# LABOUR GAZETTE

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

PUBLISHED ON THE 15th OF EACH MONTH.

Voi. XI.-No. 2.

FEBRUARY, 1903.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT,

BOARD OF TRADE,

43, PARLIAMENT STREET, S.W., February, 1903.

In the present number of the LABOUR GAZETTE, which begins a fresh year so far as the reports on the state of employment are concerned, the form and mode of arrangement of these reports have been considerably altered. Hitherto, as will be remembered, these reports have been divided into three sections—(1) a general summary of the state of the Labour Market, based on all available sources of information; (2) a series of special articles on employment in certain groups of trades, e.g., Coal Mining, Iron and Steel Manufacture, &c., based chiefly, though not exclusively, on information supplied by employers and their Associations; and (3) a series of reports on employment in various industries, arranged geographically, and based on information collected mainly from workmen and their Associations, by the Local Correspondents of the Department.

It has been represented to the Department that, on the whole, the classification of these reports primarily by groups of trades (of course with the necessary subdivisions by localities) is more useful to those who wish to consult them than the geographical arrangement which formerly obtained. Thus a reader interested in the state of employment (say) for carpenters or engineers can find what he wants in a single article instead of having to glance through several. Accordingly, in the present number of the Labour Gazette the whole of the reports on the state of employment are arranged by trades, the summary by which they are preceded remaining as before.

The new arrangement has the advantage of making it possible to deal with each group of trades in a single article, in the light of all the information furnished to the Department from all sources, whether received through its Trade Correspondents (who are specially in touch with employers and their Associations) or through the Local Correspondents (who are more especially in a position to obtain information from workmen and trade unions), or obtained direct from employers or trade unions or other sources.

In the present number there are 22 separate articles dealing with employment in the Building Trades, Coal Mining, Other Mining and Quarrying, Pig Iron Manufacture, Iron and Steel Works, Tinplate Works, Shipbuilding, Engineering, Miscellaneous Metal Trades, Cotton Trade, Woollen and Worsted Trades, Other Textile Trades, Boot and Shoe Trade, Other Clothing Trades, Printing and Kindred Trades, Furnishing and Woodworking Trades, Glass and Pottery Trades, Leather Trades, Agriculture, among Dock and Riverside Labourers, in the Fishing Industry, and among Seamen.

It may be interesting to state the sources from which the information embodied in these articles has been derived.

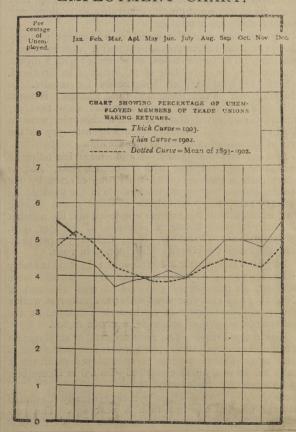
The number of returns received direct from employers is 1,114, covering about 508,000 workpeople, besides a large number engaged in Agriculture. In addition, 59 returns have been received direct from employers' Associations. The reports received through the Trade Correspondents of the Department have embodied returns from 630 employers' Associations and employers covering about 382,000 workpeople.

The number of returns received from Trade Unions is 1,069, covering 808,000 workpeople. In addition 30 reports, based largely on returns from workmen and their Associations, have been received through the Local Correspondents of the Department.

Besides these returns a number of reports and returns have been received from various official and unofficial sources, the total number of separate returns of all kinds being 2,958. It will be understood that the numbers of workpeople covered by the various classes

of returns do not in all cases represent separate individuals.

### EMPLOYMENT CHART.



# STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN JANUARY.\*

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[Based on 2,958 returns, viz.: 1,803 from Employers, or their Associations, 1,099 from Workmen and Trade Unions, and 56 from other sources.]

The general state of employment during January showed little change as compared with December. It was worse than a year ago, particularly in Shipbuilding, and the Iron and Steel industry. In certain industries, however, employment was better than in January, 1902, e.g., Pig Iron manufacture, most branches of the Textile trades, Boot and Shoe manufacture and the Printing trades.

In the 225 trade unions, with an aggregate member-ship of 547,671 making returns, 27,685 (or 5'1 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of January, as compared with 5'5 per cent. in December, and 4'4 per cent. in the 217 unions, with a membership of 545,604, from which returns were received for January, 1902. The comparison with the end of December is somewhat affected by the interruption of business caused by the Christmas and New Year holidays, especially in the Engineering and Shipbuilding trades. The mean percentage of unemployed returned at the end of January during the past decade was 5'2.

Employment in various Industries.—Coal Mining.— Employment in the four weeks ended January 24th continued good, and compared with a year ago shows little change. At collieries at which 493,502 workpeople were employed, the pits worked on an average 5.22 days per week, as compared with 5.26 a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at the pits for which returns have been received for both periods was 1.2 per cent. greater than a year ago.

Other Mining and Quarrying.—Iron miners continue well employed. In the 119 mines and open works covered by the returns, employing 15,720 workpeople, the average number of days worked by the mines in the four weeks ended January 24th was 5.55 per week, as compared with 5.53 a year ago. The number of workpeople employed was slightly greater than a year ago. Employment was good during the month in shale mining. At the end of the month employment was reported good in limestone and slate quarrying, but only moderate in stone and granite quarrying, settmaking, and lead, tin and copper mining.

Pig Iron Industry.—Compared with a month ago employment shows an improvement, and it is better than a year ago. The improvement as compared with a month ago is due to the re-lighting of 11 furnaces in Scotland, which had been stopped temporarily for repairs. In England and Wales there was little change. Returns relating to the works of 114 ironmasters show that 327 furnaces, employing about 22,600 workpeople, were in blast at the end of January, compared with 317 at the end of December last, and 321 a year ago.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Employment has fallen off somewhat as compared with December last, and is worse than a year ago. At 201 works covered by the returns, employing 73,589 workpeople in the week ended January 24th, the total volume of employment (taking into account both the number employed and the number of shifts worked) shows a decrease of 2.8 per cent. compared with December, 1902, and of 5.5 per cent. compared with the corresponding period in 1902.

Tinplate Manufacture.—Employment in this industry continues good. At the end of January 392 mills were working, an increase of 5 compared with the end of December and of 2 compared with the number at work a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at the mills in operation is estimated to be about 19,600.

Engineering Trades.—The general state of employment continued quiet in January, and was rather worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed members of trade unions was 5.6, as compared with 6.6 in December, and 5.2 per cent. in January, 1902.

Shipbuilding Trades.—Employment generally continued bad and was much worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members for all districts

was 12.9 at the end of January as compared with 14.0 at the end of December and 4.7 in January, 1902.

Building Trades.—Employment is very dull, and on the whole shows little change as compared with the previous month, but is worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members among Carpenters and Joiners was 6.5 at the end of January, compared with 5.9 in December and 5.6 in January, 1902. The percentage for Plumbers was 6.4 at the end of January, compared with 5.6 in December and 5.8 in January, 1902.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades. — Employment generally is slack, and is worse than in December and a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of January was 6.7, compared with 6.1 per cent. at the end of December, and with 6.2 per cent. at the end of January, 1902.

Owing to seasonal causes employment in most branches of the *Printing* and *Bookbinding* trades has continued to fall off, but employment generally is still better than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of January was 4.6, compared with 3.7 per cent. in December, and 5.4 in January, 1002.

Employment in the *Paper* trades still remains practically unchanged, and is about the same as a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of January was 2·1, compared with 2·2 per cent. in December. The percentage for January, 1902, was 2·4.

Glass and Earthenware Trades.—In the Glass trades employment is, on the whole, bad and shows no material change as compared with December last but is worse than a year ago. Employment is bad in the Pottery trades, dull in the Brick and Tile trades.

Employment in the *Spinning* branch of the *Cotton* trade continues good, and shows little change compared with a year ago. In the *Weaving* branch employment is fairly good generally, and is better than in December and a year ago.

Information respecting cotton factories employing about 93,000 women and girls shows that 92 per cent. of those in spinning mills were working in mills giving full employment during the whole month, compared with 94 per cent. during December and 93 per cent. a year ago. The corresponding percentage of full time for those employed in weaving factories was 85 per cent. during January, compared with 78 per cent. during December and 75 per cent. a year ago.

Employment in the Woollen trade continues good, and is better than a year ago. In the Worsted trade it is still good on the whole. Information respecting woollen and worsted factories employing about 30,000 women and girls shows that 93 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment, compared with 90 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in December, and 57 per cent. in January, 1902.

Employment in the *Hosiery* trade, although still good generally, shows a decline in Nottingham. Employment in the *Flax* trade is fair in the spinning branch, good in the weaving branch. In the *Jute* trade it is good.

In the *Leather* trades employment generally continues slack, and is considerably worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of January was 6·2, as compared with 6·5 in December and 3·8 in January of last year.

Employment in the *Boot* and *Shoe* trade is better than a year ago, but is still dull. Returns from firms employing over 57,000 workpeople show an increase of 1.4 per cent. in the number employed at the end of January compared with a year ago. Of the total number, 69 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the *Tailoring* trade continues moderate. In the ready-made branch it is fairly good, although slack in some centres.

Employment in the *Hat-making* trade is quiet, but shows a decline compared with December and a year ago. The percentage of unemployed union members at

the end of January was 3.6 per cent., compared with 3.2 per cent. in December and 3.1 per cent. in January, 1902.

Agricultural Labourers were generally well employed during January. There was a fair demand for casual labourers, but the supply has been quite sufficient in the majority of the districts reported on.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—Employment with dock and riverside labour was generally dull, and was bad in London. During the five weeks ended January 31st the number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves in London averaged 13,079, compared with 14,693 in the preceding five weeks, and 16,253 in the corresponding period a year ago. The average number employed in January during the five years 1898-1902 was 16,254.

Trade Disputes.—The total number of workpeople involved in disputes which began or were in progress during January, 1903, was 14,921, compared with 15,830 in December, 1902, and 26,045 in January, 1902. The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old, amounted to 268,000 working days, compared with 309,000 in the previous month, and 128,000 in the corresponding month of last year.

No new disputes of importance began in January. The seventeen that occurred involved only 2,332 workpeople, of whom 1,916 were directly, and 416 indirectly affected. The corresponding number of disputes in December, 1902, was fifteen, affecting 3,928 workpeople, and in January, 1902, thirty-three, affecting 23,558 workpeople. Of the seventeen new disputes in January, 1903, two took place in the building trades, one in the coal mining industry, five in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades, six in textile trades, and three in other trades.

Definite results were reported during the month in the case of 25 disputes, new and old, affecting 4,843 work-people. Of these 25 disputes, 6, involving 285 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 13, involving 2,118 persons, in favour of the employers, and 6 involving 2,440 persons, were compromised.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes in rates of wages reported during January affected about 23,400 workpeople, of whom nearly 16,300 received advances and 7,100 sustained decreases. The net effect of all the changes was a decrease averaging 1½d. weekly per head of those affected. The changes of the previous month affected 20,400 workpeople, the net result being an increase averaging 4¼d. weekly per head. During January, 1902, the number affected was 156,700, and the net weekly result was a decrease averaging 5¾d. weekly per head.

The principal advances affected about 5,900 coal miners in the Bristol and Radstock districts, 6,800 ironstone miners in Cleveland, and 1,500 limestone quarry men in Weardale. The principal decreases affected 5,000 metal and tube workers in Birmingham, and 800 shipbuilders in the Humber district. Two changes affecting about 9,100 workpeople, were arranged by conciliation boards. One change, affecting 120 work people, was arranged by arbitration, and 2 changes affecting about 620 workpeople, took effect under sliding Two changes, affecting 360 workpeople, were scales preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work, and the remainder, affecting about 13,200 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, without stoppage of work.

# CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

Two applications for the appointment of umpires have been received from the arbitrators appointed by the Blackwell Colliery Company and their workmen to deal with certain matters in dispute at the Sutton Colliery and at the Alfreton Colliery respectively, the arbitrators having in each case failed to agree.

The Board of Trade have appointed Mr. T. Bell, late H.M. Inspector of Mines, to act as umpire in both cases.

STOCKHOLDING BY EMPLOYEES.
Scheme of U.S. Steel Corporation.

A REPORT, dated January 7th, 1903, on a plan of Stockholding fo employees, introduced at the beginning of 1903 by the United States Steel Corporation, has been received through the Foreign Office, from Mr. Seymour Bell, British Commercial Agent in the United States, and a copy of the circular relating to the introduction of this plan has been supplied to the Department by Sir Clinton Dawkins, K.C.B. From the earnings of the Corporation during the year 1902 there will have been set aside at least 2,000,000 dols. (£416,667) and as much more as was necessary, for the purchase of at least 25,000 shares of the Corporation's 7 per cent. preferred stock for the purpose of offering it to the employees of the Corporation and its subsidiary companies. The employees, numbering about 168,000, will be divided into six classes according to the limits of their annual salaries. Class A, including those receiving 20,000 dols. (£4,167) or over, Class B, those receiving from 10,000 dols. (£2,083) to 20,000 dols. (£4,167), Class C those earning from 5,000 dols. (£1,042) to 10,000 dols. (£2,083) Class D, those earning from 2,500 dols. (£521) to 5,000 dols. (£1,042), Class E, those receiving 800 dols. (£167) to 2,500 dols. (£521), and Class F, those receiving 800 dols. (£167) a year or less.

During January, 1903, the stock just referred to was offered to the employees at the price of 82½ dols. (£17) per share, no employee being allowed to purchase an amount of stock exceeding 5 per cent. of his annual salary for Class A, 8 per cent. for Class B, 10 per cent. for Class C, 12 per cent. for Class D, 15 per cent. for Class E, and 20 per cent. for Class F. If more than 25,000 shares should be subscribed for, that number of shares was to be awarded to the several subscribers in the order of the Classes, beginning with the lowest; the upper Classes not to receive stock unless any should be left untaken by the Class below, and each Class to share rateably in the amount left for that Class, but in any event each subscriber was to be allotted at least one full share, even though this might make it necessary for the Corporation to purchase more than 25,000 shares.

Payment of the subscriptions for the stock must be made in monthly instalments, to be deducted from the salary or wages of the subscriber, in such amounts as he may desire, not to exceed 25 per cent. of any one month's salary or wages, but so that the whole amount due should be paid within 3 years.

Dividends on the stock will go to the subscriber from the date on which he commences to make payments on account of his subscription. Interest at 5 per cent. will be charged on deferred payments on the stock.

In case a man shall discontinue payments before his stock shall have been fully paid for, he can withdraw the money he has paid on account of principal, and may keep the difference between the 5 per cent, interest he has paid and the 7 per cent, dividend he has received on the stock.

As soon as the stock shall have been fully paid for, it will be issued in the name of the original subscriber, and the certificate will be given to him, and he can then sell it at any time he chooses. Bu as an inducement for him to keep it and to remain continuously in the employ of the Corporation or of one or another of its subsidiary companies, and to have the same interest in the business that a stockholder or a working partner would have, the following offer is made, viz:—

If he will not sell or part with the stock, but will keep it, and in January of each year, for five years, commencing with January, 1904, will exhibit the certificate to the treasurer of his company, together with a letter from a proper official, to the effect that he has been continuously in the employ of the Corporation or of one or another of its subsidiary companies during the preceding year, and has shown a proper interest in its welfare and progress, he will, during each of such five years, receive cheques at the rate of 5 dols. (£1 os. 10d.) a share per year.

If he shall remain continuously in the service of the Corporation or of one or another of its subsidiary companies for five years, at the end of the fifth year he will receive a still further dividend, to be derived from the following source, viz. : All who subscribe for stock in January, 1903, and commence to pay for it, but who discontinue at any time during the five years, will not receive the 5 dols. (fi os. 10d,) per share for such of the five years as remain after they discontinue. The Corporation will, however, pay into a special fund each year the five dols. (fr os. rod.) payments that would have been made to such subscribers had they continued. This fund shall be credited with 5 per cent. annual interest, and at the end of the five years' period the total amount thus accumulated will be divided into as many parts as shall be equal to the number of shares then remaining in the hands of men who shall have continued in such employ for the whole five years, and the Corporation will then by its own final determination award to each man whom it shall find deserving thereof, as many parts of such accumulated

<sup>\*</sup> For detaile | reports on the various trades see pages 42-54.

fund as shall be equal to the number of shares then held by him under this plan. Provided, however, that if a subscriber shall have died or shall have become disabled while faithfully serving the Corporation or one or another of its subsidiary companies, during such five years period, the money theretofore paid by him on account of the stock he was purchasing, or if he has fully paid for it, the certificate of stock may be turned over by the Corporation to his estate or him, together with a sum equal to 5 dols. (£1 os. 10d.) per share for each of the five years not then expired.

If this plan shall be received favourably and shall meet with success, it is intended at the close of next year, to make a similar offer to that made now, except that the price of the stock to be offered in 1904 will be about the then market price.

The Department has been informed by the Corporation that up to the end of January, 1903, over 40,000 shares had been subscribed for by employees of the Corporation or of its subsidiary companies under the offer made to them as above stated; and that, in view of this over-subscription, the allotment of shares has been restricted to employees in receipt of 800 dols. (£167) per annum or

# THE LABOUR MARKET IN 1902.

THE statistics collected by the Department respecting employment show that in 1902, while employment was considerably below the level of 1899 and 1900, there was on the whole no great decline as compared with 1901. In certain groups of industries there was an improvement, among them being coal and iron mining, most branches of the textile trades, pig iron and tinplate manufacture. On the other hand a decline is shown in engineering and shipbuilding, iron and steel manufacture, and in the building trades. Employment with dock and wharf labourers in London also declined.

The monthly returns furnished by Trade Unions show that the mean percentage of their members unemployed at the end of each month in 1902 was 4.4, compared with 3.8 in 1901 and 2.9 in 1900. The mean percentage for the 10 years 1893-1902 was also 4:4, so that judged by

these statistics 1902 was an average year. Coal Mining.—Returns are furnished monthly to the Department, mainly by coal owners, relating to employment at collieries. These returns, which cover about 60 per cent. of all the coal miners in the Kingdom, show that, measured by the average number of days worked per week by the pits, employment was somewhat better in 1902 than in 1901, though not so good as in any of the three preceding years. The average number of miners employed has continued to increase and in 1902 was nearly 2 per cent. greater than in 1901. The following Table gives for each of the principal districts the average number of days worked per week\* by the

Principal Coalfields.	Mea	an No. of	days wo	rked per king retu	week by	Coal Mi	nes
Timoipai Coamo	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900,	1901.	1902
Yorkshire	4.78	5.13	5'26	5.22	5'57	4'99	5.00
Lancashire and Cheshire	4.90	5.03	5.53	5'43	5'42	4'95	5.03
Derbyshire	4'38	4.81	5.07	5:39	5'53	5.04	5'12
Nottingham and Leicester	3.95	4.11	4.25	4.84	5.04	100	
Staffordshire	4.65	4.06	5'04	5'39	5'39	4.84	5'07
South Wales and	5.28	5'47	+	5'75	2.61	2.31	5.64
Monmouth	5'23	5:36	5'45	5.23	5'53	5'33	5'38
Durham Northumberland	4.79	5.00	5.18	5'32	5'35	5'20	5'25
West of Scotland	2.51	5'37	5'32	5'23	5'33	5'14	5'17
Fife	4.92	5'20	5'25	5'25	5.29	5.05	5.33
Other Districts	4.84	5.14	5.48	5.22	5.53	3 20	3 33
United Kingdom	4'92	5'13	5'25	5'46	5'47	5'12	5'22

Iron Mines and Open Works.—Employment in this industry was good in 1902, and better than during the years 1900 and 1901. The monthly returns received relate to mines and open works, at which about 15,500 workpeople were employed, a large proportion of the total number engaged in the industry. The returns show that the average number of days on which the mines were working was 5.74 in 1902, 5.58 in 1901, and 5.65 in 1900, while in the four years 1896-1899, the

averages varied between 5.72 and 5.76. The mean number of workpeople employed at the mines covered by the returns showed no appreciable change in 1902 as compared with the previous year.

The following Table shows the average number of days per week on which iron ore was got and drawn in each of the years 1896 to 1902 at the mines and open

	Mean No. of days worked per week by Iron Mines and open works making returns.								
	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900,	1901.	1902.		
Cumberland and	5.84	5.88	5.86	5.85	5.73	5.73	5.86		
Lancashire Yorkshire	5.79	5.76	5'79	5.41	5.60	5'53	5.74		
(Cleveland) Lincolnshire and	5.21	5.81	5.82	5.03	5.77	5'04	5.77		
Leicestershire Northamptonshire Staffordshire and Shropshire	5°54 5°10	5.70 5.27	5°79 5°38	5.87 5.29	5°82 5'49	5.64 5.32	5.82 5.18		
Scotland Other Districts	5.68 5.68	5°75 5°74	5.91 2.91	5.40 5.65	5°69 5°57	5.80 5.80	5.72 5.78		
United Kingdom	5.72	5.76	5 75	5.76	5.65	5.28	5.74		

Manufacture of Pig Iron.—The information furnished to the Department respecting employment in this industry covers the great majority of the blast furnaces in the United Kingdom. The returns show that while employment was better in 1902 than in 1901 it was not so good as in any of the five preceding years (1896 being the first year for which the figures are available). During the year 1902 the 118 iron-masters to whose works the returns relate had, on an average, 322 furnaces in blast (employing about 22,300 workpeople) as compared with 310 furnaces in 1901, 368 in 1900, 379 in 1899, 353 in 1898, 352 in 1897, and 346 in 1896.

Iron and Steel Works.—The Department receives

monthly statements as to employment in iron puddling and rolling and steel making and rolling from the owners of about 200 works. In the case of 175 of these works, the statistics cover the whole of the five years 1898-1902, and they show that the mean number of workpeople employed in those works during 1902 was less than in each of the three preceding years though it was greater

1 1090	ine lightes are as removed	Number of Workpeople.
1898		71,002
1899	••••••	
1900		
1901		72.768

The volume of employment at the 175 works covered by the returns (taking into account both the number of shifts worked and the number employed) was 2.7 per cent. less in 1902 than in 1901, and 6.3 per cent. less than in

Tinplate Manufacture.—Employment was good in this industry during 1902, and not only showed a marked improvement as compared with 1901, but was better than in any of the preceding years for which the statistics have been compiled, viz., 1896—1900. The monthly returns received by the Department show that the mean number of tinplate mills in operation during 1902 was 397 (employing about 19,800 workpeople), as against

343 mills in 1901. The following Table gives the average number of mills in operation and the total exports of tinplates and sheets and black plates in each of the last seven years:—

A CALL	Average Number of	Exports	s of
Year.	Mills in Operation.	Tinplates and Sheets.	Black Plates.
1896 1897 1898 1899 1900 1901 1902	318 323 322 381 384 344 343 397	Tons. 266,963 271,230 250,983 256,373 272,877 271,320 311,985	Tons. 48,405 58,648 58,327 85,729 66,278 51,395 57,443

In the Engineering and Metal trades the mean proportion of unemployed returned by Trade Unions in 1902 was 4'9 per cent., as against 3'8 per cent. in 1901 and 2'7

per cent. in 1900. The mean percentage for the ten years ended 1902 was 4.8.

February, 1903.

In the Shipbuilding industry the mean percentage returned by Trade Unions as unemployed rose from 3" in 1901 to 7.0 in 1902, and was higher than in any year since 1897. The mean percentage for the ten years ended 1902 was 8.1.

Employment in the Building Trades showed some falling off. The mean percentage of unemployed union members among carpenters and plumbers was 4.2 in 1902, compared with 3.7 in 1901. The percentage for 1902 was higher than for any of the preceding nine years. The mean percentage for the ten years ended 1902 was

In the Printing and Bookbinding trades employment showed little change on the whole in 1902 as compared with 1901. The mean percentage returned by Trade Unions as unemployed was 4.6 as against 4.5 in 1901. The mean percentage for the 10 years 1893-1902 was 4'4.

In the following Table the percentage of unemployed in all the Trade Unions making returns, and in each of the groups referred to above is set out for the ten years

			All Trades	Principal Groups of Trades.					
	Year	S.		by returns from Trade Unions.	Engineer- ing and Metal.	Ship- building.	Building (Carpen- ters and Plumbers)	Printing & Book- binding.	
1893				7'5	9.1	16.3	3.8	4'1	
1894		-		6.9	9.1	15.7	4'1	5.7	
1895				5.8	6.4	12.2	3.8	4.9	
1896				3'4	2.6	8.2	1.8	4'3	
1897				3.2	3.6	7.6	1.6	3'9	
1898				3.0	3.7	4.7	1.3	3.7	
1899				2.4	2.4	2.3	1.2		
1900			300	2.9	2.7	2.2	2.2	3'9	
1901	***			3.8	3.8	3.7	3'7		
1902				4.4	4.9	7.0	4'2	4.5	
Mean:	for 10 y	ears		4'4	4.8	8.1	2.8	4.4	
bers	number in 1902 eturns			551,394	153,493	67,679	73,140	52,643	

Textile Trades.—According to returns received from women correspondents, employment for women was a little better in 1902 in the spinning branch of the cotton trade than in 1901. In the weaving branch, and in the woollen and worsted trades a more marked improvement is shown. The following Table shows the average percentages employed in factories giving full employment in each of the last five years. The number of women and girls usually employed at the establishments reported on is about 27,000 in the cotton spinning branch, 59,000 in the cotton weaving branch, and 18,000 in the woollen and worsted trades.

Year.	ordinarily em	dy Percentages of W ployed at establishment throughout the	ents giving full
	Cotton Spinning Mills.	Cotton Weaving Factories.	Woollen and Worsted Trades.
1898 1899 1900 1901 1902	89 96 83 84 87	74 90 78 70 80	69 90 73 77 88

Dock and Wharf Labour in London.—Employment was not so good in 1902 as in 1901. The average daily number of labourers employed at all the docks and the principal wharves of London during the year was 14,716 in 1902 and 16,454 in 1901. The mean daily number of labourers employed in the six years 1897-1902 was 16,311.

Agricultural Labourers in England were, generally speaking, in good employment during 1902. In the summer and autumn there was an unusually good demand for extra men to assist in securing the heavy crops of hay, corn and roots. The supply of men for this work, however, was sufficient in most districts. Competent men to take charge of animals continued to be scarce, but, on the whole, farm labour of all classes was more abundant than in the two preceding years.

# LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

## (1) Workmen's Compensation Acts.

FAILURE OF ACTION UNDER EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACT: APPLICA-TION UNDER WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT: NEW TRIAL.

TION UNDER WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT: NEW TRIAL.

An engineer, employed by a company owning a theatre, met with a fatal accident while at work. An action was brought against the company to recover damages under the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, and Lord Campbell's Act. The Deputy County Court Judge dismissed the action, on the ground that the deceased was not a workman, within the meaning of the Employers' Liability Act. At the close of the trial counsel for the plaintiffs asked the Judge to assess the compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897. The Judge accordingly proceeded to deal with the matter; and he decided that the place where the accident happened was not a factory, and therefore not within that Act. The plaintiffs thereupon gave notices of appeal to the Divisional Court from the

matter; and he decided that the place where the accident happened was not a factory, and therefore not within that Act. The plaintiffs thereupon gave notices of appeal to the Divisional Court from the dismissal of the action and to the Court of Appeal from the dismissal of the application under the Workmen's Compensation Act. The Divisional Court on April 9th, 1902, ordered a new trial; and the plaintiffs then obtained an order from the Court of Appeal that the appeal under the Workmen's Compensation Act should stand out until after such new trial. At the second trial the County Court Judge dismissed the action. From this decision the plaintiffs appealed to the Divisional Court. On the hearing of this appeal the appeal to the Court of Appeal was still pending.

It appeared that the man who was killed was looking after the engines connected with an electric lighting plant at the theatre, and he fell into a sump containing hot water and steam, and was so scalded that he died shortly afterwards. According to the evidence for the plaintiffs the sump was dangerous, as it had no cover on at the time and was unprotected. The deceased had stepped backwards in order to ram a rod into a pipe which was obstructed, and he had thus fallen into the sump. The County Court Judge dismissed the action, on the ground that there was no evidence to show whether the accident happened by reason of the negligence on the part of the defendants, and that there was no evidence to show whether the accident happened by reason of the negligence of the defendants (assuming such) or by the deceased's own negligence. Thereupon, at the close of the trial, application was made pro forma for compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, and the matter was adjourned, so far as any question as to the plaintiffs' rights under that Act was concerned. The plaintiffs then gave notice of appeal, and the defendants gave notice of a cross-appeal, on the ground that the action was not maintainable by reason of the provisions of the Workmen's Compensat

and the defendants gave notice of a cross-appeal, on the ground that the action was not maintainable by reason of the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act.

By the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, it is provided that "When the injury was caused by the personal negligence or wilful act of the employer, or of some person for whose act or default the employer is responsible, nothing in this Act shall affect any civil liability of the employer, but in that case the workman may, at his option, either claim compensation under this Act, or take the same proceedings as were open to him before the commencement of this Act; but the employer shall not be liable to pay compensation for injury to a workman by accident arising out of and in the course of the employment both independently of and also under this Act, and shall not be liable to any proceedings independently of this Act, except in case of such personal negligence or wilful act as aforesaid." It is also provided that "If, within the time hereinafter in this Act limited for taking proceedings, an action is brought to recover damages independently of this Act for injury caused by any accident, and it is determined in such action that the injury is one for which the employer is not liable in such action, but that he would have been liable to pay compensation under the provisions of this Act, the action shall be dismissed; but the Court in which the action is tried shall, if the plaintiff shall so choose, proceed to assess such compensation, and shall be at liberty to deduct from such compensation all the certs.

sation under the provisions of this Act, the action shall be dismissed; but the Court in which the action is tried shall, if the plaintiff shall so choose, proceed to assess such compensation, and shall be at liberty to deduct from such compensation all the costs which, in its judgment, have been caused by the plaintiff bringing the action instead of proceeding under this Act."

At the hearing of the appeal before the King's Bench Division it was submitted on behalf of the plaintiffs that there was evidence which the County Court Judge ought to have left to the jury, while on behalf of the defendants it was contended that, as it was admitted that the defendants, who were a limited company, had taken care in the selection of a person to plan the premises, there was no evidence of negligence on their part, and on the cross-appeal that the plaintiffs, having exercised the option given by the Workmen's Compensation Act, by applying to the Judge at the close of the first trial to assess the compensation under that Act, could not go back on the exercise of this option. The King's Bench Division held that there was evidence that should have been submitted to the jury, and on that point directed that there should be a new trial, and that the cross-appeal should be dismissed.—

Isaacson and Another v. New Grand (Clapham Junction), Limited, King's Bench Division, January 14th.

Liability of Person other than Employer: Indemnity.

LIABILITY OF PERSON OTHER THAN EMPLOYER: INDEMNITY. The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, provides that "Where the injury for which compensation is payable under this Act was caused under circumstances creating a legal liability in some person other than the employer to pay damages in respect thereof, the workman may, at his option, proceed, either at law against that

<sup>\*</sup> The Table only professes to state the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal was hewn and wound at the collieries included in the returns received. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed at these collieries worked the whole number of days.

† The majority of mines in South Wales and Monmouth were idle for about six months in 1898 owing to a labour dispute.

person to recover damages, or against his employer for compensation under this Act, but not against both, and if compensation be paid under this Act, the employer shall be entitled to be indemnified

by the said other person."

The rules made under the Act make provision for notice being The rules made under the Act make provision for indice being given by a respondent to any person not a party to the arbitration, over against whom the respondent claims to be entitled to indemnity, and as to the appearance of such person at the arbitration proceedings, if he desires to dispute the applicant's claim in the arbitration as against the respondent.

A firm of shipbuilders and repairers were engaged on the repair the same time being repaired by

of a vessel, whose boilers were at the same time being repaired by a company carrying on the business of builders and repairers of marine engines, when a workman employed by the firm was, on December 5th, 1901, injured by the negligence of a

servant of the company.

The workman duly gave notice and claimed compensation, and from December 28th, 1901, onwards the firm paid him a certain weekly amount under an agreement, a memorandum of which was filed by the workman and duly recorded under the Act. No notice of the accident was given to the company, and no claim to indemnity in respect thereof was made upon them until April,

The firm brought an action against the company, claiming a declaration that they were entitled to be indemnified by the company against the liability incurred by them under the Workmen's Compensation Act for personal injuries to the workman in question, and for the repayment of the moneys paid by them in respect thereof, and for interest and costs. The defendants admitted that the amount, which the plaintiffs had paid to the workman, was the proper amount, but plaintiffs had paid to the workman, was the proper amount, but they contended that the case of an agreement between an employer and an injured workman was not covered by the provisions of the Act cited above, the workman not having "proceeded" against his employer. The jury found that the accident occurred in such circumstances that the defendants would have had to pay damages, if the workman had sued them; and the Judge held that the amount of the compensation paid by the plaintiffs was compensation paid under the Act, and that they were entitled to be indemnified by the defendants, and gave judgment for the plaintiffs, with costs.—Thompson v. North Eastern Marine Engineering Company, Limited, King's Bench Division, January 30th.

# (2) Employers' Liability.

NOTICE OF INJURY. It is provided by the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, that "An action for the recovery under this Act of compensation for an injury shall not be maintainable unless notice that injury has been sustained is given within six weeks," The Act also provides that such notice "shall give the name and address of the person injured, and shall state in ordinary language the cause of the injury and the date at which it was sustained, and shall be served on the employer, or

shall state in ordinary language the cause of the injury and the date at which it was sustained, and shall be served on the employer, or if there is more than one employer, upon one of such employers."

A workman, who met with an accident, brought an action against his employers under the Act, and judgment was given against them for £75. These employers were insured against their liabilities in respect of accidents with an Insurance Company, one of the conditions of such insurance being that notice of injury should be given to the company whenever an accident happened; and a form was filled up by their manager in ordinary course and sent to the company, but otherwise no notice of injury was given, as required by the Act. The employers appealed to the King's Bench Division, on the ground that, no notice of injury having been given to them under the Act, the action was not maintainable. It was admitted that with the exception of the notice to the company above referred to there was no notice of injury as required by the Act, and if that notice was not a notice by the injured man to the appellants, there was no notice within the Act. The King's Bench Division allowed the appeal, with costs.—Davies v. Lucas & Company, King's Bench Division, January 28th.

(3) Trade Union Acts.

### (3) Trade Union Acts.

PAYING STRIKE PAY AGAINST RULES OF UNION: ACTION BY MEMBER.

Member.

By the Trade Union Act, 1871, it is provided that "Nothing in this Act shall enable any Court to entertain any legal proceeding instituted with the object of directly enforcing or recovering damages for the breach of any of the following agreements, namely . . Any agreement for the application of the funds of a Trade Union (a) to provide benefits to members . . But nothing in this section shall be deemed to constitute any of the above-mentioned agreements unlawful."

A member of a Miners' Trade Union brought an action against the Union, its general treasurer, and the treasurers of its branches, for an injunction to restrain the defendants from misapplying the funds of the Union by paying strike pay to certain of its members

for an injunction to restrain the defendants from misapplying the funds of the Union by paying strike pay to certain of its members in violation of the rules of the Union.

The jury having found certain facts, the Judge gave judgment for the plaintiff. The defendants moved for judgment or a new trial. They contended that under the rules of the Union they were justified in paying the strike pay in question; and further that the plaintiff, who did not purport to sue on behalf of anyone but himself, was not the proper person to take proceedings to restrain any misapplication of the Union funds, though possibly such proceedings might properly be taken by the trustees of the Union. They also contended that the action would not lie, by reason of the provisions of the Trade Union Act, 1871, cited above.

The Court of Appeal held that, upon the construction of the relevant rules of the Union, the funds of the Union could not properly be applied in giving strike pay to the members in question;

and that, as the trustees of the Union refused to take any proceedings to restrain the proposed misapplication of the funds, the plaintiff, as a member of the Union, was entitled to bring an action for that purpose in his own name. But, as the trustees ought to have been made parties to the action, the Court ordered them to be added as defendants upon certain terms. Upon the question arising under the provisions of the Trade Union Act the Court held arising under the provisions of the Trade Union Act the Court held that, the plaintiff's claim being merely for an injunction to restrain the misapplication of the Union's funds, the action was not brought with the object of directly enforcing an agreement for the application of such funds to provide benefits to members, and would therefore lie. The Court accordingly dismissed the appeal, with costs.—Howden v. Yorkshire Miners' Association and Others, Court of Appeal, January 21st, 23rd, and 27th.

#### (4) Miscellaneous.

CHECKWEIGHMAN'S FUND: DIVISION OF SURPLUS.

The miners employed at a coal mine, and paid according to the weight of the mineral gotten by them, appointed a checkweighman under the provisions of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1887. Sixpence a fortnight was deducted from the wages of every such miner to cover the remuneration of the checkweighman, this money being paid over to a man known as the treasurer of the checkweighers' fund who was also the treasurer of a Mineral Trada Union. The fund who was also the treasurer of a Miners' Trade Union. This man received in respect of the checkweighman's wages £137 98.8d., out of received in respect of the checkweighman's wages £137 9s. 8d., out of which he paid him £100, and proceeded to distribute the balance. In this distribution the treasurer of the checkweighers' fund divided the £37 9s. 8d. between those workmen who belonged to the Trade Union of which he was treasurer, including some miners who had not contributed to the fund, and excluding others who had contributed to to; but who either were members of another Trade Union, or did not belong to a Trade Union at all. Certain of these excluded contributors brought an action against the treasurer, claiming a declaration that the defendant was a trustee of the balance in question and was bound to account for it to all the contributors. The ing a declaration that the defendant was a trustee of the balance in question and was bound to account for it to all the contributors. The County Court Judge made a declaration and ordered an account as asked for by the plaintiffs. The defendant appealed, contending that he had acted throughout as an official of his Trade Union, had distributed the money in accordance with the directions of that Union, and was under ro obligation to account to the contributors individually. The King's Bench Division dismissed the appeal, with costs; leave to appeal was refused.—MacMaster & Others v. Benson, King's Bench Division, January 30th.

## PRICES OF COAL AND IRON.

THE results of the last ascertainments of the selling prices of coal and iron are given in the Table below. Compared with the previous ascertainments it will be seen that the variations in the average selling prices have been inconsiderable.

The only changes in wages which took place as a result of these ascertainments were in Cumberland and Cleveland. In the former district blastfurnacemen's wages were reduced 13 per cent., in the latter they were advanced 2 per cent. (For particulars of these changes see p. 28 of the January LABOUR GAZETTE).

A comparison of the recently ascertained prices with those of a year ago does not reveal any marked differences, except in the Pig Iron Industry, in which Cleveland prices are higher by about 10 per cent., Cumberland 3 per cent., and West of Scotland 6 per cent.

Product and	Period covered	Ascertained average selling price per ton.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) of last Audit as compared with			
District.	by last Audit.	Last Audit.*	Previous Audit.	A Year ago.	Previous Audit.	A Year ago.		
Coal. Northumberland:— (Average for all classes of coal at pit's mouth)	Sept Nov.	s. di 7 3.65	s. d. 7 4'44	s. d. 8 1.74	s. d. -0 0.79	s. d.		
Pig Iron. Cumberland	Oct	( 59 11.32	60 7'34	58 o	-0 8.02	+1 11.32		
Cleveland	Dec.	49 7'39	48 1.01	44 10.57	+1 6.38	+4 8.8		
West of Scotland	Nov	54 10'43	57 5'11	51 11.27	-2 6.68	+2 11.10		
Manufact'r'd Iron North of England:— (Rails, plates, bars and angles)	1	125 1.24	125 7'36	128 8.10	-0 5.82	-3 6.20		
Midlands:— (Bars, angles, tees hoops, sheets, plates and strips, &c.)	Nov	139 8.28	138 7.72	139 5'30	+1 0.26	+0 2.0		
West of Scotland:- (Rounds, squares, flats, angles, tees, hoops and rods)	125000	127 3.29	126 2'11	125 11'43	+1 1.18	+1 3:8		

#### EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIES.

February, 1903.

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

#### Canada.

Assisted passages are being given by the Beaver Line to army reservists. Manufacturing was very busy in Canada during December, especially in Ontario, and the large steel rail mills at Sault Ste. Marie which had been shut down were re-opened. Work in the outdoor trades was stopped owing to the frost, but plumbers have been in request. In British Columbia lumbering fell off, but gold mining prospects improved. Coal miners in Nova Scotia have been busy. Some 2,000 employees on the Canadian Pacific Railway have had their wages increased. Owing to the abundant harvests last year flour millers have been busy. Persons intending to emigrate to Canada this year should prepare to start in March or April. There will be a good demand for farm labourers.

#### Australia.

New South Wales .- At Jerilderie, at Hay, and at the Bulli coal mines there is little or no demand for any kind of labour. A report from Sydney states that trade is very bad in New South Wales generally, as well as in Sydney itself. Coal mining has been very slack, and silver and gold mining have greatly suffered from want of water, though recent rains have improved matters. The engineering trade is very dull, and no more mechanics whatever are wanted. The building trades are better off owing to some Government works being in hand. There is no demand whatever for farm or general labourers, wharf labourers, or station hands. Female servants are always wanted. Altogether a great many men are out of work, and no one is advised to go to the Colony at the present time on the chance of procuring employment.

Victoria.—A report from Carisbrook states that there is a good supply of all classes of labour except of female servants. At Melbourne and in country districts the demand for labour is fully met by the supply. The recent rains have improved prospects, but it will be some time before the effects of the drought have passed away.

South Australia and Queensland.—The local supply of labour is quite sufficient at present, but the breaking up of the drought will help to improve prospects. The rains in Queensland have been especially abundant.

Western Australia.—There is no demand for miners on the gold fields at the present time, and many have been out of work. There is a demand for mechanics in one or two places only. There is a good demand for farm labourers and female domestic servants.

#### New Zealand.

There is a good demand for farm labourers, and for men or boys who can milk. At Auckland the building trades, the clothing trade, and coachbuilding have been very busy. The engineering trades have been busy at Napier, Wanganui, New Plymouth, Blenheim, Nelson, Dunedin, and Invercargill, but not at Wellington or Westport. The building trades have been busy everywhere, and skilled men have been wanted at Wellington and Dunedin. Work for tailors and tailoresses in the clothing trade has been good. Unskilled labour has been generally well employed in all kinds of country work. There is no demand for miners or station hands.

#### South Africa.

Cape Colony.—A report from Grahamstown states that there is a demand there for skilled workmen and labourers in the building trades. A report from Cape Town states that there is no demand for miners or station hands: there is a demand for general labourers if they will accept from 5s. a day; wages for farm hands are too low to tempt British emigrants; there is a great demand for female servants at £2 to £3 10s. a month; there is a demand at high wages for wheelwrights, bodymakers

coachsmiths, coach trimmers, plasterers, bricklavers and first-class painters. A large number of official reports from other parts of the Colony show that in most places there is no demand for more white labour. There is, however, a limited demand for carpenters, blacksmiths and masons at Kimberley, and for skilled labour generally at King William's Town, Piquetberg, Prieska, Stevnsburg, Vryburg, East London, and Port Elizabeth, for carriage and wagon builders at Paarl, and for men on the construction of the New Naval Dockyard at Simon's Town. The cost of living is high, especially in up-country places away from the railway. Assisted passages at £3 a head are now being granted to female servants, and to male servants such as grooms, gardeners, coachmen, &c., who proceed under engagement to employers in the Colony; application must be made by the employers in the Colony. By the Immigration Act, 1902—which was promulgated on the 30th January last—certain restrictions are placed upon the admission of immigrants, particulars of which will be found below.

Natal.—The general supply of labour is now sufficient. But signalmen for the Government Railways are wanted on the following conditions:—wages £10 per month. First engagement three years. Wages commence from date of arrival in Natal; cost of passage outward will be advanced to be repaid out of wages by monthly deductions of  $\mathcal{L}_{I}$ ; one year's experience as signalman necessary. Applicants must be under 30 years of age and over 5 ft. 7 in. in height without boots, and qualified to work single needle telegraph. Preference will be given to single men. Candidates must apply to the Agent General for Natal, 26, Victoria Street, London, S.W., stating age, height, whether married or single, and enclose original testimonials (or the name of the Superintendent to whom the Agent-General should write) and medical certificate.

Transvaal and Orange River Colony.-Reservists and discharged soldiers, both regular and auxiliary, coming from oversea to settle in South Africa, may be granted reduced passages at about £,13 a head from Southampton to Pretoria or Johannesburg by applying to the Officer Commanding Cape Colony or Natal.

There is a good deal of work going on at Johannesburg and Pretoria, especially in the building trades. But employment is restricted by the difficulty of getting up materials from the coast, and many artisans are unable to procure work. There is no demand for more miners; and unskilled labourers have no chance of employment. The cost of living remains two or three times as high as in England, especially for men with families. Female domestic servants may obtain assisted passages, provided they undertake to repay £12 of the expenses out of their wages; they must apply to the South African Expansion Committee, 47, Victoria-street, London, S.W. Crown land is now open for purchase or lease; application must be made to the Land Department in the Colony; the Department may grant reduced passages at £13 a head to Pretoria or Johannesburg to settlers, their wives and families who take up Government land

There is some demand in the Orange River Colony for good carpenters, masons, fitters and painters, but it is a fluctuating one, and the cost of living is very high. Crown land is now open for purchase or lease; application for any particular portion of land desired must be made to the "Land Settlement Board" at Bloemfontein. The Board may grant reduced passages, as above.

### IMMIGRATION INTO CAPE COLONY.

THE Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette of December 19th, 1902, publishes the full text of "The Immigration Act, 1902," which has been passed by the Cape Parliament and received the Royal assent. This Act was to be promulgated in the Gazette of January 30th, after which date it has full force and effect throughout the Cape Colony.

The enactment provides that subject to the provisions of this Act it shall be unlawful for any "prohibited immigrant," as defined by the Act, to immigrate into

<sup>\*</sup> Handbooks, with maps on the different Colonies, may be obtained from the'

the Cape Colony. "'Prohibited immigrant'" shall mean and include the following persons:

(a) Any person who, when asked to do so by any duly authorised officer, shall be unable through deficient education to himself write out and sign in the characters of any European language an application to the satisfaction of the Minister.

(b) Any person who is not in possession of visible means of support or is likely to become a public charge.

(c) Any person who has been convicted of any of the following offences, that is to say, murder, rape, theft, fraud, perjury or forgery, and who by reason of the circumstances connected with such offence is deemed by the Minister to be an undesirable.

(d) Any person who is a lunatic within the meaning of the second section of the Lunacy Act. 1807.

(e) Any person, male or female, who lives on or knowingly receives any part of the proceeds of prostitution

(f) Any person who from information officially received by the Minister from any Secretary of State or from any Colonial Minister, or through diplomatic channels, from any Minister of any foreign country is deemed by the Minister to be an undesirable.

This Act shall not apply to :-

(a) Members of His Majesty's naval and military forces.
(b) The officers and crew of any public ship of any foreign state.

(s) Any person, together with his wife, family, and servants, who is duly accredited to the Colony by or under the authority of His Majesty, or of the Government of any foreign state.

(d) Persons who have served in any of His Majesty's volunteer forces in South Africa, and have received good discharges. (e) The wife and minor child of any person who is permitted to

immigrate into the Colony under the provisions of this Act.

(f) Persons domiciled in South Africa.

(g) European persons who are agricultural or domestic servants, skilled artisans, mechanics, workmen or miners, and are able to produce a certificate signed by the Agent-General of the Colony in England or office appointed by the Governor in England or elsewhere to grant certificates for the purposes of the Act, certifying that the person named therein has been engaged to serve, immediately on arrival in the Colony, an employer therein of repute at an adequate remuneration, and for a reasonable period of time."

## LABOUR ABROAD. FRANCE.\*

Employment in December. - Outdoor work had to be suspended during the greater part of December, owing to frost and rain, while, from the same causes, the seasonal lack of employment in the building trades and in agriculture was greater than usual. The improvement reported as having taken place in the textile trades in November was still more marked in December, the proportion of unemployed amongst members of Trade Unions decreasing by one-half. Even silk manufacture, which has been quiet for such a long time, revived somewhat. Ribbons and trimmings manufacture continued very busy. The slack season for garment-making set in at the end of the month. Employment in metal smelting and manufacture showed a marked improvement, which, however, was not general, so that in very many districts the number of unemployed was still large. The printing and bookbinding trades continued very busy in the provinces; but employment was still scarce for lithographic printers in Paris. The pottery, porcelain, glass, and furniture trades were fully employed. No improvement was reported in the situation of dock labourers, who have been slack for some months.

Of the 913 Trade Unions, with a total membership of 143,534, which made returns as to the state of employment during December, 16,562, or 11 per cent., were stated to be out of work. The corresponding figure for the preceding month was also 11, and for December,

Coal Mining in December .- The average number of days worked per week by coalminers employed underground in December was 5.65, as compared with 4.5 in the preceding month and 5.47 in December, 1901. The the preceding month and 5:47 in December, 1901. figures for November were affected by the great coal strike, which came to an end on December 1st, except at Masseix (where the men returned to work on December 10th) and Saint Hilaire (where they were still

\* Bulletin de l'Office du Travail (Journal of the French Labour Depa

on strike at the end of December). Taking all the workpeople together (surface as well as underground), 10 per cent. worked full time (6 days and over per week) and 87 per cent. from 5 to 6 days in December, as compared with 41 and 0.6 per cent. respectively in November.

Labour Disputes in December. — Twenty-two disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in December; the number of workpeople involved in 21 of these being 2,198. In the previous month 31 disputes occurred, in 30 of which 8,861 workpeople were involved, while in December, 1901, there were 28 disputes, involving 5,155 workpeople. Six of the new disputes occurred in the textile trades, 5 in the metal trades, 2 in the clothing trades, 2 in the printing trades, 2 in the woodworking trades, while 5 occurred in trades not included within any of the foregoing groups. Nineteen disputes came to an end in December. Of these, I was decided in favour of the workpeople, 14 in favour of the employers, and 4 were compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in December. - Four instances of the application of the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported in December. In three cases the workpeople took the initial steps, and in one case the Justice of the Peace. Committees of Conciliation were formed in two cases, one of the disputes being thereby settled, but no agreement being arrived at in the case of the other dispute, which afterwards terminated in favour of the employer. In the third case the employer ignored the communication addressed to him by the Justice of the Peace, proposing mediation; and the men eventually resumed work unconditionally. In the remaining case the Justice of the Peace invited the parties to meet on December 22nd, but the result of his action was not known at the date of reporting.

#### GERMANY.

Embloyment in January.—The Berlin journal Der Arbeitsmarkt reports that the state of employment in January was slightly better than in the previous month, and showed considerable improvement as compared with a year ago. The number of applications for work per 100 situations offered at the public employment registries was 202.3 in January, as compared with 203.9 in December and 241.6 in January, 1902.

Labour Disputes in January.—According to the same journal 21 disputes began in January, as against 12 in the preceding month. Two of the new disputes occurred in the building trades, 2 in mining, 10 in the metal and engineering trades, 2 each in the textile and woodworking trades and 3 in trades not included within any of the foregoing groups.

#### HOLLAND.

Strikes of Dock Labourers and Railway Employees .- The following particulars are based on information contained in a series of despatches from Sir H. Howard, H.M. Minister at the Hague, and Mr. W. C. Robinson, H.M. Consul at Amsterdam, dated January 30th to February 8th, and received through the Foreign Office.

On January 9th, the workmen employed in the sheds of the brokers of a large steamer at Amsterdam went on strike, refusing to work with certain men, not members of the Dockers' Union, whom a firm employed by consignees had furnished for the purpose of weighing the goods. A representative of the Amsterdam Shipping Federation proceeded to the spot, but his endeavours were in vain, and the men were eventually dismissed, their places being filled by non-Union men. The strike gradually extended to other classes of workmen. Workmen and lightermen, not otherwise connected with the Dockers' Union, in some instances made common cause with the latter. Then the railway crane men, shunters, and quay labourers employed in connection with the boycotted shipping struck. At a meeting of the railway employees on January 29th, an ultimatum was addressed to the Railway Company chiefly concerned, to the effect that, unless the railway strikers were at once reinstated, a general strike of the railway

workers over the whole of the Netherlands would be called forth. On January 31st, this threat had been so far carried out that Amsterdam was entirely cut off from all railway communication. The demand of the railway servants was to the effect that they should not be forced to work for firms employing non-Unionists in the existing dispute between the Dockers' Union and the Shipping Federation.

The Managing Directors of the Companies appealed to the Minister for Commerce to grant them indemnity, in case they were obliged to default in respect of their obligation to accept all and every transport offered to them by the public. This request on the part of the Companies was not complied with; and, being placed in the position of having to choose between the complete stoppage of all railway traffic throughout the whole of country, and consenting to the demands of their employees, the Companies chose the latter course, and on the evening of January 31st, intimated to the Union of Railway Servants that the Companies conceded their demands; upon which the Union declared their strike at an end. Trains began to run again on February 1st., but the traffic of several important firms was boycotted.

On February 2nd, the Shipping Federation conceded the demand of the Dockers' Union, that the non-Unionists then at work should be immediately dismissed and the strikers reinstated in their stead, and the dock labourers resumed work.

On February 4th, all the hackney coachmen in Amster-

dam were on strike.

February, 1903.

Hours of Labour of Women employed in Fish-curing .- Under the Dutch Factory Law it is illegal (except in certain exempted trades, or under special exemptions applying to particular establishments to employ persons under the age of 16, or women before 5 a.m. o after 7 p.m.; and the maximum duration of labour for such employees is fixed at 11 hours in 24.

By a law dated October 21st, 1902, it is provided that the Government shall have power to issue regulations applying to particular districts, and authorising the employment, subject to conditions to be specified in such Regulations, of women of 16 years of age and upwards in herring curing up to midnight from October 1st to March 15th, and up to 2 a.m. from the latter date to June 1st. In no case, however, may the duration of such employment exceed 8 hours in 24.

#### AUSTRIA.\*

Employment in December.—The statistics of the labour registries (public and private) which furnished returns to the Austrian Labour Department for December show that on an average 279 applications were made for every 100 situations offered in that month, as compared with 213 in the previous month and 228 in December, 1901. Taking the sexes separately, there were, in the case of men, 387 applicants on the average for every 100 situations, as against 288 in the previous month and 329 in December, 1901; while in the case of women there were 114, as compared with 113 in the previous month and 99 in December, 1901.

Labour Disputes in December .- Fifteen disputes were reported to the Austrian Labour Department as having begun in December, the number of workpeople taking part in 12 of these being 874. Three of the new disputes occurred in mining, 2 in the metal and engineering trades, 4 in the textile trades, 2 in the printing trades, and I in each of the building, woodworking, chemical, and leather trades. The results were reported in the case of II disputes; of these 4 were decided in favour of the employees, I in favour of the employers, and 6 were compromised.

#### DENMARK.

In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated December 29th, 1902, Sir E. Goschen, H.M. Minister at Copenhagen, transmits a report upon the legislation in Denmark relating to Provision for Old Age.

By the original Law of April 9th, 1891, it was enacted

"Any person who, having completed his 60th year, is without the means of providing himself, or those immediately dependent on him, with the necessaries of

life, or with proper treatment in case of sickness, on condition that he is in enjoyment of the rights of a native-born subject, shall, in accordance with the regulations set forth below, be entitled to receive 'old-age assistance.'" An applicant for such assistance is, however, disqualified if he has "undergone sentence for any transaction generally accounted dishonourable, and in respect of which he has not received rehabilitation," or if his poverty is "the consequence of any actions by which he, for the benefit of his children or others, has deprived himself of the means of subsistence, or be caused by a disorderly and extravagant mode of life, or in any other way be brought about by his own fault," or if during the last ten years he has received poor-law relief, or been found guilty of vagrancy or begging.

The assistance given under the Law "must be sufficient for the support of the person relieved and of his family, and for their treatment in case of sickness, but it may be given in money or in kind, as circumstances require, or consist in free admission to a suitable asylum or other establishment intended for that purpose." this relief falls in the first instance on the Commune in which the applicant resides; but the Law provided that one-half of the amounts thus expended by the Communes should be refunded to them by the State, but so that this Government grant should not exceed 2,000,000 kroner £111,111). By a subsequent Law of April 7th, 1899, this limit was raised to 2,500,000 kroner (£138,888). (See

GAZETTE, April, 1899, p. 105.)

By a Law of May 23rd, 1902, the previous statutes are amended in certain respects. It is now enacted that · help in sickness, including medicine, hospital treatment, bandages, etc., shall not be looked upon as poor relief in so far as it affects eligibility for old-age relief." It is also provided to the effect that, in deciding the extent of the requirements of a candidate for old-age relief, any income and house accommodation, which he may possess from private sources up to the value of 100 kroner (£511s. 1d.) a year, shall be left out of consideration. The Communal Authorities are moreover empowered, should circumstances recommend it, to leave out of consideration any income which the candidate may have from an annuity, a legacy, a pension, etc., or any dwelling accommodation which he may possess, provided their value in addition to the support which he may obtain from private sources does not exceed 100 kroner (£5 11s. 1d.) a year. The contribution of the State to the expense of maintaining this system of old-age relief will for the future be one-half, no limit being now placed on the amount of the Government

The following figures showing the operation of the Law in each of the last three years, for which the official statistics on the subject have been published, are taken from the Statistisk Aarbog, 1902, issued by the Danish Government Statistical Office:—

ne s	1898 (Dec. 31st).	1899 (Dec. 31st).	1900 (Dec. 31st)
I. Direct recipients of relief-	Number.	Number.	Number.
Heads of families Single persons  II. Indirect recipients of relief—	13,130 27,629	13,324 28,490	13.345 29,291
Persons dependent on heads of families	0	15,895	15,885
Total (I. and II.)	56,656	57,709	58,521
Q4-611-6	£	£	£
To Municipalities ,, State	706 106	134,684 134,857	142,647 142,848
Total	252,852	269,541	285,495

It is stated that the direct recipients of relief (taking the average for the three years 1898-1900) formed 215 per cent. of the total population of Denmark over 60 years of age. This is exclusive of persons in receipt of temporary assistance under the Law, who are not included in the Table, and who numbered 360 in 1900, as against 388 in 1899, and 369 in 1898.

#### ITALY

Strike at Torre Annunziata.—With respect to this strike, to which reference was made in last month's GAZETTE (p. 14), Mr. E. Neville-Rolfe, H.M. Consul at Naples, in a despatch dated January 14th, and transmitted through the Foreign Office, reports that the dispute had been settled by arbitration, and the men resumed work on January 7th on the same terms as before.

<sup>\*</sup> Sociale Rundschau (Journal of the Austrian Labour Department).

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY—BUILDING TRADES.

# REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES,

(a) BUILDING TRADES.

RETURNS supplied by 85 Employers' Associations whose members are estimated to employ about 92,000 building operatives of all classes, and by Trade Unions with an aggregate membership of about 195,000, show that employment in the building trades generally was very dull during January, and showed little change as compared with the previous month, but was slightly worse than a year ago. The returns from Employers Associations covering 75 per cent. of the workpeople referred to in the returns show employment to have been dull or bad, 18 per cent. fair or moderate, and 7 per cent. good.

With bricklayers employment continues bad, and is worse than a year ago. With masons it continues fairly good generally, and is better than a year ago; in Scotland some improvement has taken place, but it is still dull. Employment is bad with carpenters, except in Scotland, where it is fair. The percentage of unemployed members among union carpenters and joiners was 6.5 at the end of January, as compared with 5.9 in December and 5.6 in January, 1902. Employment continues bad with painters. With plasterers it is still dull generally, though slightly better than in December; in Scotland it is fair. Plumbers report employment as moderate. The percentage of unemployed members among union plumbers was 6.4 at the end of January, as compared with 5.6 in December and 5.8 in January, 1902. Staters and tilers in England report employment as slack, and worse than in the previous month or a year

The Table given below shows the state of employment in the principal districts for carpenters and joiners and plumbers, as indicated by the proportions of Trade Union members of these trades returned as unemployed at the end of the month.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of January,					se (-) in
	1903.*	Jan., 1903.	Dec.,	Jan 1902.	Month ago.	Year ago.
	C	ARPEN	TERS A	ND JOI	NERS.	
England and Wales. London Northern Counties and Middlesbro'	7,235 1,442	6·8 6·8	6.9	4.4	+ 1.3 - 0.1	+ 2.4 + 2.8
Lancashire and Cheshire Yorkshire East Midlands West Midlands	10,054 5,095 2,836	6·2 8·7 5·3	5°9 7°8 4°7	8·5 7·4 5·7	+ 0.9	- 0.4 - 5.3
Eastern Counties S. and S.W. Counties Wales and Monmouth	4,761 1,158 5,593 1,731	6.7 5.1 5.2 5.6	5.7 3.6 4.4 5.7	4°2 2°3 3°2 5°2	+ 0.8 + 1.2 + 1.2	+ 2.5 + 2.8 + 2.0 + 0.4
SCOTLAND IRELAND	4,853 4,843	3.8	4.5	6.0 2.0	+ 2·2	+ 4.0
14.00			PLUME	BERS.		
England and Wales.  London  Northern Counties and Middlesbro'	1,008	13.3	10.7	3.1 2.9	+ 2.6 + 3.8	+ 5.4
Lancashire and Cheshire Yorkshire East Midlands West Midlands	2,505 975 650 481	6.4 7.0 4.5 4.6	6.0 3.0 3.0	5'7 6'8 2'2 4'0	+ 0'4 + 3'0 + 1'5	+ 0.7 + 0.2 + 2.3
Eastern Counties S. and S.W. Counties Wales and Monmouth SCOTLAND	116 526 269 1,770 623	10°3 4°8 4°8 3.4 6°3	3 9 4.6 5.5 6.2 4.4 4.3	6.2 6.2 6.3 6.6 6.6	+ 0.7 + 5.7 - 0.7 - 1.4 - 1.0 + 2.0	+ 0.6 + 4.2 - 1.7 - 2.1 + 0.1

London. - Employment continues dull with most branches, but with masons it is reported as fairly good.

The returns received by the Trade Correspondent from 83 employers show that in the last week of January they paid wages to 16,331 men, as compared with 15,789 in December, and 16,150 in the corresponding week of January, 1902.

Branches of carpenters and joiners with 7,235 members had 6.8 per cent. unemployed at the end of January, as compared with 6'9 per cent. in December, and 4'4 per cent. in January, 1902. Branches of plumbers with 1,008 members had 13'3 per cent. unemployed, as compared with 10'7 per cent. in December, and 7'6 per cent. in January, 1902.

Northern Counties.—In the Tyne and Wear district employment with bricklayers, painters and plumbers is reported as dull, with stonemasons as improved, with carpenters and joiners as fair on the Tyne, slack on the Wear. With slaters employment is quiet in the Newcastle district, moderate at Sunderland. At Stockton and Hartlepool carpenters and joiners report employment as moderate; at Middlesbrough as fair.

Lancashire and Cheshire.—Employment generally continues dull and is worse than a year ago. In Liverpool and Birkenhead all branches are dull except stonemasons, who are fairly well employed. At Manchester employment is fair with plasterers, moderate with plumbers, bad with other branches. At Burnley, Macclesfield, and St. Helens it is rather better.

Yorkshire. - In most towns employment continues dull, but is fair at Scarborough and York. At Leeds bricklayers, plumbers and painters report employment as moderate, joiners as quiet. A considerable number of labourers are out of work. At Sheffield plumbers are moderately well employed, but other branches are slack. At Hull employment is moderate with masons and slaters, dull with other branches.

East Midland Counties .- Employment has further declined and is worse than a year ago. At Derby, Leicester, and Northampton it is dull with all branches. At Nottingham employment is dull, except with plasterers and slaters, who are moderately employed.

West Midland Counties.—There was no improvement in employment during January. It continues dull and worse than a year ago. At Birmingham it is quiet with most branches, but plumbers and gasfitters report it as moderate. At Wolverhampton employment with carpenters, plasterers and painters is bad, with bricklayers and plumbers it is moderate. In the Potteries district all branches are slack. At Leamington and Kidderminster employment generally is fair.

Eastern Counties.—Employment generally throughout Norfolk and Cambridgeshire is slack, except with stonemasons. At Norwich it is bad and many are unemployed. At Ipswich it is fair with masons, moderate with bricklayers and painters, dull with carpenters, and bad with plasterers. At Colchester it is good with bricklayers, fair with carpenters.

Southern and South-Western Counties .- Employment shows a further decline since December, and in most towns is worse than a year ago. At Portsmouth and Bridgwater, however, it is fair, and is better than a year ago. At Bristol masons are fairly busy, but other outdoor trades are depressed.

Wales and Monmouth.—Employment generally is dull in South Wales, especially in the seaport towns. In North Wales it is fair with bricklayers, dull with other

Scotland.—On the whole, employment continues moderate. With carpenters and plasterers it is reported as fair, with plumbers as moderate, and with masons, bricklayers and painters as dull. In Glasgow employment is good with plasterers and glaziers. In Edinburgh it is good with plasterers, fair with joiners and plumbers, bad in other branches. In Paisley employment is fair generally; in Stirling, quiet, except for plumbers, with whom it is good.

Ireland.—Employment generally continues dull, and is worse than a year ago. At Dublin, stone cutters and whiteners report employment as fair, other branches as dull. At Belfast, employment is moderate with brick-layers and plumbers, dull with other branches. In Cork and district all branches are dull.

# EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY-COAL AND OTHER MINING; QUARRYING.

#### (b) COAL MINING.

February, 1903.

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

EMPLOYMENT in this industry during January continued good, and the number of workpeople employed at pits for which returns have been received for both periods was 1.2 per cent. greater than a year ago.

Returns received relating to 1,308 pits employing 493,502 workpeople show that the average number of days worked by the collieries included in the returns, in the four weeks ended January 24th was 5.22, as compared with 5.26 a year ago. In both these periods the average number of days was lowered to about the same extent by holidays. In comparing the average number of days worked by collieries in January and the four weeks ended December 20th, 1902, allowance has to be made for the fact that no holidays occurred in the December period. Taking the holidays into account it is found that the average number of days worked by the collieries was practically the same in both periods. On the whole, therefore, little change has taken place in employment, either as compared with a month ago or a

In the following Table detailed particulars are given for the different mining districts :-

COMPARISON OF THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED BY COLLIERIES IN JANUARY, 1903 AND 1902, AND IN DECEMBER, 1902.

District.	No. em- ployed in Jan., 1903, at the Collieries	Average No. of Days worked per week by the Collieries in four weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Jan., 1903, as com- pared with	
	included in the Table.	24th Jan., 1903.*	25th Jan., 1902.*	20th Dec., 1902.	A year ago.	A m'nth ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Dt	39,945	5.09	5.03	5.47	+ '07	- '38
Cumborland	96,186	5'29	5'27	5.57	+ '02	- '28
Vorkshine	7,204	5'20	5'20	5'47		- '27
Lancashire and Cheshire	73,152	5'23	5'42	5'40	10	- '17
Dowharking	50,761	4'97	2.01	5.38	- '04	- '41
Nottingham and Leicester	40,302	5.30	5.22	5.63	25	- '33
Stoffordubine	25,384	4.90	5.09	5.17	10	- '27
Salop, Worcester and	30,475	5'30	5'36	5.28	06	- '28
Warwick	9,898	5'25	5'46	5'79	- '21	- '54
Gloucester and Somerset	8,921	5'24	5'47	5'57	- '23	- '33
North Wales	11,826	5.68	5.67	5.68	+ .01	
South Wales and Mon	57,842	5.85	5.75	5.69	+ ,10	+ .19
ENGLAND & WALES	451,896	5'29	5'34	5.21	- '05	- '22
SCOTLAND.					168311	
West Scotland	20,665	4.63	4.23	5'46	+ '10	83
The Lothians	4,398	4'99	4.86	5.80	+ '13	81
Fife	15,892	4.09	4'07+	5.2	+ '02	-1'43
SCOTLAND	40,955	4.46	4.40+	5.2	+ '06	-1.09
IRELAND	651	4'96	5.03	5'40	- '06	- '44
United Kingdom	493,502	5-22	5-26+	5.51	- •04	29

It will be seen that in England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland respectively the average number of days worked by collieries was practically the same in January, 1903, as in January, 1902. As has already been explained, the falling off in January as compared with December last is due almost entirely to the time lost through holidays in January. Taking the separate districts into consideration, the comparison with a year ago shows that during January there was a slight increase in the average number of days worked per week in seven districts, while in eight there was a small decline, and in one there was no change.

one there was no change.

The highest averages during the month were worked in South Wales and Monmouthshire (5.85 days), and in North Wales (5.68 days). In all the remaining districts less than 5½ days were worked.

In the next Table the workpeople are grouped according to the number of days worked at the pits at which they were employed. Of the total number 69.5 per cent. were employed at pits working 5 or more days per week

in the four weeks ended January 24th, as compared with 71.8 per cent. in the corresponding period of last year. CLASSIFICATION OF THE WORKPEOPLE ACCORDING TO THE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED IN FOUR WEEKS BY THE COLLIERIES.

Number of days on	Januar	гу, 1903.*	Corresponding percentages in		
which Coal was kewn and wound in four weeks.	No. of Workpeople employed.	Percentage proportion to total.	January,*†	December 1902.	
24 days (full time)		100000000000000000000000000000000000000	24.4		
an and under at down	95,294 247,602	10.3	21.0	33.9	
		50'2	50.8	55.2	
	121,031	24'5	23.8	9.0	
8 12	25,775	5'2	4:1	1.1	
	554	0,1	0.1	0.0	
Under 8 days	3,246	0.4	02	0.8	
Total	493,502	100-0	100.0	100.0	

Reports received from Local Correspondents show that, apart from the New Year holidays, employment with coal miners was generally good in January. In the Huddersfield district, however, it is described as quiet; in the Leeds district some house coal pits have worked only 4 days per week owing to heavy stocks of coal; in Leicestershire employment is reported to be slacker, while in the Forest of Dean it is fair and in the Bristol and Radstock district, moderate. In Durham, manufacturing, gas, house and coking coal pits have worked on an average 5.3, 4.9, 4.9, and 5.4 days per week

The Exports of coal, coke, and patent fuel during January amounted to 3,683,464 tons, as compared with 3,746,130 tons in December, and 3,173,774 tons in January 1902.

# (c) OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.

Information has been received from 75 firms employing 18,935 workpeople, from six Employers' Associations and from Local Correspondents.

Employment has been good in iron and shale mining, and in limestone and slate quarrying; but moderate only in tin, lead and copper mining and clay quarrying. In stone and granite quarrying and settmaking employment is fairly good, having regard to the time of the year.

Iron Mining.—Employment in this industry continues good and is practically the same as a year ago. In the 119 mines and open works covered by the returns received, the average number of days worked per week in the four weeks ended January 24th was 5.55, compared with 5.53 a year ago, and 5.76 in the four weeks ended December 20th, 1902. The decrease in the average number of days worked in January as compared with December last is due to the days lost through the New Year holidays in the January period, no holidays having occurred in the December period. The comparison with a year ago is not affected on this account.

The following Table summarises the returns received:—

	41		Mary College	- Harry Carlot	A Company	
District.	No. employed in Jan., 1903, at the Mines	e number per wee in 4 weel	k by the	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in January, 1903, as compared with		
Spiles on cons	included in the Table.	24th Jan., 1903.	25th Jan., 1902.	20th Dec., 1902.	Decrea January	A mont ago.
England-					De Britania	1
Cumberland and		Days.	Days.	Days.	Dave	D
Lancashire	4,801	5.61	5'79	5.89		Days '28
Cleveland	6,886	5.61	5'48	5.64		- '03
Lincolnshire and			3.40	3 04	1 13	- 03
Leicestershire	892	5'90	5'77	5'95	+ '72	- '05
Northamptonshire	585	5.81	5'79	5'93		15
Staffordshire and	Marine States	Section 1	3/9	2 93	T 02	- 12
Shropshire	1,144	5'00	4.80	5'42	+ '20	
Other places in		September 1		3 44	1 20	- '42
England	105	5.66	5'95	5'76	- '29	- '10
Total, England	14,413	5.57	5*55	5.73	+ 0.2	16
SCOTLAND	1,196	5'25	5'25	6.00		- '75
IRELAND	III	5.93	5.92	6.00	+ .01	- 75
Total and Averages	15,720	5.55	5.53	5.76	+ .02	<b>- ·21</b>

The New Year Holidays are included in this period. Revised figures.

<sup>\*</sup> Exclusive of Superannuated Members.

<sup>\*</sup> The New Year Holidays are included in this period.

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY-OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING; PIG IRON; IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

The number of workpeople employed at the mines included in the returns was 15,720, a slightly greater number than a year ago, and of those, 66 3 per cent. were employed at mines working 22 or more days during the four weeks ended January 24th, as compared with 68.6 in the corresponding period of 1902.

Shale Mining.—Employment with shale miners in the Lothians continues good. At the 27 mines covered by the returns received by the Department, the average number of days worked during the four weeks ended January 28th was 5.09 per week, as compared with 5.51 in December, 1902, and 5.23 in January, 1902. The decline in the average number of days worked as compared with a month ago is due mainly to the mines being idle during the New Year holidays. The number of workpeople employed at the mines reported on was 2,675 in January, 1903, compared with 2,668 in December, 1902, and 2,968 a year ago.

Tin and Copper Mining .- Employment with tin and copper miners in Cornwall is quiet in the Calstock district; in the Camborne district it is fair.

Lead Mining.—Employment in North Wales continues very quiet.

Limestone Quarrying .- In Weardale employment with limestone quarrymen continues good, practically full time being worked. In Derbyshire the quarrymen were generally well employed, but in the Rowsley District short time was worked, employment being worse than a month ago, or in the corresponding month of 1902. In Leicestershire employment is stated to have been good, in North Wales quiet, and in Devon and Cornwall

Slate Quarrying .- Apart from the dispute affecting the Bethesda district, employment with slate quarrymen and slate-makers in North Wales is good, and rather better than a year ago. In Devon and Cornwall it is

Stone Quarrying.—In the Liverpool and Burnley districts in Lancashire, and in the Barnsley district in Yorkshire, employment is stated to have been fairly good, although affected to some extent by the weather. At Alton and Hollington (Staffordshire) employment continues moderately brisk. Employment in the Bath stone quarries in the Bristol District is good, a larger number of men being employed than in the corresponding month of last year. In North Wales employment is quiet.

Granite Quarrying.—Employment in this industry in Leicestershire is fairly good, in Shropshire and North Wales it is good. In Devon and Cornwall there is a falling off, in certain quarries fewer workpeople being employed. In Forfarshire employment is fair, but not so good as a month or a year ago. In Aberdeenshire, compared with a month ago, little change has taken place, employment being fairly good, but it is worse than a year ago.

Clay Quarrying.—In Cornwall employment for china clay workers is moderate.

Settmaking.—Employment is slacker with settmakers in Leicestershire, but it continues good in North Wales. In the West of Scotland it is dull, in Aberdeenshire fair, in the Edinburgh district and the North of Ireland

# (d) PIG-IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry in England and Wales shows little change compared with a month ago; in Scotland, however, 11 furnaces, which had stopped for repairs in December, were re-lit during January. As compared with a year ago, an improvement is shown. Returns received from 114 ironmasters show that 327 furnaces were in blast at the end of January, as compared with 317 at the end of December last, and 321 at the end of January, 1902.

In England and Wales the number of furnaces in blast at the end of the month was less by one than a month ago, three having been re-lit, and four damped down or blown out. In Scotland II furnaces were re-lit during

The estimated number of workpeople employed at the 327 furnaces in blast was 22,600.

The following Table shows by districts the number of furnaces in blast at the works included in the returns, at the three periods specified:-

			e compared ear ago.	Present time compared with a month ago.			
Districts.	Jan.,	Jan.,	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Jan., 1903.	Jan., 1903.	Dec.,	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Jan., 1903.	
ENGLAND & WALES-			Maria de Paris				
Cleveland	82	80	+ 2	82	82		
Cumberland & Lancs.	41	42	- I	41	41		
S. and S.W. Yorks	15	16	- I	15	17	- 2	
Derby & Nottingham	39	37	+ 2	39	39		
Leicester, Lincoln and Northampton	26	25	+ 1	26	26		
Stafford & Worcester	33	33	`	33	33		
S. Wales & Monmouth	14	14		14	13	+ 1	
Other districts	7	8	- I	7	7		
Returned from England & Wales	257	255	+ 2	257	258	- 1	
RETURNED FROM SCOTLAND	70	66	+ 4	70	59	+ 11	
Total furnaces included in returns	327	321	+ 6	327	317	+ 10	

#### (e) IRON AND STEEL WORKS.\*

EMPLOYMENT has declined somewhat as compared with December last, and is worse than a year ago.

At 201 works covered by the returns received from employers, 73,589 workpeople were employed in the week ended January 24th, a decrease of 1,306 compared with a month ago, and of 3,811 compared with the corresponding period of last year.

Number Employed.

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

District.				pers emplo week ende		Decre in Jan.,	e (+) or ase (-) 1903, as red with
			Jan. 24th, 1903.	Jan. 25th, 1902.	Dec. 20th, 1902.	A year ago.	A month ago.
England and Wales Scotland	::	:::	61,681 11,908	64,665 12,735	62,585 12,310	-2,984 - 827	- 904 - 402
Total			73,589	77,400	74,895	-3,811	-1,306

Weekly Number of Shifts Worked.

Information as to the number of shifts worked has been received with regard to works employing 89 per cent. of these workpeople, and the particulars are summarised in the Table below.

The average number of shifts worked per man was 5.28 in the week ended January 24th, compared with 5.34 in the week ended December 20th, 1902, and with 5.31 in the week ended January 25th, 1902.

Number of Shifts	Number employed	Percentage		ponding itage in
worked.	in Jan., 1903, so far as returned.	proportion to Total.	Jan., 1902.	Dec., 1902.
per week	8,452 22,325 690 33,574 507	12'9 34'1 1'0 51'2 0'8	12.6 38.9 1.3 46.6 0.6	11.9 31.8 1.3 54.5 0.8
Total	65,548	100.0	100.0	100.0

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

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY-IRON AND STEEL; TINPLATE; SHIPBUILDING.

Assuming that the workpeople not included in this the works which were giving employment, full or partial,\* Table (11 per cent. of the total) worked the same average number of shifts per man as those who are included, the total number of shifts worked by all the workpeople included in the first Table may be estimated to have been 388,640 in the week ended January 24th, compared with 399,861 in the week ended December 20th, 1902, and with 411,079 in the week ended January 25th, 1902. On this basis, therefore, the volume of employment at the works included in the returns shows a decrease of 2.8 per cent. compared with December, 1902, and of 5.5 per cent. compared with the corresponding period

February, 1903.

The decline in the volume of employment compared with a month ago, was common to all districts with the exception of Northumberland and Durham, where practically no change took place; compared with a year ago, the falling off was general, the decline being most marked in the Midlands, and in Northumberland and Durham.

The following reports on the different branches of the iron and steel manufacturing industry in certain districts have been furnished by the Local Correspondents to the

Tyne and Wear District .- Steel plate and angle mills at Consett were fully employed during the last three weeks of January; sheet mills at Jarrow have been working rather fuller time; bar mills at Jarrow and Newburn were idle for a few days. Employment with steel smelters has been moderate; with finished iron and steel workers it has slightly improved.

Cleveland District.—Employment at rail mills has been good, at plate mills slack, in other departments moderate, in metal expansion works fair.

South Yorkshire.—Employment with steel smelters has been slack in Sheffield district; with steel works at Leeds it has fallen off.

Lancashire.—Employment with steel smelters and iron rollers has been irregular at Wigan and Ince.

Midlands.—In Derby employment has been slack in puddling and rolling mills. Mill and forge workers in Shropshire have been working short time. Employment with puddlers, smelters and rollers in the Potteries district was quiet during the early part of January, but improved towards the end of the month. In South Staffordshire employment has been quiet with mill and forge workers; with steel smelters it has improved.

South Wales.—Iron and steel works have been working regularly with the exception of some stoppages of mills for repairs.

Scotland.-Employment has been fair in the iron and steel trades in the West of Scotland.

#### (f) TINPLATE WORKS.\*

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continues good, and compared with a year ago shows little change.

At the end of January 392 mills were working, an increase of 5 compared with the number working at the end of December, and of 2 compared with the number at work a year ago. The total number of works open was 77, and at 53 of these all the mills (265) were in operation, whilst at the remaining 24 works, 127 mills out of a total of 170 were at work.

Of the 392 mills in operation, 380, employing about 19,000 workpeople out of the total of 19,600 at all the mills in operation, were situated in the South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire districts, compared with 375 in December last and 378 a year ago.

The following Table shows the number of mills at

\* It will be understood that, in addition to the works returned as giving full or partial employment, a certain number of tinplate works were wholly idle at each of the dates to which the returns relate, but the figures quoted are believed to give approximately the total number of works and mills actually in operation.

at each of the three periods:

	No. of	No. of M	No. of Mills in such Works			
	Works open.	Working.	Not Working.	Total.		
Works giving full employment Works giving partial employment	53 - 24	265 127	43	265 170		
Total at end of January, 1903*	77	392	43	435		
Corresponding Total for Dec., 1902*	75	387	37	424		
Corresponding Total for Jan., 1902 *+	78	390	63	453		

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

	Tinplates.			В	lackplates	
	Jan., 1903.	Dec., 1902.	Jan., 1902.	Jan., 1903.	Dec.,	Jan.,
To United States ,, Other Countries	Tons. 4,503 17,833	Tons. 6,972 24,136	Tons. 7,977 18,051	Tons 3,572	Tons. 2 4,151	Tons  4,637
Total	22,336	31,108	26,028	3,572	4,153	4,637

# (g) SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from two Employers' Associations, from five Trade Unions with a membership of 54,945, and from Local Correspondents.

The general state of employment in shipbuilding continued bad in January, and was much worse than a year ago, especially on the North East Coast.

The percentage of unemployed union members was 12.9 at the end of January, as compared with 14.0 at the end of December, and 4.7 in January, 1902.

The state of employment in the various districts, as indicated by the proportions of members of trade unions returned as unemployed at the end of the month, is shown in the following table

Districts <sup>n</sup>	No. of Members of Unions at end of Jan., 1903, included	re	ercenta eturned employ end of	l as ed at	Decreas	e (+) or se (-) in tage for 1903, as ed with a
District to the spirit	in the returns.	Jan., 1903.	Dec.,	Jan., 1902.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Tyne and Blyth Wear Tees and Hartlepool Humber Thames and Medway Portsmouth, Devonport, and Southampton Bristol Channel Ports Mersey Barrow Clyde Clyde Dundee, Leith, and Aberdeen Belfast	9,288 4,739 4,961 2,011 3,742 3,306  2,265 3,697 1,534 11,956 1,957 2,724	16.8 25.0 27.5 10.4 10.9 3.9 15.4 6.8 0.4 9.9 3.5 3.4	17 2 28.7 29.3 11.0 8.7 5.7 22.6 13.9 1.0 9.4 3.8 3.7	4.2 4.9 4.9 8.2 6.0 1.2 17.0 3.0 2.7 4.2 2.6 0.6	- 0'4 - 3'7 - 1'8 - 0'6 + 2'2 - 1'8 - 7'2 - 7'1 - 0'6 + 0'5 - 0'3	+ 12.6 + 20.1 + 22.6 + 2.2 + 4.9 + 2.7 - 1.6 + 3.8 - 2.3 + 5.7 + 0.9 + 2.8

It will be seen from the Table that the percentage of unemployed was greatest in the Tees and Hartlepool district (27.5), on the Wear (25.0), and on the Tyne (16.8), and was least at Barrow (0.4 per cent.), Belfast (3.4), on the East Coast of Scotland (3.5), and the South Coast of England (3.9). As compared with a year ago the greatest decline has taken place in the North East Coast districts. As compared with a month ago the figures show some improvement, chiefly in the Mersey district and at the ship repairing ports of the Bristol Channel, while there has been some further decline on the Clyde and the Thames.

Employment generally on the North East Coast is bad and much worse than a year ago. The depression is accentuated by the dispute affecting ship joiners and

\* See note in previous column.

plumbers. On the Tyne the general state of employment is about the same as in December, but there is a shown in the following Table: slightly better demand for frame benders. With rivetters and caulkers employment is reported as still somewhat scarce, and with shipsmiths as very bad. With drillers and hole cutters it continues slack, with some branches of shipwrights it is fair. On the Wear employment is reported as fair with shipsmiths and shipwrights. With platers and rivetters it continues to decline. Drillers and hole cutters are slack. In the Tees district employment is moderate at Hartlepool, bad at Stockton and declining at Middlesbrough. In ship repairing it is good at Hartlepool, moderate at Middlesbrough.

On the Humber employment has been bad with iron shipbuilders. With shipwrights it has been fairly good at Hull, moderate at Goole and Selby, bad at Grimsby.

On the Thames and Medway, employment generally shows a decline as compared with a month ago, and is slack on both new and repair work. At Chatham it is fairly good. Barge builders report employment as very bad. At Southampton employment is dull; at Portsmouth it is good with shipwrights, slack with iron shipbuilders. At Devonport it is reported as very good in the Government yards, as quiet at private firms.

At the Bristol Channel Ports, where the work is chiefly ship repairing, employment is much better than a month ago, and is slightly better than a year ago. It is however, still very slack generally, though fair with shipwrights at Cardiff and Pembroke.

On the Mersey there has been a great improvement as compared with a month ago, but employment is not so good as a year ago. Iron shipbuilders report a marked improvement on new work at Birkenhead. Repair work at Liverpool has also improved. With shipwrights employment is dull, with ship painters it is rather better.

At Barrow employment continues good, and is better than a year ago.

On the Clyde the general state of employment shows little change as compared with the previous month, but is much worse than a year ago. Short time is being worked in many yards, and some are on three-quarter time only. Employment is worst at Greenock and Port Glasgow, two or three yards at the latter place being quite empty. With iron shipbuilders employment generally is slack, but in some districts is reported as moderate. Employment with shipwrights is fairly good, with shipyard helpers it is reported as very dull, with ship joiners as dull.

At Dundee, Leith and Aberdeen employment generally is fair, and about the same as a month and a year ago.

At Belfast employment is about the same as a month ago, but not so good as a year ago. With iron ship-builders employment is moderate, with shipwrights it is

#### (h) ENGINEERING TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from three Employers' Associations, 24 Trade Unions, with 138,550 members, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment generally continues quiet, and rather worse than a year ago. It is slack in the Northern Counties and Scotland (especially in the chief centres of marine engineering), and least so in the Midlands and the South.

Returns relating to branches of Trade Unions with 138,550 members, show that 7,764 (or 5.6 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of January, as compared with 6.6 per cent. at the end of December and 5.2 per cent. in January 1902; but the high percentage in December was partly due to holiday suspensions.

The state of employment in the various districts as indicated by the proportions of members of certain Trade | irregular, and brassfounders and finishers, spindle

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Jan., 1903, in-	turne	centage ed as U ed at e	nem-	Decreas percenta ployed 1903, as	e (+) or se (-) in ge unem- for Jan., compared th a
	cluded in the returns.	Jan., 1903.	Dec 1902.	Jan.,	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND AND WALES.	100000					
North-East Coast	12,969	8.8	16.8	4'9	- 8.0	+ 3.9
Barrow and Lancaster	2,071	2.8	4'I	4.0	- 1.3	- I.3
Manchester and Liverpool	15,101	5.0	5'2	6.5	- 0.3	- 1.3
Oldham, Bolton and Black- burn Districts	9,838	8.1	8.3	9.5	- 0.I	- 1.4
West Riding Towns	10,353	6.3	7.1	8.7	- 0.8	- 2.4
Hulland Lincolnshire District	2,537	6.9	7.3	69	- 0.4	
Birmingham, Wolverhamp- ton and Coventry District	4,087	2.0	3.1	2.I	- I.I	- 0.I
Notts., Derby and Leicester Districts	3,077	3.4	3'4	6.0		- 2.6
London and Neighbouring District	12,381	4.1	4'9	3'5	- 0.8	+ 0.6
South Coast	3,025	1.3	1.6	0.7	- 0.3	+ 0.6
South Wales and Bristol Dis- trict	4,498	3.3	4'3	2.6	- 1.0	+ 0.7
Glasgow and District	13,642	9.0	8.2	7.7	+ 0.8	+ 1'3
East of Scotland	3,352	11.3	10.8	7.5	+ 0.2	+ 3.8
Belfast and Dublin	3,309	5.0	4.0	4.2	+ 1.0	+ 0.8

As compared with a year ago the greatest decline is shown on the North-East Coast and in the East of Scotland, while there has been improvement in the West Riding and some of the Midland districts.

North-East Coast.-Employment is very slack, and is affected by the ship joiners' and plumbers' dispute. Returns from employers show a further reduction in the numbers employed. The percentage of Union members unemployed, though somewhat less than a month ago, is much higher than in January, 1902. Employment is worst in the Wear and Stockton and Hartlepool districts. Generally employment is bad in marine engineering and boilermaking, good with pattern makers, fair at electrical works, and very moderate at locomotive works, but on the Tyne there has been a slight improvement during the month in marine engine shops. and steel moulders employment is reported as fair and improving in the Newcastle and Gateshead district. On the Wear employment generally is reported as bad in the engine shops, and as only moderate with boilermakers. With iron moulders it is bad, with steel moulders, good. At Middlesbrough and Darlington engineers and ironfounders report employment as moderate, at Stockton and Hartlepool as bad. With boilermakers at Darlington employment is good. Employment generally is bad with brassfinishers.

Barrow and Lancaster. — Employment shows an improvement as compared with both a month and a year ago. It is reported as moderate with engineers, good with pattern makers and ironfounders.

Manchester and Liverpool District.—Employment generally shows little change as compared with December, and is rather better than a year ago. With pattern makers it is good generally. At Manchester engineers, machine workers, and smiths and strikers report employment as moderate. Ironfounders are slack, brass founders and finishers are busy. At Liverpool employment generally is dull; at Crewe it is fairly good with all sections. At Stockport and Northwich engineers report employment as bad, ironfounders as moderate. At Warrington it is reported as moderate with engineers, as very good with ironfounders. Engineers at

Birkenhead report employment as moderate.

Oldham, Bolton, Blackburn and District.—Employment generally continues very slack, but is rather better than a year ago. In Oldham and district it is reported as bad at both engine and textile machinemaking shops, and short time is being worked at several firms. With brassfounders, toolmakers, boiler makers and ironfounders employment is moderate; with machine moulders and iron grinders it is slack. In the Bolton district employment generally is moderate and somewhat EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY-Engineering; Hardware, Cutlery, &c., Trades; Cotton Trade.

makers and roller makers are not well employed. In with light moulders, dull with heavy moulders. At Blackburn, Burnley and Preston employment is bad with engineers and ironfounders, but pattern makers generally are well employed.

February, 1903.

West Riding .- The general state of employment, though not good, is better than either a month or a year At Leeds employment is slack with most branches, but moderate with boilermakers. At Sheffield it is moderate with engineers, slack with boilermakers and machine workers, very fair with pattern makers. At Barnsley it is good, at Rotherham moderate. At Bradford and Huddersfield employment is moderate with engineers, declining with ironfounders. Employment generally is slack at Halifax and Stanningley, improving

Hull and Lincolnshire District.—At Hull employment is moderate generally, but bad with ironfounders. At Doncaster it is bad with engineers, moderate with brassworkers and boilermakers. Employment generally is bad at Grimsby, fair at Lincoln and Grantham.

West Midlands.—Employment generally is fairly good and rather better than in December. At Birmingham it is reported as moderate with ironfounders, brassfounders, engineers, toolmakers and pattern makers; as fair in railway and wagon shops, and with gunmakers; as good with electrical engineers and cycle and motor workers. At Coventry and Redditch employment with cycle and motor workers is good. At Wolverhampton employment is fairly good generally, but is bad with moulders, quiet with brassworkers and electrical engineers. At Walsall it is quiet in the malleable iron trade.

East Midlands.—The general state of employment is the same as in December, and is considerably better than a year ago. With general engineers employment is fairly good; with ironfounders slack. Employment is good with boilermakers at Derby, and with lace machine builders at Long Eaton. It is fairly good with tool machinists, cycle makers, and bobbin and carriage makers at Nottingham; fair with electric car builders and shoe machinery makers at Leicester and Northampton. With railway carriage and wagon builders

it is good at Long Eaton, slack at Derby.

London and Neighbouring District. — Employment, though dull generally, shows a slight improvement on the previous month, and is about the same as a year ago. With pattern makers it has improved and is fairly good; with ironfounders it is dull. In general engineering there has been some improvement. With scientific instrument makers employment is dull. Employment at Chatham and Sheerness is fair with engineers, but slack with ironfounders.

South Coast.—Employment generally is moderate, and about the same as a month or a year ago. At Southampton repair work has been good. At Devonport employment is good in the Government yards.

South Wales and Bristol District.—At Swindon employment is very good with boilermakers, moderate in other branches. At Bristol it is moderate with engineers, dull with moulders and brassfounders. At the South Wales ports employment generally is bad, except at Barry, where it is moderate.

Glasgow and District.—The general state of employment shows a slight decline as compared with the previous month, and is worse than a year ago. Employment is stated to be bad in marine engineering and boilermaking, fair in machine and toolmaking, good in locomotive building. With general engineers employment is reported as moderate in most branches, with brass finishers it is improving, with ironmoulders it is slack. Pattern makers, iron drillers, and iron, steel and brass dressers report it as moderate, brass moulders, and boiler and pipe coverers as good.

East of Scotland.—Employment generally in this

district is bad, and considerably worse than a year ago. At Edinburgh and Leith employment is bad in all branches, and some short time is being worked. At Falkirk employment is fair with pattern makers, quiet in December and 93 per cent. in January, 1902.

Dundee all branches are slack.

Belfast and Dublin.—In Ireland employment generally is fair though not quite so good as a month or a year ago. At Belfast engineers and smiths and strikers report employment as moderate, brassfounders and patternmakers as good, blacksmiths as dull and ironfounders as declining. At Dublin employment is dull.

#### (i) HARDWARE, CUTLERY, AND MISCEL-LANEOUS METAL TRADES.

INFORMATION received from Local Correspondents shows that employment generally has been quiet.

In the Black Country employment in the hardware trades is reported as not satisfactory, but there are said to be signs of improvement. Employment is very fair on goods for the Australian and African markets, such as iron buildings, water tanks, roofing, fencing, and galvanised articles. In the light trades employment generally is quiet. It is slack in the chain, anchor, vice, edge tool and iron plate trades.

At Birmingham employment in the metal trades generally is quiet. With kitchen range makers, bedstead workers, hollow-ware and tube makers, pen and pinmakers it is fair. In the brass trades it is fair generally, but with makers of fenders and fire brasses it is quiet. Employment is quiet with silversmiths, electro-platers and jewellers; good with britannia metal workers. At West Bromwich employment is fair with spring makers and nut and bolt makers. Employment is good in the watch trade at Coventry, and in the needle and fish-hook trade at Redditch, where, however, it is quiet in the fancy case making trade.

In the Sheffield district employment is moderate with stove grate workers, edge tool grinders, file cutters and forgers, and in the pen and pocket knife and razor trades. It is quiet with file grinders and haft and scale pressers. In the table knife and saw trades it is slack. ment is slack in the silver and plate trades.

At Rotherham brassworkers are fairly well employed. In London employment is slack with tin, iron-plate, sheet-metal, zinc, wire and brass workers, very quiet with farriers. In the silver and electro-plate trades it is quiet, with goldsmiths and jewellers it is bad. Short time is being worked in nearly all these trades and in most employment is reported as worse than a month or a

Employment is reported as good with wire drawers at Warrington, as moderate with sheet metal workers at Manchester, and with wire, tin, zinc and stove workers at Oldham. With pipe moulders at Ilkeston it is fair. In Edinburgh and Leith it is good with tinsmiths, at Falkirk it is fair with range and stove makers.

#### (j) COTTON TRADE. I.-General.

Information as to the state of employment in the different branches of the cotton trade has been received through the Trade Correspondent of the Department from 25 Employers' Associations, whose members are estimated to employ 232,000 operatives. Reports have also been furnished by the Local Correspondents of the Department and by 3 Trade Unions, with a membership of 37,064.

Returns relating specially to the employment of women in the cotton trade have also been received from women correspondents with regard to 487 spinning and weaving factories, employing about 93,000 women and girls.

The general result of the information thus obtained from various sources is as follows. Employment in the Spinning branch is, on the whole, good, and shows little hange as compared either with the previous month or with a year ago. Little short time is reported. Of the 25,000 women included in the returns from women correspondents, 92 per cent. were in mills giving full employment throughout the month, compared with 94 per cent.

#### EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY—Textile Trades.

In the Weaving branch employment, although only moderate in some centres, is fairly good generally, and is better than in December and a year ago. is reported, although some looms are standing for warps. Of the 68,000 women included in the returns from women correspondents, 85 per cent. were in factories giving full employment throughout the month, compared with 78 per cent. in December and 75 per cent. in January 1902.

The following Table summarises the returns from women correspondents as to the employment of women and girls, and also gives, for comparison, the corresponding figures for the previous month and for a

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ar in the second	Percen	Percentage ordinarily employed in Mills which were							
Trade and Month.	through	full Time nout the nth.	Working Short Time	Closed during some part of the					
	With Full Employ- ment.	With Partial Employ- ment.	during some part of the Month.	Month for repairs, bad trade, disputes, or other causes					
Cotton Trade—Spinning—	1000	1 1 1 2 3		I The second					
	92	7	-	1					
	94	4	-	2					
	93	4	2	I					
Cotton Trade-Weaving-	17 11 11 11 11 11 11	11							
January, 1903	85	13	The state of the s	2					
	78	20	100	2					
January, 1902	75	21	3	1					

#### II.—Employment in Principal Districts.

SPINNING

Stockport, Manchester and Ashton District. - Employment in the Stockport, Reddish, Romiley and Crumpsall district is not considered good, although slightly better than in December or a year ago. In Manchester, Pendlebury and Patricroft it is good. In the Ashton, Stalybridge, Mossley, Dukinfield and Droylsden district it is fairly good generally, and is better than a month or alyear ago; in Stalybridge and Dukinfield it is reported as good, in Ashton and Mossley as moderate.

Oldham District (including Middleton, Shaw, Royton,

Lees and Chadderton).—Employment is good and better than in December or a year ago, all the mills working

full time.

Bolton District (including Farnworth, Leigh and Wigan) .-Employment is good, and is practically the same as in

December and a year ago.

Bury and Rochdale District.—Employment in Bury and Elton is good, although trade is only moderate; mills are running full time. In Rochdale and Milnrow employment is good, and better than in December and a year ago. In Heywood, mills are kept fully employed, as in December and a year ago.

Other Districts.—Employment is good in the Glossop, Hadfield and Hyde districts; fairly good in the Darwen, Burnley, Blackburn and Preston districts.

#### WEAVING.

Preston District.—Employment is only moderate, although better than in December and a year ago; there is some waiting for warps, and three sheds are reported as closed.

Blackburn, Darwen, and Chorley District.—In Blackburn and Clitheroe employment is fairly good and a little better than in December, but worse than a year ago; the mills are running full time, but a fair number of looms are standing. In Darwen employment is fair, and better than in December and a year ago. In Chorley employment continues unsatisfactory, and is worse than a year ago; mills are running full time, but looms are waiting for beams.

Burnley, Accrington and Colne District.-In Burnley and Padiham employment is good, being better than in December and about the same as a year ago. In Nelson, Barrowford, and Brierfield and in Accrington, Church, and Oswaldtwistle employment is good, and | month.

is better than in December and a year ago. In the Colne district it is fairly good, being about the same as

in December and better than a year ago.

Other Districts.—In Bury and Elton fustian looms are standing for warps; employment generally is better than in December but worse than a year ago. In Rochdale it is poor but better than in December; in Radcliffe it is better than a month and a year ago, but looms are standing. In Bolton it is fair, the factories running full time but giving in some cases only partial employment.

### (k) WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

INFORMATION has been received from two Employers Associations, from Local Correspondents, and also from women correspondents with regard to 177 factories employing about 30,000 women and girls.

Employment in the woollen trade continues good and is better than a year ago. In the worsted trade it is still good, but in the woolcombing branch is only fair with

men although still good with women.

Of the women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted factories reported on 93 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment throughout the month, to be compared with 90 per cent. in December, and with 57 per cent. in January, 1902.

Bradford District.—Employment in the spinning and weaving branches of the worsted trade is good. Some slackness is reported in Halifax. The woolsorters report employment as moderate. Employers in the woolcombing industry report employment as good with women, fair with men, and as better than a year ago; the woolcombers' Trade Union, consisting almost entirely of men, report it as bad.

Huddersfield District.—Both employers and operatives report employment in the woollen trade in Huddersfield as good, overtime and night work continuing to be worked. In the worsted trade there is a decline in some firms. In the heavy woollen trade in Dewsbury and Batley employment is fairly good, the mills running full time.

Other Districts.—Employment is reported as fairly good in Leeds, good at Yeadon; at Wakefield some short time is being worked. In Trowbridge employment is moderate in the worsted trade, good in the woollen trade. In the woollen trade employment is good at Rochdale and at Hawick, Selkirk, Galashiels and Aberdeen.

# (1) OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.

Hosiery Trade.

According to reports from Local Correspondents, employment generally continues good, but shows a decline in the Nottingham district.

Leicester District.—Employment is good at Leicester with the makers of lambswool and cashmere underwear, seamless hose and half-hose; fairly good in the cardigan jacket, cycle hose, glove and fancy hosiery branches; slack with sweater and fashioned hose makers. At Loughborough employment is good. At Hinckley it is

fairly regular in most branches. Nottingham District.—Employment is reported as having declined with framework knitters in hose and half hose; as fairly good in underwear; as moderate with circular hosiery workers; as good with handframe workers and rib-top makers. It is reported as fair with hosiery trimmers at Basford and Bulwell.

Scotland.-In the Hawick and Aberdeen districts employment is good.

Lace Trade.

According to information from the Employers' Association, employment in the Nottingham Lace Trade is fair in the levers and curtain sections and good in the plain net branch; it is reported as about the same as in December, and not quite so good as a year ago. The operative lacemakers report a decline in the levers section and consider employment generally as not so good as in the previous EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY .-- TEXTILE TRADES; BOOT AND SHOE AND OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

#### Carpet Trade.

Information from Local Correspondents shows that at Kidderminster employment has been irregular with carpet weavers, but good with spinners. All branches at Bridgnorth are well employed. Carpet weavers at Dewsbury are working full time. Employment is reported as good generally in Midlothian, Glasgow, and Aberdeen; as fair in Dundee.

## Jute and Flax Trades.

Information from two Employers' Associations with regard to Dundee and Ulster, and from Local Correspondents, shows that in Dundee and Lochee employment in the jute trade is good. In the flax trade it has improved. In Ulster the Employers' Associations report employment as fair in the flax spinning branch, good in the weaving branch; in the spinning branch it is not so good as in December; in the weaving branch it shows an improvement; compared with a year ago there is no change. In Belfast the flax dressers, beetlers and flax roughers report employment as moderate; the linen lappers as fair; the power loom tenters and power loom yarn dressers as good; the women workers as dull. In Barnsley employment with linen weavers is returned as moderately good.

# (m) BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

RETURNS have been received from the Trade Correspondent of the Department based on information supplied by 436 firms employing 57,445 workpeople. Reports have also been furnished by Local Correspondents.

The Reports show that employment although dull

generally was slightly better than a year ago. The number employed by the firms making returns at the end of January was 57,445 compared with 55,578 at the end of December (when employment was affected by the Christmas holidays) and with 56,676 a year ago, an increase of 769 or 1.4 per cent. during the year. Of the total number of operatives, 69 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout January, and the remaining 31 per cent. worked some short time during

The following Table enables a comparison to be made of the number employed in the various districts at the end of January with a year ago, so far as covered by the

District.	No. of firms included	No. emp	oloyed by s at end of	Per- centage Increase
	in the returns.	Jan. 1903.	Jan. 1902.	(+) or Decrease (-).
ENGLAND AND WALES.				
	 61	4,029	3,890	+ 3.6
Leicester and District	 - 88	14,832	14,824	+ 0.1
Northampton and District Kettering	 109	12,676	12,301	+ 3.0
Stafford and District	 22	3,108	3,012	+ 3'2
	 19	2,946	2,841	+ 3.7
Norwich and District Bristol	 22	4,417	4,216	+ 4.8
	 13	2,277	2,246	+ 1.4
Kingswood	 19	1,845	1,864	- I.O
Leeds and District	 16	1,821	1,836	- 0.8
Manchester and District	 16	2,050	1,979	+ 3.6
Birmingham and District	 8	1,056	1,092	- 3'3
Other parts of England and Wales	 22	1,783	1,712	+ 4.1
Total, England and Wales	 415	52,840	51,813	+ 2.0
SCOTLAND	 19	4,231	4,516	- 6'3
IRELAND	 2	374	347	+ 7.8
Total	 436	57,445	56,676	+ 1.4

The following is a summary of the reports received from all sources as regards the principal districts:-

London.—Employment is quiet, but slightly better than in December and a year ago. Of the 4,029 workpeople reported on, 80 per cent. were in firms working full time throughout the month. The clickers and pressmen report an improvement. The hand-sewn bootmakers return employment as quiet, but as better than a year ago and about the same as a month ago.

Leicester District. - Returns covering 12,700 workpeople in Leicester and 2,132 in country districts show that 67 per cent. of the former and 63 per cent. of the

latter were employed in firms working full time throughout the month. Employment has improved with clickers, pressmen, fitters and machinists; it remains quiet with lasters and finishers making ladies' boots and shoes. It is slack in the Hinckley district.

Northampton District.—Returns covering 7,407 workpeople in Northampton and 5,269 in country districts show that 66 per cent. of the former and 87 per cent. of the latter were employed in firms working full time throughout the month. Employment is moderate with workers in men's boots and shoes at Rushden, dull at Daventry, Finedon and Northampton; it has slightly improved with boot upper cutters and closers at Wellingborough. In Kettering 74 per cent. of the 3,108 workpeople covered by the returns were in firms working full time throughout the month, and employment is reported

Stafford, Stone, and Nantwich.—Returns covering 2,946 workpeople show that 68 per cent. were employed in firms working full time throughout the month. In Stafford and Stone a decided improvement is reported, full time being nearly general at the end of the month.

Bristol and Kingswood.—Returns covering 2,277 workpeople in Bristol and Paulton show that 37 per cent. were employed in firms working full time throughout the month. Of the 1,845 covered by the returns for Kingswood, 28 per cent. were employed in firms working full time throughout the month. Employment in Bristol is reported as improving. In Kingswood in the heavy nail boot trade it is reported as dull.

Eastern Counties.—Returns covering 4,417 workpeople in Norwich, Ipswich, Colchester, and Braintree show that 91 per cent. were employed in firms working ful time throughout the month. Employment is, however, reported as dull in the Norwich and Ipswich districts.

Other Parts of England.—Employment is reported as only moderate in Leeds, Bramley and Pudsey, and in Hull; as slack in Sheffield; in Manchester as bad; in Birmingham and Wolverhampton as very quiet; in Mansfield as fair; in Nottingham and Derby as slack.

Scotland.—Returns covering 4,231 workpeople show that 66 per cent. were employed in firms working full time throughout the month. Employment is reported as bad in Edinburgh and Aberdeen; the improvement in Glasgow has not been maintained.

Ireland.—Employment is reported as fair in Dublin; moderate in Belfast; dull in Cork.

#### (n) OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

Information has been received from Local Correspondents, Employers, and Trade Unions, and from three Employment Bureaux in London.

London.—Employment with bespoke tailors is reported as moderate. In the ready-made branch of the tailoring trade it is fairly good, and better than in December or a year ago. Employment for Jewish tailors is, however, reported to be bad. Hatters return employment as fairly good, showing no change compared with a month ago, and a decline compared with a year ago. Returns from the employment bureaux for women show a decline of demand for dressmakers and milliners. the number of situations offered being only 65, compared with 130 a year ago, while the number of dressmakers applying for situations was practically unchanged, i.e.,

97, compared with 101 a year ago.

Manchester and Liverpool.—Employment in the bespoke and ready-made branches of the tailoring trade is reported as bad. Shirt makers and umbrella makers report it as moderate. In Liverpool employment is reported as dull in all branches of the tailoring trade.

Leeds.—In the ready-made tailoring trade employment is reported as not so good as usual at this season; Jewish tailors report it as only moderate. With bespoke tailors it is quiet.

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY-PRINTING, BOOKBINDING AND PAPER TRADES; FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

is moderate. With glovers at Yeovil employment is

Eastern Counties. — Employment in the ready-made tailoring factories in Norwich is not brisk, but few operatives are working short time; in Yarmouth employment is fair. At Ipswich employment in the ready-made tailoring branch is reported as good; at Colchester as

Other Districts. - Employment in the ready-made tailoring trade is reported as good in Leicester; fair in Nottingham; dull in Glasgow. Felt hatters report employment at Denton as quiet but improving, and slightly better than a year ago; at Stockport as moderate; at Hyde, Failsworth and Bury as very quiet; at Bredbury

#### (0) PRINTING, BOOKBINDING, AND PAPER TRADES. General.

RETURNS have been supplied by 22 Employers' Associations, by Trade Unions with an aggregate membership of nearly 55,500, and by Local Correspondents. The information thus obtained shows that employment in the Printing and Bookbinding Trades generally was rather quiet, as is usual at this season, and in the Paper Trades fairly good. Compared with a month ago, employment in the Printing and Bookbinding trades was not so good, while in the Paper trades it was about the same as in December. Compared with a year ago, Letterpress Printing shows an improvement, other branches little change.

With compositors employment is quiet, not quite so good as in December, but rather better than a year ago. With machine minders and warehousemen it is bad, and worse both than a month and a year ago. stereotypers and electrotypers it is fairly good generally, but dull in London. The percentage of unemployed members among Union letterpress printers was 4.8 at the end of January, compared with 3.8 per cent. in December and 6.0 per cent. in January, 1902.

Lithographic artists and printers report employment as fair, and about the same as a month and a year ago. The percentage of unemployed members among Union lithographic printers was 4.2, compared with 4.2 per cent. in December and 4.5 per cent. in January, 1902.

In the bookbinding trade employment is quiet, not so good as in December, and about the same as a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Union members among bookbinders was 3.7, compared with 2.5 per cent. in December, and 3.0 per cent. in January of last year.

The percentage of unemployed Union members in the printing and bookbinding trades at the end of January was 4.6, compared with 3.7 per cent. in December and 5'4 per cent. in January, 1902.

Papermakers were fairly well employed, about the same as in December and a year ago. The percentage of unemployed among union papermakers was 2'I, compared with 2'2 per cent. in December, and 2'4 per cent. in January, 1902.

### Principal Districts.

London.—Employment is dull with most branches, as is usual at this season. Returns from 24 Unions, with a membership of 25,248, show that 1,317 (or 5.2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.5 per cent. in December and 6.2 per cent. in January, 1902.

Northern Counties .- In the Tyne district employment is quiet. Letterpress printers report employment as good at Darlington and Middlesbrough, moderate at Hartlepool. At Carlisle full time is being worked.

Lancashire and Cheshire.—Employment in Manchester is reported as bad with letterpress and lithographic printers; bookbinders are fairly well employed. Oldham employment is fairly good generally. Letter-press printers in Liverpool report employment as

ago; with bespoke tailors it is dull. With silk hatters it | moderate, lithographic printers as dull, bookbinders as fair. In Bolton employment with letterpress printers is good, overtime being general; with lithographic printers employment is quiet. Papermill workers report employment as moderate at Bury, good at Bolton and

Yorkshire.—At Leeds employment is quiet. At Hull letterpress printers and bookbinders report employment as good, lithographic printers as moderate. At Sheffield, employment with letterpress printers moderate, with bookbinders good. At Huddersfield, employment is fairly good on the whole. At Bradford and Halifax employment has, on the whole, declined.

East Midland Counties .- Employment with letterpress printers is fair at Nottingham, Derby, and Lincoln; at Leicester it is good; at Northampton moderate. With lithographic printers at Nottingham it is moderate; with bookbinders and machine rulers at Leicester it is

West Midland Counties .- Letterpress and lithographic printers at Birmingham report employment as moderate, bookbinders as good. At West Bromwich letterpress printers report employment as fair. In the Potteries employment is moderately good.

Eastern Counties .- Employment is fair at Norwich and Yarmouth; it is good with letterpress printers at Ipswich, Beccles, Bungay and Chelmsford.

Southern and South-Western Counties .- Employment with letterpress printers is fairly good at Oxford, Gloucester, Bristol and Plymouth; at Reading and Bath it is only moderate. With lithographic printers at Bristol employment is good.

Wales and Monmouth. - Letterpress printers at Swansea report employment as good, at Cardiff as bad.

Scotland.—Employment in Edinburgh is quiet. Returns from 7 Unions, with a membership of 2,490, show that 50 (or 2.0 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.0 per cent. in December and 2.6 per cent. in January, 1902. In Glasgow employment is not good; in Dundee it is good; in Aberdeen good except with lithographic printers, who report employment as moderate.

Iveland.—Letterpress printers in Dublin report employment as fairly good, lithographic printers as bad. Belfast and Cork employment is dull.

#### (b) FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

### I.-General.

INFORMATION has been received from seven employers' Associations, from 32 Trade Unions with 36,626 members, and from Local Correspondents.

Of the 36,626 members of Unions, 2,436 (or 6.7 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 6.1 per cent. of their membership at the end of December, and 6.2 per cent. at the end of January,

Employment generally in the Furnishing trades is slack, and worse than a month ago; as compared with a year ago it is worse with cabinet makers, better with polishers. Millsawyers show a decline compared with a month ago. With Coachmakers employment is dull, but not so bad as in December. Employment with Brush-makers is fairly good, and better than a month ago. With Coopers it is bad, and worse than in December and a year ago.

#### II.—Employment in Principal Districts.

London.-Employment with furniture workers continues bad, except with carvers, who are fairly busy; mill sawyers are slack; coachmakers report employment as bad, and worse than a month and a year ago. With coopers it is bad, showing no change as compared EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY—FURNISHING, &c., TRADES; GLASS, POTTERY, &c., TRADES; LEATHER TRADES.

with December, and a decline as compared with a year ago. Brush makers report employment as very good.

February, 1903.

Northern Counties. - Cabinet makers, upholsterers, and lathrenders in the Tyne and Wear districts return employment as bad. Millsawyers on the Tyne are affected by the joiners' dispute; on the Wear they are slack in the shipyards and in cabinet shops. Coopers have fair employment.

Lancashire and Cheshire. In the Manchester district employment with cabinet makers, polishers and uphol-sterers is reported as bad, but slightly better than in December and a year ago. With coachmakers it is reported as moderate; with wheelwrights as bad. Employment with coopers is reported by the Employers Association as fair, by the Trade Union as bad. In the Liverpool district cabinet makers, polishers and upholsterers and millsawyers report employment as quiet; coachmakers and tramcar builders as bad. Coopers report employment as good. In Oldham cabinet makers and packing-case makers report employment as good; millsawyers as fair; coach and carriage builders are well employed. In Blackburn and Burnley cabinet makers are slack.

Yorkshire.—In the Middlesbrough district cabinet makers continue slack; employment with millsawyers is moderate. In Hull cabinet makers, brush makers, coach builders and coopers return employment as moderate; millsawyers as slack. In Sheffield cabinet makers report employment as bad; millsawyers, coach makers and tram car builders as moderate. In Leeds cabinet makers, polishers and upholsterers are quiet; brush makers are well employed; coachmakers and wheelwrights are slack

Midland Counties.-In the Birmingham district cabinet makers, carvers and packing case makers return employment as bad; millsawyers and coachmakers as quiet; coopers as bad. In the Nottingham district it is reported as quiet with cabinet makers, polishers, upholsterers, and packing case makers; as slack with millsawyers; as mproving with coachmakers at Nottingham, moderate at Newark, Grantham, Mansfield and Worksop, fair at Lincoln. At Derby coach and carriage builders return employment as moderate. Coopers at Burton-on-Trent are slack.

West of England.—In Bristol employment generally is bad; with coachmakers at Swindon it is moderate, at Gloucester fair. In the Plymouth district work in cabinet factories is fair, and improving; with upholsterers and polishers it continues quiet; coachbuilders are fairly well employed, but dull at Exeter; employment is fair with millsawyers; dull with coopers.

South Wales .- In the Cardiff district employment is good with cabinet makers, quiet with chair makers and upholsterers, fair with polishers. It is good with millsawyers and with coachmakers.

Scotland.—In the Edinburgh district cabinet makers report employment as fair, polishers and upholsterers as bad; it is fair with millsawyers; bad with coachmakers and with coopers. In the West of Scotland it is very quiet with cabinet makers, bad with polishers; it is fair with millsawyers, quiet with packing case makers; with coachmakers at Glasgow it is good; coopers report employment as bad. In Dundee cabinet makers, polishers and upholsterers return employment as dull; nillsawyers as fair. In Aberdeen employment with abinet makers, millsawyers, packing-case makers, coach builders and coopers is returned as fair.

Ireland.—In Dublin one branch of cabinet makers eport employment as fair, another as bad; upholsterers as ull; coachmakers as bad; coopers as good. In Belfast cabinet makers report employment as bad; polishers, upholsterers and packing case makers as dull; brushnakers as fair; coachmakers and coopers as dull. In Cork employment is dull with cabinet makers and packing-case makers, fair with mill sawyers; it is dull with coach makers, moderate with coopers.

#### (q) GLASS, POTTERY, AND BRICK AND TILE TRADES.

INFORMATION has been received from nine Employers' Associations, ten Trade Unions with 5,720 members, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment generally is bad in the Glass and Pottery trades, dull in the Brick and Tile trades.

Glass Trades.—Employment with glass bottle makers in the North of England is reported as bad, being much the same as in December and worse than a year ago. In the St. Helens and Newton-le-Willows district it is reported as bad. In Yorkshire it is bad generally, and worse than a month and a year ago, with much short time; in Wakefield it is moderate, and in Barnsley it has improved. In Bristol employment is good. In the Glasgow, Alloa and Portobello district it is fair and about the same as a month and a year ago. In the Dublin district it is good.

In Birmingham flint-glass makers report employment as moderate; flint-glass cutters as slack; plate-glass bevellers as fair. In West Bromwich employment in the glass trade is reported as good; at Wordsley, Brettell Lane and Stourbridge as bad. In the Liverpool district glassmakers and sheet glass flatteners report it as decorative glassworkers as fair. In the Newcastle district pressed glassmakers have only worked two and three shifts per week; flint-glass makers have averaged three shifts. Glassmakers and glass cutters at Edinburgh report employment as bad.

Pottery Trades.—Although better than during the first three weeks of the month, employment in the Staffordshire Potteries generally is bad, much short time being worked; it is about the same as a month and a year ago. In Longton and Fenton barely half time is being worked, and employment is worse than a month or a year ago; china workers especially report a serious decline. Printers and transferrers report employment as

In the South Yorkshire and River Aire districts employment is fair, although a little worse than in December; it is about the same as a year ago.

In Scotland it is fair, and about the same as a month and

Brick and Tile Trades .- Employment is reported as slack in Suffolk; as good in Nottingham, Carlton and Bulwell; as moderate in Derby. In the Leicester and Nottingham district it is reported as fair with firebrick, faced brick, and conduit-pipe makers, quiet with chimney and drain pipe makers, slack with sanitary ware makers. Employment is reported as very quiet in Birmingham, dull in Liverpool, good in Oldham, fair in the Middlesbrough district, slack in Normanton, good in Aberdeen, not so good as in December in North Wales.

#### (r) LEATHER TRADES.

INFORMATION from 5 Employers' Associations, 12 Trade Unions with 4,369 members, and from Local Correspondents, shows that employment generally was slack and much worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed members at the end of January was 6.2, as compared with 6.5 in December and 3.8 in January,

In those branches of these trades which deal with the preparation and dressing of the raw material, employment generally has been very quiet. There is, however, little change as compared with the previous month, but in some cases curriers are reported as working short time. The few exceptions to be noted are at Bolton, Oldham, Norwich, and Bristol, where employment has been fairly good. At Northampton tanners have been regularly employed, while with skinners at Birmingham and curriers at Bermondsey there has been a slight improvement. In nearly every case, however, employment is reported as worse than it was a year ago.

In making-up branches the reports are somewhat more varied in character.

Saddle and Harness Makers in London have not been

# EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY-LEATHER TRADES; AGRICULTURE; DOCK LABOUR.

well employed, and some short time is reported. In the Walsall and Birmingham district employment has been bad for best harness makers and for female stitchers, but in cape harness employment has been good, in other harness fair. Employment has been bad in Glasgow, Norwich, Edinburgh, Leeds, and Sheffield, but in Aberdeen it has been fair, in Bolton moderate, in Nottingham improving, and in Oldham good.

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Horse Collar Makers in London report employment as slack, and in the Walsall and Birmingham district as still bad, and worse than a year ago with some short time.

Fancy Leather Workers in London report employment as very quiet, but with less short time than is usual.

Pocket Book and Leather Case Makers in London report employment as being very bad and worse than a month ago and a year ago.

Portmanteau Makers report that employment is fair in London and slightly better than a month ago, with, however, some short time.

### (s) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

Reports received from 211 correspondents in various parts of England show that farm labourers were generally well employed during January. A few days' frost was taken advantage of in many districts for carting manure over the hardened ground. Work generally is said to be in a fairly forward state. Casual men have been in some demand for threshing, &c., but the supply has been quite sufficient in the great majority of districts reported on; several correspondents mention a difficulty in obtaining skilled men for stock.

Northern Counties.—Reports from Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland, and Westmorland state that employment was generally regular with farm labourers in January, and that the supply of casual labour was equal to the demand, but there was a scarcity of skilled men. In Lancashire agricultural labourers are said to have been fully employed. Ploughing was somewhat interfered with by frost, but the time was utilised in threshing and manure carting. In most parts of Yorkshire casual labourers were in excess of the demand. The weather was stormy for a few days, during which time, however, there was fair employment in carting manure and attending to stock. Some difficulty is reported in obtaining good men for ploughing and working with horses, and milking.

Midland Counties.—Employment for casual labourers in Cheshire and Derbyshire is reported to have been irregular in some parts, but fair in others. Out-door work was somewhat hindered for a few days by unfavourable weather. Casual labourers in Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire are said to be somewhat more plentiful than at this time last year, but really efficient farm labourers Work has been fairly regular during the are in demand. month. In Shropshire and Staffordshire there has been no special demand for additional labour. Some casual men were in irregular employment for a time owing to unfavourable weather. Threshing and manure-carting have afforded extra employment in Warwickshire, but there has been no scarcity of odd men for such work. The supply of competent men for permanent situations continues to be short of the demand. Reports from Worcestershire state that a good many casual labourers were thrown out of work by frost for a few days. There was a moderate demand for casual labour, but the supply was sufficient. Good stockmen and carters are in request. In Oxfordshire the weather was fairly favourable for out-door work, but there was no great demand for extra men. Agricultural employment in Northamptonshire has been fairly regular, but a few casual labourers are reported to have been in irregular employment. In Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, and Hertfordshire there has been but little demand for extra labour. Odd men for threshing have been plentiful, and they have not all been in constant employment.

Eastern Counties .- In Huntingdonshire and Cambridgewire men have been in request for threshing, but the supply has been quite sufficient and some casual labourers have not been in regular work. Employment for agricultural labourers has been plentiful in Lincolnshire, the weather having been fairly open, but there has been no scarcity of men, and they were always obtainable for threshing. In Norfolk and Suffolk there was not much demand for casual labourers, and in some cases work in the fields was interfered with by frost for a few days. Odd men for threshing were more readily obtained than they were a year ago. Employment at ploughing, threshing, stock-feeding, &c., has been plentiful in these counties. Agricultural labourers in Essex have been for the most part well employed in threshing, digging out and clearing ditches, &c. The supply of extra men has been sufficient. There is said to be a scarcity of men suitable for permanent situations on farms, particularly where Sunday work is necessary.

Southern and South Western Counties .- Farm labourers in Kent have been, generally speaking, in regular employment. Some irregularity of work is reported, however, among casual labourers, owing chiefly to unfavourable weather, and the supply, as a rule, was more than sufficient. In Surrey and Sussex agricultural labourers have been well employed in most districts, chiefly in clipping hedges, repairing fences, copse cutting and hurdle mending. Employment is reported to have been fairly regular in Hampshire. Some casual labourers, however, lost a few days through rain and frost. Reports of a similar character come from Berkshire. Regularity of employment is reported in Dorsetshire. The supply of extra labour has been equal to the demand, and casual men were rather more plentiful than they were a year ago. Out-door work is in a forward condition, owing to the open weather. According to reports from Wiltshire the employment of casual labourers in most parts was somewhat affected by wet weather, and the supply was, a rule, equal to the demand. Farm work said to be well forward. Farm labourers in Somersetshire have generally been fully employed, but ploughing was rather backward through rain and frosty weather. In Gloucestershire and Herefordshire employment is stated to have been fairly good. Extra men found employment in manure-spreading, hedging and ditching, tree-lopping, and faggoting, but some odd men were in irregular work owing to bad weather. A correspondent in the Barton Regis Union reports that work was difficult on the land through the sodden state of the ground. In Devon and Cornwall agricultural employment has been good, and the demand for labourers has exceeded the supply in several districts, especially as regards men for permanent situations.

# (t) DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

RETURNS as to the employment of this class of labour in the Port of London have been received from the dock companies, the owners of the principal wharves, the Shipping Federation and Trade Unions. As regards other principal ports, information has been supplied by Superintendents of Mercantile Marine and the Local Correspondents of the Department.

#### LONDON.

Employment at the docks and wharves during January showed a considerable decline as compared with December, and was much worse than a year ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves during the five weeks ended January 31st was 13,079, as compared with an average of 14,693 in the preceding four weeks, and 16,253 in the corresponding period a year ago. The average number employed in January during the five years, 1898-1902 was 16,254.

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

EMPLOYMENT IN JANUARY-DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR: FISHING.

	Labourers	employed in	Labourers	Total Dock		
Period.	By Dock Companies or through Contractors	By Ship- owners, &c.	Total.	employed at 115 Wharves making Returns.	and Wharf	
Week ended Jan. 3	5,351	2,151	7,502	5,613	13,115	
,, ,, ,, 10	5,175	1,778	6,953	5,673	12,626	
11 11 11 17	5,132	1,958	7,090	5,817	12,907	
" " " 24 " " " 3I	5,742 5,396	2,104 2,295	7,846	5,682 5,526	13,528	
Average for 5 weeks ended Jan. 31st, 1903	} 5,359	2,057	7,416	5,663	13,079	
Average for Dec., 1902	6,304	2,336	8,640	6,053	14,693	
Average for Jan., 1902	6,911	2,836	9,747	6,506	16,253	

(2) Daily Fluctuation.—The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed by all the docks and principal wharves is shown on the chart below. The numbers in January ranged from 12,029 on the 3rd to 14,288 on the 21st.

During January, 1902, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed varied from 15,632 on the 5th to 18,643 on the 24th.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 115 of the principal Wharves for each day during the months of December, 1902, and January, 1903. The corresponding curve for December, 1901, and January, 1902, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1902-3, and the thin curve to 1901-2.]

DECEMBER JANUARY 000 0 ,000 The following are the figures on which the Chart for anuary, 1903, is based:— 6. 000 Day of Number Day of Number Day of Number Month. employed. Month. employed. Month. employed. 13,560 12,570 12,029 12,057 12,760 12,705 12,520 12,812

Employment in mid-stream, and with lightermen, stevedores, lumpers, deal and corn porters, has been moderate; with coal porters and winchmen it has been fair. With fruit porters in Thames-street employment has also been fair, the average daily number employed being 302, compared with 320 both in December and a

000

Of the 3414 "free labourers" on the register of the Shipping Federation in the Port of London, during during some parts of the month, stormy weather having

January 1903, 55 per cent. on the average were employed by the shipowners to whom the office supplies labour compared with 59 per cent. in the previous month, and 77 per cent. in January, 1902.

#### OTHER PORTS.

North-East Coast.—On the Tyne employment of this class of labour during January was stated to be moderate at Newcastle and fair at North and South Shields. It was about the same as in the previous month and in the corresponding month of last year, except in Newcastle where it is reported as slightly worse. On the Wear employment is reported to be bad. On the Tees employment was moderate, and at Middlesbrough it was fair.

Hull, Grimsby, and Goole.—At Hull and Goole the dock labourers and lightermen report employment as bad; at Grimsby, employment for dock and other labourers is described as moderate, but better than a

Southampton and Plymouth. - Employment at Southampton for dock and riverside labour is reported as moderate, and worse than in the previous month and in the corresponding month of last year. At Plymouth, employment is reported as dull with timber and grain carriers, fair with coal lumpers and with general hands.

Bristol Channel Ports.-At Cardiff and Penarth, employment for dock and riverside labour is reported as bad. At Barry, employment is reported as better than a year ago. At Newport it is stated to be moderate. At Swansea, employment for dock and quayside labour is reported to be rather better than a year ago. At Bristol, employment was irregular, and at Avonmouth fair to

Liverpool.—Employment for dock and riverside labour is reported to have been normal, and for Mersey flat-

The Clyde.—Employment is reported as fair in January. East of Scotland Ports.—Employment at the ports on the East Coast of Scotland was very dull during January, and worse than in the previous month and the corresponding month of last year.

Irish Ports.—At Belfast employment for dock and riverside labour is reported as fair during January, and better than a year ago. At Dublin and Cork it is stated to have been dull.

#### (u) FISHING INDUSTRY.

REPORTS have been received from Collectors of Fishery Statistics at the principal ports and from Local Corres-

Employment in the fishing industry was, on the whole, fair in January.

The following table shows the quantity and value of

the fish landed

COUNTRY.	(Exclusiv	e of Shell sh).	Landing Value (Inclusive of Shell Fish).		
TE -4 TOR DOWN THAT	Jan. 1903.	Jan. 1902	Jan. 1903	Jan. 1902.	
England and Wales Scotland Ireland	Cwts. 539,516 314,694 13,164	Cwts 479,002 331,878 21,436	£ 480,757 153,488 10,571	£ 539,320 202,561 15,712	
United Kingdom	867,374	832,316	644,816	757,593	

At Hull, Grimsby and Lowestoft employment is stated to have been good, and fair at Yarmouth. At these ports it was better than last year, but about the same as a month ago. For men employed on shore in connection with the industry (dockers, lumpers, porters, &c.) employment was reported to be good at Grimsby, Yarmouth, and Lowestoft, and fair at Hull. With fish curers employment was fair at Hull, and good at Grimsby. At both centres employment was better than in the corresponding period of 1902.

At Plymouth only a small quantity of fish was landed

interfered with the fishing, and in consequence employment was reduced greatly for workpeople employed in the landing, packing, and carriage of fish. A report relating to the North East Coast also states that trawl fishing was interrupted by the state of the weather and the supply of fish landed was below the average.

(v) SEAMEN SHIPPED IN JANUARY.

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

THE number of seamen shipped during January as the crews of foreign-going vessels from certain selected ports (at which about 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared) was 34,382\*, or 470 more than in the corresponding month of last year. The supply of seamen at the ports included in the Table is generally stated to be equal to or in excess of the

Of the total number of seamen shipped during the month, 5,924 (or 17.2 per cent.) were foreigners, the percentage for January, 1902, being 16.7. Lascars who are engaged in Asia are not included in these figures. Table showing the number\* of men, &c., shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom in January, 1903 and 1902, respectively:—

				Number of in J	, shipped	Total in	
Principal Po	orts.			In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in Jan., 1903.	Jan., 1902.*
ENGLAND AND	WAI	ES.					
East Coast.				SAGINA	- 6	2,702	2.631
Tyne Ports				67	2,635	339	508
Sunderland					339	201	141
Middlesbrough	***		•••		1,413	1.413	1,215
Hull				ON WASHINGTON	96	96	39
Grimsby	•••				90	00	
Bristol Channel.					1000	005	700
Bristol†				-	825	825	502
Newport, Mon.				-	666	866	964
Cardiff !				68	4,991	5,059	4,816
Swansea				23	550	573	430
Other Ports.							
				89	10,412	10,501	10,725
				165	6,712	6,877	6,105
					1,986	1,986	2,744
Southampton	***	***	•••				
SCOTLAN							
Leith, Kirkcaldy, Met	hil, 8	Gra	nge-			461	563
mouth				-	461	2,221	2,096
Glasgow				44	2,177	4,441	2,030
IRELAN	D.					1000	THE PARTY.
Dublin				-	125	125	94
Belfast				-	337	337	333
Total, Jan., 1903				456	33,926	34,382	
Ditto, Jan., 1902				619	33,293		33,912

# SHIPS BUILT AND UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

Tonnage Under Construction at end of December, 1902.

According to the quarterly returns compiled by Lloyd's Register, there were 387 vessels (excluding warships) under construction in the United Kingdom at the end of 1902, with a gross tonnage of 1,024,067 tons, an increase of 23,353 tons as compared with the end of September, but a decrease of 335,138 tons as compared with the end of 1901. At the Royal Dockyards, 12 warships, of 113,690 tons displacement, were under construction at the end of December, 1902, and 45 at private yards, with a displacement of 187,000 tons, a total of 57 warships and 300,690 tons, being a decrease of 2,512 tons as compared with the previous quarter, and of 32,635 tons as compared with a year ago.

The following Table summarises the above figures:—

Description of Vessels.	Tonnage	under con	Increase. (+) or Decrease (-) at end of Dec., 1902, as compared with		
Description of Vessets.	Dec. 31st, 1902.	Sep. 30th,	Dec. 31st.	Three months ago.	A year ago.
Merchant Vessels— Tons gross war Vessels— Tons displacement	1,024,067	1,000,714	1,359,205	+ 23,353 - 2,512	- 335,138 - 32,635

It will be understood that the liminets given are the immees of exparagements, not of separate individuals.

Including Avonmouth and Portishead.

† Including Barry and Penarth.

By "tonnage under construction" is meant the gross tonnage of the vessen completed. As at any given time the ships are at various stages mpletion, the "tonnage under construction" is not an exact measure of the remaining o be done

Of the 387 merchant vessels under construction at the end of 1901, 351 were steam vessels with a gross tonnage of 1,001,739 tons, and 36 were sailing vessels of 22,328 tons gross. As compared with the previous quarter, the number of steam vessels under construction has fallen off by seven, and the tonnage has increased by 24,014, while as compared with a year ago the number of steam vessels under construction has fallen off by 75 and the tonnage by 325,963. The number of sailing vessels was six more, and the gross tonnage 661 less than at the end of the September quarter, and

seven vessels and 9,175 tons less than at the end of 1901.

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

			the second second				
District.	At aist Dec	At 30th Sept.,	At 31st Dec.,	Increase (crease (-) Dec., 1902 pared	, as com-		
District	1902.	1902.	1901.	Three months ago.	A year ago.		
Clyde	354,831 225,940 168,109 118,051 48,351 40,174 27,090	356,462 172,219 173,829 125,005 62,028 46,658 25,580	451,830 215,881 257,919 177,437 84,845 92,340 22,665	- 1,631 + 53,721 - 5,720 - 6,954 - 13,677 - 6,484 + 1,510	- 96,999 + 10,059 - 89,810 - 59,386 - 36,494 - 52,166 + 4,425		

It will be noticed that as compared with the September quarter there has been a considerable increase in the mercantile tonnage under construction at Belfast and some increase at Barrow, while all the other districts show decreases. As compared with a year ago, there is a marked decline in all districts except Belfast and Barrow, which show increases.

#### Ships Built in 1902.

The annual return shows that as regards both merchant ships and warships the output for 1902 in the United Kingdom was below that for the preceding year. Compared with 1901, in which year the output as regards both classes of vessels was the greatest on record, the figures show a reduction of 97,181 tons as regards merchant vessels, and 117,829 tons as regards war vessels. During the year 694 vessels of 1,427,558 tons gross (including 72 sailing vessels of 49,352 tons) were launched in the United Kingdom, in addition to 23 warships of 94,140 tons displacement. The output of mercantile tonnage stands third in order of magnitude, having been exceeded only in 1900 and 1901. Of the warships, 5 with 51,400 tons displacement were launched at Government yards, and 18 with 42,740 tons displacement at private yards.

Of the total output in 1902, over 81 per cent. was for ports in the United Kingdom, and nearly 19 per cent. for foreign and colonial shipowners. Of the tonnage launched 99.8 per cent. was built of steel.

### FILE-CUTTING REGULATIONS.

THE Secretary of State for the Home Department, in pursuance of Section 81 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, has appointed Mr. Chester Jones, barrister-at-law, of 1, Paper Buildings, Temple, to hold a public inquiry with regard to the draft regulations for the process of file-cutting published in pursuance of Section 80 of that Act. The inquiry, which is a public one, will be opened at the Town Hall of Sheffield, on Tresday, 10th March, at 11 a.m., and any person who has objected to the draft regulations, and any other person who, in the opinion of the person holding the inquiry, is affected by the draft regulations, may appear either in person or by counsel, solicitor, or agent.

# Liability of Trade Unions.

According to newspaper reports, the Australian Workers' Union has, by a judgment of the Supreme Court of New South Wales, delivered on December 19th, 1902, been held liable for having, during a dispute between the owner of a sheep run and his employees, established a camp near the station of this employer for the purpose of preventing him from obtaining shearers except

# PRICE OF BREAD, WHEAT AND FLOUR.

THE returns relate to London and 25 large Provincial Towns at the beginning of February and of each of the eleven preceding months. Though it is not possible to state that the quality of the bread referred to is in all cases the same, the figures for each place are believed to be, generally speaking, comparable over the whole period, and to represent the prices most usually paid by workpeople for ordinary household bread of average

As compared with a month ago the price has remained unchanged in all the towns given in the Table, except in the towns in the Potteries where bread has been increased 1d. per 4 lbs.

		1903.						
Place.	ist March.	rst April.	5th May.	ıst July.*	ıst Sept.*	ıst Oct.	ıst Jan.*	2nd Feb.
London	d. 3½ & 4	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d
Birmingham		4½ & 5½	4 & 41		42 & 5	42 & 5	42 & 5	42 & 5
Bolton	5	5			42 & 52		41 & 51	
Bristol	41/2		5	5	5	5	5	5
Potteries	42	41/2	5	5	5	5	5	5
District	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	42
Cardiff	41/2	41	5	5	5	5	5	5
Derby	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Hudders-	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
field						,	,	3
Hull	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5	4 & 5
Ipswich	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Leicester	42	41/2	41/2	41/2	41	41	41	41/2
Liverpool	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Manchester	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Middlesbro'	5	5	5	5	51/2	51	51	51
Newcastle-	5	5	51/2	51	51/2	51	51	51/2
on-Tyne						-		32
Norwich	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Nottingham	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Oldham	41	41/2	41	41/2	41	4	4	4
Plymouth	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Wolver'pton	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Aberdeen	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Dundee	5	5	51/2	51	51	51	51	51/2
Edinburgh	51/2	51/2	51	51	51	51/2	51/2	51
Glasgow	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Belfast	41/2	41/2	5	5	5	5	5	5
Dublin	51/2	51/2	51	51/2	51/2	51	51	51/2

# Wheat and Flour.

The imports of wheat from foreign countries and the colonies from 1st September, 1902, to 31st January, 1903, amounted to 34,623,727 cwts., compared with 28,558,320 cwts. in the corresponding five months of 1901-2. The imports of wheat-meal and flour amounted to 8,737,949 cwts., compared with 9,033,937 cwts. from 1st September. 1901, to 31st January, 1902. The Table below gives the mean London Gazette price of British wheat, and the average declared value of the wheat and flour imports, for each of the months January, 1902, to January,

				British Wheat.	Im	ports.
	Mo	neh		Mean London	Wheat.	Wheat-meal and Flour.
	WIO	uur.		Gazette- Price.	Average Declared Value.	Average Declared Value.
January, 1902 Pebruary March Aprilł May June July August August Cotober November December January, 1903				Per cwt. s. d.1. 6 5.534444 6 6 6 6 6 6 7 7 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Per s. 66 9.54 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Per cwt. s. d. 29 9 12 9 30 9 2 9 41 9 2 12 9 41 9 31 9 12 9 12 9 12 9 12 9 12 9 12

The price per cwt. of British wheat in January (5s. 10d.) was lower by 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d. than a year ago and lower than in any of the preceding 12 months except November

\* No change was recorded in any of the towns at 2nd June, 5th August, 3rd vember, or at 1st December.

† Import Duty commenced in this month.

and December, 1902, when the price was 5s. 10d. and 5s. 9\frac{3}{4}d. respectively. The highest price during the year was in August when it was 7s. 4\frac{1}{4}d. per cwt. The average declared value of imported wheat in January shows a rise of 1d. per cwt. as compared with December (6s. 8d. to 6s. 8½d.), that of imported wheat-meal and flour a rise of 13d. (9s. 13d. to 9s. 3dd.).

#### FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN JANUARY.

(Based on information supplied by the Home Office and the Board of Trade.) THE total number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during January, 1903, was 383, a figure which compares with 377 in the corresponding month of 1902, 430 in 1901, 393 in 1900, and 416 in 1899. The average number of fatal accidents in the month of January in these five years was thus 400, so that the total for the past month is somewhat below the average.

In the classes of industries in which the number of persons employed is approximately known, viz.: Railway Service, Mines, Quarries, Shipping and Factories, the number of workpeople killed was 350 compared with 345 in January, 1902. The approximate number employed in these industries at the dates of the latest returns was about 5,700,000.

In the following Table the accidents are classified by the trades in which they occurred, and a comparison is made between January, 1903, and a month and a year ago.

Trade.	Numb	er of Work killed durin	speople og	Januar:	se (+) o se (-) i y, 1903, a red with
(MOM MORE)	January, 1903.	December 1902.	January,	A month	A year ago.
Railway Service— Brakesmen and Goods Guard Engine Drivers	. I	7	6	- 5	- 4 - 2
Firemen	3	2  10	3 t 8	+ 1 + 5	- I + 7
Shunters Miscellaneous Contractors' Servants	6	3 1 16 	6 16 3	+ 3 + 5 - 5 + 2	+ 4  - 5 - 1
Total Railway Service	46	40	48	+ 6	- 2
Mines— Underground Surface	88	72 12	76 8	+ 16	+ 12 + 3
Total Mines	99	84	84	+ 15	+ 15
Quarries over 20 feet deep	5	8	10	- 3	- 5
Factories— Testiles— Cotton Wool and Worsted	2 5 1	3 3	2 I	- I + 2	+ 4
Non Textiles— Extraction of Metals Founding and Conversion	4 15	9 7	3 8	- 5 + 8	- I3 + I + 7
Marine and Locomotive Engineering	I		1.	+ 1	+ 1
Wood	10  1 24	15 1 11 36	9 3 3 35	- 5 - 1 - 10 - 12	+ I - 3 - 2 - II
Total Factories	. 63	88	78	- 23	- 15
Workshops-			1		1
Seamen— On Trading Vessels— Sailing Steam On Fishing Vessels—	32 91	35 75	45 65	- ÷ + 16	- 13 + 26
Sailing Steam	13	9	2 13	+ 4	- ı
Total Seamen	137	120	125	+ 17	+ 12
Accidents reported under Factory Act, Ss. 103-5— Docks, Wharves, and Quays	18	14	9		Ham. I
Warehouses Buildings to which Act applies Laundries	9	3 7	4	+ 4 - 1 + 2	+ 9 - 2 + 1
Total under Factory Act, Ss. 103-5	29	24	21	- Car	+ 8
Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	4	4	10		- 6
Grand Total	383	366	377	+ 17	+ 6

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

Summary.—The net effect of all the changes in rates of wages reported during January was a decrease averaging 1½d. weekly per head in the wages of the 23,371 workpeople affected. Of the total number, 16,285 received advances averaging 3½d. per head per week, and 7,086 sustained decreases averaging 1s. 0½d. per head per week. The changes of the previous month affected 20,448 workpeople, the net result being an average increase of 4½d. weekly per head. During January, 1902, the net result of all the changes in wages was a decrease averaging 53d. per head in the weekly wages of 156,678 workpeople.

The principal advances reported affected 5,890 coal miners in the Bristol and Radstock districts, 6,800 ironstone miners in Cleveland and 1,500 limestone quarrymen in Weardale. The principal decreases affected 5,000 metal and tube workers in Birmingham, and 800 shipbuilders in the Humber district.

Methods of Arrangement.—Two changes, affecting 9,090 workpeople, were arranged by Conciliation Boards. One change affecting 120 workpeople was arranged by arbitration, and two changes, affecting 619 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. Two changes, affecting 360 workpeople, were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work, and the remainder, affecting 13,182 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, without stoppage of work.

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

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which Change takes effect.	Approxit Numbe Workpe affected In- crease.	r of ople l by	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in Italics.)
		1 19-3.	crease.	rease.	
Total governor	2 Increases—5,890 Workpeople	co.	AL MI	NING.	
I District	Hewers and other underground workers		1,800		Advance of 2½ per cent., making wages 42½ per cent. above standard.
ristol District	Hewers and other underground workers	] r Jan,	4,000		Advance of 2½ per cent., making wages 37½ per cent. above standard.
adstock District	Banksmen and Screenmen Enginemen and Stokers	ı Jan.	90		Advance of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., making wages $22\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, above standard.
	2 Increases—8,300 Workpeople.	IRON	MINING	G ANI	QUARRYING. Decreases—Nil.
Cleveland		18 Jan.	6,800		Advance of ½ per cent., making wages 27 per cent. above the standard of 1879.
Weardale	Limestone Quarrymen	18 Jan.	1,500		Advance of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., making wages 27 per cent. above the standard of 1879
					The same of the sa
	2 Increases -619 Workpeople.	IRON ANI	D STE	EL T	RADES. Decreases—Nil.
Middlesbrough	.   Steel Workers	ı Jan.	550		Advance of 2 per cent. under sliding scale, making wages 14 per cen above the standard.
North Wales	. Blastfurnacemen	2 Jan.	69		Advance of 2 per cent., making wages 22 per cent. above the standard.
					OTHER METAL TRADES. 6 Decreases-6,286 Workpeople
1 Increase-21	Workpeople. ENGINEERING,	SHIPBUIL	LDING	AND	Office metal transfer
Hartlepool, West.	Iron and Steel Shipbuilders	14 Jan.		800	Decrease of 5 per cent. off piece rates.  Decrease of 5 per cent. off piece rates.
Humber District .	Angle-iron Smiths, Platers, Rivette Caulkers and Holders-up in Shipyards	ers, I Jan.		800	THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE
Sheffield	f Forgers	Jan.	21	6	Advance of 7½ per cent.  Decrease of 2½ per cent.
	Tilters	Jan. &c. 5 Jan.		298	Decrease of a her cent, off biece rates.
Wednesbury . Birmingham .	Metal and Tube Workers	Dec. '02		5,000	
Landore	Tube Makers	5 Jan.		120	Decrease of 2½ per cent. in bonus from last pay day in 1902.  Average decrease of 9.6 per cent. off piece rates.
					Average decrease of 9.6 per cent. off piece rates.
	4 Increases—115 Workpeople. P	RINTING	AND	ALLIE	A verage decrease of 9.6 per cent. off piece rates.  Decreases—Nil.  Advance of is, per week (31s, to 32s.).
Hull	4 Increases—115 Workpeople. P	RINTING   Jan.			A verage decrease of 9.6 per cent. off piece rates.  Decreases—Nil.  Advance of is. per week (3is. to 32s.).  Advance of 2s. per week (26s. to 28s.).
Hull Leamington	4 Increases—115 Workpeople. P  Bookbinders and Machine Rulers Compositors; Compositors;	RINTING Jan 3 Jan 3 Jan.	AND 49 38 18	ALLIE	A verage decrease of 9.6 per cent. off piece rates.  Decreases—Nil.  Advance of 1s. per week (31s. to 32s.).  Advance of 2s. per week (26s. to 28s.).
Hull Leamington Warwick	4 Increases—115 Workpeople. P Bookbinders and Machine Rulers Compositors:	RINTING Jan 3 Jan.	AND 49 38	ALLIE	A verage decrease of 9.6 per cent. off piece rates.  Decreases—Nil.  Advance of 1s. per week (31s. to 32s.).  Advance of 2s. per week (26s. to 28s.).
Hull Leamington Warwick	4 Increases—115 Workpeople. P  Bookbinders and Machine Rulers Compositors; Compositors; Compositors and Machinemen	RINTING Jan 3 Jan 3 Jan 1 Jan.	AND 49 38 18 10	ALLIE	Average decrease of 9.6 per cent. off piece rates.  Decreases—Nil.  Advance of 1s. per week (31s. to 32s.).  Advance of 2s. per week (26s. to 28s.).  Advance of 1s. per week (27s. to 28s.).  Advance of 2s. per week in 'stab rate (26s. to 28s.), and of ½d. per 1,6 ens on piece rates.
Hull Leamington Warwick	4 Increases—115 Workpeople. P  Bookbinders and Machine Rulers Compositors; Compositors; Compositors and Machinemen  Increases—Nil.	RINTING Jan 3 Jan 3 Jan 1 Jan.	49 38 18 10	ALLIE	Average decrease of 9.6 per cent. off piece rates.  Decreases—Nil.  Advance of is. per week (3is. to 32s.).  Advance of 2s. per week (26s. to 28s.).  Advance of is. per week (27s. to 28s.).  Advance of 2s. per week in 'stab rate (26s. to 28s.), and of \( \frac{1}{2} \)d. per i.  ens on piece rates.  TRADES.  3 Decreases—800 Workpeople.
Hull Leamington Warwick Banbury	4 Increases—115 Workpeople. P  Bookbinders and Machine Rulers Compositors; Compositors Compositors and Machinemen  Increases—Nil.	RINTING Jan 3 Jan 3 Jan 1 Jan. MISCE 26 Jan.	AND  49 38 18 10	ALLIE	A verage decrease of 9.6 per cent. off piece rates.  Decreases—Nil.  Advance of 1s. per week (31s. to 32s.).  Advance of 2s. per week (25s. to 28s.).  Advance of 1s. per week (27s. to 28s.).  Advance of 2s. per week in 'stab rate (26s. to 28s.), and of ½d. per 1,0 ens on piece rates.  TRADES.  3 Decreases—800 Workpeople.  Decrease of about 5 per cent. off piece rates.  Decrease of about 5 per cent. off piece rates.
Hull Leamington Banbury	4 Increases—115 Workpeople. P  Bookbinders and Machine Rulers Compositors; Compositors; Compositors and Machinemen  Increases—Nil.	RINTING Jan 3 Jan 3 Jan 1 Jan.	AND  49 38 18 10	ALLIE	Average decrease of 9.6 per cent. off piece rates.  Decreases—Nil.  Advance of 1s. per week (31s. to 32s.).  Advance of 2s. per week (26s. to 28s.).  Advance of 1s. per week (27s. to 28s.).  Advance of 2s. per week in 'stab rate (26s. to 28s.), and of \( \frac{1}{2} \)d. per 1,0 ens on piece rates.  TRADES.  3 Decreases—800 Workpeople.
Hull Leamington Warwick Banbury Birmingham Walsall Swansea	### A Increases—115 Workpeople.  Bookbinders and Machine Rulers  Compositors;  Compositors and Machinemen  Increases—Nil.  Horse Collar Makers  Patent Fuel Makers and Shippers	RINTING Jan. 3 Jan. 3 Jan. 1 Jan. MISCE 26 Jan. 26 Jan.	AND  49 38 18 10  ELLANI	ALLIE	A verage decrease of 9.6 per cent. off piece rates.  Decreases—Nil.  Advance of 1s. per week (31s. to 32s.).  Advance of 2s. per week (26s. to 28s.).  Advance of 1s. per week (27s. to 28s.).  Advance of 2s. per week in 'stab rate (26s. to 28s.), and of ½d. per 1,0 ens on piece rates.  TRADES.  3 Decreases—800 Workpeople.  Decrease of about 5 per cent. off piece rates.  Decrease of about 5 per cent. off piece rates.
Hull Leamington Warwick Banbury  Birmingham Walsall Swansea	### A Increases—115 Workpeople.    Bookbinders and Machine Rulers   Compositors;   Compositors and Machinemen   Compositors and Machinemen   Compositors and Machinemen   Increases—Nil.   Horse Collar Makers   Patent Fuel Makers and Shippers   Increases—1,340 Workpeople. EMP	MISCE 26 Jan 26 Jan 25 Jan 15 Jan.	AND  49 38 18 10  ELLANI	ALLIE	Average decrease of 9.6 per cent. off piece rates.  Decreases—Nil.  Advance of is. per week (3is. to 32s.). Advance of 2s. per week (26s. to 28s.). Advance of is. per week (27s. to 28s.). Advance of 2s. per week in 'stab rate (26s. to 28s.), and of ½d. per i, ens on piece rates.  TRADES.  3 Decreases—800 Workpeople.  Decrease of about 5 per cent. off piece rates. Decrease of about 5 per cent. off piece rates. Decrease of 5 per cent. in bonus (10 to 5 per cent.).  AUTHORITIES.  Decreases—Nil.
Hull Leamington Warwick Banbury Birmingham Walsall Swansea	### A Increases—115 Workpeople.    Bookbinders and Machine Rulers	MISCE 26 Jan 26 Jan 25 Jan 15 Jan.	AND   49   38   18   10     10         OF LO	ALLIE	Average decrease of 9.6 per cent. off piece rates.  Decreases—Nil.  Advance of is. per week (3is. to 32s.). Advance of 2s. per week (26s. to 28s.). Advance of is. per week (27s. to 28s.). Advance of 2s. per week in 'stab rate (26s. to 28s.), and of ½d. per i, ens on piece rates.  TRADES.  3 Decreases—800 Workpeople.  Decrease of about 5 per cent. off piece rates. Decrease of about 5 per cent. off piece rates. Decrease of 5 per cent. in bonus (10 to 5 per cent.).  AUTHORITIES.  Decreases—Nil.  Advance of is. per week. Advance of 2s. per week. Advance of 2s. per week.
Hull Leamington Warwick Banbury  Birmingham Walsall Swansea	### A Increases—115 Workpeople.  Bookbinders and Machine Rulers  Compositors;  Compositors;  Compositors and Machinemen  Increases—Nil.  Horse Collar Makers  Horse Collar Makers  Patent Fuel Makers and Shippers  Increases—1,340 Workpeople.  EMP  Electric Lighting Department:— Enginemen, Firemen, and Cleaners	MISCE   26 Jan.   26 Jan.   15 Jan.   LOYEES	AND   49   38   18   10     10         OF LO	ALLIE	A verage decrease of 9.6 per cent. off piece rates.  Decreases—Nil.  Advance of is. per week (3is. to 32s.). Advance of is. per week (26s. to 28s.). Advance of is. per week (27s. to 28s.). Advance of 2s. per week in 'stab rate (26s. to 28s.), and of ½d. per i, ens on piece rates.  TRADES.  3 Decreases—800 Workpeople.  Decrease of about 5 per cent. off piece rates. Decrease of about 5 per cent. off piece rates. Decrease of 5 per cent. in bonus (10 to 5 per cent.).  AUTHORITIES.  Decreases—Nil.  Advance of is. per week. Advance of 2s. per week. Advance of 2s. per week.
Hull Leamington Warwick Banbury  Birmingham Walsall Swansea	### A Increases—115 Workpeople.    Bookbinders and Machine Rulers	MISCE 26 Jan 26 Jan 27 Jan 27 Jan 28 Jan 27 Jan 28 Jan 27 Jan.	AND    49   38   18   10    ELLANI       OF LO     3   (   550	ALLIE	A verage decrease of 9.6 per cent. off piece rates.  Decreases—Nil.  Advance of is. per week (3is. to 32s.). Advance of 2s. per week (26s. to 28s.). Advance of is. per week (27s. to 28s.). Advance of 2s. per week in 'stab rate (26s. to 28s.), and of ½d. per is, ens on piece rates.  TRADES.  3 Decreases—800 Workpeople.  Decrease of about 5 per cent. off piece rates. Decrease of about 5 per cent. off piece rates. Decrease of 5 per cent. in bonus (10 to 5 per cent.).  AUTHORITIES.  Decreases—Nil.  Advance of is. per week. Advance of 2s. per week.  Revised scale of pay adopted, resulting in advances of ½d. and ¾d. have Bates of the relating in in advances of ½d. and ¾d. have Bates of the relating in
Hull Leamington Warwick Banbury  Birmingham Walsall Swansea	## A Increases—115 Workpeople.    Bookbinders and Machine Rulers	MISCE 26 Jan 26 Jan 27 Jan 27 Jan 27 Jan 28 Jan 27 Jan 28 Jan 27 Jan.	AND    49   38   18   10    ELLANI       OF LO     3   (   550	ALLIE         EOUS   40   120   640   CCAL	A verage decrease of 9.6 per cent. off piece rates.  Decreases—Nil.  Advance of is. per week (3is. to 32s.). Advance of is. per week (26s. to 28s.). Advance of is. per week (27s. to 28s.). Advance of 2s. per week in 'stab rate (26s. to 28s.), and of ½d. per i, ens on piece rates.  TRADES.  3 Decreases—800 Workpeople.  Decrease of about 5 per cent. off piece rates. Decrease of about 5 per cent. off piece rates. Decrease of 5 per cent. in bonus (10 to 5 per cent.).  AUTHORITIES.  Decreases—Nil.  Advance of is. per week. Advance of 2s. per week. Advance of 2s. per week.

\* Durham Coal Mining.—Early in February it was arranged that Durham Miners' wages should be advanced 1½ per cent. on standard, making their wages 35 per cent. above the standard of 1879. Full particulars will appear in the March GAZETTE.

† At certain collieries the percentage above standard after change was 37½.

\$\frac{1}{2}\$ See also under Changes in Hours of Labour.

## PAUPERISM IN JANUARY.

(Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland and Ireland.) THE number of paupers relieved in 35 selected Urban Districts of the United Kingdom on one day in January was 363,209, corresponding to a rate of 214 per 10,000 of the population of these districts in 1902.

Compared with December, 1902, there was an increase of 2,147 in the number relieved, and of 1 in the rate per 10,000 of the population. Of the 35 districts, 22 show increased rates, the increase being most marked in the Stockton and Tees district (34 per 10,000). Cardiff and Swansea district shows an increase of 11, the Irish districts 6, and the Scottish districts 4 per 10,000. In London and West Ham the rate per 10,000 has slightly declined.

Compared with January, 1902, the number of persons relieved has increased by 15,016, and the rate per 10,000 by 4. Twenty-five of the 35 districts showed increased rates, the greatest increases being in the Stockton and Tees district (47 per 10,000), Central London (29), Galway (24), West Ham (23), North Staffordshire (13), East London, Sheffield and Cork, Waterford and Limerick district (12 each). Decreases are shown in 8 districts. In the case of the Wigan and Barnsley districts the decrease amounts to 7 per 10,000 of the population.

	Paup	ers on or eek of Ja	Decrea	se (+) or use (-) in er 10,000		
Selected Urban Districts.	In- door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.	Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	of Popu com w	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.+	1				actions.	
Metropolis.						
West District	11,610			181	+ 2	+ 5
North District Central District	15,300	District Control	24,372	229 528	- 3	+ 8
T . Di . i .	7,614	3,085	10,699	269	- I - 3	+ 29 + 12
South District	23,249	20,600	43,849	244	- 3	+ 9
Total Metropolis	71,554	41,490	113,044	246	- 2	+ 10
West Ham	2,871	10,484	13,355	214	- 4	+ 23
Other Districts.		7454	-31333		The latest and the la	1 45
N	1,977	4 225	6,312	152	+ 5	
Stockton & Tees District	1,298	4,335	6,225	295	+ 5 + 34	+ 11 + 47
Bolton, Oldham, &c	3,944	8,252	12,196	163	+ 2	+ 47
Wigan District	1,987	6,195	8,182	209	- I	- 7
Manchester District	9,572	8,492	18,064	196	+ 2	- 2
Liverpool District	11,293	8,116	19,409	194		+ 10
Bradford District	1,575	2,887	4,462	123	+ 1	+ 1
Halifax & Huddersfield	1.260	3,650	4,910	135	- I	
Leeds District	2,167	5.974	8,141	176	- I	+ 2
Barnsley District	690	2,849	3,539	152	+ 1	- 7
Sheffield District	3,000	3,483	6,483	154	+ 3	+ 12
Hull District	1,516	5,271	6,787	257	- 2	
North Staffordshire	2,076	6,871	8,947	245	+ 5	+ 13
Nottingham District	1,908	4,798	6,706	169		- 6
Leicester District	1,330	3,168	4,498	205		+ 2
Wolverhampton District	3,545	13,053	16,598	263	+ 1	+ 3
Birmingham District Bristol District	4,900	3,276	8,176	144		+ 6
Cordiff & C	2.757	6,770	9,527	252	+ 2	- 3
	1,910	7,842	9,752	270	+ 11	+ 9
Total "Other Districts"	58,705	110,209	168,914	194	+ 2	+ 5
SCOTLAND.† Glasgow District				1000		
Paisley & Greenock District	4,688	16,706	21,394	227	+ 3	+ 6
Edinburgh & Leith District	743	2,475	3,218	187	+ 6	+ 4
Dundon & Danfarration	1,785	5,514	7,299	186	+ 5	+ 2
Abordoon	1,054	2,876	3,930	199	+ 2	- I
Coathridge & Aindria	580	2,789	3,369	211	+ 4	+ 5
	401	1,296	1,697	184	+ 6	- 5
Total for the above Scottish Districts	9,251	31,656	40,907	209	+ 4	+ 4
IRELAND.;						
Oublin District	7,319	5,098	12,417	322	+ 8	+ 8
Belfast District	3,466	226	3,692	96	+ 3	- 4
Ork, Waterford & Limerick	4,845	5,264		410		
Calman District	No. of Lot		10,109	3//623/63	+ 4	+ 12
	381	390	771	214	+ 5	+ 24
Otal for the above Irish Districts	16,011	10,978	26,989	257	+ 6	+ 4
otal for above 35 Dis- tricts in January, 1903	158,392	204,817	363,209	214	+ 1	+ 4

\* The rates for January, 1903, and December, 1902, are based upon the stimated population in 1903, and the rate for January, 1902, upon the estimated

population in 1902.
† Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small Pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; and of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses.
† Excluding Casuals, but including persons maintained in Institutions for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, &c., who are classified as not able-bodied.

# LABOUR BUREAUX IN JANUARY.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

During January six Bureaux furnishing returns registered 2,163 fresh applications for work, as compared with 1,542 registered in January, 1902. Work was found by these Bureaux for 848 workpeople, of whom 760 were engaged by private employers. The number engaged by private employers in January, 1902, was 532.

The number of workpeople remaining on the registers at end of January was 1,081, as against 762 a year ago.

(I.) Work done in January.

	App	Fresh olica- is by	tions of	Situa- offered ployers		No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureau.			
Name of Labour Bureau.		people		ring	Pri	ged by vate oyers.	Engaged by Local Authorities.		
S	Jan., 1903.	Jan.,	Jan., 1903.	Jan., 1902.	Jan., 1903.	Jan.,	Jan.,	Jan.,	
London. Battersea (Lavender Hill, S.W.)	208	209	45	48	45	46			
Salvation Army (Whitechapel Road, E.)	936	384	466	213	{ 387 79*	213		-	
Provincial.  Ipswich  (Tower Street)	44	50	34	58	18	28		٠	
Plymouth (East Street)	200	190	125	110	120	102			
Liverpool (Dale Street)	250	135	8	3	4	I	2	1	
Glasgow (158, George Street)	525	574	503	450	186	142	7	7	
Total of 6 Bureaux	2,163	1,542	1,181	882	{ 760 79*	532 171*	} 9	8	
(II.) Employme	ent fo	und	for W	The state of the s	CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE	1		ry.	
					No. per	- No. t	em-		

Property of the second	No. permanently engaged.	No. temporarily engaged.	Total.
Engaged by Private Employers.			
Building Trades	36 15 9	40 7 13 297	76 22 22 297
General Labourers	17 28 30	91 12	17 119 42
Total Males	135	460	595
Women and Girls:—  Domestic Servants  Charwomen, daily work, &c  Other Occupations	6 <sub>3</sub> 8 18	17 59	80 67 18
Total Females	89	76	165
Total engaged by Private Employers	224	536	760
Engaged by Local Authorities.  Men, Lads and Boys  Women and Girls	9		9
Total engaged by Local Authorities	9	10 mm	9
Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities.	_	79	79
Grand Total for 6 Bureaux	233	615	848

# (III.) Usual Occupations of Workpeople on Registers.

One-marking	No. on Registers at end of			
Occupation.	Jan., 1903.	Jan., 1902.		
Men:— Building, Engineering and Metal Trades Carmen, Stablemen, Horsemen, &c Clerks and Warehousemen Porters and Messengers General Labourers Other Occupations Total Men	169 78 72 97 293 162	129 63 54 78 177 57		
Lads and Boys	40	31		
Women and Girls:— Charwomen, Daily Work, &c Servants	92 61 17	79 68 26		
Total Women and Girls	170	173		
Grand Total for 6 Bareaux	1,081	762		

Note.—In addition to the Bureaux included in the above Tables, returns were received from the recently opened Bureaux of the St. Pancras Borough Council and the Borough of Southwark. The St. Pancras Bureau registered 683 applicants for employment, and found work for 28. The Southwark Bureau (opened on 19th January) registered 1,539 applicants, and found work for 21.

\* Engaged by Salvation Army.

# TRADE DISPUTES IN JANUARY.\*

began in January, 1903, compared with fifteen in December, 1902, and thirty-three in the corresponding month of causes. last year. By the seventeen disputes 1,916 workpeople were directly and 416 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 that month, give a total of 14,921 workpeople involved in trade disputes during January, 1903, compared with 15,830 in December, 1902, and 26,045 in January, 1902.

New Disputes in January, 1903.—In the following Table the new disputes in January are summarised by

		No. of		No. of Workpeople affects			
Group of Trac	des.	Dispute		Indirectly.	Total.		
Building		 . 2	259	13	272		
		. I	450		450 465		
Metal, Engineering and Textile			423 643	42 361	1,004		
Out Trades		. 3	141		141		
Total, January, 1903		 17	1,916	416	2,332		
Ditto, December, 190	12	 15	2,215	1,713	3,928		
Ditto, January, 1902		 33	6,898	16,660	23,558		

a demand for advance in wages, seven on objections to statistics.

Number and Magnitude.—Seventeen new disputes reductions, two on other wages questions, four on questions of working arrangements, and three from other

> Results.—Fourteen new disputes affecting 2,051 workpeople and twelve old disputes, affecting 2,892 workpeople, were reported as having terminated in Of these twenty-six new and old disputes, six, involving 285 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople, thirteen, involving 2,118 persons, were decided in favour of the employers, and six, involving 2,440 persons, were compromised. In the case of the remaining dispute, involving 100 persons, certain points are still under consideration.

Aggregate Duration.—The aggregate duration in January of disputes that started or were settled in that month was 52,000 days. In addition 216,000 working days were lost in January owing to disputes that began before that month and at the end of the month were still unsettled. Thus, the total number of working days lost in January owing to all disputes, new and old, was 268,000, which compares with 309,000 days in the previous month and 128,000 days in the corresponding month of last year.

Principal Disputes.—Particulars of the two 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 Causes.—Of the seventeen new disputes, one arose on in this Table, but they are included in the preceding

### Principal Trade Disputes.

Occupation.	Locality.	Work	ber of people cted.	Date when Dispute	Duration of Dispute in	Alleged Cause or Object.†	Result.†
		Di- rectly.	Indi- rectly.	began.	Work- ing Days.		Color of the second second
Plasterers and other Workpeople	Bradford	190	13	1 <b>9</b> 03 1 Jan.		Against proposed reduction in wages from 9½d. to 8½d. per hour, and other alterations of working rules	
Locksmiths	Willenhall, &c.	1,600		190 <b>2</b> 25 Oct.	66	For advance of 10 per cent. in wages	Work resumed on old conditions. Wages Board to be formed and to meet within 14 days of resumption of work.

\* 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 working 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.

# MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Cotton Statistics.—The following Table shows the number of bales of cotton imported, forwarded from ports to inland towns, and exported during the month of January, with comparative figures for 1902 and 1901 :-

a material to observations in a	January,	January,	January,
Imported Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns Exported	Bales. 510,533 367,316 51,462	Bales. 612,057 348,112 40,228	Bales. 455,063 295,707 26,018

Particulars of the various descriptions of cotton forwarded from ports to inland towns during January in the years 1903, 1902 and 1901 respectively, are given in the following Table

Description of Ports	to In	land .	Towns	·	m	January, 1903.	January, 1902.	January,
12 -			1000			Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American						304,457	285,006	249,539
Brazilian						10,767	8,623	6,665
East Indian		***				3,152	1,089	2,070
Egyptian						43,848	42,830	32,705
Miscellaneous						5,092	10,564	4,728
	Tota	al		1		367,316	348,112	295,707

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 20 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the five weeks ended February 7th amounted to £8,024,627, an increase of £87,030 (or 1 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period a

year ago. The receipts from passenger traffic were £3,194,055, an increase of £68,772, and those from goods and mineral traffic £4,830,572, an increase of £18,258.

Bankruptcies. — The bankruptcies gazetted during January numbered 349, being the same number as in January, 1902, 3 less than in January, 1901, and 9 less than in January, 1900.

## CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN JANUARY, 1903.

THE changes in hours of labour reported in January affected 1,356 workpeople, whose working hours in a full week were reduced on the average by about 534 hours per head.

		Date from which	Approxi- mate number	Hours of in a Full		Extent of De-
Locality.	Occupation.	Change takes effect in 1903.	of Work- people affected.	Before change.	After change.	per week.
4 40		2.05	14 14 3			Hours.
Manchester	Tram Drivers, Guards, Washers, and Cleaners†	ı Apl.	1,300	60	54	6
Leamington	Compositors†	3 Jan.	38	{ 54 55	53	2
Warwick	Compositors†	3 Jan.	18	54 -	53	I
Walwick	Compositors	J Jan.	1 10	34	33	1

\* Exclusive of overtime.

† See also under Changes in Rates of Wages.

# FOREIGN TRADE OF UNITED KINGDOM.

February, 1903.

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

#### Summary for January.

The Trade returns for January, 1903, show a decrease in the value as compared with the corresponding month of 1902 of the Imports into the United Kingdom, but an increase in the value of the Exports of British produce, and of the Exports of Foreign and Colonial merchandise.

The value of the Imports in January, 1903, was £46,226,515, a decrease of £3,915,833, or 7.8 per cent., as compared with those in January, 1902, whilst the total Exports amounted to £30,971,354, showing a total increase of £1,361,734. The Exports of British produce alone show an increase of £634,462, or 2.6 per cent, as compared with January, 1902, whilst there is an increase of £727,272, or 13.6 per cent. in the Exports of foreign and Colonial

Imports.\*—The following Table shows the value of the Imports for January, 1903, as compared with the corresponding months of 1902 and 1901, according to the different categories of mer-

	Mont	h ended 31	est Jan.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-)	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-)
	1901.	1902.	1903.	in 1903 as compared with 1902.	in 1903 as
IFood, Drink and Tobacco IIRaw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured. III. Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured. IV. Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	10,933,765	10,777,827	17,070,440	-3,416,195 - 780,510 + 237,809 + 43,066	+1,244,009 - 81,866
Total value of Imports	45,987,516	50,142,348	46,226,515	- 3,915,833	+ 238,999

Exports. †—The following Table shows the value of the exports of British produce for the month of January, 1903, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1902 and 1901, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:-

<u>-100</u>	Month e	ended 31st	t January.	or Dec. (-)	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1903 as
The Mark The State of the State	1901.	1902.	1903.	compared	compared with 1901.
I.—Food, Drink, and		£ 1,305,783	£ 1,261,820	- £ 43,963	£ 198,507
IIRaw Materials and Articles Mainly Un- manufactured				+ 328,721	- 91,316
III - Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured	20,271,345	19,967,536	20,311,900	+ 344,364	+ 40,555
IVMiscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	332,663	332,682	338,022	+ 5,340	+ 6,359
Total value of Exports of British produce	24,753,531	24,269,174	24,903,636	+ 634,462	+ 150,105

Tonnage of Ships entered and cleared with Cargoes .he tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom om foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the month ended January, 1903, amounted to 2,884,108 ons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,714,425 tons, as against 2,981,215 ons entered and 3,382,667 tons cleared in the month of January, 902. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered ith cargoes during January, 1903, amounted to 2,521,817 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,504,271 tons, as against 2,608,070 tons tered, and 2,579,268 tons cleared in January, 1902.

#### EXAMINATION FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

Cardiff and Swansea Districts.—An examination for Certificates Ompetency as Manager or Under Manager of a Mine will be eld for these Districts on May 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th, 1903, at ardiff. Intending candidates should communicate on or before April 25th with the Secretary of the Examination Board, Mr. A. P. les, Florence Villa, Aberdare.

\* 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.

† The value of the Exports represents the cost and the charges of delivering he goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

# DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CASES OF LEAD, MERCURIAL, PHOSPHORUS, AND ARSENIC POISONING AND OF ANTHRAX REPORTED TO THE HOME OFFICE UNDER THE FACTORY AND WORK-

SHOP ACT IN JANUARY, 1902 AND 1903.

[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.]

7 7 29 3 2 3 3 3 3 3						CA	SES.	DEA	THS.
Dis	ease and	Industr	y.			Jan.,	Jan.,	Jan.,	Jan.
Lead Poisoning—						1			
Smelting of Meta	ls					2	6		
Brass Works						3	I		-
Sheet Lead and L	ead Pipi	nø				I	2		
Plumbing and So	ldering					2	2		
Printing						2	I		
Tinning and Eng			***			3	-	-	_
File Cutting Tinning and Ena White Lead Worl	be leading	or iron	Hollo	w-ware		2	I	-	
Red and Yellow L	ead Wor	1	100000		***	12	9	I	-
China and Earther	nware		•••	***	•••	- 0+	1	-	-
Litho-transfer Wo	rks		•••			8*	IO	I	2
Glass Cutting and	Polishin	g	***		***	-	I	-	-
Enamelling of Iro	n Plates					-	I	-	I
Electrical Accumu	lator Wo	orks		***		I	-	=	-
Paint and Colour	Works					4	3	-	-
Coach Making						I	2	I	-
Shipbuilding						7	5	-	-
Paint used in othe	r Industr	ies			iii	6	6	1000	-
Other Industries						5			I
				NOTE:		2	5 -	District to	-
Total Lead	Poisonii	ng+				58	58	3	4
Barometer and Th Furriers' processes Other Industries	s		ing				=	=	==
Total Mercu	rial Poi	soning			\···	1	-	_	-
h								Marine I	
hosphorus Poison	ing—								
Lucifer Match Wo Other Industries	rks					- 1	I	_	_
Other maustries		•••				-	- 1	-	_
Total Phosp	horus P	oisonin	ıg			_	1		
								F1010 2	231452
rsenic Poisoning- Paints, Colours an	d Extrac	tion of	Arconi			B 187			
Other Industries		tion of			***	-	- 1	- 1	-
		***		***		-	- 1	- 1	-
Total Arseni	ic Poisor	ning				_	_	-	_
					-	-			-
thrax—								2 29	
Wool Sorting					150				
Wool Combing					•••	3	-		-
Handling of Horsel	hair			***		I	I	I	-
Handling and Sorti	ng of Hid	les and	Skins	(Tanne	ers	ī	1 2	7	
17-11	)	San Land		,	20,	-	2	I	1
renmongers, &c.			18 300			_	2	_	1
other Industries			***		3				

# EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during January was 19,477, as compared with 12,799 in January, 1902.

British and Irish.—Of the 19,477 passengers in January, 11,330 were of British or Irish origin, an increase of 3,549 as compared with a year ago, chiefly due to a larger number bound for South

The following Table gives the figures for January, 1902 and 1903:-

	(Cou	intry i	n which acted	ation. ch pass to lan	senger d).	s		Jan., 1903.	Jan., 1902.
							- 2 - 1		
Inited States				1				3,300	3.104
British North	Amer	ica					 	3,390 1,070	3,104
ritish North ustralasia	Amer	ica		The state of			1		524
United States British North Lustralasia Bouth Africa Other Places	Amer	ica					 	1,070	

Foreign.—The remainder of the 19,477 passengers in January, viz., 8,147, were foreigners or other persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being 3,129 more than in January, 1902.

Alien Immigration.—During January 9,276 aliens arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent. Of these 3,833 were stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to places out of the United

\*Of the 8 cases in the china and earthenware industry in January, 1903, 3 affected females.

† House Painters and Plumbers.—In addition to the cases included in the Table, 11 cases of lead poisoning were reported during January among house painters and plumbers. The number of such cases reported during January, 1902, was 10. No deaths were reported in either month.

Kingdom, an increase of 1,030 as compared with January, 1902. Those not stated to be on their way to places out of the United Kingdom numbered 4,486 (exclusive of seamen), or 1,493 more than a year ago. The figures for January, 1903 and 1902, are as follows:

follows.—		AND PROPERTY OF
	Jan., 1903.	Jan., 1902.
Aliens not stated in the Alien lists to be of the seamen o	957 4,486	1,139 2,993
Aliens stated in the Alien lists to be en route to other countries	3,833	2,803
Gross Total	9,276	6,935

# WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN JANUARY.

During January 777 fresh applications for work were registered by seven Bureaux furnishing returns, and 875 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 205 persons, of whom 109 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps).

Compared with the previous month the number of fresh applications for domestic servants rose from 378 to 643, and the number of servants applying from 261 to 408; the number permanently engaged rose from 69 to 89. The demand for dressmakers, milliners, etc., rose from 41 to 65, and the number requiring such situations from 65 to 97; the number engaged through the Bureaux was 25, compared with 39 in December.

The Returns for the Manchester, Liverpool and Edinburgh Bureaux are for the present grouped together in the following Table, which shows the work done by the seven Bureaux during January compared with a month and a year ago:—

Work Do	NE IN JA	NUARY.		
	No. of Fresh Situations offered by	No. of Fresh Applications of Work- people		people ed by
	Employers.	seeking Situations.	Permanently.	Tem- porarily
	Su	mmary by	Bureaux	
Central Bureau—		1. 28 20	STREET, STREET	00
9, Southampton-street, W.C Society for Promoting Training and	67	102	25	3
Employment— 22, Berners-street, W Y.W.C.A.—	42	29	13	27
26, George-street (I)	623	422	74	10
Hanover-square, W. (2)	98	135	28	7
Other Bureaux	45	89	15	3
Total of 7 Bureaux	875	777	155	50
Q55,110. 世际中市县长江州 E100000000				
banagana sa ser again senagan	Sun	mary by 0	ccupatio	ns.
Grand and Drawn, Sandan		1	8	la scol
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc	27	55	4	_
Shop Assistants	65	97	18	7
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc	31	54	12	19
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists Apprentices and Learners	31	6	10	
Domestic Servants	643	408	89	20
Miscellaneous	74	141	14	4
Total Number in Jan., 1903	875	777	155	50
Total Number in Dec., 1902	517	532	101	79
Total Number in Jan., 1902	920	783	144	66

Building Societies in 1901.

The Seventh Annual Report upon Building Societies in the United Kingdom, by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies,\* has been issued. The Report contains an abstract of the annual accounts and statements of these societies for the year 1901, and includes a general summary showing the total number of societies in 1901, the number making returns; the membership, receipts, number of societies making advances on mortgage, amount advanced on mortgage, liabilities, and assets, undivided profit, and balance deficit if any together with other particulars. The total number of societies was 2,304, and that of the societies making returns was 2,233, compared with 2,307 in 1900, with a total membership of

\* P.P. 108-I. of 1902 (Eyre & Spottiswoode). Price 1s. 7d.

591,283, compared with 598,329, and total receipts for the year of £35,816,280, compared with £37,771,262. The amount advanced on mortgage during the year by 1,742 societies was £9,119,675.

The liabilities consist of £36,228,051 due to shareholders, £22,371,256 due to depositors and other creditors, and £3,622,513 undivided profit. As against these are assets amounting to a total of £62,221,820, made up of balance due on mortgage securities £47,866,207 investments in other securities and cash £14,211,635 and balance deficit amounting to £143,978.

The returns also show that the aggregate value of large mortgages (over £5,000 each) amounted to £2,029,205, compared with £2,148,253 in 1900; that properties in possession amounted in value to £2,871,484, compared with £3,121,691 in 1900; and mortgages in arrear to £191,929, compared with £220,785.

# INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN JANUARY.
(Based on information supplied to the Department by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.)

(r) REGISTERED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societiesregistered in January was as follows: Under the Trade
Union Acts, 2; under the Industrial and Provident
Societies Acts, 9; under the Friendly Societies Act, 83
(including 60 branches of existing societies); under the
Building Societies Acts, 6; in all, 91.

Among the new societies registered in January were

the following:-

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—I, viz., Society of Theatrical Carpenters, Salisbury Tavern, St. Martin's-lane, W.C. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—I, viz., Dublin Operative Poulterers' Trade Union, 44, York-street, Dublin.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—England and Wales.—
Co-operative Societies mainly for Distribution, 1, viz., Blackdown and Thorncombe Collecting Depot, Ltd., Thorncombe, Chard. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—Co-operative Societies mainly for Distribution, 2, viz., Breffni Hosiery Co-op. Home Industries Soc., Ltd., Cavan; Limavady Co-op. Poultry Soc., Ltd., Limavady, co. Londonderry. Co-operative Societies mainly for Production, 6, viz., Killinagh Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Gubaveeny, Blacklion, co. Leitrim; Kinnitty Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Kinnitty, Kings co.; Kilcormac and Killoughy Co.-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Frankford, Tullamore, Kings co.; Doapey Co.-op., Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Annaglogh, co. Monaghan; Greenaus Cross Co.-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Annaglogh, co. Monaghan; Greenaus Cross Co.-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Greenaus Cross, co., Monaghan.

Friendly Societies. - England and Wales .- 13, viz., Chesterfield Dist. Medical Assoc., Chesterfield, Derby; Loughton Perseverance Friendly Soc., Loughton, Essex; Spitalfields Jewish Male and Female Sick and Burial Soc., London, E.; International Coronation Sick Benefit Soc, London, E.; Keevils Friendly Soc., London, W.; St. Bernard Friendly Sick and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; Clifton Sick and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; Friendship Soc. of Independent Druids, Oldham; Pentre Broughton Sick and Burial Tontine Benefit Soc., Broughton, Chester; Stockton-on-Tees Musical and Dramatic Working Men's Club and Inst., Stockton-on-Tees; Shawforth and Millgate Conservative Working Men's Club, Shawforth, Rochdale; Kingswood Working Men's Club and Institute, Reigate; Great Horton Working Men's Club, Great Horton, Bradford. Scotland. — None. Ireland. — 10, viz., Dublin Mechanics' Inst., Dublin; Tullamore Trade and Labour League, Tullamore, King's Co.; Seirkeiran Agric. Bank, Ltd., Seikeiran, King's Co.; Rower Agric. Bank, The Rower, Co. Kilkenny; Farnaught Agric. Bank, Mohill, Co. Leitrim; Ballyfin Agric. Bank, Ballyfin, Queen's co.; Aughamore Agric. Bank, Aughamore, co. Mayo; Straid Agric. Bank, Clonmany, co. Donegal; Toames Agric. Bank, Macroom, co. Cork; Robert Emmet Loan Fund Society,

(2) DISSOLVED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies reported as having commenced to "wind-up," or hadregistration cancelled in January, was as follows:—Under the Trade Union Acts, 2; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 5; under the Friendly Societies Act, 51 (including 23 branches of Societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 14; in all 72.

Printed by Veale, Chifferiel & Co., Ltd., 31 to 37 Cursitor Street, London, E.C., and Published for His Majesty's Stationery Office by Horace Marshall & Son, Temple House, Temple Avenue, London, E.C. Sole Advertising Contractors—Ratcliffe, Dunbar & Co. 1 Lombard Court, Lombard Street, E.C.—Feb., 1903.