

# THE Board of Trade LABOUR GAZETTE.

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

VOL. XVI.—No. 12.]

DECEMBER, 1908.

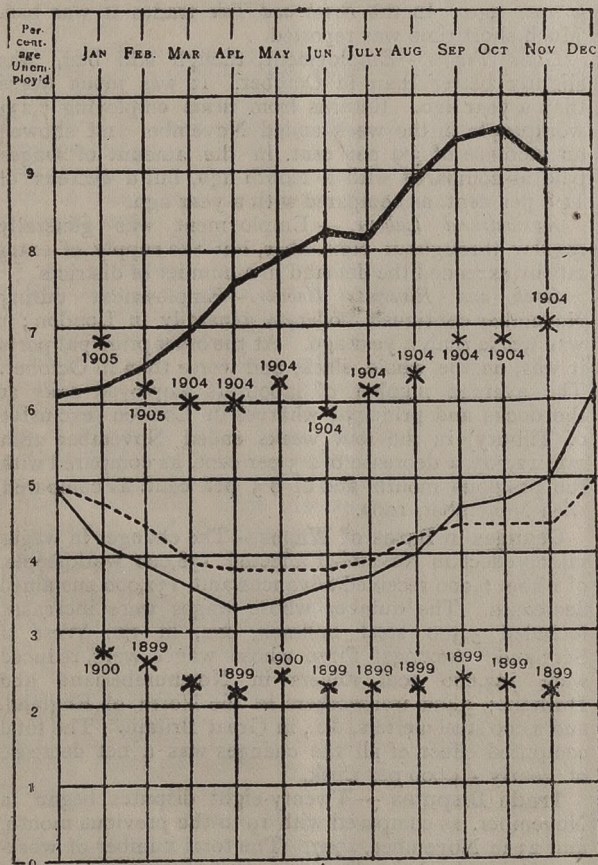
[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

## EMPLOYMENT CHART

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF  
TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

—— Thick Curve=1908.      —— Thin Curve=1907.  
----- Dotted Curve=Mean of 1898-1907.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed during the years 1898-1907 with the dates thereof.



### NOTE TO CHART.

The above Chart is based solely on Returns furnished direct to the Labour Department by various Trade Unions which pay unemployed benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked-out, sick or superannuated, are excluded from the figures. For November, 1908, the general and branch Returns of Unions related to 644,770 members in the following trades:—

Building... ..	62,041	Paper, Printing & Book-binding ... ..	58,035
Coal Mining ... ..	128,798	Woodworking and Furnishing ... ..	35,171
Engineering ... ..	155,130	Miscellaneous ... ..	18,535
Shipbuilding ... ..	59,037		
Other Metal Trades ... ..	30,938		
Textiles ... ..	97,085		
		Total ... ..	644,770

## STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN NOVEMBER.

[In addition to the 2,696 Employment Returns from Trade Unions used for the Chart, 3,748 were received from employers relating to 1,104,853 workpeople employed in coal and iron mining, the cotton, woollen, worsted and other textile trades, the building trades, the boot and shoe and other clothing trades, and the paper and glass trades. Besides these 6,444 statistical returns, a large number of returns of a non-statistical character were received from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, Local Correspondents, and other sources.]

EMPLOYMENT in November was, on the whole, somewhat better than in October. There was the usual seasonal change in the printing trade. There was also some improvement in the linen and shipbuilding trades.

As compared with a year ago all the principal industries showed some decline.

In the 268 Trade Unions, with a net membership of 644,770, making Returns, 58,349 (or 9.1 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of November, 1908, as compared with 9.5 per cent. at the end of October, 1908, and 5.0 per cent. at the end of November, 1907.

**Coal Mining.**—Employment during November was fairly good, and showed but little change as compared with October. It was not so good as a year ago. The average number of days worked by the pits during the four weeks ended November 21st, 1908, was 5.19, as compared with 5.23 in October, 1908, and 5.60 in November, 1907.

**Iron Mining.**—Employment continued good, and showed little change as compared with either a month ago or a year ago.

**Pig Iron Industry.**—Employment in this industry during November continued moderate. It was worse than a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters employing 22,700 workpeople showed 289 furnaces in blast at the end of November, as compared with 287 in October, 1908, and 329 in November, 1907.

**Iron and Steel Works.**—Employment at iron and steel works during November showed some decline as compared with the previous month. It was worse than a year ago. The volume of employment (*i.e.*, number employed multiplied by the number of shifts worked) during the week ended November 21st, 1908, at the works from which Returns were received was 1.2 per cent. less than in the week ended October 24th, 1908, and 9.0 per cent. less than a year ago.

**Tinplate and Steel Sheet Manufacture.**—Employment during November continued very good, and was about the same as a year ago. At the works covered by the Returns 444 tinplate and sheet mills were working, as compared with 447 in October, 1908, and in November, 1907.

**Engineering Trades.**—Employment continued slack, with a considerable amount of short time, and was much worse than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of November was 13.0, as compared with 12.7 a month ago, and 4.7 in November, 1907.

**Shipbuilding Trades.**—Employment during November



continued bad, and was considerably worse than a year ago. Much short time was reported. Branches of Trade Unions with 59,037 members reported 25.2 per cent. unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 26.3 per cent. a month ago and 12.8 per cent. a year ago.

**Cotton Trade.**—Employment in the *Spinning and Weaving* branches during November was considerably worse than a year ago. Much short time was reported in the weaving branch. No comparison can be made with the previous month owing to the number of mills which were closed in October on account of the dispute. Returns received from firms employing 115,305 workpeople in the week ended November 21st, 1908, showed a decrease of 5.0 per cent. in the number employed, and of 13.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with November, 1907.

**Woolen Trade.**—Employment was quiet, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Returns from firms employing 29,417 workpeople in the week ended November 21st showed a decrease of 3.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 9.2 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Worsted Trade.**—Employment remained quiet, but showed a slight improvement compared with a month ago; it was worse than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 48,343 workpeople in the week ended November 21st showed an increase of 0.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, but a decrease of 6.0 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Linen Trade.**—Employment was slack, but showed an improvement compared with a month ago; it was worse than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 46,119 workpeople in the week ended November 21st showed an increase of 3.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the previous month, and a decrease of 10.1 per cent. as compared with November, 1907.

**Jute Trade.**—Employment was fair, but showed a slight decline compared with a month ago; it was worse than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 17,570 workpeople in the week ended November 21st showed a decrease of 1.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 5.9 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Silk Trade.**—Employment was moderate. It was rather worse than a month ago, and much worse than a year ago. Much short time was reported. Returns received from firms employing 8,508 workpeople, and paying £5,535 in wages in the week ended November 21st, showed a decrease of 1.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago, and of 8.1 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

**Lace Trade.**—Employment was moderate; slightly better than a month ago, but worse than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 8,918 workpeople and paying £8,228 in wages in the week ended November 21st, showed an increase of 1.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 7.3 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Hosiery Trade.**—Employment in England was moderate, and slightly better than a month ago; it was worse than a year ago. In Scotland it continued good, and was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 17,478 workpeople in the week ended November 21st showed an increase of 1.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 1.4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Tailoring Trade.**—Employment in the *bespoke* branch in London was moderate, and slightly better than a month ago and a year ago. In the provinces it was slack. In the *ready-made* branch it was slack, and worse than a year ago.

**Hat Trade.**—Employment during November in the *Silk Hat* trade was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In the *Felt Hat* trade it was slack, and worse than a month ago.

**Boot and Shoe Trades.**—Employment was moderate, and slightly worse than a month ago and a year ago. Returns from firms employing 63,458 workpeople in the

week ended November 21st showed a decrease of 1.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 0.9 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Other Leather Trades.**—Employment continued bad, and was worse than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 3,422 had 8.2 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 8.5 per cent. at the end of October, and 5.8 per cent. a year ago.

**Paper Making Trades.**—Employment in these trades was fair. It was rather better than a month ago, but not quite so good as a year ago.

**Printing and Bookbinding Trades.**—Employment was fair on the whole, but slack with lithographic printers. It showed a seasonal improvement compared with a month ago, but was not so good as in November, 1907. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed in the printing trades at the end of November was 4.2, as compared with 5.9 a month ago and 3.3 a year ago. In the bookbinding trade the percentages were 4.4, 5.5, and 2.7 respectively.

**Building Trades.**—Employment continued slack. It was rather worse on the whole than a month ago, and much worse than a year ago.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment continued bad on the whole, and was worse than a year ago. Trade Unions with a total membership of 35,171 reported 10.3 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 9.8 per cent. in the previous month, and 6.4 per cent. a year ago.

**Pottery and Brick and Tile Trades.**—Employment in the *Pottery* trades continued bad, and was worse than a year ago. In the *Brick and Tile* trades it was bad. Much short time was reported.

**Glass Trades.**—Employment, though still bad, was slightly better than in October. It was much worse than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 7,233 workpeople in the week ended November 21st showed an increase of 3.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago, but a decrease of 11.8 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

**Agricultural Labour.**—Employment was generally regular throughout November, but the supply of extra labour exceeded the demand in a number of districts.

**Dock and Riverside Labour.**—Employment during November continued moderate generally in London; it was worse than a year ago. At the other principal ports it was, on the whole, slack, and worse than in October. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves in London (exclusive of Tilbury) in the four weeks ended November 28th was 12,703, a decrease of 2.5 per cent. as compared with the previous month, and of 8.5 per cent. as compared with November, 1907.

**Changes in Rates of Wages.**—The changes in wages taking effect in November affected 138,000 workpeople, of whom 6,000 received advances and 132,000 sustained decreases. The number whose wages were increased included 5,500 steel millmen, &c., in the West of Scotland. Amongst those whose wages were reduced were 123,600 coal miners in Northumberland and Durham; 3,400 ironworkers in the North of England, and 2,000 steel melters, &c., in Great Britain. The total computed effect of all the changes was a net decrease of nearly £4,600 per week.

**Trade Disputes.**—Twenty-eight disputes began in November, as compared with 19 in the previous month, and 23 in November, 1907. The total number of workpeople involved in disputes which began or were in progress during November, 1908, was 140,644, or 6,750 more than in October, 1908, and 127,434 more than in November, 1907.

The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old, amounted to 745,600 working days, or 2,647,900 less than in October, 1908, and 518,200 more than in November, 1907.

Definite results were reported in the case of 20 disputes, new and old, directly involving 119,488 persons. Of these 20 disputes, 5 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 4 in favour of the employers, and 11 were compromised.

## RECENT CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

### Boot and Shoe Operatives, Kettering.

The Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Boot and Shoe Trade of Kettering and Rothwell (No. 1 Section, Lasters and Finishers), having been unable to agree upon a claim made by the operatives for an increase in the minimum wage, from 28s. to 30s. per week, applied to the Board of Trade on November 18th for the appointment of an umpire to decide the matter.

The Board of Trade, on November 25th, appointed Mr. W. B. Yates to act in that capacity, and he issued his award on December 9th, deciding that the claim of the operatives should be granted, and fixing three years as the period within which neither party should be competent to re-open the question.

### Coal Miners, Blackwell, Alfreton.

Mr. W. B. Yates, who was appointed umpire in this case, with Mr. J. T. Robson as Technical Assessor (see LABOUR GAZETTE for November, 1908, p. 335), issued his award on November 27th.

The question in dispute was the price to be paid for getting coal in the deep soft seam and in two districts in the deep hard seams of the colliery where holing is done by machinery. Mr. Yates fixed the following rates for getting coal by machinery (including ripping, packing, timbering, laying rails, &c.), the present method of weighing to be continued:—

- A. In deep soft seam, 1s. 6d. per ton.
- B. In deep hard seam, District 1, north of the wash-out, 1s. 4½d. per ton.
- C. In deep hard seam, District 2, south of the wash-out, 1s. 6d. per ton.

Where jiggling is necessary it is to be paid for at the rate of ½d. per ton up to 50 yards, and a further ½d. per ton for every additional 50 yards or part thereof.

The above are basis rates, *i.e.*, they are subject to the current percentage additions. All dirt is to be cleaned up across gate-end packs by the colliery company. Subject to these alterations the existing price list is to continue in force.

### Painters, Harrogate.

Mr. A. A. Hudson, the arbitrator appointed in this case (see LABOUR GAZETTE for November, 1908, p. 335), issued his award on November 17th.

The operative painters had given notice of certain alterations in the working rules, which had been discussed, and an agreement arrived at on all points except three. With regard to the first of these, a claim for an advance in wages from 7½d. to 8½d. per hour, Mr. Hudson decided that no change in wages should be made. An alteration of the rule as to payment on Saturdays was, after some discussion, agreed to by the employers, and the rule now reads: "On Saturday all men must work on the job until 12 o'clock at noon, if paid on the job, or be at the shop at 12 o'clock noon, if paid at the shop." The third claim, that the date on which notices of demands for changes in the working rules expire should be altered from December to the middle of the painting season, was withdrawn by the operatives.

At the desire of the parties Mr. Hudson issued his award in the form of a complete code of working rules, embodying those agreed to by the parties, as well as those affected by his award.

### Joiners, Glasgow.

Mr. A. A. Hudson, the "Conciliator" appointed in this case (see LABOUR GAZETTE for November, 1908, p. 335), in virtue of the power vested in him by the parties to issue a decision which should be final and binding, issued an award on November 30th.

The employers had taken objection to two representatives of the operatives on the Conciliation Board for the Carpenter and Joiner Trade in the Glasgow District, on the ground *inter alia* that they were officials of the Trade Union; and the "Conciliator" was asked to decide whether the employers' objection was a valid and reasonable one in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Conciliation Board.

Mr. Hudson's decision was as follows:—

"I am of opinion that the objection taken by the Employers was not well founded under the said rules of procedure but I should observe that the two representatives of the Operatives occupy a position which may in the circumstances nullify the objects of the Conciliation Board."

## COURSE OF WAGES AND PRICES IN THE UNITED STATES.

In the "Bulletin of the Bureau of Labour" for July, 1908, the United States Department of Commerce and Labour has published the results of its annual investigation for 1907, into Wages and Hours of Labour, and into Retail Prices of Food, in the United States of America. As regards wages and hours, the investigation covered the principal distinctive occupations in the leading manufacturing and mechanical industries in the United States; agriculture, mining, and transport were excluded. Returns for 1906 and 1907 were obtained from 4,169 establishments, employing 344,000 workpeople in 1906, and 351,000 workpeople in 1907. As regards retail prices of food, the returns received relate to 30 staple commodities in 68 different localities.

The general results of the investigation are shown by the method of index numbers in the following Table, in which figures for each of the years 1890, 1895, 1900 and 1905-6-7 are shown as percentages of the average for the ten years 1890-99:—

	1890.	1895.	1900.	1905.	1906.	1907.
Hours per week ...	100.7	100.1	98.7	95.9	95.4	95.0
Rate of wages per hour ...	100.3	98.3	105.5	118.9	124.2	128.8
Weekly Earnings per employee	101.0	98.4	104.1	114.0	118.5	122.4
Retail prices of food* ...	101.4	97.8	101.1	112.4	115.7	120.6
Purchasing power of weekly earnings measured by retail prices of food	98.6	100.6	103.0	101.4	102.4	101.5

From the above Table it will be seen that throughout the period there has been a gradual decrease in the hours of labour, accompanied by a steady advance in rates of wages, the latter being, in 1907, 28.8 per cent. above the average for 1890-99. Notwithstanding the decrease in the number of hours worked, on the whole the weekly earnings per employee have shown a steady and considerable rise, and reached last year a level of 22.4 per cent. above the average of the years 1890-99. Owing, however, to the rise in the retail prices of food, the purchasing power of the weekly earnings, as measured by food prices, fell slightly between 1906 and 1907, in spite of a general advance in wages. It will be seen that the purchasing power of weekly earnings has remained nearly uniform throughout the period. The extreme variation was, in fact, only between 96.9 in 1893 and 104.2 in 1896.

The following Table shows the average rates of wages per hour and the average hours of labour per week in 1907 for certain selected trades in the three largest cities of the United States.

Trades.	New York.		Chicago.		Philadelphia.	
	Average Wages per hour.	Average Hours per week.	Average Wages per hour.	Average Hours per week.	Average Wages per hour.	Average Hours per week.
Bricklayers ...	s. d. 2 11	44	s. d. 2 7½	45½	s. d. 2 7½	44
Painters ...	2 0½	44	2 1	44	1 8	46½
Plasterers ...	2 10½	44	2 10½	44	2 5½	44
Plumbers ...	2 7½	44	2 7½	44	1 9½	47½
Carpenters ...	2 6	44	2 4	44	1 11	44
Cabinet Makers ...	1 7	55½	1 2	54	1 2	55½
Pattern Makers ...	1 9½	54	1 8½	52	1 4½	57½
Blacksmiths ...	1 8½	53½	1 5½	52	1 5½	56½
Machinists in Foundries and Machine Shops	1 4	54	1 4½	52	1 2½	56
Iron Moulders ...	1 6½	54	1 5½	52½	1 4½	55½
Labourers in Foundries and Machine Shops	0 10	54	0 9½	54	0 7½	56½
Compositors (book and job)	1 10½	48	1 7½	50½	1 5½	52
Linotype Operators ...	2 7½	47½	2 11½	46½	2 4½	45½
Labourers in Municipal Employ	1 1½	48	1 1½	48	1 0½	45½

\* Weighted according to family consumption as shown by returns received in 1901 from 2,567 families containing 13,643 persons.



Rates of wages outside the three cities named show very great variations; thus, for painters, the rates vary from 10½d. an hour in Charleston (South Carolina) to 2s. 4d. an hour in San Francisco.

Wages showed an advance in 1907, as compared with 1906, in all industries except the Bessemer converting departments of steel works, where there was a slight decline. The increase amounted to nearly 13 per cent. in the case of the cotton trade, and to 6 per cent. in the case of the woollen and worsted trades, the silk trade, the glass trade, and street and sewer work (municipal employ).

The following Table shows the variations in the cost of certain articles of food largely consumed by the working classes in 1890, 1895, 1900, and 1905-6-7; the cost being shown as percentages of the average cost in the ten-year period 1890-99:—

Articles.	1890.	1895.	1900.	1905.	1906.	1907.
All Articles*	102.4	97.8	101.1	112.4	118.7	120.6
Beef, fresh (roasts)	99.5	98.6	106.5	112.2	115.7	119.1
Pork, fresh	97.0	97.7	107.7	126.6	137.7	142.5
Bacon	95.8	99.4	109.7	138.8	150.4	157.3
Butter	99.2	97.0	101.4	112.7	118.2	127.6
Milk (fresh, unskimmed)	100.5	100.0	99.9	107.0	108.9	116.8
Eggs	100.6	99.3	99.9	131.6	134.2	137.7
Bread	100.3	99.7	99.7	104.5	102.3	104.5
Flour	109.7	99.0	94.3	119.9	108.1	117.7
Cornmeal	100.0	100.8	97.4	122.2	123.2	131.6
Rice	101.3	95.8	102.4	102.6	105.7	103.5
Potatoes	109.3	91.8	93.5	110.2	114.4	120.6
Coffee	105.4	101.7	91.1	93.6	94.7	95.0
Sugar	118.6	91.8	101.9	103.9	98.2	92.6
Apples, evaporated	109.0	97.4	95.2	106.0	115.6	124.6
Prunes	115.8	94.2	83.0	81.4	85.1	88.4

It will be seen that the cost of all the above articles was higher in 1907 than in 1906; and that, except in the case of coffee, sugar and prunes, the cost was higher last year than in the standard period (1890-99). The increase of price above the standard was no less than 57.3 per cent. for bacon, 42.5 per cent. for pork, 37.7 per cent. for eggs, and 31.6 per cent. for cornmeal.

ACCIDENTS TO RAILWAY SERVANTS.

THE notice of the Report on Railway Accidents,† which appeared in the LABOUR GAZETTE for October, p. 306, referred only to accidents classified in the Report as "railway accidents," a term which includes (i.) "train accidents" (collisions, derailments, &c.); and (ii.) "other railway accidents" caused by the movement of trains and railway vehicles, such as shunting accidents. In addition, however, to "railway accidents" as defined above, a large number of other accidents occur on railway premises‡, which are not attributable to the movement of trains or railway vehicles, such as accidents in the loading or unloading of waggons, in attending to engines at rest, and so on. The number of railway servants (exclusive of contractors' servants) killed in such accidents during 1907 was 52, and the number injured 15,599; as compared with 40 and 11,763 respectively in the year 1906. The apparent increase in non-fatal accidents is largely due to differences in the basis of reportability of accidents, as explained in the previous notice.

The total number of accidents occurring on railway premises in 1906 and 1907 was, therefore, as follows:—

Class of Accidents.	1906.		1907.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
Railway Servants:—				
"Train Accidents" ...	13	140	13†	235§
Other "Railway Accidents" ...	416	4,191	433	5,560
Other Accidents on Railways ...	40	11,763	52	15,599
Total, Railway Servants ...	469	16,094	498	21,395
Contractors' Servants (all classes of accidents)	14	162	11	119
Grand total ...	483	16,256	509	21,514

\* Weighted according to consumption in working-class families.  
 † Cd. 4,287, General Report to the Board of Trade upon the Accidents that have occurred on the Railways of the United Kingdom during the year 1907. Wyman & Sons, Ltd. Price 7d.  
 ‡ Includes stations, permanent way, goods yards, sidings, and all other premises used for the purpose of working the railway; but not factories, workshops, buildings used exclusively for warehousing goods, repairing sheds, stables, hotels, and other similar premises.  
 § Including 2 killed and 18 injured who were not engaged in the work of running trains.

DISTRESS COMMITTEES IN NOVEMBER.

NOTE.—Labour Bureaux which are identical with Distress Committees are included in this Table. For particulars of other Labour Bureaux see page 394.

The following additional Distress Committees opened their registers during November:—Burton, Cheltenham, Gateshead, Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda, and Dublin. During November the Local Government Board issued Orders establishing Distress Committees at Barking, Hebburn, Maidstone, Nelson, and Swindon; and the particulars for these Committees will be included in the Returns next month.

The Committees were requested, in making up their returns, to exclude all who were known to have found work, or to have left the neighbourhood, since registration; and those who, on investigation, were found to be ineligible or disqualified. The Table given below shows the number of applicants to the various Distress Committees returned as "known to be out of work" at the end of November, 1908:—

Distress Committees.	No. returned as "known to be out of work" at end of Nov., 1908	Distress Committees.	No. returned as "known to be out of work" at end of Nov., 1908
London (County area):		Devonport ...	367
Battersea ...	1,438	Gorton ...	401
Bermondsey ...	2,104	Halifax ...	385
Bethnal Green ...	834	Hastings ...	679
Camberwell ...	3,180	Huddersfield ...	328
Chelsea ...	141	Hull ...	1,376
City of London ...	33	King's Norton and Northfield ...	398
Deptford ...	912	Leeds ...	3,492
Finsbury ...	752	Leicester ...	1,387
Fulham ...	1,531	Liverpool ...	2,122
Greenwich ...	1,059	Manchester ...	5,058
Hackney ...	1,776	Merthyr Tydfil ...	312
Hammersmith ...	583	Middlesbrough ...	332
Hampstead ...	417	Middleton ...	390
Islington ...	191	Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	669
Holborn ...	1,685	Northampton ...	337
Kensington ...	1,338	Norwich ...	1,336
Lambeth ...	1,933	Nottingham ...	1,160
Lewisham ...	919	Oldham ...	271
Marylebone ...	498	Plymouth ...	1,173
Paddington ...	764	Preston ...	542
Poplar ...	3,184	Reading ...	412
St. Pancras ...	1,666	Rochdale ...	290
Shoreditch ...	937	Rotherham ...	295
Southwark ...	1,896	St. Helens ...	682
Stepney ...	1,306	Salford ...	1,940
Stoke Newington ...	271	Sheffield ...	3,583
Wandsworth ...	1,531	Southampton ...	376
Westminster ...	476	South Shields ...	1,461
Woolwich ...	1,111	Stockport ...	588
Total, London ...	34,487	Sunderland ...	1,823
Outer London:		Swansea ...	538
Croydon ...	1,251	Tynemouth ...	674
East Ham ...	1,238	Walsley ...	319
Edmonton ...	1,322	Walsall ...	718
Erith ...	496	West Bromwich ...	731
Hornsey ...	256	West Hartlepool ...	868
Leyton ...	953	Wolverhampton ...	701
Tottenham ...	1,804	York ...	832
Walthamstow ...	1,283	Other Towns (13) ...	2,041
West Ham ...	2,416	Total, England and Wales ...	106,216
Willesden ...	1,361	Aberdeen ...	1,355
Total, Outer London ...	12,400	Clydebank ...	464
Aston Manor ...	620	Dundee ...	2,105
Barrow-in-Furness ...	1,839	Edinburgh ...	2,616
Birkenhead ...	444	Glasgow ...	2,121
Birmingham ...	3,660	Govan ...	1,090
Blackburn ...	250	Greenock ...	971
Bolton ...	1,293	Leith ...	426
Bootle ...	273	Partick ...	631
Bradford ...	1,603	Other Towns (3) ...	631
Brighton ...	1,805	Total, Scotland ...	12,410
Bristol ...	1,515	Belfast ...	1,880
Burnley ...	1,048	Dublin ...	2,536
Bury ...	320	Ennis ...	120
Cardiff ...	761	Total, Ireland ...	4,536
Cheltenham ...	349	Total, United Kingdom ...	123,162
Coventry ...	1,385		
Dartford ...	354		
Derby ...	463		

The great majority of the applicants to the Distress Committees were labourers, about 15 per cent. being labourers in the building trades. Artisans in the building trades were also numerous, especially in London and "Outer London," Bristol, Hastings, Norwich, Plymouth, Aberdeen, and Edinburgh; and artisans in other trades accounted for a considerable proportion of the applicants in some towns, particularly in the principal centres of the metal, engineering, and ship-building trades.

The following Table gives particulars of the relief-works provided by the various Distress Committees (including the London Central Body), or towards the provision of which the Distress Committees are expected

to contribute. Works provided and entirely paid for by the Local Authority are, as far as possible, excluded.

Distress Committees.	No. given Employment-relief.*	Aggregate duration of Employment-relief.	Total Amount of Wages paid.
London (Central Body):		Days.	£
At Hollesley Bay ...	386	8,030	971
By arrangement with London County Council ...	2,836	46,963	9,393
Do. do. Office of Works ...	295	3,977	797
Do. do. Borough Councils†	261	2,658	531
In Women's Workrooms ...	122	2,843	466
Total, London ...	3,830	64,471	11,958
Outer London:			
Croydon ...	190	1,145	230
East Ham ...	527	2,375	475
Edmonton ...	108	993	185
Erith ...	155	775	167
Hornsey ...	28	109	26
Leyton ...	259	1,992	349
Tottenham ...	490	1,829	318
Walthamstow ...	607	3,693	802
Willesden ...	438	3,617	757
West Ham ...	365	4,493	657
Total, Outer London ...	3,147	21,014	3,966
Birmingham ...		Cannot be stated.	
Blackburn ...	115	500†	87
Bolton ...	223	3,583	672
Bradford ...	38	595	99
Brighton ...	559	2,625	377
Bristol ...	313	1,389	286
Burnley ...	391	2,080	330
Cardiff ...	375	2,250	250
Coventry ...	129	783	150
Hastings ...	162	1,000†	141
King's Norton and Northfield ...	173	938	111
Leeds ...	647	7,344	1,103
Liverpool ...	607	8,330	1,066
Manchester ...	1,160	14,594	2,668
Middlesbrough ...	87	638	116
Norwich ...	215	2,265	227
Plymouth ...	196	1,176	173
Reading ...	85	891	133
Rochdale ...	139	648	110
Salford ...	550	6,600	977
Sheffield ...	821	12,036	1,877
Smethwick ...	131	1,372	143
Sunderland ...	288	1,603	204
West Hartlepool ...	252	2,340	432
Wolverhampton ...	425	1,838	302
Other Towns (6) ...	844	4,549	647
Total, England and Wales... ‡	15,893	167,653	28,800
Aberdeen ...	511	5,803	750
Dundee ...	273	5,188	715
Edinburgh ...	757	12,189	1,510
Glasgow ...	1,915	21,845	2,800
Govan ...	376	3,765	481
Greenock ...	381	4,575	531
Leith ...	8	16	3
Partick ...	130§	1,528§	249
Pollokshaws ...	78	1,716	122
Total, Scotland ...	4,429	56,625	7,161
Belfast ...	280	3,600	445
Dublin ...	525	12,524	611
Total, Ireland ...	806	16,124	1,057
Total, United Kingdom ...	21,128	240,493	37,018

It will be seen that the average number of days' employment-relief given was about 11½, and the average amount of wages paid was about 35s. per man, or 3s. 1d. a day.

COMPENSATION FOR INDUSTRIAL DISEASES.

A DEPARTMENTAL Committee was appointed by the Home Secretary in 1906 "to inquire and report what diseases and injuries, other than injuries by accident, are due to industrial occupations, are distinguishable as such, and can properly be added to the diseases enumerated in the Third Schedule of the Workmen's Compensation Bill, 1906." The Committee issued their first Report in May, 1907. [See BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for June, 1907, p. 165.] A Supplementary Report|| has now been issued, dealing with questions which required special investigation, or which have arisen since the publication of the first report.

With regard to glassworkers' cataract the Committee stated in their first Report that, although it would not always be possible to determine the trade origin of the disease in individual cases, "We are of opinion that if cataract was found many times—for example, ten

times—as frequently among bottle makers as among other people, the disease should be scheduled, even though in one case in ten the employer would be required to pay compensation to a man whose disease would have occurred had he never been employed in that trade."

Dr. Legge, H.M. Medical Inspector of Factories, has since made inquiry with a view to ascertaining how far glassworkers generally are affected by cataract. On examining the eyes of 513 persons exposed to furnace glare in glassworks, and of 278 persons not so exposed, he found that the proportion of persons with opacities of one kind or another in the lens was very much higher with the glassworkers than with the other workers. He also compared the reported incidence of cataract on 10,549 members of the Hearts of Oak Benefit Society in receipt of sick allowance with that on 186 superannuated members of glass bottle societies, the percentage of cataract being 0.78 in the former case, and 22.6 in the latter, the average age being about 56 years in both cases. From the results of this investigation, supported by the evidence of additional witnesses, the Committee concluded that cataract is many times more prevalent among men who work with molten glass than among the rest of the population. But in considering the desirability of including it in the Schedule it was necessary to take into account the probable effect upon the prospects of employment of the men affected, as in the case of fibroid phthisis referred to in the previous Report.

Cataract is a disease of very slow growth, and a workman may be affected by it in its earlier stages for many years without his efficiency being impaired. During that time it would be impossible for him to claim that he was incapacitated by the disease and should receive compensation. But the disease in an incipient stage would always be apparent on a medical examination, and it would be not unnatural that employers should insist on such an examination before engaging a workman, even where they did not go so far as to dismiss workmen so affected before a claim for compensation could be established. The opinion of witnesses representing both employers and employed was much divided on this point; after careful consideration the Committee arrived at the conclusion that if the disease were scheduled the workpeople in the trade would lose more than they would gain. They suggest, however, an alternative course. The operation for cataract is attended by practically no danger, and among glassworkers usually enables them to obtain employment again, sometimes even at the highly skilled work on which they had been formally engaged. If, therefore, the period for which compensation was payable was limited to the time necessary to cover the period of incapacity immediately preceding and following the operation, the workmen would receive a just relief, while the burden imposed on employers would be very slight. The Committee recommends, therefore, that "Cataract in Glassworkers" be added to the First Column of the Schedule, and that "Processes in the manufacture of glass involving exposure to the glare of molten glass" be added to the Second Column; but that the compensation should be made payable only in cases where an operation is undergone, and for a period not exceeding six months.

Evidence was also taken on the subject of telegraphists' cramp, which affects an appreciable proportion of operatives who use the Morse key instrument. The Committee recommend that this disease should be added to the Schedule, subject to the following modification:—Owing to the fact that special knowledge of telegraphists' work is useful in determining the cases of alleged illness from this cause, and also that there are specially appointed medical officers to attend the postal staff, the Committee recommend that where the "workman" suffering from the disease is a postal servant, the presence of the disease should be certified in the first instance by the postal medical officer of the district, instead of by the certifying surgeon appointed under the Factory and Workshop Act.

Among the industrial diseases scheduled in the Home

\* Includes some not registered by the Distress Committees.  
 † Bermondsey, Hammersmith, Islington, Lambeth, and Wandsworth; also with Thames Conservancy.  
 ‡ Estimated.  
 § Includes 23 men on piecework, the aggregate duration of whose employment cannot be stated.  
 || Second Report of the Departmental Committee on Compensation for Industrial Diseases. Cd. 4385 and 4387.



Secretary's Order of May 22nd, 1907, in accordance with the recommendations in the Committee's previous report, was "Eczematous ulceration of the skin produced by dust or caustic or corrosive liquids, or ulceration of the mucous membrane of the nose or mouth produced by dust." A question has arisen whether these terms cover the eczema of the hands and arms, sometimes induced in laundry women by the alkaline solutions with which they work. The Committee see no reason why such cases, or other cases due to working with liquids which may not be considered caustic or corrosive, should be excluded, if it can be shown that the conditions of employment are, in fact, the exciting cause of the disease. In order to remove the doubt the Committee recommend that the words "caustic or corrosive," qualifying the word "liquids," should be eliminated from the definition.

As a result of these recommendations the Home Secretary issued an Order on December 2nd, for contents of which see p. 386.

### LABOUR STATISTICS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE Twelfth Abstract of Labour Statistics\* recently issued by the Board of Trade summarises the latest available information on the principal matters relating to the condition of the working classes. The Tables give figures for 1907 as far as possible, and in the majority of cases comparative figures for a series of years preceding.

A general summary of some of the more important of the figures appears at the beginning of the Abstract, and references are there given to the sections and pages where detailed information may be found.

In the first section—mainly relating to employment and production—Tables are given showing the fluctuations in employment in some of the principal trades. Information is given as to the production during the last 15 years of the chief minerals, and of the principal crops, the output of pig iron, steel ingots, and puddled iron bars, and the tonnage of shipping launched. Other Tables show in comparative form for a number of years the production of beer and spirits, the number and value of inhabited houses, and the exports of coal, textiles, and clothing. Statistics as to the consumption of coal, pig iron, cotton, wool, wheat, and certain dutiable articles are also given.

The second section relates to Wages and Hours, and shows the standard rates of wages and hours of labour recognised in the principal towns at October 1st, 1908, in many branches of the building, engineering, shipbuilding, printing, and cabinet-making trades, together with the minimum weekly rates of wages of boot and shoe operatives. The minimum and maximum weekly rates of pay of police-constables, and the predominant monthly rates of wages of seamen are stated as at the beginning of 1908. The average cash wages and total earnings of agricultural labourers are also dealt with. Tables are given showing changes in wages and hours for a series of years, and details of profit-sharing schemes.

In the third section—relating to Prices—changes in the wholesale prices of 45 principal commodities are shown by the method of index numbers for each year from 1871 to 1907, and in the retail prices of 23 articles of food in London from 1895 to 1907. Prices of coal, iron, and British corn are also given for a series of years, with the retail price of bread in London, Edinburgh and Dublin, and at co-operative stores in certain districts.

The fourth section deals with trade disputes, conciliation and arbitration in the settlement thereof, and the work of Conciliation and Arbitration Boards. Tables are given showing the number of disputes, of workpeople affected, and of days lost, grouped by trades, for each year since 1893, together with statistics of causes, results, and methods of settlement.

In the next section appear statistics of industrial diseases and accidents, the information being classified by occupations, sex, and nature and cause of injury.

\* Cd. 4433. Price 1s. 2d. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

The sixth section relates to associations of employers and of workmen, and gives detailed particulars of the principal industrial associations. The number, membership, income and expenditure on chief benefits of 100 principal Trade Unions are shown, grouped according to industries, for each of the years 1897 to 1906. Under the heading of Workmen's Co-operative Societies are given summary and detailed Tables showing the progress of co-operation in the United Kingdom since 1892. Both production and distribution are dealt with in detail for each class of society. Statistics are also given respecting workmen's clubs, friendly, building, and loan societies.

The seventh section, compiled largely from the reports of the Census of 1901, deals with population. Statistics are given relating to the growth of population, emigration and immigration, and the housing, ages, and occupations of the people. Tables are also given showing the proportion of persons employed in certain occupations in 1891 and 1901. Employment in factories and workshops is also dealt with.

The eighth section is miscellaneous, and gives information as to workmen's compensation schemes, and as to savings banks and pauperism for a series of years.

### EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIES.\*

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

#### Canada.

It is too late in the year for emigrants to go to Canada in search of work; they should wait till the winter is over; in several places there has been a surplus of unskilled labourers and others. Persons should bear in mind that every emigrant, male or female, 18 years of age or over, who arrives in Canada, must have in his or her possession the sum of 25 dols.—or between January 1st and February 15th, 1909, the sum of 50 dols.—in addition to a ticket to his or her destination; unless satisfactory evidence is furnished that the emigrant is going to some definite employment or to relatives or friends already settled in Canada who would take care of such emigrant.

#### Australia.

There is an excellent demand for farm labourers, for men on sheep and cattle stations, on orchards and dairy farms, and for female servants. New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and Western Australia all help approved members of these classes with assisted passages; Queensland in certain cases grants free passages. There is an opening for mechanics in some States, but they should have money enough to keep themselves while looking for work. There is no demand for miners.

#### New Zealand.

There is a good demand for farmers, farm labourers and female servants, and reduced passages are granted to approved members of these classes. There is no marked demand for unskilled labourers. As there is no general demand for more mechanics in New Zealand, those emigrating should have sufficient money to live on for some weeks in case they may have to wait for employment.

#### South Africa.

*Cape Colony.*—There is no opening for emigrants from this country. For a long time past the supply of labour in the building, engineering and other trades has exceeded the demand in Capetown, Kimberley, Port Elizabeth, East London and other large towns. There is an ample supply of coloured persons as unskilled labourers.

*Natal.*—There is no demand for more labour in Natal.

*Transvaal.*—Prospects in the Transvaal have slightly improved, but much depression still exists, and there is no opening for more labour. An agreement has just

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

been entered into between the Master Builders' Association and the various Trade Unions connected with building, fixing for two years the rates of wages, conditions of labour, and the method of settling disputes.

*Orange River Colony and Rhodesia.*—There is no opening for ordinary emigrants without money, except for a limited number of female servants.

### LABOUR ABROAD.

(NOTE.—The following reports include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment in foreign countries, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in these countries are, however, not the same as those for the United Kingdom, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot be properly used with those on p. 365 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that in foreign countries. (For further information on the subject of the bases of the unemployment statistics of the various countries, see p. 104 of Cd. 2337 of 1904, and pp. 521-4 of Cd. 4032 of 1908.)

#### FRANCE.

*Labour Tribunals: Eligibility of Women for Membership.\**—The enactments hitherto in force relating to the tribunals known as *Conseils de Prud'hommes* were consolidated and amended by a law of March 27th, 1907.† One of the provisions of this measure was that French women possessing the qualifications of age, occupation and residence demanded of male electors were also allowed to be electors of members of the *Conseils*, but no woman could herself become a member. The law has been amended in this latter respect by a law of November 15th last, by which women are now eligible for membership under the same conditions as those laid down for men.

#### GERMANY.

*Employment in October.*—The following is a translation of a statement which appears in the issue of the *Reichs-Arbeitsblatt* (the journal of the German Labour Department) for the month of November:—"The condition of the labour market in October showed no essential alteration compared with the previous month. The seasonal activity became more marked, especially in certain branches of the clothing trades; on the other hand, the decline in various branches of the larger industries continued. In the Ruhr district the demand for coal decreased still further; in other districts, however, employment on the whole was satisfactory. In lignite mining there was, on the average, only a moderate degree of activity, and, in particular, the long continued warm weather affected the demand for block coal. The conditions in pig iron manufacture, and in the majority of iron foundries, continued unsatisfactory. Steel works and rolling mills were about as busy as in September. In the electrical trades the majority of establishments were still satisfactorily supplied with work. There was no improvement in employment in cotton spinning; sales of yarn could be effected only at very low prices. In cotton weaving also employment continued quiet. In the building trades employment, which was already unsatisfactory, declined still further, owing to seasonal causes. Apart from the improved state of employment in the clothing trades, there was increased activity, owing to the approach of Christmas, especially in commercial undertakings."

*Government Measures for the Relief of Unemployment.†*—According to a statement made in the Reichstag on November 13th, by the Imperial Minister of the Interior, steps will be taken in the issue of Government contracts to accelerate the preparation of the works to be undertaken in 1909, so that these works may be put in hand immediately after the estimates are approved. The War Office had given out special orders with a view to relieving the dearth of employment in the engineering trades, and had also issued orders amounting to £3,933 for the relief of distress among hand-loom weavers. The Imperial Post and Telegraph Department had given instructions that, in so far as the weather would permit, building works already begun were to be

\* Based on a despatch from H. M. Ambassador at Paris.

† For an account of the provisions of the Law of 1907 and of the nature of these tribunals see BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE, May, 1907, p. 133.

‡ Based on the report in *Deutscher Reichs-Anzeiger*, November 14th, 1908.

continued during the winter. The sum of £501,500 had been granted for buildings in 1908, and for the next financial year the Department would have at its disposal £472,000 if the estimates were accepted by the Reichstag. The Admiralty had assigned the credit at its disposal for 1908 on the condition that the orders should be carried out in the current financial year.

The amounts at the disposal of the Prussian Government for building works had increased from £7,217,667 in 1903 to £16,618,333 in 1908. By an Order of August 8th last the Prussian Railway Works Department had been urged to further activity as regards construction. The Prussian Public Works Department had a sum of £2,655,000 at its disposal for 1908. This amount, so far as it could be applied to buildings, would be used in providing work for the unemployed.

#### BELGIUM.\*

*Employment in October.*—According to returns made to the Belgian Labour Department 5·7 per cent. of the 40,628 members of 190 Trade Unions reporting were unemployed towards the latter part of the month, as compared with 5·3 per cent. in September, and 1·5 per cent. in October, 1907. (As regards foreign unemployment statistics in general, see note under "Labour Abroad" above).

*Labour Disputes in October.*—Ten disputes, affecting 1,187 workpeople (1,158 directly and 29 indirectly), were reported to the Belgian Labour Department as having begun in October. The termination of 8 disputes was reported. The results of 7 of these (including 6 of the new ones) were known. In one case a number of the workpeople were permanently excluded when work was resumed; of the 6 remaining disputes 4 (involving 303 strikers) resulted in favour of the employers, and 2 (involving 358 strikers) were compromised.

#### HOLLAND.†

*Employment in October.*—In the building trades employment was worse than a month ago, and short time was worked. In the larger metal and engineering establishments the state of employment varied; in shipbuilding it was not so good as in September. In the textile trades employment showed little change compared with the previous month. In both the ready-made and the bespoke branch of the men's tailoring trade the revival in the autumn season was much less marked than in previous years, and employment in consequence continued unsatisfactory. In the women's tailoring branch and the men's hat and cap branch there was a fair degree of activity. The slackness in the wood-working trades continued. In the printing trades the improvement continued on the whole, but the state of employment was much below the normal. Persons engaged in bulb cultivation continued busy. The improvement in the diamond trades at Amsterdam continued. Persons engaged in the cocoa and chocolate trades were busy owing to the approach of Christmas, but the slack season commenced in the brewing and mineral water trades.

*Labour Disputes in October.*—Nine disputes, 7 of which directly affected 69 workpeople, were reported to have commenced in October. Nine disputes (including 5 of the new ones) terminated during the month. Of 6 disputes of which the results were known, 1 ended in favour of the workpeople, 2 in favour of the employers, and 3 were compromised.

#### SWEDEN.

*Strike of Bookbinders at Stockholm.*—Despatches from H. M. Chargé d'Affaires and H. M. Consul at Stockholm report a strike of bookbinders there and at other towns in Sweden. The employers declined to grant the demands put forward by the workpeople, but offered a general advance in wages. The following time-wages were offered:—5½d. per hour for adult males during the first two years of service, 6d. during the next two,

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

† *Maandschrift van het Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek* (Journal of the Dutch Central Statistical Office).



and 6<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d. subsequently. The corresponding rates offered for female workers were 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d. to 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>d. Overtime was to be paid 33<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> per cent. extra for the first two hours, 100 per cent. extra for further hours and for Sundays, and 150 per cent. extra on Christmas Day and Midsummer Day, and other great holidays. The working day was to consist of 9 hours (7 on Saturday). On November 22nd the workpeople decided to accept the employers' terms, and thus a lock-out of 40,000 workpeople in other trades, which had been threatened by the Swedish Employers' Association, was averted.

**NORWAY.**

*Employment in October.*\*—The following table shows the percentages of members unemployed in certain Trade Unions which made returns to the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics for each of the three months October, 1908, September, 1908, and October, 1907:—

Group of Trades.	Membership.			Percentage Unemployed at end of		
	Oct., 1908.	Sept., 1908.	Oct., 1907.	Oct., 1908.	Sept., 1908.	Oct., 1907.
	Metal Workers	5,268	5,290	5,100	3.4	2.8
Carpenters, &c.	712	724	692	5.6	5.4	2.0
Painters and Masons	866	849	850	17.7	14.7	11.8
Boot and Shoe Makers	492	511	386	0.6	...	0.8
Printers	1,322	1,297	1,242	0.5	2.9	1.9
Bakers	200	210	185	16.5	13.3	9.2
Wood Pulp & Paper Makers	1,506	1,497	1,543	...	...	...
Sawyers and Planers	370	394	631	9.7	4.6	0.2
Cabinet Makers	462	360	355	1.0	0.8	0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,078</b>	<b>11,132</b>	<b>10,944</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>

(As regards these figures see note under "Labour Abroad" on p. 371.)

*State-Subsidised Unemployed Benefit Funds.*—In continuation of a previous despatch (see LABOUR GAZETTE for November, 1908, p. 342), H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Christiania has forwarded a translation of an article which appeared in a Christiania newspaper for November 11th, relating to the failure of the Law of June 12th, 1906, regarding State and communal subsidies to Norwegian unemployed benefit funds. The article in question stated that the Law of June 12th, 1906, regarding subsidies to Norwegian unemployed benefit funds prescribes, *inter alia*, that the Treasury shall, on certain conditions, refund to the Unemployed Benefit Funds one quarter of the amounts paid out by them to the unemployed, and that the communes in which these unemployed are resident shall, in their turn, refund to the State two-thirds of its expenditure.

The managers of the unemployed benefit funds declined, however, to avail themselves of the Law, maintaining that the subsidy was not sufficient to compensate the many restrictions and the heavy expenditure on book-keeping, &c., entailed thereby. The workmen were strongly opposed to the provisions of paragraph 6, which obliged Trade Unions to admit unorganised workpeople to membership of their employment funds. On account of this provision all the Trade Unions refused to allow their funds to avail themselves of the Law. The Act, therefore, remained a dead letter until the Law of July 25th, 1908, raised the State subsidy from one quarter to one-third of the amount paid by the fund.

After this Law came into force negotiations were carried on between the Department of Commerce and several of the larger unemployed benefit funds regarding the funds' book-keeping, alterations in their bye-laws, &c., and the result of these negotiations is a letter from the Department to these unemployed benefit funds, stating that their right to receive a refund from the Treasury is, for the present, acknowledged. It is understood that the subsidies began to be paid to these funds as from November 1st.

**TURKEY.**

*Strikes in Public Services: New Law.*—A despatch from H.M. Ambassador at Constantinople transmits the text of a Turkish Law of October 6th, 1908, relating to the settlement of disputes in the public services. Where a

\* Information supplied by the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics.

difference arises as to conditions of labour between companies carrying on public services by virtue of State concession or authorisation and their workpeople, the latter shall choose three representatives who shall acquaint the Minister of Commerce and Public Works with the cause of the dispute within a week. The Ministry will send a copy of the statement to the company concerned, and the company shall then likewise appoint three representatives within a week. The silence of the company during that time shall be equivalent to the granting of the men's demands, the effect of which shall date from the time of receipt of the copy. If the company appoints its three representatives they shall be invited to meet the three representatives of the men under the presidency of an official appointed by the Ministry as a committee of conciliation. Where an agreement cannot be arrived at, workpeople shall have full liberty to leave their employment. Penalties are imposed upon persons who shall, by provocation, threats, or violence, organise a trade union or cause a strike in a public service, or take part in the management of such trade union or strike, or prevent others from working. Moreover, persons taking part in a strike in a public service shall also be punished. All trade unions formed prior to the promulgation of the present law in establishments engaged in public services are dissolved. In disputes relating to companies working in the provinces the Ministry of Public Works shall be represented by the *vali*.

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.**

*Unemployment in Massachusetts in Second Quarter of 1908.*—The Massachusetts Labour Bulletin (the journal of the Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics of Labour) for September gives statistics of unemployment among members of Trade Unions in the State at the end of the second quarter of 1908, together with revised figures for the first quarter (see LABOUR GAZETTE for July, p. 212), additional returns having been received by the Bureau since the date of publication of the original figures. These revised figures are shown below for purposes of comparison.

Returns relating to the second quarter were received from 493 Trade Unions, as compared with 256 relating to the first quarter. These 493 Unions had a membership of 72,815, of whom 10,490 (or 14.41 per cent.) were unemployed on June 30th, while the 256 Unions reporting had a membership of 66,968, of whom 11,987 (or 17.9 per cent.) were unemployed on March 31st.

These figures, however, include unemployment due not only to lack of work or material and unfavourable weather, but also that due to strikes or lock-outs, disability, vacations, stocktaking, repairs, &c.

Excluding these causes, the number of Trade Union members unemployed owing to lack of work or material and owing to unfavourable weather was 9,218 (or 12.7 per cent. of the total membership) at the end of June, as compared with 10,945 (or 16.3 per cent.) at the end of March.

*Employment in the St. Louis Consular district.*—H.M. Acting Consul at St. Louis, in a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated 18th November, 1908, reports that the number of persons who lost employment in manufacturing and commercial and transportation lines since the recent financial depression still remains about 25 per cent. of the total number employed prior to that period.

Chances for employment in agricultural pursuits continue to be reasonably fair at slightly reduced wages. Wages for unskilled labour have not been reduced since last June, but average about 20 per cent. lower than they were before the period of depression began.

The Commissioner of Labour for the State of Missouri has advised the Acting Consul to discourage most strongly the emigration of British labour to the State at the present time. In his opinion it will be at least six months before industrial conditions will have sufficiently improved to absorb the quantity of unemployed already in the country and to justify emigration from foreign lands.

**REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT  
IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES  
IN NOVEMBER.**

**COAL MINING.**

(Based on 504 Returns—442 from Employers, 49 from Trade Unions, and 13 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the coal mining industry was fairly good during the four weeks ended November 21st, and showed but little change as compared with a month ago. It was not so good as a year ago.

Returns relating to 1,372 pits employing 653,869 workpeople showed that the average number of days\* worked per week during the four weeks ended November 21st, 1908, was 5.19, as compared with 5.23 in October, and 5.60 a year ago.

The 653,869 workpeople covered by the Returns 452,162 (or 69.2 per cent.) were employed at pits working 20 or more days during the four weeks ended November 21st, 1908, while 318,262 (48.7 per cent. of the whole) were employed at pits working 22 days or more.

The highest average number of days worked per week in November was in South Wales and Monmouthshire (5.57), and the lowest in Nottingham and Leicester (4.70).

The following Table shows the average number of days worked per week by the pits during the four weeks ended November 21st, 1908, together with the figures for similar periods in October, 1908, and November, 1907:—

Districts.	No. of Workpeople employed in Nov., 1908, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in Four Weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Nov., 1908, as compared with	
		Nov. 21st, 1908.	Oct. 24th, 1908.	Nov. 23rd, 1907.	A m'th ago.	A year ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.</b>						
Northumberland ...	41,987	5.24	5.30	5.46	- .05 - '21	
Durham ...	116,741	5.35	5.35	5.52	... - '17	
Cumberland ...	7,427	4.94	5.55	5.47	- .61 - '53	
South Yorkshire ...	66,827	5.27	5.30	5.85	- .03 - '58	
West Yorkshire ...	24,670	4.71	5.05	5.36	- .34 - '65	
Lancashire and Cheshire	57,445	4.76	4.62	5.51	+ .14 - '75	
Derbyshire ...	43,170	4.73	4.88	5.50	- .10 - '72	
Nottingham and Leicester	34,873	4.70	4.80	5.29	- .10 - '59	
Staffordshire ...	29,261	5.03	5.02	5.68	+ .01 - '65	
Warwick, Worcester, and Salop ...	8,637	5.15	5.38	5.60	- .23 - '45	
Gloucester and Somerset	8,206	4.98	5.00	5.60	- .02 - '62	
North Wales ...	10,345	5.30	5.58	5.80	- .28 - '50	
South Wales and Mon. ...	148,822	5.57	5.60	5.88	- .05 - '31	
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES</b>	<b>898,441</b>	<b>5.20</b>	<b>5.24</b>	<b>5.63</b>	<b>- .04 - '43</b>	
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
West Scotland ...	25,610	4.93	4.94	5.14	- .01 - '21	
The Lothians ...	4,599	5.14	5.25	5.46	- .11 - '34	
Fife ...	24,607	5.36	5.43	5.44	- .07 - '08	
<b>SCOTLAND</b>	<b>54,736</b>	<b>5.14</b>	<b>5.18</b>	<b>5.29</b>	<b>- .04 - '15</b>	
<b>IRELAND</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>5.37</b>	<b>5.57</b>	<b>5.01</b>	<b>- .20 + '36</b>	
<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>893,869</b>	<b>5.19</b>	<b>5.23</b>	<b>5.60</b>	<b>- .04 - '41</b>	

Compared with October, 1908, there was a slight improvement in Lancashire and Cheshire; in Cumberland, West Yorkshire, Warwick, Worcester, and Salop, and North Wales there was a considerable decline; and in all the other districts there was but little change. There was some broken time at collieries in the Lothians. Compared with a year ago there was a decline in every district except Ireland: the decline was under one-third of a day per week in Northumberland and Durham, South Wales and Scotland; but in all the remaining districts it ranged from 0.45 to 0.75 of a day per week.

The following Table shows the numbers employed and the average number of days worked per week, classified according to the principal kind of coal produced at the pits at which the workpeople were employed. At pits

\* The figures in this article only show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal was hewn and wound at the collieries included in the returns received. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed at these collieries worked the whole number of days.

employing 216,996 workpeople it was not found possible to state which class of coal predominated, and they are entered in the Table under the term "mixed." Compared with October, 1908, there was a slight decline at pits producing all classes of coal. Compared with a year ago there was also a general decline, which was greatest at pits producing house coal.

Description of Coal.	No. of Workpeople employed in Nov., 1908, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in Four Weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Nov., 1908, as compared with	
		Nov. 21st, 1908.	Oct. 24th, 1908.	Nov. 23rd, 1907.	A m'th ago.	A year ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Anthracite ...	8,856	5.73	5.88	5.78	- .15 - '05	
Coking ...	32,448	5.31	5.35	5.59	- .04 - '28	
Gas ...	41,468	5.34	5.38	5.52	- .04 - '18	
House ...	85,083	4.81	4.89	5.34	- .08 - '53	
Manufacturing and Steam	268,072	5.31	5.35	5.69	- .04 - '38	
Mixed ...	216,996	5.12	5.15	5.61	- .03 - '49	
<b>All Descriptions</b>	<b>683,869</b>	<b>5.19</b>	<b>5.23</b>	<b>5.60</b>	<b>- .04 - '41</b>	

The Exports of coal, coke, and manufactured fuel in November, 1908, amounted to 5,182,266 tons, or 910,740 tons less than in October, 1908, and 645,861 tons less than in November, 1907.

**IRON, SHALE, AND OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.**

(Based on 79 Returns—64 from Employers' Associations, 2 from Trade Unions, and 13 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued good in iron mines, and showed little change as compared with either a month ago or a year ago. In shale mines it also continued good.

In tin, copper, and lead mines it was fair generally. In quarries it continued moderate, but, on the whole, showed some improvement as compared with a month ago.

**Mining.**

*Iron Mining.*—During the four weeks ended November 21st, 1908, the average number of days worked per week by all mines and open works included in the Returns was 5.81, as compared with 5.83 a month ago and 5.78 a year ago.

The Returns are summarised in the following Table:—

Districts.	No. employed in Nov., 1908, at the Mines included in the Returns.	Average Number of Days worked per week by Mines in 4 weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in November, 1908, as compared with	
		Nov. 21st, 1908.	Oct. 24th, 1908.	Nov. 23rd, 1907.	A month ago.	A year ago.
		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cleveland...	7,528	5.84	5.96	5.66	- .12 - '02	
Cumberland and Lancashire	4,771	5.82	5.81	5.92	+ .01 - '02	
Scotland ...	738	5.77	5.65	4.33	+ .14 + '44	
Other Districts ...	2,420	5.69	5.54	5.87	+ .15 - '18	
<b>All Districts</b>	<b>18,487</b>	<b>5.81</b>	<b>5.83</b>	<b>5.78</b>	<b>- 0.02 + 0.03</b>	

Of the 15,457 workpeople covered by the Returns 13,602, or 88.0 per cent., worked 22 or more days during the four weeks ended November 21st, as compared with 90.3 per cent. a month ago and 89.3 per cent. a year ago.

*Shale Mining.*—At the mines respecting which Returns have been received 3,393 workpeople were employed in the four weeks ended November 21st, as compared with 3,344 in the previous month, and 3,220 a year ago. The average number of days worked per week by the mines included in the Returns in the four weeks ended November 21st, was 5.77, as compared with 5.69 in October, and 5.75 a year ago.

*Tin and Copper Mining.*—Employment was fair in the Camborne district, and better than in October; it was moderate in the Penzance district and bad in the Calstock district.

*Lead Mining.*—Employment in North Wales was fair; it was also fair, on the whole, in the Weardale district, where about 5 days per week were worked.



## Quarrying.

**Slate.**—Employment was slack in North Wales, and much short time was worked. The Ballachulish (Argyllshire) quarries were re-opened in the middle of November, but at the end of the month employment was reported as dull.

**Granite.**—In Leicestershire employment continued good in the road material quarries; at Aberdeen it was very dull, and worse than a month ago. In the Princetown and Penryn districts, though still dull, it showed some improvement as compared with a month ago.

**Limestone.**—Employment continued good in North Wales; it was moderate in Westgate (Durham), and Wardale, where some short time was worked; in Cumberland there was also short time; in the Plymouth district and in the Somerset blue lias quarries employment continued bad.

**Other Stone.**—Employment continued good in the Clew Hill road material quarries. It was good in the Forest of Dean and slack in the Bath stone quarries. In the Sheffield district employment was quiet; at Barnsley, moderate; and at Normanton, slack. At sandstone quarries in North Wales it continued good. With grindstone quarrymen in the Gateshead district employment was quiet. At the Bakewell chert quarries it was good, and a little overtime was worked. In Forfarshire employment continued bad, and was worse than a month ago.

**Settmaking.**—Employment in Scotland, North Wales, and Leicestershire was fairly good generally. In the Clew Hill district it was quiet.

**China Clay.**—Employment continued good in the St. Austell and Lee Moor districts.

## PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

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

EMPLOYMENT in this industry during November continued moderate. It was worse than a year ago.

The total number of furnaces in blast at the end of November, 1908, was 289, as compared with 287 in October, 1908, and 329 in November, 1907. During November 5 furnaces were re-lit (1 each in Cumberland, Lancashire, Staffordshire, Worcestershire and Lanarkshire), and 3 were either damped down or blown out (in the Cleveland district, Staffordshire and Lanarkshire). The number of workpeople employed at the works respecting which returns were received was 22,200 in November 1908; a decrease of 9.3 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

The Returns are summarised in the following Table:—

Districts.	Number of Furnaces, included in the Returns, in Blast at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1908, as compared with	
	Nov., 1908.	Oct., 1908.	Nov., 1907.	A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES—					
Cleveland ...	81	82	85	- 1	- 4
Cumberland & Lancs. S. and S.W. Yorks ...	28	26	30	+ 2	- 2
Derby & Nottingham	10	10	15	...	- 5
Leicester, Lincoln, and Northampton	30	30	42	...	-12
Stafford & Worcester	26	26	26	...	...
S. Wales & Monmouth	34	33	36	+ 1	- 2
Other districts ...	8	8	17	...	- 9
	7	7	7	...	...
<b>England &amp; Wales</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>+ 2</b>	<b>- 34</b>
Scotland ...	65	65	71	...	- 6
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>+ 2</b>	<b>- 40</b>

The Imports of iron ore in November, 1908, amounted to 551,368 tons, or 10,433 tons more than in October, 1908, and 2,105 tons more than in November, 1907.

The Exports of pig iron from the United Kingdom in November, 1908, amounted to 100,257 tons, or 13,108 tons less than in October, 1908, and 36,602 tons less than in November, 1907.

## TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET WORKS.

(Based on 57 Returns—55 from Employers, 1 from a Trade Union, and 1 from a Local Correspondent.)

EMPLOYMENT continued very good, and was about the same as a year ago.

At the works covered by the Returns, 395 tinplate mills were working at the end of November, as compared with 400 a month ago, and 392 a year ago. The numbers of sheet mills working during the same months were 49, 47 and 55 respectively. The supply of and demand for labour continued about equal. The works to which these figures relate are principally in South Wales and Monmouthshire, and employ about 22,200 workpeople.

Districts.	Number of Works open.*		Number of Mills in operation.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
	At end of Nov., 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	At end of Nov., 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinplate Works	74	- 1	395	- 5	+ 3	
Steel Sheet Works	8	- 1	49	+ 2	- 6	
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>- 2</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>- 3</b>	<b>- 3</b>	

Exports.—The Table below shows the quantity of tinplates and tinned sheets, and of black plates for tinning, exported for the months stated:—

To	Nov., 1908.	Oct., 1908.	Nov., 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1908, as compared with a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets.					
To United States ...	4,879	2,107	2,450	+ 2,772	+ 2,389
" British East Indies ...	2,597	4,563	6,851	- 1,566	- 3,964
" Germany ...	3,044	3,013	3,099	+ 31	- 955
" France ...	1,124	2,364	1,704	- 1,240	- 580
" Netherlands ...	2,056	2,644	2,737	- 588	- 681
" Other Countries ...	17,640	24,598	17,436	- 6,958	+ 204
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>31,640</b>	<b>39,289</b>	<b>55,227</b>	<b>- 7,649</b>	<b>- 3,887</b>
Black Plates for Tinning.					
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>4,818</b>	<b>6,632</b>	<b>5,229</b>	<b>- 1,814</b>	<b>- 411</b>

## IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

(Based on 212 Returns—197 from Employers, received partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent; 4 from Trade Unions; and 11 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works during November showed a decline as compared with the previous month. It continued worse than a year ago.

The aggregate number of shifts worked during the week ended November 21st, 1908 (i.e., number employed multiplied by number of shifts worked) was 456,700; showing a reduction of 56,000 shifts (or 12 per cent.), as compared with the week ended October 24th, 1908, and of 45,300 shifts (or 9.9 per cent.) as compared with November, 1907.

\* It will be understood that in addition to the works returned as open, i.e., giving full or partial employment, a certain number of 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.

Departments.	Number of Workpeople employed by firms making Returns.		Average Number of Shifts worked per man.	
	In week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with	In week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with
<b>IRON :</b>				
Puddling Forges ...	9,400	- 474	4,75	- 0'07
Rolling Mills ...	3,806	- 131	4'56	+ 0'09
Forging ...	403	- 45	5'21	- 0'20
Founding ...	1,797	- 5	5'84	+ 0'05
Other Departments ...	527	- 92	5'83	- 0'07
Mechanics, Labourers ...	1,752	+ 10	5'49	- 0'02
<b>Total, Iron ...</b>	<b>17,682</b>	<b>- 738</b>	<b>4'93</b>	<b>- 0'02</b>
<b>STEEL :</b>				
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ...	7,586	- 65	5'75	- 0'03
Crucible Furnaces ...	524	+ 11	4'21	+ 0'15
Bessemer Converters ...	1,772	- 50	5'01	+ 0'01
Rolling Mills ...	13,875	- 78	5'08	+ 0'12
Forging and Pressing ...	2,522	- 55	5'03	- 0'01
Founding ...	6,607	- 101	5'20	- 0'51
Other Departments ...	6,546	+ 169	5'67	- 0'01
Mechanics, Labourers ...	7,221	+ 48	5'93	+ 0'56
<b>Total, Steel ...</b>	<b>46,683</b>	<b>- 101</b>	<b>5'42</b>	<b>- 0'03</b>
<b>IRON OR STEEL (not distinguished):</b>				
Rolling Mills ...	10,371	+ 32	5'04	+ 0'04
Forging and Pressing ...	706	- 7	4'91	- 0'23
Founding ...	695	+ 4	5'82	- 0'02
Other Departments ...	3,238	- 68	5'76	+ 0'02
Mechanics, Labourers ...	6,609	+ 103	5'80	+ 0'03
<b>Total, Iron or Steel (not distinguished)</b>	<b>21,619</b>	<b>+ 64</b>	<b>5'40</b>	<b>+ 0'02</b>
<b>Grand Total ...</b>	<b>88,984</b>	<b>- 775</b>	<b>5'31</b>	<b>- 0'02</b>
<b>Districts.</b>				
Northumberland & Durham	9,388	- 240	5'11	+ 0'29
Cleveland ...	7,158	- 167	5'64	+ 0'02
Sheffield and Rotherham ...	15,095	- 307	5'14	- 0'22
Leeds, Bradford and other Yorkshire Towns	4,122	- 16	5'24	- 0'07
Cumberland, Lancs. & Ches.	8,695	- 133	5'45	+ 0'01
Staffordshire ...	9,788	- 119	5'28	- 0'01
Other Midland Counties ...	4,385	- 158	5'29	+ 0'08
Wales and Monmouth	10,437	- 55	5'50	+ 0'05
<b>Total, England and Wales Scotland</b>	<b>66,661</b>	<b>- 1,194</b>	<b>5'32</b>	<b>+ 0'01</b>
	<b>16,293</b>	<b>+ 419</b>	<b>5'29</b>	<b>- 0'08</b>
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>88,984</b>	<b>- 775</b>	<b>5'31</b>	<b>- 0'02</b>

Compared with a month ago there were decreases in the number of workpeople employed in all districts of England and Wales, but there was an increase in Scotland. As regards departments, there were decreases in nearly all departments, the most marked being at puddling forges.

Compared with a year ago there was an increase in the number employed in the Cleveland district and in Scotland, but decreases in all other districts, especially in Northumberland and Durham, and in Cumberland and Lancashire. As regards departments there was an increase at Bessemer converters, but all other departments showed either a decrease or but little change; the decreases were chiefly at iron puddling forges, rolling mills, open-hearth melting furnaces, and steel foundries.

The average number of shifts worked per man per week was 5'31, as compared with 5'33 in October, 1908, and 5'45 in November, 1907. Compared with a month ago there was a considerable increase in the average number of shifts worked in Northumberland and Durham, and a considerable decrease at Sheffield and Rotherham; in the other districts there was not much change. In the departments there was no very marked change, except at steel foundries, where there was a decrease of 0'51 of a shift. Compared with a year ago there were decreases in all districts except Cumberland and Lancashire, which showed an increase of 0'28 of a shift. The decline was greatest in the Northumberland and Durham and South Yorkshire districts. Iron rolling mills, crucible furnaces, and steel forges and presses were the departments most affected by the decline.

The Imports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof during November, 1908, amounted to 107,494

tons, or 10,564 tons less than in October, 1908, but 16,458 tons more than in November, 1907.

The Exports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof (excluding pig and puddled iron, and tinned plates and black plates for tinning) during November, 1908, amounted to 104,814 tons, or 8,393 tons more than in October, 1908, but 16,415 tons less than in November, 1907.

## ENGINEERING TRADES.

(Based on 1,006 Returns—7 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 956 from Trade Unions and their branches, and 43 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued slack, and showed little general change compared with a month ago. It was much worse than a year ago, especially in the Northern Counties and Scotland.

Returns received from Trade Unions having a membership of 155,130 show that at the end of November the percentage unemployed was 13'0 as compared with 12'7 a month ago, and 4'7 in November, 1907.

District.	No. of Members* of Unions at end of Nov., 1908, included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed by Nov., 1908, as compared with a	
		Nov., 1908.	Oct., 1908.	Nov., 1907.	Month ago.	Year ago.
North-East Coast ...	7,340	21'2	23'6	9'9	- 2'4	+ 11'3
Manchester and Liverpool District	19,081	12'4	12'4	4'4	...	+ 8'0
Oldham, Bolton, and Blackburn District	13,204	13'9	13'2	3'3	+ 0'7	+ 10'6
West Riding Towns ...	13,146	17'7	16'4	5'8	+ 1'3	+ 11'9
Hull and Lincolnshire District	4,107	10'4	8'9	2'7	+ 1'5	+ 7'7
Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Coventry District	6,159	9'8	9'1	4'9	+ 0'7	+ 4'9
Notts, Derby and Leicester District	4,382	11'2	10'4	4'3	+ 0'8	+ 6'9
London and Neighbouring District	11,968	8'3	8'1	5'3	+ 0'2	+ 3'0
South Coast ...	4,306	4'4	5'2	1'7	- 0'8	+ 2'7
South Wales and Bristol District ...	7,129	8'2	8'5	2'3	- 0'3	+ 5'9
Glasgow and District ...	15,570	24'1	23'2	6'1	+ 0'9	+ 15'0
East of Scotland ...	4,115	22'7	20'8	5'9	+ 1'9	+ 16'8
Belfast and Dublin ...	3,568	15'0	18'7	7'9	- 3'7	+ 7'1
Other Districts ...	6,197	13'1	13'8	3'3	- 0'7	+ 9'8
<b>United Kingdom</b> (Including certain Unions for which District figures are not available)	<b>155,130</b>	<b>13'0</b>	<b>12'7</b>	<b>4'7</b>	<b>+ 0'3</b>	<b>+ 8'3</b>

On the North-East Coast employment continued slack, and more than one-fifth of the Trade Union members were out of employment at the end of the month. It was, however, better than a month ago, especially at Newcastle, where employment was fair on the whole with engineers, though bad with pattern makers and ironfounders. On the Wear employment continued very bad, but at Darlington it was moderate.

In Lancashire employment continued bad generally, and much short time was worked. With makers of textile machinery, however, employment was still good, and some overtime was reported. At Crewe employment was fair on the whole.

In the West Riding of Yorkshire employment was slack generally, and continued to decline, while short time was reported generally. On the Humber it was still slack on the whole; at Lincoln and Doncaster it was fair.

In the Midland Counties employment was generally bad, showing little change from the previous month. Makers of refrigerating and sugar machinery at Derby were well employed, as also lace and hosiery machine builders and brass bobbin and carriage makers at Nottingham. At Birmingham, Coventry, and Redditch the cycle and motor industry, though still bad, was better than a month ago. At Leicester employment was good with shoe machinery makers, and an improvement was reported with hosiery machinery makers and with tool makers.

\* Exclusive of Superannuated members.



Employment continued slack in London and on the South Coast. It was fair at the Royal Dockyards, and better than a month ago. In South Wales employment was fair with some branches of iron foundries.

In Scotland employment continued bad; more than one-fifth of the Trade Union members were out of employment at the end of the month, and short time was general. At Belfast and Dublin employment, though still slack, showed an improvement on the previous month.

The **Imports** of machinery in November, 1908, amounted to £269,943, as compared with £308,047 in October, 1908, and £395,301 in November, 1907; and the **Exports** for the same months amounted to £2,533,028, £2,925,208, and £2,804,399 respectively.

**SHIPBUILDING TRADES.**

(Based on 371 Returns—7 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 349 from Trade Unions and their Branches, and 15 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during November continued bad, and was considerably worse than a year ago. Much short time was reported.

Branches of Trade Unions with 59,037 members had 14,889 (or 25.2 per cent.) unemployed at the end of November, 1908, as compared with 26.3 per cent. a month ago, and 12.8 per cent. a year ago.

Compared with a month ago there was some decrease in the percentage unemployed in every district, except in the Wear district and in the Tees and Hartlepool district, where there were increases of 1.7 per cent. and of 1.6 per cent. respectively. As compared with a year ago there were increases in every district, except on the Thames and Medway, where there was but little change. The increase amounted to over 20 per cent. in the Wear, Tees, and East Scotland districts, and to between 13 and 17 per cent. in the Humber, Bristol Channel, Mersey and Clyde districts.

District.	No. of Mem- bers* at end of Nov. 1908, included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage for Nov., 1908, as compared with a	
		Nov. 1908.	Oct. 1908.	Nov. 1907.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Tyne and Blyth ...	9,959	27.6	29.6	16.4	- 2.0	+ 11.2
Wear ...	3,800	52.4	50.7	31.7	+ 1.7	+ 20.7
Tees and Hartlepool ...	4,957	40.1	38.5	14.4	+ 1.6	+ 25.7
Humber ...	2,632	27.2	29.7	11.1	- 2.5	+ 16.1
Thames and Medway ...	4,345	12.1	13.9	12.2	- 1.8	- 0.1
South Coast ...	4,961	4.0	6.4	2.7	- 2.4	+ 1.3
Bristol Channel Ports ...	2,797	20.7	21.7	6.7	- 1.0	+ 14.0
Mersey ...	4,160	20.7	21.3	5.0	- 0.6	+ 15.7
Clyde ...	12,531	26.5	26.7	12.7	- 0.2	+ 13.8
Dundee, Leith and Aberdeen ...	2,447	37.9	41.7	12.6	- 3.8	+ 25.3
Belfast ...	3,166	13.8	17.9	3.7	- 4.1	+ 10.1
Other Districts ...	3,282	18.0	16.2	4.8	+ 1.8	+ 13.2
<b>United Kingdom ...</b>	<b>59,037</b>	<b>25.2</b>	<b>26.3</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>- 1.1</b>	<b>+ 12.4</b>

On the Tyne employment continued slack generally, but with platers, riveters and caulkers at Elswick it was fair and overtime was worked. On the Wear employment continued very bad. On the Tees it was bad generally; at Middlesbrough, however, it was moderate. On the Humber it was bad generally, but there was some improvement on repair work.

In London employment was slack. On the South Coast there was an improvement on the previous month; with shipwrights at Portsmouth and Devonport employment was good. At the Bristol Channel ports employment was slack generally. On the Mersey it continued bad; at Barrow it was moderate.

On the Clyde employment continued slack. At Aberdeen and Leith it was bad; at Dundee employment, though still slack, showed some improvement compared with a month ago.

At Belfast, Dublin and Cork employment was dull generally.

\* Exclusive of superannuated members.

**MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.**

(Based on 97 Returns—2 from Employers' Associations, 69 from Trade Unions, and 26 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued dull, and was worse than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 15,732 had 4.3 per cent. unemployed at the end of November, compared with 4.2 per cent. a month ago and 2.5 per cent. a year ago.

**Brasswork, Bedsteads, etc.**—Employment with brass-workers was bad generally; at Manchester and Doncaster, however, it was fair. With bedstead workers at Birmingham it continued bad.

**Nuts, Bolts, Nails, etc.**—Employment continued bad at Blackheath and Halesowen. With nut and bolt makers at Birmingham it continued quiet; in South Wales, it was slack; at West Bromwich, quiet; and at Winlaton, bad. With shoe rivet and wire nail makers at Birmingham employment was good, and better than in October; with cut nail makers it was moderate.

**Wire.**—Employment continued moderate generally, and much short time was reported; it was fair at Warrington and Glasgow; bad at Birmingham.

**Locks, Keys and General Hardware.**—Employment continued bad generally.

**Stoves, Grates, etc.**—Employment continued slack, and much short time was reported.

**Cutlery, Tools, etc.**—At Sheffield employment was slack in most branches; with file forgers and razor grinders it was moderate. At Redditch with needle makers it was fair; with fish-hook makers it was fairly good on the whole.

**Tubes.**—In South Staffordshire employment was bad, and worse than a month ago; in South Wales, slack; in Birmingham fair, and rather better than a month ago.

**Chains, Anchors, and Springs.**—At Cradley Heath employment with chain makers continued bad; at Gateshead it was moderate. With spring fitters at Sheffield it was bad; in the spring trade at West Bromwich employment was fair. With anchor smiths at Cradley and on the Wear, and with anvil and vice makers at Dudley, it was bad.

**Sheet Metal, etc.**—Employment with braziers, sheet metal and tin-plate workers continued bad on the whole. It was good at Aberdeen and Belfast, and fair at Nottingham, Edinburgh, Leith and Aberdeen with tin-plate workers. In London there was an improvement.

**Gold, Silver, Britannia Metal, etc.**—Employment with silver and electro-plate operatives was quiet generally at Sheffield and Birmingham; with electro-platers in London it was fair. With jewellers at Birmingham it was quiet, and with goldsmiths in London, fair. Britannia metal workers at Birmingham reported employment as good. With watchmakers at Coventry it was quiet.

**Farriers.**—Employment was reported quiet, and was not so good as either a month ago or a year ago.

**Imports and Exports.**—The Table below shows the value of cutlery and hardware imported and exported for the months stated:—

Description.	Nov., 1908.	October, 1908.	Nov., 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1908, as compared with a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Imports:—</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Cutlery ...	19,731	19,734	16,886	- 3	+ 2,845
Hardware ...	81,079	88,300	95,591	- 7,221	- 14,512
<b>Exports:—</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Cutlery ...	48,878	54,308	66,308	- 5,430	- 17,430
Hardware ...	170,463	195,366	208,211	- 24,903	- 37,748
Implements and Tools...	154,257	168,031	188,662	- 13,774	- 34,405

**COTTON TRADE.**

(Based on 464 Returns—374 received from Employers, partly direct, and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 81 from Trade Unions, and 9 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the Spinning and Weaving branches during November was considerably worse than a year ago. Much short time was reported in the weaving branch. No complete comparison can be made with the previous month owing to the number of mills which were closed in October on account of the spinners' and cardroom operatives' dispute.

Returns relating to 115,305 workpeople paid wages in the week ended November 21st showed that as compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 5 per cent. in the number employed, and of 13.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Of the 115,305 workpeople reported on, 76,582 were employed by firms which continued open throughout October, and these returns showed that as compared with a month ago there was an increase of 0.1 per cent. in the numbers employed, and of 2.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid; but as compared with a year ago the number employed by these firms decreased by 3.6 per cent. and the amount of wages paid by 13.1 per cent.

In the following table it will be seen that as compared with a year ago every department and every district showed a decrease in both numbers employed and wages paid. The decrease was greatest both as regards numbers employed and wages paid in the weaving branch. The decrease in numbers employed was greatest in the Preston and "other Lancashire towns" districts. In the Burnley district there was a decrease in the amount of wages paid of over 35 per cent., and in six other districts there were decreases varying from 10 to 19 per cent. In the Oldham district the decline in the amount of wages paid as compared with a year ago amounted to only 2.3 per cent.

Departments.	Workpeople.		Earnings.	
	No. paid Wages in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a year ago	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a year ago.
Preparing ...	14,358	- 0.4	15,565	- 3.6
Spinning ...	24,674	- 1.5	24,573	- 2.3
Weaving ...	52,153	- 7.3	41,051	- 18.0
Other ...	9,667	- 5.9	10,071	- 15.3
Departments not specified	14,418	- 6.0	13,899	- 15.5
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>115,305</b>	<b>- 5.0</b>	<b>103,159</b>	<b>- 13.3</b>

Districts.	No. paid Wages in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.
Ashton District ...	8,294	- 2.3	7,796	- 7.9
Stockport, Glossop, and Hyde ...	7,534	- 1.5	7,965	- 16.0
Oldham District ...	13,692	- 2.6	14,767	- 2.3
Bolton and Leigh ...	12,866	- 6.6	11,974	- 8.8
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden, & Todmorden ...	9,898	- 0.2	8,819	- 7.7
Manchester ...	7,590	- 5.9	5,850	- 10.1
Preston and Chorley ...	12,510	- 10.9	10,368	- 14.1
Blackburn, Accrington, & Darwen ...	16,050	- 3.9	14,583	- 12.1
Bury, Padiham, Colne, and Nelson ...	12,533	- 4.9	9,722	- 35.4
Other Lancashire Towns ...	4,770	- 11.9	3,972	- 8.1
Yorkshire Towns ...	5,121	- 4.5	4,255	- 18.8
Other Districts ...	4,447	- 6.8	3,140	- 10.3
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>115,305</b>	<b>- 5.0</b>	<b>103,159</b>	<b>- 13.3</b>

**Raw Cotton.**

**American Cotton.**—During the month of November the average price of raw cotton "middling American" at Liverpool was 5.06d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 5.11d. and the lowest 4.98d. per lb. The price for October, 1908, was 5.02d. per lb., and for November, 1907, 5.96d. per lb. For the period from December 1st to 10th, the average price of "middling American" was 4.94d. per lb.

**Egyptian Cotton.**—The price of "good fair Egyptian" during November, 1908, averaged 7.06d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 8.1d. and the lowest 7.1d. per lb. The price for October, 1908, was 7.38d., and for November, 1907, 9.61d. per lb. For the period from December 1st to 10th, the average price of "good fair Egyptian" was 8.43d. per lb.

The visible supply of American cotton for the United Kingdom on December 4th, 1908, was estimated by the Liverpool Cotton Association to be 935,590 bales, as compared with 906,650 bales on December 6th, 1907.

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

Description of Cotton.	Nov., 1908.	October, 1908.	Nov., 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in November, 1908, as compared with a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
American ...	Bales. 226,950	Bales. 154,786	Bales. 284,321	+ 72,194	- 57,341
Brazilian ...	9,819	9,108	9,147	+ 711	+ 672
East Indian ...	2,054	2,935	3,378	- 881	- 1,324
Egyptian ...	27,471	9,065	62,957	+ 18,406	- 33,486
Miscellaneous ...	7,737	5,400	6,412	+ 2,337	+ 1,325
<b>Total</b>	<b>274,061</b>	<b>181,294</b>	<b>364,215</b>	<b>+ 92,767</b>	<b>- 90,154</b>

**Exports of Cotton Goods.**

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

Description.	Nov., 1908.	Oct., 1908.	Nov., 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in November, 1908, as compared with	
				A month ago.	A year ago.
<b>Cotton Yarn and Twist—</b>	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.
Grey ...	8,789	13,465	19,708	- 4,676	- 10,919
Bleached and Dyed ...	2,698	3,899	2,799	+ 601	+ 101
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>11,487</b>	<b>16,764</b>	<b>22,507</b>	<b>- 5,977</b>	<b>- 11,020</b>
<b>Cotton Piece Goods—</b>	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.
Grey or Unbleached ...	133,638	169,501	175,712	- 29,843	- 42,054
Bleached ...	110,333	131,453	147,012	- 21,120	- 36,679
Printed ...	66,211	80,185	95,511	- 13,974	- 29,300
Dyed or Manufactured of Dyed Yarn ...	68,750	80,548	98,140	- 11,798	- 29,390
<b>Total</b>	<b>378,952</b>	<b>455,687</b>	<b>516,375</b>	<b>- 76,735</b>	<b>- 137,423</b>

**WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.**

(Based on 408 Returns—383 received from Employers and Employers' Associations, 15 from Trade Unions, and 10 from Local Correspondents.)

**Woollen Trade.**

EMPLOYMENT was quiet, and worse than a month ago and a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 29,417 workpeople in the week ended November 21st showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 2.9 per cent. in the number employed, and of 9.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

In the Huddersfield district employment was moderate; it was worse than a month ago, and much worse than a year ago. In the Leeds district it continued quiet, and was worse than a year ago. In the Dewsbury and Batley district it was quiet, and considerably worse than a month ago and a year ago. Employment continued good at Selkirk, fair at Galashiels, and slack at Hawick.



Departments.	Workpeople covered by returns.				Earnings.					
	No. employed in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Aggregate amount of Wages paid in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a			Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.	Year ago.			
Wool Sorting ...	674	+ 0.7	- 2.7	622	- 0.6	- 4.5				
Spinning ...	5,827	- 1.8	- 5.2	4,834	- 6.4	- 13.2				
Weaving ...	12,559	- 0.3	- 3.2	10,021	- 3.1	- 9.4				
Other Departments ...	8,294	+ 0.0	- 1.6	7,822	- 3.3	- 7.9				
Unspecified ...	2,065	+ 0.2	- 0.5	1,846	- 0.2	- 3.8				
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>29,417</b>	<b>- 0.4</b>	<b>- 2.9</b>	<b>25,145</b>	<b>- 3.6</b>	<b>- 9.2</b>				

**Worst Trade.**

Employment was still quiet, but showed a slight improvement compared with a month ago; it was worse than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 48,343 workpeople in the week ended November 21st showed an increase of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 2.0 per cent. in the number employed, and of 6.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

In the Bradford district employment continued quiet, and was worse than a year ago. Much short time was reported. In the Keighley and Halifax districts there was a further decline. In the Huddersfield district employment was fair, and showed an improvement compared with a month ago.

Departments.	Workpeople covered by returns.				Earnings.					
	No. employed in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Aggregate amount of Wages paid in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a			Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.	Year ago.			
Wool Sorting & Combing...	5,453	+ 0.8	+ 1.3	5,270	+ 1.2	+ 1.9				
Spinning ...	26,721	+ 0.4	- 0.1	14,533	+ 0.5	- 4.1				
Weaving ...	9,532	- 0.1	- 8.1	8,136	+ 0.0	- 13.0				
Other Departments ...	5,180	+ 0.8	- 2.6	5,254	+ 2.0	- 5.4				
Unspecified ...	1,457	+ 1.7	- 4.3	979	+ 1.1	- 13.2				
<b>Total!</b>	<b>48,343</b>	<b>+ 0.5</b>	<b>- 2.0</b>	<b>34,172</b>	<b>+ 0.7</b>	<b>- 6.0</b>				

**Prices of Raw Material.**

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

	Nov., 1908.	Oct., 1908.	Nov., 1907.
<b>Average Prices:</b>			
Lincoln Hogs ...	8 1/2	8	11 1/2
40's Crossbred tops ...	10 1/2	9 1/2	14 1/2
60's Super Botany tops ...	23 1/2	23 1/2	27 1/2
<b>Course of Prices during the month:</b>			
Lincoln Hogs ...	8, 9	8	12, 11 1/2
40's Crossbred tops ...	9 1/2, 11 1/2	10, 9 1/2	15 1/2, 14 1/2
60's Super Botany tops ...	23, 24 1/2	23 1/2, 23	25, 27 1/2

**Imports and Exports.**—The following Table shows the quantities of raw wool imported and exported, and of British and Irish exports of woollen and worsted yarns and piece goods, for the months stated.

Description.	Nov., 1908.			Oct., 1908.			Nov., 1907.		
	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Nov. 21st, 1907.
	Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.	
<b>Imports and Exports of Raw Wool (SHEEP OR LAMBS').</b>									
Imports 1,000 lbs.	52,231	30,128	52,857	+ 22,103	- 625				
British Exports "	5,012	4,439	2,681	+ 573	+ 2,331				
Re-Exports of Imported Wool	24,776	36,170	7,533	- 11,394	+ 17,244				
<b>British and Irish Manufactures Exported.</b>									
Yarn: 1,000 lbs.									
Woolen ...	144	136	187	+ 8	- 43				
Worsted ...	3,951	4,434	4,553	- 483	- 602				
Alpaca & Mohair "	1,074	1,270	1,490	- 196	- 416				
<b>Total, Yarn "</b>	<b>5,169</b>	<b>5,840</b>	<b>6,230</b>	<b>- 671</b>	<b>- 1,061</b>				
Piece Goods: 1,000 yds.									
Woolen ...	5,187	4,503	5,806	+ 681	- 619				
Worsted ...	5,130	4,591	6,722	+ 539	- 1,592				
<b>Total, Piece Goods "</b>	<b>10,317</b>	<b>9,094</b>	<b>12,528</b>	<b>+ 1,223</b>	<b>- 2,211</b>				

**LINEN TRADE.**

(Based on 113 Returns—102 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 5 from Trade Unions, and 6 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was slack, but showed an improvement compared with a month ago; it was worse than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 46,119 workpeople in the week ended November 21st showed an increase of 1.0 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 2.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 10.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Departments.	Workpeople covered by Returns.				Earnings.					
	Number paid wages on pay-day in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Aggregate amount of Wages paid on pay-day in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a			Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
		A month ago.	A year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.	Year ago.			
Preparing ...	5,993	+ 0.4	- 1.0	3,029	+ 2.8	- 11.7				
Spinning ...	11,286	+ 0.3	+ 0.5	14,985	+ 1.2	- 13.8				
Weaving ...	15,096	+ 1.1	- 7.0	8,905	+ 5.6	- 7.9				
Other ...	7,074	+ 1.0	- 0.5	5,553	+ 2.0	- 5.9				
Not specified ...	6,769	+ 2.3	+ 0.8	3,643	+ 1.4	- 14.2				
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>46,119</b>	<b>+ 1.0</b>	<b>- 2.4</b>	<b>26,115</b>	<b>+ 3.0</b>	<b>- 10.1</b>				

In the Belfast district employment was still bad, but showed an improvement compared with a month ago; it was considerably worse than a year ago, and much short time was worked. In the other parts of Ireland employment was still slack, but showed a further slight improvement compared with a month ago. In Fifehire employment showed an improvement, and was fair; in the other parts of Scotland there was a further slight improvement.

**Imports and Exports.**—The Table below shows the quantities of imported flax, and of British and Irish exports of linen yarn and piece goods, for the months stated:—

Description.	Nov., 1908.			Oct., 1908.			Nov., 1907.		
	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Nov. 21st, 1907.
	Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.	
<b>Imports:</b>									
Flax (Dressed and Undressed, Tow or Codilla) ... Tons	3,620		4,106		3,643	- 486	- 23		
<b>Exports:</b>									
Linen Yarn ... 100 Lbs.	11,780		12,319		12,516	- 539	- 736		
Linen Piece Goods ... 100 Yds.	132,531		148,087		135,402	- 15,556	- 2,871		

**JUTE TRADE.**

(Based on 35 Returns—32 from Employers and Employers' Associations, and 3 from a Local Correspondent.)

EMPLOYMENT was fair, but showed a slight decline compared with a month ago; it was worse than a year ago. Some short time was reported.

Returns from firms employing 17,570 workpeople in the week ended November 21st showed a decrease of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 2.6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 5.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Of the 17,570 workpeople covered by the Returns, 15,071 (or 86 per cent.) were employed in the Dundee district.

Departments.	Workpeople covered by Returns.				Earnings.					
	Number paid Wages in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a			Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
		A month ago.	A year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.	Year ago.			
Preparing ...	4,080	- 1.3	- 2.8	2,633	+ 1.8	- 4.3				
Spinning ...	5,045	+ 0.4	- 0.1	3,691	+ 0.4	- 1.6				
Weaving ...	5,736	+ 0.5	- 4.2	4,050	- 1.1	- 6.4				
Other ...	1,842	- 1.3	- 3.2	1,819	- 4.5	- 9.6				
Not specified ...	866	- 1.3	- 3.2	541	+ 5.0	- 18.3				
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>17,570</b>	<b>- 0.2</b>	<b>- 2.6</b>	<b>12,177</b>	<b>- 1.1</b>	<b>- 5.9</b>				

Compared with a month ago the amount of wages paid showed a slight increase in the spinning department, but a decrease in the preparing, weaving, and "other" departments. Compared with a year ago, the number employed and the amount of wages paid showed a decline in every department.

**Imports and Exports.**—The Table below shows the quantities of imported jute and of British and Irish exports of jute yarn and piece goods for the months stated.

Description.	Nov., 1908.			Oct., 1908.			Nov., 1907.		
	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Nov. 21st, 1907.
	Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.	
<b>Imports:</b>									
Jute ... Tons	46,399		35,224		47,074	+ 11,175	- 675		
<b>Exports:</b>									
Jute Yarn ... 100 Lbs.	33,137		36,471		64,351	- 3,334	- 31,214		
Jute Piece Goods ... 100 Yds.	157,309		186,278		155,575	- 28,969	+ 1,734		

**LACE TRADE.**

(Based on 86 Returns—81 from Employers, 2 from Trade Unions, and 3 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was moderate; slightly better than a month ago, but worse than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 8,508 workpeople in the week ended November 21st, showed an increase of 1.0 per cent. in the number employed, and of 1.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 3.6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 7.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Branches.	Workpeople covered by Returns.				Earnings.					
	No. paid wages on pay-day in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a			Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.	Year ago.			
Levers ...	2,198	+ 0.7	- 9.3	2,812	+ 1.0	- 11.0				
Curtain ...	2,831	+ 1.3	+ 0.3	2,744	+ 1.2	- 0.1				
Plain Net ...	2,805	+ 1.0	- 1.2	2,079	+ 3.1	- 7.5				
Others ...	884	+ 0.7	- 6.6	593	- 3.9	- 12.8				
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>8,918</b>	<b>+ 1.0</b>	<b>- 3.6</b>	<b>8,228</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>- 7.3</b>				

At Nottingham employment was reported as bad in the levers branch, fair in the curtain branch, and good in the plain net branch; some short time was still worked, but employment was slightly better than in October. In the Long Eaton district employment showed some decline as compared with a month ago; and many firms reported short time. In the West of England employment was dull. In Scotland it continued fair, and was about the same as a year ago.

Description.	Nov., 1908.			Oct., 1908.			Nov., 1907.		
	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Nov. 21st, 1907.
	Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.	
<b>Imports:—</b>									
Silk Lace ...	20,059		24,312		15,448	- 4,253	+ 4,611		
<b>Exports:—</b>									
Cotton Lace ...	313,738		290,544		396,018	+ 23,194	- 82,250		
Silk Lace ...	8,232		8,766		7,495	- 534	+ 737		

**SILK TRADE.**

(Based on 57 Returns—54 from Employers, 1 from a Trade Union, and 2 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was moderate. It was rather worse than a month ago, and much worse than a year ago. Much short time was reported. Returns received from firms employing 8,508 workpeople, and paying £5,535 in wages in the week ended November 21st, 1908, showed that, as compared with a month ago, there was a decrease of 0.3 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and of 1.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 6.2 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and of 8.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Branches.	Workpeople covered by Returns.				Earnings.					
	No. paid wages in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a			Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.	Year ago.			
Throwing ...	1,003	+ 0.9	- 15.0	411	+ 3.5	- 11.0				
Spinning ...	2,655	+ 0.6	- 2.7	1,931	+ 0.7	- 4.3				
Weaving ...	3,574	- 1.0	- 9.6	2,262	- 3.9	- 14.0				
Other ...	1,276	- 1.2	+ 5.8	931	- 0.9	+ 1.7				
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>8,508</b>	<b>- 0.3</b>	<b>- 6.2</b>	<b>5,535</b>	<b>- 1.3</b>	<b>- 8.1</b>				

Districts.	Workpeople covered by Returns.				Earnings.					
	No. paid wages in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a			Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.	Year ago.			
Lancashire and W. Riding of Yorkshire	3,403	+ 1.7	- 4.9	2,563	+ 2.0	- 4.8				
Macclesfield, Congleton and District	946	- 0.9	- 4.4</							



With silk throwsters and spinners employment was good at Leek, and better than a month ago; it was moderate at Congleton, and short time was worked. At Congleton it was bad with trimming weavers and in other branches. At Macclesfield employment was good with throwsters and handloom weavers in factories; moderate with spinners, powerloom weavers and "outside" handloom weavers; with all branches it was worse than a year ago. In the Bradford district employment was quiet, and showed little change as compared with a month ago. In the Eastern Counties employment was dull, and much worse than a year ago; some short time was reported.

**Imports and Exports.**—The Table below shows the quantities of raw and manufactured silk imported and exported for the months stated.

Description.	Nov., 1908.	Oct., 1908.	Nov., 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1908, as compared with a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Imports:—</b>					
Raw Silk ... Lbs	73,578	104,952	99,115	- 31,384	- 25,537
Thrown Silk ... "	38,665	41,427	43,028	- 2,812	- 4,363
Spun Silk Yarn ... "	27,965	29,943	17,651	- 1,957	+ 10,335
Silk Broad-Stuffs yards	5,081,996	5,496,441	4,987,010	- 411,445	+ 97,986
<b>Exports:—</b>					
Thrown Silk ... Lbs	5,636	4,647	3,718	+ 989	+ 1,918
Spun Silk Yarn ... "	55,058	44,972	81,929	+ 10,086	- 26,871
Silk Broad-Stuffs... yards	323,887	405,956	329,142	- 80,049	- 3,255

**HOSIERY TRADE.**

(Based on 107 Returns—98 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 2 from Trade Unions, and 7 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in England was moderate; slightly better than a month ago, and worse than a year ago; in Scotland it continued good, and was better than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 17,478 workpeople in the week ended November 21st showed an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed, and of 1.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 1.3 per cent. in the number employed, and of 1.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

At Leicester employment showed some improvement, but some short time was still worked, and employment was worse than a year ago; at Hinckley it was moderate; at Loughborough it continued fair. With power-frame workers at Nottingham and in Derbyshire employment was moderate, and not so good as a year ago; with hand-frame workers in the country districts employment was moderate, with much short time, and was worse than a month ago and a year ago. In Scotland employment continued good, and was better than a year ago.

The Returns are summarised in the following Table:—

District.	Workpeople covered by Returns.		Earnings.			
	No. paid wages in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Per cent.
				Month ago.	Year ago.	
Leloeater ...	7,858	+ 0.2 - 1.3	£ 6,217	+ 3.7	- 2.6	
Leicester Country District ...	2,183	- 1.2 - 2.8	1,655	- 0.4	- 3.4	
Notts. and Derbyshire ...	4,311	+ 0.6 - 3.4	3,176	- 3.5	- 1.9	
Scotland ...	2,294	+ 1.5 + 3.8	1,641	+ 1.9	+ 6.8	
Other Districts ...	832	- 0.4 + 1.0	579	+ 3.2	- 2.2	
<b>Total, United Kingdom</b>	<b>17,478</b>	<b>+ 0.2 - 1.3</b>	<b>13,305</b>	<b>+ 1.1</b>	<b>- 1.4</b>	

**Imports and Exports.**—The following Table shows the value of woollen and cotton hosiery imported and exported for the months stated:—

	Nov., 1908.	Oct., 1908.	Nov., 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1908, as compared with a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Imports (less Re-Exports):</b>					
Hosiery, Woollen ...	19,486	35,889	29,667	- 16,403	- 10,181
" Cotton ...	81,266	114,496	91,731	- 33,220	- 10,465
<b>Exports:</b>					
Hosiery, Woollen ...	71,309	80,441	97,641	- 9,132	- 26,332
" Cotton ...	22,153	30,431	41,025	- 8,078	- 18,872

**OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.**

(Based on 60 Returns—21 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 25 from Trade Unions, and 13 from Local Correspondents.)

**Carpet Trade.**

Employment during November, though still bad, showed some improvement as compared with the previous month; it was worse than a year ago. Much short time was worked. Returns received from firms employing 5,385 workpeople and paying £4,280 in wages in the week ended November 21st, 1908, showed an increase of 2.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 4.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 6.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 13.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

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

**Woollen and Worsted Dyers.**—Employment in the West Riding continued bad, and was worse than a year ago. The majority of the Trade Union dyers worked short time.

**Cotton Dyers.**—Employment was reported as bad, and as worse than a year ago.

**Silk Dyers.**—Employment was reported as fair at Macclesfield and Leek.

**Calico Printers, &c.**—Employment generally with machine calico printers continued slack, and was worse than a year ago; much short time was reported. With calico printers' engravers in Derbyshire employment was moderate. In Glasgow it continued bad with calico printers and engravers; with block printers it was fair.

**Hosiery and Lace Dyers, Trimmers, &c.**—At Leicester short time was general; at Hinckley employment was bad; at Loughborough it showed a decline, and three-quarter-time only was worked. With dyers at Nottingham employment was reported as good; with bleachers at Basford, and with hosiery trimmers at Basford and Bulwell, it was moderate; on the whole employment in Nottinghamshire was better than a month ago.

**Calenderers, &c.**—At Glasgow employment continued dull, and was worse than a year ago. At Dundee it was reported as fair with bleachfield workers, and dull with calender workers.

**TAILORING TRADE.**

(Based on 123 Returns—92 from Employers, 3 from Trade Unions, and 28 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the *bespoke* branch in London was moderate, and slightly better than a month ago and a year ago. In the provinces it was slack. In the *ready-made* branch it was slack, and worse than a year ago.

**Bespoke Branch.**

**London.**—Employment during November was moderate, and slightly better than a month ago and a year ago. Firms paying £12,149 to their workpeople during the four weeks ended November 21st showed an increase of 0.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 2.1 per cent. compared with a year ago.

**Other Centres.**—Employment was reported as slack at Liverpool and Edinburgh, bad at Glasgow, quiet at Belfast, and improved at Dublin.

**Ready-made Branch.**

**London.**—Employment was moderate, and slightly better than a month ago; it showed little change compared with a year ago.

**Leeds.**—Employment continued slack, and was worse than a year ago, the numbers employed showing a slight improvement, but much short time being reported. Firms employing 6,799 workpeople in their factories (in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops) in the week ended November 21st showed an increase of 1.4 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 1.1 per cent. compared with a year ago. Jewish operatives reported that employment was limited to three days per week.

**Other Centres.**—Employment was slack at Manchester, Bristol, and Glasgow, and worse than a year ago; at Norwich it was moderate.

The **Imports** of apparel, not waterproofed, in November, 1908, were valued at £182,978, as compared with £277,333 in October, 1908, and £190,086 in November, 1907; and the **Exports** for the same months at £376,616, £387,041, and £413,759 respectively.

**BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.**

(Based on 505 Returns—487 received from Employers, partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 7 from Trade Unions, and 11 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was moderate, and slightly worse than a month ago and a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 63,458 workpeople in the week ended November 21st showed a decrease of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed, and of 1.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. As compared with a year ago there was an increase of 2.4 per cent. in the number employed, and a decrease of 0.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Employment at Leicester was slightly better than a month ago, but was still bad; many firms were still working short time. At Northampton and Kettering employment was slack; with army bootmakers there was a further decline, and much short time was reported. At Bristol employment was worse than both a month ago and a year ago. In the heavy boot trade employment was fair at Kingswood and at Leeds. In Scotland employment showed a slight decline as compared with a month ago, and was about the same as a year ago.

District.	Workpeople covered by the Returns.		Earnings.			
	No. paid wages in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a		Per cent.
				Month ago.	Year ago.	
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.</b>						
London ...	2,298	+ 0.5 + 0.9	2,309	- 0.6	- 2.0	
Leicester ...	13,279	+ 0.7 + 3.2	12,912	+ 1.3	- 0.4	
Leicester Country District ...	3,259	- 1.8 + 0.4	2,922	...	- 4.7	
Northampton ...	9,858	+ 0.6 + 5.4	9,065	- 1.0	+ 1.2	
Northampton Country District ...	8,795	+ 0.1 + 0.5	8,103	- 2.7	- 3.5	
Kettering ...	3,886	- 0.3 + 2.3	3,647	- 2.9	+ 3.6	
Stafford & District ...	2,598	- 0.1 + 2.3	2,092	- 1.1	...	
Norwich & District ...	3,222	- 0.8 + 1.9	2,737	- 0.3	- 1.5	
Bristol & District ...	1,796	- 2.3 - 3.1	1,534	- 7.9	- 9.7	
Kingswood ...	1,969	+ 0.1 + 7.7	1,853	- 3.0	- 4.3	
Leeds & District ...	1,952	+ 0.3 - 1.2	1,732	- 3.4	- 3.7	
Manchester & District ...	2,789	+ 0.1 - 1.3	2,462	- 3.3	+ 1.6	
Birmingham & District ...	883	- 0.3 + 5.5	682	- 0.2	+ 5.9	
Other parts of England and Wales ...	2,735	- 0.2 + 2.6	2,349	+ 1.6	+ 2.0	
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES ...</b>	<b>59,297</b>	<b>- 0.2 + 2.3</b>	<b>54,449</b>	<b>- 1.1</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>	
<b>SCOTLAND ...</b>	<b>3,874</b>	<b>+ 0.1 + 3.0</b>	<b>3,653</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>	<b>...</b>	
<b>IRELAND ...</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>- 3.0 + 1.1</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>+ 4.0</b>	<b>+ 11.4</b>	
<b>UNITED KINGDOM ...</b>	<b>63,458</b>	<b>- 0.2 + 2.4</b>	<b>58,317</b>	<b>- 1.1</b>	<b>- 0.9</b>	

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

	Nov., 1908.	Oct., 1908.	Nov., 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1908, as compared with a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Imports (less Re-Exports)</b>					
Quantity ... Dozen pairs	25,347	48,219	19,223	- 22,872	+ 6,124
Value ... £	56,952	104,514	63,216	- 47,532	- 6,234
<b>Exports (British and Irish)</b>					
Quantity ... Dozen pairs	81,880	105,672	95,223	- 25,792	- 13,343
Value ... £	196,279	246,768	212,767	- 50,489	- 16,488

NOTE.—For imports of hides and of leather see under "Other Leather Trades," below.

**OTHER LEATHER TRADES.**

(Based on 41 Returns—25 from Trade Unions and 16 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued bad, and was worse than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 3,422 had 8.2 per cent. unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 8.5 per cent. at the end of October, and 5.8 per cent. a year ago.

**Skinner, Tanners, Curriers, Dressers.**—Employment with skinner was fair at Birmingham and Leeds and quiet in London; it was rather better than a month ago. With curriers it was bad in London and Birmingham; fair at Glasgow and Leeds. With leather dressers employment was slack. With leather workers generally employment was fair at Manchester, Bolton, Bury and Wigan, and bad at Leeds.

**Saddle and Harness Makers.**—With saddlers and harness makers employment was moderate generally, and worse than a year ago; in London it was quiet with harness makers and showed some decline with brown saddlers. It continued bad at Walsall. With saddlers at Glasgow and Dublin it was fair.

**Miscellaneous Leather Trades.**—With fancy leather workers employment continued bad generally, but at Walsall it was fair, and with morocco leather finishers in London it was good. With portmanteau and trunk makers employment was quiet in London, and bad at Manchester.

**Imports and Exports.**

Description.	Nov., 1908.	October, 1908.	Nov., 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1908, as compared with a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Imports:—</b>					
Hides, raw, and pieces thereof, dry	cwts. 29,872	cwts. 37,653	cwts. 28,322	cwts. 7,781	cwts. 1,550
Do, wet ...	45,514	49,303	69,745	- 3,789	- 24,231
Total, hides, dry and wet	75,386	86,956	98,067	- 11,570	- 22,681
Goat skins, undressed (No.)	906,765	1,382,755	751,769	- 475,990	+ 154,996
Sheep skins, (value) £	198,765	206,834	189,474	- 8,069	+ 10,291
<b>Leather*</b>					
...	cwts. 92,866	cwts. 103,871	cwts. 94,646	cwts. 11,005	cwts. 1,780
<b>Exports:—</b>					
Saddlery and harness (value) £	39,193	43,836	49,990	- 4,643	- 10,797

**HAT TRADE.**

(Based on 13 Returns—2 from Employers' Associations, and 11 from Trade Unions.)

EMPLOYMENT during November in the *Silk* hat trade was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of November was 18.1, compared with 16.5 a month ago, and 16.0 a year ago.

In the *Felt* hat trade employment was slack, and worse than a month ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of November was 4.7, compared with 2.9 a month ago; no comparative figures can be given for a year ago owing to the dispute which affected the Denton and Stockport districts in November, 1907. Employment was bad at Denton, with much short time; at Stockport it was quiet. In

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



Warwickshire employment was fair, but not so good as a year ago.

**Imports and Exports.**—The Table below shows the number of hats and bonnets, trimmed and untrimmed, imported and exported for the months stated:—

Description.	Nov., 1908.	Oct., 1908.	Nov., 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1908, as compared with a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Imports:</b>	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.
All kinds	19,026	25,559	30,071	- 6,533	- 11,045
<b>Exports:</b>					
Felt	31,374	39,598	31,897	- 8,224	- 523
Straw	34,264	32,654	42,544	+ 1,600	+ 8,278
Other Sorts	7,626	8,134	4,531	+ 506	+ 3,695
<b>Total</b>	<b>73,264</b>	<b>80,394</b>	<b>78,970</b>	<b>- 7,130</b>	<b>- 5,705</b>

**OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.**

(Based on 121 Returns—170 from Employers, 4 from Trade Unions, and 7 from Local Correspondents.)

**EMPLOYMENT** in London in the dressmaking trade was fair with retail firms, and better than a year ago; with court dress makers it was moderate, and slightly worse than a year ago. In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, &c., trades in London it was fair, and better than a year ago. In the shirt and collar trade generally it was moderate; in the corset trade it was fairly good.

**Dressmaking, Millinery, and Mantle Trades.**—Returns from retail firms in London, chiefly in the West-End, employing 1,700 dressmakers in the week ended November 21st, showed a decrease of 1.8 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 2.4 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fair. Court dressmakers employing 1,029 workpeople in the week ended November 21st showed a decrease of 2.1 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 1.7 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was moderate. With milliners in the West-End employment was fair.

In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, under-clothing and infants' millinery trades, firms in London employing 3,238 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended November 21st showed a decrease of 7.3 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 3.5 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fair, and better than a year ago.

Returns from two Employment Bureaux in London showed little change in the demand for and supply of dressmakers and milliners as compared with a year ago.

In Manchester employment with mantle makers was moderate, and worse than a month ago. In the costume and skirt trade employment during the month was moderate; firms employing 1,819 workpeople in the week ended November 21st showed an increase of 2.5 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 9.4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

In Glasgow employment in the mantle trade was moderate, and worse than a month ago and a year ago.

**Shirt and Collar Trade.**—Returns received from shirt and collar manufacturers in England, Scotland and Ireland, employing 6,543 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers), and paying £4,214 in wages, in the week ended November 21st, showed an increase of 1.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 5.8 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was moderate.

**Corset Trade.**—Returns received from corset manufacturers, employing 3,143 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended November 21st showed an increase of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 3.5 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fairly good.

**PAPER, PRINTING, AND BOOK-BINDING TRADES.**

(Based on 421 Returns—144 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 257 from Trade Unions and their branches, and 20 from Local Correspondents.)

**PAPER TRADES.**

**EMPLOYMENT** in these trades was fair on the whole, but short time was reported at a number of mills, especially in the Northern Counties. Employment was rather better than a month ago, but not quite so good as a year ago.

Returns received from firms employing 22,953 workpeople in the last week of the month showed that there was an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the total number of workpeople employed as compared with a month ago, and of 2.5 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Description.	No. of Workpeople paid Wages in last week of November, 1908, by firms making Returns.	Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in No. of Workpeople as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Machine-made Paper and Milled Boards:</b>			
Northern Counties	6,556	+ 0.4	+ 0.4
Midlands, Wales, and Ireland	2,032	+ 0.5	- 1.5
Southern Counties	7,487	+ 0.4	+ 7.4
Scotland	6,019	+ 0.4	+ 1.0
<b>Total, Machine-made Paper, &amp;c.</b>	<b>22,094</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>+ 2.6</b>
<b>Hand-made Paper</b>	<b>859</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>- 0.8</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,953</b>	<b>+ 0.4</b>	<b>+ 2.5</b>

Trade Unions in the machine-made paper trade with 1,631 members had 3.2 per cent. unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 3.1 per cent. a month ago and 1.7 per cent. a year ago. In the hand-made paper trade, Trade Unions with 586 members had 5.8 per cent. unemployed, compared with 6.5 per cent. a month ago, and 5.8 per cent. a year ago.

The **Imports** of paper in November, 1908, amounted to £432,168, as compared with £495,235 in October, 1908, and £486,101 in November, 1907; and the **Exports** for the same months amounted to £188,215, £195,655, and £192,582 respectively.

**PRINTING TRADES.**

**EMPLOYMENT** with letterpress printers was fair, as is usual at this time of the year. It was better than a month ago, but not quite so good as in November, 1907. With lithographic printers employment was slack, and worse than a year ago.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Nov., 1908, included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		Nov., 1908.	Oct., 1907.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	20,413	4.1	6.3	3.6	- 2.2
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	5,296	3.4	6.1	2.0	- 2.7
Lancashire and Cheshire	6,792	4.4	5.8	4.2	- 1.4
East Midland and Eastern Counties	2,421	2.3	4.2	1.8	- 1.9
West Midlands	2,574	4.2	5.3	3.6	- 1.1
S. & S.W. Counties and Wales	3,664	2.9	3.6	2.5	- 0.7
Scotland	5,442	4.4	4.4	2.3	...
Ireland	2,460	8.9	10.9	6.1	- 2.0
<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>49,062</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>- 1.7</b>

**London.**—Employment was fair with letterpress printers, and slack with lithographic printers. It was better on the whole than a month ago, but worse than a year ago. At the end of November 4.1 per cent. of the Trade Union members were unemployed, as compared with 6.3 a month ago, and 3.6 in November, 1907.

**Other Centres.**—Employment with letterpress printers was fair generally, and overtime was frequently resorted to on Christmas work. It was better than a month ago, but worse than a year ago. At Dublin, Liverpool and Hull employment remained slack, and at Edinburgh it was reported as worse than a month ago. At Bradford employment was very good. With lithographic printers employment continued slack, and was worse than a year ago.

**BOOKBINDING TRADES.**

**EMPLOYMENT** was fair in London, with some overtime. In the provinces it remained slack. It was better than a month ago, but worse than a year ago.

Description.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Nov., 1908, included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		Nov., 1908.	Oct., 1907.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	3,599	3.6	4.6	2.2	- 1.0
Other Districts	3,157	5.3	6.6	3.2	- 1.3
<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>6,756</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>+ 1.7</b>

**BUILDING TRADES.**

(Based on 1,748 Returns—760 from Employers and Employers' Associations, received partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 930 from Trade Unions and their branches, and 58 from Local Correspondents.)

**EMPLOYMENT** in November continued slack. It was rather worse than a month ago and much worse than a year ago. Carpenters and plumbers, however, showed a slight decrease in the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed as compared with October.

Returns received from 697 firms employing 40,800 workpeople at the end of November show that there was a decrease in the number employed in every district compared with a month ago, and a considerable decrease in almost every district compared with a year ago, the total decrease in the number of skilled tradesmen employed being 3.7 per cent. compared with a month ago, and 6.8 per cent. compared with a year ago; while in the case of labourers the decrease amounted to 3.5 per cent. compared with October, 1908, and to 9.3 per cent. compared with November, 1907.

District.	No. of Workpeople paid wages on the last pay-day of Nov.	Skilled Tradesmen/		Labourers.	
		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with	
		A month ago.	A year ago.	A month ago.	A year ago.
London	7,104	- 147	- 216	5,018	+ 52
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	2,203	- 75	- 404	1,602	- 165
Lancashire and Cheshire	3,922	- 148	+ 18	3,634	- 75
Midland & Eastern Counties	2,295	- 109	- 167	1,772	- 114
S. & S.W. Counties & Wales	2,725	- 22	- 248	1,510	- 71
<b>England and Wales</b>	<b>18,249</b>	<b>- 501</b>	<b>- 1,017</b>	<b>13,536</b>	<b>- 373</b>
Scotland	2,882	- 241	- 103	1,576	- 116
Ireland	484	- 80	- 459	609	- 89
<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>21,615</b>	<b>- 821</b>	<b>- 1,579</b>	<b>15,721</b>	<b>- 578</b>

District.	No. of Workpeople paid wages on the last pay-day of Nov.	Lads and Boys.		Total.	
		A month ago.	A year ago.	A month ago.	A year ago.
London	509	- 51	- 47	12,631	- 446
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	463	- 25	- 97	4,268	- 268
Lancashire and Cheshire	1,005	+ 15	+ 7	8,561	- 208
Midland & Eastern Counties	318	- 14	- 27	4,388	- 237
S. & S.W. Counties & Wales	417	+ 4	- 81	4,682	- 89
<b>England and Wales</b>	<b>2,712</b>	<b>- 71</b>	<b>- 245</b>	<b>34,497</b>	<b>- 945</b>
Scotland	647	- 5	- 170	5,105	- 382
Ireland	105	+ 5	...	1,188	- 164
<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>3,464</b>	<b>- 71</b>	<b>- 415</b>	<b>40,800</b>	<b>- 1,471</b>

The percentage of Trade Union carpenters and joiners unemployed at the end of November was 11.6, as compared with 12.5 a month ago and 8.2 a year ago; and for plumbers, at the same dates, the percentages were 12.0, 12.8, and 8.9 respectively.

**London.**—Employment was slack generally, and slightly worse, on the whole, than a month ago and a year ago, except with carpenters and plumbers, who reported an improvement. Trade Union Returns relating to carpenters and joiners in the London district show that 12.1 per cent. were unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 15.3 per cent. a month ago, and 13.4 per cent. in November, 1907. The corresponding percentages for plumbers were 16.6, 17.0, and 18.1 respectively.

**Other Districts.**—Employment continued slack in nearly all districts, and was worse than a month ago and a year ago, except with carpenters and plumbers, who reported an improvement as compared with October in several districts.

Employment was moderate at Oldham, and with plumbers at Blackburn and Birmingham. It was fair with bricklayers and masons at Cardiff, and improved with masons and painters at Bristol. It was fair with masons and plasterers at Dundee.

**FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.**

(Based on 191 Returns—7 from Employers' Associations, 155 from Trade Unions, and 29 from Local Correspondents.)

**EMPLOYMENT** continued bad on the whole, and was worse than a year ago. Trade Unions with a total membership of 35,171 reported 10.3 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 9.8 per cent. in the previous month, and 6.4 per cent. a year ago.

**Furnishing Trades.**

Employment generally continued bad with cabinet makers, upholsterers and french polishers, and was worse than a year ago. Much short time was worked. Trade Unions reported 13.0 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 12.1 per cent. a month ago and 8.0 per cent. a year ago.

The **Imports** of furniture and cabinet ware in November, 1908, were valued at £32,532, as compared with £36,360 in October, 1908, and £63,500 in November, 1907, and the **Exports** for the same periods were valued at £68,922, £69,224, and £79,241 respectively.

**Millsawyers and Woodworking Machinists.**

Employment continued bad, and was worse than a year ago. Trade Unions reported 9.7 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 10.1 per cent. a month ago, and 6.4 per cent. a year ago. At Hull, Belfast and Bristol employment was fair.

**Imports.**

Description.	Nov., 1908.	Oct., 1908.	Nov., 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1908, as compared with a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Timber, hewn	51,737	86,149	76,223	- 34,412	- 24,486
" sawn	405,962	766,873	505,653	- 359,915	- 93,691
House Frames, Fittings, and Joiners' Work (value)	£ 15,224	£ 20,640	£ 19,434	- £ 5,416	- £ 3,910

**Coopers.**

Employment on the whole continued fair, except at Burton, Hull and Leith, where it was reported to be slack. Some short time was worked.

**Coachbuilding.**

Employment continued bad, and was worse than both a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions reported 10.9 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 9.6 per cent. a month ago, and 7.1 per cent. a year ago.

**Miscellaneous.**

**Brushmakers.**—Employment continued bad, and much short time was reported. It was worse than a year ago. Trade Unions reported 6.6 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of November, as compared with 8.3 per cent. a month ago, and 2.8 per cent. a year ago.

**Other Trades.**—With packing-case makers employment was bad. With basket makers it was slack at Oldham and bad in London and at Leicester.

The **Imports** of brushes and brooms in November, 1908, were valued at £27,373, as compared with £30,234 in October, 1908, and £28,749 in November, 1907; and the **Exports** for the same months at £14,426, £16,166, and £17,940 respectively.



### POTTERY AND BRICK AND TILE TRADES.

(Based on 26 Returns—6 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 6 from Trade Unions, and 14 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the Pottery trades continued bad, and was worse than a year ago. In the Brick and Tile trades it was bad. Much short time was reported.

**Pottery Trade.**—Employment in Staffordshire continued bad. It was worse than a year ago, and much short time was worked. At Glasgow it continued very bad. In Devon and Cornwall employment was quiet generally; at Bristol there was a slight improvement; at Newcastle employment was fair; at Portobello, good. In South Yorkshire there was some improvement on a month ago, but employment was worse than a year ago. With insulator makers in the Potteries and with china makers at Longton it continued bad, with much short time. With tobacco-pipe finishers at Glasgow employment was good.

**Brick and Tile Trades.**—Employment continued good in South Wales; it was fair generally in North Wales. In the Tees district it was moderate. At Nottingham, Wolverhampton, and Bristol employment was bad; at Oldham it was quiet. With tilemakers in Shropshire it was slack, except with makers of glazed tiles, with whom it was good. In Devonshire employment continued dull.

The Imports of chinaware or porcelain and earthenware in November, 1908, were valued at £69,302, as compared with £82,068 in October, 1908, and £100,657 in November, 1907; and the Exports for the same months at £185,668, £198,321, and £234,700 respectively.

### GLASS TRADES.

(Based on 92 Returns—from 60 Employers and Employers' Associations, 21 from Trade Unions, and 11 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT, though still bad, was slightly better than in October. It was much worse than a year ago.

Returns received from firms employing 7,233 workpeople in the week ended November 21st, and paying £8,831 in wages, showed an increase of 3·1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3·9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago.

As compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 11·0 per cent. in the number employed and of 11·8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. The decline was principally in the Lancashire and Yorkshire districts.

Branches.	Workpeople covered by Returns.		Earnings.			
	Number paid Wages in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid in week ended Nov. 21st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with	
		A Month ago.	A Year ago.		A Month ago.	A Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Glass Bottle ...	4,772	+ 4·7	- 12·5	5,913	+ 5·8	- 14·0
Plate Glass ...	688	...	- 18·6	866	+ 0·1	- 11·8
Flint Glass Ware (not Bottles) ...	1,513	+ 0·4	- 2·6	1,730	+ 1·1	- 3·0
Other Branches ...	260	- 1·5	- 7·1	322	- 3·6	- 12·7
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>7,233</b>	<b>+ 3·1</b>	<b>- 11·0</b>	<b>8,831</b>	<b>+ 3·9</b>	<b>- 11·8</b>
<b>Districts.</b>						
North of England ...	822	+ 1·6	- 5·3	1,040	+ 3·3	- 10·9
Yorkshire ...	3,707	+ 4·6	- 10·9	4,488	+ 5·7	- 12·9
Lancashire ...	655	- 1·2	- 23·9	688	- 5·4	- 27·7
Worcester and Warwick ...	1,200	+ 1·0	- 7·9	1,534	+ 1·9	- 3·4
Scotland ...	799	+ 5·1	- 10·0	1,027	+ 7·0	- 6·3
Other parts of the United Kingdom ...	50	...	...	45	...	...
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>7,233</b>	<b>+ 3·1</b>	<b>- 11·0</b>	<b>8,831</b>	<b>+ 3·9</b>	<b>- 11·8</b>

Employment with glass bottle makers was good at Bristol; moderate in the North of England; dull at Dublin; and bad at St. Helens, Castleford, and Mexborough. With medical glass bottle makers employment was fair at Rotherham. At Birmingham it was good with flint glass makers. With flint glass cutters it was moderate generally; at Edinburgh it was fair, and at Wordsley, good. With plate glass bevellers at Birmingham it was slack. With sheet glass flatteners at St. Helens employment was moderate. With pressed glass makers at Gateshead it was bad. With London glass blowers it was dull.

### Imports and Exports.

Description.	Imports.				Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in November, 1908, as compared with	
	Nov., 1908.	October, 1908.	Nov., 1907.		A Month ago.	A Year ago.
	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.	cwts.
<b>Imports:</b>						
Window & German Sheet Glass, including Shades, &c.	113,716	109,171	120,972	+ 4,545	- 7,256	
Flint, plain, cut or ornamental, &c.	24,139	30,413	27,660	- 6,274	- 3,521	
Flint, plain, cut or ornamental, &c.	64,647	64,331	71,506	+ 316	- 6,859	
Manufactures, other sorts...	257	354	1,154	- 897	- 897	
<b>Bottles ...</b>	<b>95,707</b>	<b>93,388</b>	<b>127,674</b>	<b>+ 2,319</b>	<b>- 31,967</b>	
<b>Exports:</b>						
Plate ...	16,950	18,027	16,265	- 1,077	+ 685	
Flint ...	5,209	6,624	5,706	- 1,415	- 497	
Manufactures, other sorts ...	41,154	44,673	36,458	- 3,521	+ 4,694	
<b>Bottles ...</b>	<b>72,586</b>	<b>65,325</b>	<b>66,472</b>	<b>+ 6,761</b>	<b>+ 6,114</b>	

### AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN ENGLAND.

(Based on 230 Returns from Correspondents in various districts.)

EMPLOYMENT was generally regular throughout November. The supply of extra labour, however, was more than sufficient for the demand in a number of districts, and some men lost time in consequence, particularly towards the end of the month, when farm work became well forward.

**Northern Counties.**—Employment was generally regular in Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland, Westmorland, and Lancashire. It was stated that men were in excess of the demand at the Martinmas Hirings in Cumberland, Westmorland, and North Lancashire, and some reductions in wages were reported. There was a fairly good demand for extra labour in Yorkshire for threshing, work on the potato and root crops, and in sheep folds and stockyards. There was some surplus of men at the hirings in this county, and while previous rates of wages were generally maintained, wages for inferior labour showed a downward tendency.

**Midland Counties.**—A little interruption to employment, from bad weather, was reported in Cheshire. There was a plentiful supply of extra labour in this county, but some scarcity of men for permanent situations was reported in the Bucklow Union. Threshing and taking up potatoes and root crops provided a fair amount of employment in Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, but the supply of day labourers was somewhat in excess of the demand. Employment was generally regular in Leicestershire with a fair supply of extra labour. There was, however, some scarcity of men for permanent situations. Continued fine weather permitted constant employment for day labourers in Staffordshire, but the supply was ample, one correspondent stating that he had not seen so many men seeking work for a considerable time. In Shropshire threshing and root storing caused a good demand for extra men. There was a moderate demand for day labourers in Worcestershire and Warwickshire, but the supply was generally about sufficient. Some scarcity of men for permanent situations was reported in Worcestershire. A good demand for extra labour was reported from Northamptonshire, on account of threshing and root lifting. Men for milking and for tending stock were in request. There was generally regularity of employment in Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire, but a few day labourers were in irregular work. Threshing, root-lifting, and manure-carting rendered employment fairly good in Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.

**Eastern Counties.**—There was generally a fair demand for day labourers in Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire, but the supply was in most districts quite sufficient. Little or no irregularity of employment was reported from Lincolnshire; in certain districts, however, on account of the forward condition of threshing, there was some decline in the demand for extra labour. Threshing and work on the root crops generally

### DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

Based on 136 Returns—116 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 5 from Trade Unions, and 15 from Local Correspondents.)

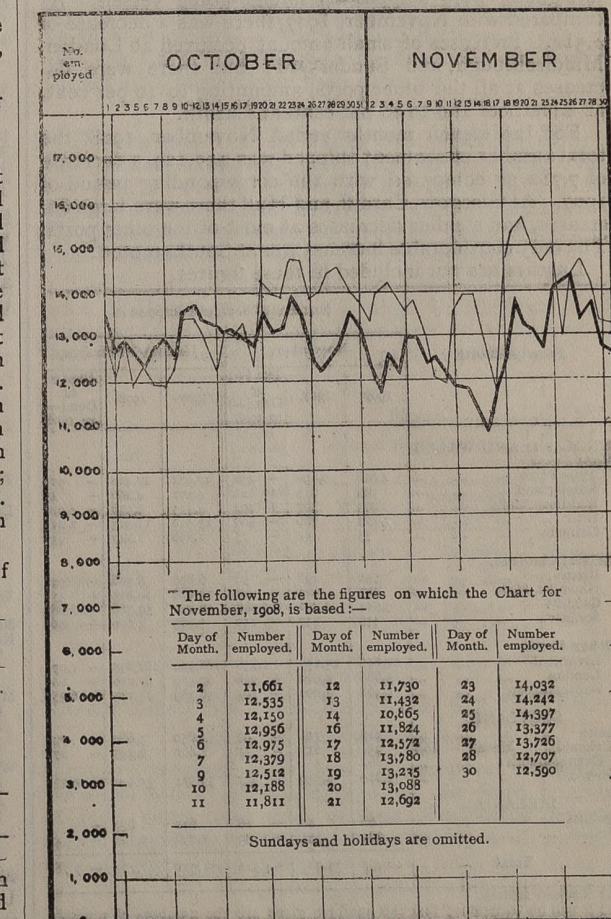
EMPLOYMENT during November continued moderate generally in London; it was worse than a year ago. At the other principal ports it was on the whole slack, and worse than in October.

**London.\***—Employment during November showed a decline as compared with both a month ago and a year ago, but there was an improvement towards the end of the month owing to the wool-sales. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves during the four weeks ended November 28th, was 12,703, a decrease of 2·5 per cent. as compared with the previous month, and of 8·5 per cent. as compared with November, 1907.

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks*			At 110 Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended Nov. 7th	3,888	2,390	6,478	6,165	12,443
" " " 14th	3,818	1,680	5,498	6,238	11,756
" " " 21st	4,115	2,490	6,605	6,260	12,865
" " " 28th	5,219	2,661	7,280	6,467	13,747
Average for 4 weeks ended Nov. 28th, 1908	4,260	2,755	6,415	6,288	12,703
Average for Oct., 1908	4,657	2,782	6,779	6,860	13,029
Average for Nov., 1907	5,830	2,831	7,461	6,444†	13,855†

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed at all the Docks, and at 110 of the principal Wharves, for each day during the months of October and November, 1908. The corresponding curve for October and November, 1907, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1908, and the thin curve to 1907.]



\* Exclusive of Tilbury.

† Revised figures.

provided regular employment in Norfolk; the supply of day labourers was ample as a rule, but some scarcity was reported from the Loddon and Clavering Union. In Suffolk and Essex, the forward state of out-door work somewhat affected the demand for extra men, and there was a consequent surplus in several districts.

**Southern and South-Western Counties.**—Employment was fairly regular in Kent, but the demand for day labourers fell off towards the end of the month, and some men of this class were in irregular work. Storing mangels, spreading manure, trimming hedges, etc., caused a fair demand for day labourers in Surrey and Sussex, but the supply was somewhat in excess of the demand. Some day labourers were in irregular employment in Hampshire on account of an insufficient demand. In Berkshire employment was generally regular, with the supply of and demand for labour about equal. There was a fairly good demand for extra men in Wiltshire, but in several districts it was more than met by the supply. Employment was generally regular for all classes of labour in Dorset. Raising roots, threshing, and trimming hedges provided a fair amount of employment in Somerset. Employment was generally regular in Herefordshire and Gloucestershire, and the supply of labour about equal to the demand; some shortage of men for permanent situations, however, was reported in certain districts. Employment was fairly plentiful and regular in Devon and Cornwall, but day labourers were somewhat affected towards the end of the month, as work on the potato and mangel crops came to an end. A scarcity of men for permanent situations was reported from several districts.

### FISHING INDUSTRY.

(Based on 17 Returns—2 from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 8 from the Collectors of Fishery Statistics for England and Wales and the Fishery Board for Scotland, 1 from the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, and 6 from Local Correspondents.)

THE fish landed in November, 1908, showed an increase both in quantity and value as compared with November, 1907.

Employment at the principal ports during November continued fair generally.

At Yarmouth employment was good with fishermen and fish curers, and fair with fish dock labourers. It was about the same as a month ago, but not so good as a year ago. At Grimsby there was a decline, and employment was only moderate with fishermen and fish dock labourers; with fish curers it was bad. At Hull it continued moderate generally, and was worse than a year ago. At Lowestoft employment was good with fish curers, with other classes it was fair. At Aberdeen it was good with fishermen, bad with fish dock labourers and moderate with fish curers. At Peterhead it was bad, except with fish curers, with whom it was fair. At Macduff and Fraserburgh employment was moderate, and worse than a month ago and a year ago, with fishermen and fish curers; with fish dock labourers at the latter port it was bad. Off the south-west coast of England the catches were on the whole only moderate.

The following Table shows the quantity and value of the fish landed in November, 1908 and 1907:—

	Quantity.		Value.	
	Nov., 1908.	Nov., 1907.	Nov., 1908.	Nov., 1907.
	Cwts.	Cwts.	£	£
<b>Fish (other than Shell):</b>				
England and Wales ...	2,120,605	2,034,588	821,840	756,503
Scotland ...	291,982	262,183	118,115	122,582
Ireland ...	18,314	96,196	10,827	32,555
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>2,430,901</b>	<b>2,392,967</b>	<b>950,812</b>	<b>911,740</b>
<b>Shell Fish ...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>30,309</b>	<b>37,950</b>
<b>Total Value ...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>...</b>	<b>981,121</b>	<b>949,720</b>

The Exports of herrings, cured or salted, in November, 1908, were valued at £501,524, as compared with £337,992 in October, 1908, and £534,020 in November, 1907.



The daily numbers in November, 1908, ranged from 10,865 on the 14th to 14,397 on the 25th. During November, 1907, the numbers ranged from 11,797\* on the 18th to 15,666\* on the 21st.

The mean daily number employed at *Tilbury Dock* was 1,137 during November, as compared with 1,154 during October, and 1,295 during November, 1907.

Employment with dock labourers and quay and railway carters at *Liverpool* was quiet generally, but there was some improvement with dock labourers at the North Docks.

**Other Ports.**—Employment with dock and quayside labourers on the Tyne and Wear was bad, and worse than a month ago; with trimmers and teamers, however, it was fair. It was slack with dock labourers at *Hartlepool* and moderate at *Middlesbrough*; with riverside labourers at *Middlesbrough* employment was bad, and worse than in October. It was bad with dock labourers at *Hull*, *Grimsby*, and *Goole*; with coal porters at these ports employment was moderate. Dock labourers were fairly well employed at *King's Lynn*, *Yarmouth* and *Lowestoft*, but at *Harwich* and *Ipswich* employment was bad. At *Plymouth* employment generally remained quiet. At *Bristol* it was dull, and worse than a month ago. At the *South Wales* ports and at *Manchester* it continued fair. Employment with dock labourers at *Leith* was slack, and with coal trimmers fair. It was bad at *Glasgow* and *Aberdeen*, but good at *Dundee*, where there was an improvement caused by the commencement of the jute importation season. Employment was bad with dock labourers at *Belfast*.

**SEAMEN SHIPPED IN NOVEMBER.**

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

RETURNS from certain selected ports (at which about 83 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared) show that during November 35,983 seamen†, of whom 3,714 (or 10·3 per cent.) were foreigners, were shipped on foreign-going vessels. As compared with November, 1907, there was a decrease of 4,512. Increases of small amount occurred at *London*, *Middlesbrough*, and *Sunderland*; but there were decreases at all the other ports, amounting to 10 per cent. at *Liverpool* and to 20 per cent. at *Cardiff*.

For the eleven months ended November, 1908, the total number of seamen‡ shipped was 447,129, a decrease of 7,782 as compared with the corresponding period of 1907. At *Glasgow*, *Cardiff*, and *Hull* there were large decreases, and smaller decreases at most of the other ports. The only considerable increase was at *Southampton*.

Lascars are not included in these figures.

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen‡ shipped in					
	November, 1908.			January-November, 1908.		
	1907.	1908.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1908.	1907.	1908.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1908.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>						
<b>East Coast.</b>						
Tyne Ports ...	2,646	2,194	- 452	27,981	27,410	- 571
Sunderland ...	415	415	+ 22	4,221	4,266	+ 45
Middlesbrough ...	205	367	+ 162	4,435	3,358	- 1,077
Hull ...	1,175	766	- 409	13,538	11,323	- 2,215
Grimsby ...	55	40	- 15	1,290	1,747	+ 457
<b>Bristol Channel.</b>						
Bristol ...	552	406	- 146	6,898	6,506	- 392
Newport, Mon. ...	975	913	- 62	10,276	10,620	+ 344
Cardiff ...	5,524	4,358	- 1,166	56,451	52,388	- 4,063
Swansea ...	445	333	- 112	5,465	4,600	- 865
<b>Other Ports.</b>						
Liverpool ...	14,696	13,259	- 1,437	168,020	167,845	- 1,775
London ...	5,686	5,924	+ 238	67,319	67,920	+ 601
Southampton ...	4,468	4,004	- 464	38,389	44,745	+ 6,356
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
Leith ...	219	124	- 95	4,650	3,850	- 800
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth ...	254	217	- 37	2,610	2,335	- 275
Glasgow ...	2,870	2,339	- 531	39,571	35,340	- 4,231
<b>IRELAND.</b>						
Dublin ...	68	52	- 16	641	640	- 1
Belfast ...	204	154	- 50	2,255	2,205	- 50
Total ...	40,495	35,983	- 4,512	454,911	447,129	- 7,782

\* Revised figures.  
† It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals.  
‡ Including Avonmouth and Portishead. § Including Barry and Penar

**EXTENSION OF PROVISIONS OF WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1906.**

**Home Office Order.**

The Home Secretary has made the following Order, dated December 2nd, 1908:—

(1) Subject to the modifications hereinafter specified, the provisions of Section 8 of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, shall extend and apply to the diseases, injuries and processes, specified in the first and second columns of the Schedule annexed to this Order, as if the said diseases and injuries were included in the first column of the Third Schedule to the Act, and as if the said processes were set opposite in the second column of that Schedule to the diseases or injuries to which they are set opposite in the second column of the Schedule annexed hereto.

(2) A glass worker suffering from cataract shall be entitled to compensation under the provisions of the said section, as applied by this Order, for a period not longer than six months in all, nor for more than four months unless he has undergone an operation for cataract.

(3) In the application of the provisions of section 8 to Telegraphist's cramp, so far as regards a workman employed by the Postmaster-General, the Post Office Medical Officer under whose charge the workman is placed shall, if authorised to act for the purposes of the said section by the Postmaster-General, be substituted for the Certifying Surgeon.

(4) The Order of May 22nd, 1907, so far as it applies to Eczematous ulceration of the skin produced by dust or caustic or corrosive liquids, or ulceration of the mucous membrane of the nose or mouth produced by dust, is revoked, except as regards cases arising before the date of this Order.

**SCHEDULE.**

Description of Disease or Injury.	Description of Process.
Cataract in glassworkers ...	Processes in the manufacture of glass involving exposure to the glare of molten glass.
Telegraphists' cramp ...	Use of telegraphic instruments
Eczematous ulceration of the skin produced by dust or liquids, or ulceration of the mucous membrane of the nose or mouth produced by dust.	

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

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

Product and District.	Price according to last Audit.		Decrease of last Audit as compared with	
	Period covered by last Audit.	Ascertained average selling price per ton.	Previous Audit.	A Year ago.
<b>Coal.</b>	1908.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Durham:— (Average of all classes of coal at pit's mouth).	July-Sept.	8 6'54	0 3'89	0 7'57
<b>Pig Iron.</b>	Aug.-Oct.	55 10'13	0 2'312	8 4'518
<b>Manufact'ed Iron.</b> North of England:— (Rails, plates, bars, and angles)	Sept.-Oct.	1132 3'68	1 11'98	14 5'42
Midlands:— (Bars, angles, tees, sheets, plates, hoops, strips, etc.)	Sept.-Oct.	126 11'12	2 9'63	23 7'81
West of Scotland:— (Rounds, squares, flats, tees, angles, hoops, and rods)	Sept.-Oct.	118 5'43	0 3'18	31 0'20

**Coal.**—In connection with the ascertained selling price of Durham coal, it was decided at a meeting of the Durham Conciliation Board, on November 13th, that the wages of underground and surface workers should be reduced by 3½ per cent.

**Pig Iron.**—As the result of the ascertainment of the selling price of pig iron, the wages of blastfurnacemen in the West of Scotland remain unchanged.

**Manufactured Iron.**—In the North of England and in the Midlands the wages of puddlers were reduced by 3d. per ton, and those of millmen by 2½ per cent., whilst in the West of Scotland the wages remain unchanged, as the result of the ascertainment of the selling prices of the specified classes of manufactured iron in those districts.

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

**I.—BREAD.**

RETURNS have been received from the principal Co-operative Societies and Master Bakers' Associations in Great Britain, and from local correspondents, showing the price of household bread on December 1st, 1908.

**Returns from Co-operative Societies.**

The figures in the following Table are based on 232 Returns from Co-operative Societies in England and Wales, and 131 from Scotland:—

District.	Predominant price per 4 lbs. on 1st Dec., 1908.			Predominant price per 4 lbs. on 1st Sept., 1908.			Predominant price per 4 lbs. on 2nd Dec., 1907.		
	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES.</b>									
N. Counties and Yorkshire ...	7	5	6'05	7	5	6'11	7	5½	6'18
Lancs. & Cheshire ...	6½	4½	5'09	6½	4½	5'04	6½	4½	5'05
N. Mid. Counties ...	6	5	5'23	6	4½	5'13	6½	5	5'54
W. do. do. ...	6	5	5'24	6	4½	5'50	6½	5	5'83
S. do. do. ...	6	4½	5'32	6	4½	5'38	6½	4½	5'50
Eastern Counties ...	6	5	5'63	6	5	5'63	6½	5½	5'97
London ...	6	5½	5'78	6	5½	5'75	6	5½	5'88
S.E. Counties ...	6	5	5'89	6	5½	5'91	6½	5	6'09
S.W. Counties, Wales & Mon. ...	6	5	5'52	6	5	5'52	6½	5	5'82
<b>England and Wales ...</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4½</b>	<b>5'60</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4½</b>	<b>5'59</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4½</b>	<b>5'84</b>
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>									
N. Counties ...	7	5½	6'11	7	5½	6'13	7	5	6'02
Eastern Counties ...	7	4	6'23	7	4	6'23	7½	4	6'24
Lanarkshire ...	6½	5	6'00	6½	5½	6'03	6½	5½	6'07
Other Southern Counties ...	7	6	6'38	7	6	6'36	7	6	6'43
<b>Scotland ...</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6'22</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6'22</b>	<b>7½</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6'23</b>
<b>Great Britain ...</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5'83</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5'82</b>	<b>7½</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5'98</b>

The mean of the prices for December 1st, 1908, shows little change as compared with that for September 1st, 1908. As compared with a year ago, a decrease of 1½d. per 4 lbs. is shown. In England and Wales the decrease amounted to ¼d. per 4 lbs., but in Scotland there was hardly any change on the whole.

The figures in the following tables are based on Returns received from Master Bakers' Associations and from other sources:—

District.	1st Dec., 1908.			2nd Nov., 1908.			2nd Dec., 1907.		
	Predominant Prices per 4 lbs.			Predominant Prices per 4 lbs.			Predominant Prices per 4 lbs.		
	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.
<b>London:—</b>	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
N. & N.W. ...	5½	4½	5'1	5½	4½	5'2	5½	5½	5'8
E. & N.E. ...	5½	5	5'4	5½	5	5'4	5½	5	5'8
S.E. ...	5½	5	5'4	5½	5	5'5	6	5	5'8
S.W. ...	6	5½	5'6	6	5½	5'8	6	5½	5'7
W. & W.C. ...	6	5	5'6	6	5	5'7	6	5	5'7
N. Counties & Yorks, Lancs. & Cheshire ...	7	5	5'8	7	5	5'8	7	5	5'8
Midlands ...	6	5	5'4	6	5	5'4	6½	5	5'7
Eastern Counties ...	6½	5	5'4	6½	5	5'4	6½	5	5'8
Southern Counties ...	6½	4½	5'9	6½	4½	5'9	7	5	5'8
S.Western Counties and Wales ...	6	5	5'5	6	5	5'5	6½	5	5'8
<b>Scotland ...</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5½</b>	<b>6'1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5½</b>	<b>6'2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5½</b>	<b>6'2</b>
<b>Great Britain ...</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4½</b>	<b>5'6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4½</b>	<b>5'6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5'8</b>

Compared with a month ago the mean of the prices

remains unaltered. As compared with a year ago a slight decrease is shown. In the Eastern Counties the decrease amounted to nearly ½d. per 4 lbs.

**Price of Bread in 28 Large Towns.**

Place.	Predominant Price per 4 lbs. on Dec. 1st, 1908.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Last Change.	
		A Month ago.	A Year ago.	Date.	Am't per 4 lbs.
		d.	d.	d.	d.
London ...	5½	...	...	Oct. '07	- ½
Birmingham ...	5 & 5½	...	- ½	Aug. '08	+ ½
Bolton ...	6	...	...	Oct. '07	+ ½
Bristol ...	5½ & 6	...	...	Sept. '07	+ ½
Cardiff ...	5 & 5½	...	- ½	Mar. '08	- ½
Derby ...	5	...	- ½	April '08	- ½
Huddersfield ...	5	...	...	...	...
Hull ...	5½	...	- ½	Mar. '08	- ½
Ipswich ...	6	...	...	Oct. '07	+ ½
Leeds ...	6	...	...	Sept. '07	+ 1
Leicester ...	5	...	- ½	Feb. '08	- ½
Liverpool ...	5½	...	...	Sept. '07	+ ½
Manchester ...	5	...	- 1	Oct. '08	- ½
Middlesbrough ...	5½	...	- ½	April '08	- ½
Newcastle ...	5½	...	- ½	Jan. '08	- ½
Norwich ...	5	...	- ½	Feb. '08	- ½
Nottingham ...	5½	...	...	Sept. '08	+ ½
Oldham ...	4½	...	- ½	Aug. '08	+ ½
Plymouth ...	6	...	...	Sept. '07	+ ½
Portsmouth ...	6	...	...	Sept. '07	+ ½
Potteries ...	5	...	...	Aug. '08	+ ½
Wolverhampton ...	5	...	- ½	Feb. '08	- ½
Aberdeen ...	5½	...	- ½	May '08	- ½
Dundee ...	5½ & 6	...	- ½	Dec. '07	- ½
Edinburgh ...	6	...	...	Sept. '07	+ ½
Glasgow ...	6	...	...	Sept. '07	+ ½
Belfast ...	6	...	...	Sept. '07	+ ½
Dublin ...	6	...	...	Mar. '08	- ½

The above table shows that, as compared with a month ago, no change in the price of bread occurred in any of the towns shown in the Table. As compared with a year ago, 14 of the towns (including London) show no change, 11 show decreases of ½d., and 1 a decrease of 1½d. per 4 lbs. At Cardiff and Manchester decreases of ½d. and 1d. per 4 lbs. respectively have occurred.

**II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.**

The imports of wheat during September-November, 1908, amounted to 22,253,300 cwts., or 2,319,900 cwts. less than in the corresponding months of 1907. The imports of wheat-meal and flour during September-November 1908, amounted to 3,261,794 cwts., or 545,471 cwts. less than in September-November, 1907.

The following Table gives the mean London Gazette price of British wheat, the average declared value of wheat and flour imports, and the market price of London flour (Town Households) for the periods stated.

Month.	British Wheat.		Imports.		Average Monthly Price of Flour (Town Households) ex Mill for cash.
	Mean London Gazette Price (England and Wales).		(Average Declared Value.)		
	Wheat.	Wheat-meal and Flour.	Wheat.	Wheat-meal and Flour.	
1907.	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	
November ...	8 2	8 11½	11 3½	12 6	
1908.					
October ...	7 2	8 7½	10 10½	11 3½	
November ...	7 4	8 7	11 11	11 3	

**CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETIES.**

**Quarterly Returns of Sales.**

RETURNS received from three Co-operative Wholesale Societies in the United Kingdom, for the third quarter of 1908, show total sales in their distributive departments amounting to £7,851,801, an increase of 1·0 per cent. on the corresponding period of 1907, and of 24·0 per cent. on the corresponding period of 1903 (i.e., five years ago).

\* In accordance with Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, the rate of conversion from quarters to cwts. is made at the rate of 60 imperial pounds = bushel of wheat.



The sales and transfers from the productive to the distributive departments of the English and Scottish Wholesale Societies amounted to £2,071,177, an increase of 7.4 per cent. on the third quarter of 1907, and of 65.5 per cent. on that of 1903.

The following Table gives details for the three societies:—

Names of Societies and Nature of Business.	Sales.			Percentage increase as compared with	
	In third quarter of			A year ago.	Five years ago.
	1908.	1907.	1903.		
<b>ENGLISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY:—</b>	£	£	£		
Distributive Departments ...	6,011,289	5,903,001	4,738,444	1.9	27.1
Productive " "	1,430,355*	1,347,595*	792,391*	7.7	80.5
<b>SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY:—</b>					
Distributive Departments ...	1,825,600	1,838,218	1,592,264	1.8†	14.7
Productive " "	605,359*	571,605*	433,400*	5.9	39.7
<b>ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETIES' JOINT COMMITTEE:—</b>					
Productive Departments ...	35,463*	29,076*†	26,016*	22.0	36.3
<b>IRISH AGRICULTURAL WHOLESALE SOCIETY:—</b>					
Distributive Departments ‡	4,912	5,097	2,762	8.6†	77.8
<b>Totals—Distributive Depts. ...</b>	7,851,801	7,771,315	6,333,470	1.0	24.0
Productive " "	2,071,177	1,928,277	1,251,807	7.4	65.5
<b>Grand Total ...</b>	<b>9,922,978</b>	<b>9,699,593</b>	<b>7,585,277</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>30.8</b>

### LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

#### (1) Workmen's Compensation Act.

##### SERIOUS AND WILFUL MISCONDUCT: DISOBEDIENCE TO RULE OF MINE.

It is provided by the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, that if it is proved that an injury to a workman is attributable to the serious and wilful misconduct of that workman, any compensation claimed in respect of such injury shall be disallowed, unless the injury results in death or in serious and permanent disablement.

A workman was employed as a botmer in a coal mine at a mid-working. His duty was to put full hutchers on the cage and take empty hutchers off the cage at the opening in the shaft corresponding to his working. The opening in the shaft was protected by a gate, and there was no light at the spot other than that supplied by the miners' lamps. It was a rule of the mine that "The botmer at a mid-working in a vertical shaft, shall not provide with an appliance which constantly fences the shaft, shall not open the gate fencing the shaft until the cage has stopped at such mid-working." The man, requiring the cage, called for it to be sent up from the lowest working; then, expecting the cage to stop at his opening, he opened the gate and proceeded to push a loaded hutch to the opening. The cage, however, unnoticed by him, did not stop, but ascended to the pit head. Accordingly, when he pushed the hutch through the opening, it fell to the bottom of the shaft, and he, falling with it, was seriously injured. He claimed compensation. The Sheriff-Substitute found, however, as a fact that the accident was attributable to his serious and wilful misconduct, and that therefore he was not entitled to compensation. The injured man appealed, but the Court of Session upheld the decision of the Sheriff-Substitute. The claimant further appealed to the House of Lords.

The House of Lords decided that the only question that they could consider was whether there was evidence on which a reasonable man could find, as the Sheriff had, that there was serious and wilful misconduct. It was not the province of the House to lay down any principle that the breach of a rule was *prima facie* evidence of misconduct. That was a question purely of fact to be determined by the arbitrator. In this case it was proved that the claimant not only broke the rule, but the rule had been specially brought to his notice shortly before the accident. It was a case in which their Lordships were unable to say that there was no evidence to justify the finding of the Sheriff, and therefore they could not interfere with his finding of fact, and must dismiss the appeal.—*George v. Glasgow Coal Company, Ltd., House of Lords, November 8th, 1908.*

##### PRINCIPAL AND SUB-CONTRACTOR: MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.

It is provided by the Act that where any person (referred to as the principal) in the course of or for the purpose of his trade or business contracts with any other person for the execution of any part of any work undertaken by the principal, the principal shall be liable to pay compensation to any workman employed in that work by the contractor, as if that workman had been employed by

him. The principal, however, is entitled to be indemnified by any person who would have been liable to pay compensation to the workman, apart from this provision. It is further provided that the exercise and performance of the powers and duties of a local or other public authority are for the purposes of the Act to be treated as the trade or business of the authority. A municipal corporation were the owners of a piece of land adjoining one of their markets, which they had acquired (apparently) for extending the market. Upon this piece of land were the ruins of a mill which had been destroyed by a fire. The corporation advertised for a person to pull down the ruined building and clear the ground of all bricks and rubbish. A man answered this advertisement, and, after negotiations, agreed with the corporation to pay a sum of money and to clear the land in consideration of the bricks and other materials. A workman employed by this contractor, while engaged in pulling down a wall, met with an accident which proved fatal. His widow claimed compensation against both the contractor and the corporation. The County Court judge found that the deceased was a workman in the employment of the contractor; that the contractor was liable to pay compensation to the claimant; that the corporation were also liable to pay the compensation; but that the corporation were entitled to be indemnified by the contractor. The corporation appealed.

The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal. They held that the contract between the corporation and the contractor was one made by the corporation in order to utilise the land for the purposes of their market, and in order to carry out that purpose the contractor was to have all the materials, and in return was to clear the site and pay a sum of money in addition. The work was work undertaken by the corporation and carried out by means of a contract made with the contractor for that purpose. The work came within the powers and duties of the corporation. The corporation were the "principal" within the meaning of the Act, and were liable to pay the compensation, but were entitled to be indemnified by the contractor.—*Mulrooney v. Todd and the Lord Mayor and Corporation of Bradford, Court of Appeal, November 27th, 1908.*

#### WHO IS A WORKMAN? MAN WORKING FOR THE CENTRAL UNEMPLOYED BODY.

The term "Workman" as defined by the Act means, with certain exceptions and qualifications, any person who has entered into, or works under, a contract of service with an employer. By the Unemployed Workmen Act, 1905, for the purpose of assisting unemployed workmen a District Committee was formed in each Metropolitan Borough, and a Central Body was formed for the whole of London. The local committees have no power themselves to assist or provide work for the unemployed; but are required to enquire into and discriminate between applications made to them by unemployed persons and to refer proper cases to the Central Body, who may if they think fit provide temporary work for any unemployed person whose case is so referred to them. The expenses are defrayed out of a central fund formed partly by voluntary contributions and partly by contributions from the rates of each borough. It is further provided that no person employed under the Act, shall by reason of such employment be disentitled to be registered or to vote as an elector, either for Parliament or for local authorities.

A man, for whom temporary work was found by the Central (Unemployed) Body for London, met with a fatal accident while engaged on this work. His widow applied for compensation under the Act. The County Court judge found that the man had died from an injury caused by an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, that the Central Body were his employers, and that he was working under a contract of service with the Central Body. The judge accordingly made an award in the widow's favour. The Central Body appealed.

In support of the appeal it was argued that as the Central Body could not go into the labour market and get the best man, and the workman under stress of poverty was ready to take whatever was offered, the relation between the parties was not a matter of free choice on either side and therefore was not that of employer and workman. The Court of Appeal, however, refused to accept this contention, holding that there was a contract of service between the parties, that the Central Body were employers and that the deceased was a workman within the meaning of the Act. The appeal accordingly was dismissed. *Poyton v. The Central (Unemployed) Body for London, Court of Appeal, November 27th, 1908.*

#### WHO IS A WORKMAN? WORKMAN OR PARTNER?

A firm who acted as agents at a seaport for a shipping company were the owners of a "flitboat," which was a small sailing vessel used to carry goods between the shore and ships lying off. According to the custom of the place in regard to such vessels, this flitboat was worked by two men, a skipper and a hand, each of whom received as remuneration one-third of the gross earnings of the boat, the remaining third being taken by the owners. The two men lived, free of rent, in a shed belonging to the owners of the flitboat, and found their own provisions. They contributed nothing to the cost of the boat and were not liable to bear any part of any loss which might be incurred in its working. While the flitboat was at sea, engaged in her usual work, the hand fell overboard and was drowned. His mother and sister claimed compensation under the Act as being wholly dependent upon him. The Sheriff-Substitute made an award in their favour. The owners appealed.

It was contended, on behalf of the appellants, that the deceased was not working under a contract of service with them but was their partner, along with the skipper, in the business of the boat. The Court of Session, however, held that as the two men were under no liability for any loss in the working, or to bear a share of

any damage to the boat, and contributed no capital, they were workmen, within the meaning of the Act, working under a contract of service with owners, and not partners. The appeal was accordingly dismissed and the award of compensation upheld.—*Clark v. Jamieson, Court of Session, November 6th, 1908.*

#### WHO IS A WORKMAN? WORKMAN OR CONTRACTOR?

A man made a contract to supply a quantity of road metal to a local authority for the repair of the highways. This man agreed with a stonebreaker to break a quantity of large stones to the required size to satisfy the requirements of the county surveyor. For this work he was to be paid at so much for the cubic yard of broken metal. He was obliged to work in whatever place he was ordered and was liable to dismissal while engaged at the work he had undertaken to perform. This stonebreaker was hit in the eye by a piece of metal which flew from the hammer of another man similarly employed. Serious injury ensued, and the man claimed compensation from the person with whom he made the agreement to break the stone.

The Sheriff-Substitute made an award in his favour holding that he was a workman within the meaning of the Act. The respondent appealed.

At the hearing of the appeal it was contended that the claimant was not working under a contract of service, but was a sub-contractor, and that therefore he was not a workman within the meaning of the Act, nor entitled to the benefits of the Act. The Court of Session held that the claimant was a workman and dismissed the appeal.—*Doherty v. Boyd, Court of Session, November 4th, 1908.*

#### WHO IS A WORKMAN? EMPLOYMENT OF A CASUAL NATURE FOR PURPOSES OF TRADE OR BUSINESS.

The term "workman," within the meaning of the Act, does not include a person whose employment is of a casual nature and who is employed otherwise than for the purpose of the employer's trade or business.

A firm carried on business as drapers, grocers and hardware merchants, in a three-storied building, the upper portion of which was used as a residence for some of the assistants working in the stores. Some slates having become detached from the roof of the building, the manageress of the stores employed a man to carry out the necessary repairs. This slater, having put up the ladders he required, told the manageress that he must have a man to assist him. She accordingly engaged a labourer to assist the slater for the rest of the day for the sum of two shillings. Later in the day, while this labourer was engaged on the roof, he fell to the ground and was killed. His dependants claimed compensation, and an award in their favour was made by the County Court Judge. The firm appealed.

At the hearing of the appeal it was contended, on behalf of the appellants, that the employment of the deceased man was of a casual nature and was not for the purpose of the trade or business of the firm. The Court of Appeal, however, held that as the house was entirely used for the purpose of the trade or business of the firm, the upper portion being devoted exclusively to the accommodation of assistants in the business, and as the roof was a necessary part of the premises, the man was employed for the purposes of the employers' trade or business, and though the employment was of a casual nature he was a workman within the meaning of the Act. The appeal was therefore dismissed.—*Johnston v. Monasterevan General Stores Company, Court of Appeal in Ireland, November 24th, 1908.*

#### REVIEW OF WEEKLY PAYMENT: REFUSAL TO SUBMIT TO OPERATION.

Where compensation is being paid by employers to an injured workman, any weekly payment may be reviewed at the request either of the employer or of the workman, and on such review may be ended, diminished, or increased.

A fireman on board a steamship while filling the bunkers met with an accident through a piece of coal falling, which injured the little finger of his right hand. The injury incapacitated him from work, and on his return to the United Kingdom the shipowners paid him compensation for some time. An operation was performed but was not successful, and subsequently the employers required the man to submit to the amputation of the finger. The man refused to undergo the proposed operation, and the employers applied to have the compensation reviewed and ended. The County Court judge, however, refused to make an order, there being some evidence on the man's side that this operation was not advisable. The employers appealed. The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal, affirming the decision of the County Court judge refusing an order to stop payment, but without prejudice to any application the employers might make to diminish the amount of the payment.—*O'Neill v. Ropner & Co., Court of Appeal in Ireland, November 24th, 1908.*

#### WHO IS A DEPENDANT? POSTHUMOUS ILLEGITIMATE CHILD.

Where a workman is killed by an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, compensation is payable to such of his dependants as were dependent upon his earnings at the time of his death. An illegitimate child is included among such dependants.

A miner, in the employment of a colliery company, lodged in the house of a woman, who had a daughter earning about 14s. a week in a cotton mill, and who was her mother's chief support. Towards the end of 1907, this girl was found to be pregnant and the young man admitted that he was the cause of her condition and agreed to marry her. He accordingly asked the girl to arrange for the publication of their banns and supplied her with money for

the purpose. It was arranged that the marriage should take place on the Saturday following the last publication of the banns. The banns were duly published on Sunday, December 1st, and on Sunday, December 8th, 1907. On Tuesday, December 10th, the young man was accidentally killed while working in the colliery of his employers. Early in 1908 the girl gave birth to a child. This infant, by his next friend, claimed compensation under the Act as having been a dependant of the deceased at the time of his death. The County Court judge held that the child was a dependant upon the earnings of the deceased within the meaning of the Act, and awarded compensation accordingly. On appeal the Court of Appeal upheld the decision of the County Court judge. *Schofield v. Arwell Colliery Company, Limited, Court of Appeal, November 28th, 1908.*

#### (2) Trade Union Acts.

##### USE OF TRADE UNION FUNDS FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES.

By the Trade Union Act, 1876, it is provided that the term "trade union" means any combination for regulating the relations between workmen and masters, or between workmen and workmen, or between masters and masters, or for imposing restrictive conditions on the conduct of any trade or business, whether such combination would or would not, if the Trade Union Act, 1871, had not been passed, have been deemed to have been an unlawful combination by reason of some one or more of its purposes being in restraint of trade.

A trade union of railway men was formed and registered under the Acts of 1871 and 1876, the objects of which, according to the rules, were to improve the condition and protect the interests of its members; to obtain fair wages and reasonable hours of work, and to promote good understanding between employers and employed; to provide various benefits for its members; and to use every effort to provide for the safety of railway work and railway traffic. The rules were subsequently altered to provide for the maintenance of Parliamentary representation by a fund established for the purpose, and formed by subscriptions from all the members. The objects of the fund were to provide for the representation of railway men in the House of Commons as the annual general meeting should from time to time determine. It was also provided that all candidates should sign and accept the conditions of the Labour Party, and be subject to their whip.

The secretary of a local branch of the union brought an action against the union for a declaration that so much of the rules as provided for using the funds of the society for the maintenance of representatives in Parliament bound to vote with a certain party were outside the powers of the society. At the hearing of the action the judge decided that he could not interfere, and judgment was given for the defendants. The plaintiff appealed.

The Court of Appeal decided that the statutory definition of a trade union was a limiting and restrictive definition, and that it is not competent to a trade union to insert among its objects something so far different from the objects contemplated by the Act as provision for securing or maintaining Parliamentary representation. They also decided that a contract by which A agrees with B that he will pay B's election expenses and support him while in Parliament, on condition that B votes as A directs, is a contract which is contrary to public policy, and therefore void; and that it was none the less void where A's motives were perfectly pure and his intention was solely to use his power for the public good. A trade union comprises members of different shades of political opinion, and a majority of the members of the society have no right to compel a minority to support by their subscriptions political opinions of which they disapprove, under penalty, not only of being expelled from the union and losing their chances of benefits, but also of the serious risk of being unable to find employment in their trade because of the refusal of trade union men to work along with non-union men.

The Court of Appeal therefore allowed the appeal, holding that the plaintiff was entitled to the declaration which he sought.—*Osborne v. The Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, Court of Appeal, November 28th, 1908.* (See also September, 1908, LABOUR GAZETTE, p. 290.)

#### (3) Miscellaneous.

##### THE DOCTRINE OF COMMON EMPLOYMENT: MUSIC HALL ARTISTS.

By the Common Law of England a servant who is injured by the negligence of a fellow servant in a common employment has no right of action for damages against the common employer.

Two sisters, who were music-hall artists, were engaged by an agent to give two performances nightly, for a certain period, at a music hall. While on the stage and giving their performance, when the performance was nearly but not quite finished, the curtain was suddenly lowered by men in the employment of the proprietors of the hall and struck the two girls with great force. One of them was flung backwards on to the floor of the stage and sustained a very severe injury to the spine. The sisters sued the proprietors of the hall for damages, one in respect of the serious personal injuries she had suffered and the other for her loss of employment through her sister's accident. The jury found that the accident was caused by the negligent lowering of the curtain, and awarded £705 damages to the girl who had been injured, and a small sum to the other. The judge, however, held that the plaintiffs were in the service of the defendants and were in a common employment with the men responsible for lowering the curtain; that therefore the doctrine of common employment applied, and the plaintiffs were not entitled to recover. Judgment was accordingly given for the defendants.—*Atkinson v. The Surrey Vaudeville Theatre, King's Bench Division, November 9th, 10th, and 15th, 1908.*

\* Sales and transfers from productive to distributive departments.

† Decrease. ‡ 14 weeks.

§ This Society has no productive departments.



DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

THE total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshops Act during November, 1908, was 49, consisting of 46 cases of lead poisoning, and one each of mercurial poisoning, arsenic poisoning, and anthrax. In addition 25 cases of lead poisoning (3 of which were fatal) were reported during November among house painters and plumbers.

During the eleven months ended November, 1908, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax was 682, as compared with 592 in 1907. The number of deaths during the same period was 39, as against 38 in 1907. In addition there were 214 cases of lead poisoning (including 36 deaths) among house painters and plumbers during the first eleven months of 1908, as compared with 158 cases (including 34 deaths) during the same period of 1907.

Analysis by Industries.

[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.]

Industry.	CASES.		DEATHS.	
	Month of Nov. 1908.	Eleven Months ended Nov., 1908.	Month of Nov., 1908.	Eleven Months ended Nov., 1908.
<b>Lead Poisoning.</b>				
Smelting of Metals ...	2	66	23	2
Brass Works ...	—	5	7	—
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping ...	—	13	5	—
Plumbing and Soldering ...	—	26	15	—
Printing ...	—	27	23	—
File Cutting ...	—	8	10	—
Tinning and Enamelling of Iron ...	—	9	23	—
Hollow-ware ...	—	—	—	—
White Lead Works ...	10	77	64	3
Red and Yellow Lead Works ...	4	12	7	—
China and Earthenware* ...	2*	112	95	12
Litho-Transfer Works ...	—	2	10	—
Glass Cutting and Polishing ...	—	1	4	—
Enamelling of Iron Plates ...	—	2	4	—
Electrical Accumulator Works ...	3	24	17	—
Paint and Colour Works ...	—	20	34	—
Coach Making ...	5	68	55	—
Shipbuilding ...	2	12	21	—
Paint used in other Industries ...	7	42	44	—
Other Industries ...	6	71	50	—
<b>Total in Factories and Workshops</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>31</b>
House Painting and Plumbing ...	25	214	158	34
<b>Other Forms of Poisoning.</b>				
<b>Mercurial Poisoning—</b>				
Barometer and Thermometer Making	—	2	—	—
Furriers' Processes ...	1	5	4	—
Other Industries ...	—	3	1	—
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Phosphorus Poisoning—</b>				
Lucifer Match Works ...	—	1	1	—
Other Industries ...	—	—	—	—
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Arsenic Poisoning—</b>				
Paints, Colours, and Extraction of Arsenic	—	16	4	—
Other Industries ...	1	7	4	—
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Total, "Other Forms of Poisoning"</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Anthrax.</b>				
Wool ...	1	18	23	3
Handling of Horsehair ...	—	11	17	—
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.)	—	11	11	—
Other Industries ...	—	5	6	—
<b>Total, Anthrax ...</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>3</b>

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

\* Of the 7 persons affected in the China and Earthenware Industry, 3 were females.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN NOVEMBER.

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

EXCLUSIVE of seamen, the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during November, 1908, was 230, a decrease of 10 as compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 50 as compared with a year ago. The mean number for November in the years 1903-1907 was 241, the maximum year being 1907 with 208 deaths, and the minimum year 1903 with 213 deaths.

The total number of fatal accidents at mines and quarries in November, 1908, was 103, as compared with 105 in October, 1908, and 135 a year ago. The total number of fatal accidents reported under the Factory and Workshop Act during November, 1908, was 84, as compared with 92 in the previous month, and 95 a year ago. The corresponding figures for workpeople employed in the railway service were 41, 36, and 42 respectively.

The number of fatal accidents to seamen reported during November, 1908, was 156, as compared with 134 in October, 1908, and 93 in November, 1907.

During the eleven months ended November, 1908, the total number of workpeople (exclusive of seamen) reported as killed in the course of their employment was 2,646 as compared with 2,758 in the corresponding period of 1907. The total number of seamen reported as killed during the same period was 1,207 in 1908, and 1,248 in 1907.

Trade.	Number of Workpeople killed during			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1908, as compared with a	
	Nov., 1908.	Oct., 1908.	Nov., 1907.	Month ago.	Year ago.
<b>Railway Service—</b>					
Brakemen and Goods Guards	3	2	5	+ 1	- 2
Engine Drivers ...	1	1	3	—	- 2
Firemen ...	4	—	2	+ 4	+ 2
Guards (Passenger) ...	1	1	2	—	- 1
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	10	10	8	—	+ 2
Porters ...	4	4	1	—	+ 3
Shunters ...	3	4	3	- 1	- 4
Miscellaneous ...	13	14	17	- 1	- 4
Contractors' Servants ...	2	—	1	+ 2	+ 1
<b>Total, Railway Service</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>+ 5</b>	<b>- 1</b>
<b>Mines—</b>					
Underground ...	83	91	114	- 8	- 31
Surface ...	14	8	16	+ 6	- 2
<b>Total, Mines ...</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>- 2</b>	<b>- 33</b>
<b>Quarries over 20 feet deep ...</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>+ 1</b>
<b>Factories and Workshops—</b>					
<i>Textile—</i>					
Cotton ...	3	—	3	+ 3	—
Wool and Worsted ...	2	4	4	- 2	- 2
Other Textiles ...	1	—	1	+ 1	—
<i>Non-Textile—</i>					
Extraction of Metals ...	3	5	5	- 2	- 2
Founding and Conversion of Metals	10	6	14	+ 4	- 4
Marine and Locomotive Engineering	4	1	3	+ 3	+ 1
Ship and Boat Building ...	10	8	9	+ 2	+ 1
Wood ...	2	1	3	+ 1	- 1
Chemicals ...	4	3	4	+ 1	—
Laundries ...	2	1	1	+ 1	+ 1
Other Non-Textile Industries	24	25	20	- 1	+ 4
<b>Total, Factories ...</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>+ 11</b>	<b>- 2</b>
<b>Accidents reported under Factory Act, Ss. 103-5—</b>					
Docks, Wharves and Quays...	7	20	15	- 13	- 8
Warehouses ...	1	4	1	- 3	—
Buildings to which Act applies	11	14	12	- 3	- 1
<b>Total under Factory Act, Ss. 103-5</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>- 19</b>	<b>- 9</b>
<b>Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>- 5</b>	<b>- 6</b>
<b>Total, exclusive of Seamen</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>- 10</b>	<b>- 50</b>
<b>Seamen—</b>					
<i>On Trading Vessels—</i>					
Sailing ...	79	11	32	+ 68	+ 47
Steam ...	70	116	50	- 46	+ 20
<i>On Fishing Vessels—</i>					
Sailing ...	1	—	3	+ 1	- 2
Steam ...	6	7	8	- 1	- 2
<b>Total, Seamen ...</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>+ 23</b>	<b>+ 63</b>
<b>Total, including Seamen</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>+ 12</b>	<b>+ 13</b>

TRADE DISPUTES IN NOVEMBER.\*

**Number and Magnitude.**—Twenty-eight disputes commenced in November, 1908, as compared with 19 in October, 1908, and 23 in November, 1907. By the 28 disputes, 16,090 persons were directly and 1,396 indirectly involved; and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople involved in old disputes which began before November, and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 140,644 workpeople involved in trade disputes during November, 1908, compared with 133,894 in October, 1908, and 132,210 in November, 1907.

**New Disputes in November, 1908.**—In the following Table the new disputes in November are summarised by trades:—

Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople involved		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Coal Mining ...	11	12,215	551	13,466
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	6	272	785	1,057
Textile ...	3	272	59	331
Clothing ...	1	91	—	91
Transport ...	5	1,378	—	1,378
Other Trades ...	2	1,162	—	1,162
<b>Total, November, 1908 ...</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>15,390</b>	<b>1,396</b>	<b>17,486</b>
<b>Total, October, 1908 ...</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>3,305</b>	<b>3,968</b>	<b>7,274</b>
<b>Total, November, 1907 ...</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>8,084</b>	<b>904</b>	<b>8,988</b>

**Causes.**—Of the 28 new disputes, 4 arose on demands for increased wages, 4 on objections to reductions in wages, and 7 on other wages questions, 3 on questions of the arrangement of hours of labour, 3 on questions of the employment of particular classes or persons, 5 on questions of Trade Union principle, and 2 on other matters.

**Results.**—Definite results were reported in the case of 15 new disputes, directly involving 8,587 persons, and 5 old disputes, directly involving 110,901 persons. Of these 20 new and old disputes, 5, directly involving 1,264 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 4, directly involving 2,255 persons, were

decided in favour of the employers; and 11, directly involving 115,969 workpeople, were compromised. In the case of 6 other disputes, directly involving 5,337 workpeople, work has been resumed pending further negotiations.

**Aggregate Duration.**—The aggregate duration in November of disputes that started or were settled in that month was 689,700 working days. In addition, 60,500 working days were lost in November owing to disputes which began before that month and were still in progress at the end of the month. Thus the total duration in November of all disputes, new and old, was 745,600 working days, compared with 3,393,500 in the previous month and 227,400 in November, 1907.

**Summary for the First Eleven Months of 1907 and 1908.**—Summarised by trades, the number of disputes, the number of workpeople involved, and the aggregate duration in working days, for the eleven months January—November, 1907 and 1908, respectively, were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	Jan.-Nov., 1907.			Jan.-Nov., 1908.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.
Building ...	20	1,001	22,300	19	2,796	71,300
Mining and Quarrying...	98	49,776	512,500	127	73,598	1,135,500
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	100	16,486	422,400	54	59,094	3,825,500
Textile ...	133	43,355	608,600	62	131,621	5,367,100
Clothing ...	55	12,613	231,600	29	4,157	65,000
Transport ...	23	8,673	95,200	22	3,736	19,100
Other Trades ...	74	5,216	85,500	44	4,852	85,100
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>137,142</b>	<b>1,928,100</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>279,854</b>	<b>10,566,600</b>

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

Principal Trade Disputes.

Occupations.†	Locality.	Number of Workpeople involved.		Date when Dispute began in 1908.	Duration in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.‡	Result.‡
		Directly.	Indirectly.				
<b>Coal Mining—</b>							
Miners, &c. ...	Birtley (Durham)	875	—	17 Nov.	5	For reinstatement of coal cutterman who had been put on shift work for alleged misdemeanour: also for dismissal of a deputy	Coal cutterman put on stone bargain work; deputy to remain in his present position.
<b>Miners and Surfacedmen</b>	Rhondda Valley	3,000	500	23 Nov.	17	Dispute as to "consideration" rates to be paid to miners working in abnormal places	Agreement arrived at by Conciliation Board that work should be resumed pending the fixing of price lists.
<b>Miners</b>	Rhymney Valley	5,000	—	4 Nov.	2	Against selection of short days for stopping colliery	Question referred to Conciliation Board.
<b>Metal Trades—</b>							
Steel Workers (Bessemer Mill), and other workpeople	Leeds	95	530	21 Nov.	—	Against reduction in wages of 10 per cent.	No settlement reported.
Coremakers, Casters, Pitmen, &c., Moulders, Fitters, Labourers, &c.	Chesterfield	101	178	21 July	101	Against new basis of payment, involving reduction of wages; and against deductions for "waster" pipes	New basis accepted, after revision; deductions for "waster" pipes accepted.
<b>Cotton Trade—</b>							
Operatives in Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills	S. & S.E. Lancashire, Cheshire and Derbyshire	110,000	10,000	21 Sept.	41	Claim of employers to a reduction in wages of 5 per cent.	Reduction agreed to from the first pay in March, 1909.
<b>Transport Trade—</b>							
Carters and Canal Workers	Dublin	1,000	—	30 Nov.	—	For advance in wages, and improvement in working conditions	No settlement reported.
<b>Rubber Shoe Making—</b>							
Grinders, Mixers and Shoe Makers	Edinburgh	1,052	—	9 Nov.	14	Grinders and mixers demanded to be put on 50 hours' week instead of 45 hours, and to have standard rates of wages fixed. Shoe makers came out in sympathy	Grinders and mixers replaced; shoe makers resumed work unconditionally.

\* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration exceeded 100 days.

† In making up the totals for the several months of the year, the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information. ‡ The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly involved," i.e. thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred but not themselves on strike or locked out. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.



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

Wages.

Changes taking effect in November.—The net result of all the changes taking effect in November, 1908, was a decrease of £4,560 per week, as compared with a decrease of £1,499 per week in October, 1908, and an increase of £7,852 per week in November, 1907. The number of workpeople affected was 138,119, of whom 5,989 received advances amounting to £228 per week, and 132,130 sustained decreases amounting to £4,788 per week. The total number affected in the previous month was 72,202, and in November, 1907, 137,279.

Two changes, affecting 124,500 workpeople, were arranged by Conciliation Boards; and six changes, affecting 7,242 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting 6,377 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives; three of these changes, affecting 136 workpeople, being preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

Summary for the eleven completed months of 1908.—The total number of workpeople (separate individuals) whose wages were changed, so far as reported, in the eleven months ended November 30th, 1908, was 906,464, as compared with 1,222,539 in the corresponding period of 1907. The changes arranged gave 63,270 workpeople a net increase of £4,521 per week, and 463,404 workpeople a net decrease of £65,612 per week, whilst the remaining 379,790 had upward and downward changes which left their wages at the same level as at the beginning of the year. The net effect of the changes was thus a decrease of £61,091 per week, as compared with an increase of £192,813 per week in the corresponding period of 1907.

Summarised by trades, the number of workpeople affected by these reported changes, and the net result on their weekly wages, were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January—November			
	1907.		1908.	
	No.	£	No.	£
Building ... ..	9,863	+ 248	11,852	+ 223
Coal Mining ... ..	805,588	+ 167,534	661,750	- 47,085
Iron, &c., Mining ... ..	15,340	+ 2,301	14,318	- 937
Quarrying ... ..	3,021	+ 62	2,673	- 290
Pig Iron Manufacture ... ..	16,495	+ 1,327	17,176	- 2,236
Iron and Steel Manufacture ... ..	52,456	+ 4,973	53,179	- 6,661
Engineering and Shipbuilding ... ..	40,973	+ 2,115	101,809	- 3,921
Other Metal Trades ... ..	1,934	+ 122	2,972	- 344
Textile Trades ... ..	249,019	+ 11,378	12,386	+ 1,113
Printing, &c., Trades ... ..	7,710	+ 327	10,843	+ 953
Glass, &c., Trades ... ..	4,173	+ 373	6,910	+ 201
Other Trades ... ..	10,972	+ 1,465	7,688	- 335
Employees of Local Authorities ... ..	5,494	+ 386	2,867	+ 229
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>1,222,539</b>	<b>+192,813</b>	<b>906,464</b>	<b>-61,091</b>

Hours.

The changes in hours of labour taking effect in November, 1908, affected 4,505 workpeople, whose aggregate working time was reduced by 8,214 hours per week. The total number of workpeople reported as affected by changes in hours of labour in the eleven months ended November 30th, 1908, was 21,005. Of these, 3,099 had their aggregate working time increased by 5,687 hours per week, and 17,906 had reductions amounting to 25,695 hours per week.

Principal Changes in Wages and Hours in November.

Particulars of the principal changes in rates of wages and hours of labour taking effect in November are given below. The details of the other changes reported are not separately stated in the Table, but they are included in the preceding statistics.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR IN NOVEMBER.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change takes effect in 1908.	Occupation.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
				Increase.	Decrease.	

I.—RATES OF WAGES.

Building	Darwen ... ..	2 Nov.	Carpenters and Joiners ... ..	150	Advance of 3d. per hour (gd. to 9d.). Decrease of 3d. per cent., leaving wages 47½ per cent. above the standard of 1879.
			Hewers, other Underground Workers, Deputies, Enginemen, Boiler-minders, Mechanics, Cookmen, and Banksmen.	120,000	
			Other Surface Workers ... ..	...	
Coal Mining	Northumberland	2 and 9 Nov.	Deputies ... ..	1,100	Decrease of 1½d. per day (5s. 11½d. to 6s. 10d.). Decrease of 1½d. per day (5s. 6½d. to 5s. 8d.). Decrease of 1½d. per day. Wages after change: Winding Enginemen, 6s. 5d., Hauling and Pumping Enginemen, 5s. 10d.
			Enginemen ... ..	700	
			Firemen ... ..	250	
Pig Iron Manufacture	Derbyshire and Notts.	1st pay in Nov.	Blastfurnacemen ... ..	627	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 2½ per cent., leaving wages 5 per cent. above the standard of 1905.
			Steel Melters, Pitmen, &c. ... ..	2,221	
			Gas Produccermen and Charge Wheelers ... ..	40	
Iron and Steel Manufacture	Northumberland, Durham and Cleveland	30 Nov.	Iron Puddlers ... ..	750	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 3d. per ton (8s. gd. to 8s. 6d.). Decrease, under sliding scale, of 2½ per cent.
			Iron and Steel Millmen ... ..	2,650	
			Steel Millmen ... ..	2,750	
Engineering	Belfast ... ..	1st pay in Nov.	Gas Produccermen and Charge Wheelers ... ..	1,750	Advance, under Conciliation Boards, of 2½ per cent.
			Iron Moulders ... ..	112	
			Iron Moulders ... ..	112	

II.—HOURS OF LABOUR.

Building	Glasgow ... ..	9 Nov.	Plumbers ... ..	1,500	Re-arrangement of winter working hours, resulting in an average decrease for the year of ¼ hour per week.
Engineering	Midlands (one firm)	30 Nov.	Fitters, Turners, &c. ... ..	2,500	Decrease of 3 hours per week (53 to 50).

NOTE.—Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Early in December the wages of iron puddlers in the Midlands were reduced by 3d. per ton, and those of iron millmen by 2½ per cent. Full particulars will appear in the January GAZETTE.  
\* Based on information obtained from all available sources, verified and corrected by direct application to the Employers, Trade Unions, and other parties concerned. In making up the totals for the several months of the year, the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information. The following kinds of changes are not included in the statistics:—(1) Changes in wages affecting agricultural labourers, seamen, and railway servants; (2) Increments accruing under scales of pay, as in the case of policemen, some municipal employees, &c. (3) Changes in pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM\*

Summary for November.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL MERCHANDISE.

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

	November.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1908, compared with	
	1906.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1906.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco	£ 20,157,108	£ 22,390,186	£ 21,446,737	- 943,449	+ 1,289,529
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured	£ 22,276,282	£ 21,898,864	£ 17,158,542	- 4,740,322	- 5,117,740
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured	£ 13,109,037	£ 12,622,386	£ 11,103,077	- 1,519,309	- 2,005,960
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	£ 201,552	£ 194,507	£ 199,937	+ 5,430	- 4,615
<b>Total value of Imports</b>	<b>£ 55,747,079</b>	<b>£ 71,145,943</b>	<b>£ 49,908,293</b>	<b>- 7,237,650</b>	<b>- 5,838,786</b>

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

NOTE.—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.

	November.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Nov., 1908, compared with	
	1906.	1907.	1908.	1907.	1906.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco	£ 2,322,243	£ 2,418,146	£ 2,293,842	- 124,304	- 28,401
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured	£ 3,710,265	£ 5,019,077	£ 4,195,340	- 823,737	+ 485,075
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured	£ 26,346,061	£ 27,812,820	£ 22,184,318	- 5,628,502	- 4,161,743
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	£ 596,593	£ 612,133	£ 473,915	- 138,218	- 122,678
<b>Total value of Exports of British produce.</b>	<b>£ 32,975,162</b>	<b>£ 33,862,176</b>	<b>£ 29,147,415</b>	<b>- 4,714,761</b>	<b>- 3,827,747</b>

The exports of foreign and colonial merchandise amounted to £7,292,661 in November, 1906; £6,131,717 in November, 1907; and £6,682,193 in November, 1908.

RAILWAY GOODS AND MINERAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

THE goods and mineral traffic receipts of twenty of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended November 28th, 1908, amounted to £4,380,855, a decrease of £212,836 (or 4½ per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1907.

During the forty-eight weeks ended November 28th, 1908, the receipts amounted to £50,468,066, a decrease of £2,422,795 (or 4½ per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1907.

	4 weeks ended November 28th, 1908.		48 weeks ended November 28th, 1908.	
	Amount.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 1907.	Amount.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 1907.
<b>English Lines:—</b>	<b>£ 1,594,719</b>	<b>- 123,778</b>	<b>£ 18,658,620</b>	<b>- 1,158,003</b>
L. & N. W., Midland, Gt. Central, N. London, and N. Staffs.	502,440	- 13,854	5,532,912	- 196,411
Gt. Northern, Gt. Eastern, and London & Tilbury	792,917	- 67,798	9,250,288	- 569,422
Lancs. and Yorks., and N. Eastern	678,600	...	7,711,000	- 63,000
L. & S. W., and Gt. Western	161,428	+ 2,748	1,789,805	- 51,311
L. B. & S. C., and S. E. & C.	518,381	- 15,250	6,093,170	- 351,756
<b>Scottish Lines:—</b>	<b>£ 132,370</b>	<b>+ 5,096</b>	<b>£ 1,432,271</b>	<b>- 2,892</b>
N. British, Caledonian, and Glasgow & S. Western	132,370	+ 5,096	1,432,271	- 2,892
<b>Irish Lines:—</b>	<b>£ 4,380,855</b>	<b>- 212,836</b>	<b>£ 50,468,066</b>	<b>- 2,422,795</b>
Gt. Southern and Western, Midland, G.W., and Gt. Northern	4,380,855	- 212,836	50,468,066	- 2,422,795

\* Raw cotton, wool, wood and timber, metallic ores, oils and oil-seeds, hides and skins, &c.

† Yarns and textile fabrics, manufactures of metal and leather, chemicals, &c.

‡ Coal, wool, oil seeds, &c., hides and skins, &c.

§ Yarns, textile fabrics and apparel, metal manufactures, chemicals, &c.

PAUPERISM IN NOVEMBER.

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

THE number of paupers relieved on one day in November, 1908, in the 35 selected urban districts named below, corresponded to a rate of 234 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Compared with October, 1908, the total number of paupers increased by 16,870 (4½ per cent.) and the rate per 10,000 by 10. The number of indoor paupers increased by 5,947 (3½ per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers by 10,923 (4½ per cent.). Increases occurred in 33 districts, the most marked being in the Stockton and Tees district (76 per 10,000), in the West Ham district (27 per 10,000), and in the North Staffordshire district (26 per 10,000). In the Dundee and Dunfermline district there was a decrease, and in the Sheffield district there was no change.

Compared with November, 1907, the rate per 10,000 increased by 18. The number of indoor paupers increased by 12,330 (7½ per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers by 23,489 (11½ per cent.). In 31 districts there were increases, the greatest being in the Stockton and Tees district (243 per 10,000); in three districts there were slight decreases, and in the Leeds district there was no change.

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of Nov., 1908.			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.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.*</b>						
<b>Metropolis.</b>						
West District ... ..	12,270	3,318	15,588	183	+ 4	- 2
North District ... ..	17,092	12,250	29,342	270	+ 15	+ 21
Central District ... ..	6,937	2,478	9,415	509	+ 15	+ 1
East District ... ..	16,580	9,258	25,838	388	+ 2	+ 37
South District ... ..	27,501	21,571	49,072	287	+ 15	+ 12
<b>Total, Metropolis ... ..</b>	<b>80,400</b>	<b>48,885</b>	<b>129,285</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>+ 11</b>	<b>+ 15</b>
West Ham ... ..	4,688	13,506	18,194	249	+ 27	+ 24
<b>Other Districts.</b>						
Newcastle District ... ..	2,807	6,026	8,833	195	+ 6	+ 12
Stockton & Tees District ... ..	1,541	9,481	11,022	496	+ 76	+ 243
Bolton, Oldham, &c. ... ..	4,683	8,134	12,817	168	+ 12	+ 38
Wigan District ... ..	2,411	6,024	8,435	207	+ 7	+ 3
Manchester District ... ..	11,487	10,903	22,390	231	+ 13	+ 59
Liverpool District ... ..	13,473	11,703	25,176	238	+ 4	+ 12
Bradford District ... ..	2,192	2,829	5,021	135	+ 7	+ 14
Hull & Huddersfield ... ..	1,354	4,160	5,514	150	+ 3	+ 6
Leeds District ... ..	3,121	4,910	8,041	163	+ 5	...
Barnsley District ... ..	808	2,834	3,692	146	+ 2	+ 2
Sheffield District ... ..	5,588	3,638	7,226	159	...	+ 10
Hull District ... ..	1,793	5,553	7,446	261	+ 9	+ 18
North Staffordshire ... ..	4,524	7,956	10,480	271	+ 25	+ 17
Nottingham District ... ..	2,359	6,059	8,418	198	+ 3	+ 6
Leicester District ... ..	1,700	4,858	6,558	210	+ 16	+ 19
Wolverhampton District ... ..	4,052	12,003	16,055	276	+ 6	+ 6
Birmingham District ... ..	5,375	4,428	10,003	168	+ 5	+ 12
Bristol District ... ..	3,076	6,201	9,277	222	+ 3	- 6
Cardiff & Swansea ... ..	2,402	7,728	10,130	260	+ 4	+ 6
<b>Total, "Other Districts" ... ..</b>	<b>70,946</b>	<b>125,588</b>	<b>196,534</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>+ 9</b>	<b>+ 21</b>
<b>SCOTLAND.*</b>						
Glasgow District ... ..	6,174	18,302	24,476	242	+ 4	+ 17
Paisley & Greenock District ... ..	914	2,700	3,614	200	+ 2	+ 15
Edinburgh & Leith District ... ..	1,882	5,678	7,560	181	+ 2	+ 3
Dundee & Dunfermline ... ..	923	2,695	3,619	179	- 2	+ 2
Aberdeen ... ..	747	3,267	4,014	230	+ 3	+ 7
Coatbridge & Airdrie ... ..	433	1,682	2,115	216	+ 0	+ 2
<b>Total for the above Scottish Districts ... ..</b>	<b>11,073</b>	<b>34,325</b>	<b>45,998</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>+ 3</b>	<b>+ 12</b>
<b>IRELAND.†</b>						
Dublin District ... ..	7,372	5,550	12,022	323	+ 9	+ 7
Beifast District ... ..	4,217	944	5,161	122	+ 7	+ 21
Cork, Waterford & Limerick District ... ..	4,640	4,901	9,541	191	+ 3	+ 4
Galway District ... ..	355	360	715	203	+ 6	- 4
<b>Total for the above Irish Districts ... ..</b>	<b>16,584</b>	<b>11,755</b>	<b>28,339</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>+ 7</b>	<b>+ 12</b>
<b>Total for above 35 Districts in Nov., 1908</b>	<b>188,691</b>	<b>234,059</b>	<b>417,750</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>+ 10</b>	<b>+ 12</b>

\* Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small Pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; and of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses.

† Excluding Casuals, but including persons maintained in Institutions for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, &c., who are classified as not able-bodied.



LABOUR BUREAUX IN NOVEMBER.\*

NOTE.—Labour bureaux whose registers are identical with those of Distress Committees are excluded from this Table. For statistics of the work of Distress Committees in November, see page 368.

RETURNS were received relating to the work of 45 Labour Bureaux during November; of these Bureaux 28 were in London (including West Ham), and 17 in the Provinces. Of the 28 London Bureaux, 25 are affiliated to the Central Employment Exchange, and are under the control of the Central (Unemployed) Body for London.

The total number of applications for work during the month was 38,716, of which 27,655 were in London, and 11,061 in the Provinces. The number of situations filled through the Bureaux was 4,398, or 11.4 per cent. of the applications received, and 81.9 per cent. of the situations offered. The number of permanent situations filled was 2,438 (or 55.4 per cent.), and temporary 1,960 (or 44.6 per cent.). The majority of situations found were in unskilled occupations. The persons for whom situations were found through the London Bureaux affiliated to the Central Exchange were divided by trades, as follows: building trades (artisans and labourers), 195; wood-working trades, 65; metal and engineering trades, 119; other skilled trades,

69; "transport and general," 258; other trades, 149; boys, 354; women and girls, 635. The figures for the non-affiliated Bureaux are as follows: building trades, 144; metal and engineering trades, 52; carters and stablemen, clerks, warehousemen, porters and messengers, 208; general labourers, 106; bill distributors, &c., 813; employees of local authorities, 701; charwomen and domestic servants, 170; other occupations, 186. In addition, the Salvation Army authorities found work for 174 men.

At 43 of the Bureaux mentioned below, figures for 1907 are available. The number of applicants registered at these Bureaux was 38,594 in November, 1908, as compared with 16,967 in November, 1907. Employers offered 5,292 situations during November, 1908, of which 4,321 were filled. In November, 1907, 3,460 situations were offered, and 2,366 filled. The number of workpeople on the registers at the end of November, 1908, was 36,624, as compared with 14,302 in November, 1907.

TABLE SHOWING WORK DONE BY EACH BUREAU DURING NOVEMBER, 1908.

Name of Bureau.	New Applicants	Situations offered.	Situations Filled.						Applicants Remaining on the Registers.										
			Building Trades.	Metal and Engineering Trades.	Transport and General.	Other Occupations. Men & Boys.	Women and Girls.	All Situations.			Building Trades.	Metal and Engineering Trades.	Transport and General.	Other Occupations. Men & Boys.	Women and Girls.	Total.			
								Perma-nent.	Tempo-rary.	Total.									
<b>London Employment Exchanges (under Central Body).</b>																			
Battersea (33, Park Rd., S.W.)	369	74	2	1	9	24	14	48	2	50	19	12	66	40	45	182			
Bromley (5, Port Buildings, Southwark Park Rd.)	741	55	7	6	8	14	14	47	2	49	30	19	87	81	68	285			
Bethnal Green (11, Green St., E.)	1,175	77	...	1	1	22	34	52	6	58	30	34	126	216	121	527			
Camberwell (31, Peckham Rd., S.E.)	1,084	145	14	2	17	40	37	109	1	110	71	28	99	178	109	495			
Chelsea (91, Church St., S.W.)	467	35	...	1	8	8	10	24	3	27	30	9	70	54	34	197			
City of London (78, Temple Chambers, Temple Ave., E.C.)	...	112	...	3	6	32	52	93	...	93	...	...	...	...	...	...			
Deptford (31, Deptford Bridge)	537	78	15	2	4	28	10	56	3	59	40	44	52	80	25	241			
Finsbury and Holborn (48, Myddelton St.)	481	252	1	6	15	71	70	162	1	163	90	107	358	285	307	1147			
Fulham (Elbe Rd., Walham Green)	1,473	93	9	3	22	24	33	90	1	91	155	46	137	174	65	577			
Greenwich (18, Nelson St.)	297	50	13	2	6	25	5	49	2	51	54	50	51	70	18	223			
Hackney & Stoke Newington (24, Amhurst Rd.)	1,437	81	6	6	13	30	22	68	9	77	72	45	139	141	54	451			
Hammer-smith (30, Queen St., W.)	844	65	16	3	16	21	9	38	27	65	109	38	76	94	34	549			
Islington (93, St. Paul's Rd., N.)	2,661	82	10	3	22	23	13	45	26	71	203	60	416	108	30	817			
Kensington (135, Clarendon Rd.)	479	78	4	...	26	24	12	46	20	66	60	14	88	73	33	268			
Lambeth (1202, Lambeth Rd.)	1,483	63	5	5	9	13	28	54	6	60	110	55	148	131	68	472			
Levensham (246, High St.)	612	71	22	2	3	17	7	48	3	51	60	23	105	60	26	274			
Paddington (103, Harrow Rd., W.)	1,354	118	1	1	6	37	45	83	7	90	121	23	113	141	117	515			
Poplar (127, East India Dock Rd.)	1,733	70	6	20	6	9	29	63	7	70	93	107	129	121	74	522			
St. Marylebone (25, Paddington St., W.)	1,328	133	13	3	14	34	30	75	19	94	23	6	135	44	31	239			
St. Pancras (19, Crowndale Rd.)	1,387	89	20	1	5	22	24	38	34	72	117	33	176	126	65	517			
Shoreditch (134, Kingsland Rd.)	772	90	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...			
Southwark (23, New Kent Rd.)	421	85	6	9	18	19	24	66	10	76	34	32	103	71	34	262			
Stepney (165, Commercial Rd., E.)	2,055	96	3	11	8	14	47	76	7	83	69	26	246	121	117	579			
Wandsworth (213, Garratt Lane)	876	76	10	3	5	34	24	73	3	76	126	40	95	115	54	430			
Woolwich (20, Abell Rd.)	877	108	4	25	2	31	20	81	1	82	42	99	105	65	25	336			
<b>Total of above</b>	<b>24,113</b>	<b>2,286</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>637</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>1,544</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>1,844</b>	<b>1,750</b>	<b>971</b>	<b>3,203</b>	<b>2,693</b>	<b>1,567</b>	<b>10,224</b>			
<b>Other London Bureaux.</b>																			
Salvation Army (20-22, White-chapel Rd., E.)	3,079	1,042	21	...	3	1,018	...	3	1,039	1,042	83	40	216	207	...	546			
West Ham (29, Broadway, Stratford, E.)	249	49	1	3	35	3	4	10	36	46	32	32	51	77	8	200			
Westminster (Caxton Hall, S.W.)	344	314	1	...	6	237	9	62	241	303	28	36	352	353	391	1,160			
<b>Total, "Other London"</b>	<b>3,542</b>	<b>1,405</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>1,308</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>1,316</b>	<b>1,391</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>637</b>	<b>599</b>	<b>1,906</b>			
<b>Provincial Bureaux.</b>																			
Birmingham (144, St. Charles St.)	1,777	29	8	8	2	6	...	7	17	24	399	1,785	1,084	689	1	3,958			
Coventry (3, Market Hall Arcade)	502	48	9	24	2	7	...	42	...	42	59	795	110	209	...	1,173			
Croydon (Town Hall)	923	82	35	3	19	23	1	32	49	81	1,122	24	545	137	48	1,876			
Dudley (Stone St.)	63	8	...	1	...	6	...	1	6	7	20	59	202	43	...	324			
Ipswich (135, Fore St.)	32	16	13	...	...	1	...	3	15	16	...	4	10	10	2	26			
Liverpool (Municipal Buildings, Dale Street)	104	24	2	...	...	11	...	8	13	21	1	...	1	4	184	190			
Manchester (King St., West Deansgate)	2,203	312	11	...	19	71	96	112	85	197	355	790	5,359	825	655	7,984			
Newcastle-on-Tyne (22, Royal Arcade)	1,530	20	...	...	4	1	10	3	12	15	56	32	1,757	131	49	2,025			
Norwich (Free Library Buildings)	18	57	3	...	11	42	...	2	54	56	15	132	105	3	295	3			
Reading (Valpy St.)	136	23	...	...	16	7	...	23	...	23	49	7	112	22	2	192			
Salford (Town Hall)	112	38	...	...	21	11	...	5	30	35	96	50	159	161	...	466			
Warrington (Bank House, Sankey St.)	189	62	1	4	7	8	19	24	15	39	17	71	83	76	127	374			
Aberdeen (1, Adelphi)	653	38	2	...	32	2	2	1	37	38	259	247	700	133	16	1,355			
Dundee (Dunblane Place or Town Hall)	25	10	...	...	...	9	1	...	10	10	...	1	10	22	33	33			
Edinburgh (27, Jeffrey St.)	1,059	30	3	...	14	7	...	25	5	30	527	273	362	512	48	1,722			
Glasgow (15-17, Duke St.)	2,184	875	26	6	345	93	69	431	88	519	83	125	1,034	321	332	1,995			
Govan (Town Hall)	382	10	...	...	8	...	...	...	10	29	601	438	32	1	1,101	1			
<b>Total, Provincial Bureaux</b>	<b>11,061</b>	<b>1,682</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>1,163</b>	<b>3,122</b>	<b>4,879</b>	<b>12,078</b>	<b>3,420</b>	<b>1,490</b>	<b>24,989</b>			
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>38,716</b>	<b>5,373</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>2,266</b>	<b>862</b>	<b>2,438</b>	<b>1,960</b>	<b>4,398</b>	<b>5,058</b>	<b>5,858</b>	<b>18,900</b>	<b>6,780</b>	<b>3,456</b>	<b>37,119</b>			

\*The figures for the London Bureaux affiliated to the Central Exchange relate to the 4 weeks ended November 27th, 1908; for the other Bureaux the particulars relate to work done during the calendar month.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN NOVEMBER.

DURING November, 987 fresh applications (570 from domestic servants, &c.) for work were registered by 9 Bureaux furnishing returns, and 637 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 250 persons, of whom 152 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 250 situations found for applicants, 203 were of a more or less permanent character, while 47 were temporary only.

The demand for cooks and parlourmaids was in excess of the supply; the supply of housekeepers, housemaids, ladies' maids, companions, and children's nurses was greatly in excess of the demand.

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

	Applications by Work-people during		Situations offered by Employers during		Number of Workpeople engaged by Employers			
	Nov., 1908.	Nov., 1907.	Nov., 1908.	Nov., 1907.	Perma-nently.		Tempo-rarily.	
					Nov., 1908.	Nov., 1907.	Nov., 1908.	Nov., 1907.
<b>Summary by Bureaux.</b>								
Central Bureau ...	149	84	91	76	39	24	7	10
9, Southampton Street, High Holborn.								
Y.W.C.A.:—								
25, George Street (1) ...	474	441	372	363	82	66	19	28
Hanover Sq., W. (2) ...	133	118	63	61	32	15	5	27
Dublin:—								
30, Molesworth Street ...	59	79	20	38	4	13	2	—
Other Bureaux (Liverpool, Manchester, Watford, Edinburgh and Glasgow)	172	125	88	97	46	52	14	9
<b>Total of 9 Bureaux</b>	<b>987</b>	<b>817</b>	<b>637</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>74</b>
Birmingham ...	12	not open	3	not open	1	not open	...	not open
Leeds ...	33	...	41	...	6	...	2	open
<b>Summary by Occupations.</b>								
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc.	58	60	20	21	9	3	...	1
Shop Assistants ...	22	21	10	10	3	3	1	1
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc.	83	69	42	40	21	12	9	18
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists	130	70	25	37	17	7	9	16
Apprentices and Learners	17	11	19	17	15	20	1	...
Domestic Servants	570							



PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR  
RECEIVED DURING NOVEMBER.

## UNITED KINGDOM.

(All the United Kingdom Official Reports may be obtained from Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, London, E.C., direct, or through any bookseller.)

*Royal Commission on Mines.* Minutes of Evidence with Index and Appendices. Vol. III. Evidence submitted principally by the representatives of workmen in mines under the Coal Mines Regulation Acts. [Cd. 4349: pp. vii. + 550: price 4s. 5d.]

*Railway Accidents.* Summary of Accidents and Casualties reported to the Board of Trade during the Three Months ending June 30th, 1908, with reports of Inspecting Officers upon certain Accidents which were inquired into. [Cd. 4348: pp. 97: price 11d.]

*Second Report of the Departmental Committee on Compensation for Industrial Diseases.* Report. [Cd. 4386: pp. 4: price 1d.] Minutes of Evidence and Appendix. [Cd. 4387: pp. 73: price 7½d.]

*Report of the London Traffic Branch of the Board of Trade.* Appendices contain particulars of workmen's trains, fares, &c. [Cd. 4379: pp. viii. + 175, with map: price 4s.]

*Old Age Pensions Act, 1908.* Financial Instructions for Pension Committees and Sub-Committees. Issued by the Treasury on August 20th, 1908. [Cd. 4399: pp. 3: price ¾d.]

*Old Age Pensions Act, 1908.* Copies of Circulars issued by the Local Government Board, dated August 4th, August 21st, and October 10th, 1908. [H.C. 303: pp. 14: price 2d.]

*Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies. Report for the Year ending December 31st, 1907.* Part A. Appendix (O). Particulars of Valuation Returns received during the year. [H.C. 210-1: pp. 45: price 5d.]

*Post Office (Life Insurance).* Report and Evidence taken by the Departmental Committee on the Encouragement of the Life Insurance System of the Post Office. [H.C. 311: pp. xii. + 88: price 10d.]

*Report to the President of the Local Government Board on Dock Labour in Relation to Poor Law Relief.* By Hon. Gerald Walsh. [Cd. 4391: pp. 46: price 10d.]

*Aliens Act, 1905.* Return of Alien Passenger Traffic between the United Kingdom and Ports in Europe or within the Mediterranean Sea during the three months ending September 30th, 1908; together with the number of Expulsion Orders made during that period. [Cd. 4384: pp. 8: price 1½d.]

*Second Report by the President of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, as a Commissioner of Woods, Forests and Land Revenues, by virtue of the Crown Lands Act, 1906.* Acreage let for small holdings and allotments, expenditure for equipment, revenue, &c. [Cd. 4373: pp. 12: price 1½d.]

*Agricultural Statistics of Ireland, with detailed report for the year 1907.* Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland. Number and acreage of small holdings, &c. [Cd. 4352: pp. xxxvii. + 149: price 9d.]

## BRITISH COLONIES.

*Canada. The Labour Gazette, October, 1908.* Proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act during September; Quebec, Saskatchewan and New Brunswick legislation affecting labour, &c.

*New Zealand. Report of the Labour Bills Committee on the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Bill,* with Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence. [Wellington: John Mackay, Government Printer: pp. viii. + 64: price 1s. 6d.]

*Journal of the Department of Labour, October, 1908.* Prices of commodities and rents up to August 29th, 1908, accidents, co-operative works, &c.

*New South Wales. First Valuation of Friendly Societies of the State of New South Wales, 1900-1904.* [Sydney: W. A. Gullick, Government Printer: pp. xvi. + 143: price 2s.]

*Victoria. Determinations of Wages Boards. The Coopers' Board,* dated August 21st, 1908, annulling Determination of March 20th, 1908. *Cardboard Box Trade Board,* dated July 14th, 1908, annulling Determination of February 11th, 1908.

## FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

## United States.

*Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Labour Bulletin, No. 6, September, 1908.* State of employment in the organised industries in quarter ending June 30th, 1908; directory of Massachusetts Trade Unions.

*Labour Laws of the State of Oklahoma,* including law establishing State Board of Arbitration and Conciliation; eight hours law for public employees; mining, compulsory education, anti-trust laws, &c. Department of Labour. [pp. 87.]

*The Journal of Political Economy (Chicago), November, 1908.* Contains article on "History of the employment of women in the American cotton mills." Part I. Displacement of women by men. Edith Abbott.

## France.

*Journal of the French Labour Department, October, 1908.* Report on State subventions to unemployed funds in 1907. [Paris: Berger-Levrault & Cie.: price 2d.]

*Profit Sharing in Germany, Austria and Switzerland,* by Dr. Victor Böhmert. (French translation by A. Trombert.) 1908. [Paris: Librairie Châix, rue Bergère, 20: pp. 159.]

## Germany.

*Journal of the German Labour Department, November, 1908.* Preliminary statistics relating to industrial accidents in 1907; wages statistics of Strassburg. [Berlin: Carl Heymann: price 1d.]

*Wages of Municipal Workers in Magdeburg in July, 1907.* [Extract from the Administrative Report for 1907-8.]

*German Factory Inspection. Reports for 1907.* By States. (4 Vols.) [Berlin: R. v. Decker.]

*Yearbook of the Central Federation of German Co-operative Distributive Societies, 1908.* (2 vols.) [Hamburg: H. Kaufmann & Co., Besenbinderhof, 52: pp. 798 + 803.]

## Austria-Hungary.

*Journal of the Austrian Labour Department, October, 1908.* Texts of (1) Hungarian bill amending law on emigration, (2) Danish law of May 27th, 1908, on extension of insurance against accidents to persons engaged in agriculture and forestry. [Vienna: A. Hölder: price 2d.]

*Statistical Journal of Hungary, August, 1908.* Text of proposed amended form of Hungarian Industrial Code. [Vienna: A. Hölder.]

*Report of Institution for Insurance against Accidents in Lower Austria for 1907.* [Vienna: Selbstverlag der Anstalt: pp. 66.]

## Italy.

*Journal of the Italian Labour Department, October, 1908.* Municipal housing inquiry of Florence, October, 1907; text of Turkish law of October 6th, 1908, on settlement of disputes in public services. [Rome: Fratelli Treves: price 3d.]

*Statistics of Occupations and Hours of Labour in 1907, of Workpeople employed in Establishments subject to the Law relating to the Employment of Women and Children.* Italian Labour Department. [Rome: pp. xvi + 105: price 1s.]

*Statistics of Registered Co-operative Societies of Production and Labour, June 30th, 1908.* Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce. [Rome: pp. 72.]

## Belgium.

*Journal of the Belgian Labour Department, October 31st, 1908* (labour disputes in September), and November 15th (employment and retail prices in October). [Brussels: F. Vanbuggenhoudt: price 1d.]

## Holland.

*Journal of the Dutch Central Statistical Office, October 31st, 1908.* Employment and labour disputes in September. [The Hague: Gebroeders Belinfante: price 2d.]

## Luxemburg.

*Sickness Insurance in Luxemburg in 1907.* Workpeople's Insurance Department of the Luxemburg Ministry of Foreign Affairs. [Luxemburg: pp. 56.]

## Sweden.

*Journal of the Swedish Labour Department, Nos. 7, 8, 1908.* Prices of articles of food, January, 1907, to June, 1908. [Stockholm: P. A. Norstedt and Söner: price 2d.]

*Sick Funds in Sweden in 1904.* Swedish Labour Department. [Stockholm: K. L. Beckman: pp. lviii. + 151: price 1s. 1d.]

## Russia-Finland.

*Journal of the Finnish Labour Department, No. 4, 1908.* Labour disputes in 1907; text of Finnish Bill on labour contract. [Helsingfors: Kejsarliga Senatens Tryckeri: price 2½d.]

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