

# THE Board of Trade LABOUR GAZETTE.

PREPARED AND EDITED AT THE OFFICES OF THE BOARD OF TRADE, LONDON, S.W.

Vol. XV.—No. 2.]

FEBRUARY, 1907.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

## EMPLOYMENT CHART.

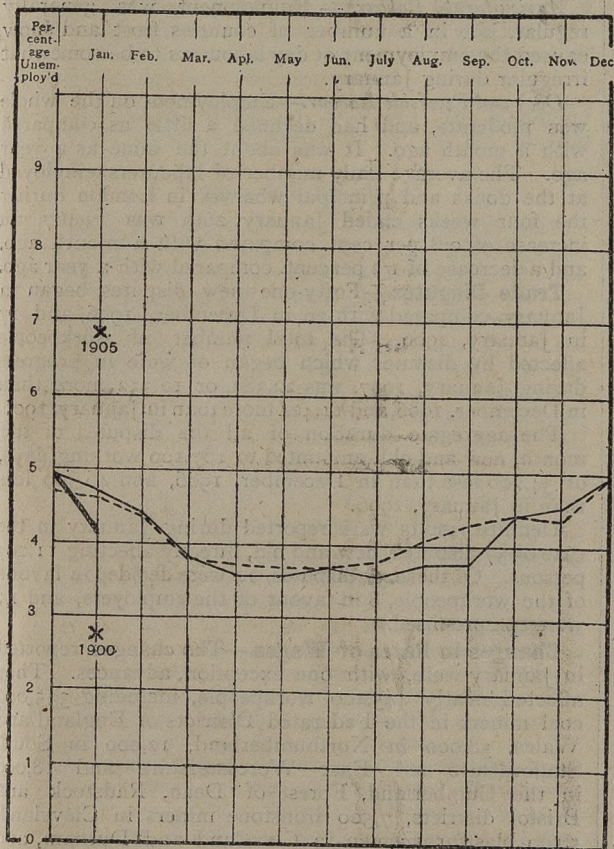


CHART SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve=1907. — Thin Curve=1906.  
----- Dotted Curve=Mean of 1897-1906.

X The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed during the past ten years, with the dates thereof.

## STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN JANUARY.

[Based on 7,974 returns, viz.: 4,364 from Employers and their Associations; 3,138 from Trade Unions; 394 from Local Correspondents; and 78 from other sources.]

EMPLOYMENT in January showed an improvement as compared with the previous month, although the weather caused some stoppages in the outdoor trades.

As compared with January, 1906, nearly all the principal industries showed an improvement.

The increases in rates of wages reported in January affected nearly 450,000 workpeople, including 400,000 coal miners. The aggregate rise in the weekly wages of all those affected was over £20,000.

In the 272 Trade Unions, with an aggregate membership of 617,911, making Returns, 25,990 (or 4.2 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of January, 1907, as compared with 4.9 per cent. at the end of

December, 1906, and 4.7 per cent. at the end of January, 1906.

**Building Trades.**—Employment continued dull during January, and was seriously affected by bad weather. Compared with a year ago, no general change was shown by the Returns, but employment was noticeably better with carpenters and joiners and plumbers.

**Coal Mining.**—Employment in this industry was very good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. The number of days worked per week at the pits in January (after allowing for the New Year holidays) was 5.48, an exceptionally high average for that month.

**Iron Mining.**—Employment was good in iron mines, and showed little change compared with a month or a year ago.

**Pig Iron Industry.**—Employment in this industry in January was very good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters, employing about 25,000 workpeople, showed that 343 furnaces were in blast at the end of January, as compared with 340 in the previous month and 335 a year ago.

**Iron and Steel Works.**—Employment at iron and steel works continued very brisk, and showed a slight improvement on a month ago. It was better than a year ago. The volume of employment at 207 works from which Returns were received was 0.2 per cent. greater in the week ended January 26th, 1907, than in the week ended December 22nd, 1906, and 2.9 per cent. greater than a year ago.

**Tinplate Manufacture.**—Employment during January continued good, and was better than a month ago and a year ago. According to Returns received, 445 tinplate and sheet mills were working at the end of January, compared with 441 in December, 1906, and 434 a year ago.

**Engineering Trades.**—Employment in January was good on the whole, and better than a month ago. It was about the same as a year ago. In several districts it was reported that overtime was worked. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of January, was 3.2 as compared with 4.1 a month ago, and 3.2 a year ago.

**Shipbuilding Trades.**—Employment during January showed an improvement on a month ago, and was about the same as a year ago. The effect of recent strikes is still very noticeable in the figures for the Tees and Hartlepool district. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of January was 8.8, as compared with 11.3 at the end of December, and 7.9 per cent. at the end of January, 1906.

**Cotton Trade.**—Employment in this industry continued very good in January and was better than a year ago. There is still a scarcity of labour in all departments. Returns from firms employing 136,529 workpeople in the week ended January 26th showed a decrease of 2.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 4.5 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Woollen Trade.**—Employment on the whole was fairly good, but not quite so good as a year ago. Returns from



firms employing 23,567 workpeople on pay-day in the week ended 26th January, showed a decrease of 4.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 0.8 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Worsted Trade.**—Employment in the worsted trade was fairly good; it was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 45,284 workpeople on pay-day in the week ended 26th January, showed a decrease of 1.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 2.2 per cent. compared with a year ago. Several firms reported a deficiency of labour in January.

**Flax (Linen) Trade.**—Employment continued good, and better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 47,626 workpeople on pay-day in the week ended 26th January, showed a decrease of 2.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 5.3 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Jute Trade.**—Employment continued good. Returns from firms employing 19,263 workpeople on pay-day in the week ended 26th January, showed a decrease of 1.0 per cent. in wages paid compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 0.9 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Silk Trade.**—Employment in this trade was not quite so good as a month ago, but was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 8,167 workpeople in the week ended January 26th showed a decrease of 2.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 3.5 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Lace Trade.**—Employment in this trade was very brisk in England and moderate in Scotland. It was considerably better than a year ago except in Scotland. Returns from firms employing 9,193 workpeople on pay-day in the week ended 26th January showed a decrease of 2.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 10.6 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Hosiery Trade.**—Employment on the whole was fairly good, and better than a year ago. Firms employing 14,653 workpeople in the week ended January 26th showed a decrease of 1.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 5.8 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Tailoring Trade.**—Employment in London in the *bespoke* branch showed a seasonal decline, but was better than a year ago; in the Provinces it was bad. In the *ready-made* branch it was fairly good, and better than a month ago; it showed little change compared with a year ago.

**Hat Trades.**—Employment during January in the *Silk Hat* branch was quiet; in the *Felt Hat* branch it was fair, and better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members returned as unemployed at the end of January in the *Silk Hat* trade was 12.7, compared with 11.6 at the end of December, and 14.4 a year ago. The corresponding percentages for the *Felt Hat* trade were 5.0, 5.1, and 7.5.

**Boot and Shoe Trade.**—Employment in the boot and shoe trade was much the same as a year ago. Returns from firms employing 61,760 workpeople in the week ended January 26th showed a decrease of 1.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 0.3 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Other Leather Trades.**—Employment generally continued quiet and was somewhat worse than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 3,686 had 6.9 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 7.1 per cent. in December, and 6.4 per cent. in January, 1906.

**Paper-making Trades.**—Employment in these trades continued good, and was better than a year ago.

**Printing and Bookbinding Trades.**—Employment was moderate on the whole, showing a slight improvement compared with the end of December, and with January, 1906. In the printing trades the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of January was 4.3, as compared with 4.7 at the end of December and 5.1 in January, 1906. In the bookbinding trades the

percentages were 3.9 for January, 1907, 3.2 for December, and 4.1 for January, 1906.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment continued dull in most branches [of these trades, and declined somewhat, but was better than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 34,892 reported 6.4 per cent. unemployed at the end of January, as compared with 6.0 per cent. in December, and 7.3 per cent. in January, 1906.

**Glass Trades.**—Employment continued fairly good, on the whole and was better than a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 11,084 workpeople on pay-day in the week ended 26th January showed a decrease of 1.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago, and an increase of 7.4 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

**Pottery and Brick and Tile Trades.**—Employment in the Pottery trade continued good, and was better than a year ago. In the Brick and Tile trades it was dull owing to seasonal slackness, and much the same as a month ago and a year ago.

**Agricultural Labour.**—Employment was generally regular, but in a number of counties frost and snow caused the employment of day labourers to be somewhat irregular during January.

**Dock and Riverside Labour.**—Employment on the whole was moderate, and had declined a little as compared with a month ago. It was about the same as a year ago. The average daily number of labourers employed at the docks and principal wharves in London during the four weeks ended January 26th was 13,467, an increase of 0.8 per cent. compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 1.2 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Trade Disputes.**—Forty-one new disputes began in January, compared with 20 in December, 1906, and 17 in January, 1906. The total number of workpeople affected by disputes which began or were in progress during January, 1907, was 22,382, or 10,352 more than in December, 1906, and 11,424 more than in January, 1906.

The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old, amounted to 167,100 working days, or 34,200 less than in December, 1906, and 46,500 less than in January, 1906.

Definite results were reported during January in the case of 37 disputes, new and old, directly affecting 11,207 persons. Of these 37 disputes, 14 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 8 in favour of the employers, and 15 were compromised.

**Changes in Rates of Wages.**—The changes reported in January were, with one exception, advances. They affected nearly 445,400 workpeople, including 335,000 coal miners in the Federated Districts of England and Wales, 38,000 in Northumberland, 12,000 in South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire and 18,000 in the Cumberland, Forest of Dean, Radstock and Bristol districts, 7,500 ironstone miners in Cleveland, 5,500 blastfurnacemen in Cleveland and Durham, and 5,000 iron and steel workers in South Wales and Monmouthshire, all of whom received advances. The total computed effect of the reported changes was an advance of over £20,200 per week in the wages of those affected. The changes of the previous month affected 129,400 workpeople, the net result being an advance of about £8,400 per week. During January, 1906, the number of workpeople affected was nearly 120,000, and the net result an increase of £3,570 per week. Of the changes reported in January one affecting 80 workpeople was settled by arbitration; six, affecting about 335,800 workpeople, were arranged by Conciliation Boards, or by mediation, and fifteen changes, affecting over 18,000 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting 91,400 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives. In three cases, affecting 750 workpeople, the changes were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

Advances to take effect early in February have been reported affecting 20,000 ironworkers in the Midlands, 5,500 coal miners in the Forest of Dean, and 3,500 blastfurnacemen in Scotland. Particulars of these changes are not included in the foregoing statistics.

## RECENT CONCILIATION CASES AND COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.

### CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

#### Foundry Glazers, Belper.

Mr. G. R. Askwith, the arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade in this case (*see GAZETTE* for January, p. 6), issued his award on January 21st. The glazers had put forward a claim for advance, of varying amounts on their price list, and the arbitrator awarded an all-round increase of 10 per cent., to date from December 27th, 1906. The advance is to continue for not less than six months from the date of the award, and thereafter to be subject to the usual notice from either side.

#### Painters, Tyne and Wear.

On January 28th an application from the joint secretaries of the United Board of Conciliation for the House Painting Trade of the Tyne and Wear was made to the Board of Trade requesting the appointment of an arbitrator to adjudicate on certain questions which the Board of Conciliation had been unable to settle.

The Board of Trade on February 2nd appointed Mr. A. A. Hudson, barrister-at-law, to act in that capacity.

#### Music Hall Dispute.

On 21st January a dispute commenced at certain London music halls, affecting artistes, musicians and stage hands. The dispute arose on the question of the terms of an agreement which the managers of the halls were asked to sign. On 14th February a joint application from representatives of the parties to the dispute was made to the Board of Trade for the appointment of an arbitrator to decide all the questions at issue. The Board of Trade on the same day appointed Mr. G. R. Askwith, barrister-at-law, to act in that capacity.

On 14th February Mr. Askwith issued an interim award of which the operative part is as follows:—

"The parties having requested me to issue immediately an interim award upon certain matters necessary to be determined before the hearing of questions of wages and other matters in dispute I award and declare that on and after Saturday the 16th day of February no artiste who is under contract to the above named managers or has agreed to abide by the result of this arbitration shall perform at the Scala Theatre or elsewhere in violation of any contract or in furtherance and continuance of the strike and that all legal proceedings by any of the managers against any of the artistes or other persons concerned shall be withdrawn and that all artistes and other persons holding contracts shall be allowed to fulfil their contracts with the managers on and from Monday the 25th February upon giving notice of their intention to fulfil their contracts on or before Saturday the 16th February and further that all pickets meetings and issuing of circulars or notices in connection with or in furtherance of the existing strike shall forthwith cease."

Further arbitration proceedings will begin at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, 19th February, at St. Bride's Foundation Institute, Bride Lane, E.C.

### OTHER CASES.

#### Dyers, Yorkshire and Lancashire.

In November, 1906, the dyers employed at the various works covered by the Bradford Dyers' Association, Ltd., put forward a demand for an unconditional advance in wages of 10 per cent. The employers offered to grant the advance subject to greater freedom being given to them in regard to the manning of machinery. Negotiations were entered into, and on January 16th the following agreement was arrived at:—

1.—That an advance of 10 per cent. on the present rates of wages take effect from 18th January, 1907, which shall be taken to mean an increase of 2s. per week to employees receiving over 14s. per week, and of 1s. per week to those receiving less than 14s.

2.—That the association shall have the right to reduce the number of men by a total, excluding stoppages due to the closing of works, not exceeding 5 per cent. of the number employed on 1st January, 1907.

3.—That boy labour and the number of improvers be restricted by an arrangement based on the existing proportions of these classes.

To carry this arrangement into effect a census of wages shall be taken after the application of Clause 1., showing the names and wages of each employee receiving 28s. and under per week.

That for purposes of classification the employees shall be divided into three groups, namely:—Men, improvers, boys.

Men shall be defined as those receiving from 26s. to 28s. per week. Improvers, those receiving from 18s. and under 26s. per week. Boys, those receiving from 10s. and under 18s. per week.

It is agreed that the average rate of wages of each separate group, and of the whole, shall not be reduced during the existence of this arrangement.

The wages of boys and improvers shall be dealt with in the following manner:—Boys shall commence at 10s. per week, they shall be advanced 2s. after one year's service, and 1s. per annum in succeeding years, but on attaining 18 years of age their wages shall be 18s. per week.

The wages of improvers shall be advanced from 18s. per week, 2s. after one year's service in this class, and 1s. per annum in succeeding years until they reach a wage of 26s.

Advances shall be made on the first pay day in January of each year.

In all cases it is understood that the rates stated are for the branches classified as Bradford, with 1s. less for Halifax and Leeds, and 2s. less for the country branches.

4.—That in the manning of machinery and the organisation of work regard shall be paid to—

(a) The right of the association to organise its equipment and to regulate its labour with the view to the lowest cost production.

(b) The right of the workman to increased wages when contributing to increased output, or subjected to increased physical strain; or where, as a result of reorganisation, additional responsibility is placed on him.

NOTE.—It is understood that Clause 4 (b) shall not operate until after the reduction provided for by Clause 2 shall have taken place.

5.—That to the men displaced from any cause whatever during the year 1907, the association shall pay an amount equal to and in addition to that paid under their out-of-work benefit by the society, which will make a total of 16s. per week per man for the first 10 weeks and 10s. per man for the next 10 weeks.

6.—That any adjustment rendered necessary under the preceding clauses shall be dealt with under the procedure provided for by the agreement of August 18th, 1899.

About 6,000 workpeople in Yorkshire and Lancashire are affected by the terms of this agreement.

#### Wages of Blastfurnacemen in Scotland.—New Sliding Scale.

At a Special Meeting of the Board of Conciliation for the Regulation of Wages in the Pig Iron Trade of Scotland, held in Glasgow on January 23rd, 1907, an amended wages scale was adopted, to take effect from February 1st. By this scale it is agreed that when the average price of Scotch pig iron warrants in the Glasgow market is over 48s. 8d., and not over 50s. 11d., "the wages shall be 15 per cent. above the basis rates, and is the minimum wage, although pig iron should fall to a lower price"; and when the average price is over 84s. 8d., wages, under the scale, will be 55 per cent. above the basis rates. This is to be regarded as the maximum wage, although pig iron should rise to a higher price. For each rise or fall of 2s. 3d. in the average price of pig iron, between these limits, the wages are to be advanced or reduced by 2½ per cent. In the old scale of 1900 wages were changed 5 per cent. for every 4s. 6d. rise or fall in the average price of Scotch pig iron.



It was also agreed that it shall be an instruction to the accountants, in ascertaining the average price of Scotch pig iron warrants from and after 1st November, 1906 (in terms of Article 3 of the Agreement of 13th April, 1900), that they shall take (in conjunction with the cash prices as already provided for) the settlement price of Scotch pig iron warrants in the Glasgow market on each iron market day on which there has been no cash transaction in Scotch pig iron warrants, and that they shall ascertain the three months' average price from the daily prices so determined.

In accordance with the new sliding scale the wages of blastfurnacemen in Scotland were advanced, for the three months commencing 1st February, by 7½ per cent. on basis rates.

**GENERAL INQUIRY INTO EARNINGS AND HOURS OF LABOUR IN 1906.**

A GENERAL inquiry as to the earnings and hours of labour of all classes of workpeople in 1906 is being made by the Board of Trade. The magnitude of the inquiry will be evident from the fact that about 190,000 schedules will be issued to employers.

For most of the trades, specimens of the forms which it was proposed to issue were submitted to some of the largest employers and associations of employers. In this way much valuable criticism and advice was obtained, with the result that the schedules have been drawn up in such a way as to make the compilation of the return mainly a matter of extraction from the wages-books.

No such general inquiry into the earnings of the working classes has been made since that of 1886, the results of which were published in a series of reports dealing with many of the principal trades.\*

The information then obtained, however, is now out of date, and in the period which has elapsed many important changes in industrial conditions have taken place. Thus, it is known that changes in rates of wages are constantly occurring, and that since 1886 a considerable advance has taken place in the rates of wages in various occupations. The effect of this upward movement on the wages level of the working classes as a whole is not so readily traced, but on such a point the material which it is hoped may be published as a result of the present inquiry should afford most valuable information.

While, however, the present inquiry should afford an excellent base for measuring such changes, it is primarily intended to show what the actual earnings of the working classes were in 1906.

To this end employers will be asked to furnish particulars showing:—

- (1) The aggregate wages bill of their workpeople for one week in each month of 1906, with the total number to whom wages were paid in such weeks, together with the total wages bill for the year.
- (2) The number and earnings of workpeople, classified by occupations, who worked full time, short time, and overtime respectively, in the last week of September, 1906.

The information asked for under the first head will enable the Department to show to what extent the earnings of the working classes are affected by seasonal fluctuations in employment. Such information is of the greatest importance in dealing with any questions relating to the unemployed, since it is well known that in some trades, apart altogether from the general state of employ-

\* Principal Textile Trades—C 507; Minor Textile Trades—C 516; Mines and Quarries—C 615; Local Authorities and Private Companies, Police, Road, Gas and Water Works—C 675; General Report on the Wages of the Manual Labour Classes in the United Kingdom—C 689.

ment, large bodies of workpeople are seriously affected owing to the lack of employment at certain seasons.

From the material which will be afforded by the detailed analysis asked for under the second head, it will be possible to show not only how earnings vary in each trade, but also the proportion of persons earning any specified amount, say 20s., 25s., &c.

In addition to the information regarding earnings, further details will be requested as to hours of labour, overtime rates of pay, the employment of apprentices, Sunday labour, technical education, and a few other points affecting conditions of labour.

As a guide to the way in which it is desired that the form of return should be filled up, a small model return (together with explanatory notes and instructions) has been prepared, a copy of which will accompany each schedule. Special attention is drawn to the fact that all returns received will be regarded as strictly confidential. Neither the names of firms furnishing returns nor the locality of individual works will be disclosed in any way. The details furnished will be used solely in the compilation of general statistical results in which the identity of each return will be entirely lost.

**DISTRESS COMMITTEES AND THE UNEMPLOYED IN JANUARY.**

INQUIRIES relating to exceptional distress due to want of employment in January, and the measures taken to relieve such distress, have been addressed to the Central (Unemployed) Body for London, to the various Distress Committees constituted under the Unemployed Workmen Act, and to the Local Correspondents of the Labour Department in the chief industrial centres.

From the reports of the Local Correspondents it would appear that distress due to want of employment in January was considerably less than in January, 1906, and was, on the whole, about the same as in December, 1906. Where the distress in January was greater than in the previous month, the increase was confined generally to workpeople in the Building Trades. Employment in these trades remained dull in most parts of the country and was adversely affected by severe weather throughout the month. In most of the towns no exceptional distress was reported, but at Stockton-on-Tees, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Hull, and the Clydeside burghs, in addition to slackness in the building trades, employment was affected by recent or current labour disputes.

So far as reported, a total of 13,158 persons received employment-relief in January, as compared with 8,254 persons in December. Of the former number, 5,746 were in London and neighbourhood, and 7,412 in the provinces. The average number of days' work provided during January, so far as particulars are available, was 10.4. In December, the average number of days worked was 8.4. The total amount of wages earned by those given employment-relief was £20,957, in January, an average of £1 11s. 10d. per person. In December, the total amount of wages earned was £10,104 an average of £1 4s. 6d. per person.

Of the total number of persons whose usual occupations have been stated, 15 per cent. were building trades artisans; 13 per cent. were artisans in other trades; 3 per cent. were clerks, shop assistants, waiters, &c.; 5 per cent. were carters, horse-keepers, stable-men, &c.; 3 per cent. were females; while the remainder, 61 per cent. of the whole, were labourers, porters, &c.

From inquiries that have been made it has been found that in many boroughs there is no systematic method of removing from the registers the names of those persons who have (since the date of registration) obtained work, left the neighbourhood, &c. It has consequently been found impossible to prepare a satisfactory table giving the net number of applicants still in need of

employment at the end of January. The following Table has been compiled showing the number of separate individuals registered or re-registered by the Committees during the two months December, 1906, and January, 1907, respectively.

District.	Number of Distress Committees.	Number of separate individuals registered or re-registered during	
		Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1907.
London:—			
Northern Boroughs	4	547	751
Southern	9	1,478	2,320
Eastern	5	1,009	1,310
Western	7	1,011	1,237
Central	4	222	289
Outer London:—			
Northern	3	816	733
Southern	1	270	216
Eastern	4	1,343	1,723
Western	1	169	363
Northern Counties	4	763	533
Lancashire and Cheshire	16	2,469	2,864
Yorkshire	7	1,060	829
Midland Counties	10	702	1,293
Eastern	1	389	261
Southern	9	711	928
South Wales and Mon.	2	67	52
Scotland	8	2,493	2,118
Ireland	1	1,345	2,402

In addition to the above, registration by six other Distress Committees, was begun in January. These Committees and the numbers registered up to the end of the month, are as follows:—Barrow-in-Furness (94); Galway (270); Hastings (601); Heywood (2); Scarborough (189); and Great Yarmouth (595).

Thus the total number of individuals who were registered or re-registered in January by all Distress Committees was 21,874.

**Employment-relief.**

Employment-relief was provided by the Central (Unemployed) Body for London for 407 men, for an average of 21 days each, at Hollesley Bay; and for 159 men, for an average of 24 days each, at Farnbridge. Employment was provided locally, by arrangement with the London County Council, for 670 men, for an average of 9 days each. The total amount of wages earned by those given employment-relief by the Central Body was £3,199, an average of £2 11s. 9d. per person.

Employment-relief was given during January in the Boroughs of Battersea, Fulham, Hackney, and Southwark to an aggregate of 263 persons. The average number of days worked was 16.7, and the average wages £3 10s. per head.

The employment-relief given in the various districts of Outer London in December and January is shown in the following Table:—

District.	Total Number of Men given Employment-Relief.		Average Number of Days Worked per Man.		Average Amount of Wages earned per Head.	
	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1907.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1907.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1907.
Croydon	211	236	5.2	6.5	15 6	24 7
East Ham	388	631	5.0	8.0	19 10	31 11
Edmonton	147	257	11.0	11.0	22 9	39 11
Hornsey	58	52	2.9	4.7	7 5	27 8
Leyton	283	226	4.8	4.9	19 0	28 3
Tottenham	823	923	3.5	3.6	12 3	12 7
Walthamstow	611	310	2.6	11.2	13 10	54 2
West Ham	238	1,018	8.8	9.5	23 7	26 4
Willesden	250	447	7.4	10.6	28 9	46 11

In addition to those engaged on the relief works organised in connection with the Distress Committees, a number of men were employed for a few days in December and in January to clear away snow. These have, as far as possible, been excluded from the above statements and from the following Table which shows the employment-relief provided in other parts of the country in December and January, where relief was given in both months.

\* In addition, 166 men in December and 167 in January were employed on piece work, for whom the number of days worked cannot be stated.

District.	Total Number of Men given Employment-Relief.		Average Number of Days Worked per Man.		Average Amount of Wages Earned per Head.	
	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1907.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1907.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1907.
England and Wales:					£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Birmingham	64	55	2.6	26.5	0 10 4	4 18 10
Bolton	81	124	3.3	9.0	0 13 10	1 4 3
Bournemouth	121	144	15.7	18.9	2 15 5	3 7 0
Brighton	445	554	4.7	6.9	0 14 8	0 19 8
Bristol	289	386	9.8	9.3	1 18 4	1 16 7
Burton-on-Trent	71	92	13.8	17.9	1 14 9	2 3 9
Dartford	175	219	4.0	2.2	0 16 10	0 11 4
Dudley	35	78	2.5	2.5	0 6 10	0 6 8
Leeds	54	165	4.5	10.3	1 0 6	1 11 5
Leicester	94	389	12.4	15.1	2 11 1	2 17 3
Liverpool	85	83	11.7	18.0	2 4 4	2 9 10
Newcastle-on-Tyne	58	217	2.0	6.7	0 5 11	1 2 9
Northampton	182	231	13.8	22.8	1 17 2	2 17 1
Norwich	485	659	5.1	11.2	0 12 9	1 2 4
Plymouth	143	210	6.0	6.8	1 0 2	1 4 7
Portsmouth	154	151	10.5	12.6	2 9 1	1 12 6
Rotherham	25	56	4.5	7.1	0 15 1	1 3 7
Salford	44	77	6.9	15.0	1 2 11	2 0 4
Southampton	18	61	8.5	11.5	1 1 7	1 12 7
Stockport	212	110	2.2	5.1	0 9 2	0 17 1
Sunderland	41	26	13.4	24.0	2 16 2	5 2 0
Other towns (8)	243	134	13.5	20.2	1 5 1	2 12 0
Scotland:						
Aberdeen	170	270	9.1	12.7	1 3 7	1 12 6
Dundee	93	79	7.7	19.9	0 19 10	2 14 4
Edinburgh	62	311	22.2	9.9	1 13 9	0 19 4
Glasgow	437	587	13.1	17.8	1 16 7	1 17 6
Govan	42	35	11.9	21.0	1 15 8	2 10 5
Ireland:						
Dublin	166	1,360	4.0	4.9*	0 11 4	0 13 2

In the towns included in the following Table, employment-relief was given in January only:—

Town.	Total number of men given Employment-Relief in January.	Average number of days worked per man.	Average amount of wages earned per man.
Grimsby	129	—	s. d. 11 8
Halifax	12	8.0	13 6
Hull	61	2.4	9 6
Scarborough	21	2.0	5 9
Wolverhampton	53	5.3	19 5
Yarmouth	199	4.0	11 1
Leith	9	0.3	2 0

**SHIPS BUILT IN 1906.**

Lloyd's Register of British and Foreign Shipping for the year 1906 shows that the tonnage of vessels launched in the United Kingdom in 1906 was the greatest on record, the aggregate for merchant and war vessels—viz., 1,936,793 tons—being nearly 184,000 tons in excess of that for 1905.

During the year, exclusive of warships, 886 vessels of 1,828,343 tons gross were launched, an increase of 205,175 tons, or 12.6 per cent., on the figures for the year 1905.

The number of warships launched in 1906 was 29 of 108,450 tons displacement, including 47,200 tons built at Royal Dockyards. This aggregate shows a decrease of 21,351 as compared with that for 1905, and of 103,519 tons compared with 1901, when the tonnage of war vessels launched was the greatest recorded.

The following Table shows the annual tonnage launched in the last fifteen years:—

Year.	Mercantile and other Vessels (not War Ships).		War Ships.	
	Tons (Gross).	Tons (Displacement).	Tons (Gross).	Tons (Displacement).
1892	1,109,950	151,157		
1893	836,383	45,898		
1894	1,016,538	32,971		
1895	950,967	148,111		
1896	1,159,751	163,958		
1897	952,486	95,465		
1898	1,367,570	191,555		
1899	1,416,791	168,599		
1900	1,442,471	68,564		
1901	1,524,730	211,969		
1902	1,427,558	94,140		
1903	1,190,618	151,890		
1904	1,205,162	127,175		
1905	1,621,168	189,807		
1906	1,828,343	108,450		

With the exception of the Barrow, Maryport and Workington district, and London, where decreases of

\* This is the average for 1,213 men; the rest were on piece work.



13,724 tons and 445 tons respectively are shown, all the districts shared in the increase in 1906. The following Table shows the districts in which the greatest tonnage, including warships, was launched in 1906, with comparative figures for the previous year:—

District.	Total Tonnage including War Vessels launched in		Increase in 1906 over 1905.
	1906.	1905.	
Newcastle ... ..	403,107	341,424	61,683
Glasgow ... ..	346,993	299,015	47,978
Sunderland ... ..	326,701	305,169	21,532
Greenock ... ..	238,437	230,121	8,316
Middlesbro' and Stockton ... ..	147,837	134,748	13,089
Belfast ... ..	146,231	142,541	3,690
Hartlepool and Whitby ... ..	144,603	124,006	20,597

**INDUSTRIAL AGREEMENTS IN THE GERMAN EMPIRE.**

A SHORT notice of the Report recently issued under the above title by the Imperial Statistical Office of Germany was given in the January number of the BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE, page 7, and the additional particulars given below relate principally to the numbers of workpeople affected and the terms fixed by industrial agreements.

The local agreements are generally concluded by the organisations of employers and workpeople respectively through plenipotentiaries on both sides. It often happens, however, that the employers are without associations where the workpeople are more or less effectively organised, and in such cases the former enter the contract as individual firms.

While the agreements are for the most part concluded as the result of direct negotiation, many have been concluded by the help, and even at the instigation of the local Industrial Courts for the determination of disputes between employers and workpeople (*Gewerbegerichte*). The duration of the local agreements varies from one to five years, but the great majority are concluded for two or three years at a time. The shorter agreements are generally found in industries where the conditions are liable to frequent change, whether in technical processes or in public fashions and taste.

For all but 27 of the 1585 agreements forming the subject of the Report, the German Labour Department has succeeded in ascertaining approximately the number of establishments and workpeople affected. These are grouped according to trades in the following Table:—

Group of Trades,	Number of Agreements.	Number of Establishments involved	Number of Workpeople involved.
Building ... ..	756	19,930	240,577
Metal and Engineering ... ..	153	4,583	37,674
Textile ... ..	6	93	8,805
Tailoring, &c. ... ..	137	2,062	15,177
Boot and Shoemaking ... ..	32	2,352	7,112
Transport ... ..	85	992	29,283
Printing and Bookbinding ... ..	34	5,904	56,355
Woodworking ... ..	105	5,077	44,362
Food and Tobacco ... ..	194	3,773	31,110
Leather ... ..	56	1,506	6,813
Total ... ..	1,558	46,272	477,328

The classification brings out the most significant fact about this new movement in Germany, viz., that the agreements relate almost wholly to the small industries and trades, and especially to those which partake more or less of the handicraft character. As yet the movement can hardly be said to have touched the large industries, for the agreements even in the textile and metal and engineering trades are partial, and relate to comparatively small groups of workpeople; thus a third of the agreements in the latter group of trades affect only plumbers, whose work is not "industrial" in the modern sense. It follows that, important though the movement be, the great mass of German industrial workpeople still stand outside it.

The duration of work fixed by the agreements is in nine-tenths of the cases ten hours or less per day. The

ten-hour day is most general in the building trades, and amongst brewers, paviors, tailors, shoemakers, coopers, wharfingers, and potters, whilst a day of nine or nine-and-a-half hours prevails amongst woodworkers, upholsterers, stone cutters, stucco workers, glaziers, plumbers, and bookbinders.

It is noticeable that the longest hours are worked in the eastern, the shortest in the western districts of the country; while in Central Germany (except in a few towns, like Berlin) the hours are generally longer than in the West. It is also found to be a general rule that the hours are longest in the small towns and shortest in the large ones, while wages are highest in large and lowest in small towns; though, on the other hand, it appears that the lowest wages fall to towns and districts in which the cost of living is relatively low, and in which industry is not highly developed, as for example, in Pomerania, East Prussia, and West Prussia. "The more enterprise moves from the agricultural East to the purely industrial large towns of the West, the greater the cost of living, and the higher the average level of wages are found to become. It is therefore only consistent with this fact that, in the two largest industrial towns of Germany, Berlin and Hamburg, the highest wages have to be paid" (Vol. II., p. 28).

The Report contains a study of the methods of remuneration, as well as of the actual rates paid, in the different trades and industries covered by the agreements. Time rates predominate in certain of the building and allied trades; e.g., among masons, carpenters, builders' labourers, painters, roofers, &c., and among brewers, bakers, paviors, millers, photographic printers, process workers, and electrotypers, and diesinkers. Piece-work obtains more particularly among wood-workers, potters, stucco-workers, stone-cutters, coopers, tailors, shoemakers, bookbinders, book printers, and music engravers. On the other hand, neither the time nor the piece method of payment predominates as yet in a third group of trades, including glaziers, upholsterers, leather workers, plumbers, and tinsmiths, erectors, and fitters in the building trade.

It is pointed out that a decided opposition to piece-work finds expression in many agreements, some of which expressly prohibit it, while others stipulate that it shall be restricted as much as possible; yet, while admitting that one reason for this attitude is the natural desire of workpeople to diminish the risks attendant on employment in dangerous trades, the Report points out that restrictions as to piece-work are commonly enforced in those trades which are free from special risks.

**CO-OPERATION IN 1905.\***

**SUMMARY.—Production and Distribution.**

RETURNS from Workmen's Co-operative Societies for Production and Distribution in the United Kingdom show that 2,091 such societies were at work in 1905. These societies had a total membership of 2,259,468, or 9.1 per cent. of the estimated total population of the United Kingdom of 20 years of age and upwards in 1905. Their total capital amounted to £40,947,302, being made up of £28,834,732 shares, £9,113,703 loans, and £2,998,867 reserve and insurance funds. Compared with 1904, there was a decrease of 11 societies, but an increase in membership of 3.4 per cent., and in total capital of 5.3 per cent.

On a total trade of £106,489,177, which was an increase of 3.8 per cent. over 1904, the net profit for the year was £10,415,915, which is equal to 36.1 per cent. upon the total share capital of all the societies, compared with £10,309,207 or 37.2 per cent. in 1904. The total number of persons directly employed by the 2,091 societies was 104,839, an increase over 1904 of 2.8 per cent.

\* Based upon Returns made direct to the Department by the societies concerned, and upon Returns made to the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, the Co-operative Union, and the English and Irish Agricultural Organisation Societies.

The societies may be divided into three groups, viz.: (1) Societies established primarily for Production; (2) Societies established primarily for Wholesale Distribution; and (3) Societies established primarily for Retail Distribution; but as many of the societies in the two latter groups produce goods distributed by them, it will be convenient to group the figures relating to such societies according to the nature of the business and to present the totals under the following heads: (1) Production; (2) Wholesale Distribution; and (3) Retail Distribution.

The Table below shows the trade under each of these heads for each of the ten years 1896-1905, together with the total trade of all the groups, and the increase and percentage increase during the period:—

Year.	Production.	Wholesale Distribution.	Retail Distribution.	Total Trade.
1896	£ 7,437,779	£ 15,048,363	£ 36,734,656	£ 59,220,798
1897	9,231,361	16,456,676	40,198,545	65,886,582
1898	10,200,598	17,440,095	42,669,360	70,310,053
1899	10,841,239	19,422,470	45,147,976*	75,411,685
1900	12,185,279	21,721,489	50,182,308	84,089,076
1901	13,201,709	23,556,439	52,827,816	89,585,964
1902	14,545,356	24,694,457	55,485,570	94,725,383
1903	15,302,062	25,980,268	57,227,815	99,010,145
1904	16,135,716	26,839,135	59,623,711	102,598,562
1905	17,085,631	27,945,582	61,457,964	106,489,177
Increase in 1905 over 1896	9,647,852	12,897,219	24,723,308	47,268,379
Percentage Increase	129.7	85.5	67.3	79.8

It will be seen that the increase in each group has been continuous over the ten years. Comparing 1905 with 1896 the percentage increase in total trade is 79.8.

**I.—Production.**

The Returns received for the year 1905 show that 2 wholesale and 873 retail societies for distribution, 8 corn mills and 409 other productive societies, or a total of 1,292 societies of all classes, with 45,253 productive employees, were engaged in the production of goods amounting in value to £17,085,631, the total amount paid in wages being £2,387,338. Of these societies 823, with 30,682 employees and a total production of £10,961,952, were in England and Wales; 203, with 12,765 employees and a production of £4,772,526, were in Scotland; and 266, with 1,806 employees and a production of £1,351,153, were in Ireland.

The following Table shows the growth in the value of production by the various classes of societies in each of the ten years 1896-1905, together with the total and percentage increase during the period:—

Year.	Value of Production by Societies established primarily for				Total Production by all Classes of Societies.
	Production.		Wholesale Distribution.	Retail Distribution.	
	Corn Milling Societies.	Other Productive Societies.			
1896	£ 1,070,543	£ 1,597,825	£ 2,119,228	£ 2,650,183	£ 7,437,779
1897	1,264,402	1,763,976	2,995,167	3,227,816	9,231,361
1898	1,408,616	1,916,527	3,191,866	3,683,529	10,200,598
1899	1,184,885	2,191,785	3,568,184	3,906,485	10,841,239
1900	1,226,995	2,438,418	4,165,030	4,354,836	12,185,279
1901	1,234,311	2,556,740	4,680,922	4,729,736	13,201,709
1902	1,303,682	2,759,334	5,238,838	5,244,602	14,545,356
1903	1,377,203	2,889,865	5,525,985	5,508,509	15,302,062
1904	1,345,207	2,915,866	5,817,431	6,057,212	16,135,716
1905	1,378,328	3,182,199	6,154,113	6,370,991	17,085,631
Increase in 1905 over 1896	307,785	1,584,374	4,034,885	3,720,808	9,647,852
Percentage Increase.	28.8	99.2	190.4	140.4	129.7

From this Table it appears that, except with the Corn Milling Societies, the increase has been continuous for the ten years. Comparing 1905 with 1896, an increase of 129.7 per cent. is shown in the total production, the most rapid advance having been made by the societies for Wholesale Distribution, which show an increase in production of 190.4 per cent.

The following Table shows the total production (£17,085,631) of all classes of societies in 1905 is

\* In these societies the goods produced are usually transferred to the distributive departments and not sold direct from the productive departments.

split up so as to show the nature and extent of the principal industries carried on by each class of society separately:—

Industries carried on by Societies of all Classes.	Associations for Production, including Corn Milling.	Associations for Wholesale Distribution.	Associations for Retail Distribution.	Totals.
Food and Tobacco ... ..	2,078,975	3,651,126	4,668,549	10,398,650
Clothing ... ..	381,080	1,051,225	1,270,784	2,683,069
Farming, Dairying, and Fishing ... ..	1,382,200	299,748	102,881	1,784,839
Building, Quarrying, & Woodworking ... ..	114,049	274,681	298,913	687,643
Textiles ... ..	393,764	223,445	4,380	591,589
Soap and Candle Making ... ..	—	433,921	—	433,921
Printing ... ..	146,149	159,912	—	306,061
Metal, Engineering, and Shipbuilding ... ..	94,042	36,895	9,686	138,623
Other Industries ... ..	22,298	23,120	15,798	61,216
Total for 1905 ... ..	4,560,527	6,154,113	6,370,991	17,085,631
Total for 1904 ... ..	4,261,073	5,817,431	6,057,212	16,135,716
Percentage increase in 1905 over 1904	7.0	5.8	5.2	5.9

It will be seen that food and tobacco account for more than three-fifths of the total production, followed by the clothing group, which accounts for nearly one-sixth.

The next Table shows the number of employees engaged in production in 1905, and the wages paid to them, arranged in the same groups of industries and classes of societies.

Industries.	Associations for Production, including Corn Milling.		Associations for Wholesale Distribution.		Associations for Retail Distribution.		Totals.	
	No. of Employees.	Productive Wages paid.	No. of Employees.	Productive Wages paid.	No. of Employees.	Productive Wages paid.		
Food and Tobacco ... ..	2,018	£ 135,833	2,861	£ 140,415	5,427	£ 375,359	10,306	£ 651,607
Clothing ... ..	2,573	110,314	7,441	343,517	13,335	53,999	21,349	985,822
Farming, Dairying, and Fishing ... ..	1,279	53,660	463	22,579	325	17,765	2,067	94,304
Building, Quarrying, and Woodworking ... ..	870	58,934	1,625	123,002	1,851	134,962	4,346	315,955
Textiles ... ..	1,886	77,797	1,185	48,656	73	1,429	3,144	127,882
Soap and Candle Making ... ..	—	—	560	29,524	—	—	560	29,524
Printing ... ..	768	55,536	1,137	53,433	—	—	1,905	108,969
Metal, Engineering, and Shipbuilding ... ..	754	36,053	158	10,874	64	4,482	976	51,409
Other Industries ... ..	309	9,997	139	7,210	152	5,559	600	21,866
Total for 1905	10,457	537,273	15,569	778,517	19,227	1,071,548	45,253	2,387,338

It will be seen that nearly half of the total employees were engaged in the clothing trades, and the nearly a fourth in the preparation of food of various kinds.

Of the total employees, 25,917, or 57 per cent., were men, 12,702, or 28 per cent., women, and the remaining 6,634, or 15 per cent., young persons under 18 years of age.

Of the 1,292 societies of all classes, 177 allotted sums to their employees out of the profits of the year. The total amount so allotted was £28,948 among 12,448 employees of societies paying £655,986 in wages. Thus the profit allotted to employees amounted to about £2. 6s. 6d. per head, or 4.4 per cent. on the wages paid, compared with £2 8s. od. per head, or 4.5 per cent., allotted in 1904 by 181 societies.

**II.—Wholesale Distribution.**

The four wholesale societies are Federations for the wholesale purchase and manufacture of the goods required by the retail distributive societies. The two in Ireland are entirely connected with the agricultural industry, marketing the produce, as well as supplying the requirements of their constituent societies.

The following Table shows the growth in the distributive trade of the societies for wholesale distribution in England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland respectively, during each of the ten years 1896-1905; together with the totals for the United Kingdom, and the increase and percentage increase during the period:—

\* In these societies the goods produced are usually transferred to the distributive departments and not sold direct from the productive departments.



Year.	England and Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.	United Kingdom.
1896	£ 11,115,056	£ 3,822,581	£ 110,726	£ 15,048,363
1897	11,920,143	4,405,854	130,679	16,456,676
1898	12,574,748	4,692,330	173,017	17,440,095
1899	14,212,375	5,014,189	195,906	19,422,470
1900	16,043,889	5,463,651	213,969	21,721,489
1901	17,612,082	5,700,743	213,614	23,525,439
1902	18,397,559	6,059,119	237,779	24,694,457
1903	19,333,142	6,395,483	251,638	25,980,263
1904	19,809,196	6,801,272	228,667	26,839,135
1905	20,785,469	6,939,738	220,375	27,945,582
Increase in 1905 over 1896	9,670,413	3,117,157	109,649	12,897,219
Percentage Increase.	87.0	81.5	99.0	85.7

This Table shows that in each country the wholesale societies have nearly doubled their trade during the period.

In 1905 the four societies for wholesale distribution had a total membership of 2,114, consisting of 599 individuals and 1,515 societies, and a total distributive capital (share, loan and reserve) of £4,747,985. Goods were sold to the value of £27,945,582, upon which a net profit of £463,671 was made. The total number of their employees engaged in distribution was 5,099. Compared with 1904 an increase of 14.4 per cent. is shown in capital, and of 4.1 per cent. in sales, but a decrease of 6.0 per cent. in profit.

### III.—Retail Distribution.

The work of retail distribution is carried on mainly by retail stores with a general trade, but partly also by societies connected mainly with agriculture, the latter being almost entirely a growth of the past twelve years.

The following Table shows the sales of the Retail Stores only in each country for each of the ten years 1896-1905, together with the totals for the United Kingdom and the total and percentage increase during the period:—

Year.	England and Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.	United Kingdom.
1896	£ 29,469,048	£ 7,152,932	£ 51,878	£ 36,673,858
1897	31,797,450	8,277,530	53,599	40,128,579
1898	33,581,525	8,939,733	60,245	42,581,503
1899	35,414,357	9,579,933	61,956	45,047,446
1900	39,326,466	10,564,410	72,751	50,053,567
1901	41,543,850	11,126,860	90,452	52,761,171
1902	43,498,094	11,711,028	110,140	55,319,262
1903	45,033,505	12,289,746	139,635	57,462,886
1904	46,209,821	12,951,886	150,178	59,311,885
1905	47,568,418	13,333,135	185,438	61,086,991
Increase in 1905 over 1896	18,099,370	6,180,203	133,560	24,413,133
Percentage Increase.	61.4	86.4	257.5	66.6

It will be seen that the increase of sales in each country has been continuous.

The Returns for 1905 show that 1,452 retail stores were trading in that year. Their total membership was 2,153,015, an increase of 3.6 per cent. over 1904; their total share, loan, and reserve capital £31,735,466, an increase of 4.4 per cent.; their total sales amounted to £61,086,991, an increase of 3 per cent.; and their total profit to £9,559,238, an increase of 1.6 per cent. The total number of employees engaged by these stores in the work of distribution was 54,201, an increase of 4.0 per cent.

The miscellaneous societies engaged in distribution, and mainly connected with agriculture, numbered 218 in 1905, 75 being in England and Wales, 4 in Scotland and 139 in Ireland. They had a total membership of 24,220, and a total share, loan, and reserve capital of £66,233. They sold goods in 1905 to the value of £370,973, upon which a profit of £3,328 was made. The total number of their employees was 286.

### EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIES.\*

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

#### Canada.

It is too early in the year for the ordinary emigrant to go to Canada, but he should now prepare to start in March, when there is sure to be a demand for farm and

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

general labour and for men on railway construction. The lumber and saw mills in British Columbia have been very busy, and coal mining in British Columbia, Alberta, and Nova Scotia. Plumbers, iron workers, printers, tailors, and other mechanics in trades which are not affected by weather, have been busy. The long strike of piano workers at Toronto has been settled, the men returning to work on the old terms. There has been a continued scarcity of female labour in Ontario, in the clothing and knitting factories, and bookbinding establishments; and wages have risen. There is a large demand for female servants everywhere both in towns and on farms.

#### Commonwealth of Australia.

There are assisted or nominated passages to New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia; and the rates for those to New South Wales have just been further reduced. Reports from various places in New South Wales, as Sydney, Orange, Jerilderie, Young, and Wilcannia show that though there is no general demand for mechanics, carpenters, bricklayers and masons have little difficulty in obtaining work. Up country there is an excellent demand for farm labourers, for general labourers, for men on sheep and cattle stations, and especially for dairymen. Female servants are in demand in nearly all parts. The large Broken Hill Silver Mines are very busy, and are employing more hands than ever before. There is still a scarcity of skilled miners, carpenters, blacksmiths, fitters, masons and engine-drivers, and wages have been raised. There is also a good demand for coal-miners in the Bulli and Mount Kembla districts south of Sydney.

In Victoria there is a good demand for farm hands at Colac, Daylesford and elsewhere, and for general labourers and female servants. There is no general demand for mechanics or miners. The only demand at Melbourne is for female servants; the strike in the building trades is not yet fully settled.

In South Australia there is a good demand for carpenters, bricklayers and blacksmiths, and between October and February for farm hands. Men in the copper mines have been well employed.

In Queensland there is a fair demand for farm labourers. In Western Australia the principal demand is for farm labourers, and men able to take up the Free Grants of land. In Tasmania the demand for farm and station hands varies according to the seasons of harvesting and shearing. Just now there is a good demand for miners, but the demand varies according to the price of metals and new finds. There is a good demand for cooks and housemaids.

#### New Zealand.

New Zealand grants reduced passages to various classes of emigrants on certain conditions. Tailors and tailoresses are wanted at Napier; good men can earn about £3 a week, and girls up to £2; only competent hands can get work.

#### South Africa.

Cape Colony.—No one is allowed to land in the Colony unless he has £20, or has secured employment beforehand. In practically all parts, the supply of labour in the building, engineering, and other trades especially that of carpenters, painters and bricklayers is equal to or exceeds the demand, although in the larger towns—such as East London—this excess appears to be gradually decreasing. No one, therefore, should go to Cape Colony at the present time in search of work.

Natal.—The supply of labour is more than sufficient.

Transvaal.—Persons are not allowed to enter the Transvaal unless they possess £20, or have secured employment. Emigrants are warned against going there at the present time. There continues to be a large number of unemployed in Johannesburg, many of whom have to rely on charitable aid for food. The cost of living remains very high. There is some demand for female servants, who may obtain assisted passages through the South African Colonisation Society, 47, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

Orange River Colony.—The rules as to permits are the same as those in the Transvaal. There is no demand whatever for mechanics, miners, farm or general labourers. Female servants may obtain reduced passages through the South African Colonisation Society above mentioned.

### LABOUR ABROAD.

[NOTE.—The following reports include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment in foreign countries, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in these countries are, however, not the same as those for the United Kingdom, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot be properly used with those on p. 33 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that in foreign countries.]

#### FRANCE.\*

Employment in December.—In the building and allied trades there was no perceptible decrease in employment during December. Employment continued plentiful for miners, and satisfactory for metal workers, on the whole. For the textile trades it was reported as remaining satisfactory in the Nord department, and as continuing to improve at Rouanne; continued activity was stated to prevail in the Vosges and western districts. Employment continued very plentiful for silk weavers in the St. Etienne district and for machine weavers in the Lyons district. A decline was reported in the garment and hat making trades, but glovemakers were fully employed. There was also a slight decline in the coachbuilding trades at Paris, and an increase in the number of coopers out of work in the south of France. Printers and bookbinders were in their busy season. As little work as possible was done in vineyards in the south of France, and there was no diminution in the amount of unemployed labour. Timber felling operations were in full progress in almost every district, so that considerably fewer woodcutters were out of work. Considering the time of year, employment was satisfactory for gardeners in and about Paris.

Returns showing the number of members unemployed in December were received by the French Labour Department from 1,201 Trade Unions with an aggregate membership of 238,322. Excluding returns from the Miners' Unions in the Nord and Pas-de-Calais departments, 7.8 per cent. of the members were described as out of work, as compared with 7.9 per cent. in the preceding month, and 10.7 per cent. in December, 1905. (As regards these figures see note above.)

Coal Mining in December.—The average number of days worked per week by persons employed underground in coalmining in France during December was 5.82, as compared with 6.02 in the previous month, and 5.61 in December, 1905. Full time (six days and over per week) was worked by 20.14 per cent., and from five to six days by 79.86 per cent. of all workpeople (whether surface or underground workers), the corresponding percentages for the preceding month being 97.45 and 2.55 and for December, 1905, 11.04 and 88.96 respectively. The above particulars relate to nearly 155,000 workpeople, and were supplied to the French Labour Department by the Committee of Coal Owners.

Labour Disputes in December.—Forty-four disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in December, compared with 56 in the previous month and 65 in December, 1905. In 39 of the new disputes 3,869 workpeople took part, as compared with 4,170 who took part in 54 of the 56 disputes in November, and 12,814 who took part in the disputes of December, 1905. The groups of trades in which the largest number of disputes took place were the textile (12 disputes), transport and warehousing (7), metal (5), building (5), and food preparation (3). Of 45 new and old disputes, which came to an end in December, 9 terminated in favour of the workpeople, and 12 in favour of the employers, 24 being compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in December.—Six cases of recourse to the Law on Conciliation and Arbitration

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

were reported to the French Labour Department as having occurred during December. The Justice of the Peace took the initiative in three cases and the workpeople in two. The remaining dispute extended over two districts, the Justice of the Peace taking the initiative in the one and the workpeople in the other. In this last dispute committees of conciliation were formed in each district, but were unsuccessful in bringing the dispute to a termination. In two other cases the conciliation committees were successful in terminating the disputes, and in two cases no agreement was reached. In the remaining dispute the employers declined to take part in conciliation proceedings.

#### BELGIUM.\*

Employment in December.—According to reports made to the Belgian Labour Department, 130 Trade Unions, with 31,579 members, had 2.2 per cent. of the latter out of work towards the latter part of the month, as compared with 1.9 per cent. in November, 1906, and 2.2 per cent. in December, 1905. As regards these figures, which do not include particulars relating to miners, homeworkers, or agricultural labourers, see note under "Labour Abroad."

Labour Disputes in December.—Fifteen disputes involving about 2,800 persons (2,500 directly and 300 indirectly) were reported to the Belgian Labour Department as having begun in December. In addition to these, 3 disputes which began in November, and which involved 1,795 persons (1,145 directly and 650 indirectly) were in progress during December. Of the 15 new disputes 4 were in coal mining, 3 in the metal, and 2 each in the textile, leather and skins, and tobacco trades. Fifteen disputes were reported as having come to an end in December. Of these 1 terminated in favour of the workpeople, 10 in favour of the employers, and 4 were compromised.

#### GERMANY.

Employment in December.—The usual decline experienced towards the end of December in certain classes of employment was somewhat intensified this year by the severe frost which set in before Christmas and lasted till the end of the month, thus throwing out of employment large numbers of workpeople, mainly of the unskilled class, who had been previously engaged in out-door occupations. Apart from such influences, due to season and weather, the favourable state of the industrial labour market as a whole continued unchanged, but in the agricultural labour market the demand for labour reached, as usual, its lowest point in the month under review. Coalmines were employed to their utmost capacity, and were unable to meet the demand in full, mainly owing to the shortage of trucks. The exceptionally favourable conditions prevailing for the metal and engineering trades continued throughout December, and, except in a few branches, the chemical, textile and electrical trades afforded abundant employment. On the whole labour was scarce and wages showed an upward tendency.

Returns relating to the state of employment during the fourth quarter of 1906 were supplied to the Imperial Statistical Office by Trade Unions with an aggregate membership, at the end of the quarter, of 1,367,235. From certain branches of the Unions reporting, however, no returns of the numbers unemployed were available, and, allowing for these, the membership covered was 1,264,956, of whom 14,333, or 1.1 per cent. were unemployed on October 27th, 14,477 or 1.1 per cent. on November 24th, and 21,551, or 1.7 per cent. on December 29th. (As regards these figures, see note under "Labour Abroad.") The percentage of the membership reporting described as unemployed on December 31st, 1905, was 1.8, but this figure is not strictly comparable with those for the fourth quarter of 1906 (see GAZETTE for November last, p. 327).

The following Table shows, for each of the six principal Unions for which figures are available, the number of members to whom the returns as to unemploy-

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



ment relate, and the percentage of such members unemployed:—

Name and Headquarters of Union.	Number of Members to whom Returns as to Unemployment relate		Percentage of such Membership Unemployed on		
	Nov. 24 and Dec. 29, 1906.	Dec. 31, 1906.	Dec. 29, 1906.	Nov. 24, 1906.	Dec. 31, 1905.*
Metal Workers (Stuttgart) ...	331,822	260,305	1'1	0'8	1'4
Woodworkers (Stuttgart) ...	153,993	130,780	3'1	1'6	2'6
Miners (Bochum) ...	110,247	98,190	†	†	†
Commercial and Transport Employees (Berlin)	80,580	51,061	0'9	0'8	1'2
Engineers & Metal Workers (Berlin)	48,412	43,792	0'5	0'4	0'6
Printers (Berlin) ...	45,019	41,929	3'8	2'4	4'1

NORWAY. †

Employment in December.—Of 16,327 members of Trade Unions forwarding Returns to the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, 827, or 5'1 per cent. were described as unemployed at the end of December, 1906. The figures for December, 1906, November, 1906, and December, 1905, for certain Unions which made Returns for each of these months, are given for comparison. (As regards these figures see note under "Labour Abroad.")

Group of Trades.	Membership.			Percentage Unemployed.		
	Dec., 1906.	Nov., 1906.	Dec., 1905.	Dec., 1906.	Nov., 1906.	Dec., 1905.
Metal Workers and Moulders	5,147	5,144	3,936	1'7	0'8	2'8
Carpenters ...	806	819	485	1'7	6'3	17'9
Cabinet Makers ...	253	251	222	4'9	...	5'9
Painters and Masons ...	337	371	360	44'3	26'8	53'9
Bakers ...	205	206	262	10'2	25'2	16'4
Printers ...	1,260	1,223	896	4'0	1'4	9'3
Bookbinders ...	197	194	170	3'6	1'0	1'8
Boot and Shoe Makers ...	481	477	395	0'6	0'4	1'3
Other Trades ...	321	320	293	5'9	1'8	3'4
Total ...	9,269	9,216	6,980	6'0	3'5	7'8

HOLLAND. §

Employment in December.—In the building trades, employment was no better than in November, and was even worse in some towns, especially after the advent of the frost a few days before Christmas. In the greater metal trades employment continued satisfactory, being even plentiful in some towns, while in others it showed some decline. There was also a decline in employment in the smaller class of concerns engaged in smith's work. Employment in the shipbuilding trade was good. With unimportant local exceptions, the printing, bookbinding and allied trades were very busy everywhere. No change took place in the satisfactory condition already reported of the textile trades. More than the customary degree of season slackness was reported in the garment making trades, especially in the "bespoke" branch. For boot and shoe makers, as well as for saddlery and harness makers, employment was unsatisfactory. Bulb growers experienced some slackness, but not more than is usual at this season. The cocoa, chocolate and confectionery trades continued very busy. Margarine makers and distillers were also well employed, but tobacco and cigar workers in certain towns had less employment than in October and November.

Labour Disputes in December.—Twelve strikes (including four among dockers) and three lock-outs (of cigarmakers) were reported as having begun in December. In eight of the strikes 1,255 persons were directly involved, while the three lock-outs affected only 43 persons. Eight of the new strikes came to an end in December, besides five others which had commenced in November. Of ten strikes of which the results were known, four terminated in favour of the employers, one in favour of the workpeople, and five were compromised. One of the new lock-outs also terminated in December, besides one other which had commenced in October. Both lock-outs ended in a compromise.

\* Compiled on the old basis, and therefore not strictly comparable.  
 † Less than 0'1 per cent.  
 ‡ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics.  
 § Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek (Journal of the Central Statistical Bureau).

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES IN JANUARY.

COAL MINING.

(Based on 521 Returns—450 from Employers, 57 from Trade Unions, and 14 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the coal mining industry was very good during January, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

Returns relating to 1,412 pits employing 592,820 workpeople show that the average number of days\* worked per week during the four weeks ended January 26th, 1907, was 5'48, as compared with 5'60 in December, and 5'01 in January, 1906. The apparent decline in employment, as compared with a month ago, is entirely due to New Year holidays, an average of 0'21 of a day per week having been lost from this cause, while in the four weeks ended December 22nd, no holidays were recorded. In the four weeks ended January 20th, 1906, which included both Christmas and New Year holidays, there was an average loss of 0'65 of a day per week on account of holidays.

Of the 592,820 workpeople covered by the Returns, 511,590 (or 86'3 per cent.) were employed at pits working 20 or more days during the four weeks ended January 26th; while 339,780 (or 57'3 per cent. of the whole) worked 22 days or more.

Compared with a month ago, the greatest apparent decline occurred in Scotland, where, however, about three days were lost by holidays during the month. In West Yorkshire, and in the Gloucester and Somerset district, the figures show a considerable improvement compared with December.

In the following Table the average time worked by the pits is shown for the three periods specified:—

Districts.	No. of Workpeople employed in Jan., 1907, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in Four Weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Jan., 1907, as compared with	
		Jan. 26th, 1907.†	Dec. 22nd, 1906.	Jan. 20th, 1906.†	A month ago.	A year ago.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.</b>		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ...	34,865	5'24	5'46	5'04	- '22	+ '20
Durham ...	109,719	5'30	5'61	5'25	- '31	+ '05
Cumberland ...	6,834	5'32	5'69	4'78	- '37	+ '54
South Yorkshire ...	62,727	5'72	5'87	4'93	- '15	+ '79
West Yorkshire ...	23,604	5'60	5'30	4'95	+ '30	+ '65
Lancashire and Cheshire	56,639	5'31	5'48	4'86	- '17	+ '45
Derbyshire ...	36,956	5'44	5'26	4'76	+ '18	+ '68
Nottingham and Leicester	30,399	5'25	5'06	4'40	+ '19	+ '85
Staffordshire ...	27,387	5'70	5'56	4'81	+ '14	+ '89
Warwick, Worcester, and Salop	9,688	5'63	5'57	4'84	+ '06	+ '79
Gloucester and Somerset	7,815	5'94	5'53	4'74	+ '41	+ '20
North Wales ...	9,964	5'39	5'83	5'01	- '44	+ '37
South Wales and Mod. ...	122,170	5'94	5'87	5'30	+ '07	+ '64
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES... †</b>	<b>538,787</b>	<b>5'55</b>	<b>5'60</b>	<b>5'03</b>	<b>- '05</b>	<b>+ '82</b>
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
West Scotland ...	25,598	4'71	5'47	4'71	- '73	+ '03
The Lothians ...	5,609	5'21	5'89	5'19	- '68	+ '02
Fife ...	22,250	4'76	5'62	4'89	- '86	+ '13
<b>SCOTLAND ... †</b>	<b>53,457</b>	<b>4'80</b>	<b>5'58</b>	<b>4'84</b>	<b>- '78</b>	<b>+ '04</b>
<b>IRELAND.</b>						
United Kingdom ...	592,820	5'48	5'60	5'01	- '12	+ '47

In the Northern Counties employment was good generally, and better than a year ago. In West Yorkshire there was a considerable increase in the average number of days worked compared with December. In the other districts of the Northern Counties an average of a quarter of a day per week was lost by holidays.

\* The figures in this article only show 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.  
 † This period includes New Year holidays.  
 ‡ This period includes both Christmas and New Year holidays.

In the Midlands employment was good and better than a month ago and a year ago. Little time was lost by holidays, and in the Gloucester and Somerset district an average of 5'94 days per week was worked.

In Wales employment was good, the average number of days worked per week in South Wales being 5'94.

In Scotland employment was good, and better than a year ago. An average of about three quarters of a day per week was lost in January on account of holidays.

The following Table shows the numbers employed and the average number of days worked per week, according to the principal kind of coal produced at the pits at which the workpeople were engaged. At pits employing 195,813 workpeople it was not found possible to state which class of coal predominated, and they are entered in the Table under the term "mixed."

Description of Coal.	No. of Workpeople employed in Jan., 1907, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in Four Weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Jan., 1907, as compared with	
		Jan. 26th, 1907.*	Dec. 22nd, 1906.	Jan. 20th, 1906.†	A month ago.	A year ago.
Anthracite ...	7,271	5'67	5'86	5'25	- '19	+ '42
Coking ...	29,659	5'50	5'76	5'35	- '26	+ '15
Gas ...	38,155	5'27	5'46	5'14	- '19	+ '13
House	79,372	5'40	5'33	4'72	+ '07	+ '68
Manufacturing and Steam	242,540	5'59	5'68	5'12	- '09	+ '47
Mixed ...	195,813	5'47	5'61	4'96	- '20	+ '45
<b>All Descriptions ...</b>	<b>592,820</b>	<b>5'48</b>	<b>5'60</b>	<b>5'01</b>	<b>- '12</b>	<b>+ '47</b>

The Exports of coal, coke, and manufactured fuel in January, 1907, amounted to 4,834,642 tons, an increase of 192,848 tons over December, and of 616,251 tons over January, 1906.

IRON, SHALE, AND OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.

(Based on 84 returns—66 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 4 from Trade Unions, and 14 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was good in iron mines and, taking holidays into account, showed little change compared with a month or a year ago. In shale mines employment continued fairly good.

Employment was good in tin, copper, and lead mines. In quarries it continued fair on the whole; some improvement was shown in slate quarries.

Mining.

Iron Mining.—During the four weeks ended January 26th, the average weekly number of days worked by mines and open works covered by the Returns was 5'75, as compared with 5'92 a month ago and 5'38 a year ago. Time lost through New Year holidays in 1907, amounted to 0'21 of a day, in the period ended January 20th, 1906. Christmas and New Year holidays accounted for 0'53 of a day.

The following Table summarises the Returns received:—

Districts.	No. employed in Jan., 1907, at the Mines included in the Returns.	Average Number of Days worked per week by Mines in 4 weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in January, 1907, as compared with	
		Jan. 26th, 1907.*	Dec. 22nd, 1906.	Jan. 20th, 1906.†	A month ago.	A year ago.
Cleveland... †	7,419	5'74	5'95	5'39	- '02	+ '35
Cumberland and Lancashire	5,118	5'83	5'99	5'40	- '016	+ '043
Scotland... †	947	5'19	6'00	5'06	- '08	+ '13
Other Districts ...	2,885	5'84	5'71	5'48	+ '013	+ '036
<b>All Districts ...</b>	<b>16,369</b>	<b>5'75</b>	<b>5'92</b>	<b>5'38</b>	<b>- '017</b>	<b>+ '037</b>

Of the total number of workpeople covered by the Returns 92'7 per cent. were employed in mines working

\* This period includes New Year holidays.  
 † This period includes both Christmas and New Year holidays.

22 or more days, as compared with 97'4 per cent. a month ago, and 53'8 per cent. a year ago. These comparisons, however, are affected by holidays.

Shale Mining.—At the mines respecting which Returns have been received 3,141 men were employed in the four weeks ended January 26th, as compared with 3,231 a month ago, and 3,170\* a year ago. The average weekly number of days worked in the four weeks ended January 26th, was 5'25, as compared with 5'62 a month ago, and 5'34\* a year ago. These comparisons, however, are affected by holidays, which amounted to 0'62 of a day in the four weeks ended January 26th, 1907, and to 0'57\* in the corresponding period of 1906.

Tin and Copper Mining.—Employment in Cornwall was good, more particularly in the Camborne and Western districts, where the demand for skilled miners continued.

Lead Mining.—Employment continued good in North Wales, though it was somewhat hindered by severe weather. The weather caused interruption to work also in Weardale, where employment was reported as moderate. It was good in Derbyshire.

Quarrying.

Slate.—In North Wales bad weather somewhat hindered work, but employment, on the whole, showed an improvement in the Festiniog district, while it continued fair in Carnarvonshire. There was a slight improvement at Ballachulish (Argyllshire), where, however, employment was still reported as dull.

Granite.—Employment continued good in North Wales and fair in Leicestershire. On Dartmoor and in the Penryn district employment was dull. It was fair, on the whole, in Aberdeenshire, but was interrupted by severe weather.

Limestone.—Employment continued good in Cumberland and South Durham. It was fairly good in Weardale. In the Buxton district it was fair, but somewhat hindered by bad weather. Severe weather also caused irregularity of employment also in North Wales. Employment continued moderate in the Plymouth district. In the Somerset blue lias quarries employment was bad.

Other Stone.—Employment was good and better than a month ago in the Clee Hill road-material quarries. Severe weather caused irregularity of employment in the Sheffield district. Similar reports relate to sandstone quarries in North Wales and grindstone and building stone quarries in the Rowsley district. In the Gateshead district, employment was reported as moderate, with much broken time. Employment was slack and slightly worse than a month ago in Bath stone quarries, and it was bad in the Gloucestershire pennant stone quarries. Employment continued bad in Forfarshire.

Settmakers.—Employment continued good in North Wales, and fair in Aberdeenshire, and at Edinburgh. Employment was reported as fair at Airdrie and Glasgow. It was fair also and better than a month ago at Rowley Regis. At Stoney Stanton it was dull, with short time. Employment was quiet in the Clee Hill district.

China Clay.—Employment continued good in the St. Austell district, and there was still a demand for labour in certain parts of the district.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

(Based on 112 Returns—108 from Employers, 2 from Trade Union, and 2 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry in January was very good, and better than both a month and a year ago.

Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters, employing about 25,000 workpeople at the end of January, showed that the total number of furnaces in blast was 343, or 3 more than at the end of December, 1906, and 8 more than at the end of January, 1906. During January, six furnaces were re-lit, two in Yorkshire, and one each in Derbyshire, Lanarkshire,

\* Revised figures.



Ayr, and the Cleveland district. Three were blown out—one in Lincolnshire, one in Lanarkshire, and one in North Wales.

The Returns are summarised in the following Table :—

District.	Number of Furnaces, included in the Returns, in Blast at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in Jan., 1907, as compared with	
	January, 1907.	December, 1906.	January, 1906.	A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES—					
Cleveland ... ..	90	89	85	+ 1	+ 5
Cumberland & Lancs.	38	38	37	...	+ 1
S. and S.W. Yorks.	17	15	16	+ 2	+ 1
Derby & Nottingham	41	40	38	+ 1	+ 3
Leicester, Lincoln, and Northampton	25	26	28	– 1	– 3
Stafford & Worcester	35	35	34	...	+ 1
S. Wales & Monmouth	16	16	14	...	+ 2
Other districts ...	6	7	8	– 1	– 2
<b>England &amp; Wales</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>+ 2</b>	<b>+ 8</b>
Scotland ... ..	75	74	75	+ 1	...
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>343</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>+ 3</b>	<b>+ 8</b>

The Imports of iron ore in January, 1907, amounted to 809,838 tons, or 193,431 tons more than in December, 1906, and 49,624 tons more than in January, 1906.

The Exports of pig iron from the United Kingdom during January, 1907, amounted to 175,820 tons, or 9,380 tons more than in December, 1906, and 85,120 tons more than in January, 1906.

### TINPLATE WORKS AND STEEL SHEET MILLS.

(Based on 62 Returns—57 from Employers, 2 from Trade Unions, and 3 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during January continued good, and was better than a month ago and a year ago.

At the works covered by the Returns, 388 tinplate mills were working at the end of January, as compared with 381 in December, and 382 a year ago; the numbers of sheet mills working for the same periods were 57, 60, and 52 respectively. At the 445 mills working, about 22,000 workpeople were employed.

The Returns are summarised in the following Table, the figures in which, with one or two exceptions, relate to works in South Wales and Monmouthshire :—

	January, 1907.		December, 1906.		January, 1906.	
	Number of Works open.	Number of Mills in operation.	Number of Works open.	Number of Mills in operation.	Number of Works open.	Number of Mills in operation.
Tinplate Mills ...	75	388	74	381	75	382
Sheet Mills ...	9	57	10	60	9	52
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>84</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>434</b>

The Exports of tinplates and tinned sheets and black plates for tinning, are given in the Table below for the months stated :—

	Jan., 1907.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in Jan., 1907, as compared with	
				Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.
<i>Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets.</i>					
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
To United States ... ..	5,900	6,783	3,192	– 883	+ 2,708
“ Other Countries ... ..	30,972	24,378	25,871	+ 6,594	+ 5,101
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>36,872</b>	<b>31,161</b>	<b>29,063</b>	<b>+ 8,711</b>	<b>+ 7,809</b>
<i>Black Plates for Tinning.</i>					
To all Countries ... ..	7,143	5,311	3,927	+ 1,802	+ 3,216

### IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

(Based on 224 Returns—207 from Employers, received partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent; 5 from Trade Unions, and 12 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works continued very brisk and showed a slight improvement on a month ago. It was better than a year ago.

The total volume of employment (*i.e.*, numbers employed multiplied by the number of shifts worked) during the week ended January 26th, 1907, at the 207 works from which Returns were received, was 0·2 per cent. greater than in the week ended December 22nd, 1906, and 2·9 per cent. greater than a year ago.

The aggregate number of shifts worked during the week by all the workpeople included in the Returns was about 554,800, as compared with 553,700 a month ago, and 539,000 a year ago.

Departments.	Number of Workpeople employed by firms making Returns.			Average Number of Shifts worked per man		
	In week ended Jan. 26th, 1907.	In week ended Dec. 22nd, 1906.	In week ended Jan. 26th, 1906.	In week ended Jan. 26th, 1907.	In week ended Dec. 22nd, 1906.	In week ended Jan. 26th, 1906.
<b>IRON :</b>						
Puddling Forges ... ..	10,579	– 155	– 157	5'16	– 0'06	– 0'06
Rolling Mills ... ..	4,683	– 36	+ 44	5'15	– 0'15	+ 0'19
Forging ... ..	499	– 11	+ 67	5'14	– 0'38	– 0'38
Founding ... ..	1,915	+ 23	– 138	5'95	– 0'04	– 0'02
Other Departments ...	660	+ 26	+ 63	5'94	– 0'04	– 0'02
Mechanics, Labourers ...	1,651	+ 34	– 7	5'65	+ 0'07	+ 0'04
<b>Total Iron</b> ... ..	<b>19,987</b>	<b>– 119</b>	<b>– 128</b>	<b>5'30</b>	<b>– 0'07</b>	<b>...</b>
<b>STEEL :</b>						
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces	8,976	+ 137	+ 333	5'90	...	– 0'03
Crucible Furnaces ...	596	– 94	– 19	5'51	+ 0'35	– 0'01
Bessemer Converters ...	2,160	– 6	+ 92	5'42	+ 0'10	+ 0'15
Rolling Mills ... ..	16,358	+ 421	+ 701	5'56	+ 0'07	+ 0'08
Forging and Pressing ...	2,999	+ 50	+ 83	5'68	+ 0'06	+ 0'05
Founding ... ..	7,924	– 294	– 201	5'89	+ 0'02	– 0'01
Other Departments ...	6,468	+ 120	+ 183	5'87	+ 0'03	+ 0'02
Mechanics, Labourers ...	9,975	– 22	+ 990	5'94	+ 0'01	– 0'01
<b>Total Steel</b> ... ..	<b>55,458</b>	<b>+ 312</b>	<b>+ 2,164</b>	<b>5'77</b>	<b>+ 0'03</b>	<b>+ 0'03</b>
<b>IRON OR STEEL (not distinguished) :</b>						
Rolling Mills ... ..	11,872	– 66	+ 124	5'34	– 0'01	+ 0'04
Forging and Pressing ...	740	– 14	+ 55	5'70	+ 0'06	– 0'09
Founding ... ..	760	– 27	+ 79	5'92	– 0'01	– 0'01
Other Departments ...	3,418	+ 114	+ 9	5'83	+ 0'01	+ 0'02
Mechanics, Labourers ...	6,478	– 29	+ 193	5'72	– 0'03	– 0'08
<b>Total Iron or Steel (not distinguished)</b>	<b>23,268</b>	<b>– 22</b>	<b>+ 462</b>	<b>5'65</b>	<b>+ 0'01</b>	<b>...</b>
<b>Grand Total</b> ... ..	<b>98,711</b>	<b>+ 171</b>	<b>+ 2,498</b>	<b>5'62</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>+ 0'02</b>
<b>Districts.</b>						
Northumberland & Durham	12,084	– 36	– 46	5'69	+ 0'13	+ 0'07
Cleveland ... ..	7,825	+ 90	+ 135	5'05	– 0'02	+ 0'04
Sheffield and Rotherham	18,649	– 59	+ 587	5'72	+ 0'02	+ 0'01
Leeds, Bradford and other Yorkshire Towns	4,482	– 84	+ 1	5'56	– 0'03	– 0'09
Cumberland, Lancs. & Ches.	11,453	+ 99	+ 64	5'58	– 0'02	+ 0'07
Staffordshire ... ..	10,820	– 4	+ 388	5'44	– 0'05	– 0'02
Other Midland Counties	5,996	– 48	+ 72	5'55	– 0'05	+ 0'07
Wales and Monmouth	10,116	– 38	+ 388	5'70	+ 0'01	+ 0'07
<b>Total, England and Wales</b>	<b>80,525</b>	<b>– 130</b>	<b>+ 1,589</b>	<b>5'63</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>+ 0'03</b>
Scotland ... ..	18,186	+ 301	+ 909	5'59	+ 0'01	...
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>98,711</b>	<b>+ 171</b>	<b>+ 2,498</b>	<b>5'62</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>+ 0'02</b>

The total number of workpeople employed during the week ended January 26th, 1907, at all the works included in the Returns was slightly greater than a month ago, and about 2·6 per cent. greater than a year ago, while the average number of shifts worked per man per week was about the same at all three periods.

At open hearth melting furnaces and at steel rolling mills the number of workpeople employed was considerably greater than either a month ago or a year ago; on the other hand, there was a decline, as compared with both periods, in the numbers employed at puddling forges and steel foundries, while at iron foundries the number employed was less than in January, 1906.

In England and Wales as a whole, the number employed was slightly less than a month ago, all districts except two showing a decline, but in Scotland there was a decided improvement. Compared with a year ago, the only decrease in the number employed occurred

in Northumberland and Durham, and large increases took place in Scotland, Wales and Monmouth, Staffordshire and Sheffield and Rotherham.

The average number of shifts worked per man during the week was lowest at iron forges, *viz.*—5'14, a decline of 0'38 of a shift compared with both a month ago and a year ago. The only other important variation in respect of the number of shifts worked was at crucible furnaces, where an improvement of 0'35 of a shift was recorded.

The Imports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof during January, 1907, amounted to 79,592 tons, as compared with 73,926 tons in December, 1906, and 150,379 tons in January, 1906.

The Exports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof (excluding pig and puddled iron, and tinned plates and black plates for tinning) amounted to 233,420 tons, in January, 1907, as compared with 207,742 tons in December, 1906, and 213,242 tons in January, 1906.

### ENGINEERING TRADES.

(Based on 993 Returns—13 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 937 from Trade Unions and their branches, and 43 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT on the whole was good and better than a month ago. It was about the same as a year ago. In several districts it was reported that overtime was worked.

The following Table gives a summary of Returns received from Trade Unions having a membership of 156,152, and shows that at the end of January the percentage unemployed was 3·2, as compared with 4·1 a month ago, and 3·2 a year ago. The figures show an improvement on the previous month in every district. It was especially marked in the North-East Coast and the South Wales and Bristol districts. It is to be observed, however, that the percentages of unemployed at the end of 1906 were affected by holiday suspensions. As compared with a year ago, the figures for three of the districts given in the Table show a falling off in employment.

District.	No. of Members* of Unions at end of Jan., 1907, included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in percentage unemployed for Jan., 1907, as compared with	
		Jan., 1907.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.	Month ago.	Year ago.
North-East Coast ... ..	15,506	5'2	8'2	3'0	– 3'0	+ 2'2
Manchester and Liverpool District	18,911	2'8	3'2	3'1	– 0'4	– 0'3
Oldham, Bolton, and Blackburn District	13,181	2'4	2'7	3'5	– 0'3	– 1'1
West Riding Towns ... ..	12,773	3'2	4'4	3'7	– 1'2	– 0'5
Hull and Lincolnshire District	3,325	1'7	1'8	2'0	– 0'1	– 1'5
Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Coventry District	7,284	1'7	2'8	2'0	– 1'1	– 0'3
Notts, Derby and Leicester District	4,115	3'3	4'5	4'4	– 1'2	– 1'1
London and Neighbouring District	12,576	4'1	4'8	3'1	– 0'7	+ 1'0
South Coast ... ..	3,882	1'7	3'5	2'8	– 1'8	– 1'1
South Wales and Bristol District	6,806	1'6	4'5	3'1	– 2'9	– 1'5
Glasgow and District ... ..	15,704	5'4	5'5	4'2	– 0'1	+ 1'2
East of Scotland ... ..	3,846	4'1	5'5	6'0	– 1'4	– 1'9
Belfast and Dublin ... ..	3,481	4'2	6'0	6'9	– 1'8	– 2'7
Other Districts ... ..	5,272	2'4	3'2	2'7	– 0'8	– 0'3
<b>United Kingdom</b> (including certain Unions for which District figures are not available)	<b>186,182</b>	<b>3'2</b>	<b>4'1</b>	<b>3'2</b>	<b>– 0'9</b>	<b>...</b>

Employment in the Tyne and Wear district generally was good, and overtime was worked at Wallsend, Howdon, and on the Wear. In the lower reaches of the Tyne employment was fair on new work and moderate on repairs. With patternmakers and brassfinishers it continued dull, and with brass moulders fair. At Jarrow it remained slack. In the Tees district employment with boilermakers was good; with other branches it showed considerable improvement compared with a month ago, though still rather dull. At Darlington employment was generally good; it was also good with ironfounders at Hartlepool. On the North-east coast generally there was a decline in employment as compared with a year ago.

\* Exclusive of Superannuated Members.  
† Exclusive of Members on strike.

Employment in Lancashire continued good, and was better than a year ago. Considerable overtime was reported, especially in textile machinery shops at Oldham and with engineers and ironfounders at Manchester. At Wigan and Preston employment was fair, and much improved from the previous month. It was slack with boilermakers at Oldham and Manchester, and with brassfounders at Liverpool.

In the West Riding district, employment at Sheffield continued fair. With ironmoulders at Halifax and boilermakers at Leeds a decline was shown. At Wakefield employment was fair, at Leeds, Bradford, and other centres it was good. In the Hull and Lincolnshire district employment continued fair on the whole, but it was still affected at Hull by a dispute.

At Birmingham employment with patternmakers was fair, with engineers it was good, as also with ironfounders, who were working overtime. In the cycle and motor shops it was fairly good, overtime being reported, especially in the motor branch. At Wolverhampton and Coventry employment continued generally good, especially in the cycle and motor branches; with electrical engineers a decline was shown.

Employment in the Nottingham district continued fairly good generally, and better than a year ago. Overtime was reported with lace and hosiery machine builders and in the motor and tool trades. With patternmakers it was fair and with iron and brass founders moderate. At Derby employment continued fair in general engineering works, and good in railway shops, with night shifts and overtime. With boiler-makers it was fair and with ironfounders an improvement was shown. In the Leicester and Northampton district employment continued fairly good with general engineers; with tool, hosiery and boot and shoe machinery makers at Leicester it was good, with some overtime. With boilermakers it was slack. In the Potteries, employment was moderate and was affected by a dispute.

At Norwich employment was good and there were practically no unemployed; it continued good with agricultural machinery makers at Ipswich.

In London employment continued dull. With tool makers, however, it was fair, and with brass and iron founders good.

At Southampton employment was fairly good and overtime was reported. It was better than a month ago and a year ago. In the South-western Counties, it was fair generally, but dull with ironfounders. Employment was fair at Bristol, Swindon and Gloucester. It was also fair in South Wales, while with ironfounders at Cardiff and Swansea it was good.

In the Glasgow district employment generally continued fairly good, and some overtime was worked, but it showed a falling off compared with a year ago. It was better than a month ago with engineers, brassfinishers, coppermiths and patternmakers, but with iron, steel and brass dressers there was a slight decline. In Edinburgh it was good with patternmakers, bad with brassfounders, and fair with all other branches. At Falkirk employment with ironmoulders continued bad, and short time was worked. At Aberdeen and Dundee it was fair.

Employment was fair generally in Belfast and Dublin, and better than a year ago. At Cork it was dull.

The values of Imports and Exports of machinery are shown in the following Table :—

Description.	Jan., 1907.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in Jan., 1907, as compared with	
				Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.
<b>Imports :</b>					
Steam Engines ... ..	£ 6,195	£ 7,259	£ 6,127	– £ 1,064	+ £ 68
Other Machinery, including Electrical	361,841	365,712	370,960	– 13,871	– 19,119
<b>Exports :</b>					
Steam Engines ... ..	691,263	626,087	555,126	+ 65,176	+ 136,137
Other Machinery, including Electrical	1,781,973	1,706,525	1,585,832	+ 75,448	+ 196,141



**SHIPBUILDING TRADES.**

(Based on 361 Returns—7 from Employers and Employers' Associations 337 from Trade Unions and their Branches, and 17 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during January showed some improvement on a month ago, and was about the same as a year ago. The effect of recent strikes is still very noticeable in the figures for the Tees and Hartlepool district.

Branches of Trade Unions with 58,645 members had 5,163 (or 8·8 per cent.) unemployed at the end of January, as compared with 11·3 per cent. at the end of December, and 7·9 per cent. at the end of January, 1906.

Compared with a month ago, when the percentages were affected by holiday suspensions, there were decreases in the numbers unemployed in all districts, except "Other Districts," the most noticeable decreases being in the Humber, Mersey and Bristol Channel districts.

Compared with a year ago, there were increases in five districts, including a large increase in the Tees and Hartlepool district, due to the effects of a strike of platers. In seven districts there were decreases, the largest being in the South Coast and Mersey districts.

District.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Jan., 1907 included in the Returns.*	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage for Jan., 1907, as compared with a	
		Jan., 1907.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		Tees and Blyth ... ..	10,297	7·4	9·3	6·0
Wear ... ..	5,214	5·8	5·9	4·3	- 0·1	+ 1·5
Tees and Hartlepool ... ..	4,708	21·5	21·5†	3·7	...	+ 17·8
Humber ... ..	2,304	4·3	13·4	3·9	- 9·1	+ 0·4
Thames and Medway ... ..	4,358	9·2	10·8	11·7†	- 1·6	- 2·5
South Coast ... ..	4,013	2·9	5·7	7·3†	- 2·8	- 4·4
Bristol Channel Ports ... ..	2,635	15·4	21·0	15·6†	- 5·6	- 0·2
Mersey ... ..	3,845	2·1	10·7	5·3†	- 8·6	- 3·2
Clyde ... ..	12,892	9·5	11·6	10·7†	- 2·1	- 1·2
Dundee, Leith, and Aberdeen ... ..	2,403	10·3	13·7	10·8†	- 3·4	- 0·5
Belfast ... ..	2,886	6·6	7·0	7·4†	- 0·4	- 0·8
Other Districts ... ..	3,090	10·3	8·7	8·4	+ 1·6	+ 1·9
<b>United Kingdom ... ..</b>	<b>58,645</b>	<b>8·8</b>	<b>11·3</b>	<b>7·9</b>	<b>- 2·5</b>	<b>+ 0·9</b>

Employment continued fairly good on the Tyne and good on the Wear. In the Tees and Hartlepool district it continued bad, and was much worse than a year ago. The platers' dispute terminated on 5th January.

On the Humber employment was good, and better than in December.

In the Thames and Medway district employment was still slack, but was rather better than a month ago and a year ago. On the South Coast there was an improvement on a month ago, and a more considerable improvement on January, 1906. At the Bristol Channel ports employment showed an improvement, but was still slack generally; it was worse than a year ago. On the Mersey employment was better, mainly upon repairs, and there was a considerable decrease in the number unemployed, as compared with both a month ago and a year ago.

On the Clyde employment generally was fair and better than a month ago. At Dundee and Leith it was fair. At Aberdeen it was good and better than a month ago. At Belfast it was good with shipwrights, and fair with platers. Employment at Barrow continued bad, and was worse than a month ago and a year ago. It was good at Lowestoft and Yarmouth, and bad at Dublin and Cork.

**MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.**

(Based on 53 Returns—3 from Employers' Associations, 25 from Trade Unions, and 25 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during January in these trades was fair. It showed a slight decline as compared with a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 15,496 had 469, or 3·0 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of January, compared with 2·8 per cent. in December, 1906, and 2·6 per cent. in January, 1906.

\* Exclusive of superannuated members.  
† Exclusive of members on strike.  
‡ Revised figures.

*Brasswork, Bedsteads, etc.*—Employment with brassworkers was good in London and at Bolton, Bury and Wigan; fairly good at Birmingham; fair at Nottingham; slack at Manchester, Leeds, Doncaster and Hexthorpe. At Birmingham it continued bad with bedstead makers.

*Tubes.*—Employment was fair, on the whole in Birmingham, South Staffordshire, and South Wales.

*Chains, Anchors, Springs, etc.*—At Cradley Heath employment was moderate with cable-chain makers and strikers; good with block chain makers. At Gateshead and Winlaton it was good with chain makers. It was good with spring and axle makers at Birmingham and West Bromwich and with railway spring makers at Sheffield. At Wednesbury, it continued good with railway and constructional workers. It was fair with cartgear, etc., makers at Walsall, and good with anvil and vice makers at Dudley.

*Sheet Metal, etc.*—Employment with braziers and sheet metal workers continued good at Manchester; steady on the Tyne; moderate at Hull. With sheet metal workers it was good at Oldham, moderate in London, quiet at Leeds. With iron plate workers it was quiet at Birmingham and in the Lye district. With tinplate and sheet metal workers it was quiet at Glasgow. With tinplate workers it was moderate at Birmingham; bad at Edinburgh and Aberdeen.

*Nuts, Bolts, Nails, etc.*—With nut and bolt makers employment was good at Winlaton and Darlaston, and fairly good at Birmingham. At Birmingham it was good with nail and shoe rivet makers. At Blackheath it continued good with rivet, wrought nail, nut and bolt makers.

*Wire.*—Employment continued good generally.

*Locks, Keys and General Hardware.*—At Wolverhampton and Willenhall employment in the lock and latch trades continued bad. At Wolverhampton it was good in all branches of the hollow-ware trade. It was moderate with hollow-ware makers at West Bromwich; slack with hollow-ware stampers and buffers at Sheffield.

*Stoves, Grates, etc.*—Employment continued moderate at Rotherham. It was bad at Falkirk, Glasgow and Leeds.

*Cutlery, Tools, etc.*—In the Sheffield district employment continued moderate with cutlers generally, fair with sawmakers, good in the file trades. At Birmingham it was fairly good with file cutters, and in the edge tool trade. At Redditch employment in the needle and fish-hook trades continued good.

*Gold, Silver, Britannia Metal, etc.*—In London employment was bad and worse than a month ago with goldsmiths, jewellers and silverworkers. At Birmingham it was fair with jewellers; quiet with silversmiths and electro-platers and in the spoon and fork trades. At Coventry it was moderate with watchmakers.

*Farriers.*—With farriers employment continued fair.

**COTTON TRADE.**

(Based on 514 Returns—428 received from Employers, partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 75 from Trade Unions, and 11 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continued very good in January and was better than a year ago.

A shortage of labour was again reported in most districts. In spinning mills there was a general deficiency of female and juvenile workers. The scarcity of weavers still continues.

The average price of "middling American" cotton in Liverpool during January was ·05d. per lb. more than in December, 1906, and ·28d. per lb. less than in January, 1906. The average price of "good fair Egyptian" was ·25d. per lb. more than in December, 1906, and 2·07d. per lb. more than in January, 1906.

The number of workpeople employed by the firms making Returns for the week ended January 26th was 136,529, a decrease of 0·1 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 2·2 per cent. compared with a year ago. The amount of wages paid showed a decrease of 2·5 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 4·5 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Analysis by Departments and Districts.**

Departments.	Workpeople.				Earnings.			
	No. paid Wages on pay day in week ended Jan. 26th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay day in week ended Jan. 26th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Per cent.	Per cent.
		Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.		Dec., 1906.*	Jan., 1906.		
Preparing ... ..	15,044	- 0·2	+ 0·6	15,602	- 0·3	+ 3·8		
Spinning ... ..	26,340	- 0·1	+ 1·1	25,830	- 0·4	+ 3·8		
Weaving ... ..	63,955	- 0·2	+ 2·6	56,527	- 4·3	+ 3·7		
Other ... ..	11,880	- 0·2	+ 2·9	13,254	- 1·4	+ 3·9		
Departments not specified	19,910	- 0·2	+ 3·0	20,885	- 2·1	+ 8·4		
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>136,529</b>	<b>- 0·1</b>	<b>+ 2·2</b>	<b>130,098</b>	<b>- 2·5</b>	<b>+ 4·5</b>		
<b>Districts.</b>								
Ashton District ... ..	8,956	+ 0·1	- 0·3	8,588	- 1·6	+ 0·8		
Stockport, Glossop, and Hyde	8,548	- 0·2	+ 0·9	7,947	- 4·0	+ 4·6		
Oldham District ... ..	15,220	- 0·1	+ 1·2	15,680	- 0·7	+ 4·9		
Bolton and Leigh ... ..	17,301	+ 0·2	+ 6·3	15,845	- 8·3	+ 8·4		
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden, & Todmorden	11,154	+ 0·3	...	10,990	- 0·9	+ 2·6		
Manchester District ...	9,500	- 0·5	+ 1·5	7,217	- 2·4	+ 1·2		
Preston and Chorley ...	13,393	- 0·2	+ 2·2	11,812	- 4·9	+ 3·6		
Blackburn, Accrington, & Darwen	19,872	- 0·2	+ 0·3	19,612	- 5·4	+ 2·5		
Burnley, Padiham, Colne, and Nelson	17,769	- 0·5	+ 2·9	20,319	- 2·9	+ 7·0		
Other Lancs. Towns ...	4,993	+ 0·1	+ 3·7	4,771	- 2·7	+ 4·6		
Yorkshire Towns ... ..	4,914	- 0·0	+ 3·3	4,780	- 1·9	+ 3·3		
Other Districts ... ..	4,909	+ 0·6	+ 7·5	3,827	- 1·9	+ 8·9		
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>136,529</b>	<b>- 0·1</b>	<b>+ 2·2</b>	<b>130,098</b>	<b>- 2·5</b>	<b>+ 4·5</b>		

Compared with a month ago, a decline in the amount of wages paid was shown in every department, the greatest decrease taking place in the weaving branch. Compared with a year ago there was again a distinct improvement in every section. As compared with a month ago, the Bolton District was the only one which showed any improvement in the amount of wages paid, the greatest decline taking place in the Blackburn district (5·4 per cent.). As compared with a year ago, there was an improvement in every district, the increase in wages being most marked in the miscellaneous group (8·9 per cent.), the Bolton District (8·4 per cent.) and the Burnley District (7·0 per cent.).

**Raw Cotton.**

*American Cotton.*—During the month of January the average price of raw cotton "middling American" at Liverpool was 5·89d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 6·04d., and the lowest 5·79d. The price for December was 5·84d., and for January, 1906, 6·17d. per lb. For the period from 1st to 11th of February, 1907, the average price of "middling American" was 6d. per lb.

*Egyptian Cotton.*—The price of "good fair Egyptian" during January averaged 9·83d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 9·18d., and the lowest 9·2d. The price for December was 9·58d. per lb., and for January, 1906, 7·76d. per lb. For the period from 1st to 11th February, 1907, the average price of "good fair Egyptian" was 10·18d. per lb.

The visible supply of American cotton for the United Kingdom on February 8th, 1907, was estimated by the Liverpool Cotton Association to be 1,246,690 bales, as compared with 1,225,210 bales on February 9th, 1906.

Particulars of the various descriptions of cotton forwarded from ports to inland towns are given below:—

Description of Cotton.	Jan., 1907.		Dec., 1906.		Jan., 1906.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in January, 1907, as compared with
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	
	American ... ..	334,871	294,133	285,898	+ 40,738	+ 48,973	
Brazilian ... ..	14,150	13,670	17,119	+ 480	- 2,969		
East Indian ... ..	6,549	2,989	4,670	+ 3,560	+ 1,879		
Egyptian ... ..	65,915	53,958	47,140	+ 11,957	+ 18,775		
Miscellaneous ... ..	8,015	8,093	8,597	- 78	- 352		
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>429,500</b>	<b>372,843</b>	<b>363,194</b>	<b>+ 56,657</b>	<b>+ 66,306</b>		

\* The comparison of wages in December and January is affected by the fact that the figures for December are paid in which, more particularly in England, are always somewhat heavier than in ordinary weeks.

**Exports of Cotton Goods.**

The following Table shows the quantity of exported cotton yarn and cotton piece goods for the months stated:—

Description.	Jan., 1907.		Dec., 1906.		Jan., 1906.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in January, 1907, as compared with	
	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.
<b>Cotton Yarn and Twist—</b>								
Grey ... ..	15,396	13,547	15,040	+ 1,849	+ 356			
Bleached and Dyed ... ..	2,833	2,787	3,511	+ 46	- 678			
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>18,229</b>	<b>16,334</b>	<b>18,551</b>	<b>+ 1,895</b>	<b>- 322</b>			
<b>Cotton Piece Goods—</b>								
Grey or Unbleached ... ..	178,263	175,354	210,704	+ 2,699	- 32,441			
Bleached ... ..	157,725	138,724	161,409	+ 19,001	- 3,684			
Printed ... ..	111,058	90,813	98,305	+ 20,245	+ 12,753			
Dyed or Manufactured of Dyed Yarn ... ..	113,199	95,511	101,494	+ 17,688	+ 11,795			
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>560,245</b>	<b>500,612</b>	<b>571,912</b>	<b>+ 59,633</b>	<b>- 11,667</b>			

**WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.**

(Based on 336 Returns—327 received from Employers, partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, and 9 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in these trades was fairly good, and showed little change compared with a year ago.

**Woollen Trade.**

Employment in the woollen trade was fairly good on the whole, but not quite so good as a year ago.

Firms employing 23,567 workpeople have stated the wages paid in the periods under review. The number of workpeople employed by these firms showed a decrease of 0·3 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 1·0 per cent. compared with a year ago. The amount of wages paid showed a decrease of 4·4 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 0·8 per cent. compared with a year ago.\*

Departments.	Workpeople covered by returns.				Earnings.			
	No. employed on last pay-day in Jan., 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with		Aggregate amount of Wages paid on last pay-day in Jan., 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with		Per cent.	Per cent.
		A month ago.	A year ago.		A month ago.*	A year ago.		
Wool Sorting ... ..	761	- 1·2	- 0·8	715	+ 0·3	- 0·3		
Spinning ... ..	4,809	- 0·4	+ 1·1	4,098	- 3·1	+ 0·8		
Weaving ... ..	9,752	- 0·3	+ 1·9	8,072	- 2·9	+ 0·3		
Other Departments ... ..	6,706	- 0·5	+ 1·9	6,464	- 5·7	+ 1·1		
Unspecified ... ..	1,539	- 1·3	- 2·2	1,230	- 13·3	- 11·6		
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>23,567</b>	<b>- 0·3</b>	<b>+ 1·0</b>	<b>20,579</b>	<b>- 4·4</b>	<b>- 0·8</b>		
<b>Districts.</b>								
Huddersfield District ...	3,725	+ 0·5	- 2·8	3,933	- 3·7	- 1·8		
Leeds District ... ..	3,317	- 0·3	+ 1·7	2,981	- 4·5	- 0·5		
Dewsbury & Batley District...	2,999	- 1·0	+ 0·8	2,866	- 3·0	+ 2·0		
Other Parts of West Riding...	1,583	- 0·5	+ 0·3	1,393	- 5·9	- 1·3		
<b>Total West Riding ... ..</b>	<b>11,624</b>	<b>- 0·4</b>	<b>- 0·2</b>	<b>11,173</b>	<b>- 4·0</b>	<b>- 0·5</b>		
Scotland ... ..	6,338	- 1·4	- 0·1	5,168	- 6·0	- 5·5		
Other Districts ... ..	5,605	+ 1·0	+ 4·8	4,238	- 3·4	+ 4·3		
<b>Total Woollen ... ..</b>	<b>23,567</b>	<b>- 0·3</b>	<b>+ 1·0</b>	<b>20,579</b>	<b>- 4·4</b>	<b>- 0·8</b>		

In Huddersfield employment was good, but showed a slight decline compared with a month ago, nightwork being less prevalent, though overtime was still worked to some extent; it was worse than a year ago. In Leeds it was reported as fairly good; in the heavy woollen district it was fairly good, and better than a year ago. In Hawick, Selkirk, and Galashiels employment showed a decline, and was worse than a year ago.

**Worsted Trade.**

Employment in the worsted trade was fairly good, it was better than a year ago.

Firms employing 45,284 workpeople have stated the wages paid in the periods under review. The number

\* The week before Christmas, the amounts



of workpeople employed by these firms showed an increase of 0.4 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 1.7 per cent. compared with a year ago. The amount of wages paid showed a decrease of 1.6 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 2.2 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Table with columns: Departments, Workpeople covered by returns (No. employed, Increase (+) or Decrease (-)), Earnings (Aggregate amount of Wages paid, Increase (+) or Decrease (-)). Rows include Wool Sorting & Combing, Spinning, Weaving, etc.

Employment with wool-sorters and combers in Bradford showed a further improvement, and was fair. In Keighley employment was good; in Huddersfield it showed a decline. In the Halifax district employment was good, and decidedly better than a year ago.

Prices of Raw Material.

The prices of wool and tops in Bradford are shown below for the three months specified :-

Table showing Average Prices and Course of Prices for Lincoln Hogs, 40's Crossbred tops, and 60's Super Botany tops in Pence per lb. for Jan., Dec., and Jan. 1907.

Imports and Exports.

Table showing Imports and Exports of Raw Wool (Sheep or Lambs') and British and Irish Manufactures Exported, including Yarn and Piece Goods.

FLAX (LINEN TRADE).

(Based on 114 Returns—109 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 2 from Trade Unions, and 3 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this trade continued good, and better than a year ago.

Returns received from firms employing 47,626 workpeople on pay day in the week ended 26th January and paying £27,533 in wages show, as compared with a month ago, a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed,

\* See note

and a decrease of 2.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Compared with a year ago the Returns show an increase of 1.2 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 5.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

The Returns are summarised in the following Table :-

Table summarizing Returns for Workpeople covered by Returns and Earnings, including Departments, Districts, and Total figures.

As will be seen from the Table, the decrease in the number employed compared with a month ago was common to all districts. The decrease in wages is also general, parts of Scotland alone being exempt. The preparing department is also exempt from the decrease in the number employed, but all departments have experienced the decrease in wages.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following Table shows the quantities of imported flax, and of British and Irish exports of linen yarn and manufactured goods for the months stated :-

Table showing Imports and Exports of Flax (Dressed and Undressed, Tow or Codilla) and Linen Yarn and Piece Goods.

JUTE TRADE.

(Based on 40 Returns—37 from Employers and Employers' Associations, and 3 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this trade continued good.

Returns from firms employing 19,263 workpeople on pay day in the week ended 26th January and paying £13,042 in wages show, in comparison with December, a decrease of 0.6 per cent. in the number employed and a decrease of 1.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

It will be noticed from the following table, that the decrease in employment, as compared with a month ago, was common to most departments. The three departments of preparing, spinning, and weaving, all show a decrease in the amount of wages paid. Compared with

\* See note on page 47.

a year ago the preparing and spinning departments show an increase in the amount of wages paid. There was a decline in the weaving department.

The Returns are summarised in the following Table :-

Table summarizing Returns for Workpeople covered by Returns and Earnings, including Departments and Total figures.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The quantities of imported jute and of British and Irish exports of jute yarn and manufactured goods for the months stated were as follows :-

Table showing Imports and Exports of Jute Yarn and Piece Goods.

SILK TRADE.

(Based on 52 Returns—50 from Employers and 2 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this trade was not quite so good as a month ago, but was better than a year ago.

Returns have been received from firms employing 8,167 workpeople and paying £5,269 in wages on the pay-day in the week ended January 26th, 1907. From these Returns it appears that, compared with a month ago, there was an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and a decrease of 2.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Compared with a year ago, there were increases of 3.1 per cent. in the number employed and of 3.5 per cent. in the wages paid.

The Returns are summarised in the following Table :-

Table summarizing Returns for Workpeople covered by Returns and Earnings, including Branches and Districts.

At Macclesfield employment was moderate with outside hand-loom weavers; good with other hand-loom weavers and dressers; quiet with power-loom weavers.

\* See note on page 47.

At Congleton it continued fair with dressers and trimming weavers. With weavers it was good at Halstead and fair at Sudbury. At Braintree it was bad with weavers and winders. Employment was good at Manningham and fair at Brighouse and Halifax.

Imports and Exports.

Table showing Imports and Exports of Raw Silk, Thrown Silk, and Spun Silk Yarn.

LACE TRADE.

(Based on 94 Returns—88 from Employers, 2 from Trade Unions, and 4 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this trade was very brisk in England and moderate in Scotland. It was considerably better than a year ago except in Scotland.

Returns from firms employing 9,193 workpeople on the last pay day in January, and paying £9,398 in wages, show an increase, in the number employed, of 1.2 per cent., compared with a month ago, and an increase of 6.6 per cent. compared with a year ago. As regards the amount of wages paid, the Returns show a decrease of 2.1 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 10.6 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Compared with a month ago there was a decrease in the three branches—levers, plain net, and curtains. Compared with a year ago there was a marked increase in the wages paid in the levers and plain net branches; there was an increase in the wages paid in all districts except Scotland.

Table summarizing Returns for Workpeople covered by Returns and Earnings, including Branches and Districts.

Imports and Exports.—The following Table shows the values of lace imported and exported during the months stated :-

Table showing Imports and Exports of Silk Lace and Cotton Lace.

\* See note on page 47.



**HOSIERY TRADE.**

(Based on 94 Returns—88 from Employers, 2 from Trade Unions, and 4 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT on the whole was fairly good and better than a year ago.

Firms employing 14,653 workpeople, and paying £11,183 in wages in the week ended January 26th, have made Returns. From these it appears that there was an increase of 0.1 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and a decrease of 1.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, the number of workpeople employed showed an increase of 3.2 per cent., and the amount of wages paid an increase of 5.8 per cent.

At Leicester employment was fairly good, and better than a year ago, but a difficulty in getting a full supply of yarn was reported; at Hinckley it was good on shirts and pants and quiet on fashioned hose and cotton goods; at Loughborough it was moderate. In Nottinghamshire employment was fairly good, and showed little change compared with a year ago; in Derbyshire it was good and better than a year ago. In Hawick and Selkirk it was fairly good.

District	Workpeople covered by Returns.		Earnings.			
	No. paid wages on last pay-day in Jan. 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) compared with Dec., 1906.	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on last pay-day in Jan., 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) compared with		Per cent.
				Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.	
Leicester	8,147	+ 0.5	6,377	+ 2.7	+ 6.1	
Leicester Country District	2,005	+ 0.7	1,564	+ 0.6	- 0.5	
Notts. and Derbyshire	2,734	- 0.8	2,053	+ 0.3	+ 6.2	
Scotland	1,491	- 0.2	1,047	+ 1.9	+ 15.3	
Other Districts	296	- 3.8	130	- 12.2	- 5.8	
<b>Total, United Kingdom</b>	<b>14,653</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>	<b>11,183</b>	<b>- 1.4</b>	<b>+ 5.8</b>	

The Imports of Woollen and Cotton Hosiery in January, 1907, amounted to £30,119 and £93,087 respectively, as compared with £27,018 and £60,635 in December, 1906 and £23,663 and £81,997 in January, 1906. The Exports of Woollen and Cotton Hosiery in January, 1907 amounted to £152,319 and £49,157 respectively, as compared with £104,823 and £36,613 in December, 1906, and £161,062 and £46,120 in January, 1906.

**OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.**

**Printing, Dyeing, Bleaching, and Finishing.**

(Based on 16 Returns—2 from Employers' Associations, 5 from Trade Unions, and 9 from Local Correspondents.)

**Woollen and Worsted Dyers.**—Employment in the West Riding was moderate, and better than a month ago and a year ago. About one-quarter of the Trade Union dyers worked short time, and about one-third overtime.

**Cotton Dyers.**—Employment on the whole was fairly good, and better than a month ago; it showed little change compared with a year ago.

**Silk Dyers.**—Employment at Macclesfield was good, and much better than a year ago. At Leek it was fair.

**Calico Printers, etc.**—Employment at New Mills continued brisk, and was better than a year ago; calico printers' engravers at Dinting were fairly busy. At Glasgow employment was good with calico printers, engravers, and block printers.

**Hosiery and Lace Dyers, Trimmers, etc.**—At Leicester employment showed a slight improvement; at Hinckley it was moderate; at Loughborough there was a decline. With dyers at Nottingham and with bleachers at Basford and Nottingham it was good; with hosiery trimmers at Basford and Bulwell an improvement was reported; on the whole employment was better than a year ago, a considerable amount of overtime being worked.

**Calenderers, etc.**—In Glasgow employment was good, and about the same as a year ago. With bleachfield workers in Dundee it was good, with calender workers dull.

**HAT TRADE.**

(Based on 12 Returns—2 from Employers' Associations and 10 from Trade Unions.)

EMPLOYMENT during January in the Silk hat branch was quiet; in the Felt hat branch it was fair, and better than a year ago.

In the Silk hat trade the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of January was 12.7, compared with 11.6 at the end of December, and 14.4 a year ago. In London employment was quiet.

In the Felt hat trade the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of January was 5.0, compared with 5.1 at the end of December and 7.5 a year ago. Employment at Denton was fairly good; at Stockport it was good; on the whole it was better than a year ago.

The following Table shows the number of hats and bonnets, trimmed and untrimmed, exported in the months stated:—

Description.	Jan., 1907.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Jan., 1907, as compared with	
				Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.
				Dozens.	Dozens.
Felt	58,330	41,269	58,061	+ 17,061	+ 269
Straw	51,036	37,279	54,137	+ 13,757	- 1,101
Other Sorts	4,476	5,951	3,944	- 1,475	+ 534
<b>Total</b>	<b>113,842</b>	<b>84,499</b>	<b>114,142</b>	<b>+ 29,343</b>	<b>- 300</b>

**TAILORING TRADE.**

(Based on 121 Returns—95 from Employers, 4 from Trade Unions, and 22 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in London in the bespoke branch showed a seasonal decline, but was better than a year ago; in the provinces it was bad. In the ready-made branch it was fairly good, and better than a month ago; it showed little change compared with a year ago.

**Bespoke Branch.**

**London.**—Employment during January showed a further seasonal decline, but was better than a year ago.

Firms paying £8,415 to their workpeople during the four weeks ended January 26th showed a decrease of 13.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the four weeks ended December 22nd, and an increase of 5.1 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Other Centres.**—Employment on the whole was bad, and showed little change compared with a year ago.

**Ready-made Branch.**

**London.**—Employment was fairly good, and better than a year ago.

**Leeds.**—Employment during the month was good, and better than a month ago; it showed little change compared with a year ago. Returns have been received from firms employing over 9,000 workpeople in their factories (in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops). From these Returns it appears that employment was good with firms employing 87 per cent. of the workpeople, moderate with firms employing 11 per cent., and bad with firms employing 2 per cent. Compared with a month ago, firms employing 82 per cent. reported employment as improved, and firms employing 18 per cent. as unchanged. Compared with a year ago, firms employing 27 per cent. reported employment as improved, firms employing 45 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 28 per cent. as worse.

**Other Centres.**—Employment at Manchester was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. At Bristol it was moderate and about the same as a year ago. At Norwich operatives were reported to be generally on full time. At Glasgow it was moderate and worse than a month ago and a year ago.

The Imports of apparel, not waterproofed, in January, 1907, were valued at £210,873, as compared with £205,090 in December, 1906, and £222,079 in January, 1906, and the Exports for the same periods £520,890, £393,033, and £507,939.

**BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.**

(Based on 486 Returns—473 received from Employers, partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 4 from Trade Unions, and 9 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the boot and shoe trade was much the same as a year ago.

Firms employing 61,761 workpeople have stated the wages paid in the periods under review. The number of workpeople employed by these firms showed a decrease of 0.1 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 0.5 per cent. compared with a year ago. The amount of wages paid showed a decrease of 1.6 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 0.3 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Employment in Leicester was good. The usual seasonal decline in the heavy boot trade took place in Kingswood, Leeds and Scotland, but employment in Kingswood was considerably better than a year ago; in Scotland it was much worse than a year ago. Employment with army boot makers was good.

District.	Workpeople covered by the Returns.		Earnings.			
	No. employed during week ended Jan. 26th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with Dec., 1906.	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay day in week ended Jan. 26th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Per cent.
				Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.	
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.</b>						
London	2,517	+ 6.7	2,980	+ 5.8	+ 1.8	
Leicester	13,783	+ 1.6	14,866	+ 2.9	+ 2.8	
Leicester Country District	2,483	+ 1.5	2,318	+ 1.4	+ 2.8	
Northampton	8,685	- 0.1	8,257	+ 0.7	- 0.5	
Northampton Country District	8,349	- 1.2	7,701	- 6.2	+ 1.9	
Kettering	3,290	- 0.1	3,234	+ 0.8	- 1.5	
Stafford & District	2,555	+ 0.5	2,232	+ 1.0	- 2.9	
Norwich & District	3,572	+ 1.9	2,967	- 0.0	+ 0.6	
Bristol & District	1,805	- 3.8	1,515	- 9.8	- 0.8	
Kingswood	1,770	- 8.1	1,614	- 22.2	+ 7.5	
Leeds & District	2,687	- 3.4	2,232	- 15.0	- 0.1	
Manchester & District	2,504	+ 0.3	2,348	+ 7.0	+ 8.0	
Birmingham & District	835	- 0.9	679	+ 0.3	- 2.9	
Other parts of England and Wales	2,749	+ 0.4	2,286	- 4.0	...	
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES</b>	<b>57,624</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>	<b>55,229</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>+ 1.1</b>	
<b>SCOTLAND</b>	<b>3,855</b>	<b>- 2.7</b>	<b>3,531</b>	<b>- 5.4</b>	<b>- 13.0</b>	
<b>IRELAND</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>- 2.1</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>- 17.9</b>	<b>+ 7.6</b>	
<b>UNITED KINGDOM</b>	<b>61,761</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>58,943</b>	<b>- 1.6</b>	<b>+ 0.3</b>	

**Imports and Exports.**—The following Table gives the quantities and values of the boots and shoes imported, exported and re-exported for the months stated:—

	Jan., 1907.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in January, 1907, as compared with	
				Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.
				Dozen pairs	Value
<b>Imports</b>					
Quantity	14,783	14,373	18,540	+ 410	- 3,757
Value	£ 62,235	£ 54,258	£ 73,135	+ 9,977	- 10,900
<b>Re-Exports</b>					
Quantity	1,693	1,361	1,617	+ 332	+ 76
Value	£ 3,754	£ 3,103	£ 5,079	+ 591	- 1,325
<b>Exports (British and Irish)</b>					
Quantity	64,855	62,701	66,810	+ 2,154	- 1,955
Value	£ 168,195	£ 154,069	£ 159,100	+ 14,126	+ 9,995

**OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.**

(Based on 192 Returns—188 from Employers, and 4 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in London showed a decline in the dressmaking trades compared with a month ago; it was better than a year ago. In the wholesale mantle, costume and blouse, &c., trades it was fairly good. In the shirt and collar trade also it was fairly good, and slightly better than a year ago. In the corset trade it was good, and better than a year ago.

**Dressmaking, Millinery, and Mantle Trades.**—Returns from retail firms in London, chiefly in the West-end, employing

1,299 dressmakers in the week ended January 26th, showed a decrease of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed compared with the week ended December 22nd, and an increase of 7.4 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fair. Court dressmakers employing 1,071 workpeople showed a decrease of 6.1 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 0.3 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was moderate. With milliners in the West-end employment was fair. In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, underclothing and infants' millinery trades, firms in London employing 4,222 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) during the week ended January 26th showed an increase of 13.0 per cent. compared with the week ended December 22nd, and of 2.1 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was fairly good.

Returns from two Employment Bureaux showed an increase in the demand for and supply of dressmakers and milliners as compared with a year ago. As compared with a month ago there was a marked seasonal increase in both demand and supply.

In Manchester employment with mantle makers was fairly good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. In the costume and skirt trade employment was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago; firms employing 2,441 workpeople in the week ended January 26th showed an increase of 7.7 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 2.0 per cent. compared with a year ago.

In Glasgow employment in the mantle trade was fairly good, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

**Shirt and Collar Trade.**—Returns received from shirt and collar manufacturers employing 7,006 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers), and paying £4,863 in wages during the week ended January 26th, showed an increase of 3.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 0.9 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment was moderate in London, fairly good in Manchester, Taunton, and Glasgow, good in Belfast, and fair at Londonderry.

**Corset Trade.**—Returns received from corset manufacturers employing 3,074 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended January 26th, showed an increase of 3.1 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 1.6 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was good. Compared with a year ago, firms employing 31 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the Returns reported employment as improved, firms employing 54 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 15 per cent. as worse.

**OTHER LEATHER TRADES.**

(Based on 43 Returns—2 from Employers' Associations, 25 from Trade Unions, and 16 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT generally continued quiet, and was somewhat worse than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 3,686 had 6.9 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 7.1 per cent. in December, and 6.4 per cent. in January, 1906.

**Skinner, Tanners, Curriers, Dressers, etc.**—Employment with skinner was bad generally. With curriers it was bad in London and quiet in Birmingham, but fair at Walsall, Leeds and Glasgow, and good at Edinburgh, Newcastle and Northampton. Employment was good with leather workers at Manchester, Bolton, Bury and Wigan.

**Saddle and Harness Makers.**—Employment at Walsall was quiet, with much short time. With harness makers in London it continued bad. It was good at Glasgow and Dublin.

**Miscellaneous Leather Trades.**—Employment with fancy leather workers was fair, and rather better than in December. With portmanteau makers in London and Manchester it continued fair.

\* See Note on page 47.



## Imports and Exports.

The imports of hides and undressed skins and of leather, and exports of saddlery and harness, are shown in the following Table for the months stated:—

Description.	Jan., 1907.		Dec., 1906.		Jan., 1906.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in January, 1907, as compared with	
	Jan., 1907.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.	Dec., 1906.
<b>Imports:—</b>								
Hides, raw, and pieces thereof, dry	40,462	35,254	37,027	35,254	37,027	35,254	+ 5,208	+ 3,435
Do, wet	35,988	44,852	41,800	44,852	41,800	44,852	- 8,864	- 5,812
Total, hides, dry and wet	76,450	80,106	78,827	80,106	78,827	80,106	- 3,656	- 2,377
Goat skins (number)	1,501,477	1,029,947	1,409,791	1,029,947	1,409,791	1,029,947	+ 471,530	+ 91,686
Sheep skins (value)	226,513	154,676	175,972	154,676	175,972	154,676	+ 71,837	+ 50,541
Leather*	109,443	87,117	100,254	87,117	100,254	87,117	+ 23,326	+ 9,189
<b>Exports:—</b>								
Saddlery and harness (value)	50,510	46,767	50,721	46,767	50,721	46,767	+ 3,743	- £ 211

## PAPER, PRINTING AND BOOK-BINDING TRADES.

(Based on 392 Returns—141 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 230 from Trade Unions, and 21 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in these trades was moderate on the whole. It showed a slight improvement compared with the end of December and January, 1906.

## PAPER TRADES.

Employment in these trades continued good, and was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 21,975 workpeople in the last week of the month showed that there was an increase of 0.6 per cent. in the total number of workpeople employed as compared with December, and an increase of 2.3 per cent. compared with January, 1906.

Description.	Number of Workpeople paid Wages in last week in January, 1907, by firms making Returns.		Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in No. of Workpeople as compared with a	
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Machine-made Paper and Milled Boards</b>				
Northern Counties	5,835	+ 0.3	+ 0.7	
Midlands, Wales, and Ireland	2,052	- 0.3	- 1.1	
Southern Counties	6,751	+ 1.7	+ 4.7	
Scotland	6,475	+ 0.1	+ 2.6	
Total Machine-made Paper, &c.	21,113	+ 0.6	+ 2.3	
<b>Hand-made Paper</b>				
Total	861	...	+ 1.1	
Total	21,975	+ 0.6	+ 2.3	

Trade Unions in the machine-made paper trade with 1,814 members had 1.9 per cent. unemployed at the end of January, as compared with 1.8 per cent. in December, and 2.2 per cent. in January, 1906. In the hand-made paper trade, Trade Unions with 631 members had 5.4 per cent. unemployed at the end of January, against 4.9 a month ago, and 5.7 a year ago.

The imports of paper in January, 1907, amounted to £470,700, as compared with £475,078 in December, 1906, and £478,752 in January, 1906, and the exports to £187,110, as compared with £166,291 in December, 1906, and £177,416 in January, 1906.

## PRINTING TRADES.

Employment with letterpress printers was moderate on the whole. In London it showed an improvement compared with the end of December and January, 1906, but in most of the provincial centres it was not so good as a month ago. Trade Unions with 40,928 members had 4.2 per cent. unemployed at the end of January, 1907, compared with 4.6 per cent. in December, and 5.1 per cent. in January, 1906. In the lithographic branch employment was moderate on the whole, and rather better than a month ago and a year ago, Trade Unions with 6,631 members having 4.7 per cent. unemployed at

\* Includes hides, tanned, tawed, curried, or in any way dressed, and goat and sheep skins tanned or dressed as leather.

the end of January, compared with 5.3 in December, and 5.0 in January, 1906.

The following Table shows by districts the percentage unemployed in Trade Unions in the Printing Trades:—

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Jan., 1907, included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		Jan., 1907.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		London ...	19,315	4.5	5.7	5.0
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	5,282	4.9	4.8	5.0	+ 0.1	- 1.1
Lancashire and Cheshire	4,252	4.1	3.7	3.7	+ 0.4	- 0.7
Midlands and Eastern Counties	6,513	4.5	3.9	5.2	+ 0.6	- 0.7
West Midlands	2,445	4.5	4.0	4.6	+ 0.5	- 0.1
S. & S. W. Counties and Wales	3,783	2.5	2.9	2.4	- 0.4	+ 0.1
Scotland	5,453	3.6	3.4	3.7	+ 0.2	- 0.1
Ireland	2,436	6.0	6.9	7.1	- 0.9	- 1.1
United Kingdom	47,559	4.3	4.7	5.1	- 0.4	- 0.8

London.—Employment was fair with letterpress printers, and better than in the last week of December and January, 1906, Trade Unions with 17,263 members having 4.2 per cent. unemployed, compared with 5.6 per cent. a month ago and 5.7 a year ago. With lithographic artists employment was fair; with lithographic printers it continued quiet, with short time.

Other Centres.—Employment with letterpress printers at Edinburgh showed a decline compared with December, and short time was worked by press and machinemen. At Glasgow employment was good, but not so good as a month ago; at Dundee good, and better than a month ago; at Aberdeen moderate. Employment was good at Liverpool, Bolton, Nottingham and Oxford. At Birmingham it was fairly good, but worse than a month ago. At Sheffield it was fair. It was quiet and worse than a month ago at Leeds, Bradford, Hull, Derby and Leicester. At Dublin it was good and better than a month ago and a year ago, overtime being frequently worked. With lithographic printers employment continued good at Manchester, Bristol and Glasgow. It was fair at Leeds, moderate at Birmingham and Nottingham. At Edinburgh and Bradford it was reported as bad.

## BOOKBINDING TRADES.

In London employment was quiet and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In the provinces it was fairly good generally; worse than a month ago and better than a year ago.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Jan., 1907, included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		Jan., 1907.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		London ...	3,626	5.4	4.5	4.9
Other Districts	3,347	2.4	1.6	3.0	+ 0.8	- 0.9
United Kingdom	6,973	3.9	3.2	4.1	+ 0.7	- 0.2

## BUILDING TRADES.

(Based on 1,974 Returns—981 from Employers and Employers' Associations, received partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 944 from Trade Unions and their branches, and 49 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued dull during January, and was seriously affected by bad weather. Compared with a year ago, no general change was shown by the Returns, but employment was noticeably better with carpenters and joiners and plumbers.

Returns received from firms employing 54,011 workpeople at the end of January showed an increase in the numbers employed of 768, or 1.4 per cent., compared with a month ago. The figures for December, however, were affected to some extent by the Christmas holidays.

The following Table summarises the Returns received:—

District.	Number of Workpeople paid Wages on the last pay-day of the month.							
	Skilled Workmen.		Labourers.		Lads and Boys.		Total.	
	Jan., 1907.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1907.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1907.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1907.	Dec., 1906.
London ...	10,990	10,482	7,489	7,390	749	732	19,228	18,604
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	3,225	3,254	3,065	3,193	800	773	7,090	7,220
Lancashire and Cheshire	4,252	4,166	3,176	2,950	1,111	1,127	8,539	8,243
Midlands and Eastern Counties	2,581	2,622	2,063	1,960	438	434	5,082	5,016
S.S.W. Counties and Wales	3,061	3,033	2,192	2,150	605	595	5,858	5,778
England & Wales	24,109	23,557	17,985	17,643	3,703	3,661	45,797	44,861
Scotland ...	3,401	3,569	2,049	2,163	1,007	1,018	6,457	6,750
Ireland ...	877	801	789	729	91	102	1,757	1,632
United Kingdom	28,387	27,927	20,823	20,535	4,801	4,781	54,011	53,243

From the above Table it will be seen that there was some increase in the number of workpeople employed in most districts, but a decline in Scotland and the Northern Counties group.

Employment was dull in all branches of the building trade except plumbing. Compared with the end of December, a slight improvement was shown by carpenters, plumbers, and plasterers, whilst in Scotland a decline was reported by masons and slaters. Compared with a year ago, employment showed an improvement with carpenters, plumbers and slaters, while masons in Scotland reported a decline. Bricklayers and painters reported no general change compared with either a month ago or a year ago.

The percentage unemployed of Trade Union carpenters and joiners in the United Kingdom at the end of January was 8.2, as compared with 8.6 a month ago, and 10.1 a year ago. The percentages unemployed of Trade Union plumbers for the same periods were 6.7, 7.5, and 12.1 respectively.

London.—Employment was dull generally. From Trade Union Returns relating to carpenters and joiners in the London district it appears that 10.3 per cent. were unemployed at the end of the month, against 9.8 a month ago, and 11.5 a year ago. For plumbers the percentages were 11.4, 12.5 and 15.2 respectively. Bricklayers, plasterers, and painters reported no change in employment compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago plasterers reported a slight improvement and painters a slight decline.

Northern Counties and Yorkshire.—Employment was dull generally, severe weather seriously hindering operations.

Lancashire and Cheshire.—Employment was dull on the whole. It was moderate, however, with carpenters and joiners at Manchester, with carpenters, bricklayers and plumbers at Oldham, and with plumbers, plasterers, painters, and slaters at Bolton.

Midland and Eastern Counties.—Employment was slack on the whole, but moderate with plumbers. It was also moderate with carpenters at Coventry, and at Walsall a general improvement was reported. Painters at Birmingham and Leicester reported employment as worse than a month ago.

Southern and South Western Counties and Wales.—Employment continued dull generally. As in other districts, building operations were seriously interfered with by severe weather. At Plymouth employment was worse on the whole than in December.

Scotland.—Employment was fair with plasterers and moderate on the whole with carpenters and plumbers. With bricklayers, masons, and painters it was slack.

Ireland.—Employment was dull generally, except with plumbers at Dublin, and masons at Belfast and Cork, who were fairly well employed.

## FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

(Based on 157 Returns—6 from Employers' Associations, 120 from Trade Unions, and 31 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued dull in most branches of these trades and had somewhat declined, but was better than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 34,892 reported 6.4 per cent. unemployed at the end of January, as compared with 6.0 per cent. in December, and 7.3 per cent. in January, 1906.

## Furnishing Trades.

Employment was very dull in the furnishing trades, and worse than a month ago, but better than a year ago. Short time was again worked in some districts. Trade Unions reported 8.5 per cent. unemployed at the end of January, as compared with 7.8 per cent. in December, and 10.9 per cent. in January, 1906.

The imports of furniture and cabinet ware in January, 1907, were valued at £40,149, as compared with £43,583 in December, 1906, and £36,971 in January, 1906.

The exports of furniture and cabinet ware in January, 1907, were valued at £48,708, as compared with £68,523 in December, 1906, and £62,700 in January, 1906.

## Millsawyers and Woodcutting Machinists.

With millsawyers and woodcutting machinists employment continued dull, and was worse than a year ago. Trade Unions reported 6.4 per cent. unemployed at the end of January, the same as a month ago, and 5.2 per cent. a year ago. Employment continued good at Dundee, and was reported as fair at Birmingham, Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Belfast.

The imports of hewn and sawn timber, and house frames, &c., are shown in the following Table:—

Description.	Jan., 1907.		Dec., 1906.		Jan., 1906.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Jan., 1907, as compared with	
	Jan., 1907.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.	Dec., 1906.
Timber, hewn ...	43,451	66,588	33,657	23,137	23,137	23,137	+ 9,794	+ 13,309
Do, sawn ...	215,812	367,541	202,593	151,729	151,729	151,729	+ 13,309	+ 13,309
House Frames, Fittings and Joiners' Work (value)	£ 21,370	£ 19,148	£ 22,568	£ 2,222	£ 2,222	£ 2,222	+ 998	- 998

## Coopers.

Employment with coopers had declined and was moderate, though better than a year ago. It had improved at Liverpool, but continued bad at Birmingham. It was good at Edinburgh and Dublin, and fair at Hull, Manchester, Glasgow, and Belfast.

## Coachbuilding.

With coachmakers employment was fair, and showed an improvement as compared with a month ago. It was about the same as a year ago. With wheelwrights employment was moderate. Trade Unions of coachmakers, wheelwrights, smiths, &c., had 4.6 per cent. unemployed at the end of January, as compared with 5.1 per cent. in the previous month, and 4.7 per cent. a year ago.

## Miscellaneous.

Brushmakers.—Employment was reported as fair, and better than in the previous month, though rather worse than a year ago. Trade Unions reported 5.1 per cent. unemployed at the end of January, as compared with 5.2 per cent. in December, and 4.7 per cent. in January, 1906.

Other Trades.—Employment with packing-case makers was dull in London, Bristol and Glasgow, and fair at Nottingham and Belfast. With basket-makers employment was bad in London and Leicester, but good at Oldham.

The imports of brushes and brooms in January, 1907, were valued at £25,649, as compared with £30,889 in December, 1906, and £26,290 in January, 1906.

The exports of brushes and brooms in January, 1907, were valued at £14,600, as compared with £13,806 in December, 1906, and £15,987 in January, 1906.



**POTTERY, AND BRICK AND TILE TRADES.**

(Based on 26 Returns—8 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 5 from Trade Unions, and 13 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the Pottery trade continued good, and was better than a year ago. In the Brick and Tile trades it was dull owing to seasonal slackness, and much the same as a month ago and a year ago.

**Pottery Trade.**—Employment in Staffordshire and Devonshire and at Glasgow continued good. It was good also in South Yorkshire, and fair at Newcastle and Bristol. Employment with engravers in North Staffordshire was good. With clay tobacco-pipe makers it was good at Manchester, and steady at Gateshead and Waterford, and in these three places was better than a month ago, but it was bad at Glasgow.

**Brick and Tile Trades.**—Employment continued slack at Peterborough, Ruabon, Wrexham, and at Nottingham. It was also dull at Ipswich, Sudbury, and Chelmsford. In Shropshire three-quarter time was worked. In Devonshire employment was fairly good and it was good in South Wales and Monmouth, where there was an improvement upon December. It was fair in South Staffordshire and in the Tees and Hartlepool district.

The Imports of chinaware or porcelain and earthenware in January, 1907, were valued at £65,312, as compared with £87,453 in December, 1906, and £66,177 in January, 1906. The Exports of chinaware or porcelain and earthenware in January, 1907, were valued at £212,109, as compared with £198,836 in December, 1906, and £186,954 in January, 1906.

**GLASS TRADES.**

(Based on 86 Returns—60 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 14 from Trade Unions, and 12 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good, on the whole, and was better than a year ago.

Returns received from firms employing 11,084 workpeople on the last pay-day in January and paying £13,074 in wages show an increase of 2.4 per cent. in the numbers employed and a decrease of 1.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago. The increase in numbers employed was confined to the glass bottle branch, and this department was the only one to show an increase in the amount of wages paid.

Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 4.0 per cent. in the numbers employed and of 7.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, the increases being common to all districts.

The Returns are summarised in the following Table:—

Branches.	Workpeople covered by Returns.		Earnings.			
	Number paid Wages on pay-day in week ended Jan. 26th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with Dec., 1906.	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay-day in week ended Jan. 26th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with Dec., 1906.		Per cent.
				Per cent.	Per cent.	
Glass Bottle ...	7,361	+ 5.0	9,005	+ 1.0	+ 9.3	
Plate Glass ...	844	- 3.1	925	- 6.1	+ 4.2	
Flint Glass Ware (not Bottles) ...	1,642	- 2.2	1,746	- 9.9	+ 2.3	
Other Branches ...	1,237	- 1.7	1,398	- 5.3	+ 4.2	
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>11,084</b>	<b>+ 2.4</b>	<b>13,074</b>	<b>- 1.8</b>	<b>+ 7.4</b>	
<b>Districts.</b>						
North of England ...	1,504	- 2.5	1,713	- 7.0	+ 7.2	
Yorkshire ...	4,282	+ 8.6	5,209	+ 3.6	+ 7.9	
Lancashire ...	2,128	- 0.6	2,456	- 6.9	+ 4.5	
Worcester and Warwick ...	2,064	- 1.2	2,373	- 4.7	+ 7.0	
Scotland ...	826	+ 0.2	1,044	+ 4.3	+ 14.2	
Other parts of United Kingdom ...	280	+ 0.7	279	- 11.4	+ 5.7	
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>11,084</b>	<b>+ 2.4</b>	<b>13,074</b>	<b>- 1.8</b>	<b>+ 7.4</b>	

Employment was generally good with glass bottle makers, but at Castleford and Mexborough it was moderate, though better than a month ago. At Dublin it was dull. With medical bottle makers it was good at Leeds, fair at Glasgow, and improving at Rotherham. With flint glass makers employment was good at Birmingham, moderate at Warrington and Barnsley,

and quiet at Glasgow. It was quiet with bevellers at Birmingham. It continued good with sheet glass flatteners at St. Helens. With London glass blowers it was fairly good. With pressed glass workers on the Tyne and Wear it was fair and showed an improvement upon a month ago, but short time was still being worked.

**Imports and Exports.**

Description.	Jan., 1907.		Dec., 1906.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Jan., 1907, as compared with Dec., 1906.	
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
<b>Imports:</b>						
Window & German Sheet Glass, including Shades, &c.	129,916	121,887	127,974	+ 8,029	+ 1,942	
Plate ...	40,351	25,930	38,236	+ 14,461	+ 2,155	
Flint, plain, cut or ornamented, &c.	68,881	69,969	69,312	- 1,088	- 431	
Manufactures, other sorts...	1,202	1,441	5,627	- 239	- 4,425	
Bottles ... .. gross	115,748	125,813	129,657	- 10,065	- 13,909	
<b>Exports:</b>						
Plate ... ..	15,046	9,711	12,866	+ 5,335	+ 2,180	
Flint ... ..	5,916	6,054	5,513	- 138	+ 403	
Manufactures, other sorts ...	35,563	30,319	35,384	+ 5,444	+ 179	
Bottles ... .. gross	67,251	61,833	63,602	+ 5,518	+ 3,749	

**AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN ENGLAND.**

(Based on 174 Returns from Correspondents in various parts of England.)

EMPLOYMENT was generally regular but in a number of counties frost and snow caused the employment of day labourers to be somewhat irregular during January, and the supply of this class of labour was in excess of the demand in some districts.

**Northern Counties.**—In Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmorland and Lancashire, while feeding stock, carting manure, etc., kept the regular farm hands in employment, severe weather considerably interrupted the employment of day labourers, who were generally in little demand. In Yorkshire heavy falls of snow hindered employment, and there was only an occasional demand for extra labour; the supply of labour generally was somewhat in excess of requirements.

**Midland Counties.**—Little interruption to employment was reported in Cheshire, Derbyshire, and Nottinghamshire, and the supply of and demand for labour were about equal. Some interruption was caused to ploughing and other outdoor work in Leicestershire, where there was some surplus of extra labour. In Staffordshire a number of day labourers are reported to have lost time through bad weather, and the supply of both permanent and casual labour tended to be more than sufficient for the demand. There was generally a fair demand for labour in Shropshire. In Worcestershire, the weather interfered with outdoor work, except such work as manure carting, and day labourers in consequence were in irregular employment. The weather interrupted employment at the end of the month in Warwickshire. In Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire, work on the root crops, threshing, etc., generally provided regular employment for day labourers. The supply of this class of labour was quite equal to the demand, but some scarcity of men for permanent situations was reported. A similar scarcity was reported in Buckinghamshire. In this county and in Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire employment of day labourers was, on the whole, fairly regular; though in several districts severe weather somewhat considerably affected the demand for such labour.

**Eastern Counties.**—Frost caused a slight interruption to employment of day labourers in Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire, where the supply and demand were generally about equal. In Lincolnshire employment was fairly regular on the whole, though day labourers were occasionally unable to get work on account of severe weather. Employment of day labourers in Norfolk and Suffolk was interrupted by frost and snow towards the end of the month; in several districts the supply of

this class of labour was in excess of the demand. Little or no irregularity of employment was reported in Essex.

**Southern and South-Western Counties.**—Employment was fairly regular in Kent, but there was only a moderate demand for extra men, with a consequent surplus of this class of labour. The weather caused some interruption to employment of day labourers in Surrey and Sussex, but a number of men found continuous employment on wood-cutting. Employment was fairly regular in Hampshire and Berkshire; the supply of extra labour was quite sufficient in both counties, but there was some scarcity of men for permanent situations in Hampshire. The weather interrupted employment in Wiltshire at the end of the month. The supply of and demand for labour were generally about equal in Dorset and Somerset, and there was but little interruption to employment. Employment was fairly regular in Herefordshire. There was little demand for extra labour in Gloucestershire, and a number of men did not get regular employment. Severe weather caused some day labourers to lose time in Devonshire and Cornwall, though a few were kept in employment on such work as hedge trimming; the supply of labour was generally sufficient for the demand.

**FISHING INDUSTRY.**

(Based on 21 returns—2 from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 10 from the Collectors of Fishery Statistics for England and Wales and the Fishery Board for Scotland, 1 from the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, and 8 from Local Correspondents.)

The fish landed during January showed an increase, both in quantity and in value, as compared with a year ago.

Employment among fishermen at the principal English ports was only moderate, and worse than a month ago, except at the South Wales ports, where it was good. At the Scottish ports it was fairly good and better than a month ago, except at Arbroath and Montrose, where it was very irregular owing to severe weather. Among fish dock labourers and fish curers employment generally was only moderate. With fish dock labourers, however, it was good at Aberdeen, and fair at Hull and Peterhead, and with fish curers it was good at Hull, Aberdeen, and Fraserburgh, and fair at Macduff.

The following Table gives the quantities and values of fish landed in January, 1907, and January, 1906, respectively:—

	Quantity.		Value.	
	Jan., 1907.	Jan., 1906.	Jan., 1907.	Jan., 1906.
<b>Fish (other than Shell):</b>				
England and Wales ...	655,905	610,079	532,170	533,886
Scotland ... ..	363,096	281,375	170,190	155,384
Ireland ... ..	47,173	23,336	16,398	10,305
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>1,066,174</b>	<b>914,790</b>	<b>718,758</b>	<b>699,635</b>
<b>Shell Fish ... ..</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>30,669</b>	<b>28,297</b>
<b>Total Value ... ..</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>749,427</b>	<b>727,932</b>

The exports of herrings in January 1907, were valued at £64,927 compared with £210,010 in December 1906, and £43,542 in January 1906.

**DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.**

(Based on 133 Returns—107 from Employers, 11 from Trade Unions, and 15 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT on the whole was moderate, and had declined a little as compared with a month ago. It was about the same as a year ago.

**London.\***—Employment generally was moderate, but an improvement was reported during the wool sales in the latter half of the month. On the whole while there was some decline as compared with a month ago, it was about the same as in January, 1906. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves in the four weeks ended January 26th, was 13,457, an increase of 0.8 per cent. compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 1.2 per cent. compared with a year ago. The daily numbers in January ranged

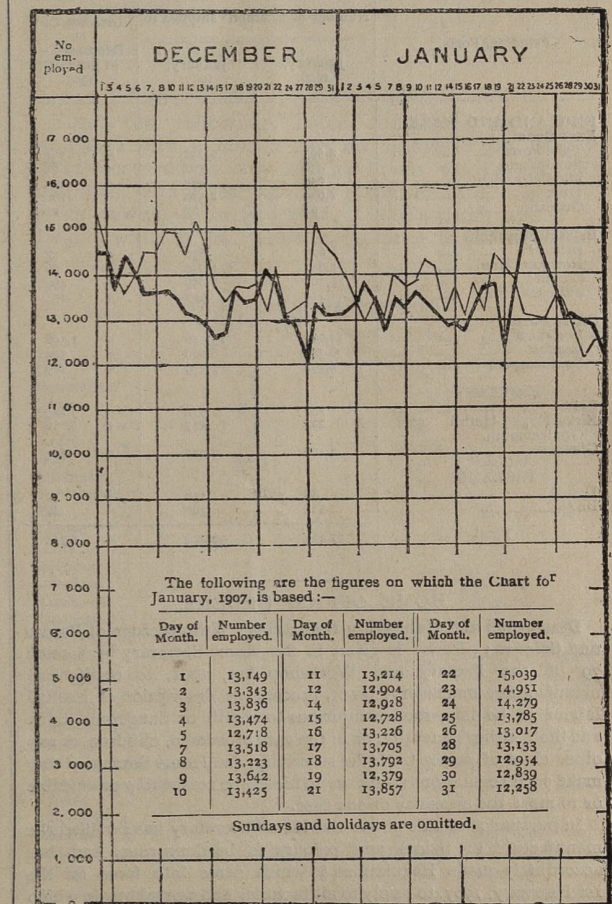
\* Exclusive of Tilbury.

from 12,258 on the 31st to 15,039 on the 22nd. During the corresponding period of 1906 the numbers ranged from 12,155 on the 30th to 14,467 on the 19th.

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.			At 107 Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended Jan. 5th	4,463	2,631	7,094	6,173	13,267
" " 12th	4,678	2,460	7,138	6,183	13,321
" " 19th	4,435	2,521	6,956	6,170	13,126
" " 26th	4,624	3,100	7,724	6,431	14,155
Average for 4 weeks ended Jan. 26th.	4,550	2,678	7,228	6,239	13,467
Average for Dec., 1906	4,666	2,860	7,526	6,329	13,855
Average for Jan., 1906	4,306	3,048	7,354	6,281	13,635

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 107 of the principal Wharves, for each day during the months of December, 1905, and January, 1906. The corresponding curve for December, 1906, and January, 1907, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1906-7, and the thin curve to 1905-6.]



The mean daily number employed at Tilbury Dock was 1,461 in January, as compared with 1,448 in December, an increase of 0.9 per cent.

At Liverpool employment was fair for quay and railway carters and for flatmen; for dockers it was dull at the South Docks, but fair at the North Docks.

**Other Ports.**—Employment for dock and quayside labour on the Tyne and Wear and at Blyth was fair; at Middlesbrough moderate, and at Hartlepool slack. At Hull it was moderate, at Grimsby fair, and at Goole bad. Dock and quayside labourers at Ipswich and Harwich were moderately employed. At Gloucester, Sharpness, and Bristol employment was slack, but at the South Wales ports it was fair. Dock labour showed

\* Exclusive of Tilbury



some decline at Leith, but was fair at Dundee and Aberdeen; at Greenock it was good until the middle of the month, but slack afterwards. At Limerick employment was moderate, at Dublin dull, while at Belfast it was fair.

**SEAMEN SHIPPED IN JANUARY.**

(Based on 27 Returns received through the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.)

RETURNS received from certain selected ports (at which 83 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared) show that during January, 39,224\* seamen, of whom 5,552 (or 14.2 per cent.) were foreigners, were shipped on foreign-going vessels. In nine cases increases were shown, and in the remaining eight there were decreases, the net result being an increase of 1,744 as compared with January, 1906.

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

The following Table shows the number of persons\* shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom during the periods mentioned:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in January, 1907.
	January, 1906.	January, 1907.	
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>			
<b>East Coast.</b>			
Tyne Ports ... ..	2,595	2,091	- 504
Sunderland ... ..	436	517	+ 81
Middlesbrough ... ..	258	465	+ 207
Hull ... ..	1,670	1,510	- 160
Grimsby ... ..	94	67	- 27
<b>Bristol Channel.</b>			
Bristol ... ..	675	638	- 37
Newport, Mon. ... ..	1,058	1,032	- 26
Cardiff ... ..	5,560	6,059	+ 499
Swansea ... ..	414	547	+ 133
<b>Other Ports.</b>			
Liverpool ... ..	12,204	13,510	+ 1,306
London ... ..	6,322	6,020	- 302
Southampton ... ..	2,390	2,559	+ 169
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>			
Leith ... ..	757	532	- 225
Kirkcaldy, Methil, and Grangemouth ... ..	225	227	+ 2
Glasgow ... ..	2,400	3,013	+ 613
<b>IRELAND.</b>			
Dublin ... ..	88	130	+ 42
Belfast ... ..	334	307	- 27
Total ... ..	37,480	39,224	+ 1,744

**HOME OFFICE ORDERS.**

**Dangerous and Unhealthy Industries: Manufacture of Paints and Colours.**—Power is given to the Home Secretary by Section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, to certify any manufacture, machinery, plant, process, or description of manual labour to be dangerous or injurious to health or dangerous to life and limb, either generally, or in the case of women, children, or any other class of persons. If he so certify, the Home Secretary may make such regulations as appear to him to be reasonably practicable or to meet the necessity of the case.

In pursuance of this power the Home Secretary has certified the manufacture of paints and colours to be dangerous, and has accordingly made Regulations, § which came into force on the 1st February, 1907, to apply to all factories and workshops in which dry carbonate of lead or red lead is used in the manufacture of paints and colours, or chromate of lead is produced by boiling. In the Regulations "lead colour" means dry carbonate of lead and red lead, and any colour into which either of these substances enters; and "lead process" means any process involving the mixing, crushing, sifting, grinding in oil, or any other manipulation of lead colour giving rise to dust, or the manufacture and manipulation of chromate of lead produced by boiling in the colour house. The Regulations provide for the carrying of the dust away from persons engaged in a lead process, by exhaust draught or otherwise. No woman, young person, or child may be employed in manipulating lead colour; but a woman may be employed to pack lead colour in parcels or kegs not exceeding 14 lbs. in weight, unless and until forbidden by the Chief Inspector of Factories. Provision is made for the periodic examination by the Certifying Surgeon (or

\* 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.  
 § Statutory Rules and Orders, 1907. No. 17. Wyman & Sons, Ltd. Price 1d.

other surgeon appointed by the Chief Inspector) of every person employed in a lead process or at the roller mills. He has power to suspend any person from such employment and to keep him from the employment as long as his health requires. The provisions as to examination by the Certifying Surgeon are not to apply to factories or workshops in which the grinding of lead colour occupies less than three hours in any week, unless and until the Chief Inspector so requires.

Overalls are to be provided for all persons employed in a lead process or at the roller mills. Cloak-rooms and dining-rooms and lavatories are to be provided; and eating, drinking and smoking in a room in which a lead process is carried on are forbidden.

The Regulations do not apply to factories or workshops in which paints and colours are manufactured, not for sale, but solely for use in the business of the occupier; or to factories or workshops in which only the manufacture of artists' colours is carried on; or to the manufacture of varnish paints.

**LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.**

THE following are among the more interesting legal cases reported in January, especially affecting labour. The accounts are based principally upon reports appearing in newspapers:—

**(1) Workmen's Compensation Acts.**

**ON, IN, AND ABOUT A MINE: ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF EMPLOYMENT.**

The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, applies to accidents arising out of, and in the course of, the injured workman's employment; and the employment is one to which the Act applies, which includes employment on, or in, or about a mine.

A colliery company owned a private railway connecting their collieries with a main line of railway. This private railway crossed a highway on the level at a point 290 yards from the nearest point of the collieries. At this level crossing a man was employed by the colliery company as gatekeeper. The gates were open to allow a train of wagons to pass over the crossing; and the gatekeeper was standing leaning against a gate waiting to close the gates across the railway as soon as the train had passed, when a bicyclist, who had lost control of his machine, rode into the gate with such violence that the gatekeeper was thrown on to the line in front of the train and killed.

The widow of the deceased man claimed compensation under the Act, and an award was made in her favour by the Sheriff-Substitute—subject to the opinion of the Court of Session on the questions—(1) whether the place where the accident occurred was on, in, or about a mine, and (2) whether the accident did arise out of, and in the course of, the man's employment. The Court of Session decided both questions in favour of the claimant.—*MacKinty v. William Dixon (Limited)*, Court of Session, 22nd January, 1907.

**(2) Employers Liability Act.**

**EMPLOYER USING PLANT SUPPLIED BY OTHER PERSON: ACCIDENT FROM DEFECT IN SUCH PLANT.**

By the Employers Liability Act, 1880, a workman has a right of action for damages against his employer where injury is caused by reason of any defect in the condition of the ways, works, machinery, or plant connected with or used in the business of the employer. It is, however, necessary to further prove that such defect arose from, or had not been discovered or remedied owing to the negligence of the employer, or of some person in the service of the employer, and entrusted by him with the duty of seeing that the ways, works, machinery, or plant were in proper condition.

A stevedore had a contract with a firm of shipowners to discharge their ships at so much a ton. In April, 1905, he was unloading a ship by means of a derrick, which, along with part of the tackle, was supplied by the shipowners. As a load was being hoisted part of the tackle gave way, and the load fell and injured a workman in the employ of the stevedore. The injured man brought an action under the Act against his employers, and at the hearing it was proved that the accident was caused by a defect in a part of the tackle which was supplied by the shipowners. The County Court judge thereupon gave judgment for the defendant, on the ground that he was not responsible for a defect in the ship's tackle. On appeal to the High Court this decision was upheld. On further appeal to the Court of Appeal, however, the judgment was set aside and a new trial ordered, on the ground that if an employer uses plant not his own, he is bound to take reasonable care to see that the plant is fit for the purpose for which he uses it, and the question whether the defendant had taken such care had not been tried.—*Biddle v. Hart*, Court of Appeal, 24 January, 1907.

**(3) Trade Union Acts.**

**LEVY ON MEMBER OF TRADE UNION FOR PAYMENT OF MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT.**

By the Trade Union Act, 1876, it is provided that the term "Trade Union" means any combination, whether temporary or permanent, for regulating the relations between workmen and masters, or between workmen and workmen, or between masters and masters, or for imposing restrictive conditions on the conduct of any trade or business.

A miner became a member of a Trade Union in 1900. In 1901, a new rule was made providing that it should be one of the objects of the union "to provide funds wherewith to pay the expenses of returning and maintaining representatives to Parliament and other public councils and boards, and to request them to press forward

by every legitimate means all proposals conducive to the general welfare of the workers of the federation."

A ballot of the members was taken as to making a levy upon the members for the purpose of carrying out this rule. There was a large majority of members in favour of the levy, but the miner voted in the minority against it. Subsequently he paid certain sums, amounting to 4s., in respect of the levy, and later he brought an action in a County Court against the union to recover the 4s.; for an injunction to restrain the union from continuing to make the levy; and for a declaration that the rule under which the levy was made was illegal. The County Court Judge gave judgment for the defendant union on all heads of the claim, and the plaintiff appealed to the High Court.

At the hearing of the appeal the claim for the recovery of the 4s. paid was abandoned, as the County Court Judge had found as a fact that the appellant had paid the money voluntarily. On the other points it was argued for the appellant that the rule made in 1901 was absolutely illegal, as being outside the purposes for which the union existed, as contained in the statutory definition of their purposes. For the respondent union, it was argued that the statutory definition of a Trade Union did not restrict the powers of the Union, and that the levy was perfectly legal. It was also contended that the Court had no jurisdiction to deal with the matter by reason of the provision in the Trade Union Act, 1871, that nothing in the Act "shall enable any Court to entertain any legal proceedings instituted with the object of directly enforcing or recovering damages for the breach of . . . any agreement for the application of the funds of a Trade Union."

The Court dismissed the appeal, holding that the section of the Act of 1876, which defined a Trade Union, did not in any way limit the objects of a Trade Union, or define all its powers; that there was nothing illegal in the rule; and that the making of the levy was perfectly legal, though if it had been illegal, an injunction might have been granted.—*Steele v. South Wales Miners' Federation*, King's Bench Division, January 12th, 1907.

**(4) Miscellaneous.**

**RAILWAY FRIENDLY SOCIETY: RIGHT TO WAGES WHILST DRAWING SICK-PAY.**

A man who had been for some years in the employment of a railway company, in 1898 signed an undertaking to obey the company's rules and regulations.

By one of their rules he was required to join, and did join, a friendly society which had been established by the company and to the funds of which the company largely contributed; but which was independent of the company, though some of the officials of the company were also officials of the society.

By the rules of the society a member was entitled to sick-pay during illness, but not whilst receiving wages from the company. Sick-pay was paid at the offices of the company, and was entered in the wages book in a column parallel to that in which wages were entered. In August, 1904, the man, who had been promoted to the responsible position of pointsman, had an attack of giddiness, and was on sick-pay for a fortnight afterwards, during which time he neither received nor asked for wages. In February, 1905, he had another attack and was found lying insensible in an epileptic fit. He again drew sick-pay and asked for no wages, and the doctor certified that he ought not in future to return among moving trains. The company, however, told him to retain his uniform as they hoped to be able to find him other work. In April he was advised to send in his resignation as suitable work could not be found for him. He refused to do this and continued to draw sick pay till September, when the company dismissed him.

He then brought an action against the company to recover wages for the time he was incapacitated up to the time he left the company's service. His action failed in the County Court and he appealed. In the High Court it was argued on the appellant's behalf that the rules of the friendly society had nothing to do with the plaintiff's contract of service with the company; and that although he had been unable to perform his duties because of illness, wages would still be due to him until he was dismissed. The Court dismissed the appeal on the ground that there was a special contract between the plaintiff and the company which incorporated the "rules of the company and the rules of the society. Under these rules, as assented to by the plaintiff, he was not entitled to full wages while drawing sick pay.—*Niblett v. Midland Railway Company*, King's Bench Division, January 17th, 1907.

**SERVANT LENT TO PERFORM CERTAIN WORK: ACCIDENT BY NEGLIGENCE OF SERVANT: LIABILITY OF LENDER.**

The owners of a traction engine let it out to a company for some months to do hauling work for the company. The owners sent their own driver with the engine and paid his wages; they also supplied the necessary oil and kept the engine in repair. The driver, however, took all his orders from the hiring company as to where he was to go and what he was to haul. While hauling a load for the company under the orders of the company, the driver negligently caused an accident by which a man was injured. The injured man brought an action for damages in a County Court against the owners of the engine. The defendants set up the defence that the driver was not acting as their servant, but as the servant of the company at the time of the accident. The County Court Judge decided in the plaintiff's favour, but his decision was over-ruled by the King's Bench Division.

On appeal to the Court of Appeal, the Court held that the County Court Judge was right; that as the owners of the engine appointed and paid the driver and had the power to dismiss him, he was their servant and under their control at the time of the accident; and that therefore the owners were responsible for the damage caused by the negligence of their servant.—*Dewar v. Tasker & Sons*, Court of Appeal, January 23rd, 1907.

**PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.**

**I.—BREAD.**

RETURNS have been received from 112 of the principal Master Bakers' Associations in the United Kingdom, and from other sources, showing the price of ordinary household bread per 4 lbs. on February 1st, 1907, and are summarised in the following Table:—

	1st Feb., 1907.			1st Jan., 1907.			1st Feb., 1906.		
	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.
London:—	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
N. & N.W. ... ..	5	4	4 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5	4	4 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	4	4 <sup>9</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
E. & N.E. ... ..	5	4	4 <sup>6</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5	4	4 <sup>6</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	4	4 <sup>9</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
S.E. ... ..	5	4	4 <sup>6</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5	4	4 <sup>6</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	4	4 <sup>9</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
S.W. ... ..	5	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	4 <sup>9</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	4 <sup>9</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
W. & W.C. ... ..	5	5	5 <sup>0</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5	5	5 <sup>0</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
N. Counties & Yorks.	6	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>0</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	6	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>0</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	6	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>0</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
Lancs. & Cheshire	5	4	4 <sup>8</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5	4	4 <sup>8</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	4	4 <sup>9</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
Midlands ... ..	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	4 <sup>9</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	4 <sup>9</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Eastern Counties ...	6	5	5 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	6	5	5 <sup>4</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	6	5	5 <sup>5</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
Southern Counties ...	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	4	4 <sup>8</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	4	4 <sup>9</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	4	5 <sup>0</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
S. Western Counties and Wales	6	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	6	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	6 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	5	5 <sup>6</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
Scotland ... ..	6	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	6	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	5 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	6 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	5	5 <sup>6</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
Mean Price ... ..	6	4	4 <sup>9</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	6	4	4 <sup>9</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	6 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	4	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>

**PRICE OF BREAD AT 28 LARGE TOWNS.**

From the following Table it will be seen that, compared with a month ago, no change in the price of bread occurred in any of the towns tabulated. As compared with a year ago, the price per 4 lbs. is 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> d. less in six towns—4 in Scotland, 1 in England, and 1 in Ireland, while in the Potteries, the price is 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> d. higher.

Place.	Predominant Price at 1st Feb., 1907.*	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Last Change.	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	Date.	Am't. per 4 lbs.
Birmingham ... ..	d.	d.	d.	Aug. '04	- 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Bolton ... ..	5	...	...	...	...
Bristol ... ..	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub> - 5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	...	...	Oct. '05	- 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Cardiff ... ..	5	...	...	...	...
Derby ... ..	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub> & 5	...	...	Feb. '05	- 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Gateshead ... ..	5	...	...	...	...
Huddersfield ... ..	5	...	...	...	...
Hull ... ..	5	...	...	Feb. '04	+ 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Ipswich ... ..	5	...	- 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	Sept. '06	- 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Leeds ... ..	5	...	...	...	...
Leicester ... ..	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	...	...	...	...
Liverpool ... ..	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	...	...	June '03	+ 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Manchester ... ..	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	...	...	Mar. '05	+ 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Middlesbro' ... ..	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	...	...	Jan. '06	- 1
Newcastle ... ..	5	...	...	...	...
Norwich ... ..	5	...	...	July '04	- 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Nottingham ... ..	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	...	...	...	...
Oldham ... ..	5	...	...	Sept. '03	+ 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Plymouth ... ..	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	...	...	Feb. '05	- 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Portsmouth ... ..	5	...	...	...	...
Potteries ... ..	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	...	+ 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	April, '06	+ 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Wolverhampton ... ..	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	...	...	...	...
Aberdeen ... ..	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub>	...	- 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	Dec. '06	- 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Dundee ... ..	4 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>8</sub> & 5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	...	...	Aug. '06	- 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Edinburgh ... ..	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	...	- 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	Aug. '06	- 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Glasgow ... ..	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	...	- 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	July '06	- 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Belfast ... ..	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	...	- 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	Sept. '06	- 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Dublin ... ..	5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	...	...	Dec. '05	- 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>

**II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.**

The imports of wheat from foreign countries and British Possessions from September 1st, 1906, to January 31st, 1907, amounted to 34,614,200 cwts., or 727,722 cwts. less than in the corresponding period of 1905-6. The imports of wheat-meal and flour during the period September, 1906, to January, 1907, amounted to 6,245,100 cwts., or 889,800 cwts. less than in September-January, 1905-6.

The following Table gives the mean London Gazette price of British wheat, the average declared value of

\* Though it is not possible to state that the quality of bread referred to is in all cases the same in the different towns, the predominant prices quoted for the several towns are believed to be, generally speaking, comparable with those for a month and a year ago for the same towns. The prices selected represent, so far as can be ascertained, the prevailing prices (not the average price of all bread sold) paid for 4 lbs. of ordinary household bread of average quality.



wheat and flour imports, and the market price of London flour (Town Households) for the periods stated:—

Month.	British Wheat.		Imports.		Average Monthly Price of London Flour (Town Households) <sup>per Mill for cash.</sup>
	Mean London Gazette Price (England and Wales).	Average Declared Value.		Per cwt.	
		Per cwt.	Per cwt.		
1906.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
January ... ..	6 8	7 5½	10 0½	10 0	8 8½
December ... ..	6 1	6 9	9 6½	8 9	
1907.					
January ... ..	6 1	6 10	9 5½	8 9	

**PRICES AND WAGES IN COAL AND IRON TRADES.**

THE results of the last ascertainment of the selling prices of coal and iron are given in the Table below, being the prices upon which wages are regulated. The movements in wages consequent upon the increase of prices are shown in the paragraphs following the Table:—

Product and District.	Price according to last Audit.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) of last Audit as compared with	
	Period covered by last Audit.	Ascertained average selling price per ton.	Previous Audit.	A Year ago.
<b>Coal.</b>	1906.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Northumberland:— (Average of all classes of coal at pit's mouth)	Sept.-Nov.	6 11'6d.	+ 0 0'3d.	+ 9 9'4d.
<b>Pig Iron.</b>				
Cleveland ... ..	Oct.-Dec.	53 4'6d.	+ 2 9'0d.	+ 5 10'6d.
Cumberland ... ..	Oct.-Dec.	72 9'8d.	+ 7 1'8d.	+ 2 11'14d.
West of Scotland ...	Nov., 1906- Jan., 1907.	65 8'53d.	+ 6 5'53d.	+ 7 2'53d.
<b>Manufactured Iron.</b>				
North of England:— (Rails, plates, bars, and angles)	Nov.-Dec.	134 11'2d.	+ 1 11'7d.	+ 11 4'7d.
Midlands:— (Bars, angles, tees, hoops, shafts, plates, strips, etc.)	Nov.-Dec.	138 9'8d.	+ 1 4'8d.	*
West of Scotland:— (Rounds, squares, flats, tees, angles, hoops, and rods)	Nov.-Dec.	135 7'4d.	+ 2 1'18d.	+ 15 8'05d.

**Coal.**—The average price of Northumberland coal for the three months September-November, 1906, was 6s. 11'6d., showing little change as compared with the previous audit, but was 9½d. per ton higher than a year ago. In connection with this ascertainment it was decided at a meeting of the Northumberland Conciliation Board, on 7th January, to advance the wages of underground workers and banksmen by 1½ per cent., and of other surface workers by 1 per cent., on standard rates.

**Pig Iron.**—The net average invoice price of No. 3 Cleveland pig iron for the three months October-December, 1906, was 53s. 4'6d. per ton. This shows an advance on the previous three months of 2s. 9d., and on the price of the three months October-December, 1905, of 5s. 10½d. The price of Cumberland pig iron in the same period of 1906, was 72s. 9'8d., being 7s. 1½d. higher than in the previous quarter, and 2s. 11½d. higher than a year ago. The average selling price for cash in the Glasgow market of Scottish pig iron warrants for the three months November, 1906-January, 1907, was 65s. 3'53d., which was 6s. 5½d. higher than in the previous quarter, and 7s. 2½d. higher than a year ago. As a result of these ascertainment, the wages of blast-furnacemen were advanced by 3½ per cent. on the standard in the Cleveland district, by 9 per cent. in West Cumberland, and by 7½ per cent. in the West of Scotland.†

**Manufactured Iron.**—In the North of England the ascertained selling price of the specified classes of manufactured iron in November and December, 1906,

\* No ascertainment was published for the months of November and December, 1905.  
† In connection with this advance, see page 35, "Wages of Blast-furnacemen in Scotland—New Shilling Scale."

was 134s. 11'6d. which was 1s. 11½d. higher than the previous audit, and 11s. 4½d. higher than a year ago. In the Midlands the selling price for the same period of 1906, was 138s. 9'8d., which was 1s. 4½d. higher than for the previous two months. In the West of Scotland the selling price in November and December, 1906, was 135s. 7'47d., which was 2s. 1½d. higher than for the previous audit, and 15s. 8d. higher than a year ago. As a result of these ascertainment the wages of puddlers and millmen in the North of England and the West of Scotland remain unaltered, but in the Midlands the wages of these workpeople have been advanced by 3d. per ton and 2½ per cent. respectively.

**RAILWAY GOODS AND MINERAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.**

THE goods and mineral receipts of twenty of the principal railways during the five weeks ended February 2nd, 1907, amounted to £5,114,347, an increase of £194,301 (or 3·9 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period in 1906.

English Lines:— L. & N. W., Midland, Gt. Central, N. London and N. Staffs. Gt. Northern, Gt. Eastern, and London & Tilbury... Lancs. and Yorks. and N. Eastern ... .. L. & S.W., and Gt. Western ... .. L. B. & S. C., and S. E. & C. ... ..	5 weeks ended Feb. 2nd, 1907.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 1906.
	Amount.	£	
	2,016,249	£ 96,772	
<b>Scottish Lines:— Glasgow &amp; S. Western, N. British, and Caledonian Irish Lines:— Gt. Southern and Western, Midland G.W., and Gt. Northern</b>	570,280 908,910 735,200 176,794	+ 25,684 + 41,332 + 20,300 — 2,165	
	582,957	+ 6,899	
	123,947	+ 5,479	
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,114,347</b>	<b>+ 194,301</b>	

**FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.**

**Summary for January.**

**IMPORTS.**  
NOTE.—The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

	Month ended 31st Jan.,			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1907, as compared with	
	1905.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1905.
<b>I.—Food, Drink and Tobacco.</b>	£ 18,725,270	£ 19,704,380	£ 19,751,432	+ 47,052	+ 1,023,162
<b>II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured.*</b>	17,619,948	20,420,231	26,837,224	+ 6,406,992	+ 9,267,276
<b>III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured†</b>	11,235,972	13,026,224	13,649,403	+ 553,184	+ 2,413,436
<b>IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post).</b>	171,632	253,497	252,444	— 1,053	+ 80,812
<b>Total value of Imports</b>	<b>47,785,822</b>	<b>53,474,333</b>	<b>60,540,508</b>	<b>+ 7,066,175</b>	<b>+ 12,784,688</b>

**EXPORTS OF BRITISH PRODUCE.**

NOTE.—The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

	Month ended 31st Jan.,			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1907, as compared with	
	1905.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1905.
<b>I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco.</b>	£ 1,275,729	£ 1,510,081	£ 1,494,219	— 15,862	+ 218,490
<b>II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured†</b>	2,808,835	3,263,056	3,881,172	+ 618,106	+ 1,072,337
<b>III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured‡</b>	20,551,368	25,599,983	29,150,703	+ 3,550,720	+ 8,599,335
<b>IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)</b>	353,845	401,631	544,513	+ 142,882	+ 190,668
<b>Total value of Exports of British produce</b>	<b>24,989,777</b>	<b>30,774,811</b>	<b>33,070,807</b>	<b>+ 4,295,996</b>	<b>+ 10,080,830</b>

The re-exports of foreign and colonial produce amounted to £6,113,887 in January, 1905; £7,445,855 in January, 1906; and £8,793,276 in January, 1907.

\* Raw cotton, wool, wood and timber, metallic ores, oils and oil-seeds, hides and skins, &c.  
† Yarns and textile fabrics, manufactures of metal and leather, chemicals, &c.  
‡ Coal, wood, oil seeds, hides and skins, &c.  
§ Yarns, textile fabrics, and apparel, metal manufactures, chemicals, &c.

**TRADE DISPUTES IN JANUARY.\***

**Number and Magnitude.**—Forty-one new disputes began in January, 1907, compared with 20 in December, 1906, and 17 in January, 1906. By the 41 disputes 11,667 workpeople were directly and 1,153 indirectly affected, and these figures when added to the number of workpeople affected by old disputes which began before January, and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 22,382 workpeople involved in trade disputes during January, 1907, compared with 12,030 in December, 1906, and 10,958 in January, 1906.

**New Disputes in January, 1907.**—In the following Table the new disputes in January are summarised by trades affected:—

Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople affected.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Coal Mining ... ..	8	3,633	446	4,079
Metal and Engineering ... ..	2	645	...	645
Cotton Weaving ... ..	20	4,350	63	4,413
Cotton Spinning ... ..	2	200	...	200
Flax Spinning ... ..	1	275	644	919
Boot and Shoe ... ..	2	642	...	642
Dock and Riverside Labour ... ..	3	1,520	...	1,520
Other Trades ... ..	3	402	...	402
<b>Total, January, 1907</b> ... ..	<b>41</b>	<b>11,667</b>	<b>1,153</b>	<b>12,820</b>
<b>Total, December, 1906</b> ... ..	<b>20</b>	<b>3,827</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>4,647</b>
<b>Total, January, 1906</b> ... ..	<b>17</b>	<b>2,369</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>2,465</b>

**Causes.**—Of the 41 new disputes, 9 arose on demands for increased wages, 16 for re-adjustment of wages on

account of alleged bad material in the cotton industry, and 3 on other wages questions, 4 on questions of employment of particular classes or persons, 5 on questions of Trade Union principle, 3 on details of working arrangements, and 1 against proposed increase in hours of labour.

**Results.**—Definite results were reported in January in the case of 32 new disputes, directly affecting 10,327 workpeople, and 5 old disputes, directly affecting 880 persons. Of these 37 new and old disputes, 14, directly involving 4,359 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 8, directly involving 2,847 persons, in favour of the employers; and 15, directly involving 4,001 persons, were compromised. In the case of 5 other disputes, directly involving 2,100 persons, work has been resumed pending further consideration.

**Aggregate Duration.**—The aggregate duration in January of disputes that started or were settled in that month was 95,800 working days. In addition, 71,300 working days were lost during January owing to disputes which began before that month, and at the end of the month were still unsettled. Thus the total duration in January of all disputes, new and old, was 167,100 working days, as compared with 201,300 in the previous month, and 213,600 in the corresponding month of 1906.

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

**Principal Trade Disputes.**

Occupations.†	Locality.	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began	Duration in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.†	Result.†
		Directly.	Indirectly.‡				
<b>Coal Mining— Miners, Surface Workers, &amp;c.</b> ...	Ruabon and Wrexham	1,550	350	1907. 3 Jan.	3	Refusal to work with non-Unionists	Non-Unionists joined the Trade Union.
Hewers, Repairers and Daywage Men	Pontypool (near)	1,003	...	1 Jan.	5	Refusal to work with non-Unionists or men in arrears with their contributions to the South Wales Miners' Federation	Non-Unionists joined the Federation or left the colliery; men in arrears paid up their subscriptions.
Miners ... ..	Gateshead ...	1,345	...	1906. 24 Dec.	8	For increased price for certain work	Matter referred to arbitration.
<b>Engineering and Shipbuilding— Platers, Helpers, Riveters, Shipwrights, Joiners, Labourers, &amp;c.</b>	Tees and Hartlepool	600	4,400	1907. 31 Oct.	56	Against proposed new scale of piece-work prices	Amended scale agreed upon.
Safe Makers ... ..	Liverpool ...	600	...	1 Jan.	2	Against notice of proposed increase of hours from 48 to 53 per week	Notice withdrawn.
<b>Cotton Weaving— Weavers, &amp;c.</b> ... ..	Ramsbottom	500	...	2 Jan.	3	For two days' holiday at the New Year	Workpeople agreed to pay fine for stoppage of work; employers promised to give an extra holiday in 1907.
Weavers, Winders, and Warpers, Overlookers, Warehousemen, &c.	Heywood ...	325	25	24 Jan.	...	Alleged bad material ... ..	No settlement reported.
<b>Flax Spinning— Flax Spinners, Preparers, Reelers, &amp;c.</b>	Arbroath ...	275	644	18 Jan.	6½	For advance in wages ... ..	Work resumed on promise that wages question would be considered in March.
<b>Boot and Shoe Manufacture— Boot and Shoe Operatives</b> ... ..	Hinckley, Barwell and Earl Shilton	620	...	21 Jan.	13	For a minimum wage of 28s. per week for all men over 20 years of age	Manufacturers to reinstate as many men as possible at minimum of 28s.; committee appointed to settle any differences.
<b>Music Hall Employees— Musicians and Stage Hands!</b> ...	London ...	305	...	21 Jan.	22	For adoption of agreement involving recognition of Trade Union rates of wages and working conditions, and other matters	Matter referred to Board of Trade and Mr. G. R. Askwith appointed as Arbitrator under the Conciliation Act, 1896, (see p. 35).

\* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration exceeded 100 days.  
† 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.  
‡ A number of artists joined the movement with the object of securing alterations in their conditions of contract.

**Return of Deaths of Seamen.**—A Return of Deaths of Seamen reported to the Board of Trade is issued by the Registrar-General of Seamen each month, and copies may be seen at all Free Libraries, Mercantile Marine Offices, and Sailors' Homes throughout the country.

The Return shows the name of every seaman whose death has been reported during the month, together with his age, nationality, and last place of abode; the cause, date, and place of death; and the name, official number, and port of registry of the ship on which he was serving.



CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.\*

Wages.

Changes reported in January.—The net effect of all the changes in wages reported in January was an increase of £20,246 per week, as compared with an increase of £8,387 per week in December, 1906, and an increase of £3,566 per week in January, 1906. The number of workpeople affected was 445,336, of whom 444,506 received advances, amounting to £20,270 per week, and only 830 sustained decreases amounting to £24 per week. The total number affected in December, 1906, was 129,373, and in January, 1906, 117,702.

One change, affecting 80 workpeople, was settled by arbitration: six changes, affecting 335,795 workpeople, were arranged by Conciliation Boards or by mediation, and 15 changes, affecting 18,024 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting 91,437 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives. In three cases, affecting 1750 workpeople, the changes were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

Summarised by trades, the number of workpeople affected by changes reported in January, 1906 and 1907,

and the net results on their weekly wages, were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January.			
	1906.		1907.	
	No.	£	No.	£
Building ... ..	38,650	+ 520	403,100	+18,383
Coal Mining ... ..	9,426	+ 134	9,365	+ 61
Iron Mining, &c., and Quarrying ... ..	6,928	+ 203	10,045	+ 544
Pig Iron Manufacture ... ..	32,424	+ 989	7,791	+ 293
Iron and Steel Manufacture ... ..	30,050	+ 1,709	1,919	+ 96
Engineering and Shipbuilding... ..	134	+ 4	9,631	+ 654
Other Metal Trades ... ..	12	+ 1	3,485	+ 215
Textile Trades ... ..	78	+ 6	—	—
Employees of Local Authorities ... ..	—	—	—	—
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>117,702</b>	<b>+ 3,566</b>	<b>445,336</b>	<b>+20,246</b>

Hours.

The changes in hours of labour reported during January, 1907, affected 773 workpeople, whose aggregate working time was reduced by 923 hours per week.

Principal Changes in Wages in January.

Particulars of the principal changes in wages reported in January are given below. The details of the other changes reported are not separately stated in the Table, but they are included in the preceding statistics.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN JANUARY.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change takes effect in 1906.	Occupation.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by	Particulars of Change.		
					In-crease.	De-crease.	
Coal Mining	Northumberland	7 & 14 Jan.	Underground Workers and Banksmen (except Deputies, Mechanics, Enginemen and Firemen) Other Surface Workers ...	38,000	...	Advance of 1½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 25 per cent. above the standard of November, 1879.	
	Cumberland	14 Jan.	Hewers and other Underground Workers	6,000	...	Advance of 1 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 20 per cent. above the standard of November, 1879.	
	Federated Districts†	1st making-up day in Jan.	Underground Workers ...	275,000	...	Advance of 5 per cent. on standard rates, making wages of Hewers 42½ per cent., and of other Underground Workers 32½ per cent., above the standard of November, 1879.	
	Surface Workers ...	60,000	...	Advance of 5 per cent. on standard rates, making wages of Hewers 45 per cent. above the standard of 1888.			
	South Staffs. and East Worcester (parts of)	1st making-up day in Jan.	Hewers, and other Underground and Surface Workers	12,000	...	Advance of 5 per cent. on standard rates, making wages of Hewers 45 per cent. above the standard of 1888.	
	Forest of Dean ...	28 Jan.	Hewers, other Underground and Surface Workers (including Enginemen and Mechanics)	5,500	...	Advance of 5 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 35 per cent. above the standard of 1888.	
	Somerset (Radstock District)	Jan.	Hewers, other Underground Workers, Banksmen and Screenmen	4,000	...	Advance of 5 per cent. on standard rates, making wages 35 per cent. above the standard of 1879.	
	Iron Mining ...	Cleveland ..	Jan.	Ironstone Miners ...	7,500	...	Advance of ½ per cent. on standard rates, making wages 31·65 per cent. above the standard of 1879.
	Quarrying ...	Weardale ...	Jan.	Limestone Quarrymen ...	1,500	...	Advance, under sliding scale, of 3½ per cent., making wages 26½ per cent. above the standard of 1879.
	Pig Iron Manufacture	Cleveland and Durham	Jan.	Blastfurnacemen ...	5,500	...	Advance, under sliding scale, of 4 per cent., making wages 19 per cent. above the standard.
Iron and Steel Manufacture	South Wales and Monmouthshire	1 Jan.	Iron and Steel Workers ...	5,000	...	Advance of 5 per cent.	
Textile	Lancashire and Yorkshire	{ 1 Jan. 18 Jan.	Dyers, Bleachers, Sizers, &c.	{ 695 6,000	...	Advance of 1s. or 2s. per week.	

IMPORTANT CHANGES TAKING EFFECT IN FEBRUARY OR MARCH.

(Full particulars will appear in the March GAZETTE.)

Coal Mining.—It is reported that the wages of miners in South Wales and Monmouthshire are to be advanced 3½ per cent. on standard rates, as from 1st March, making wages 41½ per cent. above standard. In the Forest of Dean, another advance of 5 per cent. took effect from 11th February, and a further advance of 5 per cent., making wages of miners 45 per cent. above standard has since been reported.

Pig Iron Trade.—The wages of blastfurnacemen in Scotland have been advanced 7½ per cent. from 1st February.

Iron and Steel Trade.—The sliding scale regulating the wages of puddlers and millmen in the Midlands gives an advance of 3d. per ton and 2½ per cent. respectively to these workpeople, taking effect from 4th February.

Flax and Jute Trade.—An advance of wages is reported, affecting the flax spinning industry in the North of Ireland, to take effect in March. It is reported that in Dundee the operatives in the Jute industry are to receive an advance of 5 per cent. on the 1st pay day in March.

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

The following kinds of changes are not included in the statistics:—(1) Changes in wages affecting agricultural labourers, seamen, railway servants, police and Government employees; (2) Increments accruing under scales of pay, as in the case of policemen, some municipal employees, and many railway servants, &c.; (3) Changes in pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c.

† Including Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire, Derbyshire Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Warwickshire, North Staffordshire, Cannock Chase and North Wales.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN JANUARY, 1907.

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

EXCLUSIVE of seamen, the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during January, 1907, was 268, an increase of 8 as compared with the previous month, and of 15 as compared with January, 1906.

The mean number for January in the years 1902-1906 was 249, the maximum year being 1904 with 255 deaths, and the minimum 1905, with 239 deaths.

The number of fatal accidents to seamen reported during January, 1907, was 106, as compared with 109 a month ago, and 136 in January, 1906. The number reported for January is lower than the number for the same month in any of the preceding 5 years, which ranged from 111 in 1904 to 163 in 1905, the mean for the five years being 134.

In the following Table the accidents reported in January, 1907, are classified by the trades in which they occurred, and comparative figures are given for the preceding month and for the corresponding month of last year:—

Trade.	Number of Workpeople killed during			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Jan., 1907, as compared with a	
	Jan., 1907.	Dec., 1906.	Jan., 1906.	Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Railway Service—</b>					
Brakemen and Goods Guards	4	6	2	- 2	+ 2
Engine Drivers	1	1	4	—	- 3
Firemen	1	2	1	- 1	...
Guards (Passenger)	...	...	...	...	...
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	9	10	6	- 1	+ 3
Porters	10	10	3	...	+ 7
Shunters	1	3	2	- 2	- 1
Miscellaneous	13	18	15	- 5	- 2
Contractors' Servants	2	3	...	- 1	+ 2
<b>Total Railway Service</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>- 12</b>	<b>+ 8</b>
<b>Mines—</b>					
Underground	89	87	92	+ 2	- 3
Surface	13	15	15	- 2	- 2
<b>Total Mines</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>- 5</b>
<b>Quarries over 20 feet deep</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>+ 4</b>	<b>+ 3</b>
<b>Factories (including Workshops)</b>					
<b>Textile—</b>					
Cotton	3	2	3	+ 1	...
Wool and Worsted	3	3	2	...	+ 1
Other Textiles	2	...	3	+ 2	- 1
<b>Non-Textile—</b>					
Extraction of Metals	7	1	7	+ 6	...
Founding and Conversion of Metals	14	12	12	+ 2	+ 2
Marine and Locomotive Engineering	3	3	4	...	- 1
Ship and Boat Building	4	6	2	- 2	+ 2
Wood	4	1	3	+ 3	+ 1
Chemicals	4	2	9	+ 2	- 5
Other Non-Textile Industries	35	34	34	+ 1	+ 1
<b>Total Factories</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>+ 15</b>	<b>...</b>
<b>Accidents reported under Factory Act, 8s. 103-5—</b>					
Docks, Wharves, and Quays...	17	11	14	+ 6	+ 3
Warehouses	2	3	1	- 1	+ 1
Buildings to which Act applies	11	14	6	- 3	+ 5
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Total under Factory Act, 8s. 103-5</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>+ 2</b>	<b>+ 9</b>
<b>Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>- 1</b>	<b>...</b>
<b>Total, exclusive of Seamen</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>+ 8</b>	<b>+ 15</b>
<b>Seamen—</b>					
<b>On Trading Vessels—</b>					
Sailing	51	19	41	+ 32	+ 10
Steam	46	77	79	- 31	- 33
<b>On Fishing Vessels—</b>					
Sailing	3	2	2	+ 1	+ 1
Steam	6	11	14	- 5	- 8
<b>Total Seamen</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>- 3</b>	<b>- 30</b>
<b>Total, including Seamen</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>+ 5</b>	<b>- 15</b>

Information for Intending Emigrants.—A new pamphlet entitled "Summary of Consular Reports, 1905-6, North and South America," which contains information useful to intending emigrants, has been issued by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31, Broadway, Westminster, S.W. Copies can be obtained, price 3d., post free, on application to the Chief Clerk.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

THE total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office during January was 43, consisting of 39 cases of poisoning, and 4 of anthrax. In addition to the above, 20 cases of lead poisoning (including 5 deaths) were reported during January among house painters and plumbers.

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

Analysis by Industries.

Industry.	CASES.		DEATHS.	
	Jan., 1907.	Jan., 1906.	Jan., 1907.	Jan., 1906.
<b>Lead Poisoning.</b>				
Smelting of Metals ... ..	1	5	—	—
Brass Works ... ..	—	3	—	—
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping	1	2	—	—
Plumbing and Soldering ... ..	1	2	—	—
Printing ... ..	2	4	—	—
File Cutting ... ..	1	4	—	—
Tinning and Enamelling of Iron	3	—	—	—
Hollow-ware	—	—	—	—
White Lead Works ... ..	5	9	—	1
Red and Yellow Lead Works	—	—	—	—
China and Earthenware* ... ..	6	9	1	—
Litho-transfer Works ... ..	—	—	—	—
Glass Cutting and Polishing ... ..	—	—	—	—
Enamelling of Iron Plates ... ..	—	2	—	—
Electrical Accumulator Works	1	3	—	—
Paint and Colour Works ... ..	2	3	—	—
Coach Making ... ..	3	7	—	—
Shipbuilding ... ..	2	1	—	1
Paint used in other Industries ... ..	4	2	—	—
Other Industries ... ..	6	7	—	2
<b>Total in Factories and Workshops</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>
House Painting and Plumbing ... ..	20	16	5	2
<b>Other Forms of Poisoning.</b>				
<b>Mercurial Poisoning—</b>				
Barometer and Thermometer Making	—	—	—	—
Furriers' Processes	—	—	—	—
Other Industries ... ..	1	—	—	—
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Phosphorus Poisoning—</b>				
Lucifer Match Works ... ..	1	—	1	—
Other Industries ... ..	—	—	—	—
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Arsenic Poisoning—</b>				
Paints, Colours and Extraction of Arsenic	—	—	—	—
Other Industries ... ..	—	—	—	—
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Total, "Other Forms of Poisoning"</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Anthrax.</b>				
Wool ... ..	2	3	—	1
Handling of Horsehair ... ..	1	2	—	—
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.)	—	1	—	1
Other Industries ... ..	—	—	—	—
<b>Total Anthrax ... ..</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2</b>

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

CONTRACT LABOUR LAW.

IN the GAZETTE for October, 1906, p. 294, an account was given relating to four moulders, who, on the promise of work being found for them by a particular firm, proceeded to Montreal and subsequently to Chicago. It was stated that the men were eventually detained by the United States Immigration Bureau, as witnesses in a suit to be brought against the firm for breach of the Contract Labour Law, which prohibits the entrance of persons who have made a contract abroad to take up a definite engagement in the United States. It is now stated, in a telegram to the Foreign Office, from His Majesty's Consul at Chicago, dated January 28th, 1907, and since confirmed in a despatch that the men have been ordered to be deported and that the employers have been fined.

\* Of the 6 persons affected in the china and earthenware industry in January, 1907, 3 were females.



LABOUR BUREAUX IN JANUARY.

(I.) LABOUR BUREAUX IN LONDON AFFILIATED TO THE CENTRAL EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE.

Table with columns: Name of Exchange, No. of Individuals who Registered during 4 weeks ended 26 Jan., 1907, No. of Situations offered during 4 weeks ended 26 Jan., 1907, No. of Situations filled during 4 weeks ended 26 Jan., 1907, No. of Individuals on Register on 26 Jan., 1907.

Table with columns: Name of Exchange, Building Trades, Metal Work, Transport and General, Other Occupations, Situations re-found, No. on Register, Situations re-found, No. on Register, Situations re-found, No. on Register, Situations re-found, No. on Register.

NOTE.—During the period of Christmas pressure of 1906 temporary employment was found for 331 men with the Post Office authorities, through the agency of the Employment Exchanges. † Including females.

(II.) LABOUR BUREAUX NOT AFFILIATED.

Table with columns: Name of Labour Bureau, Applications by Workpeople during, Situations offered by Employers during, Workpeople found Work during, Jan., 1907, Jan., 1906, Jan., 1907, Jan., 1906, Jan., 1907, Jan., 1906.

Employment found for Workpeople in January by 25 Bureaux.

Table with columns: Capacity in which employed, No. permanently engaged, No. temporarily engaged, Total. Engaged by Private Employers, Engaged by Local Authorities, Engaged by Salvation Army, Total of 25 Bureaux.

Occupations of Workpeople on the Registers of 25 Bureaux at the end of January, 1907.

Table with columns: Name of Bureau, Men (Building Trades, Engineering Trades, General Labourers, Messengers, Porters, Carmen & Co., Other Occupations), Lads and Boys, Women and Girls, Total.

(III.) WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX.

DURING January 831 fresh applications (338 from domestic servants, &c.) for work were registered by 8 Bureaux furnishing returns, and 890 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 213 persons, of whom 109 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 213 situations found for applicants 162 were of a more or less permanent character, while 51 were temporary only.

The work done by the Bureaux during January is shown in the following Table:—

Table with columns: Applications by Workpeople during, Situations offered by Employers during, Number of Workpeople engaged by Employers (Permanently, Temporarily), Summary by Bureaux, Summary by Occupations, Total.

PAUPERISM IN JANUARY.

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

THE number of paupers relieved in the 35 selected Urban Districts named below on one day in January, 1907, corresponded to a rate of 224 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Compared with December, 1906, the total number of paupers relieved increased by 3,479 (0.9 per cent.) and the rate per 10,000 by 2. The number of indoor paupers showed an increase of 2,918 (1.7 per cent.), and the outdoor paupers an increase of 561 (0.3 per cent.). Increases took place in 24 districts, and decreases in 7 districts.

Compared with January, 1906, the total number of paupers relieved decreased by 11,821 (2.9 per cent.), and the rate per 10,000 by 9. The number of indoor paupers increased by 2,803 (1.6 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers decreased by 14,624 (6.3 per cent.). Decreases took place in 25 districts, the most marked being in West Ham (70 per 10,000), the Leicester district (44 per 10,000), and the East London district (37 per 10,000). There were increases in 7 districts.

Table with columns: Selected Urban Districts, Paupers on one day in second week of Jan., 1907 (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 A month ago, A year ago.

Table with columns: ENGLAND & WALES, METROPOLIS, West District, North District, Central District, East District, South District, Total Metropolis, West Ham, Other Districts, Newcastle District, Stockton & Tees District, Bolton, Oldham, &c., Wigan District, Manchester District, Liverpool District, Bradford District, Halifax & Huddersfield, Leeds District, Barnsley District, Sheffield District, Hull District, North Staffordshire, Nottingham District, Loughborough District, Wolverhampton District, Birmingham District, Bristol District, Cardiff & Swansea, Total "Other Districts".

SCOTLAND.

Table with columns: Glasgow District, Paisley & Greenock District, Edinburgh & Leith District, Dundee & Dunfermline, Aberdeen, Coatbridge & Airdrie, Total for the above Scottish Districts.

IRELAND.

Table with columns: Dublin District, Belfast District, Cork, Waterford, & Limerick District, Galway District, Total for the above Irish Districts, Total for above 38 Districts in Jan., 1907.

\* The rates for January 1907 and December 1906, are based upon the estimated population in 1907, and the rate for January 1906, upon the estimated population in 1906. † 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. ‡ Exclusive of Casuals, but including persons maintained in Institutions for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, &c., who are classified as not able-bodied.

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING JANUARY.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Report on the Decline in the Agricultural Population of Great Britain, 1887-1906. Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. [Cd. 3273: pp. 143: price 8d.] Departmental Committee on Small Holdings in Great Britain. Minutes of Evidence with Appendices and Index. Appendices contain table showing the number of Holdings in each class in each county and division of Great Britain in 1895 and 1904, with the average size in 1904. [Cd. 3278: pp. vii. + 542: price 4s. 5d.] Return as to the Proceedings of District Committees under the Unemployed Workmen Act, 1905, in England and Wales up to the 31st March 1906. [H.C. 392: pp. 25: price 3d.] Poor Relief (England and Wales). Statement of the amount expended by Boards of Guardians for Poor Relief during the half-year ended Lady Day 1906. [H.C. 315: pp. 29: price 3d.] Aliens Act, 1905. Return of Alien Passengers brought to the United Kingdom during quarter ended 31st December, 1906; with number of expulsion orders made during that period. [Cd. 3316: pp. 7: price 1d.] Passengers to and from Places out of Europe. Return for December, 1906. Numbers and Nationalities of Passengers leaving or arriving in the United Kingdom, for or from places out of Europe. [Cd. 2839 - xi.: pp. 4: price 1d.] Housing of the Working Classes Acts Amendment Bill. Report and Special Report from the Select Committee, with Minutes of Evidence and Appendix. [H.C. 376: pp. cxiv. + 467: price 4s. 9d.] [The Report of this Select Committee was noticed in the January GAZETTE, page 6.] Annual Statement of Trade. Supplement to Vols. I. and II., 1905. Countries of Consignment of Imports, and Countries of Ultimate Destination of Exports. [Cd. 3282: pp. xiii + 471: price 3s. 11d.] Tramways and Light Railways (Street and Road). Return for 1905. Showing capital, receipts, working expenditure, number of passengers, mileage, number of horses, engines, cars, etc. [H.C. 298: pp. 67: price 7d.] Army. Paper containing Copy of Instructions issued by the War Office to the various Military Commands with reference to giving Technical Instruction to Soldiers to fit them for Civil Life. [H.L. 250: pp. 5: price 1d.] (All the above-mentioned Reports may be obtained direct from Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C., or through any bookseller.) The Economic Journal, December, 1906. Contains articles—"Industrial Organization in the Worsted and Woollen Industries of Yorkshire," by Professor Clapham; "Cheap Railway Tickets for Workmen in Belgium," by Professor Mahaim. [Macmillan & Co.: price 5s.] Journal of the Society of Comparative Legislation. New Series, No. XVI. Contains review of British and Foreign Legislation in 1905. [John Murray, Albemarle Street: pp. 303.] Progress. January, 1907. The Organ of the British Institute of Social Service. Contains "A Plea for Small Holdings," by R. Winfrey, M.P.; "Lodging-house Lads," by C. E. B. Russell and Lilian M. Rigby. [11, Southampton Row, W.C.: price 1s.] National Anti-Sweating League. Report of the Conference in October, 1906, on the question of a legal minimum wage. [Co-operative Printing Society: pp. 97: price 6d.] London County Council. Housing of the Working Classes. Tables showing the amount of accommodation, rents charged, and received, number and occupation of tenants, and other particulars relating to the Council's dwellings for the year ended 31st March, 1906. [No. 999: pp. 19: price 6d.] New Working-Class Accommodation, 1905. Return showing net addition to accommodation in London and adjacent districts during 1905; with particulars of rooms and tenements, and average weekly rents charged. [No. 996: pp. 19: price 6d.] Statistical Abstract for London, 1906. [No. 1006: pp. 144: price 1s.] Rates of Pay and Hours of Labour. Return showing rates of wages and hours under the Metropolitan Board of Works in 1888, and similar particulars in respect of workmen employed by the London County Council in 1906. [No. 1021: pp. 19: price 6d.] [The L.C.C. publications are published by P. S. King & Sons, Westminster, S.W.] BRITISH COLONIES. Canada.—Report of the Department of Labour for the year ended 30th June, 1906. Proceedings under the Conciliation Act, 1900; administration of the Railway Labour Disputes Act and Alien Labour Laws; strikes and lock-outs; industrial accidents; carrying out of the Fair Wages Resolution of 1900, &c. [Ottawa: S. E. Dawson, King's Printer: pp. 127: price 5d.] Labour Gazette, December 1906. Alberta and Saskatchewan Legislation affecting Labour, 1906; settlement of Coal Miners' Strike at Lethbridge, Alberta, under the Conciliation Act. New Zealand. Journal of the Department of Labour, November 6, 1906. The Labour Market; disputes under the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act; cases under the Workers' Compensation for Accidents Act, &c. Victoria. 20th Annual Report on the Trade Unions. Number of Unions, membership, receipts, expenditure and funds during 1905. [Melbourne: J. Kemp, Acting Government Printer: pp. 5: price 6d.]



## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

## United States.

*Twelfth Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics of the State of California, 1905-06.* Wages statistics, factory inspection, child labour, employment agencies, strikes and lock-outs, San Francisco rehabilitation, labour laws, &c. [Sacramento: W. W. Shannon, Superintendent of State Printing: pp. 244.]

*American Federationist.* [Official Magazine of the American Federation of Labour]. January, 1907. [Price 5d.]

## France.

*Journal of the French Labour Department.* December, 1906. Contains articles on employment and disputes in November.

*French Population Census of March 24th, 1901. Volume IV, 1906.* Contains summary of general results, [Paris: Imprimerie Nationale: pp. xxv. + 997.]

*Statistical Yearbook of France for 1905.* Contains statistical tables relating to Trade Unions, co-operation, factory inspection, prices, savings banks, friendly societies, &c. French Labour Department, 1906. [Paris: Imprimerie Nationale: pp. xl. + 392 + 175.]

## Germany.

*Journal of the German Labour Department,* January, 1907. Contains report on unemployment in German Trade Unions in fourth quarter of 1906.

*Railways, Posts, Telegraphs and Shipping (on Lake Constance) of Wurtemberg for 1905.* Contains particulars as to wages and hours of labour. Foreign Office of Wurtemberg, Railway Department, 1906. [Stuttgart: J. B. Metzlersche Buchhandlung: pp. 415.]

*Monthly Reports of the Statistical Office of Baden, 1904, Nos. 1, 2 and 3.* (No. 1 contains article on prices in 1903); 1905, No. 1 and Special Number; 1906, No. 1.

*Wages in Metal and Engineering, Woodworking, Textile and Clothing Industries in Munich in summer of 1906.* Statistical Office of Munich, 1906. [Munich: pp. 30.]

## Austria.

*Strikes and Lock-outs in Austria in 1905.* Ministry of Commerce 1906. [Vienna: A. Hölder: pp. 145 + 419.]

## Hungary.

*Statistical Year-book of Hungary for 1904.* Contains statistics of wages, accidents, accident and sickness funds, etc. Central Statistical Office, 1906. [Budapest: Imprimerie de la Société Anonyme Athenæum: pp. 531.]

*Trade and Industry of Hungary in 1905.* Budapest Chamber of Commerce, 1906. [Budapest: Pester Buchdruckerei Aktiengesellschaft: pp. 297.]

## Italy.

*Journal of the Italian Labour Department,* December, 1906. Contains articles on labour disputes in France, Germany, Austria, England and Spain, in 1905.

*Journal of the Italian Emigration Department.* Nos. 15 and 16, 1906.

*Inquiry concerning Nightwork in Italian Bakeries.* Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, 1906. [Rome: Tipografia Nazionale di G. Bertero & C., Via Umbria: pp. viii. + 106: price 9d.]

*Trade Unions in Italy.* (1) *Builders' Unions.* (2) *Hatmakers' Unions.* Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, 1906. [Rome: Officina Poligrafica Italiana, Via della Guardiola, 22: pp. 155 + 171.]

*Statistics of Agricultural Labour in 1905.* Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, 1906. [Rome: Officina Poligrafica Italiana, Via della Guardiola, 22: pp. 83: price 7d.]

## Belgium.

*Journal of the Belgian Labour Department,* December 31st, 1906, and January 15th, 1907. Contains articles on disputes in November and employment in December.

*Industrial Monographs. XIV. Manufacture of paper and cardboard, and paper and cardboard goods.* Ministry of Labour, 1906. [Brussels: J. Lebegue & Cie., Rue de la Madeleine, 46: pp. 192. Illustrated.]

## Holland.

*Journal of the Dutch Central Statistical Bureau.* December, 1906. Contains articles on employment and disputes in November.

*Report of the Workmen's Accident Insurance Bank of Holland for 1905.* [The Hague, 1906: Algemeene Landsdrukkerij: pp. 112.]

*Preliminary Report of the White Lead Commission.* Department of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, 1906. [The Hague: pp. 36.]

## Switzerland.

1. *Population Statistics of Zurich, 1901-1903.* 2. *Population Statistics of Zurich, 1904.* Statistical Office of Zurich, 1906. [Zurich: Kommissionsverlag Rascher & Co.: pp. 61 + 16: prices 1s. 2½d. and 9½d.]

*Swiss Industrial Census of August 9th, 1905.—Industries and Work-people in Zurich.* Federal Statistical Bureau, 1906. [Bern: Kommissionsverlag A. Francke: pp. xx. + 246: price 2s.]

## Sweden.

*Factory Inspection in Sweden in 1905.* [Stockholm, 1906: K. L. Bekmans Boktryckeri: pp. 298.]

*Industrial Statistics of Stockholm for 1905.* Chamber of Commerce of Stockholm, 1906. [Stockholm: A. B. Nordiska Bokhandeln: pp. 45: price 10d.]

## Spain.

*Journal of the Spanish Labour Department,* December, 1906. Contains article on disputes in November.

## Finland.

*Statistical Year-book of Finland for 1906.* Contains statistics of emigration, accident insurance, &c. Central Statistical Bureau. [Helsingfors, 1906: Keiserliga Senatens Tryckeri: pp. 447.]

*Official Statistics of Finland.*—1. *Population of Finland in 1903 and 1904.* 2. *Emigration from Finland in 1903 and 1904* [Helsingfors, 1906: Keiserliga Senatens Tryckeri: (1) pp. 54 + 189: price 2s. 6d.: (2) pp. 28 + 48: price 1s. 6d.]

*Consular Reports.* Annual Series. No. 3741. *Finances of Denmark for the year 1903-4 and 1904-5.* Notes on State loans to agriculturists, fishermen &c. [Cd. 3283-2: pp. 10: price 1d.]

No. 3739. *Trade and Agriculture of the Island of Sardinia for the year 1904-05.* Notes on agriculture and fisheries, numbers employed in mineral and salt works, &c. [Cd. 3283: pp. 19: price 1½d.]

(The Consular Reports may be obtained direct from Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C., or through any bookseller.)

## INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED DURING JANUARY.

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

## (1) REGISTERED.

THE total number of Industrial Unions and Societies registered in January was as follows: Under the Trade Union Acts, 1; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 6; under the Friendly Societies Act, 49 (including 34 branches of existing Societies); under the Building Societies Acts, nil; in all 56.

Among the new Societies registered in January were the following:—

**Trade Unions.**—*England.*—1, viz., Central London Postmen's Assoc., 28, Prah Road, Finsbury Park, N.

**Industrial and Provident Societies.**—*England and Wales*—5, viz., *Co-operative Distributive Society:* Ellesmere and Dist. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Ellesmere; *Co-operative Agricultural Societies:* 2, viz., Ealing Mushroom Growers and Horticultural Assoc., Ltd., Twyford Abbey Bridge Farm, Ealing, W.; Panton Agric. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Kiltwin, Harrowby Road, Grantham; *Miscellaneous Societies:* 2 Working Men's Clubs. *Scotland.*—1 *Miscellaneous Society.* *Ireland.*—Nil.

**Friendly Societies.**—*England and Wales.*—15, viz., Egham and Dist. Liberal Working Men's Club, Egham; Thurnscoe East United Working Men's Club and Inst., Thurnscoe East, Rotherham; Blaengwynfi Working Men's Club and Inst., Blaengwynfi, Port Talbot; Ilford Medical Soc., Ilford; Premier Provident Soc., Kentish Town, N.W.; Caerphilly Silver Band Musical Inst., Caerphilly, Cardiff; South Islington Sick and Provident Soc., N.; Little Melton Jubilee Juvenile Foresters' Friendly Soc., Little Melton, Norwich; Post Office Branch of the National Assoc. for the Establishment and Maintenance of Sanatoria for Workers suffering from Tuberculosis; Friendly Soc., Barnes, S.W.; Peryan Provident Soc., Birmingham; Tyseley Sick and Dividend Soc., Tyseley, Birmingham; Rutland Juvenile Friendly Soc., Scarborough; Micklegate Bar Friendly Soc., York; Middlesbrough Juvenile Druids Friendly Soc., North Ormesby, Middlesbrough; Star Sick and Burial Tontine Benefit Soc., Penybryn, Wrexham. *Scotland.*—Nil. *Ireland.*—Nil.

## (2) SOCIETIES AND UNIONS CEASING TO EXIST.

	Notices Received in Jan. of		Registry Cancelled.
	Commence-ment of Dissolution or Winding-up.	Termination of Dissolution or Winding-up.	
Trade Unions ... ..	2	...	2
Industrial and Provident Societies ... ..	1	3	1
Friendly Societies... ..	...	10	5
Building " " " " " "	2	52	...
		8	...

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

Printed for His Majesty's Stationery Office by VEALE, CHIFFERIEL & CO., LTD., 31-37, Cursitor Street, London, E.C.; and to be purchased, either directly or through any Newsagent, from WYMAN & SONS, LTD., Fetter Lane, E.C., or OLIVER & BOYD, Edinburgh; or E. PONSONBY, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.—Price 1d.—February, 1907.