,950 members, were affiliated, so that the membership of the affiliated organisations was 26 per cent. less in 1898 than in 1896.

The Secretariat was concerned in 17 labour disputes in 1898, viz., 16 strikes and 1 lock-out, the number of persons who took part in the 16 strikes being given as 2,547. Eight of the strikes lasted less than a week. Seven strikes are stated to have ended entirely in favour of the workpeople, 4 partially in their favour, and 5 in their being completely defeated. The amount spent by the Secretariat in assisting workpeople involved in labour disputes in 1898 was £1,463, the sums received for that purpose amounting to £1,698, of which £508 consisted of obligatory contributions from the affiliated organisations.

* *Revue du Travail*, June, 1899.

AUSTRIA.

Labour Disputes: June 1st to July 4th.—Die Gewerkschaft (the organ of the Austrian Trade Union Central Committee) publishes notices of 33 disputes begun on or after June 1st up till July 4th. Ten of these disputes were in the metal and engineering trades; 6 in the textile trades; 3 each in the building and woodworking trades; 2 each in the clothing, printing, &c., mining, and food, &c., preparing trades; and 3 in trades not coming within any of the foregoing groups. Of the disputes in connection with which particulars are given as to the number involved, the most serious was a strike of 1,350 women in a Government tobacco factory in Budweis against an increase of working time and a reduction of wages.

End of Great Strike in Brünn Woollen Industry.—As a result of a conference brought about mainly through the intervention of the Provincial Governor of Moravia, terms of settlement were agreed to on June 23rd between representatives of the parties to the great strike in the woollen industry at Brünn, already referred to in the GAZETTE, and were accepted on the following day at a general meeting of the strikers. The principal change involved in the terms of the agreement is a reduction of the weekly working hours for the woollen industry of Brünn from 64 to 62½ hours in summer and to 62 hours in winter. Spinners employed on day-wage are, however, to receive an extra penny per day in lieu of the reduction in working time. Die Industrie (the organ of the Federation of Austrian Manufacturers' Associations) states that these spinners number from 1,500 to 1,700. The principal object of the strike, which began on May 2nd, and in which 12,000 workpeople took part, was to obtain a 10 hours' day.

Sunday Labour in Shops in Vienna.—Die Gewerkschaft states that the regulations previously in force in regard to Sunday labour in shops have, so far as concerns Lower Austria, been modified by an Order of June 9th, 1899. Sunday labour in shops has up to now been permitted in Vienna up to 11 a.m. only; by the new Order, which came into effect on Sunday, July 2nd, all labour in shops (except those selling articles of food) is forbidden during the whole of Sunday in the summer months (June 16th to September 30th inclusive).

DENMARK.

The following is based upon information supplied, through the Foreign Office, by Sir E. Fane, H.M. Minister at Copenhagen, under date of June 14th, 1899:—

Lock-out in the Building and other Trades.—In April some 300 joiners in Jutland asked for an advance of wages of ¾d. to 1¼d. an hour on their actual wages of 4d. an hour. At a conference of the employers' and workmen's unions at Copenhagen it was decided that the joiners should continue working for a month at 4d. to 4½d. an hour, and that during the month an endeavour should be made to arrange a compromise. The local unions in Jutland, however, rejected these terms; and the master joiners of Denmark, who were members of the Employers' Association, gave notice of a lock-out to begin on May 2nd; whereupon the strikers declared their willingness to agree to the conditions proposed at the conference. The employers replied that their proposals had been rejected, and that, unless the men resumed work at the old rate of pay, a general lock-out would be declared by the Employers' Union in all branches of the building trade. The joiners refused these terms, and the lock-out began on May 24th, about 30,000 men being thrown out of work, a number raised to about 40,000 by certain other employers in the woodworking, metal, and other trades, as well as in various branches of the building trades also locking-out their employees. The Employers' Union has made arrangements with the manufacturers of chalk, mortar, and cement, who are members of their union, not to deliver materials during the lock-out, in order to prevent the workmen from setting up small industries of their own. The workmen's unions maintain that according to existing agreements recourse should be had to arbitration before declaring a strike or a lock-out. The Employers' Union has replied that the whole question is between their union and the Workmen's Central Union in Copenhagen, whose present organisation enables workmen to disregard the decrees of their own union.

The Employers' Union has laid down the following conditions for the termination of the lock-out: (1) The responsibility of the Central Union of Workmen for

the enforcement among the local unions of agreements between the central organisations of employers and workmen; (2) the recognition of the employers' right to organise the workmen in their factories according to their own judgment; (3) that foremen and heads of gangs must not be members of the workmen's unions; (4) that the date of notices as to agreements respecting the scale of wages and other matters shall be fixed for January 1st in each year, with three months' notice to be given in advance; (5) the settlement of all existing points of dispute in the joinery trade; (6) that neither employer nor employed shall boycott anyone for the part taken in the dispute; (7) the resumption of work by the workmen in the same localities where they were formerly employed; (8) that all workmen's unions shall take part in the final negotiations, whether affiliated to the Central Union or not. On June 12th, a meeting of three representatives from both Unions was held at Copenhagen, under the presidency of a neutral person, to try to arrive at a basis for arbitration, but up to the date of Sir E. Fane's despatch, such a basis had not been found.

According to newspaper reports, the matter came, on June 24th, before the permanent trade court, nine trade unions complaining that the employers had violated agreements entered into not to bring about a strike or lock-out before negotiation. On seven out of nine counts, the court decided that the lock-out, although not a breach of law, was inconsistent with the expectations which the unions were justified in basing on the agreements entered into with the employers. The court offered its services as a court of conciliation, and this offer was accepted by the Workmen's Central Union; the employers, however, were willing to accept it only on terms considered unacceptable by the workmen.

SPAIN.

Strike of Ironworkers in Bilbao district.—Information has been supplied, through the Foreign Office, by Mr. C. S. Smith, H.M. Consul at Bilbao, under date of June 17th, 1899, that at an ironworks in that district a strike began on June 16th, in consequence of the discharge of certain workmen who belonged to trade unions. About 2,200 men were affected. According to a dispatch from the same source, under date of June 19th, the strike had ended, the employers having acceded to the workmen's demands.

UNITED STATES.

NEW YORK STATE.

Amendment of Labour Law.—By two Acts of the Legislature of the State of New York passed, the one on May 10th, the other on May 12th, 1899, and both coming into force immediately, certain amendments are made in the "Labour Law" of 1897 (see GAZETTE, July 1897, pages 202, 203, and June 1899, pages 169, 170). The first of these Acts relates to master and journeymen horseshoers, and extends the provisions of the original Act to all cities in the State. The second Act amends the part of the law of 1897 dealing with public work. While under the original law employees upon work done for the State, or a municipal corporation, or for contractors therewith, were permitted to agree to work overtime (in excess of eight hours in a day) for extra pay, such an agreement is now no longer allowed; and it is provided that all contracts, to which the State or any such corporation is a party, shall stipulate that no labourer, workman, or mechanic employed on the contract shall be permitted or required to work more than eight hours in a day except in extraordinary emergencies. As to the remuneration of such labourers, workmen, or mechanics, the original provision for payment to employees engaged on public work of not less than current rates of wages is extended to include employment upon any material to be used upon or in connection with work done under any public contract—the current rates referred to being those prevailing "in the locality within the State where such public work on, about or in connection with

which such labour is performed in its final or completed form is to be situated erected or used." It is further provided that any citizen of the State may maintain proceedings for the suspension or removal of any public official who violates, evades, or knowingly permits the violation or evasion of any of the provisions of the Act, and may maintain an action for cancelling any contract, which by its terms or manner of performance violates the Act, or for preventing the payment of public money for work done under any such contract.

REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

(a) COAL MINING IN JUNE.

In June the average time worked showed a falling off in every district except South Wales and Monmouth* from the high averages of the preceding month. This decline especially affected gas and house coal pits. In some districts the period of employment was shortened by special or local holidays of one or two days duration.

Returns relating to 1,152 pits, at which 391,508 workpeople were employed, show that an average of 5'34 days per week was worked by these pits during the four weeks ended June 24th, as compared with 5'61 days per week in May. The general average does not admit of comparison with that of a year ago, as the Whitsuntide holidays, which are generally observed in England and Wales though not in Scotland, occurred in that period.

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, 1899, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the pits in four weeks ended		
		24th June, 1899.	25th June, 1898.†	20th May, 1899.
England and N. Wales ...	353,593	5'36	4'89	5'62
Scotland ...	37,324	5'21	5'55	5'48
Ireland ...	591	4'72	4'42	5'17
United Kingdom* ...	391,508	5'34	4'95	5'61

From the following table, in which the workpeople are grouped according to the number of days worked at the pits at which they were employed, it will be seen that 81·2 per cent of these workpeople were employed at pits working five or more days per week, as compared with 93·0 per cent. in May:—

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 1899.		Corresponding percentages in—	
	No. of Workpeople employed.	Percentage proportion to total.	June, 1898.†	May, 1899.
24 days (full time) ...	59,849	15'3	4'7	33'9
20 and under 24 days ...	257,948	65'9	55'0	60'1
16 " " 20 " " ...	57,920	14'8	26'2	6'6
12 " " 16 " " ...	11,230	2'9	7'9	0'8
8 " " 12 " " ...	3,304	0'8	2'4	0'2
Under 8 days ...	1,257	0'3	0'6	0'4
Total ...	391,508	100'0	100'0	100'0

A falling off as compared with May is observable in the average time worked in every district included in the table below. It amounted to over half a day per week in Derbyshire and Fife, and to nearly half a day in Staffordshire.

The highest averages during the month were worked in Cumberland (5'67 days per week), Durham (5'56 days) and the Lothians (5'53 days). In the small Irish district the average only amounted to 4'72 days per week, and in Nottingham and Leicester to 4'84 days. In all the remaining districts the average was between 5 and 5½ days per week.

* In June of last year the dispute in the South Wales and Monmouthshire coal trade was in progress, and as this circumstance would disturb the general comparison with June, 1899, this district has been excluded from the general remarks and tables. A separate account is, however, given at the end of the report as to employment in this district.

† Whitsuntide is included in this period.

COMPARISON OF THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED BY COLLIERIES IN JUNE, 1899 AND 1898, AND IN MAY, 1899.

District.	No. employed in June, 1899, 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, 1899 as compared with	
		24th June, 1899.	25th June, 1898.†	20th May, 1899.	A year ago.	A month ago.
ENGLAND & N. WALES		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ...	35,090	5'28	5'11	5'51	+ '17	- '23
Durham ...	88,502	5'56	5'33	5'65	+ '23	- '09
Cumberland ...	6,094	5'67	5'41	5'68	+ '26	- '01
Yorkshire ...	60,978	5'44	4'68	5'76	+ '76	- '32
Lancashire and Cheshire	47,048	5'31	4'72	5'60	+ '59	- '29
Derbyshire ...	37,837	5'21	4'61	5'77	+ '60	- '56
Nottingham and Leicester	25,110	4'84	4'21	5'12	+ '63	- '28
Staffordshire ...	23,730	5'24	4'45	5'70	+ '79	- '46
Salop, Worcester and Warwick	7,857	5'48	4'88	5'82	+ '60	- '34
Gloucester and Somerset	9,280	5'23	4'91	5'43	+ '32	- '20
North Wales ...	12,067	5'49	5'44	5'65	+ '05	- '16
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland ...	21,537	5'27	5'51	5'43	- '24	- '16
The Lothians ...	3,556	5'53	5'71	5'54	- '18	- '01
Fife ...	12,231	5'02	5'57	5'56	- '55	- '54
IRELAND.						
Ireland ...	591	4'72	4'42	5'17	+ '30	- '45
Grand Total & Averages*	391,508	5'34	4'95	5'61	+ '39	- '27

Returns relating to 149 pits in South Wales and Monmouthshire, at which 63,618 workpeople were employed, show that the average number of days worked per week at these pits in the four weeks ended June 24th was 5'87 days, the average in May being 5'83 days per week.

If this district be included with those dealt with in the previous tables, the average for the United Kingdom in June is raised to 5'42 days per week, as compared with 5'64 days in May.

The Exports of coal, coke, cinders, and patent fuel during June amounted to 3,901,804 tons, as compared with 3,942,121 tons in May, and 2,916,975 tons in June, 1898.

(b) IRON MINING INDUSTRY IN JUNE.

In this industry employment continues good on the whole, showing practically no change as compared with May last. No satisfactory comparison can be made with June, 1898, on account of the occurrence of Whitsuntide holidays in that month.

Returns received relating to 130 iron mines and open works show that the average number of days worked by these mines in the four weeks ended June 24th, 1899, was 5'86 per week as compared with 5'83 days per week in May. The number of workpeople employed in June was 17,207, of whom 93·8 per cent. were at mines working 22 or more days in the four weeks. The number employed a year ago was 17,299.

The following table summarises the returns received:

District.	No. employed in June, 1899, 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, 1899, as compared with	
		24th June, 1899.	25th June, 1898.†	20th May, 1899.	A year ago.	A month ago.
ENGLAND—		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	6,169	5'92	5'73	5'87	+ '19	+ '05
Cleveland ...	6,771	5'81	5'77	5'78	+ '04	+ '03
Lincolnshire and Leicestershire ...	708	5'98	5'93	5'82	+ '05	+ '16
Northamptonshire	645	5'96	5'72	5'94	+ '24	+ '02
Staffordshire and Shropshire ...	1,353	5'70	5'30	5'79	+ '40	- '09
Other places in England ...	282	5'46	5'38	5'80	+ '08	- '34
SCOTLAND ...	1,167	5'93	5'06	5'88	+ '87	+ '05
IRELAND ...	112	5'94	5'95	5'85	- '01	+ '09
Total ...	17,207	5'86	5'68	5'83	+ '18	+ '03

(c) PIG-IRON INDUSTRY IN JUNE.

EMPLOYMENT shows a slight falling off as compared with May last, but is considerably better than a year ago, when it was affected to some extent by the dispute in the South Wales coal trade.

† Whitsuntide is included in this period.

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—PIG IRON, IRON AND STEEL, AND TINPLATE INDUSTRIES; SHIPBUILDING.

Returns relating to the works of 113 ironmasters show that 374 furnaces were in blast at these works at the end of June, employing an estimated number of 24,785 workpeople, being 28 more furnaces and 2,124 more workpeople than a year ago, and two furnaces and 32 workpeople less than at the end of May.

Districts.	Present time compared with a year ago.			Present time compared with a month ago.		
	June, 1899.	June, 1898.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in June, 1899.	June, 1899.	May, 1899.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in June, 1899.
ENGLAND & WALES—						
Cleveland ...	98	95	+ 3	98	98	...
Cumberland & Lancs.	51	47	+ 4	51	49	+ 2
S. and S.W. Yorks...	19	19	...	19	19	...
Lincolnshire ...	16	14	+ 2	16	16	...
Midlands ...	99	95	+ 4	99	101	- 2
Glamorgan and Mon.	18	3	+ 15	18	18	...
Other districts ...	8	9	- 1	8	9	- 1
Total England and Wales...	309	282	+ 27	309	310	- 1
SCOTLAND ...	65	64	+ 1	65	66	- 1
Total furnaces included in returns ...	374	346	+ 28	374	376	- 2

The shipments of pig-iron to foreign countries and British possessions from all ports of the United Kingdom during June amounted to 135,157 tons, as compared with 144,963 tons in May, and 93,431 tons in June, 1898.

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

EMPLOYMENT at the end of June was not quite so good as at the end of May, but it continues considerably better than a year ago.

Returns received from 221 works show that they were employing 80,530 workpeople in the week ended June 24th, or 4,513 more than a year ago, but 491 less than in the week ended May 20th. 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, 1899, as compared with	
	June 24th, 1899.	June 25th, 1898.	May 20th, 1899.	a year ago.	a month ago.
England and Wales ...	67,534	64,023	68,320	+3,511	- 786
Scotland ...	12,996	11,994	12,701	+1,002	+ 295
Total ...	80,530	76,017	81,021	+4,513	- 491

Information as to the number of shifts worked has been received with respect to about 88 per cent. of these workpeople, and the particulars are summarised in the table below. The average number of shifts worked was 5.54 in the week ended June 24th, 5.60 in the week ended May 20th, and 5.51 in the week ended June 25th, 1898.

Weekly Number of Shifts worked per Man.

Number of Shifts worked per man.	Number employed in June, 1899, so far as returned.	Percentage proportion to Total.	Corresponding percentage in June, 1898.
Under 5 per week ...	2,856	4.0	5.3
5 " ...	24,276	34.7	35.8
5½ " ...	1,622	2.3	2.5
6 " ...	40,857	57.6	55.0
Above 6 " ...	970	1.4	1.4
Total ...	70,581	100.0	100.0

Assuming that the workpeople not included in the table worked the same number of shifts as those who are included, the total number of shifts worked by all the workpeople included in the first table may be

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

estimated at 446,363 in the week ended June 24th, 453,837 in the week ended May 20th, and 419,211 in the week ended June 25th, 1898.

(e) EMPLOYMENT AT TINPLATE WORKS IN JUNE.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry has further improved, and continues considerably better than a year ago.

At the end of June 52 works, with 259 mills, had all their mills at work, whilst 28 others, with 193 mills, were giving partial employment, 132 of these mills being at work. Thus in all 391 mills were working and giving employment to an estimated number of 19,422 workpeople, as compared with 380 mills, employing 19,101* workpeople, at the end of May, and 325 mills, employing 16,789 workpeople, a year ago.

The following table shows the number of mills and workpeople employed at the works which were giving employment, full or partial,† at each of the three periods:—

	No. of Works open.	No. of Mills in such Works.			Estimated No. of Workpeople employed.
		Working.	Not Working.	Total.	
Works giving full employment	52	259	—	259	12,830
Works giving partial employment	28	132	61	193	6,592
Total at end of June, 1899†	80	391	61	452	19,422
Corresponding Total for May, 1899†	76	380	62*	442*	19,101*
Corresponding Total for June, 1898†	67	385	86	361	16,789

The exports of tinplates and blackplates from the United Kingdom in the months covered by the above table were as follows:—

	Tinplates.	Blackplates
	Tons.	Tons.
June, 1899 ...	22,101	5,809
May, 1899 ...	21,557	11,900
June, 1898 ...	17,782	5,448

(f) SHIPBUILDING.

Tonnage under Construction.‡

ACCORDING to returns compiled by Lloyd's Register there were 568 vessels (excluding warships) of 1,386,367 tons gross under construction in the United Kingdom on 30th June 1899, an increase of 652 tons as compared with the tonnage building at the end of March last, and of 64,299 tons as compared with a year ago. The warships under construction at the Royal Dockyards at the end of June numbered 18, with a displacement tonnage of 166,970 tons, and at private yards 67, with 285,105 tons displacement, making the total tonnage of warships building 452,075 tons as against 434,065 tons at the end of March and 338,285 tons at the end of June 1898.

The following table summarises the above figures:—

Description of Vessels.	Tonnage under construction on			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) at end of June, 1899, as compared with	
	June 30th, 1899.	Mar. 31st, 1899.	June 30th, 1898.	Three months ago.	A year ago.
Merchant Vessels—					
Tons gross ...	1,386,367	1,385,715	1,322,068	+ 652	+ 64,299
War Vessels—					
Tons displacement ...	454,075	434,065	338,285	+18,010	+113,790

* Amended figures.

† The figures in the table 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 in the table are believed to give approximately the total number of works, mills and persons actually employed.

‡ 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.

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

The 568 merchant vessels include 541 steam vessels of 1,382,885 tons, and 27 sailing vessels of 3,482 tons gross, showing in the case of steamships, a decrease of 21 in the number, but an increase of 62,604 tons in the tonnage as compared with a year ago. In the case of sailing vessels, there is an increase of 9 in the number of ships, and of 1,695 tons in the tonnage under construction.

The following table shows the gross tonnage of vessels, other than warships, under construction in each of the principal shipbuilding districts. The figures include 95 per cent. of the total tonnage under construction:—

District.	At			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with	
	June 30th, 1899.	Mar. 31st, 1899.	June 30th, 1898.	Three months ago.	A year ago.
Clyde ...	495,424	508,530	462,431	- 10,106	+ 32,993
Belfast ...	215,069	182,430	193,550	+ 32,633	+ 21,510
Wear ...	170,418	166,092	104,934	+ 1,326	- 24,516
Tyne ...	245,266	257,739	187,923	- 12,473	+ 57,343
Middlesbrough and Stockton	101,958	94,534	103,408	+ 7,424	- 1,450
Hartlepool and Whitby ...	82,348	85,278	89,010	- 2,920	- 6,652
Barrow, Maryport and Workington	10,680	15,400	25,875	- 4,720	- 15,195

It will be observed that as compared with three months ago, the figures show a marked increase in the Belfast district, and a noticeable falling off in the Clyde and Tyne districts. As compared with a year ago, there are large increases in the tonnage building in the Tyne, Clyde, and Belfast districts, but marked decreases in the Wear and Barrow districts.

(g) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN JUNE.

THE Agricultural Correspondent to the Department, on the basis of 230 returns from all parts of England, reports as follows:—Generally speaking, agricultural labourers were fully employed during June. The first three weeks of the month were fine and dry, and very favourable for outdoor work. As a rule the supply of labour was more equal to the demand in June than has been the case for some months. This is chiefly attributed to the backward state of the root crops due to the dry weather, and also to a comparatively light hay crop.

A summary of the changes in the summer wages of agricultural labourers will be found on p. 195.

Northern Counties.—In Cumberland employment is said to be regular in the Unions of Bootle, Carlisle, Cockermouth, Longtown, and Penrith. Reports from Carlisle, Longtown, and Penrith refer to a scarcity of labour. A large employer of labour in the Carlisle Union writes that, owing to the dry weather and fly, the swedes nearly all failed, and the land was resown again with common turnips. Reports from both North and South Westmorland, and also from North Lancashire, state that employment is regular.

A correspondent in the Fylde Union of Lancashire writes that in the earlier part of the month there was not much work for the Irish migratory labourers, as, owing to the dry weather, turnips had to be sown a second time, so there was no singling. Reports from Durham state that all hands are employed in the Unions of Chester-le-Street, and Darlington (Durham and Yorks). In the last-named Union labour is said to be scarce. In Yorkshire employment is said to be regular in the Unions of Beverley, Easingwold, Guisborough, Great Ouseburn, Howden, Malton, Pocklington, Ripon, and Thirsk. In the Howden and Pocklington Unions labour is said to be scarce. A correspondent in the Beverley Union writes that owing to the wet weather in May there were considerable arrears of outdoor work in June which gave continuous employment. An employer in the Ripon Union states that at the beginning of the month the men were well employed bringing up arrears of swede sowing, but that they became slack at the end of the month, because many of the newly-sown swedes did not come up owing to the dry weather and cold nights.

Midland Counties.—Reports from Cheshire state that agricultural labourers are generally well employed in the Unions of Macclesfield, Nantwich, and Tarvin. In the Tarvin Union a few casual hands are said to have lost some days at the end of the month owing to wet weather. It is also stated that Irish labour is scarce in this district this year. Irishmen's wages are, when not

employed at piecework, 16s. to 18s. a week and lodging found. Regularity of work is also reported in Derbyshire in the Unions of Ashbourne, and Hayfield, and in the Derbyshire portion of the Burton-on-Trent Union (Staffs and Derby) and in the Derbyshire portion of the Worksop Union (Derby and Notts). A correspondent in the last-named district writes: "We are short of men, though this last day or two Irishmen have come." In Shropshire agricultural labourers are said to be well employed in the Unions of Bridgnorth, Drayton (Salop and Staffs) Oswestry, Wellington, and Wem. Extra labour is said to be scarce in several districts. Regularity of work is also reported in Staffordshire in the Unions of Leek, Lichfield, Stafford, Tamworth (Staffs and Warwick) and Uttoxeter. An employer in the Uttoxeter, and Lichfield Unions writes: "In consequence of the lateness of hay harvest and the want of plant in turnips, less labour than usual has been required on farms. But every available hand is employed." Agricultural labourers are said to be well employed in Warwickshire in the Unions of Alcester, Atherstone, Coventry, Meriden, and Stratford-on-Avon, in the Warwickshire portion of the Banbury Union (Oxon, Northants, and Warwick), and in Leicestershire in the Unions of Barrow-on-Scar, Loughborough, Melton Mowbray, and Lutterworth (Leicester and Warwick).

In Nottinghamshire employment is said to be regular in the Unions of Bingham, Retford, and Southwell, in Rutland in the Oakham Union, and in Worcestershire in the Unions of Evesham, Martley, and Upton-on-Severn. Reports from the Martley Union state that labour is scarce. Agricultural employment is said to be regular in Oxfordshire in the Unions of Thame, and Witney, in the Oxfordshire portion of the Wallingford Union (Oxon and Berks), and in Northamptonshire in the Unions of Brixworth, Hardingsstone, Kettering, Pottersbury Towcester, and Wellingborough, and in the Northamptonshire portion of the Banbury Union (Oxon, Northants, and Warwick). A correspondent in the Towcester Union writes: "The weather is fine and dry. The crops are light, and consequently so much labour is not required." Reports from Huntingdonshire say that employment is regular in the Unions of Huntingdon, and St. Neots (Hunts and Beds), and in Bedfordshire in the Unions of Bedford, Biggleswade, and Leighton Buzzard, and in a district in the Luton Union. A correspondent in the last-named district writes: "The showery state of the weather has caused a little hindrance with the hay crop, but employment was found among the root crops, so that no irregularity occurred."

Eastern Counties.—Reports from Essex state that employment is generally regular in the Unions of Billericay, Braintree, Colchester, Dunmow, Halstead, Maldon, Ongar, Orsett, Tendring, and Saffron Walden. In several districts the supply of labour is said to be somewhat short. A large employer in the Colchester district writes: "Supply in this district is about equal to the demand. Labourers are scarce in some parts. Farmers are adopting machinery where possible." A correspondent in the Orsett Union, writing as to the supply of labour, says, "Sufficient, owing to fine weather and light crop of hay." Agricultural labourers are said to be generally well employed in Norfolk in the following Unions, namely, Aylsham, Blofield, Depwade, Docking, East and West Flegg, Erpingham, Forehoe, Freebridge Lynn, Guilford, Henstead, Loddon and Clavering, Mitford and Launditch, St. Faiths, Smallburgh, Swaffham, and Thetford. In the Guilford Union a few irregular hands are said to have been out of work for a few days. Several reports from Norfolk state that farmers found the supply of labour equal to the demand, as the dry weather in June affected the root crops, though mangolds are better than swedes, and also the hay crop was generally a light one. A correspondent in the Walsingham Union writes: "There is a very light crop of hay, and as turnips have done badly, it has been a difficulty to find work for the men."

Agricultural labourers in Suffolk are said to be generally well employed in the Unions of Blything, Bosmere and Claydon, Cosford, Hartismere, Hoxne, Mildenhall, Mutford and Lothingland, Plomesgate, Risbridge, Samford, Sudbury, and Thingoe. Several reports refer to a scarcity of labour. A large employer in the Bosmere and Claydon Union writes that "a period of dry weather has made employment good, and both team and manual labour is well in hand." Speaking of the state of the crops as affecting the regularity of employment, he adds: "Mangolds are very promising. Turnips thus far have almost universally been swept off by turnip fly. Hay is a light crop, and much of it well and quickly secured." There is said to be regularity of employment in Cambridgeshire in the Unions of Chesterton, Linton, North Witchford, in the Cambridgeshire portion of the Royston Union (Herts and Cambs), and in the Cambridgeshire portion of the Peterborough

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

Union (Northants, Cambs, Herts and Lincoln). In several districts labour is said to be scarce. A correspondent in the Royston Union writes: "Very short of labour, most men working overtime." In Lincolnshire employment is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Brigg, Caistor, Gainsborough, Grantham, Lincoln, Louth, Spilsby, Sleaford, and Stamford and in the Lincolnshire portion of the Newark Union (Lincoln and Notts). A scarcity of labour is referred to in reports from the Unions of Caistor, Lincoln, Louth, and Sleaford.

Home Counties.—Reports from Buckinghamshire state that employment is regular in the Unions of Aylesbury, Buckingham, Newport Pagnell, and Winslow, and in Berkshire in the Unions of Bradfield, and Wantage. A correspondent in the Bradfield Union states that it is difficult to get sufficient labour. Agricultural labourers are said to be well employed in Surrey in the Unions of Godstone, and Hambledon and in the Surrey portion of the Farnham Union (Hants and Surrey). Agricultural employment in Kent is said to be regular in the Unions of Blean, Eastry, Elham, Faversham, Hollingbourne, Hoo, Sevenoaks, and Tenterden, and in Hertfordshire in the Unions of Buntingford, Hatfield, Hertford, Hitchin, Hemel Hempstead, and Watford. A correspondent in the last-named Union states that the supply of labour is short, and that the young men prefer employment where they can get half holidays and shorter hours.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—Employment in Sussex is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Battle, Chailey, Cuckfield, Hailsham, Horsham, Lewes, Newhaven, Petworth, Rye, and Uckfield. A number of reports from this county refer to a scarcity of hands. A correspondent in the Horsham Union writes: "The hay crop is short, and in many parts of the Union farmers have turned cattle into their fields, the grass not paying for the making into hay. This has to some extent been a relief as regards the labour question." Agricultural labourers in Hampshire are said to be generally well employed in the Unions of Basingstoke, Christchurch, Fareham, Hartley Wintney, Kingsclere, Petersfield, and Stockbridge, and in the Hampshire portion of the Farnham Union (Hants and Surrey). Several reports refer to a scarcity of labour. A large employer in the Stockbridge Union writes: "A light hay crop, but little hoeing and fine weather have enabled employers to get their work done with the hands available." Regularity of work is reported from Dorsetshire in the Unions of Blandford, Bridport, Dorchester, Wimborne and Cranborne, Sherborne, and Wareham and Purbeck, and from Wiltshire in the Unions of Amesbury, Bradford-on-Avon, Chippenham, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett, Devizes, Marlborough, Mere, Pewsey, Warminster, Wilton, and Westbury and Whorwellsdown. In several districts labour is said to be scarce. A correspondent in the Amesbury Union writes: "The hay crop is light and the root crop backward, consequently there is not much demand for labour."

Reports from Gloucestershire state that employment is regular in the Unions of Dursley, Gloucester, Northleach, Stow-on-the-Wold, Thornbury, and Wheatonhurst. Reports from the Unions of Dursley, Gloucester, and Wheatonhurst say that labour is scarce. A large employer in the Stow-on-the-Wold Union states that, though he has sufficient men, there are general complaints from small farmers of a difficulty in getting men for grass cutting. In Herefordshire work is said to be regular in the Unions of Bromyard, Dore (Hereford and Monmouth), Ledbury, and Ross. In most of these districts labour is said to be difficult to obtain. Reports of a favourable character come from Somersetshire from the Unions of Bridgwater, Clutton, Frome, Langport, Taunton, Wells, Wellington, and Wincanton, and from Devonshire from the Unions of Axminster, Barnstaple, Crediton, Holsworthy, Kingsbridge, Tavistock, and Torrington. A correspondent in the last-named Union writes: "Hay crop not up to average, and, consequently, not so much labour as last year required to save it, but mangolds and other root crops coming on well, and need a good deal of labour."

In Cornwall agricultural employment is said to be regular in the Unions of Bodmin, Camelford, Stratton, and Truro.

(h) 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 80 per cent. of the total tonnage of vessels in the foreign trade is entered and cleared) was 38,254, an increase of 3,745 as compared with the number shipped in June 1898, at which time, however, the South Wales ports were affected by the dispute in the coal trade. The returns show that in June last the supply of seamen was generally equal to, or in excess

of, the demand, though the supply of firemen is reported to be scarcely equal to the demand at South Shields and Middlesbrough, while at Leith the supply of able seamen and firemen is said to be somewhat scarce.

During the six months ended June 30th, 1899, the number of men shipped at the ports named in the table was 199,260*, of which number 29,764 (or 15.0 per cent.) were foreigners, as compared with 14.3 per cent. in the corresponding period of 1898. Lascars, who are engaged in Asia, are not included in these figures.

Table showing the number* of men, &c., shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom in June, 1899 and 1898 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, 1899.*			Total in June, 1899.*	Total number shipped in 6 months ended June*	
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in June, 1899.*		1899.	1898.
ENGLAND.						
East Coast.						
Tyne Ports ...	295	4,074	4,279	4,896	18,416	21,728
Sunderland ...	41	540	581	624	2,599	3,721
Middlesbrough ...	14	324	338	433	1,782	1,969
Hull ...	77	1,548	1,625	1,638	7,187	7,807
Grimsby ...	—	70	70	157	486	629
Bristol Channel.						
Bristol ...	—	661	661	659	2,653	2,705
Newport, Mon. ...	82	1,094	1,176	1,169	6,505	4,401
Cardiff ...	617	4,526	5,143	1,808	31,322	22,440
Swansea ...	101	628	729	879	3,664	3,648
Other Ports.						
Liverpool ...	261	11,392	11,653	10,499	62,127	60,282
London ...	656	5,929	6,585	6,842	34,341	36,267
Southampton ...	4	1,456	1,460	1,505	8,821	8,921
SCOTLAND.						
Leith, Kirkcaldy, Methil, and Grangemouth ...	27	723	750	968	3,440	4,763
Glasgow ...	137	2,784	2,921	3,065	13,839	14,514
IRELAND.						
Dublin ...	—	73	73	130	627	609
Belfast ...	35	175	210	287	1,611	1,661
Total, June, 1899	2,277	38,997	38,254	—	199,260	—
Ditto, June, 1898	2,177	32,332	—	34,609	—	196,905

(i) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN JUNE.

EMPLOYMENT at the docks and wharves fell off week by week throughout the month, and was on the average not so good as in May, though better than a year ago.

The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves during the four weeks ended June 24th was 13,862, as compared with an average of 14,251 in the five preceding weeks, and 13,595 in the corresponding period of last year.

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

Period.	Labourers employed in Docks.			Labourers employed at 115 Wharves making Returns.	Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ending June 3	6,321	3,047	9,368	5,723	15,091
" " " 10	5,934	2,789	8,723	5,720	14,443
" " " 17	5,092	2,879	7,971	5,469	13,440
" " " 24	5,021	2,347	7,368	5,343	12,681
Average for 4 weeks ending June 24th, 1899	5,560	2,753	8,313	5,549	13,862
Average for June, 1898	5,685	2,431	8,116	5,479	13,595
Average for May, 1899	6,016	2,587	8,603	5,708	14,311

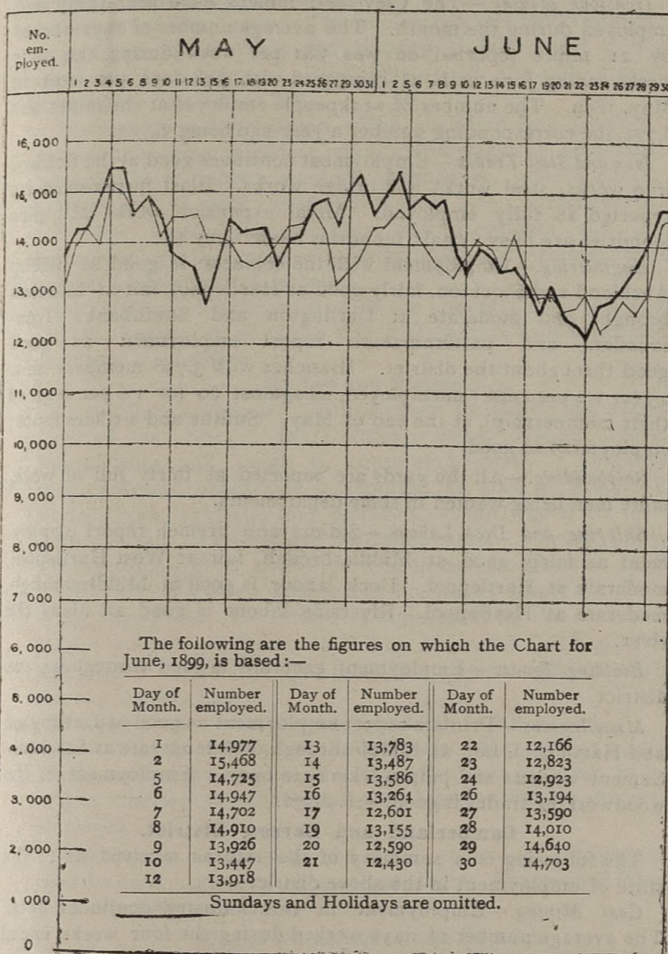
(2) **Daily Fluctuation.**—The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed by all the docks and the principal wharves during May and June is shown on the chart below. The numbers in June ranged from 15,468 on the 2nd to 12,166 on the 22nd.

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

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR; TEXTILE TRADES; LONDON.

During June, 1898, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed varied from 14,630 on the 3rd to 12,315 on the 24th.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks and 115 of the principal Wharves for each day during the months of May and June, 1899. The corresponding curve for May and June, 1898, is also given for comparison.
[The thick curve applies to 1899, and the thin curve to 1898.]



Particulars respecting the employment of other classes of dock and riverside labourers will be found under "District Reports, London," p. 208.

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

According to returns from women correspondents, employment for women during the month showed little change in the cotton trade, and a further improvement in the woollen and worsted trades. Information has been received with regard to 586 cotton, woollen, and worsted mills employing about 100,960 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, disputes, or other causes.
	With Full Employment.	With Partial Employment.		
Cotton Trade—Spinning—				
June, 1899	96	1	1	2
May, 1899	97	1	1	1
June, 1898	90	7	—	3
Cotton Trade—Weaving—				
June, 1899	90	9	1	—
May, 1899	87	11	1	1
June, 1898	74	24	1	1
Woollen and Worsted Trades—				
June, 1899	96	4	—	—
May, 1899	92	4	4	—
June, 1898	71	24	3	2
Total of above Trades—				
June, 1899	93	6	1	—
May, 1899	91	7	2	—
June, 1898	78	19	1	2

Cotton Trade.—Spinning.—The number of women and girls usually employed in cotton spinning mills reported on is 26,940; of these, 96 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 97 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in May, and with 90 per cent. in June, 1898.

Cotton Trade.—Weaving.—The number of women and girls usually employed in cotton weaving factories reported on is 52,480; of these, 90 per cent. were employed in factories 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 74 per cent. in June, 1898.

Woollen and Worsted Trades.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted mills reported on is 21,540; of these, 96 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 92 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in May, and 71 per cent. in June, 1898.

DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

LONDON.

Employment in various Industries.—In all the more important industries employment has remained good. Returns from 447 branches of 109 unions, having an aggregate membership of 74,648, show that 1,849 (or 2.5 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of June, compared with 2.4 in May, and 2.9 per cent. in June, 1898.

Employment in the *Engineering, Metal, and Shipbuilding* trades has remained good, and has slightly improved. Reports from 148 branches of 27 unions, with an aggregate membership of 21,512, show that 390 (or 1.8 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.1 per cent. in April and May. The percentage for June, 1898, was 3.3. Sailmakers have been well employed.

The *Building* trades continue brisk. Returns from 180 branches of 5 unions paying unemployed benefit, with a membership of 11,709, show that 88 (or 0.8 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 0.7 in April and May. The percentage for June, 1898, was 1.0. The bricklayers, stonemasons, carpenters and joiners, and painters and decorators, describe employment as good; the plasterers as fair; the plumbers as moderate; the stonemasons as quiet.

Employment in the *Furnishing* trades still remains brisk. Reports from 48 branches of 12 unions, with a membership of 6,725, show that 47 (or 0.7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with the same percentage last month, and 2.1 per cent. in June, 1898.

Coopers remain busy. Reports from two societies, with a membership of 1,000, show that 6 (or 0.6 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 0.4 in May, and 0.2 per cent. in June of last year.

Coachbuilders and Wheelwrights are still well employed. Returns from 12 branches of 8 unions, with a membership of 1,389, show that 12 (or 0.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with the same percentage last month, and 1.5 per cent. in June, 1898.

The *Printing and Bookbinding* trades are fairly well employed, though the latter is scarcely so busy. Returns from 22 unions with a membership of 23,251, show that 843 (or 3.6 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.5 in May, and 3.0 per cent. in June, 1898.

Employment in the *Clothing* trades has continued good. The West-end bespoke tailors have been busy; the East-end bespoke trade good; the stock trade fair; the contract trade rather quiet; with ladies' tailors and mantle-makers employment has been quiet, as is usual at this season; the military and uniform tailors and tailoresses have only been partially employed. The hatters report employment as good; the fur skin dressers as slacker; the silk-weavers as fair.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—Employment in the West-end handsewn trade has been good; in the East-end sewound trade it has been fair for the season; with boot and shoe operatives also fair.

Employment in the *Leather* trades has remained fair. Returns from 6 unions, with a membership of 1,641, show that 38 (or 2.3 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.5 in May and 3.8 per cent. in June, 1898.

In the *Glass and Pottery* trades, returns from 8 unions, with a membership of 1,467, show that 95 (or 6.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 6.6 in May, and 4.2 per cent. in June of last year.

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—DISTRICT REPORTS—NORTHERN COUNTIES; LANCASHIRE.

Hair, Fibre and Cane Workers.—In these trades returns from 5 unions, with a membership of 914, show that 8 (or 0.9 per cent.) were unemployed, as in May, compared with 16 per cent. in June, 1898.

Gold and Silver Workers are not so well employed. Returns from 7 unions, with a membership of 1,124, show that 30 (or 2.7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 15 in May. The percentage for June, 1898, was 1.9.

Employment in the *Tobacco* trades has remained steady. Returns from 4 unions, with a membership of 2,499, show that 116 (or 4.6 per cent.) were unemployed, as in May. The percentage for June, 1898, was 5.7.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—The average number of labourers employed at all the docks and principal wharves was 13,862 in the four weeks ending June 24th, compared with 14,251 in the preceding five weeks, and 13,595 in June 1898. Employment in mid-stream has been good and steady. Lightermen, stevedores, deal porters and lumpers have had good employment; coal porters moderate employment. Corn porters and winchmen have been slack in the Surrey Docks, moderately well employed in the docks on the north side. The fruit porters in Thames Street have had steady work, the average daily number employed being 338, compared with 345 in May.

ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES.
Tyne and Wear District.

Coal Mining—Northumberland.—Holidays have somewhat interfered with regular working, steam and house coal collieries averaging for the 4 weeks ending June 24th 5.26 and 5.16 days per week respectively as against 5.40 and 5.44 days in May. Out of 22,351 union miners none are unemployed. The 2,226 union colliery mechanics, deputies, engine and firemen, have only one member idle. *Durham.*—A few days have been lost at some collieries through breakages and holidays; the average number of days worked at gas, manufacturing, coking, and house coal pits being 5.33, 5.48, 5.69, and 5.46 respectively, as compared with 5.47, 5.51, 5.74, and 5.20 days in May. The 123 pits employing 62,349 men and boys from which returns are to hand have averaged 5.50 days per week, as against 5.54 days last year. The number of union miners idle through depression is 153, or 0.25 per cent., as against 145, or 0.23 per cent. in May, exclusive of 22 laid off from other causes. Of the 4,908 colliery engine-men, deputies, and mechanics, 10 are unemployed. All classes of coke workers are fully employed.

Metal Mining.—Workmen are being discharged from one or two lead mines in Weardale. Ironstone miners are working less than full time.

Quarrying.—Employment has been active at whinstone quarries; fairly busy at limestone and other quarries.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—On the Tyne.—A number of turners and machine men are idle through a fire. Repair work still remains quiet. Boilermakers, platers, and riveters are busy. These trades with 12,743 members have 465, or 3.6 per cent., unemployed, as against 326, or 2.6 per cent. of their membership in May. *On the Wear.*—Shipsmiths are not quite so brisk. Forgemens are busy. Engine building has been slightly easier. Of the 4,866 union members of these trades, 70, or 1.4 per cent., are out of work, as against 40, or 0.8 per cent. of their membership in May. The drillers and hole-cutters on both rivers have 4.9 per cent. idle. Patternmakers, iron and steel moulders, and shipwrights are fully employed. Of brass finishers 2.2 per cent. are idle. Sailmakers on both rivers are not so brisk. At Newburn steel smelting shops are working double shifts. All plate and angle mills have been fully employed. Chain and anchor makers have worked six shifts per week.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Coal porters and shippers report employment as fuller, trimmers and teamers as good, quay-side labourers and Tyne watermen as fairly steady. The demand for seamen and firemen has been good.

Building Trades.—Masons and bricklayers have none unemployed. The strike of Tyne and Blyth joiners still continues. Painters are fairly busy. Plumbers have 3.3 per cent. unemployed.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress printers on the Tyne are quiet; at Sunderland employment is better. Bookbinders are somewhat easier. Three paper-mills have worked 128 shifts out of a possible 230, two others full time, while four have been busy.

Woodworking Trades.—Millsawyers and machinists report a few idle owing to the joiners' dispute. Upholsterers, cabinet-makers, and lathrenders have all worked full time with the exception of one week. Coopers are busy in Mid-Tyne, but quiet in Newcastle.

Other Metal, Chemical, and Glass Trades.—White lead and copper works continue steadily busy. Chemical and cement factories are

moderately well employed. Bottle-makers are all employed. Pressed glass-makers are still working less than full time.

Fishing.—Fair catches of herring have been landed. The supply of white fish has been good; prices, however, are reported as lower.—*J. Ratcliffe.*

Middlesbrough, Stockton, and District.

Ironstone Mining.—The Cleveland miners have been fairly well employed during the month. The average number of days worked by 21 mines reported on was 5.81 per week during the four weeks ending June 20th, as compared with 5.78 days per week in May, 1899. The number of workpeople employed at the mines was 6,771, the corresponding number a year ago being 6,765.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment continues good at the finished iron works, steel works and bridge works. Blast furnacemen are reported as fully employed. Metal expansion works and pipe foundries are busy; chair foundries moderately so.

Engineering.—Employment with the engineers is good at Bishop Auckland and Stockton, fairly good at Hartlepool, fair at Middlesbrough, and moderate at Darlington and Southbank. Ironfounders and patternmakers report employment as good throughout the district. Branches with 3,756 members have 45 (or 1.2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 60 (or 1.6 per cent. of their membership), at the end of May. Smiths and strikers report employment as good.

Shipbuilding.—All the yards are reported as fairly full of work, more men being wanted in some departments.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Sailors and firemen report employment as fairly good at Middlesbrough, fair at West Hartlepool, moderate at Hartlepool. Dock labour is good at Middlesbrough, moderate at Hartlepool. Riverside labour is good all along the river.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is good throughout the district.

Miscellaneous.—Printers report employment as good at Darlington and Hartlepool, fair at Middlesbrough, and moderate at Stockton. Cement-workers and pulp-workers are busy. Employment in the woodworking trades is good.—*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 in this industry continues good. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ending 24th June, at the 20 pits covered by the returns was 5.67 per week, practically the same as in May, 1899 (viz., 5.68 per week). No satisfactory comparison can be made with the days worked in June, 1898, as the Whitsuntide holidays are included in that month. The number of workpeople employed in June, 1899, at these pits was 6,094, the corresponding number a year ago being 6,048.

Iron Mining.—Employment at the Cumberland and North Lancashire iron mines shows an improvement as compared with last month, and is almost equal to full time. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ending June 24th, at the 45 mines from which returns have been received, was 5.92 per week, as compared with 5.87 in May, 1899. The number of workpeople employed at these mines in June, 1899, was 6,169, the corresponding number a year ago being 6,146.

Pig Iron Manufacture.—Employment at the Cumberland and North Lancashire blast furnaces at the end of June shows an improvement as compared with both a month and a year ago. The number of furnaces in blast at the end of June was 51, as compared with 49 in May, and 47 in June, 1898. The estimated number of workpeople employed at the furnaces at the end of June was 3,976, or 49 more than in May, and 318 more than a year ago.

Shipbuilding.—According to the returns of shipbuilding compiled by *Lloyd's Register*, there were 7 vessels other than warships under construction (see note p. 204) in the Barrow, Maryport and Workington district at the end of June, with a gross tonnage of 10,680 tons, as compared with 9 vessels and 15,400 tons gross at the end of March, and 10 vessels and 25,875 tons a year ago. Of warships, 4 were under construction at the end of June, with a displacement of 52,150 tons, compared with 2 vessels with 24,950 tons displacement at the end of March, and 6 with 25,270 tons a year ago.

LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.

Oldham and District.

Cotton Trade.—Spinning.—In Oldham and the adjacent districts employment continues satisfactory. In Rochdale, Ashton-under-Lyne, Mossley, Stalybridge, Dukinfield, Droylsden and Stockport, employment is reported as good, full time being the general rule. The cardroom workers in Oldham and Mossley report employment

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

as good. Slackness still prevails in the twining trade, and a quantity of machinery is stopped. Ring frame spinners and throstle frame tenters report employment as good. *Weaving.*—The power loom overlookers and weavers report employment as moderate in velvets, good in calicoes, bad in fustians. Ball warpers report employment as good, beam and sectional warpers and winders as moderate, reelers as slack.

Woolen and Silk Trades.—The woolen workers report employment as moderate in Rochdale and Millrow districts, and as slightly improving in Stockport. Employment with the silk dressers of Rochdale is reported as bad.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers, iron grinders, and plate and machine moulders report employment as moderate; the patternmakers, tinsplate workers, toolmakers, brassfounders, and boiler-makers as good; gasmeter makers and ironfounders as fair.

Building Trades.—The plumbers and carpenters and joiners, report employment as moderate; bricklayers and plasterers as good; painters and decorators as fair.

Coal Mining.—Employment with the miners is reported as good, full time being worked at the pits in Oldham, Chadderton, Royton, and Shaw.—*T. Ashton.*

Bolton and District.

Cotton Trade.—Spinning.—Employment in Bolton and vicinity is reported as brisk; in Chorley, Bury, Wigan, Heywood, Ramsbottom and Leigh as continuing steady. Employment with cardroom operatives is reported as good in Bolton, Farnworth, Leigh, Tyldesley and Walkden; as fairly good in Chorley, Bury, Wigan, Hindley and Westhoughton. *Weaving.*—Employment continues good in Bolton and immediate district; in Bury, Chorley and Wigan employment is moderately steady.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—Employment in the iron trade in Bolton is reported as good. In Wigan, Heywood, Leigh and Chorley employment is steady. In Bury the machine-making establishments are fairly busy.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is fairly good.

Coal Mining.—In Bolton and district employment continues steady, colliers working on an average five days per week. In Leigh, Wigan, Chorley, Westhoughton, and Hindley miners are steadily employed.

Miscellaneous.—Employment with tanners and leatherworkers remains good; printers, shoemakers, tailors, and general labourers are moderately well employed.—*R. Tootill.*

Blackburn, Burnley and District.

Cotton Trade.—Weaving.—Employment continues good in the Blackburn, Burnley, Darwen, and Preston districts; it is fair in Nelson and Colne, though falling off in the coloured weaving trade. Hardwaste weavers and twisters, drawers, winders, and warpers are fairly well employed. Warp dressers in the Colne, Nelson, and Brierfield districts are reported as being moderately well employed. *Spinning.*—Employment is reported as good at Preston, Blackburn, Accrington, and Darwen. Ring frame spinners and card room workers are in full employment throughout the district. Branches of spinners, twisters, and drawers, and warp dressers, with 4,367 members, have 115 (or 2.6 per cent.) employed, as compared with 118 (or 2.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Building Trades.—Painters and decorators are busy; masons, bricklayers, and joiners are fairly well employed; plumbers moderately so.

Engineering Trades.—Employment in the several branches continues good, overtime being worked in the machine shops.

Mining and Quarrying.—Miners report employment as good at Burnley, Accrington and Townley; stone quarrymen as brisk throughout the district.

Miscellaneous.—Tailors continue well employed. Employment is good with boot, shoe and slipper-makers, letterpress printers and cabinet-makers; fair with calico printers.—*W. H. Wilkinson.*

Manchester and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 21,390 members, have 517 (or 2.4 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 619 (or 2.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers, smiths and strikers in Manchester, Warrington and Northwich report employment as moderate; boiler-makers, ironfounders, brassfounders and machine-workers as good; sheet-metal workers as fair. Wire-drawers and wire-weavers are fully employed, filesmiths moderately so. Iron workers in general in Stockport, Warrington and Macclesfield are fairly busy.

Building Trades.—Stonemasons, bricklayers and fret lead glaziers in Manchester report employment as good; bricklayers in Stock-

port as fair; carpenters and bricklayers in Northwich as moderate; plasterers, concretors and asphalters as fair. Painters throughout the district are busy. Employment in Warrington and Macclesfield is fairly good.

Textile Trades.—Cotton-spinners report employment as moderate; cotton-workers in general are fairly well employed, fustian cutters moderately so. Dressers, dyers and finishers, and bleachers and finishers are busy. Employment in the silk trade has improved.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors in the bespoke department are busy. In the wholesale department they are not quite so busy, but are fairly well employed. Boot and shoe operatives and waterproof garment makers are moderately employed. Ready-made mantle-makers are quiet, umbrella and shirt-makers busy. Employment in the hatting trade on men's felts is bad, on ladies' felts good.

Woodworking and Coach-building Trades.—Coachmakers and coopers in Manchester, Stockport, and Warrington, and cabinet-makers in Warrington are fully employed. The Jewish branch in Manchester is fully employed; the other branches are quiet. French polishers, upholsterers, and wheelwrights are fairly well employed.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress printers report a slight improvement in Manchester; in Stockport and Macclesfield they are quiet. Stereotypers and lithographic printers are fairly busy. Lithographic artists are busy. Bookbinders and machine rulers report employment as dull; pattern card makers as bad.

Transport Trades.—Employment in these trades is fairly good. *G. D. Kelley.*

Liverpool and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Boilermakers and iron-shipbuilders report employment as fairly good; fitters, turners and pattern-makers as moderate; iron and brass-founders, whitesmiths, drillers and holecutters and hammermen as good; shipjoiners and painters as rather quiet; ship scrapers as moderate.

Transport Trades.—Sailors and firemen report employment as fairly good; dock labourers as slack; quay and railway carters as quiet; Mersey flatmen as fair; coal and salt-heavers as moderate.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Cabinet-makers and coachbuilders report employment as good; upholsterers and mill-sawyers as fair; French polishers and coopers as rather quiet.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors and boot and shoe makers continue well employed.

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

Building Trades.—Carpenters report employment as moderate; painters as fairly good. Bricklayers, masons, and plasterers are in demand.

Coal Mining and Quarrying.—Coal miners in the St. Helens district report an average of five days per week. Quarrymen are fully employed.

Glass and Chemical Trades.—Glass bottle-makers report employment as good; glass-makers and flatteners as fair; chemical workers as moderate.—*C. Rouse.*

A report from *Winsford* states that employment in the salt trade has somewhat improved. Iron moulders report employment as fair. At both Winsford and Middlewich employment is moderately good with fustian cutters, moderate in the building trade. Shipwrights and boiler smiths are fully employed. Employment in the chemical trades at Middlewich continues normal.

YORKSHIRE.

Hull and District.

Shipbuilding, Engineering and Metal Trades.—Shipyards building smaller vessels are well employed. Those building larger vessels are less busy. Repair work is only giving moderate employment. The engineers, steam engine makers, machine workers, ironfounders, iron and steel dressers, brassfounders and finishers report employment as good; the smiths and strikers, boiler-makers, drillers and hole cutters, pattern makers, and general labourers as moderate; the braziers and sheet metal workers and sailmakers as bad. Employment generally at Beverley, Goole, Grimsby and Selby is good. At Doncaster it is good with boiler-makers, moderate with engineers, quiet with patternmakers.

Building Trades.—Employment at Hull and to some extent at Selby is affected by the dispute. At Goole and Grimsby it is good.

Transport Trades.—Railway-workers report employment as good; dock labourers as moderate; seamen and firemen as good at Grimsby, fair at Hull and Goole.

Fishing Industry.—The trawl fishermen at Hull report employ-

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

ment as fairly good; the steam fishing vessels, engineers and firemen at Hull as fair; at Grimsby as moderate; the general labourers and curing house workers as fair.

Seed Crushing, Paint, Oil and Colour Works.—In the seed crushing trade employment is slack owing to seasonal causes. The paint, oil and colour works continue busy.

Printing and allied Trades.—The letterpress printers report employment as moderate at Hull, good at Doncaster; the lithographic printers and bookbinders and machine rulers at Hull as moderate.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—The cabinet-makers at Hull report employment as good; the coopers, millsawyers, and wood machinists as moderate; the coachbuilders as good at Hull moderate at Doncaster.

Leather Trades.—The tanners, leather felt and lace makers report employment as fair.

Miscellaneous.—The bakers, Jewish tailors and brushmakers at Hull, and the tailors at Doncaster report employment as good.

W. G. Millington.

Leeds and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 8,295 members have 259 (or 3.1 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 254 (or 3.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—In Leeds and Wakefield employment is good in all branches. At Stanningley the ironfounders and boiler-makers are fairly employed.

Clothing Trades.—The ready-made tailoring operatives are fully employed, but less busy than last month. Bespoke tailors have been fairly well employed, but are slackening. The Leeds boot and shoe factories are steadily employed. At Heckmondwike employment is fairly good.

Textile Trades.—In Leeds employment varies at different factories, but is fair on the whole. Blanket raisers report employment as good; linen workers as fair; willeys and fettlers as moderate. At Wakefield the worsted and cloth mills are fairly employed. At Yeaford and Guiseley employment is rather better.

Building Trades.—Employment in Leeds continues to be affected by the dispute. At Harrogate and Castleford all branches are well employed.

Mining.—The principal pits in Leeds are now working five days per week. Ironstone miners are fully employed. At Pontefract, Castleford and South Kirby employment is good.

Leather Trades.—Tanners are fairly employed; curriers and table-men rather slack; saddlers and harness makers busy.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress printers are fairly well employed; lithographers, bookbinders and machine-rulers moderately employed; paper mill workers busy.

Glass Trades.—Glass bottle-makers at Leeds, Castleford and Wakefield are well employed; flint glassmakers fairly so.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is moderate with brushmakers; good with cabinet-makers, polishers and coachmakers, fair with mill sawyers.—O. Connellan.

Bradford, Huddersfield, and District.

Worsteds Trades.—In Bradford and district the improvement reported has been maintained, and weavers are in demand. Wool-sorters report employment as good. In the woolcombing industry night and day employment is going on. In Huddersfield, Halifax, Keighley, and the Worth Valley employment is considered good.

Woolen Trades.—Employment in the Huddersfield district is still fairly good, overtime and night work being still resorted to. In the heavy woolen trade employment is now considered good in Batley, Dewsbury, and district.

Other Textile Trades.—Employment in the silk trade at Manningham is reported as not quite so good, but at Halifax there is an improvement. Employment in the cotton trade seems to be fairly good. In the carpet trade at Halifax it is better than it has been for a long time.

Dyeing Trades.—The dyers in the Bradford district report employment as good, nearly half their members working overtime; the dyers and finishers in Huddersfield as fair.

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

Building Trades.—Employment remains good throughout the district.

Miscellaneous.—Glass workers and tailors are still busy, whilst employment with printers is fair. With rag and shoddy workers it is improving.—A. Gee.

Sheffield, Barnsley, and Rotherham District.

Iron and Steel Industries.—Employment in all branches throughout the district continues good. Branches with 5,849 members have 70 (or 1.2 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 64 (or 1.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Cutlery and Tools.—Table and butcher knife forgers and grinders, and pen and pocket blade forgers and grinders are quiet; haft and scale pressers, and handle and scale cutters report employment as moderate; other branches as good.

Coal Mining.—Returns from 45 of the principal collieries show an average of 5.58 days per week worked during the month of June.

Other Metal Trades.—The silversmiths report employment as quiet; electro-plate finishers, metal stampers, hollowware buffers and brass workers as moderate; spoon and fork makers as fair; platers and gilders are busy. At Rotherham brass workers are quieter.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Throughout the district employment in these industries continues good.

Building Trades.—All branches continue busy in Sheffield and Rotherham. At Barnsley employment is moderate, the dispute with the masons being only partially settled.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—Cabinet-makers, box and bobbin makers, coach and railway carriage and wagon builders continue busy.

Linen Trade.—Employment is fairly good.

Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailors in Sheffield report employment as good. At Barnsley employment in the tailoring and boot and shoe trades is moderate.

Glass Trades.—Throughout the district the bottle-makers and flint glass workers are busy.

Miscellaneous.—Brickmakers, quarrymen, paper makers, railway servants, and general labourers are well employed; down quilt-makers are slack.—S. Utley.

ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Derbyshire District.

General.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 7,079 members have 98 (or 1.4 per cent.) unemployed, as against 64 (or 0.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Engineering and kindred Trades.—Employment continues good at the locomotive works, in bridge, girder and boiler yards, and with ironfounders, brassmoulders and finishers, stove grate workers, wire drawers, merchant iron rollers, makers of railway materials, malleable iron workers, farriers, iron and steel dressers, blast furnacemen and pipe moulders, and lace machine builders. Cycle workers at Long Eaton report employment as bad.

Coal Mining.—Returns from 77 collieries employing upwards of 34,000 men show an average of 5.3 days' work per week.

Quarrying.—Limestone and chert quarrymen continue well employed.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoe operatives in Derby and Chesterfield are well employed; dress and mantle makers, wholesale garment makers and bespoke tailors report employment as good.

Building Trades.—Employment generally continues good throughout the district.

Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades.—Employment in Derby and Long Eaton continues good with railway carriage and wagon builders; fair with carriage builders in private shops. Coopers at Burton-on-Trent report improvement, and most timber yards are fairly well employed.

Textile Trades.—Employment continues good with cotton operatives and hosiery workers. Surgical bandage makers report employment as good; elastic web weavers as bad; lace workers in Long Eaton and Ilkeston as dull generally; calico printers and engravers and merino and silk workers as good; dyers and bleachers, silk throwsters, and winders and trimming workers as fair.

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

Nottingham and District.

Lace Trade.—Employment on the whole is not quite so good. In the curtain and levers sections it is reported as bad; in the plain net branches busy; in the warp lace branch as only moderate; curtain readers report employment as improved; designers and draughtsmen and card-punchers as good; auxiliary laceworkers

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

and warpers as moderate; female laceworkers as not so busy in fancy department; dyers on best goods as fairly well employed.

Hosiery Trade.—Employment generally is good in nearly every branch throughout the district.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—Employment in lace and hosiery machine building is good; general mechanics are not so well employed. In other branches employment generally is good throughout the district. Branches with 3,000 members have 75 (or 2.5 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 107 (or 3.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Coal Mining.—Returns from 30 pits employing some 16,000 men, show an average of nearly five days per week. Pits in North Notts are working full time; broken weeks are more frequent at pits in South Notts.

Building Trades.—Painters report employment as falling off; plumbers and builders' labourers as moderate; plasterers as busy; other sections as well employed.

Woodworking and Coachmaking Trades.—Employment is good in nearly every branch.

Printing and allied Trades.—Bookbinders and lithographic printers report employment as moderate; letterpress printers as fair; lithographic artists as slack; printers' cutters and assistants as fair.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors report employment as brisk; mantle makers and dressmakers as busy; boot and shoe operatives as fair.

Miscellaneous.—Engine and cranemen and stationary engine drivers report employment as good. Female cigar makers are busy. Bakers and confectioners report a decline.—W. L. Harvatsky.

Leicester and Northampton District.

Boot and Shoe Industry.—Employment is fair at Leicester, Hinckley, Melton Mowbray, and Anstey; good at Northampton, Kettering, Higham, and Rushden; good with army bootmakers at Raunds; slack with clickers and pressmen throughout the district.

Other Clothing Trades.—Employment with ready-made and bespoke tailors is good. Felt and silk hatters, milliners, dressmakers, and corsetmakers are busy; capmakers are slack.

Hosiery and Woolspinning.—Employment in all branches of the hosiery trade at Leicester, Hinckley, and Market Harborough is good. At Loughborough employment is good in the circular rib, half hose, and plain hosiery branches; quiet in the shirt and pants branches. With woolspinners, dyers, and trimmers employment is good.

Elastic Web Trade.—Braid and cordworkers are fully employed; boot gusset web workers are quiet.

Engineering and Cycle Trades.—Employment is good with engineers at Leicester, Rugby, and Loughborough; moderate at Northampton; good with ironfounders and boiler-makers; moderate with tool-makers; engine builders, pattern makers, machine builders, turners and winders are working overtime; cycle makers are busy.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment with stone quarrymen, lime and cement and ironstone workers is good; coalminers in the South Leicestershire collieries are working half time.

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.—Employment with letterpress printers at Leicester, Northampton, and Rugby is moderate; with lithographic printers and bookbinders it is good.

Building Trades.—Employment at Leicester is still unsettled owing to the dispute. Employment with bricklayers at Northampton and Loughborough is good; at Rugby and Hinckley quiet. It is fair with plasterers, painters, carpenters and joiners at Kettering, Rugby, and Hinckley; moderate with plumbers, stone-masons, and slaters throughout the district.

Furnishing and Coachmaking Trades.—Employment is good with cabinetmakers, coachmakers, and car builders at Leicester, Northampton, and Loughborough.

Leather Trades.—Tanners and curriers continue to work full time.

Miscellaneous.—Railway workers report employment as good at Leicester, Northampton, Kettering, and Wellingborough; slack at Rugby. Cigar makers are regularly employed.—T. Smith.

Potteries District.

Pottery Trades.—Employment has further improved. Hollow-ware pressers are averaging fully 5.3 days per week. Sanitary pressers report an improvement, full time being general. Flat-pressers continue well employed. Printers and transferrers are working 5.3 days a week. Women gilders and decorators, men artists, and throwers and turners in the general and furniture trade are moderately busy; a further decline is reported in the electrical department. Designers, modellers, and mould makers, encaustic tile makers, stilt and spur makers, and packers, crate makers and ovenmen are all well employed.

Iron and Steel Trades.—All classes of iron and steelworkers throughout the district continue busy.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers, boiler-makers, and moulders in North Staffordshire and district continue fairly busy. At Crewe and Stafford employment continues good. Copper and brassworkers at Oakamoor and Froghall are fairly busy, overtime being resorted to in the copper wire branch. Agricultural engineers at Uttoxeter and Rugeley continue busy.

Mining and Quarrying.—Colliers and ironstone miners continue well employed, except at Cheadle, where they are only working four turns per week. Stone quarrymen at Alton and Hollington continue busy.

Textile Trades.—At Leek silk-workers report a further improvement. At Congleton silk dressers report employment as good; fustian cutters are working better. At Cheadle, Tean, and Rochester, silk, tape, and cotton operatives report employment as good.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors throughout the district report a decided improvement; boot and shoe makers at Stafford and Stone are moderately busy; corset makers at Uttoxeter and Ashbourne are working well.

Building Trades.—Employment continues good in most towns.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Employment with letterpress printers is only moderate in the Potteries, slack at Crewe, good at Stafford. Lithographic artists and printers are fairly busy. Bookbinders and machine-rulers are well employed.—I. S. Harvey.

Wolverhampton and District.

Iron and Steel Trades.—In South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire employment continues good with steel smelters. The mills and forges throughout the district are fully employed.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Employment is good with engineers, moulders, and boiler, bridge, girder, tank and gasometer makers. There is no improvement in the cycle trade. At Walsall employment in the malleable iron trade is moderate. In Madeley and Coalbrook-Dale employment is good.

Hardware Trades.—Employment is good with makers of tubes, nuts and bolts, iron-fences and hurdles, axles, spring and coach-iron work, stamped hollow-ware, black castings, gunlocks and mortice-locks, and with stampers and piercers. It is moderate with makers of tacks, tips, cut nails, electrical and cycle castings, malleable nails and protectors, builders' ironmongery, hinges, edge-tools and plantation hoes, and also with galvanizers, tinplate-workers and filesmiths. It is quiet with makers of latches and keys, rims and padlocks, spectacle-frames, and also with trapmakers and brass-workers. It is moderate in the ironplate trade at Wolverhampton, Bilston, and the Lye. At Halesowen it is dull with wrought nail-makers, brisk with shoe nailmakers. The chainmakers and strikers at Old Hill, and block chainmakers at Cradley Heath report employment as good. The anchormen at Cradley are fully employed. Anvil and vice-makers at Dudley and district continue slack. The iron and steel forgers at Wednesbury report employment as brisk.

Coal Mining.—Employment on Cannock Chase has seriously fallen off, most pits working 4.3 days per week. At Oldbury, Tipton and Dudley, the pits are averaging four days per week; at Old Hill and Halesowen five days per week. At Tamworth the pits are not so busy; in Shropshire they are working full time.

Building Trades.—Employment is good with bricklayers moderate with other branches.

Glass Trades.—At Wordsley employment with the flint-glass workers is good. With glass bottle-makers at Brierley Hill it is moderate.

Leather Trades.—Employment is good with harness-makers, gig saddlers, and chain, cart-gear, and case hame makers; improved with brown saddlers, moderate with buckle and spring book makers.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the carpet trade is quieter at Kidderminster, brisk at Bridgnorth. The Tamworth tape mills are running full time.

Clothing Trades.—The ready-made and bespoke tailoring departments are exceptionally busy, and in the boot and shoe trade employment is good.—C. Anthony.

Birmingham and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 21,007 members have 411 (or 2.0 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 400 (or 1.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Engineering.—Nine branches of engineers report employment as moderate, two as good; smiths and strikers, pattern-makers and

EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—MIDLAND, E. AND S.W. COUNTIES.

ironfounders as good; toolmakers as fair. In Coventry employment is fairly brisk, at West Bromwich good, and at Redditch fair. Employment in the cycle industry at Coventry is quieter; at Redditch it is only moderate. The motor industry at Coventry is fairly brisk.

Brass and Copper Trades.—Employment in the brass trade is reported as good; in the fender and fire-brass trades as fair. Copper tube workers are reported as brisk, copper wire drawers at some firms as busy.

Jewellers, Silversmiths and Electro-platers.—Jewellers report employment as rather quiet generally; the solid gold chain section is, however, fairly well employed. Electro-plate workers return employment as moderate, with several firms working overtime; the Britannia metal workers as moderate; the plate glass bevellers and silverers as good.

Other Metal Trades.—Bedstead makers, nail and oddside casters, light and heavy steel toy makers and finishers, scalemakers and tube makers return employment as good; matchette makers and finishers, edge tool makers and finishers, iron plate workers, file cutters (by hand) as moderate; tinplate workers, wrought iron and steel hinge makers, file grinders, and wire nail makers as quiet; cut nail makers as fair. At West Bromwich spring makers, nut and bolt workers, iron and hollow-ware makers are reported as being fully employed. Employment in the minor industries of the town is reported as good. At Redditch employment in the needle and fish hook trades is returned as good.

Building Trades.—All sections of the building trades throughout the district are fully employed.

Glass Trades.—The flint glass makers and flint glass cutters, again return employment as good. At West Bromwich glass makers are fairly employed.

Wood-working Trades.—Cabinet-makers, wood-workers and machinists, mill-sawyers and coachmakers return employment as good. Coopers report wet work as good, dry work as slack. Employment in the railway and wagon shops continues quiet.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors return employment as good. Boot and shoe operatives as fair.

Miscellaneous.—Gasworkers and gasfitters report employment as good; brickmakers as quieter; letterpress printers as moderate; harness makers, bridle cutters, and bagmakers as fair; cycle saddlers as quiet; gunmakers as bad. At Redditch, fishing-tackle makers are busy; fancy case-makers quiet. At Coventry, employment in the watch and weaving trades is quiet.—*A. R. Jephcott.*

ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES.

Norfolk and neighbouring District.

Clothing Trades.—Ready-made tailoring operatives and boot and shoe operatives are fairly busy; bespoke tailors, corset, shirt, dress and blouse makers are working full time.

Building Trades.—All branches are busy throughout the district.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Engineers and boiler-makers are fairly busy. Shipwrights and boatbuilders are fairly well employed. Sailmakers are slack.

Fishing Industry.—At Yarmouth and Lowestoft trawl fishing is dull. At Lynn, Wells, Cromer and Sheringham shell fishing is fair.

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

Textile Trades.—Mat and matting weavers are busy; silk and crape factories are on full time; weaving generally is fair.

Woodworking Trades.—Steam joinery workers, cabinet-makers, gate and hurdle makers, upholsterers, French polishers, organ-builders, and coachbuilders are well employed.

Miscellaneous.—Steam flour, oil cake, and saw mills, chemical manure works, mineral water works, confectionery and jam factories are in full swing. Electrical workers, horticultural builders and brickmakers are busy. Navvies and riverside workers generally are busy.—*G. Cleverley.*

Suffolk, Essex and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Employment with the engineers is good throughout the district. Boiler-makers and moulders are fully employed; shipwrights moderately so.

Clothing Trades.—The improvement in employment in the boot and shoe industry has been maintained; with bespoke tailors and wholesale tailoring operatives employment is good. Employment is good with corset-makers at Ipswich; fair at Sudbury.

Textile Trades.—Employment is good with mat weavers and silk-workers.

Building Trades.—Employment is good throughout the district.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Employment is fairly good with letterpress printers; good with lithographers and bookbinders.

Miscellaneous.—Shipping and dock labour have improved at Ipswich; at Harwich and Parkeston employment is good. Employment is reported as good with brickmakers, general labourers, horticultural builders and maltsters.—*R. W. Mather.*

ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES.

Bristol and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 9,504 members have 139 (or 1·5 per cent.) unemployed, as against 89 (or 0·9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the wholesale and bespoke tailoring trades continues good. The silk hatters and glovemakers report employment as quiet. In the boot and shoe trade the majority of the operatives in Bristol have been on three-quarter time. In the Kingswood district employment is moderate.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Branches of ironfounders, boiler-makers, brass workers, iron-plate and tin-plate workers report employment as good; the engineers as fair; the railway coach-makers as moderate; the shipwrights as slack.

Coal Mining.—Employment in the Bristol coalfield is reported as less brisk. In the Forest of Dean employment in the house coal trade is fair, in the steam coal trade good.

Building Trades.—In some branches at Bath and Bristol the demand for labour has slackened, but otherwise employment continues good throughout the district.

Glass Trades.—The glass bevellers and cutters, and glass bottle makers report employment as good.

Woodworking Trades.—The coopers report employment as improving; other branches as good.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The lithographic printers report employment as fair; the bookbinders and machine-rulers as good; the letterpress printers as fair at Gloucester, quiet at Bath, and good elsewhere.

Woollen and Silk Trades.—The textile operatives report employment as good; the silkworkers as busy.

Transport Trades.—The sailors, firemen and dock, and harbour labourers report employment as good; the carters and railroad men as steady.

Miscellaneous.—Marble masons, quarrymen, brick and tile makers, and wheelwrights are busy; harness makers are moderately so; curriers are slack.—*J. Curtis.*

Plymouth and South Western District.

Mining, Quarrying, and China Clay Industries.—In tin and copper mines work is plentiful and increasing. In the granite quarries work continues good in all parts of the district. In the limestone and slate quarries men are fairly employed; china-clay workers report employment as steady, and fully up to the average.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Engineers continue well employed in Plymouth and Devonport, moderately so in the rest of the district. Shipwrights report employment as good in Plymouth and Devonport; fair at Dartmouth and Falmouth. With ironfounders, boiler-makers, and iron and steel shipbuilders employment is good. In Government yards work continues good. Branches with 2,143 members have 8 unemployed, compared with 14 at the end of May.

Building Trades.—Employment is good in Plymouth and Devonport; rather quiet in Torquay, Exeter, and Barnstaple; fair in Tavistock and the Cornish towns.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Employment is fair among letterpress and lithographic printers in Plymouth and Devonport; dull in Torquay and Exeter; moderate in Penzance, Falmouth, and Truro. Bookbinders and machine rulers report employment as steady. At paper mills work continues regular.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Among mill-sawyers and machinists work continues good, and in the cabinet factories and joinery works men are well employed. Polishers and upholsterers are fairly busy.

Clothing Trades.—In both the bespoke and ready-made departments work continues fairly good with tailors; in the factories operatives are busy. Boot and shoe makers report employment as fair.

Dock and Quayside Work.—Employment has been of a fair average character on the quays; in the docks the fruit season (now closed) has made work good.

Fishing Industry.—Fishing operations have been more successful.

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

Miscellaneous.—Government labourers are busy; general labourers, excavators and brickyard workers are well employed. In market and fruit gardens there is plenty of work.—*W. Hedge.*

WALES.

North Wales District.

Mining.—Employment throughout the North Wales coalfield continues good, a slight falling off in the number of days worked being mainly due to a scarcity of wagons. Employment at the lead and blende mines of Denbighshire and Flintshire continues good.

Quarrying.—Employment continues steady at slate quarries, brisk at granite sett quarries. At freestone, limestone and roadstone quarries it has been fully maintained.

Building Trades.—Employment is fair at Wrexham, good at Oswestry.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers at Sandycroft report employment as good; at Ruabon as fair; at Oswestry as moderate. Iron and steelworkers, coachmakers and ironfounders continue well employed.

Clothing and Textile Industries.—Employment in the woollen and tweed industry of Montgomeryshire is fully maintained. The bespoke tailors at Wrexham report employment as fair; at Oswestry and Rhyl as good; at Bangor as moderate.

Brick and Terra-cotta Industry.—Employment is well maintained.—*G. Rowley.*

South Wales District.

Coal Mining.—Returns from Ebbw Vale, Tredegar, Cyfarthfa, Dowlais and Rhymney Valley collieries state that they have been working to their utmost capacity; most of the collieries in the western district have worked regularly. Returns from 80 collieries in the Aberdare, Merthyr, and Rhondda Valleys show that 68 collieries worked full time, and 12 averaged 5·9 days per week.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Works generally are in full swing.

Ship Repairing and Engineering.—Except at Newport, employment at the ports has not been so good. Returns from branches of the engineers, with 2,609 members, show 101 (or 3·9 per cent.) unemployed, as against 52 (or 2·0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May. Boiler-makers return 30 per cent. as unemployed, and shipwrights 40 per cent. General labourers and ship scrapers and painters have not been so well employed.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Coal shipments have been quieter at Barry and Cardiff, but Newport and Swansea report a good average. The iron ore, timber, and pitwood workers have had good employment. Riggers and hoblars have had a quiet month. The shipment of crews has been rather quiet.

Building Trades.—Employment has been interfered with in some districts by disputes. The carpenters and joiners, with 1,515 members, return 40 (or 2·6 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 42 (or 2·8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Miscellaneous.—Fuel workers again report a good month. Metallurgical and chemical workers continue quiet. The wagon-makers and repairers are still idle through a dispute. Lithographic and letterpress printers report employment as moderate.—*T. Davies.*

Tinplate Trade in South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire.—Employment has further improved. At the end of June, 379 mills in this district were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of blackplates), giving employment to an estimated number of 18,882 workpeople, as compared with 368 mills at work, employing 18,604 workpeople at the end of May, and 313 mills employing 16,227 workpeople at the end of June, 1898. For the wages settlement in this trade see page 198.

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh and District.

General.—Branches of societies (excluding the building trades) with 11,388 members have 151 (or 1·3 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 217 (or 1·9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Coal Mining.—Employment continues good. The miners generally are working full time.

Shale Miners and Oilworkers.—Returns from 29 mines employing 3,131 workpeople (as compared with 3,036 in June, 1898) show that 3,131 of these workpeople were in mines working 24 days in the four weeks ended June 24th, 1899.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Branches with 2,269 members have 31 (or 1·4 per cent.) idle, as against 26 (or 1·1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May. Branches in Falkirk with 3,950

members have 18 (or 0·5 per cent.) idle, as against 23 (or 0·6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Shipbuilding.—Branches of boiler-makers and shipwrights with 595 members have 25 (or 4·2 per cent.) idle, as against 64 (or 10·7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Textile Trades.—Employment with woollen spinners and weavers is good in Galashiels, Selkirk, and Hawick. Employment in the hosiery industry is good in Hawick and Selkirk. The carpet weavers in Midlothian report employment as good.

Building Trades.—Employment has been much disturbed during the month by the disputes with the plumbers, and the carpenters and joiners.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Branches with 1,208 members have 12 (or 1·0 per cent.) idle, as against 25 (or 2·1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The seamen and firemen report employment as quiet. The coal porters and dock labourers have been well employed.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Branches with 2,257 members have 32 (or 1·4 per cent.) idle, as against 42 (or 1·9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Miscellaneous.—The settmakers, saddlers, tailors, shoemakers and glass-cutters, report employment as good; the bakers and glass-makers as fair; the curriers as improving.—*J. Mallinson.*

Glasgow and West of Scotland.

Shipbuilding.—Employment continues good. Branches with 13,747 members, return 140 (or 1·0 per cent.) idle, as against 149 (or 1·1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment continues good. Branches with 28,664 members return 537 (or 1·9 per cent.) idle, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of May.

Building Trades.—Employment continues fairly good.

Mining.—In Stirlingshire coal mines are working 11 days per fortnight; in Dumbartonshire 5 days per week. In Ayrshire employment with coalminers is fair, with ironstone miners good. In Lanarkshire employment with coal miners is good. In Renfrewshire employment is still well maintained.

Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailors, mantle-makers, machinists and pressers are busy; ready-made tailoring operatives, boot and shoe operatives and knee boot and shoe makers fairly employed.

Textile Trades.—In Glasgow weavers are fairly well employed. In New Mills and Darvel lace workers are dull. In Kilbirnie and Port Glasgow employment continues good. In Paisley operatives are busy.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as unchanged; lithographic printers as moderate; electrotypers and stereotypers as good; bookbinders as still dull.

Glass Trades.—Flint glass cutters, flint glassmakers, decorative glass workers and bottle-makers are busy.

Miscellaneous.—Spindle and flyer makers, basket-makers, calico engravers, scale beammakers, curriers, saddlers, cork cutters, brush-makers, paviors, settmakers, potters, tobacco pipemakers and finishers, gilders, and labourers are well employed.—*A. J. Hunter.*

Dundee and District.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the jute industry continues satisfactory on the whole. In the linen trade operatives are fully employed.

Coal Mining.—Employment in the Fifeshire coal mines is still good, although interrupted for two or three days by the annual gala. Returns from collieries employing 11,345 workpeople show an average of 50 days per week worked during the four weeks ending 24th June, as compared with 54 days per week in the month of May.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Employment continues moderate in engineering and good in shipbuilding. Branches with 2,367 members give 101 (or 4·3 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 93 (or 3·9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Building and Woodworking Trades.—Employment in the building trades continues fair, but shows some decline; in woodworking trades it is good. Reports from societies with 1,744 members show 24 (or 1·4 per cent.) as idle, as compared with 9 (or 0·5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Dock Labour.—Traffic has been brisk at the harbour, and shore labour has been steadily employed.

Fishing Industry.—The fishing has been prosecuted by the boats which have not gone north to the herring fishing with fair success.

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

Miscellaneous.—The printing and allied trades report employment as fairly good; the tailors as good; boot and shoe makers as moderate; bleachers and floorcloth and linoleum makers as busy.—P. Reid.

Aberdeen and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 6,891 members have 81 (or 1.2 per cent.) idle, as against 96 (or 1.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May.

Quarrying.—The quarrymen, masons and settmakers report employment as good; granite polishers as quiet.

Building Trades.—The masons, carpenters and joiners and painters report employment as good; plumbers as moderate; plasterers as quiet; slaters as fair.

Transport Trades.—The railway servants, dock labourers, and carters report employment as good.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Branches of societies with 1,498 members have 15 (or 1.0 per cent.) unemployed, as against 16 (or 1.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May. All branches report employment as good.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—The boot and shoe operatives, boot and shoe makers, tailors, carpet weavers, and mill and factory workers report employment as good.

Fishing.—In June at the port of Aberdeen trawl and line boats landed 75,979 cwts., with a value of £38,220, a decrease both in quantity and value as compared with May.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress and lithographic printers and bookbinders and machine-rulers report employment as good.

Miscellaneous.—The upholsterers, combmakers, sawmillers, and cabinet-makers report employment as good; saddlers as quiet; bakers as moderate.—W. Johnston.

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is fair, but has been interrupted by the painters' dispute.

Metal Trades.—Work is returned as good with the ironmoulders, electricians, and tin-smiths; fair with the silver-plate workers, whitemen and smiths; moderate with the engineers.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—Work is returned as good with the coachmakers, upholsterers, and cart and wagon builders; fair with the cabinet-makers.

Clothing Trades.—The tailors and bootmakers report employment as good.

Printing and allied Trades.—The letterpress printers report employment as dull; other branches as good.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is good with general labourers; fair with the bottle-makers, rope-makers, paviors and stationary engine-drivers.—J. P. Nannetti.

Belfast and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Branches with 8,652 members have 134 (or 1.5 per cent.) unemployed as against 102 (or 1.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May. The blacksmiths report employment as bad; strikers and helpers, and engineers, iron turners, etc., as moderate; carpenters and joiners, furnishing trades, steam engine-makers, pattern-makers, shipwrights, crane-men, enginemen, and firemen, and general labourers, platers' helpers, etc., as fair; boiler-makers and iron-shipbuilders, drillers and hole-cutters, iron-founders, machine workers, and sheet metal-workers as good.

Linen Trades.—Societies with 4,047 members have 45 (or 1.1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 73 (or 1.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May. The women workers report employment as quiet; flax dressers, flax roughers, yarn dressers and yarn bundlers as fair; beetling enginemen, linen lappers, and hackle and gill makers as good.

Building Trades.—Branches with 2,143 members have 29 (or 1.4 per cent.) unemployed, as against 55 (or 2.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May. The plumbers and mill-sawyers report employment as dull; carpenters and joiners as fair; bricklayers, hodsmen and painters as good.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Societies with 812 members have 10 (or 1.2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 20 (or 2.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May. The coopers report employment as fair; mill-sawyers as dull; cabinet-makers, upholsterers, French polishers, packing-case makers, and coachbuilders as good.

Printing and allied Trades.—Branches with 956 members have 72 (or 7.5 per cent.) unemployed, as against 73 (or 7.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May. The lithographic printers report employment as bad; letterpress printers as dull; book-

binders as moderate; lithographic artists, designers and engravers as fair.

Clothing Trades.—Employment continues fair.

Miscellaneous.—Societies with 1,885 members have 48 (or 2.6 per cent.) unemployed, as against 60 (or 3.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of May. The sailmakers report employment as bad; bakers, butchers, railway servants and municipal employees as fair; carters and locomotive engine-drivers as good.—R. Sheldon.

Cork and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Boiler-makers and iron ship-builders, shipwrights and shipjoiners continue fairly employed. The engineers report employment as good in Cork and Limerick; fair in Waterford.

Building Trades.—Employment is fair throughout the district.

Textile and Clothing Trades.—Employment is reported as good with flax, tweed and feather operatives in Blarney, Millfield and Douglas; fair with tailors and boot and shoe operatives.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Employment in all branches continues fair.

Miscellaneous.—Tramway employees and railway servants report employment as good; corporation and quay labourers as fair; gas workers, coal porters and cork cutters as quiet.—P. O'Shea.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN JUNE.

DURING JUNE 525 fresh applications for work were registered by the eight bureaux (see LABOUR GAZETTE, February, 1899, p. 36) furnishing returns and 699 offers of situations were made by employers; work was found for 160 persons, of whom 104 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers and mothers' helps).

The returns for the London Girls' Friendly Society business agency (by correspondence only) and the Liverpool, Manchester and Edinburgh Bureaux are for the present grouped together in the following table, which shows the work done by the eight bureaux during June:

WORK DONE IN JUNE.			
	No. of Fresh Situations offered by Employers.	No. of Fresh Applications of Work-people seeking Situations.	No. of Workpeople engaged by Employers.
Summary by Bureaux.			
Central Bureau— 60, Chancery-lane	22	66	16
Society for Promoting Training and Employment— 22, Berners-street	25	36	19
Y. W. C. A.— 26, George-street (1) Hanover-square (2)	507 97	294 52	98 7
Other Bureaux	48	77	20
Total of 8 Bureaux	699	525	160
Total in May	894	588	175
Summary by Occupations.			
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc.	24	47	9
Shop Assistants	7	16	—
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc.	92	15	13
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists	—	55	15
Apprentices and Learners	4	5	1
Domestic Servants	495	281	104
Miscellaneous	57	106	18
Total Number in June	699	525	160
Total Number in May	894	588	175

Workmen's Compensation Schemes.—During the period May 12th to July 12th the following schemes have been certified, under the Workmen's Compensation Act, by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies:—Forest of Dean Quarries Mutual Accident Fund, Forest of Dean, Gloucester (450 workpeople affected); Brereton Collieries Mutual Accident Fund, Brereton, Rugeley, Staffs; West Cannock Colliery Mutual Accident Fund, Hednesford, Staffs; Cannock and Leacroft Mutual Accident Fund (Coal Mining), Leacroft, near Cannock; S. Staffordshire and E. Worcestershire Mining District Compensation Fund (Coal Mining); Cannock and Rugeley Colliery Mutual Accident Fund, Hednesford, Staffs; and a scheme affecting persons in dockyards and other Government establishments. These schemes bring the total number now approved up to 68.

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 288, being 167 less than in May, and 38 more than in June, 1898.

In the first group of industries shown in the following table, including railways, mines, quarries, shipping, and factories, and employing 5,372,424 persons (according to the latest available figures), 259 persons were killed, and 7,055 reported injured by accidents in June, as compared with 233 killed and 4,965 reported injured in June, 1898. These figures give one death in June, 1899, for every 20,743 persons employed in those industries. During the six completed months of 1899, 2,248 persons were reported killed and 41,138 injured, as against 1,805 reported killed and 30,409 injured in the corresponding period of 1898.

In the remaining occupations included in the tables, 29 persons were reported killed, and 956 injured, as compared with 17 reported killed and 653 injured in June, 1898.

SUMMARY TABLE.

	Killed.		Injured.		Number Employed according to latest Returns.
	June, 1899.	June, 1898.	June, 1899.	June, 1898.	
Railway Service— Accidents connected with movement of vehicles	27	34	288	291	534,139
Other Accidents	7	1	733	598	
Total Railway Service	34	35	1,021	889	534,139
Mines	72	64	398	327	741,125
Quarries (over 20 feet deep)	6	6	112	104	123,370
Shipping	97	83	199	201	230,372*
Factories	50	45	5,325	3,444	3,743,418
Total of above	259	233	7,065	4,965	5,372,424
Workshops	—	—	21	6	Cannot be stated.
Under Factory Act, 1895, ss. 22, 23	22	12	705	545	
Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	7	5	230	102	

DETAILED TABLE.

	Killed.		Injured.		Total.
	By Accidents connected with Movement of Vehicles.	By other accidents on the Companies' Premises.	By Accidents connected with Movement of Vehicles.	By other accidents on the Companies' Premises.	
Railway Service— Brakemen and Goods Guards	1	48	—	23	1
Engine Drivers	3	22	—	3	54
Firemen	—	40	—	50	90
Guards (Passenger)	1	9	—	7	16
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	6	11	1	93	7
Porters	4	35	—	157	4
Shunters	—	1	—	8	2
Miscellaneous (including Contractors' Servants)	10	77	6	363	16
Total for June, 1899	27	288	7	733	34
Total for June, 1898	34	291	1	598	35

	Underground.		Surface.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
Mines— Explosions of Firedamp	1	19	—	—	1
Falls of ground	32	102	—	—	32
In shafts	5	18	—	—	5
Miscellaneous	22	143	12	56	34
Total for June, 1899	60	342	12	56	72
Total for June, 1898	61	282	18	45	64

	Inside.		Outside.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
Quarries over 20 feet deep Explosives or Blasting	1	8	—	—	1
Falls of ground	2	16	—	—	2
During ascent or descent	—	1	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	1	62	2	25	3
Total for June, 1899	4	87	2	25	6
Total for June, 1898	5	55	1	49	6

	Killed.		Injured.		Total.
	By Wreck or Casualty.	By other Accidents.	By Wreck or Casualty.	By other Accidents.	
Shipping*— On Trading Vessels— Sailing	33	—	16	39	49
Steam	3	3	40	150	43
On Fishing Vessels— Sailing	1	—	3	1	4
Steam	—	—	1	6	1
Total for June, 1899	37	3	60	196	97
Total for 3 months April, 1899, to June, 1899	479	10	189	688	698
Total for 3 months April, 1898, to June, 1898	161	17	202	605	283

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
Factories— (a) Accidents reportable by Certifying Surgeons— Adults	42	1,065	1	159	43
Young Persons	7	495	—	111	7
Children	—	12	—	8	—
Total	49	1,482	1	278	50
(b) Other Accidents— Adults	—	2,984	—	73	—
Young Persons	—	473	—	29	—
Children	—	4	—	2	—
Total	—	3,461	—	104	—
Total Factories— June, 1899	49	4,943	1	382	50
June, 1898	44	3,214	1	230	45

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
Workshops— Adults	—	15	—	2	—
Young Persons	—	3	—	1	—
Children	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	18	—	3	—
Total Workshops— June, 1899	—	5	—	1	—
June, 1898	—	—	—	—	—

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
Factories & Workshops (classified by trades). Textiles— Cotton	1	193	—	139	1
Wool and Worsted	1	73	—	59	1
Other Textiles	—	42	—	28	—
Non-Textiles— Extraction of Metals	4	85	—	—	4
Founding and Conversion of Metals	7	765	—	2	7
Machines, Engines and Engineering	10	1,241	—	1	10
Ship and Boat Building	5	837	—	—	5
Wood	2	141	—	2	2
Chemicals, &c.	3	159	—	7	3
Other Non-Textile Industries	16	1,425	1	147	17
Total June, 1899	49	4,961	1	385	50
Total June, 1898	44	3,219	1	231	45

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
Under Factory Act, 1895, ss. 22, 23 Docks, Wharves and Quays	13	368	—	—	13
Warehouses	1	260	—	2	1
Buildings to which Act applies	8	58	—	1	8
Laundries	—	1	—	15	—
Total for June, 1899	22	687	—	18	22
Total for June, 1898	12	532	—	13	12

	Construction or repair.		Use or Working.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894— Bridges	—	—	1	6	—
Canal	—	2	—	—	—
Railway	5	72	—	—	5
Tramroad	—	—	—	—	—
Tramway	—	1	—	20	—
Tunnel	—	—	—	—	—
Other Works	—	—	—	—	—
Traction Engines	—	—	—	—	—
Total for June, 1899	6	193	1	37	7
Total for June, 1898	4	66	1	36	5

	Construction or repair.		Use or Working.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894— Bridges	—	—	1	6	—
Canal	—	2	—	—	—
Railway	5	72	—	—	5
Tramroad	—	—	—	—	—
Tramway	—	1	—	20	—
Tunnel	—	—	—	—	—
Other Works	—	—	—	—	—
Traction Engines	—	—	—	—	—
Total for June, 1899	6	193	1	37	7
Total for June, 1898	4	66	1	36	5

* 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 (this includes all trading vessels and about a half, say 3,000, of the fishing vessels of 15 tons and upwards). Injuries to members of the crews of

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN JUNE, 1899.

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

Summary.—The changes in rates of wages reported during June were all increases and affected about 51,500 workpeople. The net effect of all the changes on the weekly wages of those affected was an increase of about 1s. 11d. per head.

Increases.—The principal increases were those granted to blastfurnacemen in Cleveland, West Cumberland, and the West of Scotland; to iron and steel and tinplate workers in South Wales; to steel workers at Consett and Jarrow; and to cotton weavers at Todmorden and Rochdale.

Methods of Arrangement.—Changes affecting about 5,200 workpeople were preceded by disputes, causing stoppage of work. Changes affecting about 13,800 workpeople were arranged under sliding scales, and the remaining changes, affecting about 32,500 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople, or were conceded voluntarily by the employers.

Summary for First Six Months of 1899.—For the six months, January to June, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) reported as having received advances or sustained decreases is about 896,700. Of these, 894,400 obtained a net average increase of 1s. 1 1/2d. per head, and 2,300 sustained a net average decrease of 1s. 4 1/2d. per head. The general effect of all the changes was a rise of 1s. 1 1/2d. per week in the wages of the 896,700 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 1899, Approximate Number of workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in full week.

* Exclusive of overtime. † Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade, the weekly rate given in the table is 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. § These are in addition to the Carpenters and Painters whose advances in rates of wages were published in last month's GAZETTE.

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

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which change takes effect in 1899, Approximate Number of workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in full week.

Coal Miners, Northumberland.—Since the close of June, an advance of 5 per cent. to Northumberland miners has been arranged.

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

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN JUNE, 1899.

The changes in hours of labour reported during June affected 2,530 workpeople, whose hours were reduced on an average by 2.66 hours per week. The changes were all decreases.

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which change takes effect in 1899, Approximate number of work-people directly affected, Hours of labour in a full week (Before change, After change), Extent of decrease per week.

PRICES OF COAL AND IRON.

THE average selling prices of coal and iron in certain districts, as ascertained at the last audits, are shown in the following table, in which are also included, for purposes of comparison, the results of the previous audits ;—

Table with columns: Product and District, Number of work-people, Period over which prices were ascertained at last audit, Date from which last audit affects wages, Average ascertained selling price per ton, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in price per ton.

As the result of the ascertainties the Northumberland coal owners have agreed to concede an advance of 5 per cent., and in South Wales, miners' wages have been increased 1 1/4 per cent. under sliding scale.

* Exclusive of overtime. + Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade the weekly hours given in the table are the result of averaging the hours for five summer weeks and two winter weeks.

DIVIDENDS ON PURCHASES PAID BY CO-OPERATIVE DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES.

RETURNS showing the amount and rates of dividend paid to members on purchases in the first quarter of 1899 have been received from 1,134 co-operative retail distributive societies in the United Kingdom with a total membership of 1,438,013.

The returns from the 1,134 societies as grouped in Table I. show that 67.7 per cent. of the total members received dividends on their purchases ranging from 2s. 1d. to 3s. 6d. in the £1, the average dividend for the United Kingdom being 2s. 7.95d. compared with 2s. 7.24d., the average paid by the 919 societies which made returns for the first quarter of 1898.

The total amount paid in dividend to members for the quarter was £1,112,755 in England and Wales, £323,619 in Scotland and £638 in Ireland, or a total for the United Kingdom of £1,437,012, an average of nearly £1 per member.

In Table II. the average rate of dividend paid in the several districts is shown separately. From this it will be seen that as usual, the highest average rate of dividend (3s. 1.48d.) was paid in the Northern Counties of England and Wales, and the lowest (1s. 4.10d.) in the London district, the average for the 878 societies in England and Wales being 2s. 7.37d. compared with 2s. 6.74d. paid by the 723 societies making returns in the corresponding quarter of 1898.

In Scotland the highest average rate (2s. 11.71d.) was paid also in the Northern Counties, the average for the whole of Scotland being 2s. 10.84d. compared with 2s. 9.94d. paid by the 191 societies making returns last year.

I. Dividends classified by Rate per £.

Table with columns: Rates of dividend per £1 of purchases, Number of Societies (England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland, Total), Membership of Societies making returns for 1st quarter of 1899, Percentage for corresponding period of 1898.

II. Dividends classified by Districts.

Table with columns: Districts, No. of Societies, Membership (Number, Percentage of total), Average Dividend (s. d.).

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS IN 1898.

Part I. of the Annual Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Workshops for the year 1898, [C. 9231 of 1899, price 1s. 2d.], containing statistical and other tables, corresponding to the appendices in former annual reports, has now been issued.

LABOUR BUREAUX IN JUNE.

THE ten bureaux furnishing returns registered 1,339 fresh applications for work during June last, as compared with 1,939 in June, 1898. Work was found by these bureaux for 916 persons, a decrease of 159 as compared with a year ago.

The number remaining on the registers at the end of June, 1899, was 1,123, as against 1,542 a year ago.

(I.) Work done in June.

Table with columns: Name of Labour Bureau, No. of Fresh Applications by Workpeople during, No. of Situations offered by Employers during, No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureaux (Engaged by Private Employers, Engaged by Local Authorities).

(II.) Employments found for Workpeople during June, 1899.

Table with columns: Engaged by Private Employers (Men, Lads and Boys, Women and Girls), Engaged by Local Authorities (Men, Lads and Boys, Women and Girls), Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities (Men), Grand Total.

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

Table with columns: Occupation, No. on Register at end of (June, 1899, June, 1898).

* Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities.

PAUPERISM IN JUNE.

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

THE number of persons relieved in 35 selected urban districts of the United Kingdom on one day in the second week of June was 317,247. This corresponds to a rate of 198 per 10,000 of the estimated population of these districts in 1899.

Compared with May, 1899, the total number relieved in the 35 districts has fallen off by 5,817, and the rate per 10,000 of population by 4. All the districts show this decrease except the West Ham and Paisley districts, each of which shows an increase of 1 per 10,000, and Leeds, Hull, Leicester, and Edinburgh, where the rates are unchanged.

Compared with June, 1898, the number relieved has decreased by 9,450, and the rate per 10,000 of population by 8. With five exceptions, all the districts show decreased rates. The most important decreases are in Galway (260 per 10,000), Bristol (39), Newcastle and Stockton and Tees districts (21 each), London, Central (19), Cardiff and Swansea (18), and Wolverhampton (15). Five districts show increases, the largest being in West Ham (9) and Dublin (8 per 10,000).

Table with columns: Selected Urban Districts, Paupers on one day in second week of June, 1899 (In-door, Out-door, TOTAL), Rate per 10,000 of estimated Population, Increase (+) or decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of population as compared with (Month ago, A year ago).

Table with columns: ENGLAND & WALES* (Metropolis, West Ham, Other Districts), SCOTLAND* (Glasgow District, Paisley & Greenock District, Edinburgh & Leith District, Dundee & Dunfermline, Aberdeen, Coatbridge & Airdrie), IRELAND† (Dublin District, Belfast District, Cork, Waterford & Limerick District, Galway District).

Table with columns: ENGLAND & WALES* (Total "Other Districts"), SCOTLAND* (Total for the above Scottish Districts), IRELAND† (Total for the above Irish Districts), Total for above 35 districts in June, 1899.

* 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.

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.

Number and Magnitude.—Fifty-nine fresh disputes were reported as having begun in June, 1899, compared with 94 in May, and 49 in June, 1898.

Trades Affected.—In the building trades 22 disputes took place, involving 3,379 workpeople; mining and quarrying, 9 disputes, involving 5,564 workpeople; metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, 9 disputes, involving 1,452 workpeople; textile trades, 7 disputes, involving 1,026 workpeople; transport trades, 7 disputes, involving 2,110 workpeople; and in other industries, 5 disputes, involving 723 workpeople.

Causes.—Of the 59 new disputes, 42 arose chiefly on wages questions, 9 on questions of the employment of particular classes or persons, and 8 from other causes.

Results.—Thirty-five new disputes, involving 9,804 workpeople, and 31 old disputes, involving 8,459 workpeople, were reported as having terminated. Of the 66 new and old disputes terminated, 12, involving 2,760 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 23, involving 5,459 persons, in favour of the employers; 30, involving 9,744 persons, resulted in a compromise; while in the case of the remaining dispute, involving 300 workpeople, the points in dispute were still under consideration.

Duration of Disputes in Working Days.—The total duration in June of all the disputes, new and old, was about 250,000 working days, compared with 350,000 in May, and 2,445,000 in June, 1898.

Summary for the First Six Months of 1899.—For the six completed months of 1899 the aggregate number of workpeople involved in the 390 disputes which commenced in those months was 80,141, as compared with 170,855 in the 306 disputes reported in the corresponding period of 1898.

Table with 5 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, 1899.

Table for Building Trades (3,379 Workpeople affected) with columns for Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

Table for Mining and Quarrying (5,564 Workpeople affected) with columns for Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

* 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.

TRADE DISPUTES—(continued).

Table with 5 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, 1899.—(continued).

Table for Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades (1,452 Workpeople affected) with columns for Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

Table for Textile Trades (1,026 Workpeople affected) with columns for Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

Table for Transport Trades (2,110 Workpeople affected) with columns for Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

Table for Other Trades (723 Workpeople affected) with columns for Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE JUNE, 1899, AND TERMINATED IN THAT MONTH.

Table for Building Trades (3,741 Workpeople affected) with columns for Locality, Occupation, Number of Workpeople affected, Date when Dispute began, Duration of Dispute in Working Days, Alleged Cause or Object, Result.

* 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.

TRADE DISPUTES—(continued).

Locality.	Occupation.*	Number of Workpeople affected.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
		Directly.	Indirectly.*				
II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE JUNE, 1899, AND TERMINATED IN THAT MONTH.—(continued)							
BUILDING TRADES—(continued).							
Paignton	Carpenters and Joiners	20	...	May 1	41	For advance in wages from 6d. to 6½d. per hour.	Men obtained work elsewhere at the advanced rate.
Dumfries	Stonemasons ... Carpenters and Joiners	140 1,320	...	Mar. 13 Apr. 15	77 63	For advance in wages from 8d. to 9d. per hour ... For advance in wages from 9d. to 9½d. per hour and other alterations in working rules	Standard rate of 8½d. per hour conceded. Demands conceded.
Edinburgh & Leith	Plumbers	496	...	May 15	23	For advance in wages from 5½d. to 6d. per hour, and other alterations in working rules	Advance conceded and other questions amicably arranged (see also p. 198).
Johnstone	Builders' Labourers	30	...	Apr. 18	46	For advance in wages from 5½d. to 6d. per hour and other alterations in working conditions	Wages throughout district advanced to 5½d. from 19 June; plasterers' labourers to receive a further ½d. on 1 Aug.; other matters amicably arranged.
Paisley District	Builders' Labourers and other Building Trade Employees	200	300	May 24	16	Lock-out to bring to an end the strike at Johnstone	
4 Disputes. MINING AND QUARRYING. 1,221 Workpeople affected.							
Normanton	Coal Getters, Fillers and Surfacermen	243	20	1897. Sept. 10	457	Refusal to continue working under arbitrator's award fixing the tonnage rate on introduction of a coal-cutting machine.	Machine workers to be paid by the day, but either party may apply to fix a tonnage rate within twelve months.
Pendlebury	Coal Hewers	50	...	1899. Apr. 26	27	For advance in wages and shorter shifts in a part of the mine where the heat was said to be excessive	Work resumed unconditionally after alterations and repairs.
	Coal Hewers and Other Colliery Workpeople	265	93	May 1	23	In support of hewers involved in previous dispute	
Radstock	Coal Miners, &c.	550	...	Apr. 21	44	For re-instatement of certain men, and because of misunderstanding as to advance in wages	Work resumed on employers' terms.
4 Disputes. METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES. 556 Workpeople affected.							
Todmorden	Ironfounders	17	...	Apr. 22	51	For advance in wages from 3s. to 3s. per week	Men found work elsewhere; one of the two employers subsequently conceded the advance.
Birmingham	Casters, Wire Drawers, Rollers, Labourers, &c.	69	...	1898. Dec. 14	167	Against refusal of firm to rejoin Trade Alliance	Work being carried on by non-union men.
Cwmavon	Copper Smelters, Refinerymen, and Labourers	40	300	1899. May 18	21	For advance in wages of 8d. per ton	Work resumed on old terms.
Glasgow	Ornamental Cast Ironwork Fitters and Labourers	100	30	May 25	8	For advance in wages of 5 per cent. on piece prices and ½d. per hour on time rates	Work resumed at old rates, pending consideration by Employers' Association of union demand for a general advance.
4 Disputes. TEXTILE TRADES. 2,836 Workpeople affected.							
Accrington, Haslingden & District.	Cotton Overlookers, Weavers, &c.	133	2,500	May 31	11	For advance in prices on certain work	Work resumed on old terms, the men agreeing to ask for a meeting with employers' committee.
Delph	Weavers and Other Workpeople	33	83	Mar. 30	57	For maintenance of alleged standard list of prices, withdrawal of a certain notice, and re-instatement of dismissed workmen.	Prices amicably arranged, notice withdrawn, and dismissed workmen re-instated.
Kochdale	Silk and Rhea Fibre Dressers and Other Workpeople	38	30	May 20	26	Dispute as to price to be paid for working certain materials.	Amicable settlement arrived at by compromise.
Galashiels	Woollen Hand-loom Pattern Weavers, &c.	19	...	May 29	21	For advance in rate of payment for overtime	Some men resumed work on previous terms; others replaced.
3 Disputes. OTHER TRADES. 105 Workpeople affected.							
Sunderland	Tailors	9	1	Feb. 20	96	Against proposed reduction in "log" rate from 6d. to 5½d. per hour	Men found work elsewhere.
Leeds	Furniture Polishers	40	...	May 24	10	For advance in wages from 7½d. to 8d. per hour	Advance conceded.
London	Laters, Finishers and Other Boot and Shoe Operatives	35	20	Feb. 20	24	For advance in wages on several classes of work	Shop closed. (See p. 197).

* 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.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—During June 20,780 passengers left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe, as compared with 15,306 in June, 1898.

British and Irish.—Of the 20,780 passengers, 11,500 were of British or Irish origin, an increase of 1,063 as compared with a year ago. For the six completed months of 1899 the number amounts to 67,267, as against 62,233 in the corresponding period of 1898, or an increase of 5,034, chiefly due to a larger number proceeding to the United States. It will also be seen from the following table that the numbers of passengers bound for British North America and South Africa in the six months show a falling off:—

Destination.	June, 1899.		June, 1898.	
	June, 1899.	June, 1898.	June, 1899.	June, 1898.
United States	6,794	6,031	41,795	35,731
British North America	1,906	1,987	8,164	8,733
Australasia	1,037	665	4,719	4,462
South Africa	1,205	1,140	7,894	8,750
Other places	558	614	4,995	4,557
Total	11,500	10,437	67,267	62,233

Foreign.—The remainder of the 20,780 passengers in June, viz., 9,280, were foreigners, or persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being an increase of 4,411 as compared with June, 1898. Those bound for the United States alone numbered 3,049 more than a year ago.

Alien Immigration.—During June 11,856 aliens arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent. Of these, 5,243 were stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, an increase of 2,764 as compared with June, 1898. Those not stated to be on their way to America or other places out of the United Kingdom numbered 6,613,* or 2,019 more than a year ago. The figures for June, 1899 and 1898, and also for the six months ended June in each year, are as follows:—

	June, 1899.		June, 1898.	
	June, 1899.	June, 1898.	June, 1899.	June, 1898.
Aliens not stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom	6,613*	4,594*	29,937*	24,799*
Aliens en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom	5,243	2,479	24,384	16,814
Total	11,856*	7,073*	54,321*	41,613*

* The figures are inclusive of sailors, to the number of 1,095 in June, 1899; 943 in June, 1898; and 6,911 and 6,217 respectively in the six months ended June in each year.

EXAMINATION FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

South-Western District.—An examination for Managers' Certificates of Competency will be held on September 5th, 6th, and 7th, and for Under Managers' Certificates on September 12th, 13th, and 14th, 1899. Intending candidates should communicate on or before September 1st with the Secretary to the Examination Board, Mr. Sydney J. Thomas, Coleford, Glos.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

(Compiled from returns supplied by the Home Office.)

The following table shows the number of cases of lead and phosphorus poisoning (classified by industries) and anthrax reported as having occurred in factories and workshops during June. It will be seen that of the 104 cases of lead poisoning reported in June, 1899, only 20 affected females, as compared with 35 out of 110 cases reported in June, 1898. The china and earthenware industry, and white, red and orange lead works accounted for 58 cases in June, 1898, and for 68 a year ago.

The 104 cases of lead poisoning reported include 5 deaths (3 males and 2 females). The 4 cases of anthrax reported include 2 deaths (males). It should be understood that the fatal cases include all deaths reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not.

Disease and Industry.	Adults.		Young Persons.		Children.		Total.		Grand Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Lead Poisoning—									
China and Earthenware Glass	15	14	—	1	—	—	15	15	30
White, Red and Orange Lead Works	27	1	—	—	—	—	27	1	28
Paints and Colours	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
Smelting	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
File Making	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Coach Making, &c.	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Other Industries	31	2	—	2	—	—	31	4	35
Total Lead Poisoning	84	17	—	3	—	—	84	20	104
Corresponding Total for June, 1898	75	30	—	5	—	—	75	36	110
Phosphorus Poisoning*	1*	—	—	—	—	—	1*	—	1*
Ditto, June, 1898*	13*	—	—	—	—	—	13*	—	13*
Anthrax	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
Ditto, June, 1898	7	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	7

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The following statement has been communicated to the LABOUR GAZETTE by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade:—

The trade returns for the month of June last show a decrease as compared with the corresponding month of 1898 in the value of the imports from foreign countries and British possessions, and in the exports of foreign and colonial merchandise. In the exports of British and Irish produce there is an increase.

The imports for June, 1899, are valued at £38,348,943, a decrease of £683,362 or 1·7 per cent., and the exports amounted in value to £27,531,283, as against £25,030,699 in 1898—an increase of £2,500,584 (or 9·9 per cent.). This increase, however, it should be observed, includes the value of new ships, viz., £521,931, this being the first year for which these exports are shown. Exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures amounted to £21,980,067, an increase of £2,566,371 (or 13·2 per cent.), and foreign and colonial merchandise exported amounted in value to £5,551,216, a decrease of £65,787 (or 1·2 per cent.), as compared with June, 1898.

Imports.—The following table shows the value of the imports for June, 1899, as compared with June, 1898, according to the different categories of merchandise, and the increase or decrease in each case:—

	Month ended June 30th.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1898.	1899.		
Food, Drink and Tobacco	£ 18,026,856	£ 17,248,243	—	778,613
Metals	1,994,529	2,139,977	145,448	—
Chemicals, Dyestuffs, and Tanning Substances	479,388	430,561	—	48,827
Oils	735,273	869,062	133,789	—
Raw Materials for Manufactures	9,377,089	8,859,192	—	517,897
Manufactured and Miscellaneous Articles	8,419,170	8,801,908	382,738	—
Total	£ 39,032,305	£ 38,348,943	—	683,362

The decrease in articles of food and drink is caused chiefly by a falling off in cereals, bacon, hams, mutton, butter, lard, sugar, coffee, currants, and wine. In the case of cereals these show a total diminution of £766,756, wheat, wheatmeal and flour alone, having fallen off to the extent of £541,804, although the quantity imported has increased by 1,342,672 cwt. There are increases in

* The case of phosphorus poisoning reported in June, 1899, did not occur at a lucifer match works. Of the 13 cases reported in June, 1898, 12 were reported from lucifer match works and 1 from other industries.

beef, pork, cheese, fruit, rice, potatoes, and tea. In raw materials for manufactures the principal decreases are found in raw cotton, hemp, jute, silk, wool, gum, bristles, dry hides, and tallow. Caoutchouc, manures, paper-making materials, paraffin, and wood and timber, all show increases.

Exports.—As regards the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures for the month, the following table shows the values for June, 1899, as compared with June, 1898, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

	Month ended June 30th.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1898.	1899.		
Animals living	£ 107,751	£ 86,394	—	21,357
Articles of Food and Drink	1,029,575	1,000,365	—	29,210
Raw Materials	1,715,591	2,346,662	631,071	—
Articles Manufactured and Partly Manufactured, viz.—				
Yarns and Textile Fabrics	7,521,062	8,135,003	613,941	—
Metals, and Articles Manufactured therefrom (except Machinery and ships)	2,810,557	3,361,824	541,267	—
Machinery and Millwork	1,835,996	1,723,886	—	112,110
Ships, new (not registered as British)	—	521,931	521,931	—
Miscellaneous	4,383,164	4,804,002	420,838	—
Total	£ 19,413,696	£ 21,980,067	2,566,371	—

The value of coal, coke and fuel shipped in June, 1899, was £591,705 in excess of the corresponding month of the previous year; of cotton-piece goods, £428,210; linen-piece goods, £84,315; and of woollen and worsted tissues, £82,507. Cotton-yarn fell off to the extent of 4,241,800 lbs. in quantity, and £114,497 in value. In metals, iron, wrought and unwrought, increased by £488,820, and copper, unwrought and wrought, by £121,196.

In the six months ended June 30th, 1899, the imports into the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions were valued at £236,736,876, as compared with £235,995,751 for a similar period of 1898, and the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures amounted in value to £126,521,894 (including £5,213,667, the value of new ships not registered as British and not included prior to 1899) as compared with £112,508,179 for the six months ended June 30th, 1898. The exports of foreign and colonial merchandise for the six months amounted in value to £33,507,317 as compared with £31,973,562 in 1898.

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 during June, 1899, amounted to 3,262,558 tons, and the tonnage cleared in the foreign trade to 3,902,567 tons, as compared with 2,906,308 tons entered and 3,316,447 tons cleared in June, 1898. As regards the coasting trade, the tonnage entered during June, 1899, was 2,690,898 tons, and the tonnage cleared 2,651,796 tons, as against 2,544,990 tons and 2,521,387 tons respectively in June, 1898.

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 the six completed months of the year 1899, with comparative figures for 1898:—

	Month of June		Six months ended June	
	1899.	1898.	1899.	1898.
Imported	Bales. 137,882	Bales. 181,112	Bales. 1,967,803	Bales. 2,267,194
Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns	282,564	230,039	1,641,544	1,677,001
Exported	48,651	39,053	310,723	239,957

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 21 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended July 1st amounted to £6,859,624, an increase of £406,171 (or 6·3 per cent.), over the corresponding period of 1898. The receipts from passenger traffic were £3,233,675, an increase of £171,250, and those from goods and mineral traffic £3,625,949, an increase of £234,921.

Fishery Statistics.—The total value of the fish (including shell fish) landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom during June, was £792,146, an increase of £13,450 as compared with June, 1898. In England and Wales there was an increase of £27,260; while in Scotland and Ireland there were decreases of £9,600 and £4,210 respectively.

Bankruptcies.—The bankruptcies gazetted during June numbered 406, being 34 more than in June, 1898, 75 more than in June, 1897, and 27 more than in June, 1896.

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.			
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
By Owners, Managers, &c.:								
Neglecting to Limewash ...	6	6	5	15	0	2	12	6
Allowing Factory or Workshop to be over-crowded ...	1	1	3	0	0	0	10	6
Neglecting to Fence Machinery ...	15	15	63	7	0	9	15	6
Employing Young Persons without necessary Certificates ...	64	62	40	15	6	25	5	9
Illegal Hours or Times of Employment—								
Before or after the legal hour ...	98	98	37	9	6	37	1	0
During meal times, or without proper intervals for meals ...	21	21	7	5	0	11	6	6
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted ...	33	33	11	4	6	14	3	6
On Sundays or holidays, or children on successive Saturdays ...	12	12	1	10	0	5	4	0
At night ...	23	23	13	3	0	10	10	1
In factory or workshop, and in shop beyond total legal period ...	1	1	0	10	0	0	8	0
Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts, Notices, &c.—								
Not keeping Registers ...	21	20	10	15	0	6	15	6
Not affixing or properly filling up Notices and Abstracts ...	15	15	11	0	0	5	12	0
Not sending Notices required by Act ...	6	6	4	10	0	3	6	6
Not sending Annual Return ...	50	49	28	7	0	17	8	6
Obstructing an Inspector in the execution of his Duty ...	4	2	2	0	0	1	14	0
Prosecutions for Breach of (or not affixing) Special Rules ...	6	6	8	0	0	3	12	0
Prosecutions under Truck Acts ...	8	5	5	9	0	4	10	6
By Workmen:								
Allowing children to clean machinery in motion, &c. ...	1	1	0	10	0	0	16	0
Prosecutions for Breach of Special Rules ...	2	2	1	0	0	0	14	0
Obstructing an Inspector in the execution of his Duty ...	3	3	2	0	0	1	10	6
By Parents:								
Allowing children to be illegally employed ...	3	2	0	2	0	1	5	6
Total for June, 1899 ...	393	383	257	12	6	164	2	4
Total for June, 1898 ...	422	412	368	13	0	194	7	2

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.		
					£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
UNDER THE MINES ACTS.							
By Owners, Managers, &c.:							
	2	1	—	1	1	10	0
By Workmen:							
Safety Lamps ...	7	6	—	1	8	15	6
Shot-firing and Explosives ...	8	8	—	—	11	1	6
Timbering ...	3	3	—	—	2	14	6
Lucifer Matches, Smoking, &c	5	5*	—	—	6	18	0
Riding on Trams ...	15	15†	—	—	6	4	0
Miscellaneous ...	25‡	24‡	—	—	21	12	6
Total for June, 1899 ...	65	62	—	2	58	16	0
Total for June, 1898 ...	48	38	3	7	100	10	6
UNDER THE QUARRIES ACT.							
By Owners, Managers, &c.:							
	1	1	—	—	4	1	0
Total for June, 1899 ...	1	1	—	—	4	1	0
Total for June, 1898 ...	9	9	—	—	22	0	10

III.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

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

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Convic- tions.	Total Penalties.		Total Costs.			
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
By Owners or Masters of Ships:								
Submerging Disc ...	1	1	3	0	0	—		
By Seamen and Others:								
Failure to deliver up Certificate...	1	1	10	0	0	—		
Secreting Wreck ...	1	1	2	10	0	1	0	
By Boarding House Keepers:								
Illegal Boarding ...	2	2	3	10	0	1	18	6
Total for June, 1899 ...	5	5	19	0	0	2	18	6
Total for June, 1898 ...	1	1	2	7	0	2	13	0

* One defendant sentenced to a month's imprisonment with hard labour.

† One case admonished.

‡ One defendant committed for trial at assizes.

§ Including costs.

¶ In one case defendant went to prison for 14 days in default of payment.

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 3 Trade Unions, 4 Co-operative Associations for Distribution, 6 Co-operative Associations for Production, one Miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Society, 2 Building Societies, 52 Friendly Societies, and 40 branches of existing Friendly Societies were added to the Register of the United Kingdom during June. One Trade Union, 5 Industrial and Provident Societies, 12 Building Societies, and 42 Friendly Societies (including 27 branches) are reported to have ceased to exist, to have commenced "winding-up," or to have had registration cancelled, while one Industrial and Provident Society is reported as having amalgamated with another society.

ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

Trade Unions.—*England and Wales.*—Amal. Soc. of Welded Boiler-makers, 3, West View-yard, Boothtown, Halifax; Liverpool Gas Fitters Trade Union, Adelphi-bldgs., Ranelagh-place, Liverpool; United Turners, Machinists and Athletic Wood Workers Trade Union, Crown Tavern, Clerkenwell Green, E.C. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—(A) *Associations for Distribution.*—*England and Wales.*—Seaton Hirst Provident Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Hirst, Morpeth; Barry Mutual Industrial Co-op. Trading and Builders' Soc., Ltd., Glendower House, 43, Tynwydd-road, Barry. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Desertlyn Co-op. Poultry Soc., Ltd., Moneymore, co. Londonderry; Collooney Dist. Co-op. Poultry Soc., Ltd., Collooney, co. Sligo. (B) *Associations for Production.*—*England and Wales.*—Smeaton Creamery Soc., Ltd., The Creamery, Great Smeaton, Northalerton; British Bone Brush Manufacturers', Ltd., 440 Hackney-road, E.; Authors' and Booksellers' Co-op. Equitable Publishing Alliance, Ltd., 151, Strand, W.C. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Enniscorthy Skimming Station, Ltd., Enniscorthy, co. Wexford; Outrath Co-op. Agricultural and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Outrath, Cahir, co. Tipperary; Cloughmills Co-op. Agricultural and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Cloughmills, co. Antrim. (C) *Miscellaneous.*—*England and Wales.*—Melton-road Freehold Land Soc., Ltd., Melton Hotel, Melton-road, Leicester. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Friendly Societies.—(A) *New Friendly Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—Ordinary Friendly, 14; Dividing, 10; Juvenile, 1; Orders, 1; Specially authorised, 4; Working Men's Clubs, 15; *Scotland.*—Orders, 1. *Ireland.*—Specially authorised, 6. (B) *New Branches of existing Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—32. *Scotland.*—8. *Ireland.*—None.

Building Societies.—*England and Wales.*—2. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

Trade Unions.—*England and Wales.*—None. *Scotland.*—Glasgow Harbour Labourers. *Ireland.*—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—*England and Wales.*—Resolutions to Wind-up received: Hinckley Boot Productive Soc., Ltd., John-street, Hinckley; St. Anne's Ind. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 39, Montague-street, Blackburn. Liquidator's Final Return received: Earl Shilton Manufacturing Soc., Ltd., Station-road, Earl Shilton. Dissolved by Instrument: Withington District Produce Supply Association, Ltd., Still House, Withington, Hereford; Aberdulais Mutual Terminable Builders' Soc., Ltd., Aberdulais, Neath. Amalgamated with another Society: Witney Co-op. and Ind. Soc., Ltd.

Friendly Societies.—*England and Wales.*—By instrument of dissolution: Ordinary Friendly, 10; Dividing, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 1. Registry Cancelled: Ordinary Friendly, 1. Dissolved otherwise: Juvenile 1; Branches, 27. *Scotland.*—By instrument of dissolution: Ordinary Friendly, 1. *Ireland.*—None.

Building Societies.—*England and Wales.*—By instrument of dissolution, 4; notice of commencement of dissolution, 2; notice of termination of dissolution, 5; notice of commencement of winding-up, 1. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

H.M. INSPECTORS OF FACTORIES.

Women Inspectors' Department.—*Change of Address.*—The address of the Office is now 66, Victoria-street, London, S.W. (Postage of letters so addressed need not be prepaid.) Office hours, 10.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Evening interviews by appointment.

New Appointments.—Mr. W. H. Beverley, Budleigh, Weston-super-Mare; Mr. T. Brown, 121, West Regent-street, Glasgow; Mr. L. P. Evans, 44, Bolingbroke-grove, Wandsworth-common, S.W.; and Mr. J. Owner, Sanitary and Public Health Department, Town Hall, Spa-road, S.E., have been appointed Inspectors of Factories and Workshops.

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