

THE LABOUR GAZETTE

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

PUBLISHED ON THE 15th OF EACH MONTH.

VOL. VI.—No. 10.

OCTOBER, 1898.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

CLASSIFIED CONTENTS TABLE.

	PAGE
Summary of the State of Employment in September	289
Special Articles and Reports—	
NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS	291
OLD AGE PENSIONS IN ITALY	291
NUMBERS EMPLOYED AND ACCIDENTS AT MINES AND QUARRIES IN 1897	291
WORKING HOURS IN FACTORIES IN AUSTRIA	293
ACCIDENT INSURANCE OF SEAMEN IN FRANCE	293
EMPLOYERS' PENSION SCHEMES IN FRANCE	293
WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION SCHEMES	318
HARVEST WAGES IN ENGLAND IN 1898	301
PRICES OF COAL AND IRON	314
PRICE OF BREAD	314
SPECIAL RULES FOR DANGEROUS TRADES.—THIRD INTERIM REPORT OF COMMITTEE	292
DIVIDENDS ON PURCHASES PAID BY CO-OPERATIVE DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES	292
RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES AND COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS	294
LEGAL MINIMUM WAGE IN VICTORIA	318
Employment in Certain Industries and Districts—	
REPORTS ON CERTAIN INDUSTRIES.	
COAL MINING	297
IRON MINING	298
PIG IRON MANUFACTURE	298
IRON AND STEEL WORKS	299
TINPLATE WORKS... ..	299
SHIPBUILDING	299
AGRICULTURAL LABOUR	300
SEAMEN	302
LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR	302
WOMEN IN TEXTILE TRADES	302
DISTRICT REPORTS.	
LONDON	303
ENGLAND: Northern Counties	303
Lancashire	304
Yorkshire	305
Midland Counties	306
Eastern Counties	308
South Western Counties	308
WALES	309
SCOTLAND	309
IRELAND	310
Labour in the Colonies and Abroad—	
COLONIES... ..	295
FRANCE	296
GERMANY... ..	296
SWITZERLAND	296
BELGIUM	297
AUSTRIA	297
ITALY	297
Miscellaneous Reports for September—	
LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR	294
INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS	320
FOREIGN TRADE	319
MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES... ..	314
EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION	319
Statistical Tables for September—	
TRADE DISPUTES	316
CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES	312
DECREASES IN HOURS OF LABOUR	314
INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS	311
INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS	320
LABOUR BUREAUX... ..	315
PAUPERISM	315
DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS	293
Notes—	
HOURS OF LABOUR OF RAILWAY SERVANTS	314
NEW ORDER UNDER "PARTICULARS CLAUSE" OF FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1895... ..	310
EXAMINATION FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES	320
INFORMATION FOR INTENDING EMIGRANTS	319

STATE OF EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER.

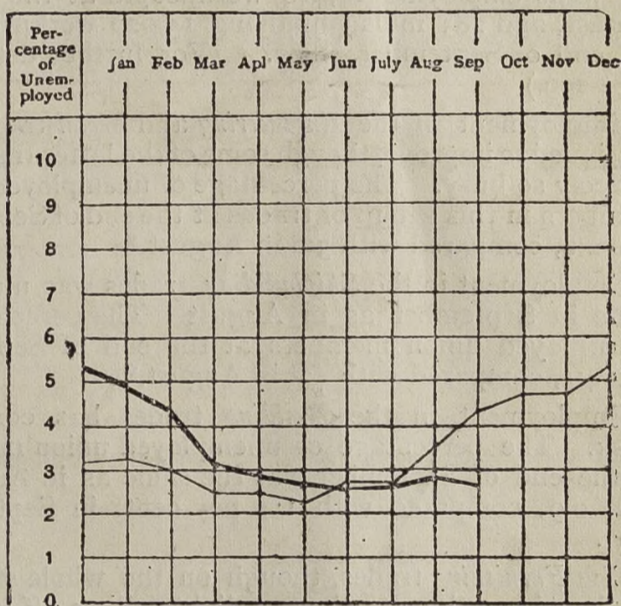
[Based on 2,337 returns, viz.: 1,632 from Employers, 542 from Trade Unions, and 163 from other sources.]

EMPLOYMENT in September remained generally good, most of the important industries continuing to be well employed.

In the 117 trade unions making returns, with an aggregate membership of 467,075, 12,027 (or 2.6 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of September, compared with 2.8 per cent. in August, and with 4.4 per cent. in the 113 unions, with a membership of 462,292, from which returns were received for September, 1897.

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

Chart showing the percentage of unemployed members of the trade unions making returns at the close of each completed month of 1897 and 1898. [The thick line applies to 1898, the thin line to 1897.]



The table below classifies the membership of the 117 unions making returns according to the percentage proportion of their members that each union had unemployed at the end of the under-mentioned periods:—

Percentage of members unemployed.	At end of September, 1898.		Corresponding Percentages for		
	Number of Unions making Returns.	Total Membership of such Unions.		A Month ago.	A Year ago.
		Number.	Percentage.		
Under 1 per cent. ...	25	147,598	31.6	35.3	20.9
1 and under 2 per cent. ...	26	54,581	11.7	8.8	19.7
2 " 3 " ...	16	110,289	23.6	6.8	7.8
3 " 5 " ...	27	114,949	24.6	34.6	25.2
5 " 7 " ...	7	26,221	5.6	9.6	4.2
7 " 10 " ...	8	8,308	1.8	8.3	7.6
10 per cent. and upwards	8	5,129	1.1	1.6	14.6
Total ...	117	467,075	100.0	100.0	100.0

Employment in Various Industries.—Coal Mining.—In South Wales and Monmouth work was generally resumed at the associated pits during September. In

other districts pits employing 370,424 workpeople worked on an average 5·37 days per week in the four weeks ended September 24th, as compared with 5·19 days per week in August and 5·21 days per week in September, 1897. (For further details see page 297.)

Iron Mining.—Employment in this industry continued good. At 137 mines and openworks, employing 17,238 workpeople, an average of 5·82 days per week was worked in the four weeks ended September 24th, as compared with 5·76 days in August and 5·79 days in September, 1897. (For further details see page 298.)

Pig Iron Industry.—Returns relating to the works of 109 ironmasters show that they had 352 furnaces in blast at the end of September, as compared with 340 at the end of August, and 346 a year ago. The number employed was 23,079, an increase in the month of 626, and in the twelve months of 889. In Glamorgan and Monmouth, where employment had been seriously affected by the South Wales coal dispute, eight furnaces have been relit during the month. (For further details see page 298.)

Employment in the *Iron and Steel* trades was better at the end of September than at the end of August, and also better than a year ago. At the works of 209 employers making returns, 80,572 workpeople were employed in the last week of September, as compared with 77,826 in the last week of August, and 79,017 a year ago. The average number of shifts worked in the last week of the month was 5·53 in September, 1898, 5·46 in August, 1898, and 5·55 in September, 1897. (For further details see page 299.)

Timplate Trade.—Employment in this industry at the end of September was better than at the end of the previous month, but is still not so good as a year ago. The number of mills in operation was 286, giving employment to 14,664 workpeople, as compared with 270 mills employing 14,428 workpeople at the end of August, and 283 mills employing 15,020 workpeople at the end of September, 1897. (For further details see page 299.)

Employment in the *Engineering and Metal* trades has continued to improve, though some of the latter trades are scarcely so busy. The percentage of unemployed union members in this group of trades at the end of September was 2·6, compared with 3·0 in August.*

Employment in the *Shipbuilding* trades was much the same in September as in August. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of September was 4·1, compared with 4·2 in August.*

Employment in the *Building* trades has continued brisk. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of September was the same as in August—viz., 0·9, compared with 1·4 per cent. in September, 1897.

The *Furnishing* trades, though on the whole still well employed, continue to show a slight falling off in some branches. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of September was 1·9, as in August, compared with 1·4 per cent. at the end of September last year.

Employment in the *Printing and Bookbinding* trades remains steady on the whole. Owing to seasonal causes the former has fallen off to some extent, and the latter has improved. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of September was 4·6, as in August. The percentage for September, 1897, was 5·4.

In the *Paper* trade employment has improved, the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of September being 3·6, compared with 5·3 in August and 3·7 per cent. in September, 1897.

In the *Glass* trade the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of September was 10·1, compared with 9·4 in August, and 7·9 per cent. at the end of September last year.

* Owing to the dispute which existed in the engineering trade no comparison is made with September, 1897.

Employment in the *Leather* trades is not so good, the percentage of unemployed union members having risen from 4·2 at the end of August to 5·4 at the end of September. The percentage for September, 1897, was 3·9.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the *Boot and Shoe* trade is generally bad. In the ready-made branch it is good in Leeds, and has improved in the Bristol district, but is bad at most of the other centres.

Employment continues dull in the bespoke branch of the *Tailoring* trade; in the ready-made branch it has improved slightly, but is still only moderate.

In the *Spinning* branch of the *Cotton* trade employment is generally good; in the *Weaving* branch it shows a slight decline.

Employment in the *Worsted* trade continues moderate; in the *Woollen* trade it is fair, with a further improvement in some centres. In the *Hosiery* trade it continues quiet, but has on the whole improved.

As regards the employment of women in the *Textile* trades, information respecting 537 mills, employing 86,900 women and girls, shows that 77 per cent. were in mills giving full employment during the month, compared with 79 per cent. in August and 62 per cent. in September, 1897. (For further details see page 302.)

Dock and Riverside Labour in London.—During September an average number of 14,490 labourers were employed daily, as compared with 13,978 in August and 15,085 in September, 1897. (For further details see page 302.)

Generally speaking, *Agricultural labourers* were fully employed during the month of September, and in many districts farmers were not able to obtain all the labour they required. (For further details see page 300.)

Trade Disputes.—Fifty-two fresh disputes occurred in September, 1898, involving 7,644 workpeople. The corresponding number of disputes for August was 44, involving 4,330 workpeople, and for September, 1897, 42 disputes, involving 9,027 workpeople. Seven disputes took place in the building trades, 12 in mining and quarrying, 15 in metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, 11 in the textile trades, 3 in clothing trades, and 4 in other industries. Of the 64 new and old disputes, involving 11,714 workpeople, of which the settlement is reported, 17, involving 821 persons, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 22, involving 5,857 persons, in favour of the employers; and 25, involving 5,036 persons, resulted in a compromise. (For further details see page 316.)

Changes in Rates of Wages.—Changes in the rates of wages of about 364,900 workpeople were reported during September, of which number 364,700 received advances, and 200 sustained decreases. The net result was an increase estimated at about 7d. per head in the weekly wages of those affected. The increases were mainly in the mining industry (346,917), engineering and shipbuilding (10,869), and iron and steel manufacture (3,280). Changes affecting 900 workpeople were preceded by disputes, causing stoppage of work. Changes affecting about 1,200 workpeople were settled by arbitration and conciliation without strikes, and changes affecting about 14,200 under sliding scales and wages boards. The other changes, affecting about 348,600 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives. (For further details see page 312.)

Pauperism.—In the 35 selected urban districts of the United Kingdom, 323,814 persons were relieved on one day in the second week of September. This number corresponds to a rate of 204 per 10,000 of the estimated population of those districts, or 2 per 10,000 less than a year ago. (For further details see page 315.)

Emigration.—The number of British and Irish passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during September was 20,113, as compared with 21,000 in September, 1897. (For further details see page 319.)

NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

THE Report of H.M. Chief Inspector of Factories for 1897* gives the results of the second annual return of persons employed. This return covers all classes of factories, but returns received from occupiers of workshops (other than bakehouses), who employed only men in 1895 or 1896 are not included.

The total number of works or departments included in the 1896 return is 160,948, compared with 144,088 in that for 1895. The information gathered together is supplied by occupiers, and complete accuracy of detail cannot be assumed, inasmuch as the number of people employed by the same occupiers often varies considerably from time to time.

The number of persons employed in the factories and workshops included in the return for 1896 was 4,398,983, of whom 63,613 were children under 14 employed as half-timers; 836,729 were persons under 18 years of age employed as full-timers; 3,498,641 were persons over 18 years of age.

In the textile industries 1,936 more persons were employed in 1896 than in 1895, the balance between an increase of 6,138 among adult operatives, and coincident decreases of 1,833 among young persons, and 2,369 among children. There is continued falling off in the number of half-timers, who are now 4·9 per cent. of the total operatives, as compared with 5·2 in 1895 and 7·9 in 1890.†

Of the 2,665,731 people employed in the non-textile industries (an increase of 7·5 per cent.) the increase was relatively greatest among young persons, while among half-timers there was a decrease.

There is a great increase in the number of workshops registered, the number rising from 71,424 in 1895 to 81,669 in 1896. The corresponding increase in the numbers employed was greatest among adult workers, and least among children.

Of 63,613 children working as half-timers 53,256 were employed in textile factories, 7,241 in non-textile factories, and 3,116 in workshops.

The number of persons employed in the different classes of factories and workshops is given as follows:—

Industry.	England and Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.	United Kingdom. 1896.	United Kingdom. 1895.
NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN TEXTILE FACTORIES.					
Cotton...	503,352	28,918	620	532,890	539,683
Wool, Worsted, and Shoddy	249,392	31,392	3,757	284,441	282,401
Flax, Hemp, and Jute	15,792	78,067	68,604	162,463	161,019
Lace	15,138	1,950	—	17,088	14,568
Hosiery	31,158	4,155	639	35,952	34,198
Silk	33,574	2,224	52	35,850	35,882
Elastic	4,473	—	—	4,473	4,399
Cocoanut Fibre	2,453	—	—	2,453	2,379
Horse Hair	1,429	618	—	2,047	2,022
Total...	856,661	147,354	73,672	1,077,687	1,075,751
NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN NON-TEXTILE FACTORIES.					
Machines, Tools, Appliances, etc.	672,216	118,805	22,304	813,325	712,756
Extraction, Founding, and Conversion of Metals	243,081	50,700	1,754	295,535	281,263
Food, Drink, and Tobacco	184,369	33,922	22,029	240,320	228,987
Clothing	188,859	16,876	22,299	228,034	217,193
Paper, Printing, etc.	193,095	35,684	9,490	238,269	226,087
All other Non-Textile Factories	711,439	107,456	30,423	849,318	813,823
Total...	2,193,089	363,443	109,199	2,665,731	2,480,119
NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN WORKSHOPS INCLUDED IN THE RETURN.					
Machines, Tools, Appliances, &c.	52,833	3,026	1,919	57,778	48,318
Food and Drink	32,261	34,599	4,733	71,593	33,161
Clothing	271,429	44,417	22,599	338,445	303,037
All other Workshops	165,290	17,713	4,725	187,728	163,099
Total...	521,813	99,685	34,067	655,565	547,615

* An article giving a summary of this Report, so far as concerned accidents, sanitation, notification of lead, phosphorus and arsenic poisoning and anthrax, and prosecutions for offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts appeared in the GAZETTE for September, pages 261 and 262.
† The percentage for 1890 is based on voluntary returns and is not strictly comparable with those for 1895 and 1896.

OLD AGE PENSIONS IN ITALY.

AN Italian law, passed July 17th, 1898, decrees the establishment of a National Pension Fund, providing benefits for workmen in old age or invalidity. A memorandum on this law, together with a translation of the text, has been supplied through the Foreign Office by Sir G. F. Bonham, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Rome. The Fund is to receive from public monies an initial endowment and an annual subsidy, and will accept, in instalments of not less than 5d., subscriptions from workpeople, which may be of any amount provided they do not exceed £4 in each year; but all persons whose contributions amount to at least 4s. 9½d. per annum, will have the sums paid in by them supplemented by subventions to be credited to them out of the income of the Fund. These subventions will be of like amount for every member of the Fund, and for the first five years must not exceed 9s. 7d. per year.

On joining the Fund the member must declare whether he wishes his annual contributions to accrue for the common benefit of all members subscribing on such mutual terms, or prefers that, if he die before the closing of his account, the amount paid in by him shall be handed to his family. Each member will have his own separate account, in which he will be credited with his annual contributions and the subventions supplementing these sums. On the closing of his account, which is to take place when a period of at least 25 years has elapsed since he paid his first subscription, and he has completed his sixtieth or sixty-fifth year (as determined by the Rules of the Fund), whatever amount stands to the credit of the member will be converted into an immediate life annuity in his favour. In the case of invalidity, however, a member's account may be closed at any time after five years have elapsed since he joined the Fund; and in this event his life annuity will be supplemented by subventions from a special fund formed in part out of income accruing to the National Pension Fund and also in part out of sums paid by the persons under legal obligation to provide for those who are unable to work.

NUMBERS EMPLOYED AND ACCIDENTS AT MINES AND QUARRIES IN 1897.*

Persons Employed.

The total number of persons employed at all the mines in the United Kingdom, and at the quarries under the Quarries Act, during 1897, was 852,083 as compared with 838,632 in 1896.

These persons were distributed as follows:—

Class of Mine or Quarry.	Employed underground or inside quarries.	Employed above ground or outside quarries.	Total.	Comparison of total number employed with that of previous year.
Coal Mines	547,203	134,328	681,531	+ 2,841
Iron Ore Mines	13,212	4,023	17,235	+ 416
Other Mines	17,811	12,136	29,947	- 347
Quarries over 20 ft. deep	58,845	64,525	123,370	+ 10,541
Total for 1897	637,071	215,012	852,083	+ 13,451
Total for 1896	632,448	206,184	838,632	—

The figures for 1897 include 8 females employed inside quarries, and 6,536 employed above ground at mines or outside quarries. The number of females employed shows a slight decrease on last year. It will be seen that at coal mines about four-fifths of the workers are engaged below ground, and at iron mines about three-fourths; but as the minerals worked at "other mines" often require a considerable amount of labour in dressing, a larger number of surface workers are wanted, causing the proportion of underground workers to fall to about three-fifths.

The increase in numbers employed at coal mines has been general, except in the Midland and certain detached coalfields. It is specially marked in the case of South Wales. Taking the counties individually, a great increase is noticeable in Glamorganshire and Monmouthshire, and a decided decrease in Staffordshire.

* Mines and Quarries, General Report and Statistics for 1897. Part II.—Labour (C. 9049). Price 11d.

In the case of iron-miners there has been an increase in the numbers employed in England and Wales, and a decrease in Scotland.

Of the quarriers (*i.e.*, the inside workmen) nearly one-half are engaged in getting sandstone and limestone; digging clay and earth for brickmaking affords employment to 9,470 persons; 10,506 are employed in quarries worked for granite and other igneous rocks, and 5,175 in open slate quarries. These figures are, of course, irrespective of those who work in pits less than 20 feet deep, which do not come within the operations of the Quarries Act.

Fatal Accidents.

In the LABOUR GAZETTE for January last (p. 8) preliminary figures were given of the number of deaths from accidents at mines and quarries. The following are the revised figures:—In and about mines and quarries (over 20 feet deep) there were 1,015 separate fatal accidents, causing the loss of 1,102 lives. Of these, 897 accidents, causing the loss of 979 lives, happened at mines (841 of the accidents, and 903 of the deaths, being at coal mines), and 118, causing the loss of 123 lives, at quarries. These figures correspond to a death rate of 1.343 per 1,000 employed at mines, and 1.00 per 1,000 employed at quarries. The death rates among both underground (1.513 per 1,000) and surface workers (0.691 per 1,000) at mines are the lowest recorded. The death rate from accidents among inside workers at quarries in 1897 was 1.58 per 1,000, or higher than among underground workers at mines.

The following table gives the number of deaths from accidents of various natures in mines and quarries in 1897 and 1896, the average figures for the period 1891-1895 being also added in the case of mines:—

	No. of Deaths from Accidents.		
	1897.	1896.	Average of 1891-95.
Mines:—			
Explosions of Fire-damp or Coal Dust ...	19	173	141
Falls of Ground ...	490	439	458
In Shafts ...	59	79	111
Miscellaneous Underground ...	307	244	270
Total Underground ...	875	935	980
Total Surface ...	194	130	123
Total Mines ...	979	1,065	1,103
Quarries:—			
Inside ...	93	90	...
Outside ...	30	34	...
Total Quarries ...	123	124	...
Gross Total ...	1,102	1,189	...

SPECIAL RULES FOR DANGEROUS TRADES.—THIRD INTERIM REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

The Third Interim Report* of the Dangerous Trades Committee deals with a further instalment of the trades enumerated in the reference.

With regard to Galvanized Iron Working and Sole-Stitching by American machinery, the Committee do not recommend the application of Special Rules, and with regard to the process of Ending and Mending in Velvet Works, the Committee, being of opinion that it is of itself a perfectly healthy occupation, have requested and obtained the permission of the Secretary of State to have this trade withdrawn from their reference.

With regard to Testing Bottles by Compressed Air, the Committee recommend that powers should be given to Her Majesty's Inspectors to require the adoption and use of masks or wire gauze veils and gauntlets.

Recommendations are made for Special Rules in the following trades:—file-cutting, glass polishing (where "putty powder" is used), the use of converters in metal works, and the manufacture and use of grindstones.

In the introductory portion of the report the Committee suggest that labour and time might be saved by embodying many of the recommendations in a proposed Bill. They refer specially "to the proposed change in the legal position of the giver-out of work in the file trade, and to the difficulty which would be attached in practice in this trade and in the grinding trade to the

* Third Interim Report of the Departmental Committee appointed to inquire and report upon certain Miscellaneous Dangerous Trades (C. 9073), price 6d.

issue of Special Rules. Owing to the limited powers of the Secretary of State and the cumbersome machinery of Section 8 of the Act of 1891 the control of these industries by Special Rules is impossible. The occupiers are generally workmen, often weekly tenants, and to such occupiers it is practically impossible to apply the provisions of this section."

DIVIDENDS ON PURCHASES PAID BY CO-OPERATIVE DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES.

RETURNS showing the rates of dividend paid to members on purchases for the second quarter of 1898 have been received from 956 co-operative distributive societies in the United Kingdom with a total membership of 1,335,131. For the corresponding period of 1897 the returns received relate to 833 societies only with a membership of 1,122,341.

The returns for the 956 societies in 1898 show an average dividend for the United Kingdom of 2s. 7.68d. For the corresponding period in 1897 the 833 returns received show an average of 2s. 7.60d.

In addition to the usual table showing the number and membership of the societies paying dividends at the various rates, a second table has been prepared showing the average dividend paid in various districts.

From this it will be seen that in England and Wales the highest average dividend (3s. 0.33d.) was paid in the Northern counties, the bulk of the societies being in the mining districts of Durham and Northumberland, and the lowest dividend (1s. 5.05d.) in the London district, the average for England and Wales being 2s. 7.16d.

In Scotland the highest dividend was also in the Northern counties, being 2s. 11.27d., as compared with 2s. 10.22d., the average for Scotland and Ireland.

The rates of dividend shown are those paid upon the main volume of trade. In a few cases higher or lower dividends were paid upon purchases from minor departments, such as butchery, drapery, &c.

TABLE I.—Number and membership of Co-operative Distributive Societies paying the undermentioned rates of dividend per £1 of purchases in the second quarter of the year 1898:—

Rates of dividend per £1 of purchases.	Number of Societies.			Membership of Societies making returns for 2nd quarter of 1898.		Percentage for corresponding period of 1897.
	England and Wales.	Scotland and Ireland.	Total.	Number.	Percentage.	
No dividend ...	23	2	25	7,265	0.5	0.2
Sixpence and under ...	12	1	13	6,388	0.5	0.2
Over 6d. but not exceeding 1s.	24	6	30	14,961	1.1	1.3
" 1s. 0d. ...	64	6	70	39,975	3.0	3.9
" 1 6 " ...	143	14	157	209,061	15.7	19.9
" 2 0 " ...	103	37	140	222,755	16.7	14.4
" 2 6 " ...	170	71	241	509,155	38.1	35.1
" 3 0 " ...	119	49	168	201,467	15.1	18.6
" 3 6 " ...	68	26	94	115,926	8.7	7.3
" 4 0 " ...	8	7	15	4,214	0.3	0.7
" 4 6 " ...	3	2	5	2,181	0.2	0.4
" 5 0 " ...	1	1	2	1,583	0.1	—
Totals ...	738	218	956	1,335,131	100.0	100.0

TABLE II.—Number and membership of Co-operative Distributive Societies included in Table I., classified by districts; with average dividend per £1 of purchases paid for the second quarter of 1898 in each district:—

Districts.	No. of Societies.	Membership.		Average Dividend.
		Number.	Percentage of total.	
ENGLAND AND WALES:—				
Northern Counties ...	108	184,111	13.8	s. d. 3 0.33
Lancashire and Cheshire ...	155	331,958	25.0	2 9.73
Yorkshire ...	145	268,653	20.1	2 9.71
N. and W. Midland ...	119	143,043	10.7	2 1.41
Southern and Western ...	39	40,862	3.1	2 0.04
South Mid. and Eastern ...	81	62,232	4.7	1 10.92
Wales and Monmouth ...	34	13,318	1.0	1 10.79
South-Eastern ...	34	32,234	2.4	1 8.96
London (12 mile radius) ...	21	30,502	2.3	1 5.05
Totals: England and Wales...	738	1,108,913	83.1	2 7.16
NORTH SCOTLAND ...	82	85,681	6.4	2 11.27
SOUTH ...	130	139,535	10.4	2 9.74
IRELAND ...	6	1,002	0.1	1 0.10
Totals: Scotland and Ireland	218	226,218	16.9	2 10.22
Totals: United Kingdom ...	956	1,333,131	100.0	2 7.68

ACCIDENT INSURANCE OF SEAMEN IN FRANCE.

UNDER a law dated April 21st, 1898, and coming into operation on January 1st, 1899, French seamen are required to be insured against accidents and illness incidental to their occupation. For this purpose a National Fund is to be established in connection with the Seamen's Superannuation Fund, which has existed since 1681. The resources of this new Fund will consist of the contributions of employers and employed, and also of gifts and legacies, and grants which may be made by the Departments or Communes, by public institutions, and by associations, and, in case of necessity, of advances, free of interest, by the State.

The contributions of seamen are to be made by compulsory deductions from their wages (1½ per cent. on wages for crews paid by the month or voyage and those engaged in deep-sea fishing; for other seamen, specified sums—e.g., for an ordinary sailor on a coasting vessel, paid on the share system, about 6d. per month).

Shipowners and charterers have to contribute at the same rate (generally) as their crews. The contributions of both employers and employed may be increased or reduced if the position of the Fund requires or enables this to be done.

The benefits conferred are as follows:—For permanent total disablement, a life pension; for temporary incapacity, a temporary allowance on the same scale. A life pension is also provided for the widow of a seaman whose death was due to accident or disease incidental to his occupation. A seaman or a seaman's widow further receives an extra allowance for each child under 10 years (unless a similar allowance is payable from the Superannuation Fund). Children of a seaman, if neither father nor mother survive, receive, until the youngest is 16, a joint allowance equivalent to the pension which their mother would have received, if alive. Parents or grandparents receive a pension if the seaman leaves neither widow nor children.

The annual amount of the pension due to an ordinary seaman, if suffering permanent disablement, is £8 3s. 2d.; his widow will get £7 13s. 7d.; if he left no widow or child, his parents or grandparents would receive a joint yearly allowance of £3 16s. 10d. These amounts are reducible by one-half in the case of persons receiving allowances from the Superannuation Fund or the State. The extra allowance for each child under 10 would be 19s. 2d.

The remedy given by the ordinary law in respect of deliberate wrongful acts or gross negligence is not taken away; damages recovered in respect of such acts or negligence will be deducted from the allowances provided under the new law.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

THE following table shows the number of cases of Lead poisoning and Anthrax reported as having occurred in factories and workshops during September, classified by industries. It will be seen that of the 162 cases of lead poisoning reported, 69 were at lead works, and 37 in the china and earthenware industry, 18 out of these 37 cases being amongst female operatives.

Disease and Industry.	Adults.		Young Persons.		Children.		Total.	Grand Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Lead Poisoning—								
China and Earthenware	18	15	1	3	—	—	19	18
Glass ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Lead Works ...	68	1	—	—	—	—	68	1
Paints and Colours ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	8	1
Smelting ...	9	—	—	—	—	—	9	—
Tinning and Enamelling of Iron and other metals	—	1	—	2	—	—	3	3
Other Industries ...	34	—	—	—	—	—	34	—
Total Lead Poisoning	138	18	1	5	—	—	139	23
Corresponding Total for September, 1897	41	28	1	—	—	—	42	28
Anthrax ...	2	—	1	—	—	—	3	—
<i>Diito</i> Sept., 1897	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

EMPLOYERS' PENSION SCHEMES IN FRANCE.*

THE French Labour Department has published the results of an inquiry carried out in 1896 relative to pension schemes established by employers in France for the benefit of their workpeople. The scope of this inquiry was limited to establishments subject to factory inspection, and to schemes introduced and worked under conditions fixed by the employer (benefit societies, etc., organised on an independent basis not being included). In addition, however, the volume contains information as to pension schemes in operation in the mining and transport trades, for workpeople employed by the Government, and for certain workpeople employed by other public administrations.

The inquiry showed that out of a total of 2,673,314 workpeople employed in 1896 in 296,797 establishments, 115,896 (4.35 per cent.) employed in 229 establishments were included in pension schemes of the kind covered by the inquiry. Deducting the 17,240 operatives employed in the Government tobacco and match factories, for whose old age the Government makes provision through the National Superannuation Fund, the number of workpeople in privately-owned factories and works who are included in pension schemes introduced by the initiative of their employers was 98,656 out of a total of 2,656,074 (3.71 per cent.).

All miners and seamen (numbering approximately 166,000 and 120,000 respectively) are subject to laws obliging them to belong to funds making provision for old age. In the principal railway (including State railways), tramway, omnibus, and other transport enterprises, some 196,000 employees of all grades belong to pension funds voluntarily introduced by their employers. The State and other Public Administrations have established pension schemes for some 42,000 roadmenders and similar workmen in their service. Lastly, some 20,000 operatives employed in manufacturing departments under the War Office are insured against old age.

Summarising these figures, the report concludes that out of a total of some 3,900,000 wage workers engaged in the employments above referred to (according to the census of 1891) some 660,000, or, at the utmost, 17 per cent., are included in pension schemes due to private initiative or to the intervention of the State.

WORKING HOURS IN FACTORIES IN AUSTRIA.

THE Report on Factory Inspection in Austria for the year 1897 contains a statement showing the regular duration of the working day (exclusive of intervals for meals) in the 4,473 establishments ranking as factories visited by the inspectors in 1897. The following table is based on the statement in question:—

Groups of Trades.	No. of factories whose regular working hours (exclusive of mealtimes) were					Total number of factories.
	9 hours or less.	Over 9 up to 10.	Over 10 up to 11.	11½.	12.	
Metalworking	3	175	179	2	42	401
Engineering, Shipbuilding, &c.	7	248	148	—	—	493
Textile Trades	9	79	916	—	8	1,042
Clothing Trades	6	39	114	—	—	159
Papermaking	1	45	138	—	37	221
Printing and Allied Trades	62	21	2	—	—	85
Woodworking and Furnishing	10	83	229	—	—	322
Glass, Pottery, Brick, &c., making	19	135	433	—	13	600
Chemical Trades	6	77	148	—	36	267
Food, &c., Preparation	2	65	280	429	1	778
Other Trades	8	58	109	1	19	195
All trades in which factories were inspected	133	1,026	2,726	432	156	4,473

From the above it appears that in 3,885 (86.9 per cent.) of the factories visited the working day was of or under 11 hours, while in 588, or 13.1 per cent., this limit was exceeded. (The law forbids more than 11 hours to be worked in factories, except in certain trades in which 12 hours are allowed to be worked.)

* Les Caisses Patronales de Retraites des Etablissements Industriels. Office du Travail. Paris. Government Printing Office, 1898.

† Bericht der K. K. Gewerbe-Inspectoren über ihre Amtstätigkeit im Jahre 1897. Vienna. Government Printing Office 1898.

RECENT CONCILIATION & ARBITRATION CASES AND COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.

(a) UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

Dispute at Shirebrook Collieries.

On June 1st, a strike took place at the Shirebrook Collieries in Derbyshire, owing to the refusal of about 400 of the men to work under the underground manager, whose conduct and language towards them they complained of. The situation was further complicated by disputes with regard to a proposed revision of the price list and other matters.

On August 2nd, the managing director of the Company applied to the Board of Trade for the appointment of a Conciliator, and the Board appointed Mr. G. R. Askwith, Barrister-at-law. After preliminary negotiations, Mr. Askwith sat and heard evidence from September 1st to 3rd. The inquiry was then adjourned, and in the interval the managing director came to an agreement on all outstanding points at issue between his Company and the miners and enginemen, except as regards the conduct of the underground-manager, and on that point it was agreed to accept Mr. Askwith's decision as final. On September 13th, 14th, and 16th, the inquiry was continued, and an award was issued on September 19th.

The award endorses the settlement between the Company and the enginemen, and that between the Company and the miners. It deals at length with the conduct of the underground manager. It states that the major portion of the evidence had reference to the language employed by him, and finds that he "did frequently, and up to the period of the strike, unnecessarily use with the miners strong, harsh, and cursing language, tending to intimidation." It accordingly suspends him for two months. It also provides for the discussion of cases of alleged victimisation by a Joint Committee.

In a note appended to the award, suggestions are made for the consideration of any future dispute by a Board of 3 or 5 persons, with an independent chairman nominated by the Board of Trade or the Mayor of Derby.

(b) OTHER CASES.

Wages Agreement in the Coal Trade of the Federated Districts.

In the GAZETTE for July, 1898, p. 197, the proposals for a settlement of the wages question in the Coal Trade in the Federated districts were given in full. On September 1st, the secretary of the Miners' Federation informed the coalowners that these terms had not been accepted by the men, and asked for a further conference. The conference was held on September 16th, when the coalowners stated that they were not prepared to give an advance of more than 2½ per cent, but offered, as an alternative, to allow the rate of wages to be regulated for the whole period October 1st, 1898, to January 1st, 1901, by a Conciliation Board formed on the lines of the Conciliation Board under the Rosebery agreement of 1893, within the limits of 30 per cent. and 45 per cent. above the standard of 1888, such a Board to be forthwith formed to consider the miners' application for a 10 per cent. advance. The conference was adjourned, in order that the matter might again be submitted to the men.

A meeting of delegates from the various districts was accordingly summoned by the Committee of the Federation, who at the same time recommended the acceptance of the proposals of July 6th. This meeting took place on September 28th, when it was found that there was a considerable majority in favour of acceptance.

The adjourned conference with the Federated Coalowners was held on September 29th. The position of the surfacemen was also discussed, and the following resolution adopted:—

"Whilst not admitting the principle that surface wages are to be regulated as to advances or reductions by the alterations in the rate of underground wages, it is agreed that (unless under local agreement) the arrangement shall extend also to surfacemen engaged on the pit bank who manipulate the coal."

The proposals of July 6th were subsequently signed by both parties.

Demarcation Agreement for the Tees and Hartlepool District.

In the GAZETTE for June, 1898, page 167, an account was given of a proposed scheme for the future settlement of demarcation disputes in the shipbuilding trade of the Tees and Hartlepool. This scheme was formally confirmed at a meeting of employers and representatives of trade societies held on September 12th. The following eight societies have definitely given their adhesion to the agreement:—The United Society of Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders, the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, the Amalgamated Society of Drillers and Hole-cutters, the Onward Society of Drillers and Hole-cutters, the United Operative Plumbers' Association, the Amalgamated Society of Mill-sawyers and Wood Cutting Machinists, and (except for differences between shipwrights and joiners, already provided for) the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, and the Hartlepool Shipwrights' Society.

West Cumberland Blastfurnacemen.

A new agreement, establishing a Joint Committee for the settlement of all questions relating to wages or other matters of dispute, and renewing the sliding scale arrangement, was entered into on September 9th between the West Cumberland Ironmasters and the National Federation of Blastfurnacemen. The sliding scale embodies the modifications previously agreed to, by which 44s. per ton is fixed as the standard selling price of pig iron—wages to vary ¼ per cent. for every rise or fall of 2½d. per ton in the average selling price.

The agreement is to remain in operation until June 30th, 1900, after which it can be terminated by three months' notice from either side.

New Uniform List for Weaving Sateens, &c.

An important new uniform list for weaving sateens, jeans, jeannettes, drills, drillettes, and florentines has been agreed to between the representatives of the North and North-East Lancashire Cotton Spinners' and Manufacturers' Association and the Northern Counties Weavers' Association. The new list aims at securing uniformity in the prices paid for the class of weaving with which it deals, and, it is estimated, will govern the prices for weaving on some 30,000 looms.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

(1) WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT.

Claim by Widow.—Legal Personal Representative.—Letters of Administration.—A widow brought an action under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, against a railway company for damages for loss of her husband, a brakesman, who was fatally injured in a tunnel. The plaintiff had arranged to accept £210 on the basis of three years' total earnings on behalf of herself and five children. The plaintiff stated that her husband had left no will, and that she had not taken out letters of administration. The judge held that the application must be made by the legal personal representative, and that, consequently, the plaintiff must take out letters of administration, so that she would be in the legal position to represent the children whose interests he was bound to protect, and to see that a fair proportion of the money was invested on their behalf. An adjournment was made for a fortnight in order that the plaintiff might take the necessary steps.

Sections 4 and 5 of the First Schedule of the Act are as follows:—
(4) The payment shall, in case of death, be made to the legal personal representative of the workman, or, if he has no legal personal representative, to or for the benefit of his dependants, or, if he leaves no dependants, to the person to whom the expenses are due; and, if made to the legal personal representative, shall be paid by him to or for the benefit of the dependants or other person entitled thereto under this Act.

(5) Any question as to who is a dependant, or as to the amount payable to each dependant, shall, in default of agreement, be settled by arbitration under this Act.—*Liverpool County Court, September 19th.*

"A workman" "on or about a factory."—The widow of a sailmaker and rigger claimed £202 16s. from a flag and banner maker on behalf of herself and her children as compensation for the death of her husband. The deceased at the time of his death was engaged in fixing decorations at a house in the country. He fell from a ladder when going to the roof, and was killed. The Sheriff held that deceased was not within the category of workmen to whom the Act applied. In a note to his interlocutor the Sheriff said it was argued by the agent for the applicant that the word "factory"

LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.*

(Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31 Broadway, Westminster, S.W., from official and other reports, newspapers, &c., mostly dated August and September last.)†

Canada.—It is too late for the ordinary emigrant to go to Canada this year. The routes to the Klondyke Gold Fields are now practically closed, and will not be open again till next spring. A report from the mining town of Rossland, in British Columbia, states that there is a good demand for miners during the open season only, and a fair demand for general labourers; no one should go there during the winter season. The recent extensive fire at New Westminster has caused a temporary demand for carpenters there.

New South Wales.—A report from Sydney states that there is a good demand for men in the building trades, and for workers in stone; in the metal trades there is no demand for any kind of mechanic, but labourers can get a good living; in the furniture, clothing, bootmaking, printing and other trades, and in the woollen mills there is no demand. The large coal industry at Newcastle has been extremely busy, and miners have been working full time.

Victoria.—A report from Castlemaine states that work is rather scarce, and there is no demand for mechanics or miners. In other parts of the Colony also the supply of labour is sufficient.

Queensland.—In spite of the late severe drought which caused great losses in the Western and Central Districts, settlement on grazing farms by practical men is steadily progressing, especially in the West and the North-West; the tick disease in the North has become much less prevalent. There is a general demand throughout the Colony for ploughmen, and other farm labourers. A sum of £22,500 is proposed to be spent during the financial year in promoting immigration; of this amount £15,000 is to be spent in reducing the cost of immigrants' passages.

Western Australia.—A report from the Coolgardie gold fields states that there are no openings at the present time for skilled mechanics or for miners; "many are unemployed, though things are improving." With the object of reducing expenses the Government will during the next few months gradually discharge some 200 of the employees in the Public Works Department, and has already reduced the number of working days in the locomotive department to 5 days a week.

Tasmania.—There is stated to be a demand for mechanics on the West Coast at 8s. to 10s. a day, and for miners at 6s. to 8s. a day. In other parts of the Colony, the supply of labour both in town and country districts is sufficient.

New Zealand.—The last reports show that labour has been fairly well employed, in spite of the fact that they deal with the season of winter. The building trade continues busy with very few exceptions; at Christchurch, however, a large number of painters have been out of work. In some of the larger towns, as Napier, Grey mouth, Christchurch, Dunedin, and Invercargill, the engineering trade has been busy. Many bootmakers at Dunedin have been out of work. There has been a good supply of unskilled labour, and work of some kind or other has generally been obtainable, except at Wellington, where a large number of men have been seeking employment.

Cape Colony.—The supply of labour is generally sufficient, but openings occur from time to time for skilled mechanics. A report from Bechuanaland states that there is no demand there for miners or mechanics, and that all farm work is done by native labourers, at a wage of 1s. 6d. a day with food, or 2s. 6d. without food.

Transvaal.—The state of trade at Johannesburg does not show any improvement, and numbers of men are out of work; but at Pretoria the building trade has been brisk.

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

applied to any place where goods were stored, according to the definition of "factory" in Sub-section 2 of Section 7, it "also includes any dock, wharf, quay, warehouse, machinery, or plant to which any provision of the Factory Acts is applied by the Factory and Workshop Act, 1895, and every laundry worked by steam, water, or other mechanical power." The Sheriff said that it was not necessary for him to decide that any place where goods were stored was a warehouse. Referring to Sub-section 1 of Section 7, which provides that "This Act shall apply only to employment by the undertakers, as hereinafter defined, on, or in, or about a railway, factory, mine, quarry or engineering work," the Sheriff said that, assuming the respondent's premises to be a factory in the sense of the Act, the accident which happened did not take place in the course of the man's employment "on or in or about" the factory, but when he was engaged in putting up decorations between 20 and 30 miles away from the factory.—*Glasgow Sheriff Court, September 24th.*

(2) MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT.

Notice of Discharge to Seaman Shipped on a Foreign-going Vessel.—A fireman claimed from a firm of shipowners £8 10s., two months' wages, under the following circumstances. He signed on a steamship, on June 17th, for a voyage from the Tyne to America. On the 19th, when the vessel sailed, the main steampipe burst in the stokehold, which caused such severe injuries to the plaintiff that he had to be taken to the hospital, where he remained 2½ weeks. His wages were to be £4 5s. a month, and he had received £2 2s. 6d. After carrying out the necessary repairs, the vessel proceeded to America, and returned on August 19th. The vessel's case was that he was never discharged, and was therefore entitled to his wages. It was argued that under the Merchant Shipping Act, Sections 127 and 128 where a seaman was shipped on a foreign-going vessel, he must be discharged by a certificate of discharge. For the defence it was contended that the plaintiff landed at a port in the United Kingdom, being unable to carry out his duties as a fireman, for which he was engaged, and that in consequence the contract between the parties was terminated. The Bench held that the plaintiff had not been discharged; that no certificate had been served upon him according to the provisions of the Act; and that he was entitled to the balance of his wages, £6 7s. 6d. Notice of appeal was given.—*South Shields Police-court, September 2nd.*

(3) COTTON CLOTH FACTORIES ACT, 1889.

Exceeding the Maximum Limit of Humidity.—Firms of cotton cloth manufacturers were fined £5 and costs for exceeding the maximum limit of humidity.—*Bury Borough Police-court, September 15th, and Rochdale Borough Police-court, September 16th.*

(4) FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1891.

Failure to Provide Masks and Gloves.—A firm of mineral water manufacturers was fined £1 and 14s. costs for failing to observe special rules by not providing masks and gloves for a sighter.—*Ipswich Borough Police-court, September 8th.*

Failure to Provide Overalls, Nail-brushes, and Sanitary Drink.—A firm of paint, etc., manufacturers was fined £2 and 16s. 6d. costs for failure to observe special rules by not providing overalls, nail-brush and sanitary drink for employees.—*Manchester City Police-court, September 16th.*

Failure to Observe Special Rules in a Room where Bi-sulphide of Carbon is Used.—A firm of indiarubber manufacturers was fined £2 1s. and £1 9s. costs for failure to observe special rules by employing a young person in a room in which bi-sulphide of carbon is used, and employing a male adult for a longer period than two and a half hours at a stretch, and for more than five hours in a day in a room in which bi-sulphide of carbon is used.—*North London Police-court, September 27th.*

(5) FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1895.

Failure to Supply Particulars of Work.—A firm of cotton-spinners was fined 5s. and £1 1s. costs for failing to supply particulars of work to an employee.—*Stalybridge Borough Police-court, September 7th.*

(6) TRUCK ACT.

Deducting from Wages Without Supplying Particulars.—A firm of tin stampers was fined £1 and 13s. 6d. costs for making deductions from wages not in pursuance of contract, and without supplying particulars of such deductions.—*Swansea Borough Petty Sessions, September 6th.*

(7) MISCELLANEOUS.

User of a Road otherwise than for the Purpose of Passing.—A motion was made by a colliery company to restrain the defendants from trespassing or entering on land belonging to the company. A strike was in progress at the plaintiffs' colliery, though a certain number of men still remained at work, some of whom lived and slept at the colliery, while some of the men out on strike, who were said to be the strike leaders, had congregated every day in front of an occupation road belonging to the plaintiffs, for the purpose, it was alleged by the plaintiffs, of abusing and hooting the men who lived at the colliery, and of waylaying and intimidating others who went to and from their work along the occupation road. It was stated that the result had been that several of the men who had remained at work had been frightened into quitting the employment of the company. The plaintiffs' case was that, assuming for the purpose of the motion that there was a public right of way over the occupation road, there was no right in law to use it for the purposes referred to.

The Court made an order restraining the defendants from holding meetings in the occupation road, or gathering crowds there, or shouting abusively at the plaintiffs' workmen, or from using the road otherwise than for the purpose of passing and re-passing at their pleasure.—*Chancery Division, September 14th.*

LABOUR ABROAD.
FRANCE.

Employment in September.*—On the whole, the state of employment has been the same as in August. Certain seasonal trades have been slow in recovering their activity or had not even begun to do so in the middle of September. The operatives unemployed in these trades found temporary work during the harvest, but are now again without employment. The mining and metal (smelting and manufacture) trades continued well employed, but there was some decline of activity in the building and allied trades, quarrying, carpentry, joinery and lime burning. The drought has had a very adverse effect upon certain spinning and weaving establishments in the cotton, flax, and wool industries, and upon the silk industry as well as upon certain factories making use of water, either in the processes of manufacture or as motive power (e.g., in dyeing, tanning, &c.). Employment remained the same as in August in the printing, boot and shoe, and coachbuilding trades. The garment-making, &c., trades are still in their slack season.

On September 15th, 520 trade unions, with 90,000 members, reported a little over 9 per cent. unemployed. Eleven per cent. of the number, containing 9 per cent. of the membership, of the reporting unions regarded employment as having been more plentiful this September than last; 59 per cent. of the unions, containing 49 per cent. of the membership, regarded it as having been equally plentiful, and 30 per cent. of the unions, containing 42 per cent. of the membership, as having been less plentiful.

As usual at the time of year, the working day has been reduced by one or two hours in a number of seasonal trades, more especially the building trades.

The prices of butter, eggs, and vegetables continue rather high; the fall in the price of bread has been somewhat more marked than in August.

Labour Disputes in September.*—Thirty-four new disputes were reported to the French Labour Department in September compared with 36 in August. Twenty-eight of the September disputes directly involved 3,902 workpeople. This figure does not include the 13th in Paris, for increased wages and an alteration in the form of engagement. The number of men involved in this dispute has not been definitely ascertained, but is stated to have been approximately 15,000. Nine of the September disputes affected two or more establishments. Disputes were most frequent in the textile and metal-working groups of trades, in each of which nine took place; the building trades had four disputes; and the leather working trades, including boot and shoe making, three; the rest occurring in trades not included in any of the foregoing groups. In 16 disputes the workpeople demanded an increase, and in two they opposed a reduction of wages. Apart from the strike of navvies and housebreakers in Paris, the most noteworthy of the September disputes occurred at Caudry (Nord department) where 2,100 lacemakers in 90 establishments were out, owing to the operatives at four establishments having struck against a reduction of wages, and the employees of the remaining establishments being then locked-out. Out of a total of 17 disputes terminated in September, three were compromised, seven ended unfavourably, and seven favourably for the workpeople.

Coal Mining in August.†—The average number of days per week on which coal was hewn and wound in August was 5.92, as compared with 5.92 in July and 5.85 in August, 1897. Full time (6 days or over) was worked by 77 per cent., and from 5 to 6 days by 22 per cent. of the miners, the percentages in the previous month being 90 and 10 respectively. The pits making these returns employ over 100,000 workpeople, or three-fourths of the coal miners of France.

GERMANY.

Labour Disputes in September.—According to *Der Arbeitsmarkt*, the disputes reported to have begun in September were fewer than in

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the French Labour Department.
† Bulletin de l'Office du Travail, September, 1898.

any previous month of the year. They numbered 26 (compared with 56 in August), and were of trivial extent. The trades affected were:—Building, 8 disputes, (1½ in August); clothing, 4 disputes; metal, engineering and allied trades, 3 (6 in August); textile trades and woodworking and allied trades, 2 each; and trades not included in any of the foregoing groups, 7 disputes. According to *Soziale Praxis*, the dispute in the building trade in Magdeburg, referred to in last month's GAZETTE (page 266), came to an end on September 15th. The terms of the settlement arranged between the federated employers and the workmen's committee made no change in respect to wages. Some 2,000 operatives were involved in this dispute. The dispute in the baking trade in Hamburg begun on June 22nd (see July GAZETTE, page 202), was, according to the *Deutscher Reichs-Anzeiger*, declared at an end on September 15th at a meeting of the men.

Operations of Public Labour Registries in September.—The total number of situations offered by employers in September at 48 of the municipal and other public labour registries which have sent returns to *Der Arbeitsmarkt* was 31,173, as compared with 33,428 in the previous month, and 30,058 in September, 1897. The number of situations sought during the month was 35,787, compared with 35,902 in the previous month, and 31,501 in September, 1897. The number of situations found was 23,641, compared with 23,395 in August, and 20,868 in September, 1897.

Employment ensured to Government Factory Operatives in Winter.—An order has been issued by the Prussian War Office directing that operatives employed in its factories shall not be discharged during the winter months (October 1st to April 1st). The factory administrations are instructed to arrange the distribution of the work accordingly.—*Soziale Praxis*.

Appointment of Lady Factory Inspectors.—The Governments of Bavaria and Hesse have each recently appointed two lady factory inspectors. *Soziale Praxis* states that these are the first appointments of the kind made by any of the States of the German Empire.

Co-operative Societies in Germany on April 30th, 1898.—According to the Annual* for 1897 of the Federation of Co-operative Societies on the Schulze-Delitzsch system, there were 16,069 co-operative societies (on all systems) in Germany on April 30th, 1898, compared with 14,842 on May 31st, 1897.

The following statement shows the number and nature of the various kinds of co-operative societies in each of the years 1895-8:—

Description of Society.	No. of Societies on May 31st.			
	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.†
Credit Associations	6,417	8,069	9,417	10,259
Supply (Materials) Associations—				
Industrial	61	58	66	73
Agricultural	1,067	1,085	1,128	1,167
Supply (Instruments of Production) Associations—				
Industrial	17	21	23	30
Agricultural	240	248	377	455
Productive Sale Depot Associations—				
Industrial	57	56	68	70
Agricultural	4	19	45	83
Associations for Production—				
Industrial	124	129	172	179
Agricultural	1,458	1,604	1,765	1,932
Insurance, &c., Associations	160	184	207	233
Associations for Distribution	1,412	1,400	1,400	1,396
Building Associations	124	132	165	192
Total	11,141	13,005	14,842	16,069

SWITZERLAND.

Prevention of Lead Poisoning: Instructions to Workpeople.—The Swiss Federal Factory Inspectorate has prepared leaflets for circulation amongst those concerned, containing instructions and rules to be observed in order to prevent accidents and sickness in certain dangerous and unhealthy trades. These leaflets, of which the text is given in the biennial Report of the Federal Factory and Mine Inspectors for the years 1896 and 1897,† include instructions for the guidance of workpeople in factories where lead, or lead compounds, are worked up or used.

Working Hours in Factories and Mines.—The Report above referred to shows that out of a total of 1,412 establishments, subject to the Federal Factory Act in the seven cantons‡ forming the second of the three-inspectoral districts, 750 had a normal working day of 11 hours; 102 of 10½ hours; 476 of 10 hours; 15 of 9½ hours; 67 of 9 hours.

* Jahrbuch des Allgemeinen Verbandes der auf Selbsthilfe beruhenden deutschen Erwerbs- und Wirtschaftsgenossenschaften für 1897 (des Jahresberichts neue Folge). Berlin: J. Guttentag, Wilhelmstrasse 119/120. 1898.

† On April 30th.

‡ Berichte der eidg. Fabrik und Bergwerksinspektoren über ihre Amtstätigkeit in den Jahren 1896 und 1897. Veröffentlicht vom Schweiz. Industrie-departement. Aarau. H. R. Sauerländer & Comp., 1898.

§ The 7 cantons are:—Berne (Jura), Fribourg, Ticino, Vaud, Valais, Neuchâtel, and Geneva.

REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.
(a) COAL MINING IN SEPTEMBER.

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

Employment in this industry (excluding the South Wales and Monmouthshire district) showed a further improvement in September, the average number of days worked being in every district greater than in August, and in the majority of districts greater than a year ago.

In the South Wales and Monmouthshire district work was not resumed at the associated collieries until after the commencement of the period dealt with in the following tables, and this district has therefore again been excluded as in the past five months. Some particulars are, however, given separately respecting employment at non-associated pits in this district.

In other districts, 1,155 pits employing 370,424 workpeople worked on an average 5.37 days per week in the four weeks ended September 24th, as compared with 5.19 days per week in August, and 5.21 days per week in September, 1897.

The following table shows the average number of days worked in these periods in each division of the United Kingdom:—

District.	No. employed in Sept., 1898, at the collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the pits in four weeks ended		
		24th Sept., 1898.	25th Sept., 1897.	20th Aug., 1898.
England and N. Wales	334,612	5.36	5.20	5.18
Scotland	35,405	5.51	5.33	5.31
Ireland	609	4.86	4.35	4.82
United Kingdom	370,424	5.37	5.21	5.19

The next table, in which the pits are divided according to the class of coal principally produced, shows that in all of these classes employment was better than in August and a year ago. As compared with August, the greatest improvement was at pits producing manufacturing coal, whilst house coal pits also show a seasonal improvement.

Description of Coal.	No. employed in Sept., 1898, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Number of days worked per week.		
		September, 1898.	September, 1897.	August, 1898.
Coking Coal	26,557	5.79	5.62	5.62
Gas "	37,492	5.50	5.25	5.30
House "	93,091	5.09	5.05	4.83
Manufacturing Coal	26,505	5.33	5.26	5.21
Steam "	106,327	5.51	5.22	5.31
Mixed "	80,452	5.28	5.21	5.22
All Classes of Coal	370,424	5.37	5.21	5.19

In the table below the workpeople are grouped according to the number of days worked at pits at which they are employed. It will be seen that 84.2 per cent. were employed at pits working 5 or more days per week, as against 77.7 per cent. in August and 72.8 per cent. a year ago.

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

Number of days on which Coal was hewn and wound in four weeks.	September, 1898.		Corresponding percentages in—	
	No. of Workpeople employed.	Percentage proportion to total.	September, 1897.	August, 1898.
24 days (full time)	70,217	18.9	18.2	18.5
20 and under 24 days	241,916	65.3	69.6	68.2
16 " " 20 " "	39,647	10.7	11.5	13.6
12 " " 16 " "	12,070	3.3	3.9	6.7
8 " " 12 " "	3,700	1.0	1.2	2.7
Under 8 days	2,874	0.8	0.6	1.5
Total	370,424	100.0	100.0	100.0

Comparison by Districts.—Employment in all districts was better in September than in August, especially in Staffordshire, the Lothians, and Salop, Worcester and

and 2 of 8 hours. (The Federal Factory Act fixes a maximum working day of 11 hours for all persons, irrespective of age or sex, employed in establishments ranking as factories.) The number of establishments having a normal working day of 10 hours, viz., 476, has doubled since 1893, when it was 238, whilst the total number of establishments, coming within the Act, in this district has increased by 30 per cent., viz., from 1,084 to 1,412.

BELGIUM.*

Employment in September.—The activity reported in August as existing in the coalmining, engineering, metal (smelting and manufacture), glass and brewing trade has not decreased perceptibly. The brick-making season is now at an end almost everywhere; the beginning of the sugar-refining season is being delayed by the dryness of the weather. The fine weather has been favourable to employment in the building trades, but adverse to the garment-making trades, in which there are many unemployed. The textile trades as a whole are not quite so active; employment is beginning to be very scarce in jute spinning, and the dearth of work already existing in the cotton-spinning and weaving branches has become more pronounced. The wool-scouring industry at Verviers, too, is very depressed. The wool-weaving industry alone has somewhat improved.

Labour Disputes in September.—Eleven new disputes, involving about 1,200 workpeople, were reported in September. Of these, five disputes, involving over 900 workpeople, and caused by demands for increased wages, took place in coal mines. They were all unsuccessful after having lasted only a few days. Of nine disputes, of which the results were reported, six (affecting 940 workpeople) ended unfavourably, and two (affecting 90 workpeople) favourably for the workpeople. One dispute (affecting 45 workpeople) ended partially in their favour.

National Congress of Miners.—A National Congress of Miners was held at Frameries (Mons) on October 2nd and 3rd, to discuss the measures to be taken by the miners' unions with a view to obtaining a general increase of wages. It was determined to establish a permanent committee in each coalmining district, composed of equal numbers of employers and workpeople, for the purpose of deciding jointly upon the scale of wages to be paid.

AUSTRIA.

Strike of Vienna Bookbinders.—The most important of the disputes reported† to have begun in Austria in September appears to have been a general strike of the bookbinders in Vienna. On September 26th, at a general meeting of the operatives, a list of demands was drawn up for presentation to the employers, together with a notification that, unless a favourable reply was received by October 3rd, a general strike would be commenced. The chief demands were for a nine-hour day and the acceptance of a minimum wages scale. By the end of September strikes had occurred at several workshops. On October 6th, the strikers were stated to number 1,071. On the following day it was stated that some 420 operatives were working under the new conditions. The total number of bookbinders in Vienna is given as 2,100 (1,300 males and 800 females).

Federation of Agricultural Co-operative Societies of Austria.—*Blätter für Genossenschaftswesen* reports the formation of a federation of the agricultural co-operative societies of Austria. The conference, which met for this purpose on August 22nd in Vienna, is stated to have been attended by representatives of 1,200 co-operative societies.

Free Municipal Labour Registry in Vienna.—*Soziale Praxis* reports that a free municipal labour registry was formally opened in Vienna on September 13th. The new institution is under the direct control of the Municipal Council, and is to be available for all classes of labour except domestic service.

ITALY.

The Tenth General Congress of Italian Co-operative Societies.—The Executive Committee of the National League of Italian Co-operative Societies has issued notices announcing that the tenth general congress will take place in Turin on October 30th to November 1st inclusive.

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Belgian Labour Department.
† In employers' and workmen's papers, including *Die Industrie* (the organ of the Federation of Austrian Manufacturers' Associations), *Das Handels-Museum*, *Die Gewerkschaft*, *Die Arbeiter-Zeitung*, and others.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—AGRICULTURE.

It will be seen that, as compared with June last, considerable increases took place in the Tyne and Clyde districts, while the most noteworthy decrease was in the Belfast district. As compared with a year ago, increases are shown in all the districts named, the increases in the Clyde and Tyne districts amounting to nearly 50 per cent.

(g) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN SEPTEMBER.

(a) STATE OF EMPLOYMENT.

THE Agricultural Correspondent to the Department on the basis of 250 returns from various parts of the country reports as follows:—Generally speaking, agricultural labourers were very fully employed during the month of September at harvest work. A great many employers state that extra hands for harvest were most difficult, and sometimes impossible, to obtain. Owing, however, to the fine weather, no loss was occasioned on account of any delay caused by a scarcity of labour. In some of the Western Counties where the root crop has been considerably affected by the long drought, there was but little hoeing work, which is frequently undertaken by piecework, and in consequence less money has been earned.

Northern Counties.—Reports from *Northumberland* and *Westmorland* state that all farm labourers were fully employed during September. Reports of a similar character come from *Cumberland* from the Unions of Alston-with-Garrigill, Bootle, Brampton, Carlisle, Cockermouth, Longtown, Penrith, Whitehaven, and Wigton. Reports from the Carlisle and Cockermouth Unions state that harvest lasted about a month, ending about the third week of September. In some of the high-lying districts in the county corn was still standing on October 1st. In *North Lancashire*, in the Unions of Fylde, Garstang, Lancaster, Lunside, and Ulverston employment is said to be plentiful; in a good many districts extra hands were difficult to obtain when required. A number of Irishmen, chiefly from Mayo, take part in the harvest in *North Lancashire*, and frequently remain until potato lifting is over. A few Irish hands are reported to have been in irregular work in the Fylde Union after harvest was over and before potato lifting began. Farm hands are said to be well employed in *Durham* in the Unions of Chester-le-street, Darlington (*Durham* and *Yorks*, *W.R.*), and *Durham*. Extra men in these districts are said to have been very difficult to obtain. Employment in *Yorkshire* was generally uninterrupted throughout the month in the Unions of Beverley, Easingwold, Guisborough, Howden, Knaresborough, Malton, Ouseburn, Pocklington, Ripon, and Thirsk. Generally, the supply of labour was about equal to the demand, though a scarcity of labour in some districts is referred to in reports from the Unions of Beverley, Guisborough, Malton, and Ripon.

Midland Counties.—In *Cheshire* employment is reported as regular in the Unions of Nantwich, and Macclesfield, and in the *Derbyshire* portion of the Mansfield Union (*Notts* and *Derby*), and in *Derbyshire* in the Ashbourne, and Hayfield Unions, and in the *Derbyshire* portion of the Worksop Union (*Notts*, *Derbyshire*, and *Yorks*, *W.R.*). Reports of a favourable character come from *Shropshire* from the Unions of Bridgnorth, Ellesmere (*Salop* and *Flint*), Market Drayton (*Staffs* and *Salop* portions), Wellington, and Wem. In the *Oswestry* Union (*Salop* and *Denbigh*) some men were reported in irregular work in a certain district at the latter end of September. In some districts extra men are said to have been rather more difficult to get this year than last. Employment is said to be regular in *Staffordshire* in the Union of Tamworth, and in *Warwickshire* in the Unions of Alcester, Atherstone, Coventry, Meriden, Stratford-on-Avon, and in the *Warwickshire* portion of the Banbury Union (*Oxon*, *Northants*, and *Warwick*).

In *Leicestershire* agricultural labourers are said to be well employed in the Unions of Barrow-on-Soar, Blaby, Market Harborough, Melton Mowbray, and Lutterworth (*Leicester* and *Warwick*); in *Nottinghamshire*, in the Unions of Retford, and Southwell; in *Rutland* in the Oakham Union, and in *Worcestershire* in the Unions of Evesham (*Worcester* and *Gloucester*), Martley, Shipston-on-Stour (*Worcester*, *Gloucester* and *Warwick*), and Tenbury (*Worcester* and *Salop*). In several districts extra hands are said to have been difficult to obtain.

Employment is said to be generally regular in *Oxfordshire* in the Thame, and Witney Unions, and in the *Oxfordshire* portions of the Abingdon and Wallingford Unions (*Oxon* and *Berks.*) Favourable reports come from *Northamptonshire* from the Unions of Brixworth, Hardingstone, Kettering, Potterspurty, and Wellingborough, and from the *Northamptonshire* portion of the Banbury Union (*Oxon*, *Northants*, and *Warwick*). In the Kettering and Potterspurty Unions extra hands were, it is stated, difficult to obtain. In *Huntingdonshire* employment is said to have been quite regular in the Unions of Huntingdon and St. Neots (*Hunts* and *Beds*). Reports from this county state that extra hands were very difficult, and often impossible, to obtain. A report from the St. Neot's Union (*Hunts* portion) states that "women, girls, and boys have been pressed into the work." An employer in the *Beds* portion of the same Union writes, that "the harvest has been very expensive. The crops, which were so heavy in straw, were laid and twisted in all directions. This made the work difficult, and in some cases impossible for machinery to cope with satisfactorily. Consequently, the farmers had to fall back on hand labour, thus taking much longer and costing much more." In *Bedfordshire* agricultural labourers are said to be fully employed in the Unions of Bedford, Biggleswade, and Luton. Reports from the Bedford and Biggleswade Unions state that extra labour was very scarce. In the Luton Union this is said not to have been the case, as the straw-workers, who are usually slack at this season, are employed by farmers.

Eastern Counties.—In *Essex* employment is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Billericay, Braintree, Colchester, Danmow, Halstead, Maldon, Orsett, and Tendring. Several reports from this county refer to a considerable difficulty in securing extra hands during the month. There is said to have been no lack of employment in *Norfolk* in the Unions of Aylsham, Blofield, Depwade, Docking, Downham, East and West Flegg, Erpingham, Forehoe, Freebridge Lynn, Giltcross, Loddon and Clavering, Mitford and Launditch, Smallburgh, St. Faith's, Swaffham, Thetford, and Walsingham. Reports state that the harvest was a bulky one and that wages were generally 5s. and in some cases 10s. to 15s. higher than last year, but that owing to the heavy crops the work was greater. An employer in the Giltcross Union writes: "We have had a beautiful harvest. I have been farming 45 years and I never remember so much straw, and I believe the yield will be good." An employer writing from the Downham Union says: "The money paid has been actually slightly more, but, compared with the extra amount of work done, owing to the heavy and laid crops, it is really less. In the Fen district, where much work is done by piecework, prices have greatly increased all round owing to the nature of the crops. Hands have been very difficult to obtain there."

Favourable reports come from *Suffolk* from the Unions of Blything, Bosmere and Claydon, Cosford, Hartismere, Hoxne, Mutford and Lothingland, Mildenhall, Plomesgate, Risbridge, Samford, Sudbury, and Thingoe. In a number of districts harvest wages were slightly higher this year than last, but employers state that the work this year was heavier owing to the bulky crops, which were frequently laid. All reports state that the crops were secured in excellent condition. An employer in the Plomesgate Union states: "I have assisted in more than fifty harvests, and I never remember such a fine one, nor so much corn secured without a single load getting wet." In the Thingoe Union a farmer states that in a number of parishes there was a scarcity of labour for harvest work, and a great difficulty in getting odd hands for turnip-hoeing. In *Cambridgeshire* work is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Chesterton, North Witchford, Whittlesea, Wisbech, and in the *Cambridgeshire* portion of the Peterborough Union (*Northants*, *Cambs*, *Hunts*, and *Lincoln*). All the reports from the Fen districts state that the harvest has been very costly, owing to the heavy crops, which were much laid. In the North Witchford Union a correspondent writes that the condition of the crops was such that only a small quantity of corn was cut by machine, and that wages were 20 per cent. higher than last year. Extra hands were most difficult to obtain, and women and children were employed. A correspondent in the Peterborough Union states that a number of men there got two harvests. In *Lincolnshire* agricultural labourers are said to be fully employed in the Unions of Gainsborough, Grimsby, Grantham, Lincoln, Louth, Sleaford, and Spilby, and in the *Lincolnshire* portion of the Newark Union (*Lincs* and *Notts*). Reports generally state that the crops were heavy and frequently laid, and that wages were rather higher than last year.

Home Counties.—Reports from *Buckinghamshire* state that agricultural labourers are well employed in the Unions of Aylesbury, Buckingham, Newport Pagnell, and Winslow, and from

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—AGRICULTURE (continued).

(b) HARVEST WAGES IN 1898.

Berkshire in the Unions of Bradfield and Wantage. An employer in the Bradfield Union writes: "The harvest of 1898 cost more money, in many places double as much compared with 1897, as the crops had to be cut by hand. But the crops were much better than last year."

Favourable reports come from *Surrey* from the Unions of Farnham (*Surrey* and *Hants*) and Godstone, and from *Kent* from the Unions of Bridge, Cranbrook, Elham, Faversham, Hollingbourne, Hoo, and Sevenoaks. Employment in *Hertfordshire* is said to be regular in the Unions of Barnet, Buntingford, Hertford, Hitchin and St. Albans. A correspondent in the Hitchin Union, writes that a general scarcity of labour existed in Hertfordshire in September owing to the heavy crops, to the employment of many men on the extension works of the Great Northern Railway, and to the absence of a number of men with the militia at the autumn manoeuvres.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—In *Sussex* agricultural labourers are said to be fully employed in the Unions of Battle, Chailey, Hailsham, Horsham, Lewes, Petworth, Rye, and Uckfield. In nearly all these districts harvest wages are said to have been higher than last year, and most employers refer to a difficulty in getting extra hands. As, however, the weather was so fine, no loss occurred by reason of any delay. An employer writes from the Rye Union that the hop-picking was carried on under very favourable circumstances, and that good wages were earned. Favourable reports come from *Hampshire* from the Unions of Basingstoke, Christchurch, Hartley Wintney, Fareham, Havant, Kingsclere, Lymington, Petersfield, and Stockbridge, and from the *Hampshire* portion of the Farnham Union (*Hants* and *Surrey*). Several reports state that extra labour has been most difficult to obtain, and that the harvest has been an expensive one. An employer in the Havant Union states that no good extra hands could be got, and that farmers had to put up with unskilled men. A large employer in the Stockbridge Union says that owing to the heavy crop of corn more was paid for ryeing than last year. He states that, owing to the failure of his root crop, he had to discharge extra men, as he had no hoeing for them.

In *Dorsetshire* labourers are said to be fully employed in the Unions of Blandford, Dorchester, Wareham and Purbeck, and Sherborne and Wimborne. An employer in the Dorchester Union writes that great difficulty was experienced in cutting with binders, the crops being very heavy and also long in the straw. Favourable reports also come from *Wiltshire* from the Unions of Amesbury, Bradford-on-Avon, Chippenham, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett, Devizes, Highworth and Swindon, Marlborough, Mere, Pewsey, Warminster, Westbury and Whorwellsdown, and Wilton. Generally, employers state that wages at harvest were rather higher this year than last. An employer in the Bradford-on-Avon Union states that some difficulty has been experienced in getting hands for hoeing, and great difficulty in getting milkers. From the Chippenham Union an employer writes: "The harvest in this district is the best I ever remember, both in quality and quantity. I hear of several who have thrashed both wheat and barley, and the yield was most satisfactory and much in excess of that in 1897."

In *Gloucestershire* employment is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Barton Regis, Cirencester, Dursley, Gloucester, Northleach, Stow-on-the-Wold, and Thornbury. An employer, writing from the Stow-on-the-Wold Union, says, "Harvest was much more expensive, partly owing to large crops, partly owing to some of them being much laid, and partly to the ripening taking place at the same time, in consequence of the great heat." Reports of a favourable character come from *Herefordshire* from the Unions of Bromyard, Dore (*Monmouth* and *Hereford*), and Ross. In the Bromyard Union a number of Welsh miners were employed at harvest.

In *Somersetshire* employment is said to have been regular in the Unions of Bridgwater, Chard, Clutton, Frome, Langport, Taunton, Wellington, Wells, Wincanton, and Yeovil. A correspondent in the Yeovil Union writes that though the men have had regular employment they have not earned as much as usual, owing to there being no piecework at root-hoeing, on account of the drought. He states that field work is very backward, as the land cannot be ploughed; that cattle are being fed on cake and hay, and that sheep have deteriorated in value. In *Devonshire* agricultural labourers are well employed in the Unions of Axminster, Barnstaple, Crediton, Holsworthy, Kingsbridge, South Molton, Tavistock, and Torrington, and in *Cornwall* in the Union of Stratton. A correspondent in the Torrington Union states that wages were about the same as last year, but more labour was required.

RETURNS have been received from 120 farmers in the Midland, Home, and Southern and South-Western Counties, giving the cash earnings, exclusive of perquisites, of their men at harvest. The average cash earnings of 2,032 labourers in a period of 26 working days are estimated at £5 19s. 3½d., compared with £6 2s. 2d. in the case of 1,670 men in these districts in 1897.

In addition to cash payments, beer is given in a good many cases, and sometimes light refreshments such as tea, bread, butter, and cheese. Overtime is also sometimes paid for. In Norfolk and Suffolk 1s. is often given for hiring money, and also "horkey" money, i.e., 2s. or 2s. 6d., for a supper at the end of harvest.

Although the rates of wages paid in a good many districts were rather higher this year than in 1897, the work frequently took longer as the crops were unusually heavy, and often so beaten down that they had to be cut by hand instead of by machines. Some employers state that they were delayed owing to the difficulty of getting sufficient hands. In cases where men are paid by piecework they, of course, earn more where higher prices are paid, but in districts where a bargain is made for the whole of the harvest work, or where no extra wages are paid, except, perhaps, a small bonus or extra food and drink, a protracted and arduous harvest is a disadvantage to them. As regards the state of the weather during the two harvests, it was fine in both years in the Eastern, Home and Southern and South-Western counties, though in parts of the Midlands in 1897 the fine weather broke up before harvest was completed, and consequently delayed it there.

In the great corn-growing counties of Cambridge-shire, Essex, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Lincolnshire, harvest wages were generally rather higher than last year. In Norfolk and Suffolk they generally varied from £6 10s. to £7 10s., exclusive of any beer given or of other extras. A report from the Giltcross Union in Norfolk gives the wages agreed upon for the harvest in 20 parishes, and in 15 they were between £7 and £7 10s., and in five between £6 10s. and £7. The highest wages appear to have been paid in the Fen districts of Cambridge-shire, Lincolnshire and Norfolk, where the work is usually done by piecework, and where the crops were abnormally heavy, and very much laid. A report from the Cambridge-shire portion of the Peterborough Union gives the average earnings of seven men carting for 17 days at 9s. a day, and of three men with binders and reapers at £2 a week each. A well-known employer in the Wisbech Union writes that his head set of carters earned £6 11s. 11d. each in 10½ days, and that one of them took an additional £7 10s. for cutting, etc., in the three preceding weeks; that is at the rate of 9s. 8d. a day for 29 days.

The system of payment at harvest varies considerably in different parts of the country. In the Northern counties, where the majority of the men are hired by the year or half-year, the hired men are paid no extra harvest wages, but are frequently supplied with extra food and drink, but the married men attached to the staff of a farm are usually paid extra money wages, and often given food and drink. Extra hands, both English and Irish, get from £4 to £6 a month, frequently with an allowance of food and drink. Irishmen are usually given accommodation in barns. In other parts of the country the systems of payment are to give piecework; to contract for a certain sum for the harvest; to give the ordinary weekly wages, and, in addition, a bonus at the end of harvest; to pay double the weekly wages during harvest; to give extra wages for a month certain, and then to pay the ordinary weekly wages.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR; TEXTILE; SEAMEN.

(h) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN SEPTEMBER.

EMPLOYMENT at the docks and wharves improved during the month, and was on the whole better than during August, although not so good as a year ago.

The daily average number employed at all the docks and the principal wharves during the four weeks ended September 24th was 14,490, as compared with an average of 13,978 in the five preceding weeks, and 15,085 in the corresponding period of 1897. The estimated number employed on any one day ranged from 13,262 on the 3rd to 16,102 on the 22nd.

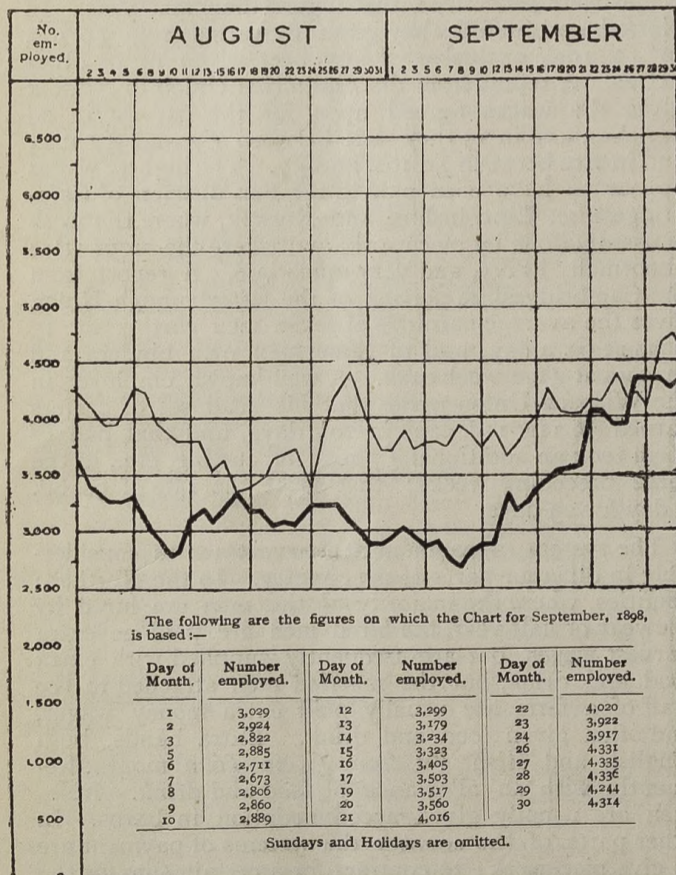
Detailed Figures.—(1) The following table shows the estimated daily average number of dock and wharf labourers employed in each week of the month:—

Period.	Labourers employed in Docks.			Labourers employed at 15 Wharves making Returns.	Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ending Sept. 3	5,823	1,884	7,707	6,012	13,719
" " " 10	5,754	2,607	8,361	5,982	14,343
" " " 17	6,216	1,995	8,211	6,184	14,395
" " " 24	6,982	2,303	9,285	6,218	15,503
Average for 4 weeks ending Sept. 24th, 1898	6,194	2,197	8,391	6,099	14,490
Average for Sept., 1897	6,881	2,229	9,110	5,975	15,085
Average for Aug., 1898	6,022	2,267	8,289	5,689	13,978

(2) The daily fluctuation in the number of dock labourers employed by the London and India Docks Joint Committee during August and September is shown on the chart below. The numbers in September ranged from 2,673 on the 7th to 4,336 on the 28th.

Chart showing the total number of Dock Labourers employed by the Joint Committee at the London, St. Katharine, East and West India, Victoria and Albert Docks, and the Town Warehouses, for each day during the months of August and September, 1898. The corresponding curve for August and September, 1897, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1898, and the thin curve to 1897.]



During September, 1897, the total number of Dock Labourers employed varied from 3,640 on the 13th to 4,134 on the 30th. Taking the London and St. Katharine Docks only, the number employed during September, 1898, varied from 2,286 on the 30th to 2,936 on the 7th. Wool Sales commenced on the 21st September in 1898, and on the 30th September in 1897.

Employment in mid-stream has been moderately good and steady. Deal porters and lumpers have been busy; coal porters, winchmen, stevedores, and lightermen moderately well employed; corn porters slack in the Surrey Docks, fairly well employed in the Victoria and Albert, and Millwall Docks.

The fruit porters in Thames-street have had moderate employment. The daily average number employed has been 194, compared with 210 in August.

(i) EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE TEXTILE TRADES IN SEPTEMBER.

ACCORDING to returns from women correspondents, employment for women during the month showed a slight decline in the cotton trade, and a slight improvement in the woollen and worsted trades. Information has been received with regard to 537 cotton, woollen, worsted and silk mills, employing about 86,880 women and girls, and is summarised in the following table, which also gives for comparison the corresponding figures for the previous month and for a year ago:—

Trade and Month.	Percentage ordinarily employed in Mills which were			
	Working full Time.	With Full Employment.	With Partial Employment.	Closed for repairs, bad trade, disputes, or other causes.
Cotton Trade—				
September, 1898	79	17	1	3
August, 1898	81	14	2	3
September, 1897	60	28	7	5
Woollen and Worsted Trades—				
September, 1898	77	18	5	—
August, 1898	74	18	7	1
September, 1897	75	18	7	—
Silk Trade—				
September, 1898	84	10	36	—
August, 1898	66	3	31	—
September, 1897	35	23	42	—
Total of above Trades—				
September, 1898	77	17	3	3
August, 1898	79	14	4	3
September, 1897	62	25	9	4

Cotton Trade.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton mills reported on is 64,220; of these 79 per cent. were employed in mills working full time (to be compared with 81 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in August, and with 60 per cent. in September, 1897); 17 per cent. in mills running full time, but giving only partial employment; 1 per cent. in mills running short time; while mills employing 3 per cent. were stopped during the whole or part of the month.

Woollen and Worsted Trades.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted mills reported on is 18,440; of these 77 per cent. were employed in mills running full time (to be compared with 74 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in August, and 75 per cent. in September, 1897); 18 per cent. in mills running full time, but giving only partial employment; and 5 per cent. in mills running short time.

(j) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN SEPTEMBER.

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

The number of men shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels from certain selected ports (at which over 80 per cent. of the total tonnage of vessels in the foreign trade is entered and cleared), was 34,955 in September, or 452 more than in September, 1897. At Newport and Cardiff, employment continued to be affected by the recent dispute in the South Wales coal trade, and the number of men shipped from these ports was less than a year ago by 1,481. At other ports the numbers show on the whole an increase of more than 1,900, as compared with a year ago. At most of the ports the supply of men is reported as equal to or greater than the

* Amended figures.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS.—LONDON.

demand; at Cardiff and Dublin, however, there was a scarcity of men for sailing vessels. Particulars of changes in rates of wages of seamen and firemen at Cardiff, Swansea and Glasgow, will be found in the table on page 313.

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 September, 1898 and 1897 respectively, together with the number shipped in the nine months ended September in each of these years:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Men, &c., shipped in September, 1898.*			Total in Sept., 1897.*	Total number shipped in nine months ended September*
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in Sept., 1898.		
ENGLAND.					
East Coast.					
Tyne Ports	209	3,545	3,754	3,391	34,970
Sunderland	22	651	673	695	5,941
Middlesbrough	32	221	253	282	3,215
Hull	48	1,722	1,770	1,068	13,261
Grimsby	20	253	273	372	1,424
Bristol Channel.					
Bristol	27	316	343	378	2,101
Newport, Mon.	59	520	579	1,004	5,618
Cardiff	595	3,155	3,750	4,706	29,758
Swansea	73	583	656	743	49,341
Other Ports.					
Liverpool	324	10,978	11,302	10,434	94,380
London	450	6,058	6,508	6,480	58,917
Southampton	—	1,440	1,440	1,304	13,573
SCOTLAND.					
Leith, Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth	—	860	860	545	8,342
Glasgow	48	2,391	2,439	2,639	23,201
IRELAND.					
Dublin	—	33	33	190	894
Belfast	43	279	322	302	2,176
Total, Sept., 1898	1,980	33,005	34,985	—	301,463
Sept., 1897	1,307	33,286	—	34,503	311,834

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

DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

LONDON.

Employment in various Industries.—During September the state of employment again remained steady, and was good for the season. Returns from 421 branches of 110 unions, having an aggregate membership of 72,018, show that 2,511 (or 3·5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3·8 in August, and 4·2 per cent. in September, 1897.

Employment in the *Engineering, Metal, and Shipbuilding* trades continues steady. Reports from 122 branches of 26 unions, with an aggregate membership of 20,206, show that 661 (or 3·3 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of September, compared with 3·4 in August. Employment with sailmakers was fair.

The *Building* trades still remain briskly employed. Returns from 180 branches of 6 unions paying unemployed benefit, with a membership of 11,207, show that 94 (or 0·8 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of September, compared with 0·6 in August, and 1·2 per cent. in September, 1897. The bricklayers, stonemasons, stone-carvers, carpenters and joiners, mill-sawyers, and painters and decorators describe employment as good; the plasterers as fair; the plumbers as moderate.

Employment in the *Furnishing* trades has improved. Reports from 44 branches of 10 unions with a membership of 6,361, show that 156 (or 2·5 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of September, compared with 3·6 in August and 2·5 per cent. in September of last year.

Coopers still remain busy, only 1 member being returned as unemployed. There were no unemployed in August. The number in September, 1897, was under 1 per cent.

Coachbuilders and Wheelwrights continue well employed. Returns from 13 branches of 8 unions, with a membership of 1,383, show that 27 (or 2·0 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of September, compared with 2·2 in August and 1·4 per cent. in September, 1897.

The *Printing and Bookbinding* trades are still well employed for the season, the latter especially. Returns from 22 unions, with a membership of 22,561 show that 1,022 (or 4·5 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of September, compared with 5·0 per cent. in August and 5·2 per cent. in September of last year.

Employment in the *Clothing* trades is dull. The West End bespoke tailors were dull, but improved towards the close of the

month; employment in the East End bespoke trade is quiet; in the wholesale trade quiet; in the contract trade fair; in the military uniform trade moderate; in the ladies' tailoring and mantle-making trade dull. Employment with hatters is dull; with capmakers fair. Fur skin dressers have slightly improved. Silk weavers are fairly employed.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—Employment in the West End hand-sewn branch is reported to be exceptionally bad; in the East End sew-round branch it continues fair; with boot and shoe operatives it is still bad, a number being unemployed, and the remainder only partially employed.

Employment in the *Leather* trades is scarcely so good. Returns from 6 unions, with a membership of 1,707 show that 81 (or 4·7 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of September, compared with 4·0 in August and 2·7 per cent. in September, 1897.

In the *Glass and Pottery* trades returns from 8 unions, with a membership of 1,450, show that 67 (or 4·6 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of September, compared with 5·3 in August, and 3·3 per cent. in September, 1897.

Hair, Fibre and Caneworkers.—In these trades returns from 5 unions, with a membership of 913, show that 49 (or 5·4 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of September, compared with 4·4 in August and 4·0 per cent. in September of last year.

Gold and Silver Workers still remain steadily employed. Returns from 8 unions, with a membership of 1,090, show that 20 (or 1·8 per cent.) were unemployed both in August and September. The percentage for September, 1897, was 2·3.

Employment in the *Tobacco* trades has continued to improve. Returns from 4 unions, with a membership of 2,423, show that 86 (or 3·5 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 4·3 in August and 4·7 per cent. in September, 1897.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—During September an average number of 14,490 labourers were employed daily, as compared with 13,978 in August, and 15,085 in September, 1897. Employment in mid-stream has been moderately good and steady. Deal porters and lumpers have been busy; coalporters, winchmen, stevedores and lightermen moderately well employed; corn porters slack in the Surrey Docks, fairly well employed in the Victoria and Albert and Millwall Docks. Fruit porters have had moderate employment.

(For further details see page 302.)

Disputes and Trade Movements.—Four fresh disputes have been reported to the Department as having arisen during the month, involving in all 632 persons—viz., one with ladies' tailors, one with ivory and bone brushmakers, and two with tramway workers. (See p. 317.)

Labour Bureaux.—Returns from eight labour bureaux show that 1,711 fresh applications for work were registered during September, as compared with 1,771 in September, 1897. Of these 691 in September, 1898, and 659 in September, 1897, were applications by women and girls. Work was found by these bureaux during September for 933 persons (including 155 women and girls), compared with 810 (including 168 women and girls) in the corresponding month of 1897. The number of persons on the register at the end of August, 1898, was 1,908, or 53 less than a year ago. (For further details see page 315.)

Pauperism.—The number of persons relieved on one day in the second week of September was 99,173, being 362 more than on the corresponding day in August. As compared with September, 1897, there is an increase of 607, that in the North district being 393 and in the East district 347.

On the same day in September, 764 vagrants were relieved, as compared with 904 on the corresponding day of August, and with 1,003 a year ago.

In West Ham the number of persons (exclusive of vagrants) relieved on one day in the second week was 8,973 in September, 8,818 in August, and 8,261 in September, 1897. (For further details see page 315.)

ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES. Tyne and Wear District.

Coal Mining.—*Northumberland.*—House and steam collieries continue to work steadily, averaging for the four weeks ending 24th September 5·42 days per week. Of the 20,884 union miners, 32 (or 0·15) per cent. are unemployed, as against 36 (or 0·14 per cent.) in August. A further advance in wages has been conceded of 5 per cent. to underground workers and 4 per cent. to surfacemen, to continue for three months. *Durham.*—Coking coal collieries are exceptionally busy, averaging 5·75 days per week. Pits hewing gas, manufacturing, house, and a mixed class of coal averaged respectively 5·47, 5·69, 5·49, and 5·56 days per week, as against 5·33, 5·62, 5·50, and 5·53 days in August. The 117 collieries, employing close on 50,000 men and boys, from which returns have been received,

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—NORTHERN COUNTIES AND LANCASHIRE.

averaged 5.58 days per week, as against 5.53 days last month. The number of union miners idle owing to bad trade is 150 (or 0.24 per cent.), as against 263 (or 0.43 per cent.) in August, in addition to 0.55 per cent. from other causes. Of the 2,841 union deputy overmen and colliery enginemen, 14 (or 0.59 per cent.) are unemployed. All classes of cokeworkers are well employed.

Metal Mining.—Lead miners are in better demand. Iron ore miners continue steadily employed.

Quarrying.—Employment in lime quarries continues fairly full. Employment in Gateshead has been good. Whinstone and other quarries at Weardale and Blyth have worked full time generally.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—On the Tyne.—Boiler shops are working regularly night and day shifts. Engineering and electrical shops are still busy. Locomotive builders are not quite so brisk. At some yards work is interrupted for want of material. "Block" and "board" men on frame work, however, are working much overtime. Employment on repairs in the lower reaches of the river has slackened a little. Of the 12,494 union members of these trades, 334 (or 2.7 per cent.) are unemployed, as against 296 (or 2.3 per cent.) in August. On the Wear.—At one or two engine shops fitters are in good demand. Employment with all classes of iron shipbuilders continues fairly brisk. Forgemen and shipsmiths are regularly employed. Branches of these trades, with a membership of 4,711, have 82 (or 1.7 per cent.) out of work, as against 38 (or 0.8 per cent.) in August. Brassfinishers, iron and steel moulders, and patternmakers have comparatively few idle members. On both rivers, the shipwrights are all employed, as well as the 1,246 drillers and hole cutters. Most local steel and iron mills, furnaces, and smelting shops have worked full time.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Tug-boat men are well employed. Sailmakers report employment as slightly fallen off on the Wear, and slack on the Tyne. Quayside labourers have been fairly busy; trimmers and teamers not so well employed. Of the 664 union shippers and coal porters almost all have worked full time. Sailors and firemen have been in better demand.

Building Trades.—Painters are somewhat slack. Plumbers have 3.7 per cent. idle. Other trades are well employed.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress printers on the Tyne are still quiet. On the Wear employment is better. Bookbinders are working regularly. Three paper mills have worked full time; five others continue slack, and two are busy.

Woodworking Trades.—Coopers are slack. Cabinet-makers, mill-sawyers, and lathrenders report employment as good.

Other Metal, Glass, and Chemical Trades.—The 952 bottle and pressed-glass makers have 8.5 per cent. unemployed. Chemical factories have been fairly employed. White lead works are busy. Employment in cement factories is not quite so good. Copper works are fairly active.

Fishing.—Trawl and line boats have landed fair catches of white fish. The supply of herrings has been below the corresponding month of last year, prices being less than the average.—*J. Ratcliffe.*

Middlesbrough, Stockton and District.

Ironstone Mining.—Employment continues fair with the Cleveland miners, the number of days worked by 21 mines, reported on, averaging 5.90 days per week during the four weeks ending September 24th, as compared with 5.72 days per week during the four weeks ending September 25th, 1897.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment has continued good at the finished ironworks. Under the sliding scale of the North of England Conciliation and Arbitration Board wages remain unchanged for the next two months. Blastfurnacemen report employment as fairly good. Employment continues good at the steel mills, foundries, and bridgeworks generally.

Engineering.—Engineers report employment as good at Middlesbrough, Stockton, and Bishop Auckland, moderate at Darlington and Hartlepool; pattern-makers and ironfounders as good throughout the district. Branches with 3,531 members have 28 (or 0.8 per cent.) unemployed, as against 16 (0.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Shipbuilding.—All the yards in the district are reported as busy. The shipjoiners and shipwrights report employment as good.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Sailors and firemen report employment as quiet at Middlesbrough, and fair at the Hartlepoons. Dock labour is good at the Hartlepoons, fair at Middlesbrough; riverside labour is slack at Middlesbrough, moderate at Eston and South Bank.

Building Trades.—Employment is good generally.

Miscellaneous.—Printers report employment as fair at Darlington,

and good at Stockton, Middlesbrough, and Hartlepool; mill-sawyers and machinists as good; tailors as moderate; cabinet-makers at Middlesbrough as moderate.—*A. Main.*

Cumberland and Barrow District.

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

Coal Mining.—Employment in this industry continues good. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended September 24th at the 18 pits from which returns have been received was 5.96 per week, as compared with 5.72 in September, 1897. The number of workpeople employed was 5,567, the corresponding number for last year being 5,583.

Iron Mining.—Employment continues good at the Cumberland and North Lancashire iron mines. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended September 24th at the 48 mines from which returns have been received, was 5.95 per week, as compared with 5.96 in September, 1897. The number of workpeople employed was 6,256, as compared with 6,379 in the corresponding period of last year.

Pig-iron Manufacture.—Returns received from Cumberland and North Lancashire show that at the works covered by the returns the number of furnaces in blast at the end of September was 48, being 1 more than at the end of August, and 4 more than in September, 1897. The number of workpeople employed at these furnaces was 3,637, a decrease of 31 as compared with August, but an increase of 144 as compared with a year ago.

Shipbuilding.—According to Lloyds' return, the gross tonnage of merchant vessels under construction at the end of September in the Barrow, Maryport and Workington shipbuilding district was 32,970 tons, an increase of 7,095 tons as compared with the end of June last, and of 29,810 tons as compared with September, 1897.

LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.

Oldham and District.

Cotton Trade.—Spinning.—In Oldham and surrounding districts employment continues fairly good. The spinners in Rochdale, Stalybridge, Stockport, Ashton and Dukinfield report employment as good, and in Mossley as moderate. Twiners report employment as slack, many employers having stopped their machinery on account of the depression in the doubling trade. Ring-frame spinners and throstle-frame tenters are fully employed; cardroom-workers report employment as fair: reelers as bad, and winders as moderate. Weaving.—The power-loom overlookers and weavers report employment as bad in fustians, slack in velvets, and moderate in calicoes; beam and sectional warpers as moderate, and ball warpers as good.

Woollen and Silk Trades.—Employment in the woollen trade is reported as bad in Rochdale and Milnrow districts, and in Stockport as slack; silk dressers report a slight improvement.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers report employment as moderate; the unemployed members are gradually obtaining employment. Plate and machine moulders, pattern-makers, gas-meter-makers, brassfounders, ironfounders, and boiler-makers report employment as good; iron-grinders, tinplate-workers, and tool-makers in machine shops as moderate, and in cycle departments as slack.

Building Trades.—Employment is reported as good with the plasterers and bricklayers, and as moderate with the painters and decorators, plumbers, carpenters and joiners.

Coal Mining.—The miners in Oldham, Royton, Chadderton, and Crompton districts report employment as fair, averaging 5 to 6 days per week.—*T. Ashton.*

Bolton and District.

Cotton Trade.—Spinning.—In Bolton, Farnworth, and surrounding districts, employment is reported as slightly better. In Bury, spinners are fairly well employed. At Wigan employment is reported as somewhat irregular. Cardroom operatives in Bolton and immediate district are moderately well employed. In Bury, Wigan, and Chorley employment is slightly less regular. Weaving.—Employment has become slack in nearly all branches of the trade throughout the district. In Bury and district the dispute in the fustian trade is rendering employment in calico weaving somewhat irregular.

Building Trades.—Employment in Bolton continues fairly good. In Bury and Wigan it is somewhat less regular, and in Chorley still slack.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment in the engineering trade continues fairly active. Iron machine-making firms are reported as active in most departments. Brassfounders, smiths and

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—LANCASHIRE AND YORKSHIRE.

strikers, and sheet-metal braziers are fairly well employed. In Bury and Wigan ironworkers generally are reported as moderately employed.

Coal Mining.—In Bolton, Darcy Lever and Little Lever most collieries continue active, working on an average five days per week. In Wigan, Ince, Hindley, Westhoughton, Ratcliffe, and Walkden colliers are reported as fairly well employed.—*R. Tootill.*

Blackburn, Burnley and District.

Cotton Trade.—Weaving.—In the Blackburn, Burnley and Preston districts employment is reported as fairly good, though in the Blackburn district some looms are stopped for warps; in Nelson employment is rather worse, in Colne slightly better; in Darwen the number of looms stopped is 1,006, the remainder being on full time. Employment continues good with hard waste weavers. In the coloured goods trade there is some waiting for warps, but employment is reported as improved. It is good with warp dressers, loomers and drawers, winders and beamers. Spinning.—Employment with spinners is good in the Blackburn and Padiham district, fair in Preston and Darwen, moderate in Accrington, slack in Burnley. Branches of twisters and drawers, spinners and warp-dressers with 3,972 members have 141 (or 3.5 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 151 (or 3.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Building Trades.—Employment with joiners is reported as fair in Burnley; quiet in Accrington and Blackburn; with painters as moderate; with masons and wallers as good; with plumbers as improved.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—Employment in the several branches of these trades continues good.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment with coal miners is brisk in Burnley; fair in Accrington. Stone quarrymen keep well employed.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is reported as slack with tailors; moderate with letterpress printers and calico printers and dyers. Felt printers in the Rossendale district are slack. Brickmakers continue busy.—*W. H. Wilkinson.*

Manchester and District.

General.—Branches with 21,133 members have 697 (or 3.3 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage as at the end of August.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Ironfounders in Manchester, Warrington and Northwich report employment as good; engineers and smiths and strikers as moderate, except in Northwich, where engineers are slack and boiler-makers fairly busy; brassfounders, sheet metal workers and machine workers report employment as good. In Macclesfield ironworkers are busy. In Warrington wire weavers are fully employed, wire drawers moderately so; filesmiths and tinplate workers are busy.

Building Trades.—Employment in Manchester is reported as good by bricklayers, stonemasons, bricklayers' labourers, and decorative glassworkers; as moderate by plasterers and plumbers, and as bad by painters. In Stockport, Macclesfield and Warrington employment is reported as moderate.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—Railway and private coachmakers in Manchester continue busy. In Warrington they are fairly well employed; in Stockport they are dull; cabinet-makers in Stockport are slack; in Manchester and Warrington they are fairly well employed. French polishers and coopers are busy; upholsterers moderately so.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress printers and bookbinders report employment as bad; lithographic artists and printers as moderate; pattern card makers as busy. In Stockport employment is fair.

Textile Trades.—Cotton operatives in Manchester and Stockport report employment as moderate. In Macclesfield employment is not good; several weavers have looms standing. Employment in the silk trade has fallen off; hand and power loom weavers and silk dyers are slack. Fustian cutters are not busy. The bleachers and finishers report employment as moderate; the dressers, dyers, and finishers as busy.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the bespoke department of the tailoring trade is bad in Manchester, Stockport, and Warrington. In the ready-made branch it is slack; in the boot and shoe trade it is improving. Employment in the hat trade is bad on men's felts, and moderate on ladies' felts; good with ready-made mantle, shirt, and waterproof garment-makers; moderate with capmakers; quiet with umbrella-makers.—*G. D. Kelley.*

Liverpool and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—The boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders report employment as moderate; the pattern-makers,

turners, smiths, brassfounders, iron and steel dressers, and hammermen as good; the whitesmiths, drillers and holecutters, shipwrights and joiners as fair; the ironfounders as moderate. Branches with 4,676 members have 281 (or 6.0 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 298 (or 6.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Cabinet-makers, mill-sawyers and machinists, coopers and coachbuilders report employment as fair; upholsterers and French polishers as moderate.

Transport Trades.—Sailors and firemen and flatmen report employment as fair; quay and railway carters as moderate; dock labourers as fair at Central, but dull at North and South Docks.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress and lithographic printers report employment as fair, bookbinders as rather quiet, stereotypers as unchanged.

Clothing Trades.—All branches of the tailoring trade report employment as rather dull; boot and shoemakers as quiet.

Building Trades.—Painters and plumbers report employment as rather dull, joiners as moderate in Liverpool and St. Helens, fair at Ormskirk, good in Birkenhead. All other branches are fully employed.

Coalmining and Quarrying.—Coalminers continue fairly well employed. Quarrymen are fully employed.

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

A report from Winsford states that the slackness in employment in the salt trade increased during the month. Fustian cutters at Winsford and Middlewich are only working half-time. In the building trade employment is moderate in both towns. Moulders at Winsford report employment as moderate.

YORKSHIRE.

Hull and District.

Shipbuilding, Engineering, and Metal Trades.—Employment in Hull continues good with engineers, smiths and strikers, brassfounders and brassfinishers, machine-workers, pattern-makers, ironfounders, and hole-cutters; moderate with boiler-makers and brassworkers, and bad with sailmakers. Boiler-makers and iron and steel shipbuilders, shipwrights, engineers and smiths at Beverley, Grimsby, New Holland and Selby report employment as good; smiths at Goole as good, and engineers, boiler-makers and shipwrights as moderate; engineers at Doncaster as moderate.

Building Trades.—In Hull masons, plumbers and lathrenders report employment as moderate, otherwise employment generally is good throughout the district.

Transport Trades.—Seamen, marine firemen, and dock labourers in Hull, Goole and Grimsby report employment as good.

Fishing Industry.—The steam fishing vessel engineers and firemen report employment as good at Grimsby, and fair at Hull; and the trawl fishermen as moderate. Employment for fish-market, curing-house and general fishing trade labour is reported as good.

Seed-crushing, Oil, Paint, and Colour Trades.—Employment in the seed-crushing trade continues bad, most of the mills being idle or only running short time. The paint and colour workers continue fairly well employed.

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

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

Leather Trades.—The tanners, leather belt and lace makers at Hull report employment as fair; the curriers and leather dressers at Doncaster as bad.

Miscellaneous.—The bakers and confectioners report employment as good, gasworkers as moderate, general labourers as good.

W. G. Millington.

Leeds and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 8,421 members have 201 (or 2.4 per cent.) unemployed, as against 244 (or 2.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—In Leeds all branches of the engineering industry continue well employed. Ironmoulders are busy, and boiler-makers, patternmakers, machine workers, spindle and flyer makers, stove grate-makers, and tinplate workers report employment as good; steelworkers as fair; brassworkers as busy in engineering shops moderate elsewhere. At Wakefield, the

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—YORKSHIRE AND MIDLAND COUNTIES.

engineering and iron trades are moderate. At Rodley and Stanningley, steam crane works are well employed. Employment is quiet in bridge-building shops.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the ready-made clothing trade has been slacker than usual at this period, and at some factories short time has been worked. The improvement in the boot and shoe trade in Leeds has been well maintained, full time being now general; at Heckmondwike employment has also been good. In bespoke tailoring it is quiet, and with slipper-makers moderate.

Building Trades.—Employment generally, except with painters, is good.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the Leeds mills continues quiet with wileys and fettlers it is slack; with blanket-raisers moderate; with linen-workers good. At Wakefield the woollen and worsted mills are fairly well employed. At Yeadon employment is bad.

Mining.—Employment at the coalpits continues good, full time being general at Leeds, Castleford, and Pontefract.

Leather Trades.—Tanners report employment as fairly good; curriers as quiet; saddlers and harness-makers as moderate.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Employment has been good with letterpress printers; moderate with lithographers; quiet with bookbinders and machine-rulers; fair with papermill-workers.

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

Miscellaneous.—Brust makers have slightly improved; coach-makers are moderately, cabinet-makers, mill-sawyers, and terra cotta workers well employed.—O. Connellan.

Bradford, Euddersfield, and District.

Worsted Trade.—Employment in worsted weaving in Bradford and district does not show any improvement. The slight improvement in woolcombing has been maintained, but no further improvement is reported. The woollsorters report employment as depressed. In Huddersfield it continues fair, and in the Worth Valley remains quiet. In Halifax it is moderate.

Woollen Trade.—Employment in and around Huddersfield continues fair with a slight improvement. In the Colne Valley a number of firms are working overtime. In the heavy woollen district of Dewsbury and Batley there is a further improvement.

Other Textile Trades.—Employment in the silk trade at Brighouse is reported as moderate; at Halifax as fair, at Manningham as a little slacker. In the cotton trade employment is about the same at Brighouse and moderately good in Huddersfield. In the carpet trade it is reported as only sluggish during the month at Halifax and elsewhere.

Metal Trades.—Employment with engineers is moderate at Bradford and Huddersfield, good at Halifax, Keighley and Dewsbury. With ironfounders at Halifax, Keighley and Huddersfield it is good. Branches of these trades with 2,695 members have 73 (or 2.7 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 67 (or 2.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. Employment with the wireworkers at Brighouse, Halifax, and Lindley is reported as moderate.

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

Miscellaneous.—Dyers report employment as moderate at Brighouse and quiet at Huddersfield; tailors as still slack; printers as a little better; stoneworkers as busy; rag workers as fair.—A. Gee.

Sheffield, Barnsley, and Rotherham District.

Iron and Steel Industries.—Armour plate makers are busy. Iron and steel founders, Siemens steel smelters, stove-grate workers, iron rollers, core makers, and iron and steel dressers report employment as good. Engineers are exceptionally busy. Boiler and girder makers, engine men and crane men are moderately employed; wire drawers fairly so. Bessemer steel workers are slack. At Barnsley, engineers and ironfounders are moderately employed. At Parkgate and Rotherham, the ironworkers are quiet; steel workers, stove grate workers and bathmakers are busy. Branches with 5,699 members have 42 (or 0.7 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage as at the end of August.

Cutlery and Tools.—Engineers' and joiners' tool makers, edge tool forgers and grinders, and table and butcher blade forgers report employment as fairly good; pen and pocket blade forgers, grinders and cutlers, razor forgers, grinders and hafters, haft and scale pressers, and handle and scale cutters are slack, many only working three and four days per week. Saw smiths and handle-makers are slack. File forgers report employment as moderate.

Other Metal Trades.—Silversmiths and hollowware-buffers report employment as good; silver and metal stampers, silver and electroplate finishers, platers, and gilders, and brassworkers are moderately employed. At Rotherham the brassworkers in all branches are busy.

Coal Mining.—Returns from 71 collieries show an average of 5.54 days per week worked in September. Colliery surfacemen are fairly employed.

Building Trades.—Employment continues good throughout the district, except at Barnsley, where it is slack.

Glass Trade.—Glass bottle makers in the Mexbro' district are slack, and at Barnsley the men are playing every third week. Flint glass workers throughout the district are moderately employed.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in bespoke tailoring is slack in Sheffield, and bad at Barnsley. In the ready-made tailoring trade it is moderate; in the boot and shoe trade good.

Linen Trade.—Employment at Barnsley is slack.

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

Woodworking and Coachbuilding.—Railway carriage and wagon builders are busy in Sheffield; quiet in Rotherham. Cabinet-makers are busy in Sheffield; slack in Barnsley. Boxmakers are slack. Bobbin-makers are busy.

Miscellaneous.—Farriers report employment as good; harness-makers and saddlers as quiet; paper-makers as moderate; down quilt makers as busy. In Barnsley a large number of general labourers are unemployed. Brickmakers throughout the district are busy.—S. Utley.

ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Derbyshire District.

General.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 7,744 members have 81 (or 1.0 per cent.) unemployed, as against 129 (or 1.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Engineering and kindred Trades.—Employment continues fair at the locomotive works, and good in bridge and girder yards, and with ironfounders, brassmoulders and finishers, stove grate workers, wire drawers, merchant-iron rollers, makers of railway material, iron and steel dressers, farriers, blast furnace men, pipe moulders and malleable iron workers. Lace-machine builders in Long Eaton report employment as bad; cycle workers in Long Eaton and Draycott as slack.

Textile Trades.—Employment continues good with cotton spinners and weavers in Hadfield and Glossop, Borrowash and Belper. With hosiery workers in Heanor it is still dull, but it has improved at Ilkeston and Belper. Calico printers and engravers report employment as fair; surgical bandage-makers as good; elastic web weavers as still bad; dyers and bleachers as fairly good; lace-workers in Long Eaton and Ilkeston as still dull.

Coal Mining.—At collieries employing upwards of 27,000 men, an average of 4.4 days per week has been worked, as compared with nearly 5 days in August, the decrease being caused in several instances by breakdowns in machinery.

Quarrying.—Limestone quarrymen continue fairly well employed; chert quarries are busy in Bakewell, many working overtime.

Building Trades.—Employment generally continues fair.

Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades.—Employment continues good with railway carriage and wagon builders in Derby and Long Eaton, and with carriage-builders in private shops; coopers at Burton-on-Trent report employment as dull. Most timber yards are fully employed.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoe operatives report employment in Derby and Chesterfield as moderate; tailors in Derby and Chesterfield as fair; with dress and mantle makers employment is fair; with wholesale garment makers good.

Printing Trades.—Employment with letterpress printers is reported as dull; with lithographic printers as fair; with bookbinders and machine-rulers as slack.—C. White-Deacon.

Nottingham and District.

Lace Trade.—Employment generally has improved. The levers and curtain branches report employment as bad, but slightly improved; plain net-workers as fairly good; warp lace-workers as bad; warpers as improving; curtain-readers, and card-punchers as slack; designers and draughtsmen as moderate. Dyers report employment as bad at Basford and Nottingham; bleachers as slightly improved.

Hosiery.—Employment generally remains unchanged. Power-machine workers are slack in Nottingham; fairly employed in outside districts. Hand-frame workers are busy.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (continued)—MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment in the cycle trade is bad. Fitters and mechanics in general engineering shops report employment as moderate; machine builders, boiler-makers, and brassfounders as fair; ironfounders, wheelwrights, and carriage straighteners as good; brassworkers as slack; tool machinists as bad; bobbin and carriage makers as not so good. Employment is fairly good at Grantham. Branches with 2,138 members have 96 (or 4.5 per cent.) unemployed, as against 109 (or 5.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Coal Mining.—Returns from 30 pits, employing some 17,000 men, show an average of 4.78 days worked per week. Employment has improved during the month, particularly throughout the Leen Valley. Full time is general in North Notts; several pits in South Notts report improvement.

Building Trades.—Bricklayers, masons, plasterers, and labourers report employment as fair; carpenters and joiners as quiet; plumbers as dull; painters as slack; slaters and tilers as busy. Employment at Worksop, Mansfield, Newark, Grantham, Retford, and Beeston is reported as satisfactory.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Coachmakers are busy at Newark, but report a decline in Nottingham; upholsterers report employment as fair; cabinet-makers as moderate; brushmakers and basket-makers as good; coopers as fair; picture frame makers as moderate.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as fair; lithographic printers and artists, and printers' cutters as moderate; bookbinders as slightly improved.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors are rather slack at Mansfield and Newark; quiet at Grantham and Nottingham. Employment with boot and shoe makers is good at Mansfield, fair at Hucknall, bad at Nottingham.

Miscellaneous.—The female cigar-makers report employment as fair; the silk dressers as slack; boxmakers and brickmakers as fair.—W. L. Hardstaff.

Leicester and Northampton District.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—Employment continues slack throughout the district, short time being worked in nearly every branch.

Other Clothing Trades.—Operatives in the wholesale clothing trades are not so fully employed. Work is still slack with bespoke tailors at Leicester and Northampton. It is not so brisk with milliners, dressmakers and corset-makers. Silk hatters are working short time, and employment is also irregular in the felt and capmaking departments.

Hosiery and Woolspinning Trades.—In most departments of the Leicester hosiery trade work is fairly regular, but it is quiet in the plain hosiery branch. At Loughborough employment is slack all round; trimmers and dyers are fairly well employed; operatives in the woolspinning mills are again on full time.

Elastic Web Trade.—A slight improvement is reported among the braid workers, but in all other departments work is slack.

Engineering and Cycle Trades.—Employment is good with engine-builders, turners, winders, ironfounders, and electric dynamo-makers; moderate with boot and shoe machinery builders, boiler-makers, and toolmakers; slack with pattern-makers and needle-makers. In the cycle trade employment is dull.

Mining and Quarrying.—At the Leicestershire coal pits miners continue more regularly employed. Lime and ironstone miners are in full work, and in the stone quarrying branch a few are working overtime.

Printing and Bookbinding.—Letterpress printers are fully employed at Leicester and Northampton, moderately so at Loughborough and Rugby. Work is quiet with lithographic printers and bookbinders.

Building Trades.—Employment with bricklayers, plasterers, stone-masons and builders' labourers is good at Leicester, and moderate at Northampton; it is fair with joiners and declining with painters; plumbers and gasfitters are busier.

Furnishing and Coachbuilding Trades.—In all branches of the coach and car building industry employment is good. In the upholstering and cabinet trades workpeople are now more fully employed.

Leather Trades.—Work is generally slacker in the tanning and currying trades, most firms working short time.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is good with railway workmen, sawyers, gasworkers and bakers; fairly good with cigarmakers and woodcutting machinists.—T. Smith.

Potteries District.

Pottery Trades.—The improvement in employment has continued. Hollow-ware pressers are working much better; sanitary pressers continue well employed. Flat-pressers are working better, and

are averaging fully 4.4 days per week. Printers and transferrers report employment as slack. Women gilders and decorators, men artists, and throwers, turners, and handlers in the general trade, report a slight improvement. Designers, modellers, and mouldmakers encaustic tilemakers, and all branches in the electrical department are busy. Women stilt and spur makers average 3.4 days per week. Ovenmen, kilmen, and saggarmakers are better employed.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Puddlers and steelworkers are working full time; rollers in the plate and merchant mills average 4.4 days per week. Blast furnacemen continue busy.

Engineering Trades.—Engineers, boiler-makers, and moulders in North Staffordshire, and at Crewe and Stafford continue busy. Copper workers at Oakamoor and Froghall are busy, especially in the wire department. Agricultural engineers continue busy at Uttoxeter, but report a slight decline at Rugeley. Brassfinishers and moulders at Longport and Milton continue busy. Anchor and chain makers at Ford Green are well employed.

Coal Mining.—At Talk-o'-th'-Hill and district the colliers continue busy. Coal and ironstone workers in the pottery district are working well. At Cheadle the miners average 5.4 days per week—an improvement on last month.

Textile Trades.—At Leek trimming weavers report employment as moderate; silk twistlers as rather slack; pickers as fair; winders, doublers, and throwsters are working full time generally; braid workers and dyers are on short time. At Congleton trimming weavers report employment as scarce; silk dressers as good; throwsters as having declined; fustian cutters as still bad. At Cheadle and Tean silk and tape operatives continue busy.

Clothing Trades.—In the Potteries and at Crewe tailors report a further decline. Boot and shoe makers at Stafford and Stone report employment as scarce. Corset makers at Uttoxeter and Ashbourne are busy.

Building Trades.—Employment continues good in all branches throughout the district.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as scarce in the Potteries; good at Stafford. Lithographic artists and printers are well employed. Bookbinders and machine rulers report an improvement.

Miscellaneous.—Stone quarrymen at Alton and Hollington are well employed. Bakers are fairly employed; brushmakers report a decline; railway servants are fairly busy; basketmakers are working well; gas stokers are busier.—I. S. Harvey.

Wolverhampton and District.

Iron and Steel Trades.—In South Staffordshire and East Worcester-shire employment is good with steel smelters and improving in the steel trade. In the angle, hoop, and iron bar and steel trades the improvement is maintained. The mills and forges both here and in Shropshire were temporarily stopped during the hot weather.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Employment with engineers, moulders, and boiler, bridge, girder, tank, and gasometer makers is good. Cycle makers are slack. The malleable iron-workers at Walsall are quiet. At Coalbrookdale and Madeley employment is reported as good.

Hardware Trades.—Makers of tubes, nuts and bolts, iron fences, hurdles, axles, springs, coach ironwork, wrought-ironwork, builders' ironmongery, spring traps, and plantation hoes report employment as good. Wrought-ironworkers, stampers and piercers, brass-workers, tinplate-workers, galvanizers, grinders, and makers of keys and latches, tips, wrought and cut nails, black castings, malleable nails and protectors, hinges, electrical castings, rim and mortice locks, report employment as moderate. Makers of gunlocks, hollow-ware ironplates, spectacle frames, steel toys, and padlocks are slack. In Dudley and district anvil and vicemakers continue slack; chainmakers and strikers are moderately employed; anchorsmiths are slightly better employed.

Coal Mining.—On Cannock Chase employment generally is fairly good. The pits in the Old Hill, Oldbury and Tipton districts average 4 days per week. In Shropshire and Tamworth full time continues.

Building Trades.—Employment is good with carpenters and plasterers, moderate with bricklayers, plumbers, and painters.

Glass Trades.—The flint-glass makers, cutters and bevellers at Wordsley and district report a slight improvement; the glass-bottle makers at Brierley Hill are still slack.

Leather Trades.—The harness-makers and gig saddlers again report employment as declining; the brown saddlers as bad; chain, buckle, cart-gear, case and hame makers as fair.

Textile Trades.—At Kidderminster the carpet-weavers are quiet

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

averaging four days per week; the spinners are busier; the wool-staplers maintain their improvement. At Bridgnorth the mills are steadily employed. The Tamworth tape mills are running full time.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is quiet in the ready-made and bespoke tailoring trades, and in the boot and shoe trade.

C. Anthony.

Birmingham and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 20,881 members have 527 (or 2.5 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 397 (or 1.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Engineering.—The engineering branches again report employment as moderate; toolmakers and machinists as moderate, with a good demand for specialist toolmakers; smiths and strikers as good; pattern-makers as fair. In Coventry and Redditch employment is reported as moderate; in West Bromwich as good. In Birmingham, Coventry and Redditch employment in the cycle trade continues very slack. In Coventry alone nearly two thousand men are said to have been discharged, and some of the principal shops, with reduced numbers, are only working 36 hours per week. Employment in the motor industry in Coventry is fair and improving.

Brass and Copper Trades.—The brassworkers again report employment as good; brass and copper tube workers as moderate; metal-makers and metal-rollers as fair; fender-makers and fire-brassworkers as quiet.

Jewellers, Silversmiths and Electro Platers.—Jewellers report employment as fair; the electro-platers as moderate; the bevellers and silverers as fair.

Other Metal Trades.—Bedstead workers report employment as quiet; the ironfounders as good; the gun-workers, file cutters and file grinders as bad; the ironplate workers as fair; the steel and iron tube workers, wrought-iron and steel hinge makers, screw-makers, cut-nail and machine-rivet makers, and steel toy makers as good; the wire-nail makers as quiet; nut and bolt makers as moderate. Cycle tube makers continue slack. In Redditch employment is good with the needle and fair with the fish-hook makers. In West Bromwich employment continues fair in the hollow-ware, spring, and iron trades.

Building Trades.—Employment continues good throughout the district.

Glass Trades.—The flint glass makers and flint glass cutters report employment as good. In West Bromwich employment continues good.

Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades.—The cabinet-makers return employment as fair; the coopers as moderate. Coachmakers, mill-sawyers, woodworking machinists, and workmen in railway and wagon shops continue fully employed.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoe makers report employment as quiet; tailors as bad.

Miscellaneous.—The letterpress printers report employment as moderate in Birmingham and West Bromwich; saddlers and harness-makers as fair; gasworkers and gasfitters as good; edge tool grinders as moderate. In Coventry employment in the ribbon trade continues quiet; in the watch trade fair; in Redditch the fancy case makers are fully employed.—A. R. Jephcott.

ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES.

Norfolk and neighbouring District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Employment with engineers and boiler-makers is good; with shipwrights and boat builders fair.

Clothing Trades.—Ready-made tailoring factories in Norwich are fairly well employed. Bespoke tailors are not quite so busy. Boot and shoe makers at Cambridge are fairly busy. In Norwich employment in the boot and shoe industry is bad. Corset-makers are well employed at Lynn, slack at Diss.

Building Trades.—Except the painters, all branches are well employed throughout the district.

Fishing Industry.—At Yarmouth and Lowestoft the fishing has not been good. At Lynn the mussel, cockle and whelk fishing is good.

Textile Trades.—Mat and matting weavers at Diss and Lynn are well employed.

Miscellaneous.—Navvies and general labourers, dock, wharf and riverside porters and labourers are well employed. Printers at Norwich are not busy. Flour mills, seed crushing and oil and cake mills are running full time. Sweet and jam factories are fully employed. Employment with brushmakers is moderate. Steam saw mill workers and lath renders are well employed.—G. Cleverley.

Stafford, Essex, and District.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers report employment as good at Bury St. Edmunds, Beccles, Colchester, and Chelmsford; moderate at Ipswich; all firms are working overtime at Colchester. Employment is reported as good with boiler-makers, and fair with shipwrights.

Clothing Trades.—The boot and shoe operatives at Ipswich report employment as still dull. In the wholesale tailoring trade employment is good at Ipswich, but slack at Colchester. Corset-makers report employment as improved at Ipswich, fair at Sudbury.

Textile Trades.—The mat weavers report employment as good at Lavenham; fair at Glemsford and Hadleigh; moderate at Sudbury and Long Melford; the horse-hair weavers at Lavenham as good. In the silk trade employment is fairly good at Halstead and Braintree; moderate at Sudbury.

Building Trades.—Employment continues good generally.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as improved at Ipswich, good at Colchester and Chelmsford, slack at Beccles; bookbinders as moderate; lithographers as fair.

Miscellaneous.—Shipping and dock labour at the port of Ipswich is reported as improved. Employment is fair with brickmakers; good with general labourers.—R. W. Mather.

ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES.

Bristol and District.

General.—Societies and branches with 8,061 members have 98 (or 1.2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 74 (or 0.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Engineering and allied Trades.—The engineers, ironfounders, and brassfounders, and finishers report employment as good; the boiler-makers, coachmakers, smiths, strikers, and toolmakers as moderate. Hollow-ware workers are slack, galvanizers busy.

Building Trades.—Employment has slackened a little with some trades at Bath and Cheltenham, but at the other centres it continues good.

Printing Trades.—The letterpress printers report employment as good; the lithographic printers as moderate.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the boot and shoe industry in the Kingswood district has greatly improved, and the operatives are reported as all in work again. In Bristol an improvement has taken place at the principal factories, and the average time worked is from 4½ to 5 days per week. The bespoke tailors report employment as fair; the ready-made clothing operatives as declining. Silk lace workers at Tiverton are busy. Glovemakers at Yeovil are quiet.

Coal Mining.—Employment continues good throughout the district.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment is good with cabinet-makers; fair with mill-sawyers, wood cutting machinists and turners; and improving with coopers and lathrenders. The upholsterers and brush-makers are slack.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—A brisk demand is reported for sailors and marine firemen. Employment is good with grain and timber handlers; fair with general cargo workers.—J. Curle.

Plymouth and South-Western District.

Mining, Quarrying, and China Clay Industries.—In the tin mines there is a little more work in the western part of the district, but in the Calstock district employment is dull. In the granite quarries work is brisk; in the limestone and slate quarries it is fair; among china clay workers it has improved.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Engineers report employment as moderate in Plymouth, Devonport and Stonehouse, fair in Cornwall, and bad at Exeter; boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders as moderate; ironfounders as good; brass and tinplate workers as fair, and in Exeter busy. With shipwrights employment is fair, except at Brixham, where it is slack. Branches with 2,153 members have 22 (or 1.0 per cent. unemployed, as compared with 15 (or 0.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Building Trades.—Employment with carpenters and joiners, stone-masons and plasterers, is good; with bricklayers, painters, and plumbers, moderate.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—In the bespoke tailoring trade work is quiet; in the ready-made branch employment is only moderate. Boot and shoe makers are fairly employed. Laceworkers are quiet.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Employment with letterpress printers was quiet at first, but has since improved; in Exeter it is slack; with lithographic printers it is moderate. Bookbinders and paper rulers continue quiet.

Dock and Quayside Labour.—Employment has been good throughout the month; with timber-workers busy.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—WALES AND SCOTLAND.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Millsawyers and machinists are fully employed; cabinet-makers moderately so; work among upholsterers has improved.

Fishing Industry.—Trawlers generally have had better catches, and hook and line boats have done well at home, but the boats fishing off the Irish coast have been unsuccessful. Good catches of pilchards have been made at the Cornish fishing stations. Prices have been good generally.

Miscellaneous.—Government labourers report employment as good; gasworkers as fair; excavators and general labourers as moderate. Brushmakers are slack; bakers quiet. Work in the market and fruit gardens is quiet.—W. Hedge.

WALES.

North Wales District.

Mining.—Employment with coalminers continues brisk. Lead and blende miners continue fully employed.

Quarrying.—The slate quarrymen continue fully employed; employment is also good at freestone, lime, and roadstone quarries, brisk at granite sett quarries.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers report employment at Ruabon as still quiet, at Oswestry as moderate. Elsewhere, engineers, boiler-makers, ironfounders, and iron and steelmakers are well employed.

Building Trades.—The plasterers at Llandudno continue slack. In other towns employment generally is fair.

Brick and Terra Cotta Industries.—Employment at the brick and terra cotta works continues steady, full time being worked.

Clothing and Textile Industries.—The readymade departments of the Montgomeryshire tweed and flannel industry are fully employed; other departments are quiet. The bespoke tailors at Bangor and Oswestry report employment as improving; at Rhyl as fair; at Wrexham as moderate.—G. Rowley.

South Wales District.

Coal Mining.—Nearly all the associated collieries have re-started, but disputes have taken place during the month at several of the non-associated collieries, and the men at many pits have refused to work on "Mabon's Day."

Iron and Steel Trades.—Returns from Briton Ferry, Neath, Rogerstone, and Morriston state that works are going regularly, and the Dowlais, Cyfarthfa, Blaenavon, Ebbw Vale, Tredegar, and Cardiff Dowlais Mills have already re-started. Most of the furnaces are again under blast. The mechanics and general labourers are exceptionally busy.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Coal shipments, though not yet normal, showed considerable improvement upon the previous month. The pitwood and timber imports have been moderate; iron ore and corn quiet. The shipment of crews has been brisker. The railway and locomotive depots are now on full time.

Engineering and Ship Repairing.—There is a slight improvement in employment, but several yards are still working short time. The boiler-makers return 60 per cent. as unemployed, and the shipwrights 80 per cent. Branches of engineers and ironfounders with 2,577 members, have 126 (or 4.9 per cent.) unemployed, as against 228 (or 8.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. A large number employed in railway shops have resumed full time during the month.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is moderate, with fewer unemployed. Branches of the carpenters and joiners with 1,430 members, have 34 (or 2.4 per cent.) unemployed, as against 48 (or 3.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Miscellaneous.—Metallurgical and chemical workers are quiet; fuel workers are well employed at Swansea, quiet elsewhere; wagon builders and lifters report employment as dull; letterpress printers and binders as improving; deal and timber carriers have been well employed at several yards.—T. Davies.

Tinplate Trade in South Wales, Monmouthshire, and Gloucestershire.—The number of mills at work at the end of September was 286, giving employment to 14,664 workpeople, as compared with 270 mills, employing 14,428 workpeople, at the end of August, and 283 mills, employing 15,020 workpeople at the end of September, 1897. Distress is reported to be still keenly felt, especially in the Swansea and Morriston districts. Emigration of tinplate workers, chiefly millmen, to the United States still continues.

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 16,080 members have 158 (or 1.0 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of August.

Coal Mining.—Employment in the coal industry continues good, and the miners generally continue to work full time.

Shale Miners and Oil Workers.—Returns from 35 pits employing 3,641 workpeople (as compared with 3,732 in August, 1897) show that 1,973 were employed in the pits at which full time was worked during the four weeks ended September 24th, and that 1,668 were at pits which worked 16 and under 24 days.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Branches with 2,312 members have 39 (or 1.7 per cent.) idle, as against 31 (or 1.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. Branches at Falkirk with 3,056 members have 18 (or 0.6 per cent.) idle as against 32 (or 1.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Shipbuilding.—Employment in the shipyards in Leith continues to improve.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the woollen industry in Galashiels has generally improved with both spinners and weavers. In Hawick employment continues dull with both sections. In the hosiery industry in Hawick employment is rather quiet in the machine-made, but has improved in the hand-made department. The carpet weavers in Midlothian report employment as good. At Selkirk employment is good in the woollen industry and continues fair in the hosiery industry.

Building Trades.—Branches with 5,800 members still have only one member unemployed.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Branches with 1,138 members have 15 (or 1.3 per cent.) idle, as against 18 (or 1.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The seamen and firemen report employment as good. The coalporters and dock labourers continue well employed.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Branches with 2,313 members have 48 (or 2.1 per cent.) idle, as against 30 (or 1.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Miscellaneous.—The settmakers, saddlers, glassmakers, and glasscutters report employment as good; the tailors, shoemakers, curriers, and bakers as improving.—J. Mallinson.

Glasgow and West of Scotland.

Shipbuilding.—Employment has been very good. Branches with 12,331 members return 217 (or 1.8 per cent.) as idle, as against 133 (or 1.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment in Glasgow and the West of Scotland remains good. Branches with 26,982 members have 385 (or 1.4 per cent.) idle, as against 452 (or 1.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Building Trades.—Employment is still good.

Mining.—In Stirlingshire generally the activity in the coal trade continues; most of the collieries are working 11 days per fortnight. In Lanarkshire time has been lost for want of waggons; where waggons can be obtained men are getting five days per week. In Dumbartonshire the five days per week policy still continues. In Ayrshire employment in the coal and ironstone mines continues good. In Renfrewshire the colliers are well employed and the ironstone miners fairly so.

Textile Trades.—In Glasgow weavers in the cotton trade are busy in some branches, dull in others; employment in the carpet trade is dull; rope spinners are well employed. In New Milns employment is good. In Darvel it is fair in laces and chenilles and has improved in the carpet trade. Lace and blanket weavers in Galston and lace workers in Kilmarnock are busy. Paisley millworkers are fully employed and carpet weavers are busy. Employment in Greenock is good.

Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailors are still dull. In the ready-made tailoring trade employment is good. Knee-boot and shoe makers report employment as dull; boot and shoe operatives as improved; slipper-makers as good; curriers as slack.

Shipping, Dock and Transport Labour.—Sailors and firemen report employment as fair; dock labourers at Glasgow and Greenock are fairly busy. Carters, tramwaymen, railwaymen, and hackney-carriage-drivers are well employed.

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

Glass Trades.—Flint glass makers and flint glass cutters report employment as good; decorative glassworkers and glass bottle makers as not quite so busy.

Miscellaneous.—Labourers, calico-engravers, settmakers, cork-cutters, scale-beam makers, gilders, potters, basket-makers, tobaccopipemakers, and finishers are busy. Saddlers report employment as dull.—A. J. Hunter.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—SCOTLAND AND IRELAND.

Dundee and District.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the jute industry remains fairly satisfactory. In the linen trade increasing activity is observable in some of the factories in Fife, and operatives are fully employed; in Forfarshire, in one or two instances, short time has again been resorted to.

Coal Mining.—Since the settlement of the wages question employment at almost all the collieries has continued brisk, and work is steady. Reports from pits employing upwards of 10,000 work-people show an average of 5.5 days per week worked during the four weeks ending September, as against 5.3 days per week in August.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Employment in all departments of the engineering industry continues steady, and workmen engaged at the shipbuilding yards are fully employed. Branches of societies with 2,388 members again return 22 (or 0.9 per cent.) as unemployed.

Building and Woodworking Trades.—Employment in nearly all sections remains steady. Returns from branches with 1,379 members show 16 (or 1.2 per cent.) as idle, as against 9 (or 0.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The dispute in the furniture trades continues.

Fishing Industry.—The haddock boats have had fair success. The sparring fishing has begun, and fairly good takes have been obtained, but prices are low.

Dock Labour.—Traffic has been unusually dull at the harbour, and employment at the docks and jetties has only been fair for shore labour.

Miscellaneous.—Employment in the printing and allied trades is reported as fair; with the tailors as slack; with the boot and shoe makers as moderate; with the floorcloth and linoleum makers as busy.—P. Reid.

Aberdeen and District.

General.—Branches of societies, with 6,659 members, have 58 (or 0.9 per cent.) unemployed, as against 49 (or 0.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Quarrying.—All branches report employment as good.

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

Transport Trades.—Railway servants, carters, dock labourers, and general labourers, report employment as good.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Branches of societies with 1,563 members, return 17 (or 1.1 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 15 (or 1.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. All branches report employment as good.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—The mill and factory workers report employment as good; the tailors as bad; the boot and shoe makers (hand sewn) as dull; the boot and shoe operatives (pegged and rivetted) as quiet.

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

Fishing.—In September, at the port of Aberdeen, trawl and line boats landed 67,652 cwt., with a value of £37,892, a decrease in quantity, and an increase in value, as compared with the previous month.

Miscellaneous.—Upholsterers report employment as quiet; comb-makers as good; bakers as quiet.—W. Johnston.

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

Building Trades.—The painters report employment as slack. In other branches employment is fair.

Metal Trades.—The engineers report employment as moderate; the moulders, brassfinishers, ironfounders, and boiler-makers, as good; the smiths, whitesmiths, gasfitters, and tinsmiths, as fair. Branches of societies with 918 members, have 19 (or 2.1 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 21 (or 2.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment is good with coach makers and cart and wagon builders, and dull with upholsterers.

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

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment with the letterpress and lithographic printers and bookbinders has been dull; with the stereotypers and machine assistants fair. Branches with 1,395 members have 124 (or 8.9 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 82 (or 6.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

Miscellaneous.—The bottlemakers, ropemakers, corkcutters, and saddlers report employment as fair; the brushmakers and the paviors as good. Labourers are fairly well employed.—J. P. Nannetti.

Belfast and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Societies with 8,246 members have 166 (or 2.0 per cent.) unemployed, as against 151 (or 1.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The blacksmiths, engineers, steam engine-makers, spindle and flyer-makers and enginemen, cranemen and firemen report employment as air; carpenters and joiners as quiet; the drillers and holecutters, machine-workers, smiths' strikers, etc., brassfounders, sheet metal-workers, general labourers and platers' helpers, ironfounders, pattern-makers and shipwrights as good.

Linen Trades.—Branches of societies with 3,956 members have 138 (or 3.5 per cent.) unemployed, as against 145 (or 3.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The flax-roughers, power-loom tenters, power-loom yarn dressers, and women workers report employment as dull; the beetling enginemen, linen lappers and yarn bundlers and dryers as fair; the flax-dressers as moderate; and the hackle and gill-makers as good.

Building Trades.—Societies with 3,037 members have 108 members (or 3.6 per cent.) unemployed, as against 73 (or 2.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The plumbers return employment as bad; the bricklayers and bricklayers' labourers as dull; the carpenters and joiners as quiet; the painters as fair.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Societies with 879 members have 44 (or 5.0 per cent.) unemployed, as against 31 (or 3.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The cooper and upholsterers report employment as dull; the mill-sawyers as quiet; the packing-case makers as moderate; the cabinet-makers and coachbuilders as fair; the French polishers as good.

Printing and allied Trades.—Branches with 936 members have 67 (or 7.2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 64 (or 6.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The bookbinders return employment as bad; the letterpress printers as dull; the lithographic printers and lithographic artists, as good.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is quiet with boot and shoe operatives and tailors.

Miscellaneous.—Societies with 1,779 members have 48 (or 2.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 60 (or 3.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The carters and tramway men report employment as dull; the bakers, butchers, railway servants, and municipal employees as fair; locomotive engine drivers as good.

R. Sheldon.

Cork and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—All branches of the engineering trade in Cork, Limerick, and Waterford report employment as fair; boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders throughout the district show a slight decline.

Building Trades.—Employment continues good throughout the district.

Textile Trades.—Flax, tweed, and feather operatives are fairly employed; tailors, hand-sewn bootmakers and boot riveters are quiet.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Cabinet-makers and packing case makers report employment as dull in Cork, Limerick and Waterford; coopers, coachmakers, mill-sawyers, and woodcutting machinists as fair.

Miscellaneous.—Fishing throughout the south and south-west coast has been fairly successful during the month; employment with tramway employees, railway servants, coal porters, quay labourers, and gas workers has been fair.—P. O'Shea.

NEW ORDER UNDER "PARTICULARS CLAUSE" OF FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1895.

The Home Secretary has issued an order, dated September 2nd, applying the provisions of Section 40 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1895, to workshops in which is carried on the preparing, manufacturing, or finishing, or any process incident to the manufacture of cotton, wool, hair, silk, flax, hemp, jute, tow, china grass, cocoanut fibre, or other like material, either separately or mixed together, or mixed with any other material or any fabric made thereof. Print works, bleaching and dyeing works, lace warehouses, paper mills, flax scutch mills, rope works and hat works are, however, not included. Section 40 provides that the particulars of the rate of wages applicable to the work to be done by a worker paid by the piece, and such particulars of the work as affect the amount of wages payable, shall be furnished to him in writing at the time when the work is given out to him. The order came into force on October 1st, 1898.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN SEPTEMBER.

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

THE total number of persons reported as killed during September was 288, being 4 less than in August, but 2 more than in September, 1897.

In the first group of industries shown in the following summary table, including railways, mines, quarries, shipping, and factories, and employing 5,294,393 persons (according to the latest available figures), 275 persons were killed, and 6,812 reported injured by accidents in September, as compared with 269 killed and 4,762 reported injured in September, 1897. These figures give one death in September for every 19,252 persons employed in those industries. During the nine completed months of 1898, 2,597 persons were reported killed, and 49,306 injured, as against 2,991 reported killed and 43,149 injured in the corresponding period of 1897.

In the remaining occupations included in the tables 13 persons were reported killed, and 995 injured, last month, as compared with 17 killed and 523 injured in September of last year.

SUMMARY TABLE.

	Killed.		Injured.		Number Employed according to latest Returns.
	Sept., 1898.	Sept., 1897.	Sept., 1898.	Sept., 1897.	
Railway Service—					
Accidents connected with movement of vehicles	50	37	375	338	465,112
Other Accidents	4	2	799	714	
Total Railway Service	54	39	1,174	1,052	
Mines	83	70	399	360	728,713
Quarries	5	9	145	63	123,370
Shipping	82	119	182	193	233,780*
Factories	51	32	4,912	3,094	3,743,418
Total of above	275	269	6,812	4,762	5,294,393
Workshops	—	—	17	15	Cannot be stated.
Under Factory Act, 1895, ss. 22, 23	8	9	811	407	
Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	5	8	167	101	

DETAILED TABLE.

	By Accidents connected with Movement of Vehicles.		By other accidents on the Companies' Premises.		Total.
	Killed	Injured	Killed	Injured	
Railway Service—					
Brakemen and Goods Guards	1	48	—	14	1
Engine Drivers	5	40	—	32	5
Firemen	3	56	—	41	3
Guards (Passenger)	—	12	—	9	—
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	16	21	—	67	16
Porters	5	47	—	216	5
Shunters	2	42	—	6	2
Miscellaneous (including Contractors' Servants)	18	109	4	414	22
Total for Sept., 1898	50	375	4	799	54
Total for Sept., 1897	37	338	2	714	39
Mines—					
Explosions of Firedamp	12	22	—	—	12
Falls of ground	39	160	—	—	39
In shafts	10	16	—	—	10
Miscellaneous	14	156	8	45	22
Total for Sept., 1898	75	354	8	45	83
Total for Sept., 1897	66	310	4	60	70
Quarries over 20 feet deep					
Explosives or Blasting	—	5	—	—	—
Falls of ground	3	13	—	—	3
During Ascent or Descent	—	1	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	1	51	1	75	2
Total for Sept., 1898	4	70	1	75	5
Total for Sept., 1897	5	24	4	39	9

	By Wreck or Casualty.		By other Accidents.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
Shipping*—					
On Trading Vessels—					
Sailing	9	1	16	55	25
Steam	4	—	43	145	47
On Fishing Vessels—					
Sailing	1	1	7	—	8
Steam	1	1	1	9	2
Total for September, 1898	15	3	67	179	82
Total for 3 months July, 1898, to September, 1898...	66	11	184	741	762
Total for 3 months July, 1897, to September, 1897...	140	28	208	533	611

Factories—

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
(a) Accidents reportable by Certifying Surgeons—					
Adults	44	1,005	—	124	44
Young Persons	7	390	—	88	7
Children	—	11	—	6	—
Total	51	1,405	—	218	51
(b) Other Accidents—					
Adults	—	2,772	—	38	—
Young Persons	—	448	—	18	—
Children	—	7	—	5	—
Total	—	3,227	—	61	—
Total Factories—					
September, 1898	51	4,633	—	279	51
September, 1897	32	2,862	—	232	32
Workshops—					
Adults	—	10	—	1	—
Young Persons	—	5	—	1	—
Children	—	—	—	—	—
Total Workshops—					
September, 1898	—	15	—	2	—
September, 1897	—	13	—	2	—

Factories & Workshops (classified by trades).

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
Textiles—					
Cotton	8	169	—	120	8
Wool and Worsted	—	68	—	42	—
Other Textiles	—	46	—	14	—
Non-Textiles—					
Extraction of Metals	1	67	—	1	1
Founding and Conversion of Metals	9	520	—	3	9
Machines, Engines and Engineering	7	1,243	—	2	7
Ship and Boat Building	4	833	—	4	4
Wood	—	128	—	3	—
Chemicals, &c.	4	163	—	3	4
Other Non-Textile Industries	18	1,411	—	93	18
Total September, 1898	51	4,648	—	281	51
Total September, 1897	32	2,875	—	234	32

Under Factory Act, 1895, ss. 22, 23

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
Docks, Wharves and Quays	5	460	—	—	5
Warehouses	1	282	—	1	1
Buildings to which Act applies	2	51	—	—	2
Laundries	—	6	—	11	—
Total for September, 1898	8	799	—	12	8
Total for September, 1897	9	390	—	17	9

Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894

	Construction or repair.		Use or Working.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
Bridge					
Canal	—	5	—	—	—
Railway	2	59	1	5	1
Tramroad	—	2	—	—	—
Tramway	—	7	—	30	—
Tunnel	—	—	—	—	—
Other Works	2	54	—	1	2
Traction Engine	—	—	—	2	—
Total for September, 1898	4	129	1	38	5
Total for September, 1897	7	92	1	9	8

* The figures relate to seamen who have been reported during the month to have been killed or injured by accidents at sea, or in rivers and harbours, whilst they were members of the crews of sea-going vessels (except yachts) registered in the British Islands under Part I. of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894 (this includes all trading vessels and about a half, say 3,000, of the fishing vessels, of 15 tons and upwards). Injuries to members of the crews of fishing vessels employed in and out of Scottish ports and of vessels trading exclusively between Scottish ports, or to Asiatics serving under Asiatic articles of agreement, are not included. With these exceptions injuries, however trivial, are included. The number of persons stated to be employed is the sum of the number of persons engaged for the first crew of each vessel employed during 1896, and remaining on the Register at the end of that year.

† Accidents during the working of railways being reportable under other Acts are not notified under the Act of 1894.
‡ Authorised by any local or personal Act of Parliament.
§ Or other steam engine or machine in the open air

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN SEPTEMBER, 1898.

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

Summary.—The changes in wages reported during September affected about 364,900 workpeople, and the net effect of all the changes on the weekly wages of those workpeople was an increase of about 7d. per head.

Increases.—The principal increases were the advances to coal miners in Northumberland, the federated districts of Great Britain, and Fife, Kinross and Clackmannan.

Methods of Arrangement.—Changes affecting about 900 workpeople were preceded by disputes. Changes affecting about 1,200 workpeople were settled by arbitration and conciliation, without strikes, and about 14,200 under sliding scales and wages boards.

Totals for First Nine Months of 1898.—For the nine months, January to September, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) reported as having received advances or sustained decreases is about 870,400, compared with 558,500 for the corresponding period of 1897.

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.

Main table on the left page showing changes in wages for various occupations like Building Trades, Mining and Quarrying, Iron and Steel Manufacture, Engineering and Shipbuilding, etc.

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

Main table on the right page showing changes in wages for various occupations like Engineering and Shipbuilding, Textile Trades, Employees of Public Authorities, Miscellaneous Trades, and Seamen.

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

* Exclusive of overtime.

PRICE OF BREAD.

(Based on returns furnished by the courtesy of the principal Co-operative Societies.)

In the July LABOUR GAZETTE the Department gave the average price of bread in various districts on 8th July. The present return brings the information up to 7th October, the averages on 31st July, 31st August, and 30th September being also shown.

Since July there has been a small but continuous fall in prices, the net effect of all the changes being an average reduction of about 3d. per 4lb. loaf. The fall was most marked in the Midland and Eastern Counties (99d.), and the price of bread is now lower there than in any district from which returns have been received.

Average Price of Bread per 4 lb. Loaf.

Table with columns for Dates, English Co-operative Societies in Northern, Midland, Home, and South-West Counties, and All English Societies making Returns. Rows show prices for various dates from 12th Sept to 7th Oct.

PRICES OF COAL AND IRON.

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

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

As the result of the increase in the average selling price of pig iron, the blastfurnacemen in Cumberland secured an advance of 2 3/4 per cent. under the sliding scale agreement. The wages of the blastfurnacemen in the Cleveland district, and of the puddlers and millmen in the North of England and Midlands districts, remained unchanged, the increases in the average selling prices being insufficient to alter wages under the terms of the various agreements in operation in these districts.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Cotton Statistics.—The imports of raw cotton during September show a considerable increase as compared with September 1897, but a decrease when compared with September 1896. The imports for the nine months ended September are considerably greater than for the corresponding periods of 1897 or 1896.

The following are the figures for the different periods:—

Table showing Cotton Statistics with columns for Imports, Bales, Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns, Bales, and Exports, Bales. Rows show data for September 1898, 1897, 1896, and Nine Months ended.

Bankruptcies.—The bankruptcies gazetted during September numbered 344, being 54 more than in September, 1897, 73 more than in September, 1896, and 53 more than in September, 1895.

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 21 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended October 2nd amounted to £6,911,748, an increase of £112,705 (or 1.7 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1897. The receipts from passenger traffic were £3,299,239, an increase of £157,257, and those from goods and mineral traffic £3,612,509, decrease of £44,552.

Fishery Statistics.—The total value of the fish (including shell-fish) landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom amounted to £652,069, a decrease of £113,896 as compared with a year ago. In England and Wales there was a decrease of £40,874, in Scotland of £37,044, and in Ireland of £35,978.

DECREASES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN SEPTEMBER, 1898.

The changes reported in September affected 4,370 workpeople, whose recognised working time was reduced, on the average, one hour per week. The decreases were all brought about without cessation of work.

Table showing Decreases in Hours of Labour with columns for Locality, Occupation, Date from which change takes effect, Approximate number of work-people affected, Hours of labour in a full week (exclusive of overtime), and Extent of decrease per week. Rows include Leicester, Willenhall, Bristol, and another Bristol entry.

HOURS OF LABOUR OF RAILWAY SERVANTS.

The report by the Board of Trade respecting proceedings under the Railway Regulation Act, 1893, during the year ended July 27th, 1898, states that there was again a falling-off in the number of complaints received, the number being 50 as against 76 in the previous year. Of these 50, complaints made by or on behalf of signalmen and station staff account for 17 and 14 respectively. In 10 cases the companies affected removed the ground of complaint in response to a preliminary inquiry by the Board, and without any formal order. In 19 others substantial reductions of hours of duty were obtained for the men. Five representations did not appear to the Board of Trade to contain a sufficient prima facie case of hardship to justify action; and nine complaints made during the year were still forming the subject of inquiry. Seven complaints out of the 50 are left in which no substantial reduction of hours was obtained by the intervention of the Board of Trade. In cases such as these the Department is always ready to give the complainants an opportunity of stating their grievance before the Railway and Canal Commission, in pursuance of the powers conferred by the Act. Up to the time of publication of the report, however, no case had been submitted to that Tribunal.

* Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade the weekly hours given in the table are the result of averaging the hours for five summer weeks and two winter weeks. † See also under Changes in Wages. ‡ Railway Servants (Hours of Labour) Parl. Paper No. 366. Price 2 1/2d.

LABOUR BUREAUX IN SEPTEMBER.

DURING September the 13 bureaux furnishing returns, registered 2,667 fresh applications for work, as compared with 2,502 in September, 1897, an increase of 165. Work was found for 1,261 persons by these bureaux during the month, compared with 1,022 in September, 1897. The number remaining on the registers of the 13 bureaux at the end of September, 1898, was 2,679 (including 1,375 men, lads and boys, and 1,304 women and girls) compared with 2,762 (including 1,517 men, lads and boys, and 1,245 women and girls) a year ago.

(I.) WORK DONE IN SEPTEMBER.

Table showing Work Done in September with columns for Name and Address of Labour Bureau, No. of Fresh Applications by Workpeople during, No. of Situations offered by Employers during, No. of Workpeople found by Bureaux, Engaged by Private Employers, and Engaged by Local Authorities. Rows include London (St. Pancras, Battersea, Islington, etc.), Provincial (Salford, Ipswich, Plymouth, etc.), and Total of 13 bureaux.

(II.) OCCUPATIONS OF WORKPEOPLE ON REGISTERS AT END OF SEPTEMBER.

Table showing Occupations of Workpeople on Registers at End of September with columns for Name of Labour Bureau, Men (Building, Enginering, Metal Trades, etc.), Women and Girls (Lads and Boys, Char-women, etc.), and Grand Total. Rows include London, Provincial, and Total Number.

* Permanent employment. † Temporary employment. ‡ These were engaged by Salvation Army authorities. § Women and Girls are not registered.

PAUPERISM IN SEPTEMBER.

Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland, and Ireland. The number of persons relieved in the 35 selected urban districts of the United Kingdom on one day in the second week of September was 323,814. This number corresponds to a rate of 204 per 10,000 of the estimated population of these districts in 1898.

Compared with August, 1898, an increase is shown of 431 in the number relieved, the rate per 10,000 remaining about the same. In 4 districts the rate is unchanged; in 17 increases are shown, the principal being in the Stockton and Tees district (7), Belfast (5), and Cork, Waterford and Limerick district (5 per 10,000). In the remaining 14 districts decreases are shown, the largest occurring in Wolverhampton (9 per 10,000) Bristol (7), and Coatbridge and Airdrie district (6).

Compared with September, 1897, there is an increase of 1,560 in the number relieved, but a decrease of 2 in the rate per 10,000 of population. There are decreases in 18 districts, the largest decreases being in the Bristol district (24 per 10,000), Paisley and Greenock (19), Coatbridge and Airdrie (18), Bolton, Oldham, &c. and North Staffordshire (17 each), and Hull district (13). The remaining 17 districts show increases, the most marked increases being in Leicester (24 per 10,000), Belfast (20), Cardiff and Swansea (20), and Dublin (14).

Table showing Pauperism in September with columns for Selected Urban Districts, Paupers on one day in second week of September, 1898, Rate per 10,000 of estimated population, and Increase (+) or decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of population as compared with. Rows include England & Wales (Metropolises, Other Districts), Scotland, and Ireland.

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

TRADE DISPUTES.

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

Trade Disputes.—Fifty-two fresh disputes were reported as beginning in September, 1898, compared with 44 in August, and 42 in September, 1897. In these 52 disputes, 5,470 workpeople were directly, and 2,174 indirectly affected, a total of 7,644, which compares with 4,330 in August, and 9,027 in September, 1897.

Trades Affected.—In the building trades 7 disputes took place, involving 220 workpeople; mining and quarrying, 12 disputes, involving 3,713 workpeople; metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, 15 disputes, involving 1,258 workpeople; textile trades, 11 disputes, involving 1,604 workpeople; clothing trades, 3 disputes, involving 172 workpeople; and in the miscellaneous group of industries, 4 disputes, involving 677 workpeople.

Causes.—Of the 52 new disputes, 31 were chiefly on wages questions, 7 on matters connected with working arrangements, 7 on questions of trade unionism, and the remaining 7 were with regard to the employment of particular persons.

Results.—Forty-four new disputes, involving 6,766 workpeople, and 20 old disputes, involving 4,948 workpeople, were reported as settled. Of the 64 new and old disputes terminated, 17, involving 821 persons, were settled in favour of the workpeople; 22, involving 5,857 persons, in favour of the employers; and 25, involving 5,036 persons, resulted in a compromise. At the end of September 20 old disputes were known to be still unsettled, involving altogether about 5,200 workpeople.

Duration of Disputes in Working Days.—No dispute of any great magnitude was in progress in September and the total duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old, was only 189,000 working days, a very small figure compared with 2,594,000 in the preceding month of August, and 1,614,000 in September, 1897, in which months the Welsh coal dispute and the engineering dispute, respectively, were in progress.

Total Disputes for First Nine Months of 1898.—For the nine completed months of 1898 the aggregate number of workpeople involved in the 507 disputes which commenced in those months was 208,801, as compared with 192,016, in the 773 disputes reported in the corresponding period of 1897. The total aggregate duration in working days was about 14,754,000, as compared with about 5,884,000 for the same period of 1897. The recent coal mining dispute in South Wales largely accounts for the greater duration of disputes in the first nine months of 1898 as compared with 1897.

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

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN SEPTEMBER, 1898.

		7 Disputes.		BUILDING TRADES.		220 Workpeople affected.	
Lancaster	Stonemasons, Wallers, and Labourers	26	4	13	1	Objection to a non-union foreman ...	Non-union foreman left his position.
Liverpool	Joiners and Labourers	7	6	16	2	Refusal to work with non-union foreman, brother of employer	Employer took his brother into partnership.
Leicester	Joiners, Plasterers, Plumbers, Painters, and Labourers	34	...	19	—	Against employment of cabinet makers upon work claimed by joiners	No settlement reported.
Barry Dock	Stonemasons	35	...	1	—	Against use of ready-made joinery; and refusal to work with non-unionists	General lock-out threatened, but conference arranged for return of men to work, leaving question of non-union labour to be further considered.
Pembroke Dock	Navvies (jetty building)	30	...	5	1	Refusal of certain stonemasons to work with non-unionists. The Master Builders' Association, in consequence, locked out the rest of the masons in their employ	No settlement reported.
Rothsay	Stonemasons	42	...	2	6	For advance in wages from 4½d. to 5½d. per hour	Advance from 4½d. to 5d. per hour granted to good men. Advance conceded.

		12 Disputes.		MINING AND QUARRYING.		3,713 Workpeople affected.	
Burnley	Coal Hewers, Drawers, and Surfacedmen	350	120	6	—	Against alteration in working arrangement, indirect reduction in wages, and matters arising out of the Workmen's Compensation Act	No settlement reported.
Alfreton (Derbysh.)	Coal Hewers and Drawers, Surfacedmen, &c.	50	408	13	8	Against requirement to work three men in a place instead of two	No settlement reported.
Nottingham	Pit Boys, Coal Hewers and Surfacedmen	84	350	8	1	For advance in wages of 4d. per day, with quarterly increments of 1d. per day	Employers agreed to increase the wages of boys over 15 years by 2d. per week half-yearly, instead of by 4d. per week yearly.
Aberaman (S. Wales)	Colliery Workpeople generally	900	...	13	1	Boys left work without notice, or reasons given. They afterwards asked for advance in wages	Work resumed unconditionally. Case taken to police-court, and damages obtained by the employer.
Blaina (Mon.)	Colliery workpeople generally	400	...	1	9	For dismissal of men who continued working through the general dispute	Work resumed unconditionally.
Ebbw Vale	Coal Hewers, &c.	134	...	12	—	Refusal to start work after the general dispute, on finding that a "Billy Fairplay" (coal separator) had been introduced at one of the pits	Work resumed on understanding that "Billy Fairplay" should not be used for a time.
Ebbw Vale	Clay Getters	21	...	1	22	Objection to sign sliding scale agreement	Agreement to be signed.
Blantyre (Lanark)	Coal Hewers, Surface Workers and Oncoast Men	200	200	19	2	Objection to certain alterations in working arrangements said to involve reduced earnings	Objection partly met by employers.
Bo'ness (Linlithgow)	Coal Hewers and Other Colliery Workers	20	300	7	2	Against refusal of certain oncoast men to join the miners' union	On advice of union executive, work was resumed pending decision of council meeting
Leven (Fife)	Coal Hewers	19	...	16	12	Dispute as to deductions for dirt from coal sent up	Work resumed after explanation by manager.
Westfield (Linlithgowshire)	Coal Hewers, &c., and Oncoast Men	51	9	5	3	Against notice of reduction in wages of 8 men of 1d. per ton	Proposed reduction withdrawn.
						For recognition of their elected checkweighman, and for reduction in price of their house coal	Checkweighman left of his own accord; price for house coal arranged.

		15 Disputes.		METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES.		1,258 Workpeople affected.	
Walker-on-Tyne	Rivet Heaters and Riveters and Apprentices	80	280	12	23	For extension of the limit of age within which heaters are eligible to become apprentices	Work resumed unconditionally.
Wallsend	Rivet Heaters, Riveters, Holders and Catchers	27	90	19	8	For extension of the limit of age within which heaters are eligible to become apprentices	Work resumed unconditionally.
Stockton-on-Tees	Fitters, Brassfinishers, Plumbers, Drillers and Labourers	145	...	6	6	Misunderstanding as to new conditions for "out-working" allowances	Work resumed pending discussion of the matter in dispute.
Doncaster	Boilermakers' Helpers, Labourers and Strikers	49	...	29	3	For advance in wages	Advances granted varying from 6d. to 2s. per week.
Doncaster	Brass Casters	24	...	12	11	Against dismissal of a union official	Union official reinstated after conference with employers.
Selby	Shipwrights	10	...	10	8	For advance in wages to the district rate	Advance conceded.

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

TRADE DISPUTES—(continued).

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

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN SEPTEMBER, 1898—(continued). METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES—(Continued).

Mansfield	Ironfounders	14	...	12	—	For advance in wages (generally conceded) of 2s. per week, and against employment of non-union men	Places filled by non-union men.
Birmingham	Anvil and Vice Makers	23	...	12	14	Dispute as to amount of "lying time" to be kept in hand	Work resumed on old conditions.
Barry Dock	Hammermen	16	...	8	5	Refusal to work with non-union man	Work resumed unconditionally.
Pontnewydd (Mon.)	Tinplate Makers	80	...	5	—	For fulfilment of alleged promise to return a reduction in wages of 2½ per cent. at termination of the general coal dispute in South Wales	No settlement reported.
Glasgow	Platers' Hammermen, Labourers, and Platers	43	9	16	6	For advance in wages of 1s. per week	Work resumed, and an advance in wages of 6d. per week afterwards granted.
Govan	Riggers' and other Labourers	62	...	15	2	For advance in wages of 1s. per week	Advance conceded.
Leith	Riveters, Holders-up, and Boys	63	21	20	4	Against introduction of a new piece price list	Consideration of new list to be postponed for a month.
Troon	Ship Joiners	22	...	6	—	Against employment of a non-unionist	Withdrawal of the non-union man.
Belfast	Iron Moulders and Labourers	200	...	9	—	For advance in wages of 1s. per week	Advance conceded by a section of the employers.

		11 Disputes.		TEXTILE TRADES.		1,604 Workpeople affected.	
Bradford	Woolcombers	74	...	14	5	For advance in wages of 10 per cent.	Advances conceded ranging from 3d. to 1s. per week.
Honley	Dyers	9	...	30	—	For advance in wages of 4s. per week	No settlement reported.
Keighley	Spinners, Dofers, Twisters, Drawers, &c.	362	...	24	4	Against proposed alteration from Thursday to Wednesday as "making-up day" for payment of wages	New system accepted.
Haslingden	Cotton Weavers and other operatives	250	70	6	2	Difficulty in working material	Firm promised to try to improve material, and imposed no penalties for the stoppage.
Nelson	Cotton Winders	40	...	12	4	Refusal to work until better material was provided	Employers agreed to provide better yarn.
Oldham	Cotton Weavers	50	...	29	2	Alleged payment at less than list prices	Employers agreed to pay list prices.
Leicester	Cotton Reelers and Warehousemen	140	8	8	3	Against proposed reduction in price from 5½d. to 4½d. per score	Reduction from 5½d. to 5d. per score accepted.
Nottingham	Dyers, and Scurers and other workpeople	50	240	12	2	Against employment of additional men to cope with pressure of work, and for re-instatement of two discharged fellow-workpeople	Work resumed unconditionally, after conference between employer and union representatives.
Dundee	Lacemakers, draughtsmen and other lace-workers	31	34	5	8	Dispute as to classification of certain new goods	Work resumed as before, pending result of an appeal to the Conciliation Board of the trade for classification of similar goods by another employer.
Newry	Jute Weavers and Preparers	200	...	9	2	For advance in wages of 1s. per week to time workers, and of 1d. per cut to piece workers	Advance of 3d. per cut to piece workers; time workers resumed work without advance.
	Linen Weavers, &c.	46	...	16	1	In defence of two dismissed fellow-workpeople	Work resumed to give 14 days notice. Fifteen persons left at termination of that period.

		3 Disputes.		CLOTHING TRADES.		172 Workpeople affected.	
Northampton	Boot and Shoe Finishers	60	...	7	4	Objection to action of foreman in finishing department	Complaints considered by firm, and settled to satisfaction of workpeople.
London	Ladies' Tailors	12	...	5	13	Against proposed reduction in wages	Work resumed upon the full London "time log" rate of 7d. per hour.
Bideford	Collar Workers	100	...	25	2	For advance in prices on certain articles...	Advance conceded.

		4 Disputes.		MISCELLANEOUS TRADES.		677 Workpeople affected.	
London	Ivory and Bone Brush Makers	140	...	3	—	For advance in wages of 1s. per gross for fashioning tooth and nail brush handles	No settlement reported.
	Tramway Horse-keepers, Drivers and Conductors	80	...	6	1	Against alleged unfair dismissal of three horse-keepers	Two of the three men were re-instated, and the case of the other man was held over for further consideration.
	Tramway Horse-keepers, Drivers and Conductors	400	...	15	—	For re-instatement of the third man (see above dispute)	Some men returned to work; others were replaced.
Llanely	Labourers (engaged on public works)	57	...	7	1	Against deduction from wages on account of broken time	Employers agreed to refund the deductions.

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE SEPTEMBER, 1898, AND WERE SETTLED IN THAT MONTH.

		BUILDING TRADES.		MINING AND QUARRYING.		METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES.	
York	Carpenters and Joiners	30	...	2 May	105	For advance in wages from 7½d. to 8½d. per hour, with other alterations in working rules	Advance from 7½d. to 8½d. per hour agreed to.
Leigh, Atherton and Tyldesley	Plasterers	25	...	21 June	88	To enforce payment of 6d. per day extra when working in any mills containing machinery, instead of only in old mills	Extra rate conceded.
Worcester	Plasterers	32	...	27 Aug.	13	For advance in wages from 8d. to 9d. per hour, and a code of working rules	Work resumed without the desired advance, but a code of rules agreed to.
Stroud	Bricklayers and Labourers	31	2	4 April	141	For a new code of working rules, including advance in wages from 6d. to 7d. per hour	New code of working rules arranged, involving an advance in wages to 6½d. per hour.
Lintz Green (Durham)	Coal Miners and other workers	150	50	9 May	86	Men refused to agree to revision of prices at the termination of period during which the award of an umpire made in November, 1897, was binding	Work resumed on a provisional agreement, and the points in dispute to be again referred to arbitration.
Mansfield	Coal Hewers and Surfacedmen	400	150	1 June	84	For dismissal of underground manager, and revision of price list	Settlement effected under the Conciliation Act. For full terms see p. 294.
Near Aberdeen	Quarry Labourers, Setmakers and Casters	117	53	13 Aug.	33	Strike at one firm for advance in wages of 1d. per hour and recognition of union; followed by combined strike and lock-out at other firms	Compromise arranged on question of advance, and the trade union to be recognised.
Lennoxton (Stirling)	Coal Hewers, Oncoast Men and Drivers	45	...	29 Aug.	6	For advance in wages of 1s. per day	Advance conceded.

Spennymoor	Iron and Steel Workers	120	...	6 Aug.	39	Discharge of 4 men, alleged to be on account of their connection with the trade union	Men returned to work unconditionally.
Rotherham	Stove Grate Moulders	13	...	29 Aug.	24	Dispute as to weight of castings, deductions for faulty work, and other grievances	Mutual concessions made at a conference between the parties.
Derby	Boiler Welders and Platers' Helpers, Shearmen, and Labourers	14	32	4 July	53	As to system under which certain work should be paid	Work resumed on employers' conditions.
Carron	Furnace Fillers and Keepers, Labourers, &c.	24	66	25 Aug.	19	For advance in wages of 10 per cent.	Concessions made in working conditions but no increase in rates of wages given.
River Clyde	Riveters	1,500	...	30 Aug.	16	Refusal to accept a new list of piecework prices mutually arranged by the Employers' Association and Boilermakers' Society	Men agreed to accept the new list.
Leith	Shipwrights	150	...	25 Aug.	27	Alleged refusal of employers to increase wages in accordance with an agreement (dated June, 1880), unless the workpeople agreed to abolish a scale limiting the amount of caulking to be done daily	Advance in wages of 3d. per hour conceded without immediately requiring abolition of the scale limiting daily amount of caulking, employers giving three months' notice for its termination.

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

TRADE DISPUTES—(continued.)

Locality.	Occupation.*	Number of Workpeople affected.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
		Directly.	Indirectly.				
II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE SEPTEMBER, 1898, AND WERE SETTLED IN THAT MONTH—(continued.)							
TEXTILE TRADES.							
Hyde ...	Cardroom Operatives, Spinners, Winders, Warpers, &c.	98	71	25 Aug.	28	For increase in wages to list prices of district ...	Prices satisfactorily adjusted by a joint committee.
Todmorden ...	Beetlers, Dampers, &c.	23	...	8 Aug.	38	Ten men refused to accept a reduction in wages; remainder struck in sympathy	Places filled with other workpeople.
Dundee ...	Jute Weavers ...	12	...	30 Aug.	9	For advance in wages of 1d. per piece on weaving a new fabric, the employer offering increase of 3d. per piece	Employer's offer accepted.
Dundee ...	Jute Weavers, Beamers, Teners, Calenders, &c.	109	44	22 July	34	Against proposed reduction in wages of 1d. per cut on a certain class of goods	Reduction accepted on the particular class of goods.
Strabane ...	Flax Dressers, Flax roughers, and other operatives	104	1,120	13 June	89	Alleged excessive proportion of boy labour ...	Proportion of apprentices settled at a conference.
MISCELLANEOUS TRADES.							
Bradford ...	Labourers (Sanitary Department)	75	...	31 Aug.	3	On account of the dismissal of two fellow work-people	Work resumed, and grievance to be formally brought forward.

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE SEPTEMBER, 1898, AND WERE STILL UNSETTLED AT THE END OF THAT MONTH.

The following 20 disputes which have been previously reported, were still unsettled at the end of September. The number of workpeople then involved was about 5,200. The month in which each dispute commenced is stated in brackets. *Building Trades*:—Bricklayers, Hereford (April); plumbers, Warrington (June); bricklayers, Chelmsford (May); slaters and tilers, South Shields (May). *Mining*:—Coal miners, Castleford (July, 1897); Normanton (Sep., 1897); Castleford (Jan., 1898); ironstone miners, near Kilbirnie (April); coal miners, Pontefract (April); coal miners, Sherburn (July); quarrymen, Uddingston (August). *Other Trades*:—Boilermakers, Ebbw Vale (July, 1897); cabinet-makers, Glasgow, Beith, Dundee, and Dalry (March, 1898); boot and shoe makers, Newcastle (June); twisters and drawers, Cloughfold (July); fustian weavers, Bury (August); tailors, Limerick (May). The following which have since been settled—October—were still unsettled at the end of September:—plasterers, Radcliffe and Prestwich (May); boot and shoe operatives, Huntly (May); spinners and cardroom operatives, Oldham (August).

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

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION SCHEMES.

In continuation of the particulars given in the last three numbers of the GAZETTE the following is a list of the 12 Workmen's Compensation Schemes which have been approved by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies during the period September 12th—October 12th. The total number of such schemes approved is now 50:—

Title of Scheme.	Nature of Employment.	Situation of Works.	No. of Workpeople affected
South Metropolitan Gas Company Accident Fund	Gas Manufacture ..	Old Kent - road, Vauxhall, Bankside, Rotherhithe, Greenwich, and East Greenwich	About 3,815
Bedlwyn Level ...	Coal Mining ...	Cwmaman, Aberdare	40
Mr. Edward Harvey ...	Ditto ...	Plusycoed Colliery, Pontnewynydd	7
Cwmaman Colliery No. 3 ...	Ditto ...	Cwmaman, Aberdare	7
Messrs. Partridge, Jones & Co. (Llanhilleth)	Ditto ...	Llanhilleth Colliery	39
Messrs. Partridge, Jones & Co. (Lower Varteg)	Ditto ...	Lower Varteg, Blaencynhan, and Haved Van	36
Dowlais Collieries ...	Ditto ...	Dowlais ...	Not stated.
Messrs. Locket's Merthyr Collieries (1894) Ltd.	Ditto ...	Maerdy, Pontypridd	do.
Ynysir Steam Coal Company	Ditto ...	Ynysir, Pontypridd	779
Messrs. Hoskins & Llewellyn, Abersychan Collieries	Ditto ...	Abersychan, Mon.	200
Dinas Main Coal Company	Ditto ...	Gilfach Goch ...	7
Bryndir and Port Talbot Collieries Company (Messrs. Blindell & Co.)	Ditto ...	Cefn, near Pyle, Glamorgan	Not stated.

It will be seen that the principal scheme approved within the last month relates to about 3,815 workpeople employed in gas works. Of the 50 schemes now approved, 34 relate to the coal mining industry, while the two largest concern railway servants. In the case of 39 schemes the numbers of workpeople affected are given, viz., 66,805, and these figures may be grouped as follows:—

Trades.	Number of Schemes.		
	Total number passed up to Oct. 12th.	Number for which the number of workpeople is returned.	Number of workpeople affected.
Railway Service...	2	2	34,933
Coal Mining ...	34	27	20,067
Gas Manufacture ...	1	1	3,815
Metal Trades ...	7	4	3,507
Miscellaneous Trades ...	6	5	4,493
Total ...	50	39	66,805

LEGAL MINIMUM WAGES IN VICTORIA.

By the Factories and Shops Act, 1896, passed July 28th, 1896, by the Colony of Victoria (see LABOUR GAZETTE, January, 1897, p. 7), it was enacted that, in regard to clothing, furniture, and bread baking, the Governor in Council might appoint a Board (one-half representing employers, and one-half representing employees) to determine the lowest rates of pay (such rates in the case of outside work to be piecework) payable to the employees, and also the number of apprentices and improvers who might be employed, contravention of the decisions of the Board being punishable by fine (up to £10 for a first offence, from £5 to £25 for a second, and from £50 to £100 for subsequent offences), and a third conviction entailing the cancellation of the registration of the premises.

In the report of the Chief Inspector of Factories of the Colony for the year ending December 31st, 1897, dated June 1st, 1898, it is stated that six Boards have been appointed in the following trades:—Bread-baking; articles of men's and boys' clothing; boots, shoes, &c.; shirts, cuffs, collars, &c.; furniture; and articles of women's and girls' underclothing. By five of these Boards decisions fixing minimum rates of wages have been made, but the last mentioned Board has not arrived at any decision, "and no good results are now anticipated from its appointment."

In the baking trade the minimum rate of wages (time wages) fixed by the Board, "appears to have given general satisfaction both to the employers and the men." In the tailoring trade the adoption of the minimum rates (time and piece wages) fixed by the Board is stated not to have given rise to any serious trouble in the bespoke branch, but in the ready-made branch has resulted in very little work being now given to outworkers, the reason being that, while the law requires outworkers to be paid piece wages, the minimum piecework rates were fixed on a basis rather higher than the minimum time wages, in order that "the home worker may receive a little extra pay for carriage to and from the factory, hire of machine, rent of room, firing, &c.," so that the employers find it cheaper to get the work done on their premises rather than outside.

The Furniture Board fixed a minimum rate of time-wage, but decided that it was impracticable to fix a piece-wage scale. The Chinese workmen, however, found that, while the best among them were paid the minimum wage, a large number of slow and old workmen were dismissed. "The Chinese have a powerful union, which requires the operatives in work to support those not employed"; and, in consequence of the heavy burdens imposed upon them for the support of the unemployed, the Chinese workmen struck, but after some time resumed work. The Chief Inspector remarks:—"I have not the slightest doubt work was resumed on a piece-work system, but both the men and employers declare that "the workmen are paid according to the time wage rate fixed by the Board. The decisions of the other two Boards have not been in force long enough for their effects to be recorded in this report.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE Trade returns for the month of September, 1898, show an increase, as compared with the corresponding month of 1897, in the value both of the imports from foreign countries and British possessions, and in the exports of British and Irish produce and manufacture, but in the exports of foreign and colonial merchandise there is a decrease as compared with September, 1897.

The imports for September, 1898, were valued at £35,605,281, showing an increase of £425,648, as compared with September, 1897, or 1.2 per cent. The exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures for September, 1898, amounted in value to £19,945,085, an increase of £1,639,810, or 9.0 per cent., and the exports of foreign and colonial merchandise were valued at £3,706,289, showing a decrease of £272,783, or 6.9 per cent. as compared with September, 1897.

Taking the nine completed months of the year, the total value of imports from foreign countries and British possessions amounted to £344,655,052, as compared with £329,752,575 in the first nine months of 1897, an increase of £14,902,477; and the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures amounted to £172,729,158, as against £175,991,176 in the corresponding period of 1897, a decrease of £3,262,018. The exports of foreign and colonial merchandise during the nine months reached a total of £45,454,400 in 1898 and of £46,009,994 in 1897.

Imports.—The following table shows the value of the imports for September, 1898, as compared with September, 1897, grouped in large classes:—

	Month ended Sept. 30th		Increase.	Decrease.
	1897.	1898.		
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	£ 16,504,272	£ 16,001,468	—	£ 502,804
Metals ...	1,651,108	1,568,331	—	82,777
Chemicals, Dyestuffs, and Tanning Substances ...	347,745	317,426	—	30,319
Oils ...	705,731	813,115	107,384	—
Raw Materials for Manufactures	7,461,704	8,323,785	862,081	—
Manufactured and Miscellaneous Articles	8,509,073	8,581,156	72,083	—
Total ...	£ 35,179,633	£ 35,605,281	425,648	—

With regard to the imports of articles of food, etc., wheat shows an increase in quantity of 606,970 cwts. (or 15.2 per cent.), but a decrease in the value imported of £156,875 (or 9.3 per cent.). Wheat meal and flour, and barley have also increased in quantity by 411,170 cwts. and 519,990 cwts. respectively, with an increase in value in the case of wheat meal and flour amounting to £138,628, and in the case of barley to £183,219. Nearly every other kind of corn and meal has decreased both in quantity and value. The imports of butter and cheese have decreased by £187,780 and £155,596 respectively. Sugar, refined and unrefined, shows a decrease of £149,127; wine an increase of £60,527; currants an increase of £149,218; and tea a decrease of £62,750, though the quantity of tea imported is larger by 246,647 lbs. than in September, 1897.

In the class of raw materials, raw cotton shows an increase of £221,922, and wool an increase of £402,944. There are also marked increases in the imports of caoutchouc (£228,892) and sawn or split wood and timber (£227,569). Amongst manufactured articles there is a decrease of £150,076 in silk manufactures, and one of £127,266 in woollen manufactures.

Exports.—As regards the exports for the month, the following table shows the values for September, 1897, and September, 1898, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

	Month ended Sept. 30th		Increase.	Decrease.
	1897.	1898.		
Animals living ...	£ 107,056	£ 80,970	—	£ 26,086
Articles of Food and Drink ...	1,134,554	1,293,639	159,085	—
Raw Materials ...	1,607,180	2,180,796	573,616	—
Articles Manufactured and Partly Manufactured, viz.—				
Yarns and Textile Fabrics ...	7,158,310	7,668,346	510,036	—
Metals, and Articles Manufactured therefrom (except Machinery) ...	2,825,884	2,667,238	—	£ 258,646
Machinery and Millwork ...	1,206,986	1,638,236	431,250	—
Miscellaneous ...	4,265,305	4,515,860	250,555	—
Total ...	£ 18,305,275	£ 19,945,085	1,639,810	—

Amongst foodstuffs there is an increase in the export of herrings amounting to £140,701. In the class of raw materials, coal, coke,

and fuel show an increase of 308,818 tons in the quantity, and of £478,639 in the value exported. Machinery has increased by £431,250, of which sum £202,556 represents the increase in textile machinery, and £123,327 in the value of steam engines exported. On the other hand, wrought and unwrought iron has decreased by £248,031. Most classes of yarns and textile fabrics show increases in the values exported, the only notable decrease being one of £123,688 in cotton yarn. Cotton piece goods have increased by over 55½ million yards in the quantity, and by £401,631 in the value exported.

Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared.—The tonnage of vessels entered at ports of the United Kingdom from Foreign Countries and British Possessions during September amounted to 3,014,024 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,588,934 tons, as compared with 2,936,821 tons entered and 3,368,785 tons cleared in September, 1897. Of vessels entered coastwise the tonnage entered during September was 2,654,523 tons, and the tonnage cleared 2,655,267 tons, as against 2,748,005 tons and 2,655,006 tons respectively in September, 1897.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during September was 28,698, as compared with 32,202 in September, 1897.

British and Irish.—Of the 28,698 passengers, 20,113 were of British or Irish origin, a decrease of 887 as compared with a year ago. This decrease was shared by all the countries named in the table below, the largest decrease being in the numbers bound for the United States. The total number of British and Irish passengers for the first nine months of the year shows a decrease of 6,360 when compared with the corresponding period a year ago. The figures for the different periods are given in the following table:—

Destination.	September, 1898.	September, 1897.	Total for nine months ending—	
			September, 1898.	September, 1897.
United States ...	12,450	12,894	64,292	70,580
British North America ...	2,359	2,428	15,579	13,783
Australasia ...	1,565	1,617	7,557	8,045
South Africa ...	2,105	2,418	14,150	15,133
Other places ...	1,594	1,643	7,482	7,878
Total ...	20,113	21,000	109,059	115,419

Foreign.—The remainder of the 28,698 passengers, viz., 8,585, were foreigners, or persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being 2,617 less than in September, 1897.

Alien Immigration.—The number of aliens that arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent during September was 9,616. Of these, 4,445 were stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, compared with 4,603 so stated in September, 1897. Those not stated to be on their way to America or other places out of the United Kingdom numbered 5,171 (including 918 sailors), the corresponding figure for September, 1897, being 4,946 (including 770 sailors). The figures for September, 1898 and 1897, and also for the nine months ended September 30th in each year are as follows:—

	Sept., 1898.	Sept., 1897.	Total for 9 months ending	
			Sept. 1898.	Sept. 1897.
Aliens not stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom ...	5,171*	4,946*	46,680*	38,80*
Aliens en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom...	4,445	4,603	26,293	26,601
Total ...	9,616	9,549	66,973	65,401

INFORMATION FOR INTENDING EMIGRANTS.

THE free quarterly circulars of the Emigrants' Information Office were issued on October 1st, and contain information useful to intending emigrants as to the demand for labour, rates of wages, and cost of living in the various British Colonies. Particulars are also given as to the cost of reaching the Colonies, the arrangements at each for receiving emigrants, and as to various other matters of interest to emigrants. A new pamphlet on the West Indies containing a map and information as to climate, conditions of life, and the industries carried on has been issued. Price sixpence. Copies of the quarterly circulars can be obtained free on application to the Chief Clerk, Emigrants' Information Office, 31 Broadway, Westminster, S.W.

* These figures are inclusive of sailors, to the number of 918 in September, 1898; 770 in September, 1897; and 9,249 and 8,196 respectively in the nine months ended September 30th in each year.

INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN SEPTEMBER.

I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.*†

Nature of Offence.	Cases taken.	Con- victions	Amount of Penalties.	Amount of Costs.
By Owners, Managers, &c.:				
Neglecting to Fence Machinery ...	13	12	£ 65 8 0	£ 5 8 10
Employing Young Persons without necessary Certificates ...	14	14	5 9 0	8 3 6
Illegal Hours or Times of Employment—				
Before or after the legal hour ...	96	87	45 4 1	41 14 9
During meal times, or without proper intervals for meals ...	49	49	13 0 0	33 17 6
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted ...	26	25	8 9 0	7 13 9
On Sundays or Holidays, or children on successive Saturdays... ..	4	4	4 3 0	1 16 6
At night ...	20	20	11 8 3	5 16 1
Employing children full time otherwise than in morning and afternoon sets, &c....	3	3	2 10 0	1 8 3
Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts, Notices, &c.—				
Not keeping Registers ...	18	17	14 4 6	7 6 1
Not affixing or properly filling up Notices and Abstracts ...	14	12	9 17 8	5 16 7
Not sending Notices required by Act ...	5	5	5 10 6	3 4 0
Prosecutions for Breach of (or not affixing) Special Rules ...	6	5	5 6 0	3 9 6
Prosecutions under Cotton Cloth Factories Act, 1889 ...	3	2	10 0 0	0 17 0
Prosecutions under Truck Acts... ..	3	1	1 0 0	0 13 6
Other offences ...	3	3	3 5 0	1 18 0
By Workmen:				
Prosecutions for Breach of Special Rules ...	2	—	—	—
Other offences ...	2	2	0 15 0	1 17 8
By Parents:				
Allowing Children to be illegally employed ...	1	1	0 10 0	0 10 6
Total for September, 1898 ...	282	262	206 0 0	131 17 0
Total for September, 1897 ...	245†	254	117 6 0	104 6 4

II.—Under Mines and Quarries Acts.*†

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Con- victions.	Cases with- drawn.	Cases dis- missed.	Amount of Fines and Costs.
UNDER THE MINES ACTS.					
By Owners, Managers, &c.:					
Ventilation ...	2	2	—	—	£ 6 0 0
Miscellaneous ...	7	5	—	2	6 12 0
By Workmen:					
Safety Lamps ...	2	2	—	—	1 18 0
Shot-firing and Explosives ...	5	5§	—	—	4 5 6
Timbering ...	7	7	—	—	8 12 0
Lucifer Matches, Smoking, &c.	2	2	—	—	1 2 6
Riding on Trams ...	4	4	—	—	2 16 0
Miscellaneous ...	15	12	—	3	14 18 0
Total for September, 1898	44	39	—	5	46 4 0
Total for September, 1897...	41	38	2	1	47 4 9

NOTE.—There were no prosecutions under the Quarries Act during September, 1898, nor in September, 1897.

III.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

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

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Convic- tions.	Total Penalties.	Total Costs.
By Owners or Masters of Ships:				
Submerging Disc ...	1	1	£ 50 0 0	Court fees
Carrying excessive Deck Cargoes	1	1	25 0 0	ditto
By Boarding House Keepers and others:				
Illegal Supply ...	2	2	10 0 0	0 9 0
Keeping possession of Wreck ...	5	5	2 10 0	1 17 6
Total for September, 1898 ..	9	9	87 10 0	2 6 6
Total for September, 1897, ...	5	5	57 15 0	6 1 8

IV.—Under the Building Societies Acts and Friendly Societies Act.

(Supplied by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.)

Nature of Offence.	Prose- cutions.	Withdrawn on compliance with Act.	Convic- tions.	Fines and Costs.
Failure to send Annual Statements of Account and Annual Returns ...	6	2	4	£ 5 15 0
Total for September, 1897...	13	2	11	16 0 0

* Supplied by the Home Office.

† The figures relating to Prosecutions under the Mines and Quarries Acts for September, 1898, include prosecutions by H.M. Inspectors of Mines under the Factory and Workshop Acts in factories and workshops connected with Metalliferous Mines and Quarries. In the figures for September, 1897, given in the above tables, such prosecutions are included in the Table of Prosecutions under the Factory and Workshop Acts. The difference owing to the change of tabulation is not, however, very material.

‡ In this case the number of convictions is greater than the number of informations laid, the practice being in Scotland to lay one information against one person, however many offences he is charged with.

§ One of these defendants was admonished only.

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN SEPTEMBER.

(Supplied to the Department by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.)

FROM the following summary of the changes in the Register of Industrial Organisations in September it will be seen that 1 Employers' Association, 2 Trade Unions, 2 Co-operative Associations for Distribution, 1 Co-operative Association for Production, 2 Miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Societies, 16 new Friendly Societies, and 28 branches of existing Friendly Societies have been added to the Register for the United Kingdom during September. Excluding Ireland, for which information has not been received, 4 Industrial and Provident Societies, 16 Building Societies, and 34 Friendly Societies (including 27 branches) are reported to have amalgamated, ceased to exist, commenced "winding-up," or to have had registration cancelled during the month.

ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

Trade Unions.—*England and Wales.*—Northern Counties Laundry Assoc., 23, Cross-street, Manchester (an Employers' Association); Old West End Farriers' Trade Soc., Punch Bowl Inn, Farm-street, Berkeley-square, London, W.; Amalgamated Soc., of Machine Paper Stainers and Colour Mixers of Great Britain, 8, Harold-street, Seedley, Manchester. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—(A) *Associations for Distribution.*—*England and Wales.*—Socialist Co-op. Trading Soc., Ltd., 53, Fleet-street, E.C.; Rothley Industrial Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Anthony-street, Rothley, Leicestershire. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

(B) *Associations for Production.*—*England and Wales.*—Friedenburg Billiard and Fancy Goods Soc., Ltd., 157, Kennington Park-road, S.E. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

(C) *Miscellaneous.*—*England and Wales.*—York People's Bank, Ltd., City Chambers, Clifford-street, York; Thurnscoe Working Men's Club and Institute Soc., Ltd., Thurnscoe, Rotherham. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

Friendly Societies.—(A) *New Friendly Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—Ordinary Friendly, 3; Dividing, 5; Specially authorised, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 2. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Ordinary Friendly, 2; Specially authorised, 3.

(B) *New Branches of Existing Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—21. *Scotland.*—6. *Ireland.*—1.

Building Societies.—None.

ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

Trade Unions.—*Great Britain.*—None. *Ireland.*—No information.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—*England and Wales.*—Barking Industrial Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 10, North-street, Barking (amalgamated with Stratford Co-op. and Industrial Soc., Ltd.); Liquidator's final return received:—Trades Union Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 161, Barking-road, London, E.; Dissolved by instrument:—Huyton Quarry Equitable Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Hall-lane, Huyton Quarry. *Scotland.*—Notice of commencement of winding-up received:—Airdrie Co-op. Soc., Ltd. *Ireland.*—No information.

Friendly Societies.—*England and Wales.*—Ordinary Friendly, 4; Dividing, 2; Juvenile, 1; Branches, 27.

Building Societies.—*England and Wales.*—Notice of commencement of Dissolution, 5; Notice of termination of Dissolution, 10; Notice of termination of Winding-up, 1.

EXAMINATIONS FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFI- CATES.

Manchester District.—An examination for Certificates of Competency as Manager or Under-Manager of a Mine will be held on December 23rd, 1898. Intending candidates should communicate on or before December 19th, with the Secretary to the Examination Board, Mr. Thomas Ratcliffe Ellis, 18, King-street, Wigan.

Midland District.—An examination for Certificates of Competency as Manager or Under-Manager of a Mine will be held October 20th, 21st, and 22nd, 1898. Intending candidates should communicate, on or before October 19th, with the Secretary to the Examination Board, Mr. William Saunders, Wilson-street, Derby.

West Scotland District.—An examination for Certificates of Competency as Manager or Under-Manager of a Mine will be held on November 25th and 26th, 1898. Intending candidates should communicate, on or before November 15th, with the Secretary to the Examination Board, Mr. Stuart Foulis, 140, Hope-street, Glasgow.

Printed by VEALE, CHIFFERIEL & CO., LTD., 31 to 37 Cursitor Street, London, E.C. and Published for Her Majesty's Stationery Office by HORACE MARSHALL & SON, Temple House, Temple Avenue, London E.C. Sole Advertising Agents—RATCLIFFE DUNBAR & Co., 3, George Yard, Lombard Street, E.C.—October 1898.