

THE LABOUR GAZETTE

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

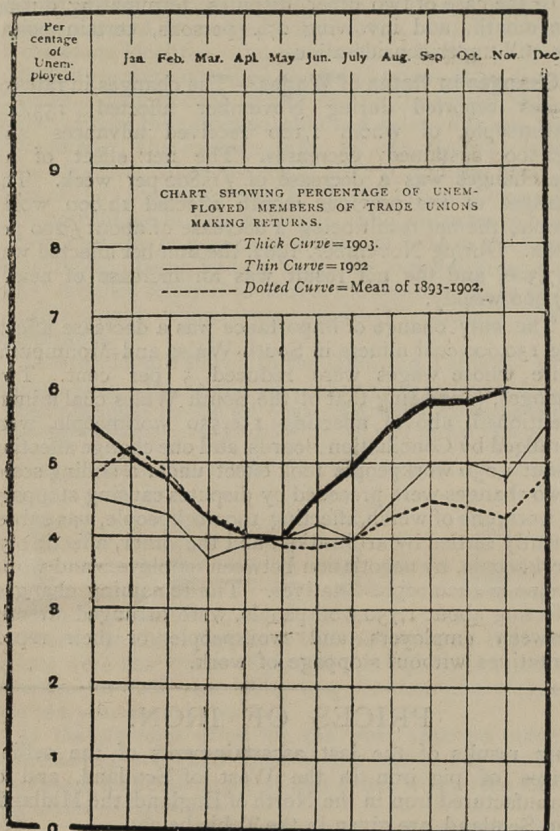
PUBLISHED ON THE 15th OF EACH MONTH.

Vol. XI.—No. 12.

DECEMBER, 1903.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

EMPLOYMENT CHART.



STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN NOVEMBER.

[Based on 3,960 returns, viz.: 2,579 from Employers, or their Associations, 1,289 from Trade Unions, and 92 from other sources.]

EMPLOYMENT in November, on the whole, shows no material change as compared with October, and remains quiet generally. The improvement in the cotton industry, which commenced towards the end of October, has been maintained, while the metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades have continued to decline.

As compared with a year ago, a general falling off is shown, and the percentage of unemployed Trade Union members continues higher than the mean percentage for the corresponding month in the past ten years.

In the 228 Trade Unions, with an aggregate membership of 562,954, making returns, 33,614 (or 6.0 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 5.8 per cent. in October, and with 4.8 per cent. in the 224 Trade Unions, with a membership of 549,197, from which returns were received for November, 1902. The mean percentage of unemployed returned at the end of November during the past decade was 4.3.

Employment in various Industries.—*Coal Mining.*—Employment during November showed little change compared with a month ago, and was not so good as a year ago. At collieries employing 498,821 workpeople, the pits worked an average of 5.24 days

weekly, as compared with 5.21 in October, and 5.51 in November, 1902. The number of workpeople employed at pits for which returns were received for both periods was 1.3 per cent. greater than a year ago.

Iron Mining.—Employment in this industry continues good. In the 139 mines and open works covered by the returns received from employers, and employing about 15,700 workpeople, the average number of days worked by the mines was 5.74, compared with 5.73 in October, and 5.81 in November, 1902.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment in this industry shows, on the whole, no change compared with a month ago; but as compared with a year ago there has been a decline, mainly in the Cumberland and North Lancashire district. Returns relating to the works of 113 ironmasters show that 314 furnaces, employing about 21,800 workpeople, were in blast at the end of November, as compared with the same number at the end of October, and with 324 in November, 1902.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Employment continues to show a falling off compared with a month ago and a year ago. At 199 works covered by the returns received from employers, 73,392 workpeople were employed during the week ended November 28th, and the total volume of employment (taking into account both the number employed and the number of shifts worked) shows a decrease of 2.6 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 2.5 per cent. compared with November, 1902.

Tinplate Manufacture.—Employment shows little change compared with October, and continues worse than a year ago. At the end of November 360 mills were working, as compared with 359 at the end of October, and 398 a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at the 360 mills was about 18,000.

Engineering Trades.—Employment generally is bad and worse than a month ago and a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members was 6.0 at the end of November, as compared with 5.2 in October, and 5.3 in November, 1902.

Shipbuilding Trades.—Employment is bad, worse than a month ago, and considerably worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members was 17.1 at the end of November, as compared with 15.0 in October, and 13.0 in November, 1902.

Building Trades.—Employment in these trades remains dull, and is rather worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members among *Carpenters* and *Joiners* was 6.1 at the end of November, compared with 5.6 at the end of October, and 4.4 a year ago. The percentage for *Plumbers* was 7.2 at the end of November, compared with 6.6 at the end of October, and 5.7 a year ago.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment in these trades remains dull, and is worse than a month and a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of November was 5.9, as compared with 5.2 in October, and 4.6 in November, 1902.

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.—Employment in the letterpress printing trade shows a considerable improvement, especially in London, and is rather better on the whole than a year ago. Other branches of the printing and bookbinding trades show little change as compared with October, but are worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the

resumed work on November 11th, after having been closed for three weeks.

The metal miners in Colorado were still out on November 30th, and had been reinforced by a strike at the coal mines.

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

BUILDING TRADES.

ACCORDING to returns furnished by 87 Employers' Associations whose members are estimated to employ about 96,000 workpeople, and by Trade Unions with an aggregate membership of about 194,000, employment in the building trades remains dull and is rather worse than a year ago.

The returns from Employers' Associations show that employment was good with 11.0 per cent. of the workpeople reported on, fair or moderate with 17.6 per cent., and dull or bad with 71.4 per cent.

Employment with bricklayers is dull, and about the same as a month ago and a year ago. With masons it is moderate. With carpenters and joiners, painters, plasterers, and plumbers it is dull generally, and worse than a month and year ago.

The Table given below shows the proportion of unemployed carpenters and joiners and plumbers in the principal districts according to the returns of certain Trade Unions.

Table showing employment statistics for Carpenters and Joiners and Plumbers across various districts in England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, including columns for No. of Members of Unions and Percentage of Members of Unions returned as Unemployed.

* Exclusive of Superannuated Members.

London.—Employment in London continues dull, and is rather worse than a year ago. Returns received by the Trade Correspondent from 76 employers show that in the last week of November they paid wages to 17,298 workpeople, as compared with 17,202 in the last week of October, and 15,850 in the corresponding month a year ago.

Bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, painters, plasterers and plumbers report employment as dull or bad; masons as fair.

Northern Counties.—Employment is dull with bricklayers and carpenters. Masons report employment as fair at Newcastle and Shields; dull at Middlesbrough and Hartlepool.

Lancashire and Cheshire.—Employment is slack generally. Much time has been lost through wet weather.

Yorkshire.—Employment is dull generally, but good with masons at Hull, fair with carpenters at York, and moderate with plumbers at Sheffield and Leeds.

East Midland Counties.—Employment is slack, except with plumbers, who are moderately well employed at Nottingham, dull at Leicester.

West Midland Counties.—Employment continues dull generally, but is fair at Coventry. Work has been interfered with by bad weather.

Eastern Counties.—Employment remains quiet. Southern and South Western Counties.—Employment is reported as quiet generally.

Wales.—Employment is slack at Cardiff, moderate at Swansea.

Scotland.—Employment is quiet on the whole. It is good with masons and moderate with plumbers at Aberdeen; fair with carpenters and plumbers at Glasgow.

Ireland.—Employment at Dublin shows a slight improvement, and with bricklayers and labourers is moderate; with plasterers, plumbers and stonecutters fairly good; with carpenters and painters dull. At Belfast and Cork employment is dull generally.

COAL MINING.

[NOTE.—The following figures only show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal was heaved and ground 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 during November showed little change as compared with a month ago, and was not so good as a year ago.

Returns received relating to 1,301 pits employing 498,821 workpeople show that the average number of days worked per week by the collieries included in the returns, during the four weeks ended 21st November, was 5.24, compared with 5.21 in October, and 5.51 in November, 1902.

A comparison of the district averages given in the Table below shows that in November, as compared with October, there was a slight increase in the average number of days worked in Durham, Lancashire and Cheshire, Staffordshire, North Wales, West Scotland, the Lothians and Ireland.

The only districts in which the number of days worked by the collieries exceeded 5 1/2 per week were South Wales and Monmouth (5.79), the Lothians (5.61), Cumberland (5.55), and North Wales (5.51).

EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER—COAL AND OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING; PIG IRON.

The following Table gives for the different mining districts a comparison of the average number of days worked per week by collieries in November, 1903, and 1902, and in October, 1903.

Table showing average number of days worked per week by collieries in four weeks ended 21st Nov., 24th Oct., and 22nd Nov., 1902, for various districts in England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland.

Of the total number of workpeople included in the returns, 73.7 per cent. were employed in collieries working 20 or more days during the four weeks ended 21st November, 1903, compared with 71.8 per cent. in October, and 89.5 per cent. in November, 1902.

Reports received from Local Correspondents and others show that in Northumberland employment has been good. In Durham, manufacturing, gas and coking pits averaged 5.5 days and house coal pits 5.4 days.

The Exports of coal, coke, and patent fuel during November amounted to 3,826,208 tons, as compared with 4,197,229 tons in October and 4,101,322 tons in November, 1902.

OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.

INFORMATION has been received from 75 firms employing about 18,350 workpeople, from 6 Employers' Associations, from a Trade Union and from Local Correspondents.

Employment in iron mines has been good; in lead, tin and copper mines quiet; and at limestone, granite and other stone quarries fairly good.

Mining.

Iron Mining.—Employment in this industry has been good generally, and shows little change compared with either a month or a year ago. During the four weeks ended November 21st the average number of days worked by the 139 mines and openworks covered by the returns received from employers was 5.74, as compared with 5.73 in October, and 5.81 a year ago.

The following Table summarises the returns received:—

Summary table of returns received, showing District, No. employed in Nov., 1903, Average number of days worked per week by the Mines in 4 weeks ended, and Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1903, as compared with previous periods.

The number of workpeople employed at the mines included in the returns was 15,706, as compared with 15,712 a month ago, and 15,780 in November, 1902.

Shale Mining.—Returns received relating to 25 mines show that in November, 2,631 men were employed, as compared with 2,707 in October and 2,688 a year ago.

Lead, Tin and Copper Mining.—In North Wales employment continues quiet. With tin and copper miners in Cornwall employment has been quiet in the Calstock district; in the Camborne district they have been fairly well employed.

Quarrying.

Slate.—With slate quarrymen employment has been good in North Wales and moderate in Cornwall.

Limestone.—In Cumberland and Weardale employment has been good. In the Millers Dale and Buxton districts of Derbyshire limestone quarrymen have been fairly well employed.

Granite.—Employment in Leicestershire has been fairly good; in North Wales good; at Gunnislake good; at Princetown and Penryn dull; and fair elsewhere in Devon and Cornwall.

Other Stone.—In the Barnsley district employment has been good; and at Normanton fairly good. In the Rowsley district (Derbyshire) it has been bad, short time being worked.

Settling.—In the Sheffield district flag and sett-makers have been busy. In the Clee Hill district and in North Wales employment has been good.

China Clay.—Employment has been steady in the St. Austell district (Cornwall).

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

REPORTS have been received from Employers, a Trade Union, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment in this industry shows, on the whole, no change as compared with a month ago; but as compared with a year ago there has been a decline, mainly in the Cumberland and Lancashire district.

EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER—PIG IRON; IRON AND STEEL AND TINPLATE WORKS.

Returns relating to the works of 113 ironmasters show that 314 blast furnaces were in operation at the end of November, as compared with 314 in October, and 324 a year ago.

The following Table shows by districts the furnaces in blast at the works included in the returns in the three periods specified:—

Table with columns for Districts, Number of Furnaces in Blast at end of (Nov 1903, Oct 1903, Nov 1902), Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov. 1903, as compared with (A month ago, A year ago). Includes sub-totals for England & Wales, Scotland, and Total.

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.*

RETURNS furnished by employers respecting 199 works show that they employed 73,392 workpeople during the week ended November 28th, or 917 less than a month ago, and 799 less than a year ago.

Number Employed.

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

Table with columns for District, Numbers employed in week ended (Nov 28th 1903, Oct 31st 1903, Nov 29th 1902), Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov. 1903, as compared with (A month ago, A year ago). Includes sub-totals for England and Wales, Scotland, and Total.

Weekly Number of Shifts Worked.

The Table below relates to the number of shifts worked at iron and steel works at which 90 per cent. of the workpeople referred to in the preceding Table were employed.

Table with columns for Number of Shifts worked, Number employed in Nov. 1903, so far as returned, Percentage proportion to Total, Corresponding percentage in (Oct. 1903, Nov. 1902). Includes sub-totals for Under 5 per week, 5 per week, 5 1/2 per week, 6 per week, Over 6 per week, and Total.

Assuming that the workpeople not included in the above Table (10 per cent. of the total number returned as employed) worked the same average number of shifts as those who are included, the aggregate number of shifts worked by all the workpeople included in the first Table may be estimated to have been 387,761 compared

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

with 398,074 in the week ended October 31st and 397,540 in November, 1902. On this basis the volume of employment at the works included in the returns shows a decrease of 2.6 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 2.5 per cent. compared with November, 1902.

The following reports relating to the different branches of the iron and steel manufacturing industry have been furnished by Local Correspondents and others:—

Tyne and Wear District.—Employment with steel smelters has been fair. Plate mills generally have worked full time, and bar, cogging and sheet mills less than full time.

Cleveland and Hartlepool District.—With Hartlepool iron and steel workers employment has been good, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

South Yorkshire.—With Siemen's steel smelters employment is moderate, and with steelworkers at Parkgate fairly good, but the steel trade on the whole is slack.

Midlands.—In certain works in Derbyshire nearly full time is being worked in the iron department, and less than half time in rolling mills.

North and South Wales.—Employment with steel workers in North Wales has been fully maintained.

Scotland.—Employment with steel smelters and iron and steel workers has been fair generally, but slack at most of the malleable iron works.

TINPLATE WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT in the tinplate industry shows little change compared with October, and continues worse than a year ago.

At the end of November 360 mills were working, as compared with 359 at the end of October, and 398 a year ago. Of the 70 works open, 54 had all their mills (273) in operation, while the remaining 16 works had 87 mills going out of a total of 119.

The following Table shows the number of mills at the works which were giving employment, full or partial,* at each of the three periods:—

Table with columns for Works giving full employment, Works giving partial employment, Total at end of Nov., 1903, Corresponding Total for Oct., 1903, Corresponding Total for Nov., 1902. Includes sub-columns for No. of Works open, Working, Not Working, Total.

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

† Revised figures.

EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER—SHIPBUILDING; ENGINEERING.

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

Table with columns for Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets (Iron or Steel), Black Plates for Tinning (Iron or Steel), Nov. 1903, Oct. 1903, Nov. 1902, and sub-totals for To United States, Other Countries, and Total.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from 6 Employers' Associations, 2 large Companies, 6 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents.

The information thus obtained shows that employment is bad, worse than a month ago and considerably worse than a year ago.

Branches of Trade Unions with 58,250 members had 9,941 (or 17.1 per cent.) unemployed at the end of November, compared with 15.0 per cent. at the end of October, and 13.0 per cent. in November, 1902.

The state of employment in the various districts, as indicated by the proportions of members of certain Trade Unions returned as unemployed at the end of the month, is shown in the following Table:—

Table with columns for District, No. of Members of Unions at end of Nov. 1903, included in the returns, Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of Nov. 1903, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage for Nov. 1903, as compared with (Month ago, Year ago). Includes sub-totals for United Kingdom.

Compared with a month ago most districts show a decline, but some improvement is indicated on the South Coast. As compared with a year ago a still greater decline is shown in most districts.

On the Tyne employment is bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. At several firms three-quarter time is being worked.

On the Wear employment is very bad, and worse than a month and a year ago. Drillers and hole cutters, however, report it as good on old work.

In the Tees and Hartlepool district employment with boilermakers, though bad, is slightly better than a month ago, and much better than a year ago.

On the Humber employment is very slack, and much worse than a month and a year ago.

On the Thames there has been a considerable decline as compared with the previous month, and employment is also worse than a year ago.

South Coast.—At Portsmouth and Devonport employment is good with shipwrights; with iron shipbuilders it is reported as slack at the former, as moderate at the latter place.

than a month ago, but short time is still reported and employment remains bad and worse than a year ago.

At the Bristol Channel Ports employment generally is bad, rather worse than a month ago, but not so bad as a year ago.

On the Mersey employment shows little change as compared with the previous month.

On the Clyde employment on the whole is bad, worse than a month ago and much worse than a year ago.

On the East Coast of Scotland employment generally is very bad, worse than a month ago, and very much worse than a year ago, especially at Dundee where much short time is reported.

At Belfast employment is quieter than a month ago and not so good as a year ago.

Other Districts.—At Barrow employment shows little change as compared with the previous month, but is worse than a year ago.

ENGINEERING TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from 7 Employers' Associations, 2 large Companies, 26 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents.

The information thus obtained shows that the general state of employment is bad and worse than a month and a year ago.

Returns relating to branches of Trade Unions with 142,210 members show that 8,523 (or 6.0 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 5.2 per cent. in October, and 5.3 per cent. in November, 1902.

The state of employment in the various districts, as indicated by the proportions of members of certain Trade Unions returned as unemployed at the end of the month, is shown in the following Table:—

Table with columns for Districts, No. of Members of Unions at end of Nov. 1903, included in the returns, Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of Nov. 1903, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed for Nov. 1903, as compared with (Month ago, Year ago). Includes sub-totals for United Kingdom.

Nearly all the districts show more or less decline as compared with a month and a year ago, with some short time in places. The figures, however, indicate some improvement in the Belfast and Dublin district.

North-East Coast.—Employment generally is bad, and rather worse than a month ago, and some shops are working short time.

Exclusive of Superannuated Members.

EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER—ENGINEERING; HARDWARE, CUTLERY, &c., TRADES.

moderate. At Middlesbrough it is good with ironfounders, moderate with engineers. At Stockton it is moderate with ironfounders; with engineers, though dull, it is much better than a year ago. Machine workers at Sunderland report employment as fair. With boilermakers at Darlington it is moderate. In the Tees district bridge builders report employment as good and better than a year ago. On the Tyne and Wear enginemens and firemen report employment as fair.

Manchester and Liverpool District.—Employment generally is dull, and worse than a month and a year ago. At Manchester nearly all branches are slack, and core makers report employment as declining; with machine workers it is stated to be fair. At Crewe short time is being worked. In the Liverpool district brassfounders and hammermen report employment as good; with most other branches it is quiet.

Oldham, Bolton, Blackburn and District.—Employment shows a considerable decline, and is worse than a year ago. Generally it is bad. With pattern makers it is good at Preston, moderate at Blackburn, bad elsewhere. Engineers report employment as moderate at Bolton, Bury, Preston, and Rochdale. At Blackburn ironfounders report it as declining; with engineers it is good at textile machine shops, declining at engine shops. At Oldham employment is bad in all branches, and worse than a month ago. Boilermakers are slack throughout the district.

West Riding.—Employment generally is dull, rather worse than a month ago, and worse than a year ago. At Leeds it is reported as fair generally, but bad with pattern makers, declining with ironfounders. At Sheffield nearly all branches are slack, and a good deal of short time is being worked; employment is, however, reported as fair with pattern makers, moderate with electrical workers. At Barnsley ironfounders and engineers are fairly well employed. At Huddersfield, Keighley and Rotherham engineers report employment as moderate. At Bradford it is bad generally.

Hull and Lincolnshire District.—Employment is bad, and shows considerable decline as compared with both a month and a year ago. At Doncaster some short time is being worked. At Lincoln and Peterborough employment is moderate, at Grantham it is good.

East Midlands.—The general state of employment is dull, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In general engineering work it is bad, and at Derby boiler-makers report short time. With lace and hosiery machine builders at Nottingham employment is reported as fairly good, with lace machine builders at Long Eaton as moderate, and with boot and shoe machinery makers at Leicester as fairly good.

West Midlands.—Employment shows a slight decline as compared with the previous month and is not as good as a year ago. Generally it is moderate. At Coventry it is fair with pattern makers and tool makers, good with ironfounders, bad with engineers. With boilermakers it is slack at Birmingham, moderate elsewhere. With ironfounders it is bad at Wolverhampton and Dudley. With electrical engineers it is fairly good. Employment at Birmingham is quiet with military gun makers, fair with sporting gun makers. In the cycle industry it is moderate at Coventry, quiet at Redditch; in the motor industry very fair.

London and Neighbouring District.—Employment on the whole shows some decline as compared with the previous month, but is rather better than a year ago. Generally it is quiet. With engineers at Chatham it is good. Scientific instrument makers report employment as fair, mathematical instrument makers as slack.

South Coast.—Employment generally is moderate, but not quite as good as a month or a year ago. At Southampton it is reported as fair. At Devonport it is bad with ironfounders, fair with pattern makers, moderate with engineers. At Plymouth engineers report employment as bad.

South Wales and Bristol District.—Employment generally

is rather worse than a month ago, but better than a year ago. At Swindon it is moderate. At Bristol it is dull with iron and brass founders, moderate with engineers and boilermakers. At Swansea and Newport engineers report employment as bad.

Glasgow and District.—Employment is considerably worse than a month ago, and worse than a year ago. Generally it is quiet. With brass finishers and iron-moulders it is reported as fair, with copper-smiths, boiler and pipe coverers and iron grinders as good. Iron, steel, and brass dressers report short time.

East of Scotland.—Employment is bad and worse than a month ago. At Dundee it is affected by a dispute. At Falkirk moulders and pattern makers are working short time. Employment is reported as fair with blacksmiths at Edinburgh and Aberdeen, and with brassfounders at the latter place.

Belfast and Dublin.—Employment generally is dull and worse than a year ago, but a considerable improvement took place in Belfast in the last week of the month. Pattern makers and brassfounders report employment as good at Belfast, ironfounders as bad. At Dublin employment is bad with engineers, dull with brassfounders, moderate with ironfounders, and fair with blacksmiths.

Other Districts.—At Barrow employment continues bad and worse than a year ago, with some short time, but pattern makers and ironfounders report it as good. In the Eastern Counties employment is moderate. At Cork it is dull. Employment is moderate with engineers and boilermakers at Stoke. With engineers it is bad at Hanley and Stafford, moderate at Worcester and York.

HARDWARE, CUTLERY, AND MISCELLANEOUS TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from 3 Employers' Associations, 22 Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents.

Brasswork, Bedstead Making, etc.—Employment among brassworkers is much the same on the whole as a month ago, though rather worse than a year ago. At Birmingham it remains fair in the various branches of the trade. At Rotherham it is quiet; at Doncaster, Manchester and Nottingham slack; in London fair on the whole. In Birmingham employment is bad in the bedstead trade, and moderate with fender makers.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, etc.—In Birmingham and at Smethwick employment is reported as quiet with nut and bolt makers, and with makers of cut and wire nails and machine-made rivets. At Dudley it is reported as fair with nut and bolt makers. At Halesowen and Blackheath employment is fair with makers of spikes, wrought nails and rivets. At Leeds employment with nail makers is improving.

Tubes.—Employment has somewhat improved during the month, but is worse than a year ago, and there is some short time worked. In Birmingham the cased tube section is reported as improved.

Chains, Anvils, Vices, Anchors, etc.—Employment is reported as fair with block chain makers at Cradley, but as quiet with makers of dollied chains and cables. In the anvil and vice making trades employment generally is slack, but anvil makers at Dudley report it as fair. Anchor smiths at Cradley report employment as quiet. In the spring trade at West Bromwich employment is good. With makers of bits, stirrups, case hames, etc., at Walsall it is slack. At Wednesbury employment is reported as fair on iron and steel forgings, but as slack with workers on railway axles, springs and coach iron-work. In the axle trade at Birmingham employment is reported as good.

Locks, Keys and General Hardware.—Employment in the lock, key and latch trade is reported as fair in some branches and bad in others; it is worse than a year ago. In the wrought iron and steel hinge trade at Birmingham employment is reported as very good, overtime being worked. In the hollow-ware trade employment is moderate at Birmingham, but at West Bromwich

EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER—HARDWARE, CUTLERY, &c., TRADES; COTTON TRADE.

is slack and short time still continues. At Wolverhampton light enamelled hollow-ware makers, makers of plantation hoes, and vermin-trap makers report employment as good. Employment is good with electrical and malleable casters at Oakengates. Spade finishers and fork drawers, galvanisers, hurdle and fence makers and spectacle frame makers report employment as fair.

Files, Edge Tools, etc.—In the file trade at Sheffield employment generally is very quiet. At Birmingham file cutters report it as very fair. In the edge tool trade employment is fair at Birmingham, good at Wolverhampton, slack at Sheffield.

Stoves, Grates, etc.—Employment generally is reported as very quiet in the principal centres of these trades.

Sheet Metal.—In the London district employment is reported as fair and better than a month ago with sheet metal and gas meter workers, bad with canister makers, good with zinc workers. At Birmingham employment is fair, but it is bad in Wolverhampton, Bilston, and the Lye district. It is slack in Manchester and Dublin, but fairly good at Sheffield, Leeds, Hull, Nottingham, Bristol, Exeter, Edinburgh and Aberdeen.

Cutlery, etc.—At Sheffield employment generally in these trades is reported as slack, except in the pen and pocket blade branch. The needle and fish hook trades at Redditch report employment as very fair and very good respectively.

Gold, Silver, Britannia Metal, etc.—In London these trades generally report employment as fair, except small silver workers, with whom it is dull. At Sheffield employment is slack, silver platers and gilders being the only exception, and reporting employment as good. In Birmingham employment is improving in the jewellery trade, fair in Britannia metal work, but quiet with electro-platers. Employment is bad in the watch trade at Coventry.

Wirework.—Wire drawers report employment as fairly good generally, but slack at Sheffield; wire weavers as very good in London, but dull in Glasgow; wire workers as quiet in London and Manchester.

Farriers.—Employment generally is reported as quiet, about the same as a month ago; slightly better than a year ago. It is, however, reported as good at Newcastle and Dublin, and fair at Nottingham, Dundee and Aberdeen.

COTTON TRADE.

INFORMATION as to the state of employment in the different branches of the cotton trade has been received from the Trade Correspondent of the Department, the estimated total number of operatives covered by the returns being 225,000. Reports have also been furnished by the Local Correspondents of the Department and by Trade Unions.

Returns relating specially to the employment of women in the cotton trade have also been received from women correspondents with regard to 562 spinning and weaving factories, usually employing about 98,900 women and girls.

The general result of the information thus obtained from various sources shows that employment is better than a month ago, though still worse than a year ago.

It will be remembered that towards the end of October many of the Cotton Spinning mills resumed full hours of working after several months of short time. At the end of November, full employment was pretty general in both the finer and coarser counts of yarn. Of the 27,100 women and girls included in the returns from women correspondents, 75 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment throughout the month, compared with 42 per cent. in October, and 85 per cent. in November, 1902.

The Weaving sheds were slow in getting to full hours in November, but at the close of the month most of the looms that had been empty of warps for some time were regatied. Of the 71,800 women and girls included in the returns

from women correspondents 44 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment throughout the month, compared with 25 per cent. in October, and 82 per cent. in November, 1902.

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

Trade and Month.	Percentage ordinarily employed in Mills which were			
	Working full Time throughout the Month.		Working Short Time during some part of the Month.	Closed during some part of the Month for repairs, bad trade, disputes, or other causes.
	With Full Employment.	With Partial Employment.		
Cotton Trade—Spinning—				
November, 1903	75	18	6	1
October, 1903	42	14	37	7
November, 1902	85	9	1	5
Cotton Trade—Weaving—				
November, 1903	44	34	18	4
October, 1903	25	29	35	11
November, 1902	82	13	2	3

COTTON SPINNING.

Ashton District.—Employment in Ashton, Stalybridge Mossley, Dukinfield and Droylsden has improved. The mills are reported as all running full time, and employment is fairly good.

Stockport and Manchester District.—In the Stockport, Reddish, Romiley and Compstall districts employment, although not good, has improved, with all the mills running full time; it is, however, rather worse than a year ago. In the Manchester, Pendlebury and Patricroft districts employment is reported as good, as better than a month ago, and almost the same as a year ago.

Glossop, Hadfield and Hyde District.—Employment has improved, although it is hardly so good as a year ago. The mills are all running full time. Card-room operatives report employment as fair at Hadfield, good at Glossop.

Oldham District (including Middleton, Shaw, Royton, Lees and Chadderton).—Employment has improved and is reported as good and about the same as a year ago. Practically all the mills are running full time.

Bolton District (including Farnworth, Leigh and Wigan).—Employment is reported as fair, although rather worse than a year ago. The mills are working full time but some slackness is reported.

Bury, Heywood and Rochdale District.—Employment in Bury is reported as unsatisfactory. Three mills are stopped, and employment is worse than a year ago. In Heywood it is fairly good; the mills are running full time but some slackness is reported. In Rochdale and Milnrow employment shows a further improvement and is fairly good.

Preston District.—Employment has much improved, although it is not so good as a year ago.

COTTON WEAVING.

Preston District.—Employment has improved, most sheds working full time, but some slackness is still reported.

Blackburn, Darwen and Accrington District.—Employment in Blackburn has improved, full time being the rule, but there are still some looms standing. In Darwen, although employment has improved, three sheds, representing 1,127 looms, are still closed and some looms are standing idle. In Accrington most sheds are now working full time, but there is still slackness.

Burnley, Nelson and Colne District.—In Burnley the sheds are now working full time, but some looms are standing. In Nelson employment is good, few looms standing empty. In Colne employment has improved and is not unsatisfactory.

Other Districts.—In Bury employment has improved, but is not good. In Bolton it has improved slightly, but much slackness is reported. In Chorley it is unsatisfactory but improving.

EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER—COTTON, WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

PRICES OF RAW COTTON.

American Cotton.—During the month of November the average price of raw cotton (middling American) was 6'03d. per lb., being 1/4d. per lb. more than the average for October, and 33 per cent. in advance of November, 1902, when the price was 4'52d. per lb. For the period from 1st to 12th December the average price of middling American was 6'61d. per lb.

Egyptian Cotton.—The price of "good fair Egyptian" during November averaged 8'37d. per lb. compared with 8'08d. in October, and 7'13d. in November, 1902, a rise of 17 per cent. on the price a year ago. For the period from 1st to 12th December the average price of "good fair Egyptian" was 8'41d. per lb.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF COTTON.

The following Table shows the number of bales of cotton imported, forwarded from ports to inland towns, and exported during the month of November, and also during the eleven completed months of 1903, with comparative figures for 1902 and 1901:—

Table with columns for Month of November (1903, 1902, 1901) and Eleven months ended November (1903, 1902, 1901). Rows include Imported, Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns, and Exported.

Particulars of the various descriptions of cotton forwarded from ports to inland towns during November in each of the years 1903, 1902 and 1901 respectively are given below:—

Table with columns for Description of Cotton forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns, November 1903, November 1902, and November 1901. Rows include American, Brazilian, East Indian, Egyptian, and Miscellaneous.

At the end of November there was no scarcity of raw cotton in either American or Egyptian descriptions. The visible supply of American cotton for the United Kingdom on 11th December was estimated by the Liverpool Cotton Association to be about 648,370 bales, compared with 724,170 bales at the corresponding date a year ago.

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

RETURNS have been received from the Trade Correspondent of the Department based on information supplied by 298 firms employing 91,323 workpeople; from women correspondents, with regard to factories in Yorkshire usually employing about 31,500 women and girls, and from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and the Local Correspondents.

The returns again show great slackness in the worsted trade. In the woollen trade it is quieter than a month ago, but is still fairly good on the whole. The number employed by the firms making returns at the end of November was 91,323, compared with 91,922 at the end of October, and 92,997 a year ago, a decrease of 0.7 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 1.8 per cent. compared with a year ago.

The following Table enables a comparison to be made of the number employed in the various branches in the districts reported on at the end of November with a month ago and with a year ago, so far as covered by the returns.

Main table showing Number of workpeople employed by firms making returns at end of Nov., Oct., and Nov. 1902. Rows include Bradford District, Keighley District, Halifax District, Huddersfield District, Leeds District, Cleckheaton, Liversedge, and Heckmondwike, West of England and Midlands, Lancashire, South of Scotland, Ireland, and Total No. returned.

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

Bradford District (including Bingley, Otley, etc.).—In the woolcombing branch employment is bad both with day workers and night workers; several firms are not working at all at night. In worsted spinning employment is not so good as a month ago and is worse than a year ago. In worsted weaving short time and machinery standing is reported in several cases, and some factories are only running four days a week.

Keighley District.—Employment continues fairly good, and is better than a year ago. The short time reported is in the woolcombing and wooloriting branches. Some slackness is reported among weavers.

Halifax District (including Sowerby Bridge, Elland, Brighouse, etc.).—The majority of worsted spinning firms report short time in one or more departments. Several weaving factories are only running 4 1/2 to 5 days a week.

Huddersfield District.—In worsted spinning several firms report short time. In worsted weaving a little overtime is reported. In woollen manufacture em-

EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER—TEXTILE TRADES; BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

ployment is a little quieter, some firms reporting short time; but a number of firms are still working overtime and a few are working night and day.

Leeds District (including Yeadon, Guiseley, Pudsey, etc.).—In worsted spinning and manufacture employment is not quite so good and some short time is reported. In woollen manufacture short time is reported in several cases.

The Heavy Woollen District (Dewsbury, Batley, Ossett, etc.).—Employment generally in the district is reported as bad. The majority of firms making returns report short time and slackness in the weaving branch, but two firms report overtime in several departments.

West of England and Midlands.—Employment is good in the woollen manufacture, although little overtime is reported. In worsted spinning some short time is reported.

Lancashire.—Most firms report short time, several only working 4 1/2 days a week.

Scotland.—Employment is not so good, some short time being reported. In Hawick and Galashiels the mills generally are running full time, but slackness is reported among spinners and weavers.

OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.

Jute and Flax Trades.

According to information received from Employers' Associations and from Local Correspondents, employment in the jute and flax trade in Scotland is fairly good. In the flax trade in Ulster it is fair.

In Dundee employment is fair. Information has been received with regard to jute and flax factories, employing about 8,700 men and boys and 20,300 women and girls. From this it appears that all spinning mills and weaving factories were running full time throughout the month; in 7 out of 38 spinning mills, and in 9 out of 32 weaving factories, slackness is reported. In Forfar employment is reported as fair; in Brechin as dull, with two mills on short time; in Kirkcaldy some works are on short time; in Arbroath most firms are fairly busy. In Aberdeen employment is good.

Employment in Ulster is reported as fair. In Belfast the flax dressers report employment as dull; the flax roughers and yarn dressers as good; the power loom tenters as dull; the women workers' Trade Union, the hackle and gill makers, and the linen lappers as fair; the beetling enginemens as bad.

At Barnsley employment continues bad.

Hosiery Trade.

According to information received from Employers through the Trade Correspondent of the Department, from one Employers' Association, from one Trade Union and from Local Correspondents, employment in the hosiery trade continues bad, and is worse than a month or a year ago.

Leicester District.—Returns received from hosiery manufacturers employing 11,555 workpeople in their factories at the end of November show a decrease of 3.2 per cent. on the number employed at the end of October, and of 2.1 per cent. on the number employed a year ago. Of the total number of operatives, 86 per cent. were employed in firms reporting short time or general slackness in some departments during the month, compared with 83 per cent. of those for whom returns were received for October. In Leicester, Loughborough, and Hincley employment is bad; in many firms half-time is reported.

Nottingham and Derby District.—Employment generally is bad in every branch throughout the district.

Scotland.—Employment in Hawick and Selkirk is reported as good, showing no change compared with a month or a year ago.

Lace Trade.

According to information from the lace makers' Trade Union and the Local Correspondent, employment in the Nottingham lace trade is worse than a month or a year ago. It is reported as very slack with the levers and

curtain sections, and as fair in the plain net branch. It is reported as improved at Beeston, as moderate at Stapleford, Kimberley and Bulwell. At Ilkeston and Long Eaton employment is reported as bad.

Printing, Dyeing, Bleaching, and Finishing.

Information has been received from one Employers' Association, from Trade Unions, and from Local Correspondents.

Employment with dyers in the West Riding is reported as bad, short time being general at Bradford. One large Trade Union reports it as worse than a month or a year ago. Another reports it as slightly better than a month ago; as bad during November in Huddersfield, Bury and Barnsley; as good at Burnley, Colne and Holmfirth. At Manchester employment is slack; at Bolton it continues bad.

Employment with dyers and trimmers continues slack at Leicester; it is not quite so bad at Loughborough as in October, about three-quarter time being worked. With dyers and bleachers at Nottingham and Basford employment is very irregular; it is bad with hosiery trimmers at Nottingham, Bulwell and Basford, many working short time. With calico printers at Manchester employment is reported as fair; at New Mills as bad; with calico engravers at Dinting as good. In the Glasgow district calico printers report employment as fair, block printers as moderate, calenderers as fair. In the Dundee district the calender workers report it as slack; the bleachfield workers as slightly improved.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

(For Leather Trades see p. 344.)

RETURNS have been received from the Trade Correspondents of the Department based on information supplied by 619 firms employing 72,812 workpeople. Reports have also been furnished by Trade Unions and by Local Correspondents.

The reports show that employment has slightly improved but is still quiet. The number employed by firms making returns at the end of November was 72,812, compared with 72,459 at the end of October, and 72,414 a year ago, an increase of 0.5 per cent. compared with both a month and a year ago. Of the total number of operatives, 58 per cent. were employed by firms working at least full time throughout November, the same percentage as in the returns received for October.

The following Table enables a comparison to be made of the numbers employed in the various districts at the end of November, with a month ago and with a year ago, so far as covered by the returns:—

Table with columns for District, No. of firms making returns, No. employed by these firms at end of Nov., Oct., and Nov. 1902, and Percenta Increase (+) or Decrease (-) on Oct., 1903, and Nov., 1902. Rows include England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland.

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

London.—Returns covering 6,027 workpeople show that 66 per cent. were employed by firms working full time throughout the month, the same percentage as in October. Employment amongst the Trade Union boot and shoe operatives is again reported as dull. The hand-

EMPLOYMENT IN NOVEMBER—DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR; FISHING.

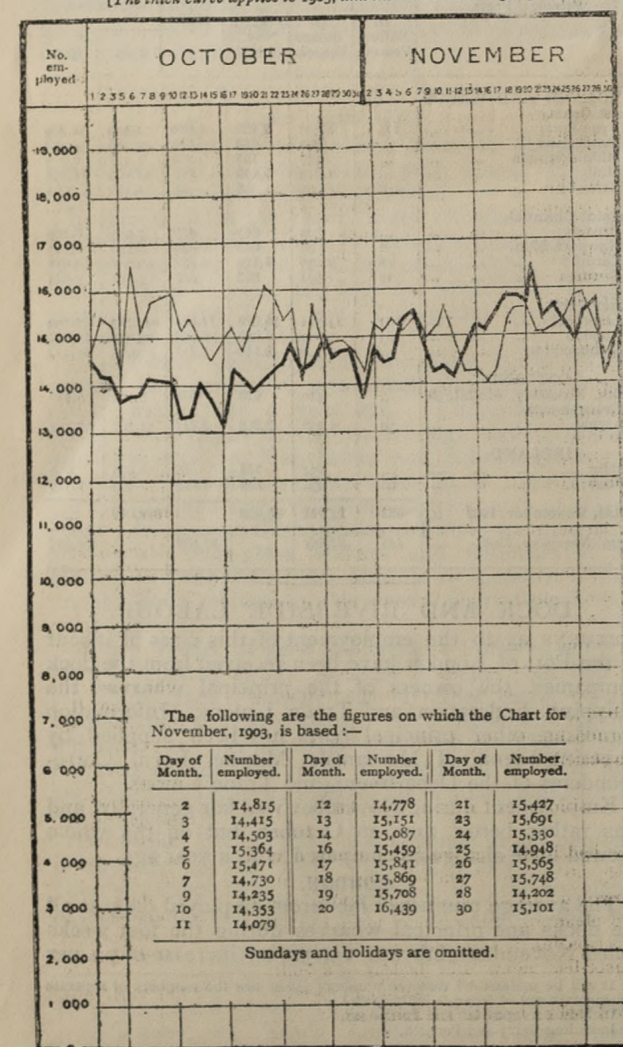
cent. on the average for October, and an increase of 0.4 per cent. on the average for November, 1902. The average number employed in November during the six years, 1897-1902, was 16,388.

(1) Weekly Averages.—The following Table shows the estimated average number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily in each of the four weeks ended November 28th:—

Table with 6 columns: Period, By Dock Companies or through Contractors, By Ship-owners, &c., Total, Labourers employed at 115 Wharves making Returns, Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns. Rows include weekly data for Nov. 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th, and averages for 4 weeks, Oct. 1903, and Nov. 1902.

(2) Daily Fluctuation.—The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed by all the docks and principal wharves is shown on the chart below. The numbers in November ranged from 14,079 on the 11th to 16,439 on the 20th. During November, 1902, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed ranged from 14,004 on the 15th to 15,918 on the 27th.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 115 of the principal Wharves for each day during the month of October and November, 1903. The corresponding curve for October and November, 1902, is also given for comparison. [The thick curve applies to 1903, and the thin curve to 1902.]



The following are the figures on which the Chart for November, 1903, is based:—

Table with 6 columns: Day of Month, Number employed, Day of Month, Number employed, Day of Month, Number employed. Rows show daily data for November 1903.

Sundays and holidays are omitted.

Employment was fair with workers in mid-stream, coal porters, winchmen, deal porters, lumpers, stevedores and lightermen. With corn porters it was moderate. With fruit porters in Thames-street it was fair, the average daily number employed being 298, as compared with 315 in October, and 307 a year ago.

Of the 3,414 "free labourers" on the register of the Shipping Federation in the Port of London, during November, 64 per cent. were, on the average, employed by the ship-owners to whom the office supplies labour, as compared with 55 per cent. in October, and 63 per cent. a year ago.

OTHER PORTS.

North-East Coast.—In the Tyne, Blyth and Wear district employment with coal porters and shippers was good. With trimmers and teamers it was moderate, and worse than a month ago, while with dock and quay side labourers it was fair, and better than a month ago. With pit prop carriers it has been fairly good. On the Tyne, watermen report employment as bad. Employment on the Wear was quiet with steam packet men, and moderate with dock labourers. With dockers at Middlesbrough it was good; at Hartlepool moderate; with riverside labour on the Tees it was slack.

Hull and Grimsby.—With Hull timber and grain dischargers employment was good; with coal porters slack; with dock labourers moderate, and with lighter-men bad. At Goole and Grimsby with dock labourers it was good. With coal workers at Grimsby employment was slack.

Norfolk and Suffolk.—Dock labourers at Yarmouth and Lowestoft were steadily employed. Employment was fair at Ipswich and Parkeston, and slack at Harwich.

Southampton.—Employment with dock labourers was moderate, and about the same as in October, but it was worse than a year ago.

Plymouth and District.—General dock labour has been quiet, but coal and grain lumpers have been moderately employed.

Bristol Channel Ports.—At Bristol, Avonmouth, Portishead and Sharpness, employment was good; at Gloucester fair. Dock labourers generally at Newport were well employed, but at Cardiff, Barry, and Swansea employment was not so good.

Liverpool and Manchester.—At Liverpool employment with dock labourers has been fairly good on the whole; with quay and railway carters it has improved; with the flatmen it has been fair. With the dockers at Manchester it has been slack.

The Clyde.—Employment with dock labourers at Glasgow was fair, at Greenock it was reported as dull.

East of Scotland Ports.—Employment with dock labourers at Leith is reported as better than a month ago. At Aberdeen it was bad, at Dundee good.

Irish Ports.—Employment was bad at Dublin, good at Belfast, fair at Cork.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

REPORTS have been received from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries and from Collectors of Fishery Statistics for England; from the Fishery Board for Scotland; and also from Local Correspondents.

The fish landed in Great Britain* during November shows a decrease both in quantity and in value as compared with a year ago. The following Table gives the quantity and value for November, 1903, and November, 1902, respectively:—

Table with 6 columns: Fish (other than Shell), Quantity (Nov. 1903, Nov. 1902), Landing Value (£, Nov. 1903, Nov. 1902). Rows include England and Wales, Scotland, Total, and Shell Fish.

* The figures for Ireland were not available at the time of going to press

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN NOVEMBER.

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

THE total number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during November, 1903, was 368, as compared with 370 in the corresponding month of 1902, 424 in 1901, 367 in 1900, and 427 in 1899. The average number of fatal accidents in the month of November in these five years was thus 39.1, so that the total for the past month was below the average.

In the classes of industries in which the number of persons employed is approximately known, viz.: Railway Service (exclusive of contractors' servants), Mines, Quarries, Shipping, and Factories, the number of workpeople reported as killed was 333, compared with 343 in November, 1902. The approximate number of workpeople employed in these industries according to the latest returns was about 5,700,000. The number of persons in this group of industries reported as killed during the eleven months ended November last was 3,407, as compared with 3,581 in the corresponding period of 1902.

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

Large table showing fatal industrial accidents by trade. Columns include Trade, Number of Workpeople killed during (Nov. 1903, Oct. 1903, Nov. 1902), Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov. 1903, as compared with a Month ago, and Year ago. Rows include Railway Service, Mines, Quarries, Factories, Workshops, and Seamen.

From the Tyne and Wear it is reported that trawl and line fishing were interrupted during the month by stormy weather, but that fair supplies of white fish were landed.

At Hull, Grimsby, and Yarmouth employment has been good on the whole. Employment at Lowestoft was fair among fishermen and persons employed in fish curing, and moderate with fish dock labourers.

Off Plymouth and the South-western coast fishing improved during the first two weeks of the month, but subsequently was much interfered with by bad weather. A slight improvement was shown towards the end of the month. Employment among fish packers and carters was slack; with pilchard curers it was moderate.

Employment in all branches was good at Aberdeen, moderate at Macduff, fair at Peterhead, and bad at Fraserburgh, and at all four ports showed little change as compared with a month ago. At Arbroath and Montrose employment was fair.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

TABLE SHOWING THE NUMBER OF CASES OF LEAD, MERCURIAL, PHOSPHORUS, AND ARSENIC POISONING AND OF ANTHRAX REPORTED TO THE HOME OFFICE UNDER THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, DURING THE UNDERMENTIONED PERIODS.

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

Table showing the number of cases of Lead, Mercurial, Phosphorus, and Arsenic poisoning, and Anthrax, by disease and industry, for 11 months ended November 1903 and 1902.

* Of the 4 cases in the china and earthenware industry in November, 1903, 3 affected females.

† House Painters and Plumbers.—In addition to the cases included in the Table, 14 cases of lead poisoning (including 2 deaths) were reported during November among house-painters and plumbers. The number of such cases reported for the eleven months ended November, 1903, was 185 (including 36 deaths), and for the corresponding period of 1902, 155 (including 30 deaths).

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN NOVEMBER, 1903.

ONLY two changes in hours of labour were reported in November. At Bradford 935 mechanics and labourers in the employ of the Corporation had their working hours for eight weeks in winter reduced from 49½ to 44 on November 27th, and the average hours of 112 bricklayers* at Barry were reduced 2 per week (54½ to 52½) on November 2nd.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM. The following statement has been communicated to the LABOUR GAZETTE by the Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

Summary for November.

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

The value of the Imports in November, 1903, was £48,723,591, an increase of £3,605,535 or 8.0 per cent., as compared with those in November, 1902, whilst the total Exports amounted to £27,843,072, showing a decrease of £2,135,889. The Exports of British produce alone show a decrease of £1,610,445, or 6.5 per cent., as compared with November, 1902, and those of foreign and Colonial merchandise a decrease of £525,444, or 9.8 per cent.

Imports.—The following Table shows the value of the Imports for November, 1903, as compared with the corresponding months of 1902 and 1901, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

Table showing the value of imports for November 1901, 1902, and 1903, categorized by type of goods (Food, Raw Materials, etc.) and showing percentage changes.

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

Table showing the value of exports for November 1901, 1902, and 1903, categorized by type of goods (Food, Raw Materials, etc.) and showing percentage changes.

Tonnage of Ships entered and cleared with Cargoes.

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the month ended November, 1903, amounted to 3,467,771 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,944,370 tons, as against 3,079,042 tons entered and 3,814,271 tons cleared in the month of November, 1902.

* See also under Changes in Rates of Wages. † The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance and freight; or, when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods. ‡ The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during November, 1903, amounted to 2,622,999 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,562,180 tons, as against 2,570,153 tons entered, and 2,521,850 tons cleared in November, 1902.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during November was 25,588, as compared with 29,541 in November, 1902. Comparing the eleven completed months of 1903 with the corresponding period of 1902, there is an increase of 64,992 passengers, viz., from 367,124 in 1902 to 432,116 in 1903.

British and Irish.—Of the 25,588 passengers in November, 14,477 were of British or Irish origin, a decrease of 1,154 as compared with a year ago. For the eleven completed months of 1903 the total number was 252,402, as compared with 196,727 in the corresponding period of last year, an increase of 55,675, which is more than accounted for by an increase of 34,653 passengers to British North America, of 14,809 to the United States, and of 7,468 to British South Africa.

The following Table gives the number of British and Irish passengers in the different periods:—

Table showing the number of British and Irish passengers by destination (British Empire, Foreign Countries) for November 1903 and 1902, and totals for eleven months.

Foreign.—The remainder of the 25,588 passengers in November, viz., 11,111, were foreigners or other persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being 2,799 less than in November, 1902. For the eleven completed months of 1903, the number of such passengers was 179,714, of whom 123,584 were bound for the United States, 36,823 for British North America, and 11,717 for British South Africa.

Alien Immigration.—During November, 13,432 aliens arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent. Of these, 6,449 were stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to places out of the United Kingdom, a decrease of 1,118 as compared with November, 1902. Those not stated to be on their way to places out of the United Kingdom numbered 5,851 (exclusive of seamen), a decrease of 426, as compared with a year ago. The figures for November, 1903 and 1902, and also for the eleven months ended November in each year, are as follows:—

Table showing alien immigration statistics for November 1903 and 1902, categorized by status (Alien Lists, Seamen, etc.) and totals for eleven months.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 20 of the principal railway companies of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended December 5th amounted to £6,777,827, a decrease of £75,911 (or 1.1 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1902. The receipts from passenger traffic were £2,615,609, a decrease of £17,966 as compared with a year ago, and those from goods and mineral traffic £4,162,218, a decrease of £57,945.

Bankruptcies.—The bankruptcies gazetted during November numbered 337, being 8 less than in November, 1902, 85 less than in November, 1901, and 74 less than in November, 1900.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACTS—APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE.

A DEPARTMENTAL Committee has been appointed by the Home Secretary to inquire and report what amendments in the law relating to compensation for injuries to workmen are necessary or desirable; and to what classes of employments not now included in the Workmen's Compensation Acts, those Acts can properly be extended with or without modification.

The Committee consists of Sir Kenelm Digby, K.C.B. (chairman), His Honour Judge Lumley Smith, Sir Benjamin Browne, Captain A. J. G. Chalmers (Board of Trade), and Mr. George N. Barnes (Secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers). Mr. R. R. Bannatyne, of the Home Office, is Secretary.

REGULATIONS FOR DOCKS, WHARVES, QUAYS, &c.

THE Secretary of State for the Home Department, in pursuance of Section 81 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, has appointed Mr. Chester Jones, Barrister at Law, of 1, Paper Buildings, Temple, to hold an inquiry with regard to the draft regulations for docks, wharves, quays, &c., published in pursuance of Section 80 of that Act. The inquiry, which is a public one, will be opened at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, London, on Tuesday, January 26th, 1904, at 11 a.m., and any person who has objected to the draft regulations and any other person who, in the opinion of the person holding the inquiry, is affected by the draft regulations may appear either in person or by counsel, solicitor or agent.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN NOVEMBER.

DURING November 779 fresh applications for work were registered by seven Bureaux furnishing returns, and 599 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 205 persons, of whom 97 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps).

Compared with the previous month the number of fresh applications for domestic servants fell from 604 to 420, and the number of servants applying fell from 459 to 398; the number permanently engaged fell from 94 to 77. The demand for dressmakers, milliners, etc., fell from 69 to 53, and the number requiring such situations fell from 107 to 92; the number engaged through the Bureaux was 49, compared with 53 in October.

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

WORK DONE IN NOVEMBER.

Table showing work done in November for seven bureaux, including fresh applications, situations offered, and persons engaged.

Summary by Bureaux and Summary by Occupations tables showing detailed statistics for various bureaux and job categories.

Summary by Occupations table showing statistics for various job categories like Superintendents, Forewomen, etc.

LABOUR BUREAUX IN NOVEMBER.

At the six Bureaux, which were in operation in 1902 and 1903, 1,785 fresh applications for work were registered during November, 1903, as compared with 2,131 during November, 1902. These Bureaux found work for 672 persons during November, 1903, of whom 565 were engaged by private employers. In November, 1902, private employers engaged 551 persons out of a total of 695 found work through the Bureaux. The number of workpeople remaining on the registers at the end of November, 1903, was 1,155, as compared with 1,164 a year ago.

Seven other Bureaux, which were not in operation a year ago, also furnished returns, including the Southampton Bureau, opened on 1st October, and the Kensington Borough Bureau, opened on 2nd November.

Altogether, at the thirteen Bureaux included in the Tables below, 3,211 fresh applications for work were registered during November, 1903, and work was found for 896 persons. The number of workpeople remaining on the registers at the end of the month was 3,262, including 2,577 men and boys, and 685 women and girls.

(I.) Work done in November.

Large table showing work done in November across 13 bureaux, including London, Provincial, and other categories, with columns for fresh applications, situations offered, and persons engaged.

(II.) Employment found for Workpeople during November.

Table showing employment found for workpeople during November, categorized by gender and occupation, including men, women, and children.

* Engaged by Salvation Army. † Bureau was not in operation in November, 1902.

PAUPERISM IN NOVEMBER.

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

The number of paupers relieved in 35 selected Urban Districts of the United Kingdom on one day in November was 359,289, corresponding to a rate of 212 per 10,000 of the estimated population of these districts in 1903.

Compared with October, there was an increase of 9,848 in the number relieved, and of 6 in the rate per 10,000 of the population. With the exception of Glasgow, where there is a small decrease, and Bolton, Oldham, &c., where no change is indicated, every district shows an increased rate. The greatest increases occur in Central London (16 per 10,000), and Galway (14).

Compared with November, 1902, the number of persons relieved, has increased by 10,995, and the rate per 10,000 by 4. Increases are shown in twenty-four districts, the rate of increase being greatest in Leicester (29 per 10,000), North Staffordshire (23), East London (16), Bolton, Oldham, &c., and Nottingham (15 each). Decreases are shown in nine districts, the most marked falling off being in Cork, Waterford and Limerick (19 per 10,000), Stockton and Tees (16), and Galway (13).

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of November, 1903.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.		A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.*						
Metropolises.						
West District ...	11,376	3,309	14,685	179	+ 7	+ 5
North District ...	15,397	8,462	23,859	224	+ 5	+ 2
Central District ...	7,016	2,885	9,901	489	+ 16	- 6
East District ...	14,254	5,672	19,926	278	+ 10	+ 16
South District ...	23,778	18,932	42,710	238	+ 10	- 1
Total Metropolises ...	71,821	39,260	111,081	242	+ 9	+ 3
West Ham ...	3,201	9,655	12,856	206	+ 12	- 1
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District ...	1,937	4,680	6,617	189	+ 5	+ 13
Stockton & Tees District ...	1,177	3,770	4,947	235	+ 4	- 16
Bolton, Oldham, &c. ...	4,067	8,633	12,700	169	...	+ 15
Wigan District ...	1,972	6,219	8,191	209	+ 1	+ 1
Manchester District ...	9,442	8,625	18,067	196	+ 9	+ 7
Liverpool District ...	11,283	8,570	19,853	198	+ 6	+ 8
Bradford District ...	1,595	2,771	4,366	121	+ 4	+ 4
Halifax & Huddersfield ...	1,208	3,745	4,953	136	+ 2	+ 3
Leeds District ...	2,178	6,116	8,294	179	+ 8	+ 6
Barnsley District ...	666	2,853	3,519	151	+ 5	...
Sheffield District ...	3,025	3,548	6,573	156	+ 3	+ 6
Hull District ...	1,501	5,033	6,534	247	+ 6	- 7
North Staffordshire ...	2,060	7,362	9,422	268	+ 6	+ 23
Nottingham District ...	1,973	5,387	7,360	185	+ 7	+ 15
Leicester District ...	1,285	3,582	4,867	223	+ 5	+ 29
Wolverhampton District ...	3,466	12,610	16,076	285	+ 3	- 3
Birmingham District ...	4,791	3,282	8,073	142	+ 4	+ 3
Bristol District ...	2,773	6,701	9,474	251	+ 3	+ 3
Cardiff & Swansea ...	1,799	7,620	9,419	261	+ 5	- 7
Total "Other Districts" ...	58,198	111,107	169,305	194	+ 5	+ 6
SCOTLAND.*						
Glasgow District ...	4,406	16,024	20,430	227	- 1	+ 6
Paisley & Greenock District ...	715	2,465	3,180	185	+ 9	+ 10
Edinburgh & Leith District ...	1,706	5,474	7,180	183	+ 2	+ 4
Dundee & Dunfermline ...	1,025	2,830	3,855	196	+ 2	+ 1
Aberdeen ...	583	2,832	3,415	214	+ 3	+ 8
Coatbridge & Airdrie ...	328	1,297	1,625	176	+ 8	...
Total for the above Scottish Districts ...	8,763	31,822	40,585	208	+ 2	+ 5
IRELAND.†						
Dublin District ...	7,093	4,739	11,832	307	+ 11	+ 1
Belfast District ...	3,480	213	3,693	96	+ 3	+ 5
Cork, Waterford & Limerick District ...	4,472	4,787	9,259	376	+ 5	- 19
Galway District ...	380	298	678	183	+ 14	- 13
Total for the above Irish Districts ...	15,425	10,037	25,462	242	+ 7	- 4
Total for above 35 Districts in November, 1903	157,408	201,881	359,289	212	+ 6	+ 4

* 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.

INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES

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

(1) REGISTERED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies registered in November was as follows: Under the Trade Union Acts, 4; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 10; under the Friendly Societies Act, 55 (including 32 branches of existing societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 5; in all 74.

Among the new societies registered in November were the following:—

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—4, viz., Bristol Cartowners and Warehouse Keepers' Association, 2, Queen Anne's Buildings, Baldwin-street, Bristol; Peterborough and District Brick Manufacturers' Association, Bentinck Buildings, Wheeler-gate, Nottingham; Leeds Wholesale Fruit Merchants' Association, 340, Kirkgate Market, Leeds; Long Eaton and District Amalgamated Society of Bobbin Carriage Comb Dropper Box and Steel Bar Makers, Railway Hotel, Station-street, Long Eaton, co. Derby. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—England and Wales.—Co-operative Societies, mainly for Distribution.—1, viz., Honiton Indus. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., High-street, Honiton. Co-operative Societies, mainly for Production.—1, viz., South Western Labour Journal Association, Ltd., 4, Princess-street, Ope, Plymouth. Miscellaneous Societies.—1. Scotland.—Miscellaneous Societies, 1. Ireland.—Co-operative Agricultural Societies.—6, viz., Milltown Ballynacargy Co-op. Agric., Milltown, co. Westmeath; Clonduff Co-op. Agric. and Dairy, Hilltown, Newry, co. Down; Newcastle Co-op. Agric. and Dairy, Newcastle Clonmel, co. Tipperary; Berrings Co-op. Agric. and Dairy, Berrings, Inniscarra, co. Cork; Glen Co-op. Agric. and Dairy, Glangevlin, Carrick-on-Shannon, co. Leitrim; Donalong Co-op. Agric. and Dairy, Bready, Strabane, co. Tyrone.

Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—20, viz., Plymouth Working Men's Constitutional Club, Ope, Plymouth; Birchall Memorial Inst., Upton St. Leonards, Gloucester; Shaw District M.U. Oddfellows Social Inst., Shaw, Lancs.; Garment Workers' Working Men's Club, London, E.; Thorpe Working Men's Club and Inst., Thorpe, Wakefield; Crosland Moor Working Men's Club, Crosland Moor, Huddersfield; Kensit Protestant Benefit Soc., Liverpool; Gorton Humane Burial Soc., Gorton, Manchester; National Book Trade Provident Soc., Manchester; Official Temperance Advocates Friendly Soc., Liverpool; Lovers of Israel Sick Benefit and Friendly Soc., London, E.; Achei Tov Benefit Soc., London, E.C.; Beaumont Sick Benefit and Dividing Soc., London, W.; Truth and Faith Benefit and Divisional Soc., London, E.; Loyal Feeling Heart Lodge Juvenile Friendly Soc., Ludden, Norwich; Yew Tree Brotherhood Friendly Sick and Dividend Soc., Witton, Birmingham; Gibb Heath Friendly Sick and Dividend Soc., Hockley, Birmingham; Alverthorpe Friendly Sick and Dividing Soc., Alverthorpe, Wakefield; Bowling Green Tontine Soc., Wrexham; Cadwgan Friendly Soc., Old Colwyn, Colwyn Bay, Scotland.—None. Ireland.—3, viz., Carrignavar Agric. Bank, Carrignavar, co. Cork; Dromintee Agric. Bank, Dromintee, co. Armagh; Valentia Island Agric. Bank, Valentia Island, co. Kerry.

(2) DISSOLVED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies reported as having commenced to "wind-up," or had registration cancelled in November was as follows:—Under the Trade Union Acts, 4; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 9; under the Friendly Societies Act, 53 (including 13 branches of Societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 21; in all 87.

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

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN ACT, 1903. HOME OFFICE CIRCULAR.

The Employment of Children Act 1903 (see LABOUR GAZETTE for October, p. 270) confers certain powers upon Local Authorities, and the Home Office has issued a Circular to County Councils, Councils of Urban Districts with population exceeding 20,000 and Town Councils where the population exceeds 10,000. The Circular calls attention to the Act and explains generally its object and scope. Accompanying the Circular is a copy of the Act and a copy of specimen bye-laws. It is stated that the specimen bye-laws have been drawn up so as to indicate the kind of restrictions which may be imposed and the form which the bye-laws may take, without dealing with the question of the occupations to which they should apply, and that they are intended only for the assistance of the Local Authority and are not recommended for adoption in any or every case.

Printed by VEALE, CHIFFERIEL & Co., Ltd., 31 to 37 Cursitor Street, London, E.C., and Published for His Majesty's Stationery Office by HORACE MARSHALL & SON, Temple House, Temple Avenue, London, E.C. Sole Advertising Contractors—RATCLIFFE, DUNBAR & Co. 1 Lombard Court, Lombard Street, E.C.—Dec., 1903.