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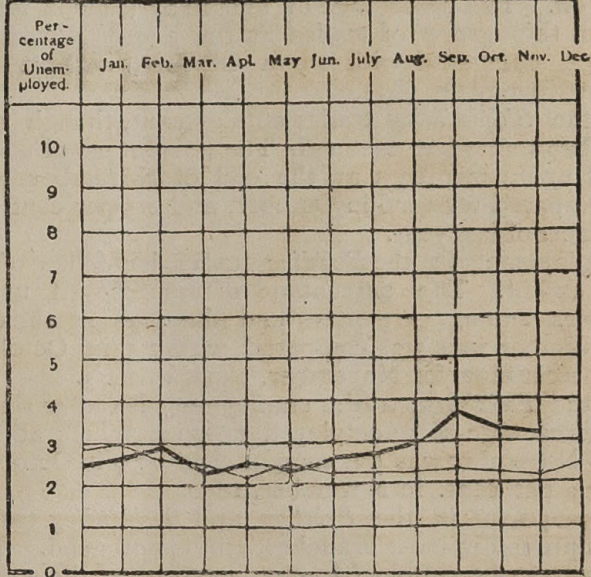
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## EMPLOYMENT CHART, 1899-1900.

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

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



## STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN NOVEMBER.

[Based on 2,439 returns, viz.: 1,708 from Employers, 602 from Trade Unions, and 129 from other sources.]

THE state of employment during November again showed a decline when compared with the corresponding month in 1899. Compared with the previous month there was a further falling off in several of the more important industries, but, owing principally to a continued decrease in the number unemployed in the cotton trade, the percentage returned as unemployed by trade unions showed a slight decline.

In the 138 trade unions making returns, with an aggregate membership of 539,175, 17,515 (or 3.2 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of November, compared with 3.3 per cent. in October, and with 2.2 per cent. in the 123 unions, with a membership of 509,274, from which returns were received for November, 1899.

**Employment in Various Industries.—Coal Mining.—** Employment has declined in this industry, and is worse than in October or than a year ago. At collieries at which 476,435 workpeople were employed, the pits worked on an average 5.45 days per week during the four weeks ended November 24th, as compared with 5.63 days in October, and 5.64 days a year ago.

**Iron Mining.—** Employment continues good, but shows a slight falling off as compared with a year ago. The average number of days worked by 128 iron mines and open works, at which 16,823 workpeople were employed in the four weeks ended November 24th, was 5.74 per week, as compared with 5.78 days in October, and 5.79 days in November, 1899.

**Pig Iron Industry.—** Employment shows a further decline, and is considerably worse than a year ago. At

the works of 117 ironmasters, 341 furnaces were in blast at the end of November, employing about 23,600 workpeople, as compared with 344 furnaces at the end of October and 377 a year ago.

*Iron and Steel Manufacture.*—Employment has continued to decline and is worse than a year ago. At 204 works covered by the returns, employing 79,804 workpeople at the end of November, the total volume of employment (taking into account both the numbers employed and the number of shifts worked) has decreased by 1·6 per cent. as compared with October, and 6·5 as compared with November, 1899.

*Tinplate Trade.*—Employment is practically the same as in October, but is much worse than a year ago. At the end of November 356 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of blackplates), compared with 357 mills at the end of October, and 411 mills at the end of November, 1899. The number of workpeople employed at the mills at the end of November is estimated to be about 17,800.

Employment in the *Engineering and Metal* trades has fallen off. The percentage of unemployed union members in this group of trades at the end of November was 3·4, compared with 2·9 in October, and 2·2 per cent. in November, 1899.

In the *Shipbuilding* trades employment, though still good, has somewhat declined. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of November was 3·6, compared with 2·6 in October, and 2·5 per cent. in November of last year.

Employment in the *Building* trades has fallen off to some extent. The percentage of unemployed union members among carpenters and plumbers at the end of November was 3·3, compared with 2·5 in October. The percentage for November, 1899, was 1·5.

In the *Furnishing* trades employment is rather slack. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of November was 4·2, compared with 3·7 in October, and 2·3 per cent. in November, 1899.

Employment in the *Printing and Bookbinding* trades has improved in most branches, and is now good. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of November was 2·8, compared with 4·5 in October. The percentage for November, 1899, was 2·2.

Employment in the *Paper* trades has remained good, the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of November being 2·3, compared with 2·2 in October, and 2·6 per cent. in November of last year.

In the *Glass* trades the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of November was 9·5, compared with 9·7 in October, and 6·5 per cent. in November, 1899.

Employment in the *Leather* trades has remained good. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of November was 2·4, compared with 2·2 in October, and 1·6 per cent. in November of last year.

Employment in the *Boot and Shoe* trades shows an improvement, but is still quiet in most centres.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the *Tailoring* trade is fair; in the ready-made branches it continues quiet.

Employment in the *Spinning and Weaving* branches of the *Cotton* trade has much improved, and is now fairly good. Information respecting cotton factories employing about 81,100 women and girls shows that 86 per cent. of those in spinning mills and 84 per cent. of those in weaving factories were working in factories giving full employment during the month, compared with 64 and 52 per cent. respectively in October, and with 99 and 90 per cent. respectively a year ago.

In the *Woollen* trade employment continues fair; in the *Worsted and Hosiery* trades it remains bad.

*Agricultural Labourers* were generally well employed, but in some districts a few men, mainly casual hands, lost some time owing to there being a good deal of wet weather.

*Dock and Riverside Labour in London.*—During the four weeks ended November 24th an average number of 18,411 labourers were employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves, as compared with averages of

17,711 in the preceding four weeks and 16,679 in November, 1899.

*Trade Disputes.*—Forty-eight fresh disputes occurred in November, 1900, involving 18,099 workpeople, of whom 12,253 were directly, and 5,846 indirectly, affected. The corresponding number of disputes in October was 30, involving 16,079 workpeople, and in November, 1899, 31, involving 9,707 workpeople. Of the 48 fresh disputes, 6 occurred in the building trades, 16 in the mining and quarrying industries, 9 in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades, 11 in the textile trades, 4 in the clothing trades, and 2 in miscellaneous industries. Of the 43 new and old disputes, involving 14,958 workpeople, of which the termination is reported, 14, involving 6,748 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 9, involving 2,728 persons, in favour of the employers; and 12, involving 3,858 persons, were compromised. With regard to the remaining 8 disputes, involving 1,624 persons, certain points are still under consideration.

*Changes in Rates of Wages.*—During November, 137,738 workpeople obtained advances averaging 6½d. weekly per head, and 11,036 sustained decreases averaging 1s. 7d. weekly per head, the net effect of all the changes being an increase of 4½d. per head in the weekly wages of those affected. The principal increases were in the coal mining industry in South Wales and Monmouthshire, affecting 125,000 workpeople, in the iron and steel trades in the North of England, affecting 5,450 workpeople, and in the felt hat trade in Lancashire and Cheshire, affecting 2,798 workpeople. The principal decreases affected 5,000 coal miners in the Forest of Dean, and 6,000 iron and steel workers in Scotland. Changes affecting 876 workpeople were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work. Changes affecting 134,180 workpeople took effect under sliding scales, and two changes affecting 3,000 workpeople were arranged, one by arbitration, and the other by conciliation. The remaining changes, affecting 10,718 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople, or their representatives.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

The following Table shows the number of cases\* of lead, arsenic and mercurial poisoning and of anthrax reported during November as having occurred in factories and workshops. Of the 102 cases of lead poisoning reported during the month, 31 (all males) occurred in white lead works, and 10 (4 males and 6 females) in the china and earthenware industry, the number of cases in these industries in November, 1899, being 47 and 21 respectively. The deaths of 2 males, 1 from lead poisoning and 1 from anthrax, were reported during the month.

Table with columns: Disease and Industry, Adults (M., F.), Young Persons (M., F.), Total, Total Nov. 1899.

In addition to the cases included above, 11 cases of lead poisoning (including 2 deaths) were reported among house painters and plumbers.

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

STRIKES AND LOCK-OUTS OF 1899.

In the January issue of the LABOUR GAZETTE there appeared an article containing a preliminary summary of the statistics of the strikes and lock-outs of 1899. The Twelfth Annual Report of the Chief Labour Correspondent on Strikes and Lock-outs has now been published,\* and contains a good deal of information not available for the preliminary summary.

General Comparison, 1894-9.

The comparative summary Table given below shows, for the six years, 1894-9, the number of disputes beginning in each year and the total number of workpeople involved, distinguishing those directly on strike or locked-out from those thrown out of work, as a result of trade disputes, but not themselves on strike or locked-out. It also shows the total duration of all the disputes of each year.

Table with columns: Year, No. of Disputes beginning in each year, No. of Workpeople affected by Disputes beginning in each year (Directly, Indirectly, Total), Aggregate duration in Working Days of all disputes in each year.

It will be seen that the number of workpeople involved in disputes in 1899 was less than in any of the five preceding years.

Proportion of Workpeople Affected, and of Days Lost.

The next Table brings out the fact that the total number of persons affected by trade disputes in any one year forms but a small percentage of the total number of persons industrially employed throughout the United Kingdom.

Table with columns: Groups of Trades, Percentage Proportion of Working Population in each industry involved in Disputes in— (1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899), Mean Percentage 1894-99.

It will be observed that during the last six years the mean percentage proportion of workpeople in the mining and quarrying group affected by disputes was 12·8, as compared with 2·9, the average for all the industries included in the Table.

During the period covered by the above Table, agricultural labour and fishing and other seafaring occupations have been scarcely touched by disputes, and if the numbers so employed were included the proportion of the working population concerned in disputes would present a still lower figure.

Small as is the proportion of the working population involved in disputes, the proportion of the total available working time occupied by disputes is much smaller. In the report the number of workpeople covered by the statistics is estimated as 8,300,000, and the aggregate number of working days in the year as 2,500,000,000. The aggregate duration in working days of the disputes of 1899 was 2,516,416, or about one thousandth part of the total. If the average of the years 1894-1899 be taken (7,858,000 days), the working time annually consumed by disputes, if spread over the entire body of workpeople, appears to average only one day per head—

\* [Cd. 316, price 11d.]

an average which would be reduced if agricultural labourers, seamen and fishermen were included.

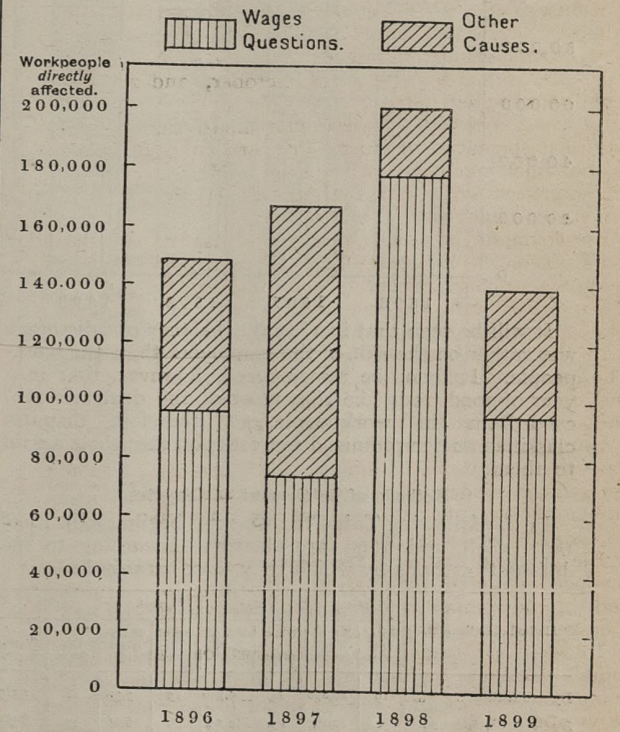
Causes and Results of Disputes.

In the following Table the percentage proportions of workpeople directly engaged in the various classes of disputes are shown for each of the years 1896-99.

Table with columns: Principal Cause, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, per cent. (Wages, Hours of Labour, Employment of particular classes or persons, Working arrangements, Trade Unionism, Other Causes).

It will be noticed that in all the years, except 1897, wages disputes were more than half of the total, and this broad fact is presented in the chart below.

CAUSES OF DISPUTES.



The year which appears to present an exception to the general rule, viz., 1897, includes the great dispute in the engineering trade. This dispute began on a question of hours, but questions of workshop control and the limits of trade union interference were ultimately involved.

The Table below gives the workpeople directly involved in disputes in 1899, classified according to principal cause and the result obtained:—

Table with columns: Principal Cause, Number of Workpeople directly affected by Disputes beginning in 1899, the Results of which were:— (In favour of Work-people, In favour of Em-ployers, Com-promised, Indefinite or Unsettled), Total Number of Work-people directly affected by Disputes beginning in 1899.





## WHAT IS "ENGINEERING WORK"?

In the Act "Engineering work" includes any "work for the construction, alteration, or repair of which machinery driven by steam, water, or other mechanical power is used." A builder was engaged to add an extra storey to a cotton mill. A workman, employed by the builder on this job, met with a fatal accident while at work, and his widow claimed compensation. The County Court judge held that the work in question was engineering work, within the meaning of the Act, because machinery driven by steam was used, and made an award in favour of the widow. On appeal, it was urged, that the machinery used was only a steam winch, and that the use of this winch did not bring the work within the term "engineering work" under the Act. The Court of Appeal, however, held that the County Court judge was right, and dismissed the appeal, with costs.—*Cosgrove v. Partington, Court of Appeal, November 13th.*

## WHAT IS "A SCAFFOLDING"? QUESTION OF FACT FOR ARBITRATOR.

A master plasterer had contracted with the building owner to do the plasterers' work in connection with certain cottages (over 30 feet high). A working plasterer, employed by this master, who, while engaged upon plastering work inside the cottages, met with an accident, claimed compensation from his employer. In order to reach the ceilings and higher parts of the walls this workman constructed a platform by means of two trestles about 4 feet 6 inches high, across which he placed loose boards; on this platform he stood to do his work. The matter was referred by the County Court judge to an arbitrator, who held that the building was not being constructed by means of a scaffolding, within the meaning of the Act, and on this ground made his award in favour of the employer, but stated a case for the opinion of the judge. The judge reversed the decision of the arbitrator on the ground that the case was concluded by the case of *Maude v. Brook* (in which a County Court judge had held a similar arrangement of trestles and boards to be "a scaffolding," and the Court of Appeal had refused to disturb his decision; see *GAZETTE*, February, 1900, p. 40). The employer appealed; and the Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, holding that it was a question of fact for the arbitrator to decide whether the arrangement referred to was "a scaffolding," and that a County Court judge could not properly overrule the finding of an arbitrator on a question of fact if there was any evidence to support it.—*Ferguson v. Green, Court of Appeal, November 14th.*

## "UNDERTAKERS": WHO ARE "OCCUPIERS"?

A workman employed under a ganger by the owners of a ship which was lying alongside a quay in a dock belonging to a railway company loading coal, claimed compensation from his employers for injury by accident while working certain machinery used in putting the coal into the vessel. This machinery was the property of the railway company, but the shipowners' gang had possession and sole control of it for two days until the job on which they were engaged was finished. The machinery was admitted to be a "factory," but the shipowners contended that they were not liable to pay compensation to the injured workman because they were not "the undertakers" within the meaning of the Act. The Act provides that "undertakers" in the case of a factory "means the occupier thereof within the meaning of the Factory and Workshop Acts, 1878 to 1895;" and the shipowners contended that they were not "occupiers" of the machinery in question, and that the expression "such machinery" in the latter part of Section 23 of the Act of 1895 (see above) referred to machinery temporarily used for building work, and not to machinery and plant used in loading or unloading from or to a dock, wharf, or quay. The County Court judge gave an award in favour of the workman, holding that his employers were "occupiers;" and they appealed. But their appeal was dismissed by the Court of Appeal, which held that they were occupiers of the machinery.—*Carrington v. Bannister & Co., Court of Appeal, November 13th.*

In another case compensation was claimed from the owners of a ship, which entered certain docks belonging to a railway company for the purpose of discharging cargo, by the widow of a labourer engaged by the shipowners to assist in discharging cargo from the vessel into lighters. While this workman was in the act of pushing a gangway from the quay on to the ship, he fell between the ship and the dock wall, and was killed. The County Court judge decided in favour of the employers, on the ground that the deceased was killed while being employed on or in or about a ship, and that, therefore, the Act did not apply. The widow appealed, and the employers contended that they were not in "actual use or occupation" (see Section 23 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1895, quoted above) of the quay where the deceased fell, because "actual use" means some sort of exclusive use analogous to occupation, and accordingly they were not "occupiers" of the place where the accident took place, and therefore not the "undertakers" within the meaning of the Compensation Act, and also that the gangway was not "plant." The Court of Appeal was of opinion that the deceased was working on a quay, which was a "factory" within the meaning of the Act, and held that there was no evidence to support the finding that he was employed on or in or about a ship, and that the employers had the actual use of and were the occupiers of the part of the quay where the accident happened, and were, therefore, "the undertakers." The Court also held that the gangway was not plant. The Court allowed the appeal.—*Merril v. Wilson, Sons, & Co., Court of Appeal, November 15th.*

## AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS: CASUAL EARNINGS: DEDUCTIONS.

The amount of compensation under the Act, where total, or partial incapacity for work results from the injury, is a weekly payment during the incapacity after the second week not

exceeding 50 per cent. of the workman's "average weekly earnings during the previous twelve months, if he has been so long employed, but if not, then for any less period during which he has been in the employment of the same employer, such weekly payment not to exceed £1."

A printer's cutter was engaged by a printing company to work for them on Thursday night and on Friday night in every week at the wages of 8s. 8d. for each night, his employment being determinable at a week's notice, and he had so worked for three or four weeks when he was injured by an accident. He was at liberty to work as he chose at other times than on Thursday and Friday nights, and sometimes he did casual jobs for the company, and at other times he worked for other employers. He claimed compensation from the company, and the deputy judge of the City of London Court found, as a fact, that the employment for Thursday and Friday nights was continuous employment under a contract, but that the employment for casual work on other days was not continuous, held that the "average weekly earnings" of the workman, upon which compensation ought to be assessed, were 17s. 4d. a week, and that his casual earnings from the company and his earnings from other employers could not be taken into account, and made an award in his favour of 8s. 8d. a week. The workman appealed, and contended, that the whole of his weekly earnings (and not merely his earnings on Thursday and Friday nights) should be taken into account. The company at the same time gave notice of a cross-appeal, and contended that the workman was not entitled to any compensation because his employment by them was not continuous employment for at least two weeks, so that it was not possible to make an average of his weekly earnings. The Court of Appeal held, that in respect of his employment on two nights a week the workman was in the continuous employment of the company for at least two weeks, and was entitled to compensation on the basis of his average weekly earnings for these two nights (17s. 4d. a week), but that his earnings from other employers, or from the casual work done by him for the company (which was not continuous employment), could not be taken into account in ascertaining his "average weekly earnings."—*Hathaway v. Argus Printing Company, Court of Appeal, November 14th.*

In another case the question at issue was, whether certain deductions habitually made from wages were to be taken into account in fixing the average weekly earnings of a miner who had met with a fatal accident, and whose widow claimed compensation from his employers. The weekly earnings of the deceased were £1 10s. 11d. It was a rule of the colliery that 6d. should be deducted every week from each man's wages in order to pay for the oil which the employers supplied to the men for the lamps with which they worked. The County Court judge made an award in favour of the widow on the basis of the full earnings of the deceased; and the employers appealed, contending that the award ought to have been on the basis of the workman's earnings, less this deduction of 6d. (that is to say, on the basis of weekly earnings of £1 10s. 5d., instead of £1 10s. 11d.). The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal, holding that, although the miner had to supply himself with oil, that fact did not make his weekly earnings less than £1 10s. 11d. by the cost of this oil. He also presumably had to provide himself out of the same sum with boots and clothes and tools, and, perhaps, also to pay travelling expenses. But all this did not make his weekly earnings less than £1 10s. 11d.—*Hutton v. Sutton Heath and Lea Green Collieries Company, Limited, Court of Appeal, November 16th.*

## REVIEW OF COMPENSATION.

With respect to compensation for injury resulting in total or partial incapacity, the Act provides that "in fixing the amount of the weekly payment, regard shall be had to the difference between the amount of the average weekly earnings of the workman before the accident, and the average amount which he is able to earn after the accident," and also that "any weekly payment may be reviewed at the request either of the employer or of the workman, and on such review may be ended, diminished, or increased, subject to the maximum above provided, and the amount of payment shall, in default of agreement, be settled by arbitration under this Act."

A youth, aged 18, who had been apprenticed as a printing machine minder, and was injured by accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, claimed compensation from his employers. At the time of the accident his earnings were 10s. 6d. a week. His average weekly earnings during the preceding twelve months were 7s. a week. By agreement an award of 3s. 6d. a week was made in favour of the apprentice. The nature of the injury resulting from the accident made it impossible for him to become a skilled mechanic, and his indentures were cancelled. He was subsequently employed by the same employers as a labourer at 11s. 2d. a week; and they then applied for a review of the award upon the ground that the youth was earning as much as he earned before the accident. The County Court judge refused to review the award, upon the ground that the youth was earning at least 3s. 6d. a week less than he could have earned if he had not been injured. The employers appealed; and the Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, holding that, as the workman was earning as much as he had earned before the accident, the employers were entitled to have the amount of the award reduced to a nominal sum (one penny per week).—*Pomphrey v. Southward Press, Court of Appeal, November 16th.*

## ENFORCEMENT OF AWARD.

The Act provides that "where the amount of compensation under this Act shall have been ascertained, or any weekly payment varied, or any other matter decided, under this Act, either by a committee or by an arbitrator or by agreement, a memorandum thereof shall be sent in manner prescribed by rules of court, by the said committee or arbitrator, or by any party interested, to the

registrar of the County Court for the district in which any person entitled to such compensation resides, who shall, subject to such rules, on being satisfied as to its genuineness, record such memorandum in a special register without fee, and thereupon the said memorandum shall for all purposes be enforceable as a County Court judgment."

By an award under the Act an employer had been directed to pay to a workman, as compensation under the Act, 2s. 6d. a week. The employer fell into arrear with the payments, so that £2 5s. was due and unpaid. A judgment summons under Section 5 of the Debtors' Act, 1869, was thereupon taken out against him by the workman. The County Court judge, on hearing the summons, said he was satisfied that the employer had had ample means to pay the £2 5s. since it became due, and had refused or neglected to pay it, but held that he had no jurisdiction to commit him to prison, as in his opinion a committal order was not a mode of enforcing a judgment, but was a process for punishing the debtor who had the means, and refused, to pay the judgment debt. He accordingly refused to commit. The workman appealed. On the hearing of the appeal no one appeared for the employer. The Court assumed, without deciding it, that they had jurisdiction to entertain the appeal, which they allowed, on the ground that the process of sending to prison a debtor who had been proved to have had the means to pay a judgment debt, but had failed to do so, was a means of compelling the debtor to obey the judgment of the Court, and accordingly, a committal order, while it might be partly punitive, was a mode of enforcing a judgment, and the memorandum of an award under the Compensation Act could be enforced by committal.—*Bailey v. Plant, Court of Appeal, November 15th.*

## (2) Trade Union Acts.

## INJUNCTION AGAINST TRADE UNION: ACTION NOT MAINTAINABLE.

In connection with a dispute between the Taff Railway Company and its workmen (see *GAZETTE*, September, 1900, p. 259), an action was brought by the company against the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, and against its secretary and organising secretary, the claim being for an injunction and for other relief, which would include damages. The injunction asked for was to restrain the Society and its officers named as co-defendants from watching or besetting, or causing to be watched or beset, the Great Western railway station at Cardiff, or the works of the Taff Vale Company or any of them, or the approaches thereto, or the places of residence, or any place where they might happen to be, of any workmen employed by or proposing to work for that company for the purpose of persuading or otherwise preventing persons from working for that company, or for any purpose except merely to obtain or communicate information, and from procuring any person who might have or might enter into contracts with the company to commit a breach of such contracts. The Amalgamated Society took out a summons to strike out their name as defendants, on the ground that they were neither a corporation nor an individual, and could not be sued in a quasi-corporate or any other capacity. The judge of the Vacation Court refused to strike the Society out of the action, and granted an interim injunction until the trial of the action, restraining the Society in the manner asked for by the company (*ibid.*, pp. 264, 265).

The Society appealed against this decision; and the Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, with costs in that Court and in the Court below. The Court held that nothing in the Trade Union Acts made a Trade Union liable to be sued in its registered name, so as to enable its funds to be taken in execution, and that the action was not maintainable against a Trade Union. Accordingly the Court ordered that the Amalgamated Society should be struck out as defendants to the action, and that the injunction against them should be dissolved.—*Taff Vale Railway Company v. Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants and others, Court of Appeal, November 12th and 21st.*

## 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 October and November last.)

**Canada.**—There is a great scarcity of competent coal miners and labourers at the Cape Breton and other Nova Scotia mines, and at the large collieries on the Pacific coast of British Columbia; wages are advancing generally in these mines.

**New South Wales.**—The report of the Government Labour Bureau for the year ending June 30th last points out that the break-up of the long-continued drought early this year should largely benefit labour and industry in the farming and mining districts, and thus provide occupation for many of the unemployed who always crowd into Sydney. During the year nearly 7,000 persons were assisted to work, mainly government work at quarrying, drainage, scrub-clearing, railway construction, etc., the ordinary wage being 7s. a day. The building trade has for some time been more active and flourishing than it has for many years. Coal mining has been very brisk, almost all the collieries working full time. At Newcastle there has been a great scarcity of coal miners, and all trades have been brisk, good fitters, blacksmiths, turners,

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

ironmoulders, carpenters, etc., all being in demand. In country districts there do not appear to be many unemployed, indeed, in some parts labour is said to be scarce. At Sydney, however, there are still numbers of unemployed.

**Queensland.**—The strike of coal-miners at Ipswich is now settled; the hewing rate is fixed at 2s. 6d. to 3s. a ton, with a further rise if the price of coal increases. Among mechanics the best demand is for masons, mill-sawyers, blacksmiths, etc., but the long-continued drought is affecting all classes of labour.

**Western Australia.**—Increases in the pay of a large number of officers, clerks, and other wage-earners employed in the public service are being proposed by Government.

**New Zealand.**—The last reports from New Zealand state that work was plentiful in most trades, but that meat-freezing works were generally slack. The present summer season is the busy time for agricultural work, and competent farm labourers would find employment. Good boilermakers have been in demand at Christchurch. There has been a great demand at Dunedin for some 25 to 30 good stonemasons, and several openings for a few first-class fitters and turners. At Invercargill carpenters, bricklayers, and stonemasons have been especially busy, and men have been hard to get even at an advanced rate of wages.

**South Africa.**—Another official warning has been issued by the High Commissioner, stating that no one should yet go to South Africa with a view to obtaining employment in the new colonies unless he is in a position to maintain himself for a considerable time; that no one ought to go out at this juncture without a definite appointment already secured, or ample private means; and that others would only find themselves destitute in a very expensive country.

Recruiting in this country for the Cape Mounted Riflemen has been resumed. Candidates must address a letter endorsed "Riflemen," to the Agent-General for Cape Colony, at 112, Victoria-street, London, S.W. Candidates for the new South African Constabulary should apply to The Recruiting Officer, 1, Chapel-place, Delahay-street, Westminster, S.W.

## LABOUR ABROAD.

## FRANCE.

*Employment in October.*\*—Seasonal slackness set in in October for the building and accessory trades. Employment continued good in mines, in the metal smelting and accessory trades (save in steel smelting, where the decrease of employment already reported in certain districts became still more marked), in cotton-spinning and weaving, in hatmaking and garment-making, in the transport and warehousing trades, in joinery, cabinet making, coopering and coachbuilding, in glass and pottery trades, in food, etc., preparation, and in electric light and power supply. Employment showed a tendency to improve in silk manufacture, ribbon and trimmings manufacture, printing, book-binding and timber felling. In wool spinning and weaving, boot and shoemaking, amongst sawyers and carpenters, and in the hide and skin preparing trades employment was stated to be quiet. The slack season had set in for agricultural labour. Slightly over 7 per cent. of the 190,000 members of 860 trade unions, which made returns as to the state of employment on October 15th, were out of work on that date. These figures are inclusive of the trade unions of coal miners in the Nord and Pas-de-Calais districts, where employment was plentiful; if these were excluded, the proportion of workpeople out of work would be a little under 9 per cent. of the total membership of the unions, the corresponding figure for the previous month being a little over 8 per cent.; and for October, 1899, a little over 6 per cent.

The returns of the trade union labour registries show that the average number of applications for work per 100 situations offered was 160 in October as compared with 142 in September.

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

*Employment in November.\**—The seasonal slackness in the building and accessory trades became more marked in November, employment being less plentiful than a year ago, especially in the neighbourhood of Paris. The daily hours of labour in those trades were reduced from 9 to 8, as usually happens at this season. Employment continued good in mining, in the metal (other than steel) smelting and accessory trades, in electric light and power supply, in cotton spinning and weaving (although a tendency to decline was reported in some districts), in hat making, garment making, and glove making, transport and warehousing, printing and bookbinding, in coopering, in glass and pottery manufacture, and in the food preparation trades. In timber felling, and in the manufacture of silk, ribbons, and trimmings the improvement already reported was more than maintained. Employment in the woollen industry showed signs of improvement. In the hide and skin-working trades (especially leather tawing) employment was reported as quiet; in steel smelting and boot and shoemaking, as having undergone no change; and in coachbuilding, as tending to decline in places.

*Coal Mining in October.*†—The average number of days worked per week by those employed underground in coal mines in October was 5.85, as compared with 5.98 in the previous month, and 5.99 in October, 1899. During the month, full time (6 days and over per week) was worked by 84 per cent., and from 5 to 6 days by 7 per cent. of all employed in and about the mines, the percentages in the previous month being 82 and 18 respectively. The above particulars were supplied to the French Labour Department by the Committee of Coalowners, and relate to over 100,000 workpeople (three-fourths of all employed in and about the mines).

*Labour Disputes in October.*†—Sixty-nine fresh disputes, of which 62 involved 36,469 workpeople, were reported to the French Labour Department in October. The number of disputes reported in September was 76, in 67 of which 14,230 were known to have taken part, while in October, 1899, there were 75 disputes, involving 15,293 workpeople. Of the 69 disputes in October last, 6 occurred in mines, 5 in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades, 16 in the textile trades, 7 in the clothing trades, 14 in transport trades, 2 in the printing trades, 3 in the chemical, glass and pottery trades, 6 in food and tobacco trades, while 10 occurred in trades not coming within any of the foregoing groups.

Of the 62 disputes of which the termination is reported, 16 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 20 in favour of the employers, while 26 were compromised.

*Conciliation and Arbitration in October.*†—Fifteen cases of recourse to the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported to the French Labour Department in October. Meetings of conciliation committees were brought about in eleven cases, resulting in the settlement of five disputes (including one settlement of a provisional nature, the workpeople eventually abandoning their demands). In the other six cases in which committees were formed they were not able to come to an agreement. One of these latter, however, was afterwards settled. In the four remaining cases, the employers refused to accept the proffered mediation.

*Calais Lace-makers' Dispute.*—In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated November 14th, 1900, Mr. C. A. Payton, H.M. Consul at Calais, reported the commencement, on November 12th, of a strike of lace and tulle workers in that place, stated to be due to the desire of the lace manufacturers to enforce the system of work by quarter days, strongly objected to by the Lace-makers' Trade Union. The strikers' demands were: (1) Work from 4 a.m. to 10 p.m. in two shifts; (2) increase of 20 per cent. on the present rates of wages; (3) full payment on days of changing racks; and (4) immediate dismissal of workmen who have not ceased work.

From the newspaper reports of this dispute it appears that the strikers consider the arrangement proposed by the employers (under which four alternate shifts would be employed, working between them 20 hours out of the 24) would infringe the provisions of

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

the Law of March 30th, 1900 (see GAZETTE, April, 1900, p. 101). On November 26th, the whole of the lace factories at Calais were closed by the employers. Some 14,000 operatives are stated to be affected. On December 14th, it was reported that the operatives had accepted an offer of mediation, made by the French Government.

*Strike in Pas-de-Calais Coal Mines.*—In despatches to the Foreign Office, dated November 1st and 2nd, Mr. C. A. Payton, H.M. Consul at Calais, reported concerning the strike of miners in the coal-basin of the Pas-de-Calais specially affecting the mines of Lens, Courrières, Ostricourt, Liévin and Carvin, and involving about 20,000 workpeople, or nearly half the men employed in the various coal-pits of the Pas-de-Calais Department.

The men's demands, as reported in the *Bulletin de l'Office du Travail* for November, were for increased wages, the suppression of fines, the abolition of the long-wall system of working, and the dismissal of an overman.

A compromise was effected through the intervention of a member of the Chamber of Deputies, and the dispute, which began on October 25th, terminated on November 5th.

#### GERMANY.

*Employment in November.*—According to *Der Arbeitsmarkt* the state of employment was again much less favourable than in the corresponding month of 1899, the average number of applications for work per 100 situations offered at 60 public employment registries making returns to the above journal being 158.1, as compared with 130.9 in November, 1899. (The corresponding proportion for October, 1900, based on returns from 61 registries, was 120.4).

*Labour Disputes in November.*—The same journal reports 30 disputes as having begun in Germany in November (as compared with 49 in October). Eight occurred in the metal and engineering trades; 4 occurred in the building trades, 1 in mining, 4 in textile trades, 1 in clothing trades, 1 in woodworking, 1 in the glass, pottery, etc., group, and 3 in food preparation trades, while 7 occurred in trades not included in any of the foregoing groups.

*Seats for Shop Assistants.*—Rules concerning the provision of seats for shop-assistants have been issued by the Federal Council, under date of November 28th, 1900, and are to take effect from April 1st, 1901. These rules provide that in the sale-rooms and counting-houses of shops and similar establishments a sufficient number of seats for the use of assistants and apprentices must be supplied, and that for those who may be employed in serving customers, the sitting accommodation must be arranged in such manner as to permit of its being used even during short intervals of leisure, and generally that all members of the staff shall be at liberty to make use of the seats at all times, at which their so doing will not interfere with the performance of their duties.

#### BELGIUM.\*

*Employment in October.*—In the building trades employment was more plentiful than is usually the case at this time of the year. Coal mines were still being worked to their utmost capacity, the approach of winter having strengthened the demand for domestic coal, while some large foreign orders made up for the reduced supply needed for industrial purposes. The situation in the iron trade continued unfavourable; orders were scarce and prices falling; a renewal of foreign competition was reported from all quarters, and short time to the extent of two or three days per week was the rule. On the whole, employment was good in the construction of the heavier kinds of machinery, but this was on orders received some time ago. The scarcity of new orders, reported last month in the case of the larger establishments, became more marked in places, and spread to less important establishments. Employment in nearly all branches of the arms industry was very quiet, and orders were scarce for the winter. The cotton spinning industry was fully employed for the time being. Cotton weaving showed signs of approaching depression. In Verviers the wool spinning industry showed some improvement, but weavers continued to complain of scarcity of work. Although less than one-fourth of the glass manufacturing plants of the Charleroi district were in operation (and that on a reduced scale), orders

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

were scarcely sufficient to keep them going. Plate glass making was extremely depressed; cut glass manufacture was moderate, and glass hollow-ware manufacture somewhat improved. The improvement in the enamel-ware trade was maintained.

*Labour Disputes in October.*—Seven new disputes were reported to the Belgian Labour Department in October, involving in all about 1,400 persons, but 2 other disputes, begun before October 1st, still continued throughout the month, one of these latter being the strike of some 8,000 glassworkers in the Charleroi district (see November GAZETTE, p. 331). Particulars given for 6 of the disputes which began in October show that they took place in the following trades:—coal mining, weaving, wood gilding, cigar making, engine minding, and diamond cutting. Of 5 disputes, involving 181 workpeople, of which the termination is reported, 1, involving 9 workpeople, was decided in favour of the workpeople; 2, involving 52 workpeople, in favour of the employers; and 2, involving 120 workpeople, were compromised. One of these latter—a strike of 100 weavers against re-arrangement of the factory sickness and superannuation fund—caused 800 other operatives to be idle for the 2 days during which the dispute lasted.

#### AUSTRIA.\*

*Labour Disputes in October.*—Twelve disputes were reported to the Austrian Labour Department as having begun in October, the number of workpeople involved in 10 of these disputes being 882. The number of disputes reported as having begun in September was 17, of which 16 involved 924 workpeople. Of the 12 disputes reported in October, 1 occurred in the textile trades, 1 in the clothing trades, 1 in transport, 2 in the printing and allied trades, 1 in the woodworking, etc., trades, 2 in the stone and pottery trades, 1 in the food preparing, and three in the leather trades. Of 10 disputes, of which the results were reported, 4 were decided in favour of the workpeople (2 of these involving 16 workpeople), 1 (involving 9 workpeople) in favour of the employers, and 5 (involving 388 workpeople) were compromised.

#### SWEDEN.

*Trade Unions on January 1st, 1900.*—According to the Stockholm *Ekonomisk Tidskrift* for November, 1900, the Trade Unions affiliated to the National Federation of Trade Unions of Sweden on January 1st, 1900, numbered 692, with an aggregate membership of 39,132. All except two of these Unions also belonged to Trade Federations, of which 19 were affiliated to the National Federation. Five or six Trade Federations, with some 20,000 members, are stated not to belong to the National Federation. The total number of trade unionists in Sweden (including those enrolled in unions affiliated neither to a Trade Federation nor to the National Federation) is estimated at something over 60,000, as compared with 58,340 in 1898.

#### SPAIN.

*Employment of Children, Young Persons, and Women.*—The official *Gaceta de Madrid* of November 15th, 1900, contains the text of a Royal Decree, dated November 13th, for giving effect to the Law of March 13th, 1900, regulating the employment of children, young persons and women. (See GAZETTE, April, 1900, p. 101.)

Under the new Decree, agriculture and domestic workshops are declared to be exempt from the provision in the law above mentioned prohibiting the employment of children under nine years of age (under ten years of age in the case of children unable to read and write) in any kind of labour.

As regards children of ten to fourteen years of age (whose employment is limited under the law to six hours per day in industrial, and eight hours in commercial establishments) the new Decree provides that they shall not begin work before 6 a.m. from April 1st to October 31st, nor before 7 a.m. from November 1st to March 31st, and that they shall not work in industrial establishments more than three, or in commercial establishments more than four, consecutive hours without a break.

In regard to children of over fourteen and under sixteen years of age, the Decree provides that their employment at night shall not exceed eight hours in any twenty-four, and that they shall not

\* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Austrian Labour Department. The figures for October are provisional, those for September have been amended.

work more than sixty-six hours in any week. Not more than four consecutive hours of night work may be performed by such persons without a break.

Women who have entered on their eighth month of pregnancy must, at their request, be allowed to remain away from work, and may demand that their situations be kept open for them until three, or, if they can produce the necessary medical certificate, four weeks after confinement.

The remaining provisions of the Decree relate to the Local and Provincial Councils established under the law; the classification of trades; the manner of dealing with contraventions; the appointment and duties of inspectors; and the power of the Government, in cases in which doubts may have arisen with regard to the application or the administration of the law, to suspend the operation of the law, or to define its meaning in respect to the localities or trades concerned.

## REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

### (a) COAL MINING IN NOVEMBER.

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

EMPLOYMENT in this industry in November showed some decline as compared both with October and with a year ago.

The following Table relating to 1,347 pits, at which 476,435 workpeople were employed, gives the figures upon which the above statement is based:—

District.	No. employed in Nov., 1900, at the collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the pits in four weeks ended		
		24th Nov., 1900.	25th Nov., 1899.	27th Oct., 1900.
England and Wales ... ..	434,726	5.45	5.66	5.64
Scotland ... ..	40,938	5.36	5.40	5.57
Ireland ... ..	761	5.39	5.43	5.72
<b>United Kingdom ... ..</b>	<b>476,435</b>	<b>5.45</b>	<b>5.64</b>	<b>5.63</b>

The number of workpeople employed at the pits from which returns have been received for both periods was about 6.2 per cent. greater than a year ago.

In the next Table the workpeople are grouped according to the number of days worked at the pits at which they were employed. It will be seen that 85.4 per cent. were employed at pits working 5 or more days per week in November, as compared with 93.3 per cent. in October, and with 92.7 per cent. a year ago.

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

Number of days on which Coal was hewn and wound in four weeks.	November, 1900.		Corresponding percentages in—	
	No. of Workpeople employed.	Percentage proportion to total.	November, 1899.	October, 1900.
24 days (full time) ... ..	89,272	18.7	35.9	31.4
20 and under 24 days ... ..	317,749	66.7	66.8	61.9
16 " " 20 " " ... ..	52,485	10.9	6.6	5.8
12 " " 16 " " ... ..	15,984	3.4	0.7	0.8
8 " " 12 " " ... ..	934	0.2	0.1	0.1
Under 8 days ... ..	308	0.1	0.0	0.0
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>476,435</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The Table below which gives detailed particulars for different mining districts, shows that in all the districts, except in West Scotland and the Lothians, the average number of days worked per week was less than in the corresponding period a year ago. In the Cumberland, and Gloucester and Somerset districts, the decrease in the number of days amounted to three-quarters of a day per week; in the Salop, Worcester, and Warwick district, to one-half a day per week; in Staffordshire, to two-fifths of a day per week; in South Wales and Monmouthshire, where a general stoppage took place for one day during the four weeks, to one-third of a day per week; and in the Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire, Nottingham and Leicester, and Fife districts, to one-fifth of a day per week.

The highest averages during the month were worked in the Lothians (5.76 days per week), North Wales (5.65 days), Durham (5.57 days), Yorkshire (5.55 days), South Wales and Monmouthshire (5.54 days), and



## EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

unmarried men rose to the extent of about 1s. a week. Reports from *Yorkshire* state that agricultural labourers were generally well employed in the Unions of Easingwold, Guisborough, Howden, Malton, Ouseburn, Knaresborough, Pocklington, Ripon, and Thirsk. The wet weather is said to have interfered a good deal with wheat sowing and getting in roots, and some casual men lost a little time in some districts. Several employers state that wages rose at the recent hirings, and that there was a short supply of farm servants seeking situations.

**Midland Counties.**—Reports from *Cheshire* state that agricultural employment is regular in the Unions of Chester, Macclesfield, Nantwich, Northwich, and Tarvin, and from *Derbyshire* in the *Derbyshire* portions of the Worksop Union (*Notts, Derby, and Yorks, W.R.*), and of the Mansfield Union (*Notts and Derby*). A report from the Worksop Union states that "the supply of labour is short. It is with difficulty that men are obtained for threshing." In *Shropshire* employment is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Bridgnorth, Drayton (*Salop and Staffs*), Oswestry (*Salop and Denbigh*), Wellington, and Whitchurch (*Salop and Cheshire*). Most reports are to the effect that the supply of labour is hardly equal to the demand. The abundant root crop is said to have given plenty of employment, but the wet weather hindered outdoor work. A report from the Wellington Union says "no extra men are to be got for swede cutting." A correspondent in the Whitchurch Union writes as follows:—"The supply of labour continues scarce. The weather has continued open but very wet, making the haulage of turaiis (a heavy crop) to the homestead very difficult. In consequence of the wet, men on piecework have lost several days' work."

In *Staffordshire* employment is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Leek, Lichfield, and Tamworth (*Staffs and Warwick*). In the Leek Union the supply and demand for labour is said "to be fairly well balanced." A correspondent in the Tamworth Union writes as follows:—"The month has been very wet, and delayed threshing operations a good deal. Everyone is complaining about the great scarcity of labour, a great deal of land is getting into a very bad state, especially the land which has been cropped with roots this year. Fences are also neglected on most farms for want of men. It has been most difficult to get the work done, and many roots are not yet stored."

Agricultural labourers in *Warwickshire* are said to be generally well employed in the Unions of Alcester, Atherstone (*Warwick and Worcester*), Coventry, Meriden, and Stratford-on-Avon (*Warwick and Gloucester*), and in the *Warwickshire* portion of the Banbury Union (*Oxon, Northants, and Warwick*). Generally the supply of labour in these districts is said to be sufficient, but the report from the Atherstone Union says that it is short. The report from the Banbury Union says that threshing was a good deal interfered with by the wet weather. Regularity of work is reported from *Leicestershire* in the Unions of Barrow-on-Soar, Blaby, Loughborough (*Leicester and Notts*), Lutterworth (*Leicester and Warwick*), Market Harborough (*Leicester and Northants*), and Melton Mowbray. Reports from several districts state that the wet weather interfered with outdoor work a good deal. A correspondent in the Barrow-on-Soar Union writes that labour is scarce, and that there is often a difficulty in finding any extra men for threshing, etc. A report from the Blaby Union says that work was not quite so regular, owing to the wet weather, and for that reason extra men for threshing were more easily obtainable. In the Market Harborough Union the supply of labour is said to be "about up to requirements," and in the Melton Mowbray Union "sufficient." In *Nottinghamshire* employment is said to be regular in the Unions of Bingham, Southwell, and Retford. In all these Unions labourers are said to be scarce. An employer in the Retford Union writes as follows:—"Extra men for lifting the mangold crops, threshing, etc., are hard to get. The weather has been rather wet, but still open and free from frost, and outdoor labour has been well employed."

Agricultural labourers in *Worcestershire* are said to be generally well employed in the Unions of Evesham (*Worcester and Gloucester*), Martley, Tenbury (*Worcester and Salop*), and Upton-on-Severn, though in some districts a few men lost a little time owing to wet weather. In the Evesham Union, a report says that a few men were in irregular work, principally owing to wet weather, which hindered wheat planting, etc. A correspondent in the Martley Union writes that it is difficult to get the usual extra labour for lifting roots, and that higher prices have to be paid. In the Tenbury Union the supply of labour is said to be scarce. In the Upton-on-Severn Union it is said to be "about enough."

Employment in *Oxfordshire* is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Thame (*Oxon and Bucks*), Woodstock, and Witney. An

employer in the Thame Union, writing as to the supply of labour, says that it is "sufficient in a general way, but milkers are a difficulty." Another report from the same Union says that "cowmen and milkers still continue to change their places frequently, which is very inconvenient to employers." An employer in one portion of the Witney Union writes that he has never known labour so scarce as it is at the present time. Another correspondent in the same Union states that there is sufficient in his parish. The supply is described as very scarce in the Woodstock Union. Regularity of work is reported in *Northamptonshire* in the Unions of Brixworth, Hardingstone, Kettering, Potterspury, Towcester (*Northants and Bucks*), and Wellingborough, and in the *Northamptonshire* portion of the Banbury Union (*Oxon, Northants and Warwick*). A report from the Brixworth Union says that "an odd man cannot be got." A correspondent in the Hardingstone Union writes as follows:—"The wet weather has interfered with the seeding, but men have not been discharged, as they could not be replaced if wanted." A report from the Towcester Union says that there has been a sufficient supply of labour for the time of year. A large employer of labour in the Wellingborough Union writes as follows:—"Supply of labour is still short, especially as regards good, capable agricultural labourers. Casual men for threshing, etc., are not quite so difficult to obtain as a few months ago." Another employer in the same Union writes:—"No time has been lost, although there have been many days on which rain has fallen."

In *Huntingdonshire* employment is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Huntingdon, and St. Neots (*Hunts and Beds*). An employer in the St. Neots Union writes as follows:—"There may have been a few men in irregular work in consequence of wet days, but indoor work is generally given. The supply of labour is still deficient. I have been threshing for ten days. Each day I have had from six to fifteen horses idle, the men who usually attend to them being obliged to help at threshing." Employment in *Buckinghamshire* is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Aylesbury, and Buckingham, and in the *Buckinghamshire* portion of the Henley Union (*Oxon and Bucks*). Regularity of work is reported from *Hertfordshire* in the Unions of Buntingford, Hatfield, Herford, Hemel Hempstead, Hitchin, St. Albans, and Watford. In the Buntingford Union the supply of labour is said to be "very scarce." In Hitchin Union there is said to have been "a rather better supply." In the Watford Union "just about enough." Regularity of work is reported in *Bedfordshire* in the Unions of Bedford, Biggleswade, Leighton Buzzard, and Luton. An employer in the Luton Union writes as follows:—"The weather has been very unsettled, but has not interfered with the employment of labour on the farm. All have been regularly employed raising roots, wheat sowing, threshing out corn, etc. There were a few casual hands looking for employment, as the building trade has not been so good."

**Eastern Counties.**—Employment in *Essex* is said to have been generally regular during November in the Unions of Braintree, Colchester, Dunmow, Epping, Halstead, Maldon, Orsett, and Tendring. Threshing was a good deal interfered with by wet weather. All reports state that the supply of labour during the month was sufficient. In *Suffolk* wheat planting and getting in roots generally gave plenty of employment, and regularity of work is reported from the Unions of Blything, Bosmere and Claydon, Cosford, Hartismere, Hoxae, Mildenhall, Mutford and Lothingland, Plomesgate, Risbridge (*Suffolk and Essex*), Samford, and Thingoe. Wet weather interfered with outdoor work to some extent, and a few men are reported to have been in irregular employment in some districts. All reports from this county say that the supply of labour was adequate. An employer in the Mildenhall Union writes as follows:—"The mangold crop, being heavy, kept labour well employed up to the third week in November, and finishing wheat sowing to the end of the month." A correspondent in the Mutford and Lothingland Union writes on December 2nd:—"All agricultural work is in a backward condition. Wheat sowing is just completed. Mangolds have only just been got off. Ploughing is much behindhand."

A little time was lost in *Norfolk* in some districts owing to wet weather, but generally speaking agricultural labourers are said to have been in regular employment in the Unions of Aylsham, Blofield, Depwade, Docking, Downham, East and West Flegg, Erpingham, Forehoe, Freebridge Lynn, Guiltcross, Henstead, Loddon and Clavering, St. Faith's, Smallburgh, Swaffham, Theford (*Norfolk and Suffolk*), Walsingham, and Wayland. Threshing and other outdoor work generally was interfered with by rain to some extent. A correspondent in the Downham Union writes as follows:—"Continuous wet weather has caused labourers

## EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR; DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR.

to lose time, but not to a great degree, as indoor work is mostly found for them." An employer in the Loddon and Clavering Unions says:—"November has been a very wet month, and has retarded wheat sowing, which is considerably in arrears. The root crops have been very heavy, and all available hands have been engaged in securing them." In most districts the supply of labour is said to be about sufficient. In some Poor Law Unions a seasonal decrease in the rates of weekly cash wages took place, from 13s. to 12s., but in the majority of Unions the wages still remain at 13s. A correspondent in the East and West Flegg Union writes as follows:—"There was after harvest a return of wages to 12s. per week. This has not been accepted freely by the labourers, and as railway and other works are in progress a great many hands have left farmers for the higher wages, and there has been some difficulty in getting off beet, which is a heavy crop, and sowing wheat, which was delayed on account of the dry weather in September and October."

In *Cambridgeshire* agricultural employment was, as a rule, regular in the Unions of Chesterton, Linton, North Witchford, Whittlesey, and Wisbech. A correspondent in the Chesterton Union writes as follows:—"It has been continuously wet, without much rainfall. Work is generally fairly forward. Labourers have had for the most part regular employment." The supply of labour is said to be about sufficient. Regularity of work is reported from *Lincolnshire* from the Unions of Boston, Brigg, Caistor (*Notts and Lincoln*), Grimsby, Lincoln, Louth, and Spilsby, and in the *Lincolnshire* portion of the Newark Union (*Notts and Lincoln*). An employer in the Boston Union writes:—"The supply of labour is quite sufficient. A good deal of the threshing was done after harvest by the Irish." An employer in the Lincoln Union says:—"Labour is scarce. The Irishmen are leaving for Ireland." Reports from the Caistor and Grimsby Unions say that extra men are difficult to get for threshing.

**Southern and South-Western Counties.**—Reports state that agricultural labourers have generally been well employed in *Kent* in the Unions of Blean, Faversham, Hollingbourne, Hoo, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, and Tenterden. A few men in some districts lost a little time owing to wet weather. Most of the reports from this county state that the supply of labour in November was just about sufficient. An employer in the Faversham Union writes as follows:—"The weather has been rather wet the last two weeks. A few men may have had to stand off a few days, but in most cases the men have preferred to do so rather than go to other jobs that could be done when wet. . . . There are great complaints that hands cannot be obtained to fell the underwood in this and neighbouring parishes." Employment in *Surrey* is said to be regular in the Union of Hambledon, and in the *Surrey* portion of the Farnham Union (*Surrey and Hants*). In both these districts men are reported as scarce. An employer in the Farnham Union says:—"Men not to be had. I would give employment to extra hands, but find it impossible to get them." A correspondent in the Hambledon Union says:—"The supply of labour is very scarce. It is difficult to obtain sufficient men for the proper maintenance of the highways, and also for working in the woods." In *Sussex* employment is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Chailey, Cuckfield, Hailsham, Horsham, Newhaven, Petworth, Rye, and Uckfield. Several reports state that on the whole the rain did not interfere much with outdoor work. Others state that, when outdoor work was interrupted, the men were generally found suitable employment. In the Chailey, Hailsham, Horsham, and Petworth Unions labourers are said to be scarce, but the supply of labour in the county appears to be rather greater than in previous months. Several correspondents attribute this to there being less employment in the building trades. A report from the Hailsham Union says that men are "very scarce, so much so that there is likely to be a great difficulty in getting underwood cut. The weather has been very wet, but no farmers dared to turn off hands for fear of losing them."

Agricultural labourers in *Hampshire* are said to be generally in regular employment in the Unions of Basingstoke, Christchurch, Hartley Wintney, Havant, Lymington, Petersfield, Stockbridge, and in the *Hampshire* portion of the Farnham Union (*Hants and Surrey*). Reports state that though mangold-pulling, potato-digging, ploughing, threshing, etc., were interfered with by the weather to some extent, there was generally sufficient work for the men. On the whole the supply of labour appears to have been sufficient during November. Regularity of employment is reported in *Berkshire* in the Unions of Bradfield, (*Berks and Oxon*), Newbury, and Wantage, and in the *Berkshire* portion of the Wallingford Union (*Berks and Oxon*). In these districts the supply of labour is said

to be short. A large employer of labour in the Wantage Union says that it was very difficult to get extra men for getting up mangolds and for threshing.

Agricultural employment in *Dorsetshire* is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Blandford, Dorchester, Wareham and Purbeck, and Wimborne and Cranborne; and in *Wiltshire* in the Unions of Amesbury, Bradford-on-Avon, Chippenham, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett, Devizes, Highworth and Swindon, Marlborough, Mere, Pewsey, Warminster, and Westbury and Whorwellsdown. Speaking generally the supply of labour was rather more plentiful in November than in preceding months in both Dorsetshire and Wiltshire. A good crop of mangolds gave a great deal of employment, though the work was hindered to some extent by wet weather. In *Gloucestershire* it is reported that agricultural labourers were generally in regular work in the Unions of Barton Regis, Cirencester, Dursley, Gloucester, Northleach, Stow-on-the-Wold (*Gloucester and Worcester*), and Thornbury. In some districts a few men, chiefly odd hands, lost a little time owing to the wet; but apart from that there was plenty of work getting in the root crops and threshing. On the whole the supply of labour appears to have been about sufficient in most districts. A correspondent in the Stow-on-the-Wold Union writes as follows:—"A very mild month. Ploughing possible till the end, when the rain stopped it. Plenty of roots to bury, which we did not have last year, and plenty of work for men if we could find them. It is almost impossible to get extra men for threshing."

Regularity of work is reported in *Hovefordshire* in the Unions of Bromyard, Dore, Ledbury, and Ross. The supply of labour is said to have been short in the Bromyard and Ledbury Unions. In the Dore Union a correspondent writes that "the supply is limited, but seems to be equal to the demand." In the Ross Union it is stated that since the Militia have been disbanded men are rather more plentiful. Reports from *Somersetshire* state that agricultural labourers are generally well employed in the Unions of Bridgwater, Clutton, Frome, Langport, Taunton, Wells, Wellington (*Somerset and Devon*), Wincanton, and Yeovil. Generally speaking, the supply of labour is said to be sufficient, though in one or two districts it is not equal to the demand. An employer in the Clutton Union writes:—"The supply is enough for the purpose. The men are employed in all weathers." An employer in the Langport Union writes:—"During the wet weather towards the end of the month cider-making provided plenty of employment on most farms." An employer in the Yeovil Union states that a number of men lost work owing to there being an epidemic among them of diphtheric throats. In *Devonshire* employment is said to have been generally regular in the Unions of Axminster, Barnstaple, Crediton, Holsworthy, Kingsbridge (*Devon and Cornwall*), and Torrington, and in *Cornwall* in the Camelford Union. Agricultural labourers are said to be scarce in the Unions of Axminster (especially in the case of casual men—"strappers," as they are called there), Camelford, Kingsbridge, Tavistock, and parts of the Torrington Union. In other parts of the Torrington Union the supply of labour is said to be just about sufficient. It is also said to be adequate in the Barnstaple and Holsworthy Unions.

## (b) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN NOVEMBER.

EMPLOYMENT at the docks and wharves again shows an improvement as compared with both a month and a year ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and the principal wharves during the four weeks ended November 24th was 18,411, as compared with averages of 17,711 in the preceding four weeks, and 16,679 in the corresponding period of 1899.

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

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 ended Nov. 3	8,938	2,168	11,106	6,627	17,733
" " " 10	9,372	2,993	12,365	6,751	19,116
" " " 17	8,808	2,809	11,617	6,600	18,217
" " " 24	9,562	2,148	11,710	6,869	18,579
Average for 4 weeks ended Nov. 24th, 1900	9,170	2,529	11,699	6,712	18,411
Average for Nov., 1899	7,177	2,878	10,055	6,624	16,679
Average for Oct., 1900	8,486	2,534	11,020	6,691	17,711

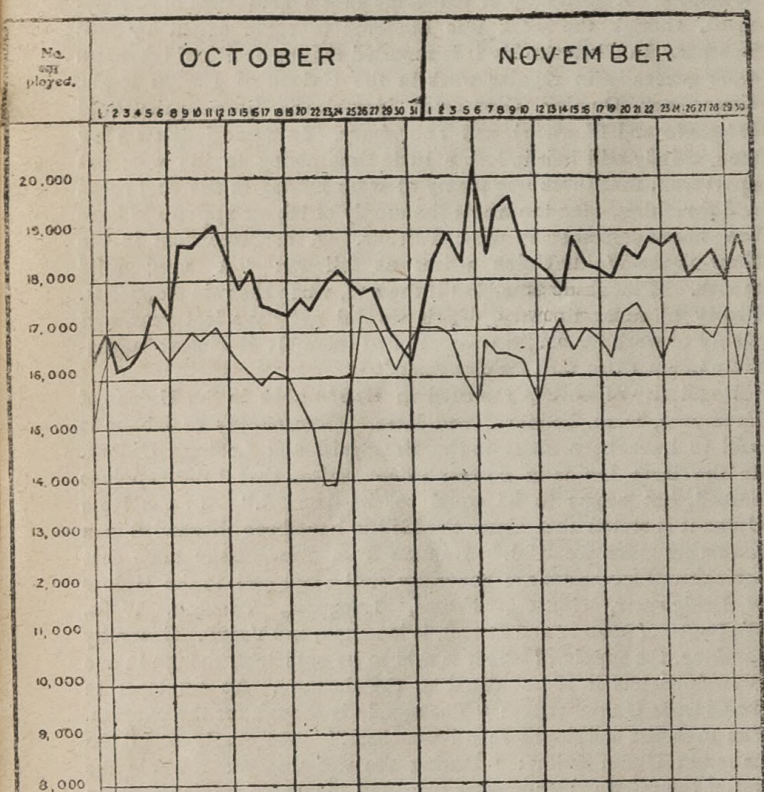


EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER—DOCK AND WHARF; SEAMEN; LONDON.

(2) Daily Fluctuation.—The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed by all the docks and principal wharves is shown on the chart below. The numbers in November ranged from 20,186 on the 5th to 17,710 on the 13th.

During November, 1899, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed varied from 15,552 on the 11th to 17,507 on the 21st.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 15 of the principal Wharves for each day during the months of October and November, 1900. The corresponding curve for October and November, 1899, is also given for comparison. [The thick curve applies to 1900, and the thin curve to 1899.]



The following are the figures on which the Chart for November, 1900, is based:—

Table with 6 columns: Day of Month, Number employed, Day of Month, Number employed. Lists daily employment figures for November 1900 and November 1899.

Sundays and Holidays are omitted.

Particulars respecting the employment of other classes of dock and riverside labourers will be found under "District Reports, London," on page 369.

(2) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN NOVEMBER.

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

The number of seamen shipped during November as the crews of foreign-going vessels, from certain selected ports (at which about 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared), was 32,580,\* or 1,405 more than during November, 1899. The supply of seamen is stated to have been equal to the demand at most of the ports reported on.

During the eleven completed months of the year 366,739 men have been shipped, as compared with 377,495\* in the corresponding period of 1899. The falling off is due to decreased shipments at the Bristol Channel and East Coast ports and at Liverpool, partly balanced by increases at the other ports included in the Table below, notably Southampton and London.

Of the total number shipped during the eleven months ended November 30th, 54,289 (or 14.8 per cent.) were

foreigners, the percentage for the corresponding period of 1899 being 14.6. 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 November, 1900 and 1899 respectively, together with the number\* shipped in the eleven months ended November in each of these years:—

Table with columns for Principal Ports, In Sailing Vessels, In Steam Vessels, Total In Nov. 1900, Total In Nov. 1899, Total number shipped in 11 months ended November. Lists data for England (East Coast, Bristol Channel, Other Ports), Scotland, and Ireland.

DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

LONDON.

General.—The state of employment during November remained fairly good. Returns from 474 branches of 124 unions, having an aggregate membership of 80,841, show that 2,566 (or 3.2 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 3.6 per cent. in October, and 2.3 per cent. in November, 1899. The decrease compared with the previous month is mainly due to the improvement in the printing trades.

Employment in the Engineering, Metal and Shipbuilding trades has remained good. Returns from 157 branches of 30 unions, with an aggregate membership of 23,928, show that 573 (or 2.4 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.0 per cent. in October, and 2.8 per cent. in November of last year. With sailmakers employment has remained slack.

The Building trades are not so well employed. Returns from 187 branches of 8 unions paying unemployed benefit, with a membership of 13,801, show that 517 (or 3.7 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.8 per cent. in October, and 0.7 per cent. in November, 1899. The stonemasons describe employment as fair; the plumbers as moderate; the stonemasons, bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, and painters and decorators as dull; the plasterers as bad.

Employment in the Furnishing trades is slack. Returns from 47 branches of 14 unions, with a membership of 6,385, show that 354 (or 5.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 5.0 per cent. in October, and 2.9 per cent. in November, 1899.

The Woodworking trades are fairly well employed. Reports from 3 unions, having a membership of 895, show that 22 (or 2.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.5 per cent. in October.

Coopers remain fully employed. Reports from 2 societies, with a membership of 1,064, show that 6 members were unemployed, compared with 3 in October. In November, 1899, there were no unemployed members.

Employment with Coachbuilders and Wheelwrights is fair. Reports from 12 branches of 8 unions, with a membership of 1,404, show that 29 (or 2.1 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.3 per cent. in October, and 1.8 per cent. in November, 1899.

The Printing and Bookbinding trades have continued to improve, and are now fairly busy, as is usual at this season. Returns from 25 unions, with a membership of 24,597, show that 551 (or 2.2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.4 per cent. in October. The percentage for November, 1899, was 1.9.

\* 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 NOVEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS—LONDON; NORTHERN COUNTIES.

Employment in the Clothing trades still remains slack. The West End bespoke tailors describe employment as fair; the East End bespoke and stock trades have been quiet; the contract trade is improving; the East End military and uniform tailors and tailors have not been so well employed; the ladies' tailors and mantle makers have been slack. Hatters describe employment as dull; fur skin dressers remain slack.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—Employment with West End hand-sewn boot and shoemakers has continued quiet; with the East End sew-round workers it is bad; with boot and shoe clickers rather better; with boot and shoe operatives it is quiet.

Employment in the Leather trades is fair. Returns from 7 unions, with a membership of 1,755, show that 59 (or 3.4 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.5 per cent. in October, and 1.4 per cent. in November, 1899.

In the Glass and Pottery trades returns from 8 unions, with a membership of 1,387, show that 92 (or 6.6 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 5.4 per cent. in October, and 4.0 per cent. in November of last year.

Hair, Fibre, and Cane Workers.—In these trades returns from 5 unions, with a membership of 906, show that 12 (or 1.3 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.5 per cent. in October, and 1.5 per cent. in November, 1899.

Gold and Silver Workers are fairly well employed. Returns from 7 unions, having a membership of 1,081, show that 16 (or 1.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.8 per cent. in October. In November, 1899, the percentage was 0.6. Diamond workers are slack.

In the Tobacco trades employment has still further improved and is now good. Returns from 4 unions, with a membership of 2,303, show that 41 (or 1.8 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.4 per cent. in October. The percentage for November, 1899, was 2.1.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—The average number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily at all the docks and the principal wharves was 18,411 in the four weeks ended November 24th, as compared with 17,111 in the preceding four weeks, and 16,679 in November, 1899. Employment in mid-stream has been fair and steady during the month. Employment with deal porters, stevedores, lumpers, corn porters, and coal porters has been fairly good; with winchmen, moderate. With fruit porters in Thames-street it has been fairly good, the average daily number of men employed being 313, as compared with 326 in October, and 364 in November, 1899.

ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES.

Tyne and Wear District.

Coal Mining.—Northumberland.—Employment at all the collieries remains good. Steam and house coal pits have averaged respectively 5.44 and 5.40 days per week for the four weeks ending November 24th, as against 5.41 and 5.43 days in October. Durham.—Manufacturing and coaling coal pits have been scarcely so busy, the average number of days worked being 5.39, and 5.54 per week respectively, as compared with 5.50 and 5.67 days a month ago. House and gas coal pits have averaged 5.50 and 5.47 days respectively. At 144 collieries employing 67,626 men and boys, an average of 5.48 days per week was worked, as against 5.54 days in October.

Metal Mining.—Ironstone miners have worked 6 days, and lead ore miners 5 days per week.

Quarrying.—At Stanhope and Frosterley bad weather has affected employment. Ferryhill and Haswell limestone quarries have worked 5 days per week. Employment in Gateshead and district and at Blyth has been fairly good.

Iron and Steel Trades.—In one case angle mills and a smelting furnace have been idle a few days through want of material. Steel plate mills (with the exception of one entirely stopped) have worked full time. At Spenny Moor, Consett, and Newburn, 4 and 5 shifts have been worked. Steel smelters are still slack.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—On the Tyne.—The demand for turners and fitters continues good. Electrical works, engine and boiler-shops are still busy. Repair work in yards, pontoons, and docks has been brisker. Riveters, caulkers, and platers, although not quite so active, have been steadily employed. The 12,857 members of these trades have 190 (or 1.5 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of October. On the Wear.—Most engine shops continue well employed. Ship and boiler riveters and platers are busy. Forge-men and ship-smiths are practically all employed. Repair work has been more plentiful. Branches of these trades with 5,195 members have 65 (or 1.3 per cent.) unemployed, as against 29 (or 0.6 per

cent. of their membership) at the end of October. Shipwrights describe employment as fair; drillers and hole cutters as good on new work, but slack on repairs. Sailmakers are still busy.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment with tug-boat men is reported as good; with Tyne watermen as less brisk; with lumpers and riggers, and trimmers and teamers as fair. Coal porters and shippers, have averaged 5 days per week. Dock and quayside labourers have been better employed. The demand for sailors and firemen has declined.

Building Trades.—Most branches are affected by the bricklayers' dispute.

Printing and allied Trades.—On the Tyne and at Sunderland employment of letterpress printers has improved. Bookbinders are still fairly employed. Two paper mills are working short time, four full time; one is busy.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Coopers report employment as quiet; upholsterers and mill-sawyers as good; lathrenders as slack; cabinet makers as fair.

Chemical and Glass Trades.—On the Wear and at Seaham Harbour bottle-makers are fully employed. Pressed glass makers are slacker. At one copper works two ore furnaces have been laid idle three weeks. Employment in cement and white lead works has further declined. Caustic soda workers in chemical factories are busy; in the bleaching powder department employment is fairly good.

Fishing.—Trawl and line fishing has been interrupted by the weather; fair supplies of white fish have, however, been landed. The catch of line fish has been poor. Prices have continued good.

J. Ratcliffe.

Middlesbrough, Stockton and District.

Ironstone Mining.—Employment is reported as fairly good with the Cleveland miners, but several of the mines have been working a day short per week. The average number of days worked by the 21 mines furnishing returns was 5.64 days per week during the 4 weeks ended 24th November, as compared with 5.75 days per week during the 4 weeks ending October 27th, and 5.63 per week in November, 1899. The number of workpeople employed at the mines was 6,840, the corresponding number a year ago being 6,790.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment generally at the finished ironworks and steel works is not quite so good. Under the sliding scale of the North of England Conciliation and Arbitration Board wages have been advanced 3d. per ton for puddling and 2½ per cent. on all other forge and mill work. Employment is good at blast furnaces, pipe foundries and metal expansion works; fairly good at general foundries and bridge works; moderate at chair foundries.

Engineering.—Employment with engineers is reported as good at Middlesbrough, Stockton, and South Bank; fair at Hartlepool and Bishop Auckland; moderate at Darlington. Ironfounders report employment as good at Hartlepool and Middlesbrough, moderate at Stockton and Darlington; pattern-makers, smiths and strikers as fair. Branches of these trades with 4,447 members have 76 (or 1.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 58 (or 1.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

Shipbuilding.—Employment generally has been fair, although interrupted to some extent by weather and by the backwardness of other departments.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is fair.

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

Miscellaneous.—Printers, mill-sawyers and machinists report employment as good; cement and concrete workers, pulp workers, tailors and cabinet makers as fair; saltworkers as steady.—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 has fallen off considerably. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended November 24th, at 21 pits covered by the returns, was 5.13 per week, as compared with 5.76 days in October, and 5.85 days a year ago. The number employed at these pits in November was 6,770, the corresponding number a year ago being 6,426.

Iron Mining.—Employment at the Cumberland and North Lancashire iron mines continues good. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended November 24th, at the 46 mines from which returns have been received, was 5.87 per week,

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

as against 5.81 in October, and 5.88 in November, 1899. The work-people employed at these mines in November, 1900 and 1899, numbered 5,750 and 5,848 respectively.

**Pig Iron Manufacture.**—Employment at the Cumberland and Lancashire blast furnaces shows no change as compared with October, but continues worse than a year ago. The number of furnaces in blast at the end of November was 44, the same number as at the end of October. At the end of November, 1899, the number of furnaces in blast was 54. The estimated number of work-people employed at the 44 blast furnaces in November was 3,670.

## LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.

## Oldham and District.

**Cotton Trade.**—*Spinning.*—Employment in Oldham and district, as well as in Rochdale, Milnrow, Stalybridge, and Stockport is reported as good, with fewer members unemployed. In Mossley, Ashton-under-Lyne, and Dukinfield employment is reported as moderate. Employment in the twining industry is still reported as slack; in the carding and ring spinning departments as good. *Weaving.*—Velvet and calico weavers, beamers, sectional warpers, twisters, drawers, ball warpers, winders and reelers are reported to be only moderately employed.

**Woolen and Silk Trades.**—Employment in the woolen trade in Rochdale and Milnrow is reported as good; in Stockport as rather better. In the silk-dressing trade of Rochdale employment is again reported as bad.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—In the machine making trade, employment is reported as bad; in the engineering trade as moderate. Tool makers, tinplate workers, plate and machine moulders and irongrinders report employment as slack; ironfounders, pattern-makers, and gasmeter makers as moderate; boiler-makers and brass founders as good.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is reported as slack in all branches.

**Coal Mining.**—Of four collieries employing 412 miners, three worked full time in November, and the fourth five days a week.

T. Ashton.

## Bolton and District.

**Cotton Trade.**—*Spinning.*—Employment throughout Bolton and the immediate district is reported as improved. In Bury, Heywood, Chorley and Westhoughton nearly all mills have resumed normal activity. Cardroom operatives are reported as fairly well employed, few mills now being on short time. *Weaving.*—Employment has improved.

**Engineering and Iron Trades.**—Engineers are fairly well employed. Steam engine makers at several firms are rather irregularly employed. Pattern makers, roller turners, and plate moulders are moderately employed.

**Building Trades.**—Employment generally has suffered a seasonal decline.

**Coal Mining.**—Employment continues good throughout the district.

**Miscellaneous Trades.**—Employment with tanners and leather workers is not good. Carters, printers and tailors are fairly well employed.—R. Toothill.

## Blackburn, Burnley and District.

**Cotton Trade.**—*Weaving.*—Employment in the Blackburn, Burnley, Darwen, Nelson and Colne districts shows a great improvement, a large number of looms having been re-started. It is reported as bad at Preston. Hard waste weavers continue fully employed, with overtime in some cases. Twistlers and drawers are now fairly well employed. Winders, warpers, beamers and warp dressers report an improvement. *Spinning.*—Spinners in the Blackburn district report employment as fair; in Burnley as moderate; in Darwen and Accrington as good. Ring spinners, and card room workers are well employed. Branches of spinners, twistlers and drawers, and warp dressers with 3,515 members, have 92 (or 2.6 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 177 (or 5.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

**Building Trades.**—Employment generally continues moderate.

**Engineering and Iron Trades.**—Engineers report employment as declining at Colne, bad at Todmorden; ironfounders as moderate at Blackburn and Todmorden; fitters as moderate. Machine shops are fully employed.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—Coal miners in the Burnley and Accrington districts report employment as good. Quarrymen throughout the district are fairly well employed.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is fair with cabinet makers; bad

with shufflemakers; slack with woollen block printers; moderate with letterpress printers, calico printers and dyers, and brick-makers.—W. H. Wilkinson.

## Manchester and District.

**General.**—Branches of societies with 22,942 members have 941 (or 4.1 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 794 (or 3.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—The engineers, boiler-makers, machine workers and brass founders and finishers report employment as moderate in Manchester, good in Northwich; smiths and strikers as moderate in Manchester, Salford and Patricroft; good in Northwich and Earlstown, bad in Warrington. Ironfounders are fully employed throughout the district.

**Building Trades.**—Carpenters and joiners, bricklayers, bricklayers' labourers, stonemasons and decorative glass workers report employment as moderate throughout the district; plasterers, plumbers and painters as bad; concreters and asphalters as good.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment with cotton spinners is reported as moderate. In the silk industry employment is moderate with dyers, dressers and powerloom weavers; bad with throwers and handloom weavers. Fustian cutters are moderately, and cotton bleachers, dyers and finishers fairly well employed.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment with bespoke tailors is moderate; in the ready-made department slack, but improved. Boot and shoe makers report employment as moderate; felt hatters and trimmers and cap makers as quiet; shirt makers as not busy.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Coachmakers and wheelwrights report employment as moderate; cabinet makers as good; French polishers and brewers' coopers as quiet.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers and lithographic artists report employment as slightly better; lithographic printers as bad; bookbinders as good; stereotypers and pattern card makers as moderate.

**Transport Trades.**—Employment continues plentiful throughout the district.—G. D. Kelley.

## Liverpool and District.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—Boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders, patternmakers, fitters, turners and shipjoiners report employment as dull; copper-smiths and brass founders as fair; drillers, hammermen and ironfounders as quieter; ship painters and scrapers as slack; shipwrights as busy.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Coopers, mill-sawyers and woodcutting machinists report employment as fair; cabinet makers and French polishers as dull; coachmakers as moderate.

**Transport Trades.**—Dock labourers report employment as improved; seamen and firemen as good; Mersey flatmen as fair. Quay and railway carters maintain the improvement reported last month.

**Building Trades.**—Painters and joiners report employment as dull; bricklayers and plasterers as declining; brick-makers as bad.

**Clothing Trades.**—Boot and shoe makers report employment as good. Bespoke tailors as still slack in the bespoke branch, and dull in the ready-made branches.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers report employment as still dull, but improved. Lithographic printers as rather slacker; bookbinders as dull.

**Coal Mining and Quarrying.**—Coal miners still report an average of five days per week. Quarrymen are busy.

**Glass and Chemical Trades.**—Glass bottle makers and sheet glass workers report employment as good, chemical workers as still dull. C. Rouse.

A report from *Winsford* states that employment in the salt trade has been dull. It is moderate in the chemical trade at Middlewich; in the building trades slack at Winsford, good at Middlewich. Moulders report employment as fair at Winsford; shipwrights, boiler-smiths, brassworkers and fitters as regular in both towns; fustian cutters as good.

## YORKSHIRE.

## Hull and District.

**Shipbuilding, Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment at Hull is slack in the shipbuilding yards; moderate in the engineering and boiler shops; slack in general repairs. The shipwrights at Goole report employment as good; at Beverley, Grimsby and Selby as bad. The engineers and boiler-makers at Goole report employment as good; at Doncaster and Selby as moderate; at Beverley and Grimsby as bad.

**Building Trades.**—At Hull, Beverley, Driffield, Goole, Grimsby and Selby employment is moderate; at Driffield and Bridlington, slack.

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

## Sheffield, Barnsley, and Rotherham District.

**General.**—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 16,407 members have 131 (or 0.8 per cent.) unemployed, as against 149 (or 0.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

**Iron and Steel Industries.**—Branches with 6,587 members have 62 (or 0.9 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 71 (or 1.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October. Iron and steel foundries, engineers, boiler-makers, Siemens steel smelters, iron and steel dressers, machine workers and coremakers, report employment as good; engine and crane men, boiler men, and locomotive engine drivers as fair; stove-grate workers, wire drawers and springsmiths and strikers as moderate; Bessemer steel workers and railway-spring makers as slack. At Barnsley engineers and ironfounders are well employed. Iron and steel workers at Parkgate are slack; at Rotherham and Masbro' fairly well employed. Axle and spring makers are busy. Bath makers are slack.

**Cutlery and Tools.**—Edge-tool grinders, pen and pocket-blade forgers, grinders and cutlers, file forgers and grinders, and haft and scale pressers report employment as good; engineers' tool makers as moderate; table blade forgers and grinders, file cutters and all sections of the razor trade as fair; saw and saw handle and joiners' tool makers, table knife cutters and file hardeners as quiet; handle and scale cutters as bad.

**Other Metal Trades.**—Employment has improved. It is good with braziers, sheet-metal workers, platers and gilders; fair with plate, spoon and fork filers; slack with silver and metal stampers, hollow ware buffers, Britannia metal smiths and brass workers; bad with silversmiths. At Rotherham brassworkers report an improvement.

**Coal Mining.**—Returns from 78 of the principal collieries employing about 54,000 men and boys show an average of 5.55 days per week worked, as compared with 5.81 per week during the month of October.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is quieter in Sheffield. It continues fair in Barnsley, Rotherham and Normanton.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment is good generally.

**Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.**—Railway carriage and wagon builders are busy; coachmakers are quiet; employment with cabinet makers is bad. At Barnsley bobbin makers are well employed; box-makers are slack.

**Linen Trade.**—Employment in Barnsley continues moderate.

**Clothing Trades.**—Bespoke tailoring in Sheffield has slightly improved although still slack. At Barnsley employment with bespoke tailors, ready-made tailoring operatives, and boot and shoemakers is fair.

**Glass Trades.**—Employment with bottle-makers at Barnsley is slack, at Rotherham fair, at Mexbro' good. Flint glass workers are moderately employed.

**Miscellaneous.**—Railway, gas and electrical workers report employment as good; paviors, farriers, and general labourers as fair; saddlers, and harness makers as moderate; upholsterers as quiet; quilt and paper makers, quarrymen and general labourers at Barnsley, brickmakers, quarrymen and chemical workers at Normanton and general labourers at Rotherham as busy.—S. Utley.

## ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

## Derbyshire District.

**General.**—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 8,214 members have 151 (or 1.8 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 125 (or 1.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

**Coal Mining.**—Returns from 73 collieries employing upwards of 29,000 men and boys show an average of 5.3 days per week worked in November, as compared with 5.3 during October.

**Quarrying.**—Limestone quarrymen continue rather slack; chert quarrymen are busy.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Engineers report employment as moderate in Burton, Ilkeston, New Mills, Ripley and Long Eaton, bad in Glossop, good in Chesterfield; brassmoulders and finishers in Burton and Derby, and iron and steel dressers as moderate; ironfounders and boiler-makers as good; stove grate workers as bad; lace machine builders in Long Eaton as good; cycle makers as bad.

**Textile Trades.**—Cotton weavers in Glossop report employment as moderate, card and blowing room operatives as good; hosiery workers in Belper and Ilkeston as moderate; surgical bandage makers as good; calico printers and elastic web weavers as bad; lace workers as slack; hard silk winders and doublers and drawers as good.

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

**Fishing Industry.**—The trawl fishermen report employment as moderate; the steam fishing vessel engineers and firemen at Hull as fair, at Grimsby as bad; the curing-house workers and general fish pontoon and dock labourers as moderate.

**Seed-crushing, Oil-cake, Paint and Colour Trades.**—All branches report employment as moderate.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—The bookbinders at Hull report employment as good; the letterpress printers as moderate; the lithographic printers as bad.

**Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.**—The coopers, cabinet makers and coachbuilders report employment as moderate; the sawmill and wood machinists as bad.

**Miscellaneous.**—The tanners, curriers and leather workers report employment as good; the bakers as moderate; the brushmakers as bad.—W. G. Millington.

## Leeds and District.

**General.**—Branches of societies with 8,259 members have 245 (or 3.0 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 268 (or 3.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment in the engineering trade in Leeds is falling off; overtime has ceased, and some firms have dispensed with a number of workmen. With ironmoulders and machinists-workers it is fair; with boiler-makers, steel workers and tinplate workers good; with brassworkers and finishers, stove grate workers and wool comb, hackle and gill makers slack. At Wakefield employment is fair; at Stanningley moderate.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment in the Leeds clothing factories and with bespoke tailors is quiet. At boot and shoe factories it is good.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment in the Leeds cloth mills has been quiet, with only partial employment at some places. Willeyers and felters, dyers and finishers report employment as slack. Blanket raisers and linen workers are fully employed.

**Building Trades.**—In Leeds masons, bricklayers, and plasterers are fairly employed; joiners quiet; plumbers moderate. At Harrogate joiners and painters are slack.

**Mining.**—Full time continues in the Leeds, Castleford, Pontefract and Wakefield districts.

**Leather Trades.**—Tanners, curriers and belt makers report employment as good; saddlers and harness makers as slack.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment is good with letterpress printers; bad with lithographers; fair with bookbinders and machine rulers.

**Glass Trades.**—Glass bottle makers in Leeds, Wakefield, and Castleford are well employed; flint glass makers fairly so.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Coachmakers and brushmakers report employment as slack; cabinet makers as moderate, but quiet in the cottage furniture trade; shop fitters as fair.

O. Connellan.

## Bradford, Huddersfield and District.

**Worsted Trade.**—Employment in Bradford and Keighley is again described as bad. In Huddersfield and Halifax one or two firms have been a little busier. Woolcombers report employment as bad, and woolsorters as slack, with many men working short time.

**Woolen Trade.**—Employment continues very fair; several firms are still working overtime. In the heavy woolen trade of Batley and Dewsbury it is hardly so good as in October.

**Other Textile Trades.**—The silk trade at Manningham shows but little improvement; at Halifax it remains unchanged. Dyers at Bradford report employment as slack; over 3,000 are working short time, and a number are drawing out-of-work pay. In Huddersfield dyers report employment as fair.

**Metal Trades.**—Engineers report employment as declining at Bradford, as moderate at Halifax. At Keighley it is bad; in the machine shops a number of men are working only twenty-eight hours per week, and some are unemployed. At Huddersfield and Dewsbury it is fair. Ironfounders report employment as fair at Dewsbury, moderate at Halifax, not so good at Huddersfield, good at Keighley.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is not so good in Huddersfield, Batley and Dewsbury; it is dull in Bradford and bad in Halifax.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is quiet in the printing and tailoring trades; good with coal miners and glass-bottle workers.—A. Gee.

## EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—MIDLAND COUNTIES.

**Clothing Trades.**—Boot and shoe operatives in Chesterfield, and bespoke tailors report employment as good. Factory tailoring operatives, and dress and mantle makers and milliners are fully employed.

**Building Trades.**—Employment generally is moderate.

**Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment continues good with railway carriage and wagon builders. Most timber yards are fairly well employed. Coopers report employment as fair.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers report employment as fair. Lithographic printers as moderate; bookbinders and machine rulers as slack.—*C. White-Deacon.*

**Nottingham and District.**

**Lace Trade.**—Some small branches are fairly well employed, but employment generally is dull.

**Hosiery Trade.**—Employment generally is bad and slightly worse than in October.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment is reported as slack with fitters, smiths, general mechanics, tool machinists, boiler-makers and brassworkers; declining with ironfounders; fair with iron and steel dressers and brassfounders; moderate with carriage straighteners and hobbin and carriage makers; good with wheelwrights, blacksmiths, and farriers. At Grantham employment is reported as good with ironfounders, fair with tool machinists, moderate in other branches. At Newark and Mansfield moderate; at Beeston employment is slack. Branches with 3,121 members have 80 (or 2·6 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 71 (or 2·3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

**Building Trades.**—Employment generally is dull at Nottingham. In the county districts it is reported as fair with most branches.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Employment is reported as good with cabinet makers, French polishers, millsawyers and coopers; as moderate with packing-case makers; it has declined with coachmakers and upholsterers.

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

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment is reported as moderate with boot and shoe operatives at Nottingham, good at Hucknall, fair at Mansfield. With bespoke tailors as slack at Nottingham, fair at Grantham, moderate at Newark. Ready-made tailoring operatives and mantle makers are well employed.

**Coal Mining.**—Returns from 27 collieries employing some 15,753 men show an average slightly under 5 days per week, a decline as compared with October.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is reported as improved with female cigar makers and silk-dressers; as moderate with basket-makers and box-makers; as fair with saddlers and leather workers; as good with brush-makers, engine and crane men, stationary engine drivers, and colliery engine men and railway workers; as declining at Grantham with iron foundry labourers; as fair with gas workers and general labourers.—*W. L. Hardstaff.*

**Leicester and Northampton District.**

**Boot and Shoe Trade.**—Employment continues dull throughout Northamptonshire, except in the army boot department. In Leicester, Hinckley and district it is improving.

**Other Clothing Trades.**—In the wholesale tailoring trade employment is slack and short time more general. It is moderate with bespoke tailors and felt hat and cap makers; dull with silk hatters; good with corset makers at Leicester, slack at Harborough. Milliners and dressmakers are busier.

**Hosiery and Woolspinning Trades.**—At Leicester work is fairly regular in the shirt, pant and cardigan jacket branches, slack in the hose and half-hose department. It is dull in all branches at Loughborough. Dyers, trimmers and woolspinners continue fairly well employed.

**Elastic Web Trade.**—Employment has slightly improved in the gusset web branch; it is moderate in other departments.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Most departments of the engineering trade report employment as slack. It continues good with ironfounders at Northampton, but is bad at Leicester. Smiths, fitters, toolmakers, and boiler-makers are quiet. The electrical, cycle and needle-making branches are slack.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—The Leicestershire coal miners averaged nearly one day per week the stone quarrying trade. Ironstone workers are moderately employed.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment is good with the letterpress printers at Leicester and Kettering, fairly good at Loughborough and Northampton. It has slightly improved with lithographic printers and bookbinders.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is slack except with plumbers and stonemasons.

**Leather Trades.**—Curriers are well employed at Northampton; fairly so at Leicester. Saddlers and harness-makers are busier.

**Woodworking and Coachmaking Trades.**—Tram and road car builders are well employed at Loughborough. Work is slack with coachmakers; fairly good with cabinet makers; dull with French polishers and millsawyers.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is good with tile and sanitary ware makers, farriers, brushmakers, basket-makers, bakers, and gas workers, and with railway workers, except at Northampton. It is fairly regular with cigarmakers, and has improved with brick-makers.—*T. Smith.*

**Potteries District.**

**Pottery Trades.**—Hollow-ware pressers report employment as declining. Sanitary pressers are still working three days per week. Flat pressers continue busy. Printers and transferrers are fairly busy, except in the American trade, which continues quiet. Ovenmen, kilnmen, saggarmakers, mould makers, throwers, turners and handlers average 5 days per week. Stilt and spurmakers report a decline. Encaustic tile makers, artists, women gilders and decorators, packers and crate makers are well employed.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—Employment continues quiet, and all branches report a slight decline.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment in the Potteries and at Crewe and Stafford continues good generally. It is also good with brassworkers at Oakamoor and Froghall, and agricultural engineers at Rugeley and Uttoxeter.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—Coal and ironstone miners are working well. Stone quarrymen are fully employed.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment in the silk trade at Leek continues good. At Congleton silk dressers report a slight decline; dyers are fairly busy; fustian cutters are working short time. At Cheadle and Tean silk and tape workers are fully employed.

**Clothing Trades.**—Tailors throughout the Potteries report a decline; at Crewe full time is reported. At Stafford and Stone boot and shoe makers report an improvement.

**Building Trades.**—Employment continues good though occasionally affected by the weather.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers in the Potteries report an improvement; at Stafford employment is fair. Lithographic artists and printers are moderately busy; bookbinders are fully employed.

**Miscellaneous.**—Railway servants and gas workers are busy. Brushmakers are well employed.—*I. S. Harvey.*

**Wolverhampton and District.**

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—In South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire employment with steel smelters is good. There is no improvement in the iron bar, angle, hoop and steel trades. In South Shropshire the forges are fully employed; the wire mills are on short time.

**Engineering and allied Trades.**—Employment is good in all branches.

**Hardware Trades.**—Employment is good with makers of edge tools, Brazil and plantation hoes, spring traps, electrical and gas fittings, and horseshoes, and with the block chain makers at Cradley. It is not so good with railway axle, tyre, spring and carriage workers, and steel forgers at Wednesbury. Employment is fair with makers of malleable nails and protectors, iron fences, hurdles, nuts and bolts, spectacle frames, gunlocks, stamped and light hollow-ware, builders' ironmongery, and steel toys, with galvanisers, filesmiths, tinplate workers, japanners, and brassworkers, the spike and rivet makers at Blackheath, and chain makers and strikers at Old Hill. Anchor smiths at Cradley Heath report employment as improved; iron plate workers as moderate at the Lye, fair at Wolverhampton and Bilston; makers of tubes, locks, keys, latches, tips, tacks, and cut nails, hollow-ware tanners, stampers and piercers, and the wrought iron nail makers at Halesowen as quiet; anvil and vice makers at Dudley as slack.

**Coal Mining.**—There has been a falling off in employment throughout the district, the average time worked being  $4\frac{1}{2}$  days per week, except in Shropshire, where colliery engineers and miners report employment as fairly good.

## EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—MIDLAND COUNTIES; E. AND S.W. COUNTIES.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is dull generally.

**Glass Trades.**—All branches of the flint-glass trades at Wordsley and district are steadily employed.

**Leather Trades.**—Employment at Walsall is good with collar-makers and new brown saddlers; fair with other branches.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment in the carpet trade at Kidderminster has improved; spinners are busy, and some firms are running overtime; at Bridgnorth it continues good. At Tamworth the tape mills are running full time.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment in both departments of the tailoring trade has slackened; in the boot and shoe trade it is quiet.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—An improvement is reported.  
*C. Anthony.*

**Birmingham and District.**

**General.**—Branches of societies with 19,069 members have 464 (or 2·4 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 512 (or 2·7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

**Engineering and allied Trades.**—Four branches of engineers report employment as good, six as moderate; smiths and strikers as good; patternmakers, ironfounders, and tool makers as moderate. At West Bromwich employment is returned as good; at Coventry and Redditch as moderate. Employment in the cycle trade throughout the district is reported as quiet. Electrical engineers are fully employed. In the motor industry at Coventry employment is returned as fair.

**Brass and Copper Trades.**—Employment in the various branches, of the brass trade, is reported as fair and improved. With fender and fire-brass makers it is fair.

**Jewellers, Silversmiths, and Electro-platers.**—Jewellers and Britannia metal workers report employment as good; silversmiths and electro-platers as fairly good.

**Other Metal Trades.**—Makers of stoves, wrought-iron and steel tubes, machine-made nuts and bolts, axles, hinges, matchettes, iron and tinplate ware and file cutters report employment as good; makers of edge tools, machine-made rivets and cut nails, and nail and oddside casters, as fair; wire nail makers as quiet; bedstead makers as bad. At West Bromwich employment in the hollow-ware trade is reported as fair; in the nut and bolt and spring trades as moderate; in the iron trade as declining. At Redditch employment is good with fish-hook makers; fair with needle makers.

**Building Trades.**—Employment continues quiet.

**Glass Trades.**—The flint glass makers and flint glass cutters report employment as still quiet; glass bevellers and silverers as fair. At West Bromwich employment is good.

**Clothing Trades.**—Bespoke tailors and Jewish workers return employment as fair; boot and shoe makers as quiet.

**Woodworking Trades.**—Millsawyers and woodworking machinists, coopers and coachmakers report employment as good; cabinet makers as fair; carvers as bad. In the railway and waggon shops employment continues good.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is good in the saddlery trades and with ammunition makers, gas workers and general labourers. Gun workers report employment as good in the military section, bad in the sporting; letterpress printers as moderate; brick makers as bad. At Coventry employment is fair in the watch trade, quiet in the ribbon trade; bad with general labourers. At Redditch in the fancy-case trade overtime is being worked.—*A. R. Jephcott.*

**ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES.****Norfolk and neighbouring District.**

**Clothing Trades.**—Boot and shoe operatives are slack, and several in Norwich are wholly unemployed. Employment in the ready-made tailoring factories and with bespoke tailors is fair. With dressmakers it is good; with corset makers fair.

**Building Trades.**—Employment at Norwich is affected by the bricklayers' dispute. In other parts of the district it is good in all branches.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—Electrical and general engineers, boiler-makers, and ironworkers generally, are fully employed. Shipwrights and boatbuilders at Yarmouth and Lowestoft are well employed.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers are not busy; lithographic printers and bookbinders are fairly well employed.

**Textile Trades.**—Mat weavers are fairly busy. Silk and crape workers are not busy.

**Fishing Industry.**—Trawl fishing at Yarmouth and Lowestoft is dull; the herring fishing is beginning to fall off; a good many Scotch boats have left.

**Miscellaneous.**—Maltsters, organ builders, horticultural builders, flour and oilcake mill workers, dock labourers and navvies are well employed.—*G. Cleverley.*

**Suffolk, Essex and District.**

**Engineering, Shipbuilding and Metal Trades.**—Engineers, moulders, and boiler-makers report employment as good, overtime being worked in many shops; shipwrights as dull.

**Clothing Trades.**—Boot and shoe operatives report employment as good in the export, dull in the home trade. In ready-made tailoring employment at Ipswich and Bury St. Edmunds is good; at Colchester fair. Corset makers are well employed.

**Textile Trades.**—Mat weavers report employment as good at Sudbury, Long Melford, Hadleigh and Lavenham; dull at Glemsford. Factory-silk workers at Halstead and Sudbury report employment as fair; hand-loom weavers at Sudbury and furniture silk weavers at Brintree as quiet.

**Building Trades.**—In most branches employment has fallen off.

**Furnishing Trades.**—Cabinet makers and upholsterers are busy.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers have been well employed. Lithographers and bookbinders are busy.

**Miscellaneous.**—Brickmakers, maltsters, farriers and cigarmakers report employment as good; general labourers as fair. Shipping and dock labour is good at Harwich and Parkeston; fair at Ipswich.—*R. W. Mather.*

**ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES.****Bristol and District.**

**General.**—Returns from branches of societies (not including coal miners) having an aggregate membership of 10,300 show that 404 (or 3·9 per cent.) were unemployed, as against 272 (or 2·6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

**Clothing Trades.**—The bespoke tailors, readymade garment makers, and glovers report employment as good; the boot and shoe operatives as moderate; the silk hatters as quiet.

**Engineering and allied Trades.**—Employment is good with smiths, brassworkers, tinplate workers, boiler-makers, ironfounders and pattern-makers. It is moderate with engineers, railroad coach-makers and shipwrights. Sheet iron workers are in demand.

**Coal Mining.**—Employment in the Radstock district continues good. On the Bristol coalfield there is a slight falling off, and in the Forest of Dean the demand for labour has slackened.

**Building Trades.**—Employment at Bristol is bad with plasterers, dull in other branches. In other towns it is dull generally with bricklayers and painters; otherwise moderate.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment in Trowbridge and district is slack except with those engaged on Government work.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment is fair with cabinet makers, polishers and wood-cutting machinists; quiet with upholsterers. Coopers continue busy. Boxmakers are slack.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment is good with letterpress printers; moderate with lithographic printers and artists; fair with bookbinders.

**Transport Trades.**—The railroad men and carters report employment as moderate; the sea-going men as fair; the dock labourers as good.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is slack with quarrymen; bad with general labourers; fair with glass bevellers, glass bottle-makers and lathrenders; moderate with oil and colourmen and curriers; good with brushmakers.—*J. Curle.*

**Plymouth and South-Western District.**

**Mining, Quarrying, and China Clay Industries.**—Tin and copper miners are well employed. In the granite quarries work is reported as moderate generally, in one or two cases as good; in limestone and slate quarries as quiet. China clay workers continue well employed.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—Employment with engineers is good generally in Devon; in the Cornish towns it is moderate. Ironfounders, boiler-makers, iron and steel shipbuilders and shipwrights report employment as good in Plymouth and Devonport; shipwrights as quiet at Falmouth and Dartmouth. Brass and tinplate workers are well employed. Government establishments continue busy, working some overtime. Branches with 2,860 members have 25 unemployed as against 5 at the end of October.

**Building Trades.**—Employment has fallen off generally, and is dull in most towns.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress and lithographic printers are moderately employed in Plymouth, Devonport and Exeter; in Torquay and the Cornish towns work is quiet. Bookbinders and paper rulers continue quiet.

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

**Clothing Trades.**—Work is dull with tailors in Plymouth and Devonport; in Exeter it is fair. Boot and shoe makers are fairly employed. In collar and cuff factories work has improved.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment continues quiet.

**Dock and Quayside Work.**—General work has been moderate; it has improved a little with coal lumpers and grain carriers. In clay and stone ports quay labour has been well employed.

**Fishing Industry.**—Fishing operations have been interfered with by stormy weather.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is fair with excavators and navvies, but all out-door work has been hindered by bad weather. Employment with brushmakers continues bad. In market and fruit gardens work is quiet.—*W. Hedge.*

## WALES.

## North Wales District.

**Mining.**—Employment continues good at the coal, lead and blende mines, notwithstanding a scarcity of wagons.

**Quarrying.**—Except at Bethesda, employment is good at the slate, granite sett, freestone and lime and roadstone quarries.

**Building Trades.**—Employment with bricklayers and carpenters and joiners is slack at Oswestry, fair at Wrexham. Painters are slack in both towns.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—The engineers at Sandycroft and Ruabon report employment as good, at Oswestry as fair. Steel workers report employment as slack; blastfurnacemen at Mostyn as improving; other branches of these trades as good.

**Clothing and Textile Trades.**—Employment in the woollen and tweed industries has been fairly well maintained. The bespoke tailors at Bangor, Carnarvon, and Rhyl report employment as quiet; at Oswestry as fair.

**Printing Trade.**—The letterpress printers at Wrexham report employment as good, at Carnarvon as fair.

**Chemical and Terra-Cotta Trades.**—Employment is reported as good in the terra-cotta industry. It is good at one chemical works, slack at another.—*G. Rowley.*

## South Wales District.

**Coal Mining.**—Collieries in the Neath Valley are working irregularly. Elsewhere work is generally regular.

**Steel and Iron Trades.**—Most of the works report employment at the mills and furnaces as quiet and irregular.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—Coal shipments have again not been brisk; pitwood, timber and iron ore imports have been good; corn imports quiet. Dock hoppers and labourers have had average employment; ship painters and scruffers have been well employed. The shipment of crews has been moderate.

**Ship Repairing and Engineering.**—Branches of the engineers and ironfounders, with 3,220 members, have 83 (or 2.6 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of October. Boilermakers and shipwrights report employment as bad; ironfounders as good. Engineering works in the inland districts are still well employed.

**Building Trades.**—In Cardiff and Newport employment is bad; in most inland districts moderate. Branches of carpenters and joiners and plumbers with 1,774 members have 90 (or 5.1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 92 (or 5.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

**Miscellaneous.**—Letterpress printers are well employed. Fuel workers are moderately employed generally, brisk at Swansea. Metallurgical and chemical workers continue quiet. Wagon builders and lifters are busy.—*T. Davies.*

**Tinplate Trade in South Wales, Monmouthshire, and Gloucestershire.**—Employment in this industry showed no change as compared with October, and was much worse than a year ago. At the end of November 345 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of black plates), the same number as at the end of October. At the end of November, 1899, there were 399 mills at work. The number of workpeople employed at the end of November is estimated to be about 17,200.

## SCOTLAND.

## Edinburgh and District.

**General.**—Branches of societies with 13,250 members have 924 (or 7.0 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 631 (or 4.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

**Coal Mining.**—Employment in the Lothians is good on the whole, though at some of the collieries time has been lost owing to want of wagons.

**Shale Miners and Oil Workers.**—Returns from 29 mines employing 3,028 workpeople show that 2,723 were employed in mines working full time, and 305 in mines working 22 and under 24 days during the four weeks ended November 24th.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Branches with 2,214 members have 107 (or 4.8 per cent.) idle, as against 97 (or 4.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October. Branches in Falkirk with 3,576 members have 449 (or 12.6 per cent.) idle, as against 78 (or 2.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

**Shipbuilding.**—Branches with 600 members have 18 (or 3.0 per cent.) idle, as against 80 (or 13.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment continues to improve in the woollen industry. In Hawick, Selkirk and Galashiels both spinners and weavers are fairly well employed. The hosiery workers are busy. The carpet weavers in Midlothian report employment as bad.

**Building Trades.**—All branches report employment as bad; the number of unemployed is still large.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Branches with 1,082 members have 75 (or 6.9 per cent.) idle, as against 53 (or 5.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

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

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Branches with 2,300 members have 28 (or 1.2 per cent.) idle, as against 55 (or 2.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

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

## Glasgow and West of Scotland.

**Shipbuilding.**—Employment continues fair. Branches with 15,196 members return 528 (or 3.5 per cent.) as idle, as against 429 (or 2.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment has been fairly good during the month. Branches with 32,075 members return 1,154 (or 3.6 per cent.) as idle, as against 969 (or 3.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is still fairly good with slaters, glaziers and joiners; dull in other branches.

**Mining.**—In Stirlingshire and Lanarkshire miners have hardly been so busy. In Dumfriesshire employment is good, except for want of wagons. In Ayrshire it is fair with coal miners; ironstone miners are fully employed. In Renfrewshire, ironstone miners are fairly active; coal miners are fully employed.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment with bespoke tailors is fair; in ready-made tailoring and mantlemaking it is not quite so good. It has improved with boot and shoe operatives, and is good with knee shoemakers, but dull with slipper-makers.

**Textile Trades.**—At Glasgow carpet weavers are dull; employment in other branches is fair or good. At Paisley thread workers are fully employed. Carpet weavers at Paisley and lace workers at Newmilns report employment as fair. At Kilbirnie, Greenock and Port Glasgow all branches are well employed.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Printers and bookbinders and stereotypers report employment as improved.

**Glass Trades.**—Bottle makers, decorative glass workers and flint glass makers report employment as good.

**Transport Trades.**—Tramway men, railway men, hackney carriage drivers and dock labourers are well employed; carters, sailors and firemen are dull.

**Miscellaneous.**—Gilders, saddlers, curriers, spindle and flyer makers, sett makers, paviors, pipe makers and finishers, scale beam makers, rope spinners and cigarette makers are busy. French polishers, calendermen, mattress makers, bakers, brush-makers and calico engravers are dull.—*A. J. Hunter.*

## Dundee and District.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment in the jute trade remains fairly good on the whole. In the linen trade employment is moderate.

**Coal Mining.**—Employment at the Fifeshire collieries has been less steady, although still fairly good on the whole. Reports from pits employing 12,959 workpeople give an average of 5.2 days per week worked during the four weeks ending November 24th, as compared with 5.4 days per week in October.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—Employment in the engineering trades shows little change. With ironmoulders it has improved somewhat. The other branches continue moderately employed. At the shipbuilding yards work is slack in some sections. With

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

shipwrights it remains good. Branches of societies with 2,198 members return 131 (or 6.0 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 126 (or 5.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

**Building and Furnishing Trades.**—Employment in the building trades is bad. In the furnishing trade it is moderate. Societies with 1,780 members report 162 (or 9.1 per cent.) as idle, as compared with 102 (or 5.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

**Dock Labour.**—A number of vessels have arrived from India with large consignments of jute, and activity prevails at the wharves and docks. Shore labour has, in consequence, been brisk.

**Fishing Industry.**—Continued stormy weather has interrupted the white fishing, and the catches landed have been poor.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment in the printing and allied trades has been fair. In the tailoring trade improvement continues. With boot and shoe makers and bleachfield workers employment is moderate; with floorcloth and linoleum makers steady.—*P. Reid.*

## Aberdeen and District.

**General.**—Branches of societies (omitting building masons) with 5,122 members have 239 (or 4.6 per cent.) idle, as against 215 (or 4.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October.

**Quarrying.**—The masons and granite polishers report employment as fair; quarrymen and sett makers as good.

**Building Trades.**—The carpenters and joiners, plumbers, plasterers and slaters report employment as fair; masons as bad; painters as dull.

**Transport Trades.**—The railway servants and carters report employment as good; dock labourers as fair.

**Shipbuilding and Engineering.**—Branches of societies with 1,362 members have 66 (or 4.8 per cent.) idle, as against 47 (or 3.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October. The boiler-makers and iron and steel shipbuilders, shipwrights, engineers, and blacksmiths report employment as fair; ironmoulders and patternmakers as dull; tinplate workers, brassfinishers and horse-shoers as good.

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

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

**Fishing.**—In November, at the Port of Aberdeen, trawl and line boats landed 82,950 cwt., valued at £61,380, a decrease in quantity and value as compared with October.

**Miscellaneous.**—The comb makers, sawmillers, and gasworkers report employment as good; bakers as bad; upholsterers and saddlers as quiet; cabinet makers, hackney carriage drivers and labourers as fair.—*W. Johnston.*

## IRELAND.

## Dublin and District.

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

**Building Trades.**—Employment with plumbers is affected by a dispute. Bricklayers report employment as slack; one branch of painters as fair, two as dull.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Ironfounders and boiler-makers report employment as good; brassfounders and finishers and gasfitters as fair; engineers as bad.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Cabinet makers, cart and wagon-builders, carpet planners and lath makers report employment as fair; coachbuilders as bad. Upholsterers are not busy.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment has improved with letterpress printers. It is good with lithographic printers; slack with bookbinders.

**Miscellaneous.**—The brush makers, bottle makers, and dock and general labourers report employment as good; bakers and saddlers as fair; boot makers as dull; paviors' labourers, purveyors' assistants, and hatters as bad.

## Belfast and District.

**Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades.**—Branches of societies with 8,484 members have 201 (or 2.4 per cent.) unemployed, as against 227 (or 2.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October. The general labourers and platers' helpers report employment as slack; the patternmakers as quiet; blacksmiths, smiths' strikers and helpers, boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders, engineers, steam engine makers and ironfounders as moderate; furnishing trades,

machine workers, shipwrights, enginemen, cranemen and firemen as fair; machine drillers, hole cutters, and sheet metal workers as good.

**Linen Trades.**—Societies with 3,810 members have 91 (or 2.4 per cent.) unemployed, as against 85 (or 2.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October. The flax dressers, flax roughers, hackle and gill makers report employment as moderate; beetlers, linen lappers and women workers as dull; power loom tenters as bad; yarn dressers as good.

**Building Trades.**—Branches of societies (excluding the carpenters and joiners who are still affected by a dispute) with 1,620 members have 160 (or 9.9 per cent.) unemployed, as against 169 (or 10.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October. All sections report employment as dull.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Branches of societies with 866 members have 60 (or 6.9 per cent.) unemployed, as against 62 (or 7.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October. The coachbuilders report employment as slack; millsawyers, French polishers, upholsterers and packing-case makers as dull; cooperers as fair.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Branches of societies with 890 members have 37 (or 4.2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 58 (or 6.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October. The lithographic printers report employment as bad; lithographic artists and designers as dull; bookbinders and letterpress printers as fair.

**Clothing Trades.**—The boot and shoe operatives and the tailors are still fairly well employed.

**Miscellaneous.**—Branches of societies with 2,007 members have 43 (or 2.1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 56 (or 3.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of October. The carters report employment as quiet; bakers, butchers, and railway servants as fair; locomotive engine drivers, paviors and municipal employees as good.—*R. Sheldon.*

## Gork and District.

**Shipbuilding and Engineering.**—Boilermakers and iron shipbuilders report employment as good in Haulbowline, fair in Cork, dull in Passage West; the several branches of the engineering trade as fair.

**Building Trades.**—Painters, stone cutters, plumbers, gasfitters and carpenters report employment as fair; other branches as dull.

**Woodworking Trades.**—Millsawyers and wood-working machinists, cooperers, coach makers, packing-case makers and cabinetmakers report employment as fair in Cork, Limerick and Waterford; dull in Killarney and Tralee.

**Textile and Clothing Trades.**—Flax, tweed, and feather operatives are fairly busy in Millfield, Douglas, Blarney and Cork; tailors and boot and shoe operatives are dull.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Employment is quiet.

**Miscellaneous.**—Stationary enginemen, railway and tramway employees and beef and pork butchers report employment as good; bakers, confectioners, and corporation employees as fair; hackney car drivers as dull.—*P. O'Shea.*

## REPORT OF U. S. A. COMMISSIONER OF LABOUR.

THE Fourteenth Annual Report\* of the Commissioner of Labour of the United States contains the result of an investigation dealing with "the essential facts relating to waterworks, gasworks, and electric-light plants in the United States, as operated under private and municipal ownership or control."

The total number of the plants in the United States, so far as could be ascertained, and the number of such plants dealt with in the Report may be summarised as under:—

—	Total Number of Plants.	Invested Capital.	Plants dealt with in Report.	
			Number.	Capital.
Waterworks:—				
Private ... ..	1,539	\$5,781,764	375	\$2,314,737
Municipal ... ..	1,787	107,052,618	659	96,577,982
Gasworks:—				
Private ... ..	951	\$8,822,140	356	\$1,806,207
Municipal ... ..	14	399,608	11	290,703
Electric Light Plants:—				
Private ... ..	2,572	\$5,246,233	632	\$3,732,878
Municipal ... ..	460	2,688,058	320	2,272,694

\* Fourteenth Annual Report of the Commissioner of Labour, 1899. Water, Gas, and Electric-light Plants under Private and Municipal Ownership, Washington, Government Printing Office, 1900.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

Summary.—During November 137,738 workpeople received advances averaging 6½d. weekly per head, and 11,036 sustained decreases averaging 1s. 7d. weekly per head, the net effect of all the changes being an increase of 4½d. per week in the wages of those affected.

Increases.—The principal increases were those to 125,000 coal miners in South Wales and Monmouthshire, 5,450 ironworkers in the North-of-England, and 2,798 felt hatters in Lancashire and Cheshire.

Decreases.—The principal decreases were those sustained by 5,000 coal miners in the Forest of Dean, and 6,000 iron and steel workers in Scotland.

Methods of Arrangement.—Changes affecting 876 workpeople were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work. Changes affecting 134,180 workpeople in the coal mining and iron and steel industries took effect under sliding scales, and two changes affecting 3,000 workpeople were arranged, one by arbitration and the other by conciliation. The remaining changes, affecting 10,718 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives.

Summary for Eleven Months of 1900.—For the eleven months, January to November, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) reported as having received advances or sustained decreases is 1,079,653. Of these 1,053,313 obtained a net average increase of 3s. 9½d. weekly per head, and 26,340 sustained a net average decrease of 2s. 3½d. weekly per head. The general effect of all the changes was a rise of 3s. 8d. weekly per head on the wages of the 1,079,653 workpeople affected.

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

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which Change takes effect in 1900, Approximate Number of workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week. Includes sections for Building Trades, Coal Mining, Iron and Steel Trades, Metal and Engineering Trades, and Clothing Trades.

\* Exclusive of overtime. † Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade, the weekly rate given in the Table is, in the absence of exact figures, the result of averaging the wages for five summer and two winter weeks. ‡ See also under Changes in Hours of Labour.

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

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which Change takes effect in 1900, Approximate Number of workpeople affected by, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, Increase or Decrease in a full week. Includes sections for Clothing Trades, Employees of Local Authorities, Gas Workers, and Miscellaneous Trades.

DECREASES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN NOVEMBER, 1900.

THE changes in hours of labour reported in November affected 685 workpeople, whose working time was reduced on an average by 11½ hours per week.

Table with columns: Locality, Occupation, Date from which change takes effect in 1900, Approximate number of workpeople directly affected, Hours of labour in a full week, Extent of Dec. per week.

AUTUMN HIRINGS IN CUMBERLAND, WESTMORLAND, AND LANCASHIRE.

INFORMATION as to the rates of wages agreed upon at the half-yearly hirings held at Martinmas (November) in Cumberland, Westmorland, and North Lancashire, has been received from a number of farmers, and also from a Correspondent who made special enquiries at certain of the fairs. Reports state that farm servants were generally scarce. The great majority were re-engaged by their former employers, after taking a week's or a fortnight's holiday. Farm work is stated to have got very backward, owing to the wet weather, and farmers were anxious to retain their men. The following rates of wages for the half-year were generally obtained (in addition to free board, lodging and washing):—Best men, £16 to £20; second-class men and youths, £10 10s. to £16; best women, £12 to £15. These rates are higher than those obtained at the corresponding period last year.

The men hired at these fairs are unmarried, and lodge and board in the farmhouses. Most of the farm servants in these counties are of this class. The term of service is generally a half-yearly one.

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

H. M. Inspectors of Factories. New Appointment. Mr. F. Cowell, 39, Victoria-street, S.W., has been appointed an Inspector of Factories and Workshops under the title of Inspector's Assistant.

‡ Exclusive of overtime. ¶ See also under Changes in Rates of Wages.

LABOUR-SAVING DEVICES IN AMERICA.

A REPORT on labour-saving devices in America, drawn up by Mr. Seymour Bell, British Commercial Agent in the U.S., has been received through the Foreign Office.

As an instance of the division of labour in the case of operations which do not admit of the employment of any great quantity of machinery, reference is made to a slaughter-house where beasts are killed at the rate of 225 an hour, hogs at the rate of 550 an hour, and sheep at the rate of 620 an hour. In the case of the hogs the operations of felling, skinning, cutting-up, and hanging in the cooling-room are completed in 32 minutes, during which the hog is handled by 125 men, each man having one operation to perform.

As an instance of the methods adopted for handling large quantities of material, it is stated that 300 million bushels of flour and grain were received and shipped in Chicago during 1899. On receipt it is stored in warehouses, the trucks which contain it having a capacity of about 900 bushels and being discharged by two men in from 10 to 15 minutes. Its transmission to the portion of the house where it may be required is effected by machinery. Vessels are loaded at the rate of 350,000 bushels per day of 10 hours, and about 160 railway cars, averaging about 900 bushels each, can be loaded in the same time. Particulars are also given of arrangements by which vessels are able to discharge over 3,000 tons of coal in 15 hours at the cost of less than one penny per ton. In a yard handling about 1,100 tons per day only about 12 men are employed in discharging, and the total number employed does not exceed 30.

As an instance of the amount of constructive work which can be performed where labour-saving machinery is used wherever possible, particulars are given of one of the large American bridge works. Only bridges, turn-tables and similar goods are turned out, the total yearly output being approximately 40,000 tons per annum. The total number employed, including office staff, is 850. All the machinery is driven by electricity. One man takes charge of two or three of the drilling machines.

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:—

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.		
				According to last audit.	According to previous audit.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in price per ton.
<b>Coal.</b>				s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Northumberland— (Average for all classes of coal at pit's mouth)	50,000	June, July, Aug.	—	11 0'65	10 1'72	+ 0 10'93
South Wales and Monmouth— (Average for certain classes of coal free on board)	125,000	Sept., Oct.	1st Dec.	16 3'43 16 5'14	16 0'00 16 1'71	+ * +
<b>Pig Iron.</b>				s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Cumberland ...	1,350	July, Aug.	1st Oct.	81 6'935	81 4'880	+ 0 2'055
Cleveland ...	5,500	July, Aug., Sept.	6th Oct.	69 6'48	68 6'79	+ 0 11'69
<b>Manufactured Iron.</b>				s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
North of England— (Rails, plates, bars and angles)	5,450	Sept., Oct.	26th Nov.	165 11'22	162 4'53	+ 3 6'69
Midlands— (Bars, angles, tees, hoops, sheets, plates, and strips, &c.)	20,000	Sept., Oct.	31st Dec.	195 0'49	198 8'10	- 3 7'61
West of Scotland— (Rounds, squares, flats, angles, tees, hoops and rods)	3,500	Sept., Oct.	26th Nov.	171 4'47	177 8'29	- 6 3'82

From the above Table it will be seen that the ascertained selling price of Welsh coal continued to increase during September and October. An increase

\* The exact amount of difference cannot be stated.

is shown during the same period in the average price of manufactured iron in the North of England, but decreases took place in the Midlands and West of Scotland.

As a result of these ascertainties the wages of miners in South Wales have been increased, under the sliding scale in operation in that district, by 2½ per cent., viz., from 71¼ to 73¼ per cent. above standard. In the North of England, puddlers received an advance of 3d. per ton and millmen of 2½ per cent. In West Scotland decreases of 6d. per ton and 5 per cent. in the wages of puddlers and millmen respectively have taken place, while in the Midlands wages remain unaltered—the decrease in the ascertained selling price shown above just about balancing the increase shown at the previous audit, when, as reported on p. 294 of the October LABOUR GAZETTE, it was resolved, for reasons there stated, to forego the advance then due.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN NOVEMBER.

DURING November 662 fresh applications for work were registered by eight Bureaux (see LABOUR GAZETTE, February, 1899, p. 36) furnishing Returns, and 756 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 220 persons, of whom 124 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps).

The Returns for the London Girls' Friendly Society business agency, and the Manchester, Liverpool and Edinburgh Bureaux are for the present grouped together in the following Table, which shows the work done by the eight Bureaux during November. A Return from the Dundee Labour Bureau is appended, but not included in the summaries.

WORK DONE IN NOVEMBER.

	No. of Fresh Situations offered by Employers.	No. of Fresh Applications of Work-people seeking Situations.	No. of Workpeople engaged by Employers.	
			Perma- nently.	Tempo- rarily.
<b>Summary by Bureaux.</b>				
Central Bureau— 60, Chancery-lane, W.C. ...	52	49	12	7
Society for Promoting Training and Employment— 22, Berners-street, W. ...	37	50	6	23
Y. W. C. A.— 26, George-street (1)... Hanover-square, W. (2)...	221 89	391 71	95 19	16 11
Other Bureaux ...	57	101	16	11
Total of 8 Bureaux ...	756	662	144	76
<b>Summary by Occupations.</b>				
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc....	26	56	4	1
Shop Assistants ...	6	12	—	3
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc. ...	70	34	15	18
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists ...	37	50	7	28
Apprentices and Learners ...	12	3	1	2
Domestic Servants ...	554	369	107	17
Miscellaneous ...	51	138	10	7
Total Number in November, 1900 ...	756	662	144	76
Total Number in October, 1900 ...	866	868	174	49
Total Number in November, 1899 ...	858	696	221	—
Dundee Labour Bureau ...	8	47	7	1

The number of fresh applications for domestic servants fell from 659 to 554, and the number of servants applying from 456 to 369; the number engaged for permanent employment fell from 114 to 107. The number of fresh applications from employers for dress-makers and milliners fell from 107 to 70, and the number requiring such situations from 66 to 34; the number engaged through the Bureaux fell from 42 to 33. Of the 8 situations offered at the Dundee Labour Bureau 7 were for mill and factory operatives; of the 47 wanting situations 32 were mill and factory operatives, and 10 were charwomen.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN NOVEMBER.

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

THE total number of workpeople reported as killed by accidents during November was 367, or 27 more than in October, and 60 less than in November, 1899.

In the first group of industries shown in the following summary Table, including railways, mines, quarries, shipping, and factories, and employing 5,435,110 persons (according to the latest available figures), 340 were reported killed, or 54 less than in November, 1899, and 8,842 injured by accidents, as compared with 8,052 reported injured in November, 1899. These figures give one death in November, 1900, for every 15,986 persons employed in those industries. During the eleven completed months of 1900, 4,060 persons were reported killed and 84,248 injured, as against 3,820 reported killed and 77,493 injured in the corresponding period of 1899.

In the remaining occupations included in the Tables, 27 persons were reported killed, and 1,240 injured in November, as compared with 33 killed and 1,119 injured in November, 1899.

SUMMARY TABLE.

	Killed.		Injured.		Number Employed according to latest Returns.
	Nov., 1900.	Nov., 1899.	Nov., 1900.	Nov., 1899.	
<b>Railway Service—</b>					
Accidents connected with movement of vehicles	37	51	382	449	534,741
Other Accidents ...	2	3	1,113	1,079	
<b>Total Railway Service ...</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>1,495</b>	<b>1,528</b>	<b>534,741</b>
<b>Mines ...</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>76,166</b>
<b>Quarries (over 20 feet deep) ...</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>97,095</b>
<b>Shipping ...</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>231,784*</b>
<b>Factories ...</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>6,612</b>	<b>5,838</b>	<b>3,807,024</b>
<b>Total of above ...</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>8,813</b>	<b>8,052</b>	<b>8,435,110</b>
<b>Workshops ...</b>					
Under Factory Act, 1895, Sec. 23, 25	27	23	1,045	912	Cannot be stated.
Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	—	9	182	195	
<b>Grand Total ...</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>10,082</b>	<b>9,171</b>	

DETAILED TABLES.

	By Accidents connected with Movement of Vehicles.		By other accidents on the Companies' Premises.		Total.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
<b>Railway Service—</b>						
Brakemen and Goods	5	83	—	47	5	130
Engine Drivers ...	3	38	—	62	3	100
Firemen ...	—	46	—	95	—	141
Guards (Passenger) ...	—	8	—	8	—	16
Guards (Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers) ...	8	11	—	103	8	114
Porters ...	3	44	1	261	4	305
Shunters ...	2	53	—	31	2	84
Miscellaneous occupations (including Contractors' Servants) ...	16	99	1	506	17	695
<b>Total for November, 1900 ...</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1,113</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>1,495</b>
<b>Total for November, 1899 ...</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1,079</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>1,528</b>

Mines—

	Underground.	Surface.	Total.
Explosions of Firedamp ...	—	28	—
Falls of ground ...	20	158	—
During Ascent or Descent	1	13	—
Miscellaneous ...	24	194	13
<b>Total for November, 1900 ...</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Total for November, 1899 ...</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>13</b>

Quarries over 20 feet deep.

	Inside.	Outside.	Total.
Explosives or Blasting ...	2	10	—
Falls of ground ...	6	19	—
During Ascent or Descent	1	1	—
Miscellaneous ...	4	48	2
<b>Total for November, 1900 ...</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Total for November, 1899 ...</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>1</b>

	By Wreck or Casualty.		By other Accidents.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
<b>Shipping*—</b>					
On Trading Vessels—					
Sailing ...	37	—	13	14	52
Steam ...	26	6	60	160	86
On Fishing Vessels—					
Sailing ...	3	—	2	1	5
Steam ...	—	—	3	8	3
<b>Total for November, 1900 ...</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>146</b>
<b>Total for 3 months Sept. to November, 1900 ...</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>374</b>
<b>Total for 3 months Sept. to November, 1899 ...</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>306</b>

Factories—

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
<b>(a) Accidents reportable by Certifying Surgeons—</b>					
Adults ...	52	1,555	1	170	53
Young Persons ...	5	570	—	137	5
Children ...	—	13	—	3	—
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>2,138</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>(b) Other Accidents—</b>					
Adults ...	—	3,519	—	71	—
Young Persons ...	—	533	—	38	—
Children ...	—	2	—	1	—
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>4,054</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Total Factories—</b>					
November, 1900 ...	57	6,192	1	420	58
November, 1899 ...	63	6,451	1	387	64

Workshops—

	Killed.	Injured.	Total.
Adults ...	11	—	11
Young Persons ...	2	—	2
Children ...	—	—	—
<b>Total November, 1900 ...</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>November, 1899 ...</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>

Factories & Workshops (classified by trades).

	Killed.	Injured.	Total.
<b>Textiles—</b>			
Cotton ...	3	274	133
Wool and Worsted ...	—	63	53
Other Textiles ...	1	66	57
<b>Non-Textiles—</b>			
Extraction of Metals ...	8	125	1
Founding and Conversion of Metals	14	941	8
Machines, Engines and Engineering	1	1,358	7
Ship and Boat Building	8	857	—
Wood ...	1	277	1
Chemicals, &c. ...	4	182	7
Other Non-Textile Industries	17	2,056	163
<b>Total for November, 1900 ...</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>6,205</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Total for November, 1899 ...</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>6,458</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Under Factory Act, 1898, Sec. 23, 25</b>			
Docks, Wharves and Quays	15	478	—
Warehouses ...	5	388	—
Buildings to which Act applies	7	144	—
Laundries ...	—	7	22
<b>Total for November, 1900 ...</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1,017</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Total for November, 1899 ...</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>16</b>

Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894—

	Construction or Repair.	Use or Working.	Total.
Bridge ...	3	—	3
Canal ...	65	8	73
Railway ...	—	—	—
Tramroad ...	—	—	—
Tramway ...	4	22	26
Tunnel ...	—	31	31
Other Works (Act does not apply)	—	49	49
<b>Total for November, 1900 ...</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>102</b>
<b>Total for November, 1899 ...</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>36</b>

\* 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 fishing vessels employed in and out of Scottish ports and of vessels trading exclusively between Scottish ports, or to Asiatics serving under Asiatic articles of agreement, are not included. With these exceptions, injuries, however trivial, are included. The number of persons stated to be employed is the sum of the number of persons engaged for the first crew of each vessel employed during 1899, and remaining on the Register at the end of that year.

† Accidents during the working of railways, being reportable under other Acts are not notified under the Act of 1894.

‡ Authorised by any local or personal Act of Parliament.  
§ Or other steam engine or machine in the open air.

TRADE DISPUTES.

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

**Number and Magnitude.**—Forty-eight fresh disputes were reported as having begun in November, 1900, compared with 30 in October, 1900, and 31 in November, 1899. In these 48 disputes 12,253 workpeople were directly and 5,846 indirectly affected, a total of 18,099, which compares with 16,079 in October, 1900, and 9,707 in November, 1899.

**Trades Affected.**—In the building trades 6 disputes took place, involving 831 workpeople; in the mining and quarrying industries 16 disputes, involving 13,653 workpeople; in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades 9 disputes, involving 980 workpeople; in the textile trades 11 disputes, involving 2,197 workpeople; in the clothing trades 4 disputes involving 321 workpeople; and in miscellaneous trades, 2 disputes, involving 117 workpeople.

**Causes.**—Of the 48 disputes, 15 arose on demands for advances, and 4 on objections to reductions in rates of wages. Eleven disputes arose on other wages questions, 3 on hours of labour, 9 on questions of working arrangements, and 6 on miscellaneous questions.

**Results.**—Thirty-five new disputes, involving 13,871 workpeople, and 8 old disputes, involving 1,087 workpeople, were reported as having terminated. Of the 43 new and old disputes terminated, 14, involving 6,748 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 9, involving 2,728 persons, in favour of the employers; and 12, involving 3,858 persons, resulted in compromise. With regard to the remaining 8 disputes, involving 1,624 persons, certain points are still under consideration. At the end of November, 14 old disputes, involving altogether about 3,500 workpeople, were reported to be still unsettled.

**Duration of Disputes in Working Days.**—The aggregate duration in November of all the disputes, new and old, was about 215,500 days, compared with 155,000 days in October, 1900, and 94,000 in November, 1899.

**Summary for the First Eleven Months of 1900.**—For the eleven completed months of 1900 the aggregate number of workpeople involved in the 562 disputes which commenced in these months was 174,708, as compared with 168,467 in the 680 disputes reported in the corresponding period of 1899. The aggregate duration in 1900 of trade disputes was about 2,775,000 working days, as compared with 2,375,000 in the corresponding period of 1899.

Locality.	Occupation.*	Number of Workpeople affected.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
		Directly.	Indirectly.*				

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN NOVEMBER, 1900.

		6 Disputes. BUILDING TRADES. 831 Workpeople affected.					
Locality.	Occupation.*	Number of Workpeople affected.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
		Directly.	Indirectly.*				
Newcastle, Gateshead, Shields, Jarrow and Sunderland	Bricklayers	450	...	Nov. 26	...	General lock-out to enforce settlement of a strike for advance in wages which has been in progress since May last, in Newcastle district	No settlement reported.
Rochdale	Plumbers	50	...	28	...	Refusal to work with non-unionists	No settlement reported.
Birmingham	Joiners	48	...	2	4	Against employment of cabinet makers on work alleged to belong to joiners	Amicable settlement arrived at.
Bakewell	Masons	14	...	2	15	Against employment of labourers as wallers	Cause of complaint removed.
Cork	Plumbers	9	...	12	18	Against alleged deduction from outworking allowance	Outworking allowance maintained.
Dublin	Plumbers	260	...	23	...	For advance in wages of 1d. per hour	No settlement reported
		16 Disputes. MINING AND QUARRYING. 13,653 Workpeople affected.					
Dewsbury	Hurriers, and other Colliery Workpeople	44	140	30	5	Objection to length of hours in afternoon shift	Work resumed on old conditions.
West Yorkshire	Enginemen and other Colliery Workpeople	104	1,500	8	6	Demand for an eight hours day	Work resumed on old conditions.
Bolton	Miners and other Colliery Workpeople	200	20	1	5	Dispute as to prices for coal getting	Re-arrangement of prices mutually agreed upon.
Burnley	Hewers, Drawers and other Colliery Workpeople	263	102	16	...	For an assured wage of 7s. per day for coal getters in difficult places, and a revised price list for drawers	No settlement reported.
Cannock Chase	Engine Winders, Stokers, Fitters, and other Colliery Workpeople	300	2,500	19	7½	Demand for an eight hours day	Hours reduced to 10 per day, and advances in wages granted.
Nottingham	Pit Lads and other Colliery Workpeople	70	903	5	4	Dissatisfaction as to mode of computing for certain lads the general advance of 5 per cent.	Satisfactory scale of advances agreed to.
Hucknall	Pit Lads and other Colliery Workpeople	90	465	19	2	Dispute arising out of men's objection to the contract system	No settlement reported.
Bethesda	Quarrymen	2,500	...	22	...	For advance of 2½d. per ton in cutting price	Advance granted.
Gowerton	Hewers, Trammers, Hitchers, Bankers and other Colliery Workpeople	95	4	5	6½	Dispute as to fixing of a price list	No settlement reported.
Llangennech	Coal Miners	130	...	5	...	To maintain agreement previously arrived at	Agreement to be upheld.
Llanmorlais	Coal Miners	134	...	3	6½	Against reduction in standard rates of 7d. per day	No settlement reported.
Neath	Coal Miners	16	...	19	...	Refusal to work with non-unionists	Non-unionists joined the South Wales M <sup>ine</sup> Federation.
Forth	Coal Miners	1,493	...	1	...	Refusal to work with non-unionists	Non-unionists joined the South Wales Miners' Federation.
Rhondda	Coal Miners	2,000	...	1	4	Against notice to pick out a rib of inferior coal hitherto sent up as coal	Advance of 1d. per ton conceded on account of change.
Armadaile	Hewers and Drawers	30	...	28	4	Dispute as to payment to be made for double shifting stooping places.	Work resumed by majority of men pending a settlement of rates of payment.
Blaityre	Coal Miners	550	...	14	6½		
		9 Disputes. METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES. 980 Workpeople affected.					
Grimsby	Engineers	40	...	12	...	Because of stoppage of 5s. from a man's wages for a lost tool	No settlement reported.
Wellington (near)	Fitters, Sheet Iron Workers and Labourers	114	...	27	3	For reinstatement of fellow-workmen who had been discharged in connection with a dispute as to overtime	Men reinstated.
Wolverhampton	Iron Turners	18	...	12	—	For advance in wages	All except five returned to work under old conditions.
Cardiff	Engineers, Pattern-maker, and Smiths' Hammermen	16	4	30	...	Refusal to work with a non-unionist	No settlement reported.

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

TRADE DISPUTES—continued.

Locality.	Occupation.*	Number of Workpeople affected.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
		Directly.	Indirectly.*				

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN NOVEMBER, 1900.—continued.

		11 Disputes. METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES.—(contd.)					
Tredegar	Enginemen, Stokers, and Lathers	30	...	14	2	Notice of dismissal given to one man for refusal to work with a driver alleged to have been promoted out of his turn	Amicable settlement effected.
Coatbridge	Labourers (Tube Works)	70	...	12	—	For advance in wages of 10 per cent.	Some returned to work on old conditions, others replaced.
Glasgow	Labourers and Other Workpeople (Tube Works)	500	100	8	14	For advance in wages and improvement in other working conditions; also for reinstatement of discharged fellow workmen	Work resumed on old conditions by some, others replaced.
Port Glasgow	Engineers	57	...	16	2	Dispute as to demarcation of work	Amicable settlement effected.
Port Glasgow	Ship Joiners	31	...	22	7	Because of one man being superseded by another	Work resumed pending a conference.
		4 Disputes. TEXTILE TRADES. 2,197 Workpeople affected.					
Accrington (near)	Cotton Weavers	225	...	Nov. 14	4	Alleged bad material	Work resumed on understanding that grievance should be enquired into.
	Cotton Weavers	173	...	15	1	Complaint against an overlooker	Work resumed; complaint to be enquired into.
Blackburn	Cotton Weavers	200	...	15	1	Alleged bad material	Work resumed; dispute to be referred to a joint meeting of employers' and operatives' representatives. Weavers fined for leaving without notice.
	Cotton Weavers	185	...	20	3	Dissatisfaction with price paid for a certain class of work	Work resumed pending reference of dispute to a joint meeting of employers' and operatives' representatives.
Burnley	Cotton Weavers	308	...	22	2½	Alleged bad material	Better material promised.
Colne	Cotton Warp Dressers	27	...	6	1	Alleged undue preference to non-unionist in share of work	Amicable settlement arrived at.
Oldham	Weavers, Twistlers, Jobbers, &c.	225	58	28	...	Alleged bad material	No settlement reported.
Padiham	Cotton Weavers	240	...	19	1	Against suspension of a fellow weaver	Weaver reinstated.
Rochdale	Cotton Weavers	64	...	29	...	Refusal to accept new price list, alleged to involve a reduction in earnings	No settlement reported.
Rossendale	Cotton Weavers	200	50	15	15	To obtain payment of list prices	Payment of list prices agreed to, less 2½ per cent. on account of local disadvantages.
Stockport (near)	Cotton Weavers	250	...	22	5	To obtain payment of list prices	An advance of 7½ per cent. granted.
		4 Disputes. CLOTHING TRADES. 321 Workpeople affected.					
Barnsley	Boot and Shoe Operatives	33	...	24	...	For a minimum wage of 28s. per week, and reduction in hours of labour from 54 to 54	No settlement reported
Guiseley	Boot and Shoe Operatives	8	...	10	16	To obtain trade union prices and conditions of labour	Work resumed on old conditions by majority of men.
London, S.E.	Boot and Shoe Lasters	160	...	27	5	Dispute as to quantity of work to be done in a given time	Work resumed pending reference of dispute to trade arbitration board.
London, W.C.	Tailors	120	...	21	7	For advance in wages	Work resumed on old conditions.
		2 Disputes. MISCELLANEOUS TRADES. 117 Workpeople affected.					
London, E.C.	Cabinet Makers	17	...	13	...	Dispute arising out of discharge of several fellow workpeople, and other matters	No settlement reported.
London, E.	Carmen	100	...	28	1	For advance in wages and other improvements in working conditions	Modified advances in wages and improvements in working conditions granted.

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

		4 Disputes. COAL MINING. 832 Workpeople affected.					
Cleator	Miners, Labourers, Shiftmen and Weightmen	84	10	29 Oct.	6	Refusal to work with non-unionists	Non-unionists joined the union.
Skelmersdale	Coal Miners, Drawers, &c.	213	...	24 Oct.	22½	For extra allowances for long distance drawing	Men to be paid 1d. per ton over 200 and under 300 yards, with 1d. for each additional 50 yards.
Hucknall	Pit Lads and other Colliery Workpeople	80	430	31 Oct.	3	Dissatisfaction as to mode of computing for certain lads the general advance of 5 per cent.	Satisfactory scale of advances agreed to.
Tondu (near)	Coal Hewers	15	...	2 April	176	Men disputed the identity of a certain seam.	Work resumed; dispute being referred to Siding Scale Committee, who overruled men's contention.
		4 Disputes. MISCELLANEOUS TRADES. 255 Workpeople affected.					
Stockton-on-Tees	Plumbers	33	...	7 Sept.	63	For advance in wages from 8½d. to 9½d. per hour	Immediate advance of ½d. per hour; further advance of ½d. per hour to be made after six months.
Tamworth	Brickmakers	109	...	30 Aug.	69	For advance in wages of 10 per cent.	Work resumed on old conditions.
Wellington (near)	Coach Painters	13	...	29 Oct.	16	Dissatisfaction with piecework prices offered for certain work.	Amicable settlement effected.
Falkirk	Ironmoulders	100	...	12 Sept.	64	Dispute as to piece rates for certain work, and on account of discharge of union delegate.	Work resumed pending further investigation of disputed prices; delegate returned to work with the other men.

\* 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.

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 November, and the eleven completed months of 1900, with comparative figures for 1899:—

	Month of Nov.,		Eleven months ended November—	
	1900.	1899.	1900.	1899.
Imported	650,786	404,127	3,088,668	2,994,879
Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns	354,000	316,816	2,761,511	2,877,270
Exported	36,658	37,594	330,708	502,279

**Traffic Receipts.**—The total receipts of 21 of the principal rail-

ways of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended December 1st amounted to £6,520,874, a decrease of £13,771 (or 0.2 per cent), as compared with the corresponding period a year ago. The receipts from passenger traffic were £2,549,719, an increase of £70,598, and those from goods and mineral traffic, £3,971,155, a decrease of £84,369.

**Fishery Statistics.**—The total value of the fish (including shell fish) landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom during November was £938,059, an increase of £76,236 as compared with November, 1899. In England and Wales there was an increase of £45,916, in Scotland of £28,951, and in Ireland of £1,369.

**Bankruptcies.**—The bankruptcies gazetted during November numbered 411, being 68 more than in November, 1899, 22 more than in November, 1898, and 26 more than in November, 1897.

PAUPERISM IN NOVEMBER.

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

THE number of paupers relieved in 35 selected Urban Districts of the United Kingdom on one day in the second week of November was 326,417, corresponding to a rate of 202 per 10,000 of the estimated population of those districts in 1900.

Compared with October, 1900, an increase is shown of 9,447 in the number relieved, and of 6 in the rate per 10,000 of the population. There is an increase in the rate in thirty-three districts, the largest increases being in Central London (15 per 10,000), West Ham, Manchester and Dublin Districts (11 each), and North Staffordshire (10). In the Edinburgh and Leith District the rate is unchanged, and Galway District shows a decrease of 11 per 10,000.

Compared with November, 1899, the number of persons relieved has increased by 3,781, and the rate per 10,000 of population by 1. Seventeen districts show decreases, the principal being in Belfast (23 per 10,000), Wigan (18), Wolverhampton (14), Barnsley (12), and Stockton and Tees District and Galway (10 each). The rate in four districts is unchanged, and the remaining 14 show increases, the most marked increases being in Manchester (24 per 10,000), Dublin (14), West Ham (11), and Coatbridge and Airdrie District (10).

Table with columns: Selected Urban Districts, Paupers on one day in second week of November, 1900 (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 1900 (A month ago, A year ago).

\* Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small Pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; and of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses. † Excluding Casuals, but including persons maintained in Institutions for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, &c., who are classified as not able-bodied.

LABOUR BUREAUX IN NOVEMBER.

DURING November the 9 Bureaux furnishing Returns registered 2,335 fresh applications for work, as compared with 2,042 in November, 1899, an increase of 293. Work was found by these Bureaux for 1,227 persons, of whom 939 (745 males and 194 females) were engaged by private employers, 63 by Local Authorities, and 225 males by the Salvation Army.

The number remaining on the registers at the end of November was 1,277, as against 1,323 a year ago.

(I.) Work done in November.

Table with columns: Name of Labour Bureau, No. of Fresh Applications offered 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), Nov., 1900, Nov., 1899.

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

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 for 9 Bureaux.

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

Table with columns: Occupation, No. on Register at end of (Nov., 1900, Nov., 1899), Men, Lads and Boys, Women and Girls, Grand Total for 9 Bureaux.

NOTE.—The usual return for Hackney has not been furnished this month. \* Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities. † Of these, 324 were stated to be engaged as boardmen and bill distributors.

FOREIGN TRADE OF UNITED KINGDOM.

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

Summary for November.

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

The imports for November, 1900, were valued at £49,733,730, as compared with £44,244,811 for November, 1899, an increase of £5,488,919, or 12.4 per cent., and the exports amounted in value to £29,637,904, as against £29,741,452 in November, 1899—a net decrease of £103,548. The exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures alone were valued at £24,624,649 in November, 1900, and £24,571,940 in November, 1899—an increase of £52,709, or 0.2 per cent., whilst the value of foreign and Colonial merchandise exported in November, 1900, shows a decrease as compared with November, 1899, of £156,257 or 3.1 per cent.

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

Table with columns: Category, 1899, 1900, Increase, Decrease. Categories include Food, Drink and Tobacco; Metals; Chemicals, Dyestuffs, and Tanning Substances; Oils; Raw Materials for Manufactures; Manufactured and Miscellaneous Articles.

The imports of wheat in November, 1900, show an increase of 428,280 cwt. in quantity, and £233,802 in value, as compared with November, 1899. Wheat meal and flour has increased 171,675 cwt., and £121,175; barley, 306,955 cwt., and £101,032; oats, 525,800 cwt., and £132,285; beans, 53,400 cwt., and £15,792; oatmeal, 9,090 cwt., and £17,193; and maize (Indian corn) meal, 30,110 cwt., and £17,624. Other kinds of corn show a decrease in both quantity and value, viz., peas, 34,250 cwt., and £13,137; maize or Indian corn, 1,484,000 cwt., and £133,339; and other kinds of corn and meal, 20,914 cwt., and £6,218.

The imports of raw cotton show increases of 981,461 cwt. in quantity and £3,850,729 in value—jute and alpaca, vicuna and llama have also increased, but raw silk has decreased 100,357 lbs. and £75,500, and sheep or lambs' wool 22,017,185 lbs. and £1,040,417. The decrease in the imports of this latter article is almost entirely due to smaller shipments from British possessions.

With regard to other descriptions of raw materials, the most notable increase is under the heading of wood and timber of all kinds, which shows an increase in value of £455,569.

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

Table with columns: Category, 1899, 1900, Increase, Decrease. Categories include Animals, living; Articles of Food and Drink; Raw Materials; Articles Manufactured and Partly Manufactured; Yarns and Textile Fabrics; Metals, and Articles Manufactured therefrom (except Machinery and Ships); Machinery and Millwork; Ships, new (not registered as British); Miscellaneous.

The exports of coal, coke, and fuel in November, 1900, show an increase of 548,040 tons and £1,567,993, as compared with November, 1899. The exports of cotton yarn have decreased to the extent of 6,520,900 lbs. and £143,002, while woollen yarn shows a falling

off of 21,300 lbs. and £1,951, and worsted yarn of 817,000 lbs. and £71,011. Jute yarn has decreased 2,003,200 lbs. in quantity and £16,619 in value. The exports of cotton piece goods show a decrease of 25,075,900 yards in quantity, but an increase of £220,521 in value. The decreases in the quantity of these goods exported may be said to be almost entirely due to lesser shipments to China and Hong Kong, which markets took only 10,638,600 yards in November, 1900, as against 47,528,200 yards in November, 1899.

Tonnage of Shipping entered and cleared with Cargoes.—The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during November, 1900, amounted to 3,137,149 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,716,312 tons, as against 2,941,999 tons entered, and 3,557,572 tons cleared in November, 1899. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes, during November, 1900, amounted to 2,497,485 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,447,099 tons, as against 2,553,203 tons entered and 2,537,487 tons cleared in November, 1899.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—During November, 19,917 passengers left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe, an increase of 3,861 as compared with November, 1899. Comparing the eleven completed months of 1900 with the corresponding period of 1899, there is an increase of 57,590, viz., from 230,239 in 1899 to 287,829 in 1900, the increase being chiefly due to the greater number of passengers (especially foreigners) bound for the United States and British North America.

British and Irish.—Of the 19,917 passengers in November, 11,528 were of British or Irish origin, being 3,141 more than in November, 1899. During the eleven months ended November, 1900, the passengers of British or Irish origin numbered 162,653, an increase of 21,637 as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

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

Table with columns: Destination, November, 1900, November, 1899, Total for eleven months ended— (November, 1900, November, 1899). Destinations include United States, British North America, Australasia, South Africa, Other places.

Foreign.—The remainder of the 19,917 passengers in November, viz., 8,389, were foreigners or persons whose nationality was not distinguished, an increase of 720 as compared with a year ago. The total number of foreigners, etc., who left the United Kingdom during the eleven completed months of the year was 125,176 in 1900, and 89,223 in 1899.

Alien Immigration.—The number of aliens that arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent during November was 9,998, as against 8,724 in November, 1899. Of these 3,785 were stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, compared with 3,708 so stated in November, 1899. Those not stated on the Alien Lists to be on their way to America or other places out of the United Kingdom numbered 6,213 (including 1,282 sailors), the corresponding number for November, 1899, being 5,016 (including 1,099 sailors). The figures for November, 1900 and 1899, and also for the eleven months ended November in each year, are as follows:—

Table with columns: Destination, November, 1900, November, 1899, Total for eleven months ended— (November, 1900, November, 1899). Destinations include Aliens not stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, Aliens en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom.

\* These figures are inclusive of sailors, to the number of 1,283 in November, 1900; 1,099 in November, 1899; and 13,912 and 12,390 respectively for the eleven months ended November in each year.



**INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS**

**REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN NOVEMBER.**

(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 November it will be seen that 2 Trade Unions, 5 Co-operative Associations for Distribution, 16 Friendly Societies and 51 branches of existing Friendly Societies, and 1 Building Society were added to the Register of the United Kingdom during the month. Two Trade Unions, 10 Industrial and Provident Societies, 53 Friendly Societies (including 26 branches) and 15 Building Societies are reported as having ceased to exist, commenced to "wind-up," or had registration cancelled.

**ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.**

**Trade Unions.**—England and Wales.—Bilston and District Builders' Labourers Protection, Accident and Burial Society, Himley Arms, Dudley-street, Bilston; Manchester Ship Canal Pilots' Association, Royal Rock Hotel, Rock Ferry, Cheshire. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

**Industrial and Provident Societies.**—(A) Associations for Distribution.—England and Wales.—Torrington Ind. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 49, South-street, Torrington, Devon. Scotland.—Hareless Hill Provident Soc., Ltd., Charring Cross, Larkhall. Ireland.—Dartry Co-op. Home Industries, Kinlaugh, co. Leitrim; Derrylin Co-op. Industries, Derrylin, Ballyconnell, co. Cavan; Clones Co-op. Industries, Clones, co. Monaghan. (B)—Associations for Production.—England and Wales.—None. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None. (C) Miscellaneous.—England and Wales.—None. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

**Friendly Societies.**—(A) New Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—Ordinary Friendly, 4; Dividing, 6; Collecting, 1; Specially authorised, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 2. Scotland.—Ordinary Friendly, 1. Ireland.—Specially authorised, 1. (B) New Branches of Existing Societies.—England and Wales.—46. Scotland.—4. Ireland.—1.

**Building Societies.**—England and Wales.—1. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

**ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.**

**Trade Unions.**—England and Wales.—Registration cancelled by request.—Retford Builders' Labourers' Protective, Accident and Burial Soc., Half Moon Inn, Market-square, Retford; Leicester and District Male and Female Costermongers and Street Vendors' Trade Protection Soc., Hollybush Hotel, Belgrave-gate, Leicester. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

**Industrial and Provident Societies.**—England and Wales.—Liquidator's final return received.—Tunbridge Wells Ind. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 7, Kensington-street, Tunbridge Wells; Bradley Green Equitable and Ind. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., High-street, Bradley Green. Dissolved by Instrument.—Cobridge Ind. Prov. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 124, Cobridge-road, Cobridge; Cradley Heath and District Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 196, High-street, Cradley Heath; Desborough New Freehold Land and Builders Soc., Ltd., 11, Station-road, Desborough. Registration cancelled by request.—Bugbrooke New Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 1, High-street, Bugbrooke; Workshop Ind. Coal Supply Assoc., Ltd., 5, Ryton-street, Worksop; Cottage Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 2, Grove-terrace, West Kensington, London, W.; Resolution to "Wind-up" received.—Clydach Vale Ind. and Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 12, Marian-street, Clydach Vale. Scotland.—Ceased to exist.—Glasgow International Ind. Soc., Ltd. Ireland.—None.

**Friendly Societies.**—England and Wales.—By instrument of dissolution: Ordinary Friendly, 11; Orders, 1; Benevolent, 1; Dividing, 2; Branches, 2. Registration cancelled: Ordinary Friendly, 6; Dividing, 1; Orders, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 1. Dissolved otherwise: Juvenile, 1; Branches, 14. Scotland.—By instrument of dissolution: Ordinary Friendly, 1; Branches, 1. Dissolved otherwise: Ordinary Friendly, 1; Branches, 7. Ireland.—By instrument of dissolution: Branches, 2.

**Building Societies.**—England and Wales.—By instrument of dissolution, 2; notice of commencement of dissolution, 2; notice of termination of dissolution, 9. Scotland.—By instrument of dissolution, 1; notice of termination of dissolution, 1. Ireland.—None.

**Factories, Workrooms, and Shops in Victoria. Report of Chief Inspector for 1899.**

The report of the Chief Inspector of Factories, Workrooms, and Shops in Victoria for 1899 states that in that year there were 3895 factories employing 49,546 persons (or 12.7 persons per factory), as compared with 3,777 factories employing 45,844 persons (or 12.1 persons per factory), in 1898, and with 2,507 factories, employing 47,813 persons (or 19.1 persons per factory) in 1890, the highest number previously reached. There were therefore 1,388 more factories and 1,733 more people employed than in 1890 in the height of the land boom. It must be remembered that the number of persons required to constitute a place a "factory or workroom"

was reduced from six to four in 1893, and to one person in the case of furniture factories and bakehouses by subsequent Acts.

The Report gives an account of the decisions of six special wages Boards which were in force during the year.

**INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN NOVEMBER.**

**I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.**

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Cases taken.	Con-victions.	Amount of Penalties.	Amount of Costs.
<b>By Owners, Managers, &amp;c.:</b>				
Neglecting to Limewash ...	6	6	£ s. d. 4 19 0	£ s. d. 2 5 6
Allowing Factory or Workshop to be over-crowded ...	1	1	3 0 0	0 5 0
Allowing doors of Factory to be illegally fastened ...	1	1	0 10 0	0 14 0
Neglecting to Fence Machinery ...	14	14	71 10 6	9 0 6
Allowing Children to clean Machinery in motion, or to work between fixed and traversing parts of a machine in motion ...	2	1	1 0 0	0 19 6
Employing Young Persons without necessary Certificates ...	69	69	43 11 10	34 13 8
<b>Illegal Hours or Times of Employment:</b>				
Before or after the legal hour ...	42	42	37 16 0	14 7 2
During meal times, or without proper intervals for meals ...	13	13	21 0 0	2 18 2
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted ...	12	12	5 13 6	6 2 7
On Sundays or holidays, or children on successive Saturdays ...	4	3	0 2 6	1 10 0
At night ...	8	8	18 6 3	4 8 3
Employing children full time, otherwise than in morning and afternoon sets, &c. Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts, Notices, &c. ...	7	6	12 8 0	2 11 6
Not keeping Registers ...	25	21	21 19 2	7 8 0
Not affixing or properly filling up Notices and Abstracts ...	12	12	10 8 3	5 3 3
Not sending Notices required by Act ...	13	13	11 12 6	7 12 6
Not supplying sufficient or correct particulars ...	8	8	2 1 0	3 10 0
Prosecutions under Cotton Cloth Factories Act, 1889 ...	2	2	10 0 0	3 11 6
Prosecutions under Truck Acts ...	8	8	4 10 0	7 16 4
<b>By Workmen:</b>				
Prosecutions for Breach of Special Rules ...	3	3	0 7 6	1 2 6
<b>Total for November, 1900 ...</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>280 16 0</b>	<b>118 19 11</b>
<b>Total for November, 1899 ...</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>229 10 6</b>	<b>122 15 10</b>

**II.—Under Mines and Quarries Acts.**

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu-tions.	Con-victions.	Cases with-drawn.	Cases dis-mitted.	Amount of Fines and Costs.
<b>UNDER THE MINES ACTS.</b>					
<b>By Owners, Managers, &amp;c.:</b>					
Ventilation ...	1	1	—	—	£ s. d. 1 0 0
Miscellaneous ...	4	3	—	1	15 0 0
<b>By Workmen:</b>					
Safety Lamps ...	1	1	—	—	1 0 0
Shot-firing and Explosives ...	2	2	—	—	3 7 4
Timbering ...	3	3	—	—	5 13 0
Lucifer Matches, Smoking, &c. ...	16	16	—	—	12 8 6
Riding on Trams ...	10	10	—	—	8 19 0
Miscellaneous ...	25	24	—	1	25 15 6
<b>Total for November, 1900 ...</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>73 3 10</b>
<b>Total for November, 1899 ...</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>76 12 0</b>
<b>UNDER THE QUARRIES ACT.</b>					
<b>By Owners, Managers, &amp;c.:</b>					
Special Rules ...	3	3	—	—	£ s. d. 5 0 4
<b>Total for November, 1900 ...</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>5 0 4</b>
<b>Total for November, 1899 ...</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3 4 0</b>

**III.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.**

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

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu-tions.	Con-victions.	Total Penalties.	Total Costs.
<b>By Owners or Masters of Ships:</b>				
Failure to put up Passenger Steamer's Certificate ...	1	1	£ s. d. 2 0 0	£ s. d. 0 13 0
<b>Total for Nov., 1900 ...</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2 0 0</b>	<b>0 13 0</b>
<b>Total for Nov., 1899 ...</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>64 0 0</b>	<b>10 2 2</b>

\* In four cases defendants were each sentenced to 30 days' imprisonment.

