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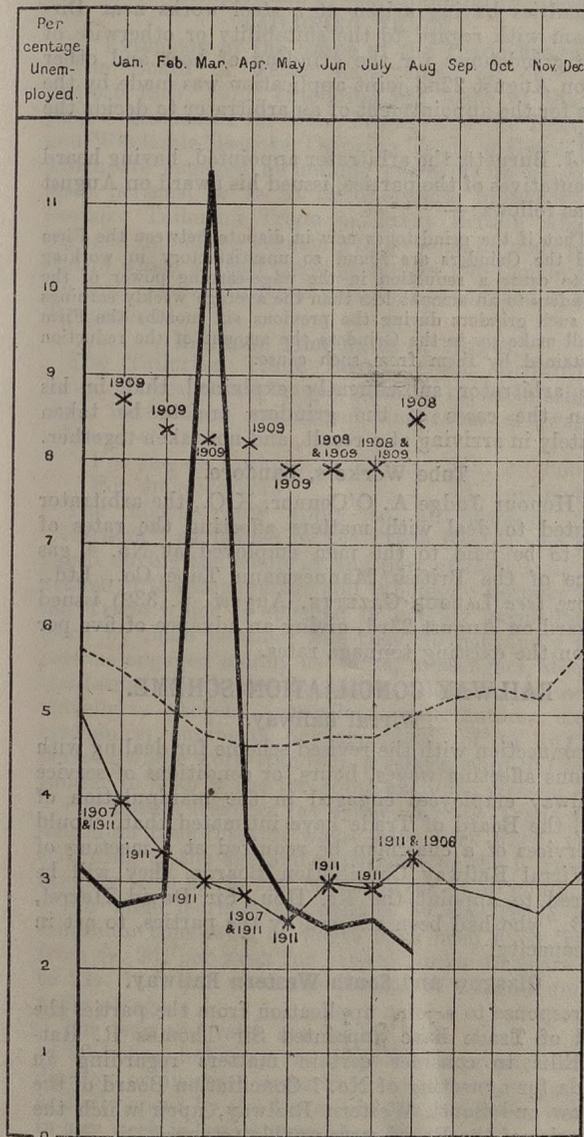
PRICE ONE PENNY.

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

——— Thick Curve = 1912. ——— Thin Curve = 1911.
----- Dotted Curve = Mean of 1902-1911.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1902-1911.



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.

STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN AUGUST.

EMPLOYMENT in August continued good, and showed an improvement on a month ago. It was considerably better than a year ago. The percentage of trade union members unemployed, so far as reported to the Department, was the lowest recorded since July, 1900.

Compared with a month ago there was an improvement in the coal mining, iron and steel, engineering, ship-building and building trades; on the other hand there was a seasonal decline in the printing trades. Employment in the principal textile trades continued good.

Compared with a year ago, nearly all industries showed a marked improvement; it is to be noted, however, that employment in August, 1911, was adversely affected by the disputes in the railway and other transport trades.

In the 383 trade unions, with a net membership of 872,817, making returns, 19,556 (or 2.2 per cent.) were returned as unemployed at the end of August, 1912, compared with 2.6 per cent. at the end of July, 1912, and 3.3 per cent. at the end of August, 1911.

Returns from firms employing 430,881 workpeople in the week ended August 24th, 1912, showed no change in the number employed, and a decrease of 0.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 2.0 per cent. in the number employed, and of 10.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes in rates of wages taking effect in August were all increases, and amounted to £6,300 per week on the wages of 150,000 workpeople. The most important changes affected 45,000 coal miners in Northumberland, 6,500 blastfurnacemen and ironworkers in West Scotland, 20,000 ironworkers in the Midlands, 49,500 workpeople in the federated shipyards in England and Scotland, 4,000 lock, latch and key makers in South Staffs, and 8,500 cotton weavers, &c., at Ashton-under-Lyne.

Trade Disputes.—The number of disputes beginning in August was 48, and the total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress during the month was 54,961, as compared with 117,333 in July, 1912, and 373,615 in August, 1911. The estimated number of working days lost by disputes during the month was 363,900, as compared with 1,323,200 in July, 1912, and 2,323,800 in August, 1911.

Conciliation and Arbitration.—Cases reported for the month include sawmill and bobbin workers, &c., at Liverpool and Todmorden, grindstone workers at Oldbury, and tube workers at Landore. Further appointments were also made in connection with the revised railway conciliation scheme.

EMPLOYMENT RETURNS FOR AUGUST.

This Summary is based on 2,963 Returns from Employers, relating to 1,285,525 workpeople, and 3,268 from Trade Unions, relating to 872,817 members.)

I.—TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

Trade.	Membership of Unions reporting.	Percentage Unemployed at end of Aug., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
Building ...	68,554	3.0	- 1.1	- 1.0
Coal Mining* ...	164,108	0.8	- 0.1	- 0.3
Iron and Steel ...	30,225	2.2	- 3.9	- 6.0
Engineering ...	202,597	2.1	- 0.6	- 1.7
Shipbuilding ...	69,441	4.1	- 0.3	...
Miscellaneous Metal... Textiles* :-	29,551	1.3	...	- 0.5
Cotton ...	80,799	1.8	...	- 1.0
Woolen and Worsted	7,520	1.0	- 0.1	- 0.4
Other ...	47,341	1.2	...	- 0.9
Paper, Printing and Bookbinding.	61,761	5.9	+ 1.4	...
Furnishing and Wood-working.	44,437	2.5	- 0.4	- 1.2
Clothing ...	53,832	1.5	+ 0.2	- 1.5
Leather ...	3,119	4.0	+ 0.2	- 1.0
Glass ...	972	0.4	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Pottery ...	6,476	0.7	- 0.1	- 1.3
Tobacco ...	2,084	7.0	- 0.3	+ 1.1
Total... ..	872,817	2.2	- 0.4	- 1.1

* In addition to the ordinary short time which occurs in all trades, it should be noted that in the mining and textile industries a contraction in the demand for labour is more generally met by a reduction in the time worked per week by a large number of workpeople than by the discharge of a smaller number.

II.—EMPLOYERS' RETURNS.

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for Aug., 1912.	August, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
		Days worked per week by Mines.	Days.	Days.
Coal Mining ...	678,450	5.46	+ 0.31*	+ 0.81†
Iron „ ...	16,184	5.81	+ 0.07	+ 1.11†
Shale „ ...	3,491	5.80	- 0.05	+ 0.06
Pig Iron ...	23,400	No. of Furnaces in Blast. 321	+ 3	+ 38
Tinplate & Steel Sheet	29,150	Mills Working. 582	- 10	+ 44
Iron and Steel ...	103,969	Shifts Worked (One Week). 589,300	Per cent. + 2.2	Per cent. + 17.6

Trade.	Number Employed.			Wages Paid.		
	Week ended 24th Aug., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended 24th Aug., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Cotton ...	119,161	- 0.1	+ 2.0	120,996	+ 0.6	+ 12.8
Woolen ...	27,504	+ 0.1	+ 2.7	26,816	+ 1.9	+ 6.7
Worsted ...	41,116	- 0.1	+ 1.1	32,152	+ 0.2	+ 4.9
Linen ...	42,691	+ 0.2	+ 0.5	26,281	+ 1.2	+ 3.1
Jute ...	14,962	- 0.2	+ 3.9	11,417	- 0.6	+ 11.1
Hosiery ...	19,978	+ 0.4	+ 2.5	16,366	+ 2.1	+ 7.2
Lace ...	6,339	+ 0.6	+ 0.1	6,316	+ 1.9	+ 10.8
Other Textiles ...	16,643	- 0.8	+ 1.0	13,192	- 0.5	+ 4.6
Bleaching, Dyeing, etc.	30,926	- 0.4	+ 3.3	37,180	- 2.5	+ 18.4
Boot and Shoe ...	68,058	+ 0.2	+ 5.9	68,461	- 0.3	+ 10.9
Shirt and Collar ...	6,244	+ 1.1	+ 2.7	4,114	- 0.8	+ 5.9
Pottery ...	16,446	- 0.2	+ 3.4	16,356	- 3.7	+ 14.8
Glass ...	8,868	- 2.9	+ 4.0	11,476	- 1.1	+ 15.2
Brick ...	11,945	+ 0.4	+ 0.2	13,741	- 1.8	+ 5.3
Total... ..	430,881	- 0.0	+ 2.0	404,864	- 0.1	+ 10.4

Note.—For further details see Articles on pp. 384 to 397.

* The average number of days worked in July, 1912, was reduced by holidays about one quarter of a day.
† In August, 1911, employment at coal and iron mines was adversely affected by the railway dispute.

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION PROCEEDINGS.

Bobbin Turners, Sawyers, &c., Liverpool and Todmorden.

On May 6th a strike involving workpeople employed by a firm of bobbin manufacturers at Garston, Liverpool, and Todmorden commenced, and in the course of a few days the works were closed down, about 1,700 workpeople being involved. At the end of July the works at Garston were re-opened and a number of workpeople returned to work, but the majority continued on strike and some disturbances occurred. On August 17th, however, an agreement was arrived at between representatives of the parties to refer all matters of difference to the decision of an arbitrator to be appointed by the Board of Trade. Arrangements were made for the resumption of work, and it was agreed that machinery for settling all future disputes between the parties should be constituted by the arbitrator.

The Chief Industrial Commissioner, who had already made some inquiries with regard to the dispute and had been keeping in touch with its developments, appointed the Rt. Hon. Sir David Harrel, K.C.B., to act as arbitrator in the matter.

Sir David Harrel commenced the hearing of the case on 3rd September.

Grindstone Workers, Oldbury.

Difficulties having arisen at a steel works near Birmingham with regard to the suitability or otherwise of certain grindstones for the grinding of hoes and other tools, on August 22nd joint application was made by the parties for the appointment of an arbitrator to decide the matter.

Mr. J. Burnett, the arbitrator appointed, having heard representatives of the parties, issued his award on August 28th, as follows:—

That if the grindstones now in dispute between the Firm and the Grinders are found so unsatisfactory in working as to cause a reduction in the wage-earning power of the grinders to an amount less than the average weekly earnings of such grinders during the previous six months the Firm shall make up to the Grinders the amount of the reduction sustained by them from such cause.

The arbitrator subsequently explained that in his opinion the cases of the grinders are to be taken separately in arriving at a result, and not taken together.

Tube Workers, Landore.

His Honour Judge A. O'Connor, K.C., the arbitrator appointed to deal with matters affecting the rates of wages to be paid to the men employed at No. 4 gas furnace of the British Mannesmann Tube Co., Ltd., Landore (see LABOUR GAZETTE, August, p. 332) issued his award on August 23rd, giving an advance of five per cent. on the existing tonnage rates.

RAILWAY CONCILIATION SCHEME.

Wirral Railway.

In connection with the revised scheme for dealing with questions affecting wages, hours, or conditions of service of railway employees engaged in the manipulation of traffic, the Board of Trade have intimated that, should the services of a chairman be required at a meeting of the Wirral Railway Conciliation Boards, they will be prepared to appoint the Rt. Hon. Sir David Harrel, K.C.B., who had been selected by the parties, to act in that capacity.

Glasgow and South Western Railway.

In response to a joint application from the parties the Board of Trade have appointed Sir Thomas R. Rattcliffe-Ellis to consider certain matters regarding an Agenda for a meeting of No. 1 Conciliation Board of the Glasgow and South Western Railway, upon which the secretaries of the Board were unable to agree.

Highland Railway.

On August 26th, in response to a joint application from the parties, the Board of Trade appointed Sheriff-Principal A. O. M. Mackenzie, K.C., to act as chairman of Conciliation Board "C" of the Highland Railway

(Traffic Department) to deal with proposals put forward to the company, upon which the two sides of the Conciliation Board were unable to agree.

TRADE BOARDS ACT, 1909.
PAPER BOX MAKING TRADE (GREAT BRITAIN).
Obligatory Order.

THE Board of Trade have made an order dated September 12th, 1912, making obligatory the minimum time-rates of wages for female workers in Great Britain employed in the making of boxes or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper, cardboard, chip or similar material, fixed on March 11th, 1912, by the Paper Box Trade Board (Great Britain).* These rates are 3d. per hour for female workers, other than learners, and from 4s. to 10s. 6d. per week of 52 hours for female learners, according to age and experience.

Any agreement for the payment of wages at less than the above-mentioned minimum rates, clear of all deductions, will henceforth be void. The penalty for paying wages, after September 12th, at rates less than those which have now been made obligatory by the Board of Trade, is a fine not exceeding £20 for each offence; and in addition the worker is entitled to all arrears, calculated on the basis of the minimum rates. In certain circumstances, however, the Trade Board may, in the case of time-workers who are affected by infirmity or physical injury, grant permits exempting their employment from the operation of the minimum time-rate.

TAILORING TRADE.

Extension of the Scope of the Trade Board.

The Board of Trade have made an order dated August 19th, 1912, extending the scope of the Trade Board established for those branches of the Readymade and Wholesale Bespoke Tailoring Trade in Great Britain which are engaged in making garments to be worn by male persons, so as to include those branches of the Bespoke Tailoring Trade in Great Britain which are engaged in making garments to be worn by male persons, and in which at least three persons or two female persons (in both cases exclusive of cutters) are engaged in making one garment.

Minimum Time-Rates of Wages.

The Tailoring Trade Board (Great Britain) have issued notices, dated August 19th, 1912, intimating that they have fixed minimum time-rates of wages as follows:—

For female workers ... 3½d. an hour.
For male workers ... 6d. an hour.

The above rates apply to all workers (except "learners" as defined by the Trade Board) who are engaged during the whole or any part of their time in any branch of the Readymade and Wholesale Bespoke Tailoring Trade which is engaged in making garments to be worn by male persons; but they do not apply to any persons engaged merely as clerks, messengers, stockroom assistants, warehouse assistants, salesmen, saleswomen, travellers, packers, parcelers, distributors, cleaners, mechanics, engineers or carpenters, or to any other persons whose work stands in a relationship to the trade similar to that of the foregoing excluded classes.

For female learners (as defined by the Trade Board) minimum time-rates of wages have been fixed, varying according to the age and experience of the learner, and ranging from 3s. to 12s. 6d. per week of 50 hours.

For male learners (as defined by the Trade Board) minimum time-rates of wages have been fixed, ranging from 4s. 2d. per week for persons under 15 years of age to 21s. 11d. per week for persons of 21 and under 22 years of age.

The learners' rates are weekly rates based on a week of 50 hours, but they are subject to a proportionate reduction or increase according as the number of hours actually spent by the learner in the factory or workshop in any week is less or more than 50.

Until the above rates of wages are made obligatory by order of the Board of Trade, they have a limited operation, as follows:—

(a) Employers must pay wages at not less than the minimum rates, unless there is a written agreement under which the worker agrees to accept less. If there is no such written

* See "Labour Gazette" for March, 1912, p. 87.

agreement, wages at the minimum rate can be recovered from the employer as a debt (but the employer will not be liable to a fine for failure to pay wages at the minimum rates).

(b) Any employer may give notice to the Trade Board that he is willing to be bound by the rates fixed and to be liable to the same fine for under-payment as if the rates had been made obligatory. No employer will receive a contract from a Government Department or Local Authority unless he has given notice to the Trade Board in this manner.

Any person who is affected by the above rates, whether as an employer or worker, may obtain further information about them on application to the Secretary of the Tailoring Trade Board (Great Britain), Old Serjeant's Inn Chambers, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS.

THE Forty-fifth Annual Congress of the Trade Unions of the United Kingdom was held at the Great Central Hall, Newport, Mon., on Monday, September 2nd, and the five following days. The Congress was presided over by the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee, Mr. W. Thorne, M.P., the General Secretary of the National Union of Gas and General Workers. The standing orders of the Congress provide that it shall consist only of representatives of Trade Unions who are actually working at their trades at the time of their appointment, or who are permanent paid officials of the Unions they represent. Trade Unions may send one delegate for every 2,000 members or fraction thereof, but many of the larger unions do not send the full number of delegates to which they are entitled. Voting on important questions is by card, on the principle of one vote for every 1,000 members represented.

The analysis into groups of trades given below shows the composition of the Congress, and the figures for the trade groups represented are compared with the corresponding figures for the Congress of 1911:—

Groups of Trades.	1911.			1912.		
	No. of Organisations.	No. of Delegates.	No. of Members.	No. of Organisations.	No. of Delegates.	No. of Members.
Building ..	3	6	39,907	4	7	44,988
Mining and Quarrying ..	8	154	565,513	9	132	566,500
Engineering ...	10	16	43,835	12	18	54,983
Shipbuilding (including Boilermakers).	3	10	76,346	3	10	80,283
Other Metal Trades ..	4	35	66,750	4	35	71,664
Textiles ..	*13	101	234,846	*13	88	304,619
Clothing ..	8	20	60,517	7	16	64,131
Transport (Land and Water).	16	58	171,064	15	61	311,270
Chemical, Gas and General Labourers.	8	18	67,922	8	19	132,031
Printing, Bookbinding, etc.	10	21	58,893	11	23	65,715
Pottery and Glass ..	4	5	6,446	4	5	8,194
Woodworking, Furnishing, etc.	8	10	28,639	7	9	31,047
Baking and Cigar-making.	3	7	8,317	3	6	12,606
Enginemn ..	5	23	53,093	5	27	53,399
Post Office Employees	3	5	56,290	4	7	63,646
Miscellaneous ...	21	31	107,129	18	31	116,793
Total ..	127	520	1,645,507	127	494	1,987,354

The number of organisations accounted for in the above statement is 127, but some of these organisations are Federations having members of several of their constituent Trade Unions in attendance at the Congress. Allowing for such cases, members of about 215 Trade Unions attended as delegates this year out of about 1,168 Unions in existence. The membership represented comprised nearly two-thirds of the total membership of all Trade Unions, and showed an increase of 20.8 per cent. as compared with a year ago. Each group of trades showed an increase in the membership represented, the greater part of the total increase occurring in the transport, the chemical, gas, and general labour and the textile groups.

Among the principal subjects on which the Congress passed resolutions were:—Restriction of the hours of labour to eight per day for workpeople generally; amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Act and the Trade Boards Act with a view to the inclusion of agricultural labourers; evictions during trade disputes; State help for blind workpeople; payment for statute holidays; and

* In some of the textile trades not only are amalgamated associations represented as such, but the branch associations of which they consist send separate delegates. These branch associations have not been reckoned as separate organisations.

education. It was also resolved to hold a special conference in London to consider Memorandum 119 issued by the Insurance Commissioners.

The voting by Congress for members of the Parliamentary Committee for the ensuing year resulted in the election of representatives of the following organisations:—Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders, Card and Blowing Room Operatives, National Dock Labourers, Gas and General Workers, Amalgamated Brassworkers, Miners' Federation, General Union Carpenters and Joiners, Railway Servants, Amalgamated Weavers, Shipwrights, Shop Assistants, Machine Workers, Printers' Warehousemen, Watermen, Lightermen and Watchmen, Musicians, and Agricultural Labourers. Mr. W. J. Davis, J.P., was elected Chairman of the Committee and Mr. C. W. Bowerman, M.P., Secretary.

MINES AND QUARRIES IN 1911.

PART I. of the Annual General Report* on Mines and Quarries has recently been issued by the Home Office, containing statistics of the persons employed, output and accidents at mines and quarries in the United Kingdom in the year 1911, arranged according to the inspection districts. In addition comparative tables are given showing the number of persons employed, output and accidents in mines for each year from 1873-1911, and in quarries from 1895 to 1911.

Number of Persons Employed.

The total number of persons employed in and about all the mines and quarries of the United Kingdom in 1911 was 1,179,101, of whom 1,067,213, or 90·5 per cent., worked at the 3,325 mines under the Coal Mines Act, 29,025 at the 652 mines under the Metalliferous Mines Act, and 82,863 at the quarries under the Quarries Act.

Of the 1,067,213 persons employed under the Coal Mines Act 863,512, or 80·9 per cent., were underground workers. Of the 203,701 surface workers, 6,279, or 3·08 per cent., were females. The number of young persons under 16 employed below ground in these mines was 54,720, or 6·3 per cent. of the underground workers; the total number of surface and underground workers under 16 was 74,166, or 6·95 per cent. of all workers.

The following Table shows for the period 1902-1911 the number of persons employed in and about the mines classed under the Coal Mines Act:—

Year.	Underground (Males).	Above Ground.		Total.	Percentage Increase over previous year.
		Males.	Females.		
1902	662,901	156,537	5,353	824,791	2·2
1903	676,746	159,940	5,380	842,066	2·1
1904	681,683	160,357	5,513	847,553	0·7
1905	691,112	161,332	5,929	858,373	1·3
1906	709,545	167,339	5,461	882,345	2·8
1907	757,887	177,081	5,650	940,618	6·6
1908	796,329	185,470	6,014	987,813	5·0
1909	818,381	189,654	5,963	1,013,998	2·7
1910	848,381	194,805	6,221	1,049,407	3·5
1911	863,512	197,422	6,279	1,067,213	1·7

During the period for which details are given in the above Table, the number employed has increased by 29·4 per cent. The lowest rate of increase on the previous year was in 1904, when it amounted to only 0·7 per cent.; the highest rate of increase was in 1907, when it rose to 6·6 per cent., while in the following year the increase amounted to 5·0 per cent.

Output of Minerals.

The total output of minerals at the mines under the Coal Mines Act was 285,942,232 tons, of which 271,878,124 were coal, 2,482,846 fireclay, 7,886,898 ironstone, 3,116,803 oil shale, and 577,561 sundry minerals. Adding 13,775 tons from open quarries, the total output of coal was 271,891,899 tons, an increase of 7,458,871 tons, compared with 1910, and the greatest output yet recorded.

The increase of the coal production of the several districts, including the small quantities obtained from quarries, was as follows:—

* Mines and Quarries: General Report with Statistics, for 1911. Part I. Cd. 6340. Wyman & Sons, Ltd. Price 6d.

Inspection District.	Increase.
Scotland	Tons. 383,031
Newcastle	2,156,190
Durham	1,814,303
York and North Midlands	1,195,176
Manchester and Ireland	25,076
Liverpool and North Wales	227,056
South Wales	1,500,745
Midland and Southern	157,296
Total increase	7,458,871

The Report states that the causes which chiefly contributed to this increase were probably briskness of trade, as evidenced by the increase in the number of persons employed (17,806), and comparative freedom from strikes. In the previous year there was a considerable stoppage of work in the northern coalfield due to difficulties in connection with the re-adjustment of shifts following the bringing into force of the Eight Hours Act in Durham and Northumberland. Another contributory cause was the fact that the question of a national strike of coal miners was under discussion, which conduced to much greater activity in the coal trade during the latter half of the year 1911.

The average output of minerals at mines under the Coal Mines Act was 331 tons per person employed underground, an increase of 3 tons per person on the preceding year.

The total output of minerals at the mines under the Metalliferous Mines Act was 3,222,950 tons, of which 1,823,795 tons were iron ore.

The total quantity of stone and other minerals obtained from the quarries under the Quarries Act was 45,810,766 tons, of which 5,316,525 tons were iron ore. In addition 492,206 tons of iron ore were obtained from shallow open workings, making the total output of iron ore from all sources 15,519,424 tons.

Fatal Accidents.

The total number of fatal accidents in and about mines and quarries in 1911 was 1,349, resulting in 1,407 deaths. At the mines under the Coal Mines Act there were 1,212 separate fatal accidents, causing 1,265 deaths. This is a decrease of 30 in the number of accidents and of 510 in the number of deaths, compared with 1910, but in that year there occurred two abnormal colliery disasters—viz., Whitehaven and Hulton, in which respectively 136 and 344 persons lost their lives. Of the 1,265 persons killed, 78 were under 16 years of age, compared with 114 in the preceding year.

The principal classes of fatal accidents at coal mines were as follows:—

Classes of Accidents.	Number of		Proportion of Deaths due to each cause.
	Fatal Accidents.	Deaths.	
Underground:—			Per cent.
Explosions of fire damp or coal dust	23	36	2·8
Falls of ground	604	617	48·8
Shaft accidents	89	99	7·8
Haulage accidents	263	264	20·8
Other accidents	90	100	7·9
Accidents on surface	143	149	11·9
Total	1,212	1,265	100·0

The death rate of the underground workers at the mines under the Coal Mines Act was 1·29 per 1,000 persons employed, compared with 1·91 in 1910; the death rate of the surface workers was 73 per 1,000 employed, as against 76 in the previous year. The death rate of the underground and surface workers as a whole was the lowest on record—viz., 1·19, as against 1·69 in 1910.

LABOUR EXCHANGES IN BELGIUM IN 1911.*

NINE new Labour Exchanges, open to all workpeople and charging no fees for their services, were instituted in Belgium during 1911, all of which complied with the conditions qualifying such establishments for the State subsidy (see GAZETTE for August, 1911, p. 286), while one

* *Revue du Travail* (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department), June 30th, 1912.

of those already in existence was dissolved, so that at the end of 1911 there were 39 approved Exchanges as compared with 31 at the end of 1910. Six of these were municipal institutions. In 1911, subsidies to the amount of £714 were distributed among the 29 Exchanges in respect of their operations during the previous year.

The number of applications for employment registered during 1911 by the 37 free Labour Exchanges making returns was 69,694, of which 53,112 (or 76 per cent. of the whole) were from males and 16,582 (or 24 per cent.) from females. The number of vacancies notified by employers was 55,975, of which 42,281 (or 75 per cent.) were for males and 13,694 (or 25 per cent.) for females.

In all 31,664 vacancies were filled during the year, the situations obtained by males numbering 24,015 (or 76 per cent. of the whole) and by females 7,649 (or 24 per cent.). Nine per cent. of the situations filled by males and 10 per cent. of those obtained by females were described as being of a temporary character. Of the 24,015 vacancies filled by males 4,712 were in the metal trades, 3,664 in the building trades, and 2,546 in the woodworking and furnishing trades, while 2,231 were for situations as messengers and labourers. Of the 7,649 vacancies filled by females, 4,623 were in domestic service and 1,317 in the clothing trades.

Taking the figures as a whole, the number of applications for employment was 124 for each 100 vacancies notified, while situations were filled in the case of 45 per cent. of the applications made by workpeople and 57 per cent. of those made by employers.

The following table gives an indication of the development of the work of the Exchanges since 1904:—

Year.	Exchanges Reporting.	Applications for Employment.	Vacancies Notified.	Vacancies Filled.		
				Number.	Percentage of Applications for Employment.	Percentage of Vacancies Notified.
1904	10	20,461	13,303	7,996	39	60
1908	14	39,852	21,832	15,010	38	69
1909	17	51,576	27,970	18,735	36	67
1910	29	60,066	40,752	24,890	41	61
1911	37	69,694	55,975	31,664	45	57

Thus the work of the free Labour Exchanges increased in a marked degree in 1911, and the report calls special attention to the fact that the number of vacancies notified continues to increase in a greater proportion than the number of applications for employment. Thus, for every 100 applications for employment there were 80 vacancies offered by employers in 1911, as compared with 68 in 1910, and 54 in 1909. This progression is regarded as a result of the increasing appreciation of the service of the Exchanges by employers. The efficiency of the Exchanges in obtaining situations has also increased, 45 vacancies being filled per 100 applicants in 1911 as compared with 41 in 1910 and 36 in 1909.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS IN 1911.

A Report* has recently been issued by the Board of Trade giving particulars of the number of persons killed or injured in the working of railways during 1911.

The accidents are, as usual, grouped under the three main heads of (1) Train accidents, (2) Accidents caused by the movement of trains and railway vehicles, exclusive of train accidents, and (3) Accidents on railway premises not due to either of the above causes. These three groups are further sub-divided according as they relate to (a) Passengers, (b) Servants, and (c) Other Persons.

The total number killed in 1911 under heads (1) and (2) was 1,070 and the number injured 8,345, compared with 1,062 killed and 8,342 injured in 1910. The yearly averages for the ten years 1900-1909 were 1,115 killed and 7,249 injured.

The number of train accidents in 1911 necessitating official inquiries was 23, four of which were attended with loss of life. The number of passengers killed in train accidents was 14, as compared with 23 in 1910, when there were several serious accidents; the average number of passengers killed during the decade 1900-1909 was 17.

* Cd. 6369. Price 2d. Wyman and Sons, Ltd.

The number of passengers injured through accidents to trains during 1911 was 468, being 643 less than in the previous year, when the high number was due to two serious accidents; the average number of passengers injured during the ten years 1900-1909 was 561. Train accidents also accounted for the death of 5 railway servants and injuries to 115.

Accidents, other than train accidents, caused by the movement of trains and railway vehicles accounted for the death of 92 passengers and 374 railway servants (exclusive of contractors' servants) and injuries to 2,257 passengers and 5,165 railway servants; the number injured shows a considerable increase in both cases compared with 1910 when this class of accident resulted in injuries to 2,210 passengers and 4,587 railway servants. The Report calls attention to the fact that these casualties to passengers, which are so much more numerous than those caused by train accidents, arise largely from the carelessness of the passengers themselves. In connection with the casualties to railway servants in this class of accident 940 inquiries were held during 1911, 842 of which related to accidents to 869 servants of railway companies due to the movement of vehicles. The following Table shows the causes to which the accidents that occurred were attributed, distinguishing the cases into which inquiries were held by the Board's officers:—

Cause.	Inquired into.	Not Inquired into.	Total.
1. Misadventure or Accidental			
2. Want of caution or misconduct on the part of the injured person	147	3,402	3,549
3. Want of caution or breach of rules, &c., on the part of servants other than the persons injured	416	996	1,412
4. Defective systems of working, &c.	162	179	341
5. Defective apparatus, &c.	88	9	97
6. Neglect of Rules under the Railway Employment Act, 1900	38	79	117
Total	18	5	23
Total	869	4,670	5,539

It will be seen from the above Table that the accidents comprised under the first three headings which, so far as they are affected by rules, etc., may be called preventable, outnumber the preventable accidents by 22 to 1.

The following Tables show the number of railway servants (exclusive of contractors' servants) killed and injured in 1911:—

I.—Train Accidents.

Grade.	No. employed on 31st Dec., 1910.†	1911.	
		No. Killed.	No. Injured.
Engine Drivers	27,330	1	30
Firemen	25,419	1	23
Guards (Passenger)	8,239	..	8
„ (Goods) and Brakemen	15,339	1	42
Total, 1911		3*	103*
Total, 1910	76,327	3†	109†

II.—Other Railway Accidents.

Grade.	No. employed on 31st Dec., 1910.†	1911.	
		No. Killed.	No. Injured.
Goods Guards and Brakemen	15,339	34	866
Permanent Way Men	66,305	91	190
Engine Drivers	27,330	13	460
Firemen	25,419	19	685
Shunters	13,281	32	935
Porters	57,889	40	636
Passenger Guards	8,239	5	134
Labourers	66,314	46	196
Other Classes	336,634	94	1,064
Total, 1911		374	5,165
Total, 1910	608,750	368	4,687

III.—Other Accidents on Railway Premises.

There were also on railway premises a large number of accidents other than those connected with the movement of railway vehicles which, in 1911, accounted for the death of 89 persons and injury to 23,913. The corresponding figures for 1910 were 59 and 21,768 respectively.

* In addition two railway servants were killed and 12 injured, who were not employed in running trains.
† In addition one railway servant was killed and four injured who were not employed in running trains.
‡ Latest date for which figures are available.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIES.

Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 34, Broadway, Westminster, S.W., from the latest official and other reports, newspapers, &c.†

[N.B.—It is of great importance that all emigrants should have with them on landing sufficient money upon which to live till they can secure work.]

Canada.

ALL emigrants landing in Canada between March 1st and October 30th must possess \$25 (£5 4s.), and children \$12.50 (£2 12s.) each, and between November 1st and last day of February \$50 (£10 8s.) and \$25 (£5 4s.) respectively, and sufficient travelling money, except that the following need have sufficient travelling money only: (1) Farm labourers and female servants, if going to assured employment as such; (2) competent labourers going to assured permanent employment at railroad reconstruction work, if they arrive between May 1st and September 30th, 1912; (3) emigrants holding special cards from a regular Canadian agent, if they arrive in Canada by September 30th next; and (4) certain relatives of residents in Canada. All emigrants pecuniarily assisted to Canada by British charitable societies or public funds must obtain certificates from the Canadian Emigration Authorities, Charing Cross, London.

The demand for farm labourers, railway navvies, and mechanics will cease for this year in three or four weeks; the demand for female servants both in towns and on farms continues always. Some 1,200 railway labourers in British Columbia are on strike, and there are also strikes of tailors at Toronto, freight handlers at Montreal, builders' labourers at Brandon, and woodworkers at Victoria (B.C.).

Commonwealth of Australia.

Passages.—Assisted or nominated passages are granted—mainly to agriculturists and female servants—by the Governments of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania.

New South Wales.—In Sydney and suburbs the building, furniture, iron and clothing trades have been fairly well employed, and competent men in these trades can get work. Miners at Broken Hill and Newcastle have been very busy. There is a good demand for female servants and tailoresses (factory). In the country employment has greatly improved owing to the plentiful rains.

Victoria.—There is a good opening for farmers, farm labourers, female servants, and female operatives in factories. Competent mechanics will have little difficulty in securing employment.

South Australia.—Work of nearly all kinds is plentiful, and a large amount of money is being spent on public works. There is a good demand for plasterers, bricklayers, masons, galvanised ironworkers, carpenters, joiners, cabinet makers, tinsmiths, coppersmiths, brass-finishers, boiler-makers, female servants, women and girls in factories, and experienced farm labourers and married couples in the country. The demand for unskilled labour is quiet at present.

Queensland.—There is a good demand for farm labourers, dairy hands, and female servants.

Western Australia.—The principal demand is for farmers, farm labourers (especially those who are accustomed to machinery), and female servants.

New Zealand.

Agricultural operations have been quiet. The cycle and motor, coach-building, printing, engineering, meat-freezing, woodworking, building, clothing and leather trades, and unskilled labour have been fairly busy. There is a demand for women workers in domestic service, tailoring, etc., but not much for mechanics. Emigrants starting now will arrive at the commencement of the busier season.

Union of South Africa.

The building trades of Johannesburg continue to be active in most branches, but the supply of labour is quite sufficient. There is no improvement in the engineering trades. There is no demand for more labour at Pretoria.

† Handbooks (with maps) on the different British Dominions Overseas may be obtained from the Emigrants' Information Office at a penny each post free.

At Cape Town there is no demand except for a few harness makers and good joiners; there is an excess of stonemasons. At Durban the only demand is for a few good tinsmiths and sanitary plumbers and general tailors.

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 properly be used with those on pp. 377-378 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 pp. xxiv.-xxvi. and 8-20 of the Fourth Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics, Cd. 5415 of 1911.)]

FRANCE.

Employment in July.*—In the building trades the level of unemployment was much lower than a month ago, but was higher than a year ago. There was a marked improvement in the metal trades, where unemployment fell to a very low level. In the printing trades there was a seasonal decline; compared with a year ago unemployment showed a decrease in Paris, but an increase in the provinces; the situation in other respects was on the whole satisfactory for the time of year. In the textile trades a certain decline was still noticeable, and there was more unemployment than either a month ago or a year ago. In glassworks the usual stoppage due to hot weather did not take place, the temperature not being excessive at any time. In the skin and leather trades the improved conditions previously reported continued during July. There was no change in the state of employment in vineyards in the South of France, and the measures for protecting the vines from disease were still being carried out. There was less unemployment among woodmen, field work supplying the place of the forestry work, which at this part of the year becomes less abundant. Gardeners in the Paris district continued well employed.

Returns showing the number of members unemployed at the middle of the month were received by the French Labour Department from 761 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 220,497. Excluding returns from the miners' unions in the Pas-de-Calais department, 4.9 per cent. of the members were unemployed in July, as compared with 6.1 per cent. in June and 5.7 per cent. in July, 1911.†

Coal Mining in July.*—The average number of days worked per week by persons employed underground was 5.95 in July, as compared with 5.98 in the previous month and 5.87 in July, 1911. Taking surface and underground workers together, 79.40 per cent. worked full time (6 days or over per week), and 20.50 per cent. from 5 to 6 days. In the previous month the corresponding percentages were 94.07 and 5.90; and in July, 1911, 76.0 and 23.5.

Labour Disputes in July.*—Ninety-two labour disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in July, as compared with 78 in the previous month and 151‡ in July, 1911. In 87 of the new disputes 5,879 workpeople took part, as compared with 12,795 who took part in 73 disputes in the previous month and 47,342 in 128 disputes in July, 1911. The groups of trades in which disputes were most frequent were building (20 disputes), transport (15), metal (14), and textiles (10). Of 89 new and old disputes reported to have terminated 13 ended wholly in favour of the workpeople and 45 wholly in favour of the employers, while 31 were compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in July.*—Ten instances of recourse to the law of 1892 on conciliation and arbitration were reported to the French Labour Department during July, the initiative being taken in 4 cases by the workpeople, and in 6 cases by the Justices of the Peace. In 2 cases the proffered intervention was declined by the

* Bulletin de l'Office du Travail (Journal of the French Labour Department).
† These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom shown on pp. 377-378. For reasons see Fourth Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics.
‡ Revised figure.

employers; in the remaining 8 cases committees of conciliation were formed, resulting in the settlement of 5 of the disputes, a collective agreement being signed in each case.

Strike at Nantes Shipbuilding Yards.—In a despatch of August 16th H.M. Consul at Rouen reported that a strike affecting about 3,000 workmen had been declared at two shipbuilding yards at Nantes owing to the refusal of the directors of the yards to dismiss a certain number of Spanish workmen engaged during a previous dispute. The Spaniards joined the strikers and demanded repatriation at the expense of the employers. On August 20th H.M. Consul stated that work had been resumed, and that no further trouble was anticipated if the Spanish workmen maintained their decision to keep away from the yards. These latter were seeking, through their Consul, to obtain the cost of their repatriation and an indemnity from the yards.

Strike of Registered Seamen.—H.M. Consul-General at Marseilles, in a despatch dated August 31st, reports further concerning the strike of registered seamen (see BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for August, p. 339), which, although over at other French ports, was still in progress at Marseilles. The leaders of the men's union at that port secured the consent of the "Messageries Maritimes" Company to refer the question of the scale of wages to arbitration. Later despatches from the same source report that on September 2nd the arbitrators issued a decision that the company was under no obligation to grant a further increase of wages to its employees (i.e., in addition to the all-round increase of 8 per cent. granted by the leading companies as from June 1st). The seamen concerned decided to accept the award and to return to work on the ships of this company. On the following day those employed upon vessels belonging to the remaining companies also decided to resume work, and H.M. Consul-General states that the strike is now over.

GERMANY.

Employment in July.—According to the Reichsarbeitsblatt* the state of the labour market in July was again too lacking in well-defined characteristics to permit of its being described in general terms; in various quarters it showed signs of weakening. Returns relating to unemployment were furnished to the Imperial Labour Department by 49 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 2,120,088. Omitting branches which failed to make returns, the membership covered was 1,952,249, of whom 34,813, or 1.8 per cent., were stated to be unemployed at the end of July, as against 1.7 per cent. at the end of the previous month, and 1.6 per cent. at the end of July, 1911.† Particulars for each of the principal unions that contributed to make up these aggregate percentages are given below.

UNION.	Membership reported on at end of July, 1912.	Percentage of Membership returned as unemployed at end of month.†		
		July, 1912.	June, 1912.	July, 1911.
All Unions making Returns ..	1,952,249	1.8	1.7	1.6
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:—				
Miners	55,069	0.2	0.1	0.1
Metal Workers (Soc. Dem.)	534,139	1.3	1.3	1.3
Engineers and Metal Workers ..	24,160	1.6	1.4	1.2
(Hirsch-Duncker)				
Metal Workers (Christian)	42,475	0.6	0.6	0.7
Textile Workers (Soc. Dem.)	136,733	0.7	0.6	0.9
Textile Workers (Christian)	36,962	0.6	0.4	1.4
Boot and Shoe Makers	42,527	1.7	1.6	1.6
Transport Workers	209,592	1.3	1.1	0.9
Printers	62,035	6.4	5.5	3.4
Bookbinders	31,422	3.0	3.0	3.1
Woodworkers	139,672	2.2	1.9	1.9
Brewery and Corn Mill Workers ..	44,820	1.4	1.0	1.2
Tobacco Workers	35,193	1.7	1.6	2.4
Factory Workers (irrespective of trade)	188,641	1.0	0.9	1.2
State and Municipal Workers	42,827	0.3	0.4	0.3

According to returns furnished by employers a large number of trades maintained the favourable state of employment reported in June, while certain others underwent a seasonal decline.

* The Journal of the German Labour Department.
† These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom shown on pp. 377-378. For reasons see Fourth Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics.

The coal mining industry in the Ruhr district showed no weakening on the whole, except that the demand for coke was described as inadequate. The reports from Upper Silesia were, on the whole, favourable; also those from Lower Silesia, where business was better than in June. Employment was also better than in the previous month in Niederlausitz (Western Silesia). As regards lignite mining in Central Germany there was no substantial improvement on the whole.

Reports from the blast furnaces of Western and Central Germany, as also from copper and brass foundries, were again good. In the potash mining industry employment was satisfactory, having regard to the time of the year. Iron foundries, steel works and rolling mills were well employed, while in general engineering works the situation was, on the whole, satisfactory. The reports from the electrical and chemical trades were also favourable. Cotton spinning mills experienced a further decline in several districts, but for the woollen cloth manufacture the reports were generally satisfactory. As regards the ready-made clothing trades business was slack in the women and children's branches, but generally good in those for men's and boys' clothing. Concerning the building trades the reports were in general unfavourable. In Berlin business continued bad, while at Halle, Kiel, Cassel and Nuremberg employment was slack. Favourable reports were, however, received from Königsberg, Magdeburg, Chemnitz, Leipzig and Mannheim.

HOLLAND.*

Employment in July.—Returns relating to unemployment among their members in July were received by the Dutch Government Statistical Office from trade unions and municipal unemployment funds with 55,511 members entitled to benefit. The percentage of these out of work during the month was 2.7, as compared with 2.9 in June and 2.1 in July, 1911.† This percentage is obtained by taking, for each of the four (or five) weeks in the month under consideration, the number of persons unemployed on one or more days of the week. The proportion of the average of these four (or five) numbers to the number of members entitled to benefit gives the percentage.

The average number of working days lost per week by each member unemployed was 5.8 both in July and in the previous month, as compared with 5.7 in July, 1911.

The following Table shows the above figures, together with corresponding particulars for the larger trade groups:—

Group of Trades.	Number of Members entitled to Benefit in July, 1912.	Percentage unemployed.†			Average Days lost per Week.		
		July, 1912.	June, 1912.	July, 1911.	July, 1912.	June, 1912.	July, 1911.
All Unions and Municipal Unemployment Funds making returns.	55,511	2.7	2.9	2.1	5.8	5.8	5.7
PRINCIPAL TRADES:—							
Diamond Workers	10,409	10.2	12.0	5.3	6.0	6.0	6.0
Printing Trades	6,248	0.7	0.6	0.6	5.9	6.0	5.8
Building Trades	10,903	1.7	1.1	2.7	4.7	5.7	4.9
Bricklayers and Masons	999	3.1	2.3	1.4	4.5	5.0	4.6
Painters	2,064	0.4	0.1	1.3	5.6	4.2	5.3
Carpenters	5,207	1.6	1.0	2.8	4.5	4.3	4.3
Mining (Metal and Coal) and Peat-getting	2,185	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	6.0	0.0
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding	6,521	0.3	0.3	0.7	5.7	5.3	5.9
Textile Trades	2,756	0.4	0.2	0.4	5.4	5.2	5.7
Tobacco Workers and Cigar Makers	6,866	0.6	0.6	1.5	5.5	5.6	5.7

DENMARK.

Employment in June.‡—According to returns supplied to the Danish Statistical Office 4.1 per cent. of the 94,400 members of trade unions reporting were unemployed at the end of June, as compared with 4.5 per cent. at the end of the preceding month, and 5.5 per cent. a year ago.† The average number of days lost owing to un-

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

† These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom shown on pp. 377-378. For reasons see Fourth Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics.

‡ Relates only to persons unemployed throughout the whole week.
§ Statistiske Efterretninger (Journal of the Danish Statistical Office).

employment during June was 0.9 per member of the unions reporting, as compared with just over one per member in the previous month, and 1½ in June, 1911.

*Regulation of Labour in Bakehouses.**—The provisions applicable to labour in bakehouses in Denmark have been amended in the following (among other) respects by a law which received the Royal sanction on June 8th, 1912.

Children below the age of exemption from attendance at school (*i.e.*, as a rule under 14 years) must not be employed in bakehouses. For lads under 16 and for girls and young women under 18 the daily hours of labour must not exceed 10, and must be broken by an interval of half an hour for rest after 4½ consecutive hours of work. Such persons must not be employed at night, *i.e.*, between the hours of 8 p.m. and 4 a.m. An uninterrupted period of rest, amounting to 24 hours each week must be allowed to every worker. Women must not, as a rule, be employed during the first four weeks after confinement. Public poor relief granted in respect of confinement is not to entail the usual disabilities attached to the receipt of public relief. The law also prescribes rules as to air space (283 cubic feet per worker), ventilation, construction, cleanliness, etc., of workrooms.

NORWAY.†

Employment in July.—The following Table shows the percentage of members reported unemployed at the end of July in certain trade unions making returns to the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, comparative figures relating to the same unions being added for the previous month and for July, 1911:—

Group of Trades.	Membership.			Percentage Unemployed.‡		
	July 31st, 1912.	June 30th, 1912.	July 31st, 1911.	July 31st, 1912.	June 30th, 1912.	July 31st, 1911.
Bricklayers and Masons ..	678	639	534	0.8	1.4	2.2
Carpenters, &c. ..	1,482	1,391	1,218	0.1	0.1	1.6
Painters ..	377	353	260	—	—	—
Metal Workers ..	7,579	7,609	6,601	1.0	1.0	1.4
Boot and Shoemakers ..	685	716	577	0.1	0.1	1.2
Printers ..	2,023	1,981	1,892	0.1	0.1	0.6
Bookbinders ..	750	765	398	0.7	0.2	0.3
Wood Pulp & Paper Makers ..	729	747	829	—	—	—
Cabinet Makers ..	527	522	484	0.6	—	1.4
Bakers ..	389	388	330	0.8	3.6	2.1
Total ..	14,999	14,811	13,133	0.7	0.7	1.2

UNITED STATES.

Eight-Hours Day on Government Contracts: New Law.—In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated 30th July, H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Washington reports the enactment, on the 19th June, of a new Federal law, extending the eight-hour principle for labour employed on Government work. For some years past eight hours has constituted the statutory limit of the day's work for men employed on public works of the Federal Government and the District of Columbia. The new law applies to all work done under contract for the Government, with the following exceptions:—

(1) "Contracts for transportation by land or water, or for the transmission of intelligence, or for the purchase of supplies by the Government, whether manufactured to conform to particular specifications or not, or for such materials or articles as may usually be bought in open market, except armour and armour plate, whether made to conform to particular specifications or not."

(2) "The construction or repair of levees or revetments necessary for protection against floods or overflows on the navigable waters of the United States."

The law becomes effective on the 1st January, 1913, but work on the Panama Canal is exempted from its provisions until the 1st January, 1915.

* Based on a printed digest of the law transmitted by H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Copenhagen in a despatch to the Foreign Office dated September 2nd.

† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Labour Department.

‡ These figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom shown on pp. 377-378. For reasons see Fourth Abstract of Foreign Labour Statistics.

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES DURING AUGUST.

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT was good during August. It was better than a month ago, and much better than in August, 1911, when time was lost on account of the railway dispute.

Returns relating to 1,270 pits, employing 678,450 workpeople, showed that the average number of days* worked per week during the fortnight ended August 24th, 1912, was 5.46, compared with 5.15 a month ago, and 4.65 a year ago. In July, 1912, 0.21 of a day per week was lost on account of holidays.

Of the 678,450 workpeople covered by the returns, 601,472 (or 88.7 per cent.) were employed at pits working 10 or more days during the fortnight ended August 24th, 1912, while 483,968 (or 71.3 per cent. of the total) were employed at pits working 11 days or more.

The highest average was in South Wales and Monmouthshire (5.88 days), the lowest averages were in Ireland (5.06) and Derbyshire (5.10); in both these districts some time was lost on account of holidays.

The following Table shows the average number of days worked during the fortnight ended August 24th, 1912, together with the figures for similar periods in July, 1912, and August, 1911. Collieries at which there were disputes, causing stoppage of work, are excluded from the figures:—

Districts	No. of Work-people employed in August, 1912, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in the Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in August, 1912, as compared with a	
		August 24th, 1912.	July 27th, 1912.†	August 26th, 1911.‡	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ..	51,249	5.41	5.27	4.40	+ 0.14	+ 1.01
Durham ..	122,147	5.41	5.21	4.74	+ 0.20	+ 0.67
Cumberland ..	7,551	5.76	5.78	5.15	- 0.02	+ 0.61
South Yorkshire ..	79,992	5.66	5.62	4.68	- 0.06	+ 0.88
West Yorkshire ..	27,275	5.47	5.08	4.16	+ 0.39	+ 1.31
Lancashire and Cheshire ..	59,246	5.16	5.05	3.84	+ 0.11	+ 1.32
Derbyshire ..	46,777	5.10	4.91	3.97	+ 0.19	+ 1.13
Nottingham and Leicester ..	36,883	5.15	4.77	4.14	+ 0.38	+ 1.01
Staffordshire ..	29,990	5.28	5.26	4.28	+ 0.02	+ 1.00
Warwick, Worcester and Salop ..	8,448	5.16	4.73	4.23	+ 0.42	+ 0.92
Gloucester and Somerset ..	7,257	5.21	4.86	4.05	+ 0.35	+ 1.16
North Wales ..	11,444	5.80	5.34	3.98	+ 0.46	+ 1.82
South Wales and Mon. ..	133,370	5.88	5.69	5.39	+ 0.19	+ 0.49
ENGLAND AND WALES	621,629	5.47	5.30	4.59	+ 0.17	+ 0.88
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland ..	23,662	5.23	4.22	4.96	+ 1.01	+ 0.27
The Lothians ..	3,882	5.43	4.19	4.98	+ 1.24	+ 0.45
Fife ..	28,736	5.48	2.97	5.49	+ 2.51	- 0.01
SCOTLAND	56,280	5.37	3.58	5.24	+ 1.79	+ 0.13
IRELAND	541	5.06	5.42	4.81	- 0.36	+ 0.25
United Kingdom	678,450	5.46	5.15	4.65	+ 0.31	+ 0.81

In the following reports for the various districts allowance has been made as far as possible for the effects of holidays, and also for the effects of the railway dispute in August, 1911.

In Northumberland and Durham employment was good, and better than both a month ago and a year ago. In Cumberland employment continued good. In Yorkshire employment was good, especially in South Yorkshire, and showed an improvement on both a month ago and a year ago. In Lancashire and Cheshire and in the Midland Counties generally employment was fairly good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. In the Forest of Dean employment was good, and better than a month ago, especially at steam coalpits. Employment in North Wales and South Wales and Monmouth

* 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.

† These averages are reduced on account of holidays.

‡ These averages are reduced on account of the railway dispute.

was very good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. In West Scotland and the Lothians employment was good, and much better than a year ago, in Fife it was good, and better than a month ago.

The following Table shows the numbers employed and the average number of days worked per week distributed according to the principal kind of coal produced at the pits at which the workpeople were engaged:—

Description of Coal.	No. of Work-people employed in August, 1912, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Pits in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in August, 1912, on a	
		August 24th, 1912.	July 27th, 1912.*	August 26th, 1911.†	Month ago.	Year ago.
Anthracite ..	6,993	5.60	5.56	5.00	+ 0.04	+ 0.60
Coking ..	36,209	5.46	5.29	4.76	+ 0.17	+ 0.70
Gas ..	43,014	5.22	5.13	4.95	+ 0.15	+ 0.33
House ..	87,738	5.15	4.84	3.98	+ 0.31	+ 1.17
Steam ..	264,626	5.62	5.42	4.92	+ 0.23	+ 0.70
Mixed ..	238,870	5.42	4.97	4.53	+ 0.45	+ 0.89
All Descriptions	678,450	5.46	5.15	4.65	+ 0.31	+ 0.81

Compared with a month ago the improvement was most marked at house, steam, and coking coalpits. Compared with a year ago, there was a considerable increase in the time worked at house, steam, coking, and anthracite pits.

The Exports of coal, coke, and manufactured fuel during August, 1912, amounted to 6,729,653 tons, or 590,136 tons less than in July, 1912, and 1,063,357 tons more than in August, 1911.

IRON, SHALE AND OTHER MINING, AND QUARRYING.

EMPLOYMENT during August continued good in iron mines, and showed an improvement on the previous month in Cleveland; it was generally much better than a year ago, when it was affected by the railway strike. It was fairly good in shale mines, but not so good as a month ago, while better than a year ago.

Employment was fair in tin mines, and showed some improvement on a month ago. It continued good in lead mines. It continued fairly good generally with quarrymen, and good with settmakers; in some districts wet weather caused some interruption.

Mining.

Iron Mining.—During the fortnight ended August 24th the weekly average number of days worked by all mines and open works included in the returns was 5.81, as compared with 5.74* a month ago, and 4.70† a year ago.

Districts.	Work-people employed in August, 1912.	Average Number of Days worked per week by Mines in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Aug. 1912, on a	
		August 24th, 1912.	July 27th, 1912.	August 26th, 1911.†	Month ago.	Year ago.
Cleveland ..	7,554	5.97	5.78	4.93	+ 0.19	+ 1.04
Cumberland & Lancashire ..	5,219	5.84	5.84	5.36	..	+ 0.48
Scotland ..	1,003	5.45	4.35*	5.32	+ 0.10	+ 0.13
Other Districts ..	2,408	5.42	5.93	5.63	- 0.51	- 0.21
All Districts	16,184	5.81	5.74*	4.70	+ 0.07	+ 1.11

Of the total number of workpeople covered by the returns, 95.0 per cent. were employed at mines working 11 or more days during the fortnight ended August 24th, compared with 88.1 per cent. a month ago, and 35.2 per cent. a year ago; the percentage for a year ago was affected by the railway strike.

Shale Mining.—According to the returns received there were 3,491 workpeople employed in the fortnight ended August 24th, who worked on an average 5.80 days per week, as compared with 3,487 workpeople in July, who worked 5.85 days, and 3,357 workpeople in August, 1911, who worked 5.74 days.

* These averages are reduced on account of holidays.

† These averages are reduced on account of the railway dispute.

Tin Mining.—Employment was generally fair in Cornwall; it showed a slight improvement in the Calstock and Dartmoor districts and at St. Ives and Marazion; in the Camborne district it was fairly good.

Lead Mining.—Employment was good in North Wales and fairly good in the Matlock district, and about the same as a month ago and a year ago. In the Weardale district it continued good and was much better than a year ago.

Quarrying.

Slate.—Employment in North Wales was fair generally; in the Festiniog district it was fairly good and about the same as a month ago and a year ago. Employment continued good at Delabole (Cornwall), and fair at Ballachulish (Argyll).

Granite.—Employment in Cornwall continued dull in the Penryn district and fair generally at the other centres. In Leicestershire it was good. In the Aberdeen district employment was fairly good and better than a month ago and a year ago.

Limestone.—Employment in the Weardale district was fair at Stanhope and Westgate and bad at Frosterley. It was good and better than a month ago in Cumberland, and continued good at Buxton and fair in the Plymouth district.

Other Stone.—In the Upper Weardale whinstone quarries employment was good and much better than a year ago; with freestone quarrymen on the Tyne it was fair and about the same as a month ago and a year ago. Employment was good, but affected by wet weather in road material (basalt) quarries in the Clee Hill district. It was bad, and worse than a month ago in sandstone quarries in Forfarshire. It was slack at Barnsley and fair at Normanton; at both centres it was reported as being affected by the weather.

Settmaking.—Employment generally continued good with settmakers in the Glasgow district and the West of Scotland, at Penmaenmawr, and Stoney Stanton. It continued fair with monumental granite cutters in the Aberdeen district.

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

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry during August continued good, and was better than a year ago.

The returns show that 321 furnaces were in blast at the end of August, compared with 318 at the end of July, 1912, and 283 at the end of August, 1911. During August 5 furnaces were re-lit (2 in the Cleveland district and one each in Cumberland and South Yorkshire and Lincolnshire), while two were either damped down or blown out (one in Lancashire and one in South Yorkshire).

The number of workpeople employed at the end of August, 1912, was nearly 23,400; an increase of 11.1 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

The following Table shows the number of furnaces included in the returns in blast at the end of August, 1912, together with the increases as compared with a month ago and a year ago:—

District.	Number of Furnaces, included in the Returns, in Blast at end of			Increase in Aug. as compared with	
	Aug., 1912.	July, 1912.	Aug., 1911.	A Month ago.	A Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.					
Cleveland ..	85	83	77	+ 2	+ 8
Cumberland & Lancashire ..	29	29	24	..	+ 5
S. and S.W. Yorks. ..	12	12	9	..	+ 3
Derby & Nottingham ..	40	40	34	..	+ 6
Leicester, Lincoln, & Northampton ..	31	30	27	+ 1	+ 4
Stafford & Worcester ..	34	34	33	..	+ 1
S. Wales & Monmouth ..	11	11	4	..	+ 7
Other districts ..	5	5	5	..	..
England & Wales	247	244	213	+ 3	+ 34
Scotland	74	74	70	..	+ 4
Total	321	318	283	+ 3	+ 38

The Imports of iron ore in August, 1912, amounted to 702,873 tons, or 87,259 tons more than in July, 1912, and 215,799 tons more than in August, 1911.

The Exports of pig iron from the United Kingdom in August, 1912, amounted to 111,261 tons, or 586 tons more than in July, 1912, and 4,227 tons less than in August, 1911.

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works was very good during August. It showed an improvement as compared with a month ago, and was much better than a year ago, when a number of works were closed down on account of the railway dispute. According to returns from employers relating to 103,969 workpeople, the volume of employment (*i.e.*, number employed multiplied by the number of shifts worked) during the week ended August 24th, 1912, showed an increase of 2.2 per cent. on a month ago and of 17.6 per cent. on a year ago. The total number of shifts worked in the week ended August 24th, 1912, was about 589,300, or 12,900 more than a month ago and 88,100 more than a year ago.

Departments.	Workpeople.			Average Number of Shifts worked per man.		
	Week ended August 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended August 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month ago.	Year ago.
IRON:						
Puddling Forges ..	9,418	- 29	+ 537	5.32	- 0.01	+ 0.48
Rolling Mills ..	3,455	- 159	+ 20	5.22	+ 0.17	+ 0.47
Forging ..	400	+ 45	+ 9	5.49	- 0.09	+ 0.86
Founding ..	2,262	+ 23	+ 693	5.98	+ 0.02	+ 0.15
Other Departments ..	693	+ 36	+ 58	5.73	- 0.04	+ 0.24
Mechanics, Labourers ..	1,841	- 153	+ 124	5.75	+ 0.03	+ 0.20
Total, Iron ..	18,069	- 237	+ 1,441	5.45	+ 0.03	+ 0.44
STEEL:						
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ..	9,927	- 8	+ 1,435	5.65	+ 0.01	+ 0.22
Crucible Furnaces ..	522	+ 4	- 7	5.37	- 0.07	+ 0.50
Bessemer Converters ..	1,848	- 26	+ 123	5.52	+ 0.14	+ 0.85
Rolling Mills ..	17,971	+ 1,416	+ 2,856	5.61	+ 0.06	+ 0.39
Forging and Pressing ..	3,749	+ 107	+ 488	5.64	+ 0.12	+ 0.18
Founding ..	9,668	+ 131	+ 1,279	5.84	+ 0.05	+ 0.04
Other Departments ..	8,992	+ 46	+ 1,399	5.81	+ 0.03	+ 0.02
Mechanics, Labourers ..	8,609	..	+ 283	5.99	+ 0.03	+ 0.02
Total, Steel ..	51,286	+ 1,670	+ 7,861	5.76	+ 0.04	+ 0.19
IRON OR STEEL (not distinguished):						
Rolling Mills ..	12,475	+ 62	+ 1,572	5.35	..	+ 0.28
Forging and Pressing ..	647	- 1	+ 21	5.74	- 0.02	+ 0.38
Founding ..	830	+ 16	+ 93	5.83	- 0.01	+ 0.13
Other Departments ..	3,919	+ 57	+ 92	5.92	+ 0.01	+ 0.09
Mechanics, Labourers ..	6,743	+ 131	+ 721	5.80	..	+ 0.11
Total, Iron or Steel (not distinguished) }	24,614	+ 265	+ 2,315	5.59	..	+ 0.10
Grand Total ..	103,969	+ 1,698	+ 11,617	5.67	+ 0.03	+ 0.24
Districts.						
Northumberland & Durham ..	12,188	+ 139	+ 1,660	5.73	..	+ 0.15
Cleveland ..	9,074	- 100	+ 606	5.76	..	+ 0.17
Sheffield and Rotherham ..	20,544	+ 8	+ 2,134	5.77	+ 0.05	+ 0.30
Leeds, Bradford, and other Yorkshire Towns ..	4,509	+ 45	+ 97	5.67	+ 0.04	+ 0.28
Cumberland, Lancs. & Ches. ..	10,112	+ 327	+ 1,960	5.55	+ 0.05	+ 0.96
Staffordshire ..	9,583	- 16	+ 243	5.57	+ 0.06	+ 0.15
Other Midland Counties ..	5,504	+ 48	+ 689	5.68	+ 0.05	+ 0.20
Wales and Monmouth ..	13,616	+ 1,373	+ 3,209	5.60	- 0.04	+ 0.19
Total, England and Wales ..	85,130	+ 1,734	+ 10,598	5.68	+ 0.03	+ 0.29
Scotland ..	18,839	- 36	+ 1,019	5.63	+ 0.06	+ 0.03
Total ..	103,969	+ 1,698	+ 11,617	5.67	+ 0.03	+ 0.24

Compared with a month ago the volume of employment showed an increase in every district except Cleveland and Leeds, Bradford, etc., where it slightly declined; the improvement in Wales and Monmouth amounted to nearly 11 per cent. In the departments the most marked increases were at steel rolling mills, and iron and steel forges and presses. The total number of workpeople employed increased by 1,698 (1.7 per cent.), and the average number of shifts worked per week by 0.03 of a shift.

Compared with a year ago the volume of employment showed large increases in all districts; these increases, however, were partly due to the effects of the railway dispute in August, 1911, which caused temporary closing or short time working at a number of works, especially in Cumberland, Lancashire and Cheshire, and

in Wales and Monmouth. The total number of workpeople employed increased by 11,617 (12.6 per cent.), and the average number of shifts worked per week by 0.24 of a shift.

The Imports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof during August, 1912, amounted to 182,382 tons, or 1,721 tons more than in July, 1912, and 40,968 tons more than in August, 1911.

The Exports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof (excluding pig and puddled iron and tinned plates and black plates) during August, 1912, amounted to 246,543 tons, or 9,504 tons less than in July, 1912, and 50,430 tons more than in August, 1911.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT continued very good, and was better than a year ago. There was still a scarcity of millmen.

At the end of August 509 tinplate mills were working, a decrease of 6 on a month ago, and an increase of 41 on a year ago. The steel sheet mills in operation numbered 74 in August, 1912, 78 in July, 1912, and 71 in August, 1911. The works to which these figures relate are principally in South Wales and Monmouthshire, and employ about 29,150 workpeople.

The following table shows the number of works open and the number of mills in operation at the end of August, 1912, together with the increase or decrease as compared with a month ago and a year ago:—

	Number of Works open.			Number of Mills in operation.		
	At end of August, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month ago.	Year ago.	At end of August, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a month ago.	Year ago.
Tinplate Works	80	- 1	..	509	- 6	+ 41
Steel Sheet Works	11	..	+ 1	74	- 4	+ 3
Total ..	91	- 1	+ 1	583	- 10	+ 44

Exports.

The exports of tinned plates and tinned sheets and black plates for tinning are shown below for the months specified:—

	August, 1912.	July, 1912.	August, 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in August, 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
<i>Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets.</i>					
To United States ..	223	148	78	+ 75	+ 145
" British East Indies ..	5,771	4,891	3,640	+ 880	+ 2,131
" Germany ..	3,371	5,295	2,561	- 1,924	+ 810
" France ..	3,309	3,604	2,499	- 295	+ 810
" Netherlands ..	3,580	5,594	3,473	- 2,014	+ 107
" China and Japan ..	3,009	2,147	3,058	+ 862	- 49
" Australia ..	2,473	1,883	1,037	+ 590	+ 1,436
" Canada ..	224	497	824	- 273	- 600
" Other Countries ..	26,442	26,102	17,021	+ 340	+ 9,421
Total ..	48,402	50,161	34,191	- 1,759	+ 14,211
<i>Black Plates for Tinning.</i>					
Total ..	6,798	7,121	5,295	- 323	+ 1,503

ENGINEERING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT during August continued very good, with much overtime, and was better than a year ago.

Returns from trade unions with a membership of 202,597 show that the percentage unemployed at the end of August was 2.1, as compared with 2.7 a month ago and 3.8 at the end of August, 1911. Compared with a month ago there was a considerable decrease in the percentage unemployed in the Oldham, Bolton and Blackburn, London and Belfast and Dublin districts; in three other districts there was a decrease and in seven an increase. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease in all districts except Belfast and Dublin, the improvement being most noticeable in Lancashire, in the East

of Scotland, and in South Wales where a year ago employment was affected by a dispute.

District.	No. of Members* of Unions at end of Aug., 1912.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Aug., 1912, on a	
		Aug., 1912.	July, 1912.	Aug., 1911.	Month ago.	Year ago.
North-East Coast ..	16,780	2.3	2.4	3.7	- 0.1	- 1.4
Manchester and Liverpool ..	21,260	2.3	2.2	5.3	+ 0.1	- 3.0
Oldham, Bolton, and Blackburn District ..	12,886	4.4	8.4	7.6	- 4.0	- 3.2
West Riding Towns ..	13,807	2.1	1.9	3.6	+ 0.2	- 1.5
Hull and Lincolnshire District ..	4,827	2.5	1.6	3.5	+ 0.9	- 1.0
Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Coventry District ..	9,014	3.2	1.4	4.0	+ 1.8	- 0.8
Nottingham, Derby, and Leicester District ..	4,899	2.6	1.9	4.1	+ 0.7	- 1.5
London and neighbouring District ..	12,409	1.7	4.1	2.9	- 2.4	- 1.2
South Coast ..	5,171	1.4	1.2	1.8	+ 0.2	- 0.4
South Wales and Bristol District ..	7,576	2.7	2.7	8.4	..	- 5.7
Glasgow and District ..	19,282	2.2	3.9	2.9	- 1.7	- 0.7
East of Scotland ..	4,221	2.4	3.1	8.0	- 0.7	- 5.6
Belfast and Dublin ..	3,985	4.5	6.6	3.3	- 2.1	+ 1.2
Other Districts ..	6,469	1.0	0.9	1.8	+ 0.1	- 0.8
United Kingdom (including certain Unions for which District figures are not available)	202,597	2.1	2.7	3.8	- 0.6	- 1.7

* Exclusive of superannuated members.

On the Tyne, Wear and Tees employment continued very good, overtime and night shifts being worked to a considerable extent. Short time was reported, however, in railway shops at Darlington.

In Lancashire and Cheshire employment was good generally and much better than a year ago; short time was still reported at some textile machinery works.

In the West Riding of Yorkshire employment continued good, and overtime was reported. In the Hull and Lincolnshire district it also continued good.

In the Midland and Eastern Counties employment was good generally, but in the cycle industry it was only moderate. Overtime was reported at Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Lincoln, Grantham, and in the Eastern Counties. With bobbin and carriage makers at Nottingham it was slack.

In the London district employment was good, and better than a month ago, when it was affected by the transport workers' dispute.

Employment continued good at Southampton and Bristol. In South Wales it was much better than a year ago, when it was affected by a shipyard dispute. At Cardiff, however, a number of engineers were out of employment at the end of the month.

In the Glasgow district employment was very good, and better than a month ago. In the East of Scotland employment was also very good, and much better than a year ago.

At Belfast it was better than a month ago; with engineers it continued dull, but with ironfounders and patternmakers it was good. At Dublin employment was fairly good.

The Imports of machinery in August, 1912, amounted to £525,631, or £28,180 less than in July, 1912, and £116,087 more than in August, 1911.

The Exports of machinery in August, 1912, amounted to £2,734,028, or £24,477 less than in July, 1912, and £268,584 more than in August, 1911.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT during August continued good, and was about the same as a year ago; it was, however, slack, and worse than a month ago on repair work at the Bristol Channel ports.

Trade Unions with a membership of 69,441 reported 4.1 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August, compared with 4.4 per cent. a month ago, and 4.1 per cent. a year ago.

Compared with a month ago, the only noticeable increases in the percentage unemployed occurred at the Bristol Channel and Humber ports; the most marked decrease occurred in the Thames and Medway district.

Compared with a year ago, there was a marked decrease on the Mersey.

District.	No. of Members* of Unions at end of Aug., 1912.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Aug., 1912, on a	
		Aug., 1912.	July, 1912.	Aug., 1911.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Tyne and Blyth ..	10,758	3.1	3.2	3.5	- 0.1	- 0.4
Wear ..	5,906	3.7	6.1	4.2	- 1.4	- 0.5
Tees and Hartlepool ..	5,748	3.9	3.4	3.8	+ 0.5	+ 0.1
Humber ..	2,918	5.6	3.2	6.9	+ 2.4	- 1.3
Thames and Medway ..	4,470	7.6	12.4	5.3	- 4.8	+ 2.3
South Coast ..	4,579	0.5	1.5	2.1	- 1.0	- 1.6
Bristol Channel Ports ..	2,859	19.2	15.0	9.7†	+ 4.2	+ 9.5
Mersey ..	5,394	6.3	6.4	15.1	- 0.1	- 8.8
Clyde ..	16,659	2.2	2.5	1.3	- 0.4	+ 0.9
Dundee, Leith and Aberdeen ..	2,528	3.4	5.4	6.8	- 2.0	- 3.4
Belfast ..	3,786	2.1	3.1	2.1	- 1.0	..
Other Districts ..	3,866	2.4	1.6	1.7	+ 0.8	+ 0.7
United Kingdom ..	69,441	4.1	4.4	4.1	- 0.3	..

Employment was good with riveters, caulkers, and platers on the Tyne, and much overtime was worked at Walker and Wallsend; there was some slackness at Jarrow and Howdon, owing to lack of material. Shipwrights on the Tyne continued well employed. Employment generally continued good on the Wear. Employment in the Tees and Hartlepool district continued good except on repair work, on which it was still only moderate at the Hartlepoons.

Employment showed some decline on the previous month on the Humber. It was moderate, on the whole, with shipwrights; with iron and steel shipbuilders at Hull it was good on new work, but only moderate on repair work.

On the Thames employment was fair, on the whole, and better than a month ago, though still affected, to some extent, by the recent transport workers' dispute. It was generally good on the Medway. Overtime was worked on repairs at Southampton. At the Bristol Channel ports employment on repair work was generally slack, and worse than a month ago.

On the Mersey iron and steel shipbuilders reported employment as moderate, and shipwrights as very fair; it was much better than a year ago, when it was affected by disputes. Employment continued good, with overtime, at Barrow.

Employment generally continued very good on the Clyde; there was, however, still some lack of material. Employment was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago on the east coast of Scotland. It was very good at Belfast, where it showed some improvement on the previous month, and was fairly good, and better than a month ago, at Dublin.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good generally, and was better than a year ago; in the gold, silver, and kindred trades, however, it was quiet, and worse than a year ago. Trade Unions with 29,551 members reported 1.3 per cent. unemployed at the end of July and August, 1912, compared with 1.8 per cent. at the end of August, 1911.

Brasswork, Bedsteads, etc.—Employment continued good with brassworkers, and about the same as a year ago. With bedstead makers it was fair, but not so good as a year ago.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, etc.—In these trades employment continued good generally, and showed some improvement on a year ago.

Wire.—Employment was good generally, and about the same as a month ago and a year ago. At Glasgow it was fair with weavers, and at Manchester slack with drawers.

Locks, Keys, and General Hardware.—Employment with hollow-ware workers continued good in the Midlands, and was better than a year ago. Lock, latch and key makers at Wolverhampton and Willenhall also reported it as good, and better than a year ago.

Stoves, Grates, etc.—Employment in England was quiet, with much short time; it was worse than a month ago, and about the same as a year ago. At Falkirk it was fairly good generally, but not so good as either a month ago or a year ago.

Cutlery, Tools, Bits, Stirrups, etc.—At Sheffield employment in the cutlery trades continued good generally,

* Exclusive of Superannuated Members.
† Members on strike during August, 1911, are not included in this percentage.

Description.	Aug., 1912.	July, 1912.	Aug., 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Aug., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Flax (Dressed and Undressed, Tow or Codilla)	3,323	5,498	2,063	- 2,175	+ 1,260
Exports:					
Linen Yarn 100 lbs.	14,663	14,826	15,207	- 163	- 544
Linen Piece Goods 100 yds.	165,109	179,267	136,711	- 14,158	+ 28,398

JUTE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued good generally, and was much better than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 14,962 workpeople in the week ended August 24th showed a decrease of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 3.9 per cent. in the number employed, and of 11.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Departments.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Aug. 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended Aug. 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Preparing	3,377	- 0.4	+ 2.6	2,448	+ 0.2	+ 14.1
Spinning	3,986	- 0.4	+ 1.1	2,695	- 0.5	+ 11.5
Weaving	5,322	+ 0.4	+ 8.8	4,104	+ 0.9	+ 13.1
Other	1,415	+ 0.4	+ 1.9	1,481	- 4.5	+ 4.7
Not specified	862	- 2.3	- 2.6	689	- 3.2	+ 2.7
Total	14,962	- 0.2	+ 3.9	11,417	- 0.6	+ 11.1

Compared with a month ago there was little change in the numbers employed in any of the departments; the only marked change in the amount of wages paid was a decrease of 4.5 per cent. in "other" departments. Compared with a year ago, the numbers employed increased 8.8 per cent. in the weaving department, and the increases in the wages paid amounted to 14.1 per cent. in the preparing department, 11.5 per cent. in the spinning department, and 13.1 per cent. in the weaving department. Of the 14,962 workpeople reported on, 13,159 (or 87.9 per cent.) were employed in the Dundee district.

Imports and Exports.

The Table below shows the quantities of imported jute and of British and Irish exports of jute yarn and manufactured goods for the months stated:—

Description.	August, 1912.	July, 1912.	August, 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Aug., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Jute tons	9,726	4,337	2,330	+ 5,389	+ 7,396
Exports:					
Jute Yarn .. 100 lbs.	41,690	46,418	38,905	- 4,728	+ 2,785
Jute Piece Goods 100 yds.	135,242	150,991	125,158	- 15,749	+ 10,084

SILK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good generally, and was better than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 8,590 workpeople in the week ended August 24th showed a decrease of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed and of 0.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 1.3 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

At Macclesfield employment with throwsters, spinners, and hand loom weavers in factories was good; with power loom weavers and "outside" hand loom weavers it was bad. At Congleton and Leek employment was reported as good with throwsters and spinners; with trimming weavers it was good at Leek and moderate at Congleton. In the Bradford district employment was fairly good generally. In the Eastern Counties employment continued fair, but showed some decline on a year ago. It was also fair in Dublin.

Branches.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Aug. 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended Aug. 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Throwing	823	+ 2.0	+ 2.4	359	- 1.4	+ 2.2
Spinning	2,789	- 0.0	- 2.3	2,169	- 2.3	+ 1.3
Weaving	3,529	- 1.4	+ 4.1	2,490	- 0.1	+ 5.6
Other	661	- 0.3	+ 11.1	541	+ 1.3	+ 9.5
Not specified	778	+ 0.9	- 5.8	570	+ 2.9	- 2.6
Total	8,590	- 0.3	+ 1.3	6,129	- 0.6	+ 3.2

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Aug. 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended Aug. 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Lancashire and W. Riding of Yorkshire	3,357	- 0.9	+ 2.9	2,690	- 1.7	+ 3.6
Macclesfield, Congleton and District	942	+ 0.4	+ 1.2	736	- 0.7	+ 11.0
Eastern Counties	2,542	- 0.4	- 3.3	1,583	+ 0.1	- 1.2
Other Districts, including Leek	1,749	+ 0.5	+ 5.4	1,120	+ 1.3	+ 4.0
Total	8,590	- 0.3	+ 1.3	6,129	- 0.6	+ 3.2

Imports and Exports.

The Table below shows the quantities of raw and manufactured silk imported and exported for the months stated:—

Description.	August, 1912.	July, 1912.	August, 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Aug., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:—					
Raw Silk lbs	124,710	92,683	103,492	+ 32,027	+ 21,218
Thrown Silk lbs	34,683	38,566	29,418	- 3,883	- 4,735
Spun Silk Yarn lbs	52,766	73,256	57,886	- 20,489	- 5,120
Silk Broad-Stuffs yds	6,387,921	6,041,035	5,580,420	+ 346,886	+ 807,501
Exports:—					
Thrown Silk lbs	6,178	6,815	6,468	- 637	- 290
Spun Silk Yarn lbs	54,927	86,287	109,457	- 31,360	- 54,530
Silk Broad-Stuffs yds	446,531	385,404	385,121	+ 61,127	+ 61,410

HOSIERY TRADE.

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

Returns from firms employing 19,978 workpeople in the week ended August 24th showed an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 2.5 per cent. in the number employed, and of 7.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

District.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Aug. 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended Aug. 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Leicester	9,735	+ 0.1	+ 0.9	8,162	+ 0.2	+ 5.0
Leicester Country District	2,708	+ 0.3	+ 4.4	2,333	+ 1.4	+ 9.3
Notts and Derbyshire	4,864	- 0.1	+ 1.5	3,886	+ 5.4	+ 7.6
Scotland	2,288	+ 2.0	+ 6.9	1,765	+ 4.7	+ 12.2
Other Districts	385	+ 1.0	+ 21.1	232	+ 0.4	+ 24.7
Total, United Kingdom	19,978	+ 0.4	+ 2.5	16,366	+ 2.1	+ 7.2

At Leicester employment continued fairly good, and was better than a year ago. At Hinckley it was good in the seamless hose branch, and fair in the cotton goods department; at Loughborough it was good. With power frame workers in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire employment was fairly good; with hand frame workers in the country districts it was good. In Scotland employment continued good, and was much better than a year ago.

Imports and Exports.

The Table below shows the values of woollen and cotton hosiery imported and exported during the months stated:—

Description.	August, 1912.	July, 1912.	August, 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Aug., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Hosiery, Woollen	47,769	43,588	51,308	+ 4,181	- 3,539
" Cotton	253,931	206,812	233,611	+ 47,119	+ 20,320
Exports:					
Hosiery, Woollen	216,215	176,282	142,819	+ 40,933	+ 73,396
" Cotton	61,488	52,194	51,641	+ 9,294	+ 9,847

LACE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued fair, and was much better than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 6,339 workpeople in the week ended August 24th showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. in the number employed and of 1.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 0.1 per cent. in the number employed and of 10.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Branches.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Aug. 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended Aug. 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Lavers	1,534	- 0.8	+ 10.8	2,026	+ 1.6	+ 23.4
Curfain	2,540	+ 2.5	- 0.7	2,589	+ 4.5	+ 5.5
Plain Net	1,572	- 0.3	- 3.9	1,201	- 2.1	+ 8.1
Others	693	- 1.4	- 7.7	500	+ 0.6	+ 1.6
Total	6,339	+ 0.6	+ 0.1	6,316	+ 1.9	+ 10.8

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Aug. 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended Aug. 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Nottingham City	1,514	+ 2.4	- 0.7	1,484	+ 6.7	+ 6.2
Long Eaton and other outlying districts	1,257	- 1.2	+ 7.8	1,617	+ 4.5	+ 19.4
Other English districts	1,825	+ 0.3	- 0.9	1,507	+ 2.5	+ 3.7
Scotland	1,743	+ 0.6	- 3.1	1,708	- 0.2	+ 15.8
Total	6,339	+ 0.6	+ 0.1	6,316	+ 1.9	+ 10.8

At Nottingham employment in the curtain branch was good, better than a month ago, and about the same as a year ago; in the levers and plain net sections some short time was worked, but employment was better than a year ago. In the Long Eaton district there was an improvement compared with a month ago, and employment was much better than a year ago, when a good deal of short time was reported. In the West of England employment in the plain net branch showed a decline compared with a month ago, but was better than a year ago. In the curtain section in Scotland employment continued fair, and was rather better than a year ago.

Imports and Exports.

Description.	August, 1912.	July, 1912.	August, 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Aug., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Cotton Lace	251,064	216,667	216,120	+ 34,397	+ 34,944
Silk Lace	40,113	35,387	11,092	+ 4,726	+ 29,021
Exports:					
Cotton Lace	334,058	363,792	265,131	- 29,734	+ 68,927
Silk Lace	2,421	1,953	3,939	+ 468	- 1,518

CARPET TRADE.

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

Returns from firms employing 8,053 workpeople and paying £7,063 in wages in the week ending August 24th, 1912, showed a decrease of 1.3 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the number employed, and of 5.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

In the Kidderminster district employment continued fairly good, and was better than a year ago. In the West Riding of Yorkshire little change was reported. In Scotland employment continued good.

BLEACHING, PRINTING, DYEING AND FINISHING.

EMPLOYMENT continued good, but showed a slight decline compared with a month ago; it was much better than a year ago, when it was affected by the railway dispute.

Returns from firms employing 30,926 workpeople in the week ended August 24th showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 3.3

per cent. in the number employed, and of 18.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Trades:—	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Aug. 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended Aug. 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Bleaching	3,435	+ 0.3	+ 3.5	3,574	- 0.5	+ 23.0
Printing	850	- 0.9	+ 2.9	1,106	- 2.1	+ 17.0
Dyeing	16,235	- 0.6	+ 3.0	21,462	- 3.5	+ 22.6
Trimming, Finishing, and Other Departments	9,805	- 0.3	+ 2.1	10,320	- 1.0	+ 9.7
Not specified	601	- 0.8	+ 3.8	718	- 4.4	+ 13.8
Total	30,926	- 0.4	+ 3.3	37,180	- 2.5	+ 18.4

Bleaching.—Employment with cotton bleachers in Lancashire was good. At Basford and Dundee employment was also good.

Printing.—Employment with machine calico printers continued good. With calico printers' engravers in Derbyshire it was fair. In Scotland employment was slack with engravers and calico printers, and good with book printers.

Dyeing.—Employment with woollen and worsted dyers in the West Riding was good, about one-eighth of the Trade Union dyers worked short time, and about two-fifths worked overtime. In Scotland it was good. With cotton dyers in Lancashire and Yorkshire employment showed some decline compared with a month ago, partly owing to holidays, but was still good. With silk dyers employment was reported as fair at Macclesfield and Leek, and as bad at Congleton. With lace dyers at Nottingham it was fair.

Trimming, Finishing, etc.—At Leicester employment with hosiery trimmers continued slack; at Hinckley and Loughborough it was good; at Basford it was fair. With calender workers at Dundee employment was fair, but not so good as a month ago and a year ago.

LEATHER TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT was fairly good. It showed little change compared with a month ago, and was better than a year ago. Trade Unions with 3,119 members reported 4.0 per cent. unemployed at the end of August, compared with 3.8 per cent. a month ago and 5.0 per cent. a year ago.

Skinner, Tanners, Curriers, Dressers, etc.—With skinner employment continued quiet generally; it was good in Leeds and about the same as a year ago; in Birmingham it was bad and worse than a year ago. With curriers employment was good at Walsall, Doncaster and Glasgow; at Birmingham it was quiet and worse than a month ago and a year ago; in London employment continued bad, but showed some improvement on a month ago. Grounders and skinner at Leeds reported it as fair, and better than a year ago. With general leather workers employment was quiet, with short time, at Leeds; fair at Bolton, Bury and Wigan, and good at Manchester.

Saddle and Harness Makers.—In London employment was quiet, and worse than a month ago; at Birmingham moderate; at Edinburgh and Glasgow good, and at Dublin quiet. At Walsall employment was fair generally, and showed some decline on both a month ago and a year ago.

Miscellaneous.—With portmanteau makers employment continued fair in London and good at Manchester; in both centres it was better than a year ago. With fancy leather workers it was fair generally, not quite so good as a month ago, and about the same as a year ago. Fancy morocco leather finishers reported employment as bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago.

Imports and Exports.

Description.	August, 1912.	July, 1912.	August, 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in August, 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Hides, raw, and pieces thereof, dry .. cwts.	70,297	51,045	40,981	+ 19,252	+ 29,316
Ditto, wet .. cwts.	77,236	90,923	55,150	- 13,632	+ 22,146
Total Hides, dry and wet ..	147,533	141,973	96,131	+ 5,620	+ 51,462
Goat skins, undressed, No. Sheep skins .. (value) £	1,530,941	1,307,336	1,166,630	+ 223,605	+ 364,311
Leather* .. cwts.	123,461	120,171	94,799	+ 3,290	+ 28,662
Exports:					
Leather .. cwts.	18,621	19,473	15,469	- 852	+ 3,152
Gloves .. doz. prs.	29,931	22,296	19,895	+ 7,635	+ 10,036
Machinery Belting .. cwts.	3,610	3,713	3,476	- 103	+ 134
Saddlery and Harness .. (value) £	43,594	40,228	34,495	+ 3,366	+ 9,099
Other Sorts .. (value) £	63,496	61,086	43,073	+ 2,410	+ 20,423

TAILORING TRADE.

Bespoke Branch.

London.—Employment during August showed the usual seasonal decline, but was much better than a year ago.

Returns from firms paying £9,407 to their workpeople in the four weeks ended August 24th showed a decrease of 25.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 15.4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Other Centres.—Employment was reported as fair at Manchester, slack at Glasgow and Dublin, and moderate at Belfast.

Ready-made Branch.

London.—Employment was fairly good and better than a month ago; it was about the same as a year ago.

Leeds.—Returns from firms employing 9,485 workpeople in their factories (in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops) in the week ended August 24th showed a decrease of 1.5 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 1.9 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment in this branch was fair. The Jewish operatives reported employment as moderate.

Other Centres.—At Glasgow employment continued good, and was better than a year ago. At Norwich and Bristol it was fairly good. At Manchester it was moderate, and not so good as a month ago.

The Imports of apparel, not waterproofed, in August, 1912, were valued at £333,065, as compared with £279,911 in July, 1912, and £263,946 in August, 1911; and the Exports for the same months at £929,004, £751,826, and £651,043 respectively.

HAT TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during August in the silk hat trade continued quiet, and was slightly better than a year ago.

In the felt hat trade employment was very good in all the principal centres, and better than a month ago and a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of August was 0.6, compared with 1.0 a month ago and 2.3 a year ago. At Denton, Stockport, and in Warwickshire some overtime was reported.

Imports and Exports.

Description.	August, 1912.	July, 1912.	August, 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Aug., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Hats, Felt .. dozens	53,402	34,788	12,181	+ 18,614	+ 41,221
" Straw .. "	5,671	6,175	1,451	- 504	+ 4,220
" Other sorts .. "	89,073	70,585	34,694	+ 18,488	+ 54,379
Total ..	148,146	111,548	48,326	+ 36,598	+ 99,820
Exports:					
Hats, Felt ..	83,516	56,837	59,618	+ 26,679	+ 23,898
" Straw ..	64,106	62,070	44,403	+ 2,036	+ 19,703
" Other sorts ..	19,576	18,125	11,647	+ 1,451	+ 7,929
Total ..	167,198	137,032	115,668	+ 30,166	+ 51,530

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

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good, and was much better than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 68,058 workpeople in the week ended August 24th showed an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed, and a decrease of 0.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 5.9 per cent. in the number employed, and of 10.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

District.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Aug. 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended Aug. 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.						
London	2,953	+ 0.1	+ 10.9	3,338	- 2.0	+ 14.5
Leicester	13,358	- 0.3	+ 4.6	14,436	- 3.5	+ 11.9
Leicester Country District ..	3,180	+ 0.4	+ 3.8	2,998	- 4.9	+ 5.6
Northampton ..	10,994	+ 0.0	+ 6.8	11,666	+ 4.1	+ 13.3
Northampton Country District ..	9,350	+ 0.5	+ 9.6	9,182	+ 0.3	+ 13.2
Kettering	4,035	+ 0.7	+ 2.9	4,139	..	+ 5.6
Stafford & District ..	2,871	+ 0.3	+ 9.1	2,850	+ 0.2	+ 14.6
Norwich & District ..	4,045	- 0.2	+ 10.9	3,500	- 1.7	+ 12.4
Bristol & District ..	1,456	+ 0.1	+ 3.2	1,338	+ 1.4	+ 6.7
Kingswood	1,777	+ 1.0	+ 1.1	1,812	+ 1.1	+ 9.0
Leeds & District ..	2,382	- 0.5	+ 6.1	2,341	+ 0.6	+ 12.4
Manchester & District ..	3,300	+ 1.4	+ 4.7	3,178	- 1.4	+ 8.1
Birmingham & District ..	1,030	+ 1.3	+ 5.5	865	+ 5.1	+ 10.4
Other parts of England and Wales ..	3,402	+ 1.1	+ 4.1	2,996	+ 2.1	+ 8.6
ENGLAND & WALES ..	64,113	+ 0.2	+ 6.3	64,637	- 0.3	+ 11.3
SCOTLAND	3,533	+ 0.1	+ 0.7	3,551	- 0.1	+ 4.0
IRELAND	412	- 1.4	- 0.7	273	+ 0.4	+ 6.2
UNITED KINGDOM ..	68,058	+ 0.2	+ 5.9	68,461	- 0.3	+ 10.9

At Leicester employment showed some decline compared with a month ago, but was much better than a year ago. At Northampton and Kettering employment was fairly good, and considerably better than a year ago; with army bootmakers in Northamptonshire employment was also fairly good, and showed an improvement compared with a month ago. At Norwich employment showed a slight decline compared with a month ago, but was still fairly good, and much better than a year ago. At Bristol and Kingswood employment was better than a month ago and a year ago, overtime being reported in the latter place. At Leeds employment was moderate. In Scotland it continued fairly good, and was better than a year ago.

Imports and Exports.

Description.	August, 1912.	July, 1912.	August, 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Aug., 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports (less re-exports):					
Leather .. doz. pairs	18,967	14,515	13,198	+ 4,452	+ 5,769
" value £	62,506	59,324	56,663	+ 3,182	+ 5,843
Rubber .. doz. pairs	7,563	10,477	11,251	- 2,914	- 3,688
" value £	8,963	13,133	15,982	- 4,170	- 7,019
Other materials doz. pairs	16,769	14,822	9,533	+ 2,147	+ 7,236
" value £	12,969	7,573	8,151	+ 5,396	+ 4,818
Exports (British & Irish)					
Leather .. doz. pairs	143,526	117,404	87,122	+ 26,122	+ 56,404
" value £	380,196	326,685	258,560	+ 53,531	+ 121,636
Rubber .. doz. pairs	15,605	14,430	16,047	- 1,175	- 442
" value £	16,300	14,101	15,751	+ 1,199	- 451
Other materials doz. pairs	14,047	11,086	9,597	+ 2,961	+ 4,450
" value £	11,551	8,170	6,524	+ 3,381	+ 5,027

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in London in the dressmaking trades showed the usual seasonal slackness. In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, etc., trades it was fair. Employment generally was fair in the shirt and collar trade and in the corset trade.

Dressmaking, Millinery, and Mantle Trades.—Returns from retail firms in London, chiefly in the West End, employing 941 dressmakers in the week ended August 24th showed a decrease of 52.5 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 3.0 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was moderate, and was affected by holidays. With court and private dressmakers employment during the month was very quiet, many establishments being closed. With milliners in the West End employment showed the usual seasonal decline.

In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, underclothing, and millinery trades firms in London, employing 2,752 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended August 24th, showed an increase of 6.0 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 0.6 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was fair on the whole, the improvement shown being confined to the millinery branch.

In Manchester employment in the mantle trade was good and slightly better than a month ago and a year ago. In the costume, skirt, and blouse trade firms employing 2,137 workpeople in the week ended August 24th showed a decrease of 1.4 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 0.4 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment was fairly good.

In Glasgow employment in the mantle trade was better than a month ago, when it was affected by holidays; it was slightly better than a year ago.

Shirt and Collar Trade.—Returns from shirt and collar manufacturers in England, Scotland, and Ireland employing 6,244 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers), and paying £4,375 in wages, in the week ended August 24th showed a decrease of 0.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 6.6 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment generally was fair.

Corset Trade.—Returns from corset manufacturers employing 5,626 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended August 24th showed a decrease of 1.6 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 4.2 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment generally was fair.

PAPER, PRINTING AND BOOK-BINDING TRADES.

PAPER TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades continued good.

Returns from firms employing 18,737 workpeople in the last week of the month showed that there was an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the total number of workpeople employed by them as compared with a month ago, and an increase of 1.8 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Description.	Workpeople paid Wages in last week of Aug., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
Machine-made Paper and Milled Boards:			
Northern Counties	5,151	Per cent. + 1.0	Per cent. + 4.8
Midlands, Wales and Ireland ..	1,300	+ 0.1	+ 2.4
Southern Counties	5,996	+ 0.3	+ 0.9
Scotland	5,220	- 0.3	+ 0.3
Total, Machine-made Paper, &c.	17,967	+ 0.3	+ 1.9
Hand-made Paper	770	+ 0.0	- 0.3
Total	18,737	+ 0.3	+ 1.8

Trade Unions in the machine-made paper trade with 3,509 members had 0.9 per cent. unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 1.1 per cent. a month ago, and 1.9 per cent. (out of 1,608 members) a year ago. In the hand-made paper trade, Trade Unions with 530 members had 5.3 per cent. unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 5.1 in July, and 5.0 in August, 1911.

The Imports of paper in August, 1912, were valued at £695,904, as compared with £633,718 in July, 1912, and £524,688 in August, 1911; and the Exports for the same months were valued at £291,286, £269,651, and £238,286 respectively.

PRINTING TRADES.

As is usual in August, there was a general decline in employment. Compared with a year ago, little general change was shown.

London.—Employment with letterpress printers was not so good as a month ago; it was reported as slack with compositors, and fair in other branches. With lithographic printers it was moderate, rather better than a month ago, and better than a year ago.

Other Centres.—Employment was not so good as a month ago. With letterpress printers it was good at Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Nottingham, Derby, Oxford, and in the Eastern Counties; slack at Leeds, Sheffield, Hull, Liverpool, Birmingham, and Cardiff. With lithographic printers it was fair, except at Edinburgh and Dublin, where it was slack.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Aug., 1912.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		August, 1912.	July, 1912.	August, 1911.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	21,516	9.2	6.8	8.1	+ 2.4	+ 1.1
Northern Counties and Yorkshire ..	5,631	4.6	2.5	5.8	+ 2.1	- 1.2
Lancs. and Cheshire ..	7,130	4.7	3.8	5.9	+ 0.9	- 1.2
East Midland and Eastern Counties ..	2,644	3.3	2.2	3.6	+ 1.1	- 0.3
West Midlands	2,694	5.7	2.7	5.7	+ 3.0	..
S. & S.W. Counties and Wales ..	3,812	3.9	2.6	3.1	+ 1.3	+ 0.8
Scotland	5,214	3.4	3.5	2.6	- 0.1	+ 0.8
Ireland	2,525	8.1	4.9	7.5	+ 3.2	+ 0.6
United Kingdom ..	51,166	6.5	4.7	6.2	+ 1.8	+ 0.3

BOOKBINDING TRADES.

Employment was quiet in London and Dublin, and fairly good at other centres. It was better than a month ago and a year ago.

District.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Aug., 1912.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Aug., 1912.	July, 1912.	Aug., 1911.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	3,440	4.3	6.0	4.6	- 1.7	- 0.3
Other Districts	3,116	2.5	3.4	5.4	- 0.9	- 2.9
United Kingdom ..	6,556	3.4	4.8	5.0	- 1.4	- 1.6

BUILDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT was fair during August, and rather better than a month ago and a year ago. Work was hindered, however, by bad weather.

Returns received from 940 firms, employing 55,011 workpeople at the end of August, show that in the London district there was an increase in the number employed of 19.1 per cent. as compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 0.1 per cent. as compared with a year ago; in other districts there was a net increase of 1.8 per cent. as compared with a month ago, while as compared with a year ago the number of skilled tradesmen decreased by 0.5 per cent. and the number of labourers increased by 8.8 per cent.

District.	No. paid on last pay-day in Aug., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		No. paid on last pay-day in Aug., 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
Skilled Tradesmen.						
London	7,563	+ 1,324	+ 130	4,893	+ 746	- 120
Northern Counties & Yorks.	2,935	+ 43	- 45	2,375	+ 183	+ 120
Lancashire and Cheshire ..	4,728	+ 6	+ 92	4,260	+ 109	+ 802
Midland & Eastern Counties	4,131	+ 105	+ 152	3,677	+ 81	+ 426
S. & S.W. Counties & Wales	4,849	- 149	- 36	3,194	+ 129	+ 357
Other Districts	940	+ 26	- 28	639	+ 29	..
England and Wales ..	25,151	+ 1,355	+ 265	19,038	+ 1,257	+ 1,585
Scotland	3,924	+ 109	- 214	2,512	+ 198	- 186
Ireland	410	- 23	- 26	347	- 43	- 147
United Kingdom ..	29,485	+ 1,441	+ 25	21,897	+ 1,412	+ 1,252
Lads and Boys.						
London	401	- 11	- 24	12,862	+ 2,059	- 14
Northern Counties & Yorks.	470	- 2	- 50	5,780	+ 204	+ 23
Lancashire and Cheshire ..	862	- 49	- 53	9,880	+ 66	+ 841
Midland & Eastern Counties	403	+ 18	- 5	8,211	+ 204	+ 573
S. & S.W. Counties and Wales	595	- 3	- 5	8,638	- 23	+ 316
Other Districts	63	+ 4	- 10	1,642	+ 59	- 38
England and Wales ..	2,794	- 43	- 147	46,983	+ 2,569	+ 1,703
Scotland						

The percentage of Trade Union carpenters and joiners unemployed at the end of August was 2.5, as compared with 3.4 a month ago and 3.1 a year ago. In every district except the Northern Counties the percentage unemployed was less than 3.0. The percentage of Trade Union plumbers unemployed at the end of August was 5.9, as compared with 7.1 a month ago and 7.8 a year ago. With other trades employment generally was rather better than a month ago and a year ago, except in the case of painters, with whom a decline was reported as compared with July.

For London the Trade Union returns show that the percentage of carpenters and joiners unemployed was 2.5, as compared with 6.5 a month ago and 3.6 a year ago; the corresponding figures for plumbers were 4.0, 9.1, and 10.1 respectively.

The principal exceptions to the general state of employment in the provinces are as indicated below:—

Employment was slack with plasterers at Manchester and Bradford, with plumbers at Sheffield, Liverpool, and Stockport, with painters at Stockport, Burnley and Blackpool, and with carpenters at Blackpool and Warrington.

Employment was slack and worse than a month ago with bricklayers and plumbers at Nottingham. At Stoke it declined with plumbers and improved with painters. It was slack with bricklayers at Burton-on-Trent, with painters at Leicester, and with plasterers at Birmingham.

Employment was slack with bricklayers at Portsmouth, Bournemouth and Cheltenham, and with carpenters at Brighton and Bath. It declined with carpenters and plasterers at Aberdeen, and was slack with plumbers at Cork.

FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades was fairly good on the whole; it was slightly better than a month ago and better than a year ago; coachmakers continued well employed. Trade Unions with a membership of 44,436 reported 2.5 per cent. unemployed at the end of August, compared with 2.9 per cent. a month ago, and 3.7 per cent. a year ago.

Furnishing Trades.

Employment was fairly good in these trades, and better than a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions reported 3.1 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August, compared with 4.3 per cent. a month ago, and 4.9 per cent. a year ago. Cabinet-makers were well employed in London and at Leeds, Sheffield, Govan and Belfast; at Manchester, Newcastle, and Nottingham employment was only moderate. Employment was good with upholsterers on the Tyne, but dull, with short time, at Glasgow and Edinburgh.

The Imports of furniture and cabinet ware in August, 1912, were valued at £33,988, as compared with £32,830 in July, 1912, and £29,612 in August, 1911; and the Exports for the same months were valued at £116,557, £93,631, and £85,644 respectively.

Mill Sawyers and Woodcutting Machinists.

Employment continued fairly good, and was better than a year ago. Trade Unions reported 2.7 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August compared with 3.0 per cent. a month ago, and 5.6 per cent. a year ago. Employment was good on the Tyne and Tees, and at Birmingham, Sheffield, Glasgow, Dundee, and Belfast. It continued quiet at Nottingham, where short time was worked.

Imports.

Description.	August, 1912.	July, 1912.	August, 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in August, 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Timber, hewn	Loads 540,422	Loads 445,243	Loads 430,172	Loads + 95,179	Loads + 110,250
" sawn	864,702	717,318	856,203	+ 146,884	+ 8,499
House Frames, Fittings and Joiners' Work (value)	£ 21,292	£ 16,886	£ 16,602	+ 4,406	+ 4,690

Coopers.
Employment continued fairly good, but was not so good as a year ago. It continued dull at Burton, and was dull and worse than a month ago at Bristol. It was good at Edinburgh, Belfast and Cork, and fair at Manchester, Hull and Dublin.

Coachbuilding.

Employment in this industry continued very good, and showed a slight improvement on a year ago. Trade Unions reported 1.3 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August compared with 1.1 per cent. a month ago and 1.8 per cent. a year ago. At Liverpool, Coventry, and Leicester employment was only moderate.

Miscellaneous.

Brushmaking.—Employment was fairly good on the whole, though short time was reported; it was better than a year ago. Trade Unions reported 3.2 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August, compared with 3.8 per cent. a month ago and 7.2 per cent. a year ago.

The Imports of brushes and brooms in August, 1912, were valued at £38,903 as compared with £40,256, in July, 1912, and £32,300 in August, 1911; the Exports for the same months were valued at £22,188, £19,865, and £15,353 respectively.

Other Trades.—Employment continued moderate with general wheelwrights and smiths. It was generally fair with packing-case makers, but not so good as a month ago and a year ago. With skip makers at Oldham employment was good, but not so good as a year ago. It was good with basket makers at Leicester and Glasgow.

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in August continued good, though it showed some decline on a month ago. It was much better than in August, 1911, when many firms worked short time on account of the railway dispute.

Returns from firms employing 16,446 workpeople in the week ended August 24th showed a decrease of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 3.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 14.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Branches.—	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended Aug. 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended Aug. 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
China Manufacture ..	3,435	- 0.1	+ 5.1	£ 3,760	- 7.2	+ 12.4
Earthenware Manufacture ..	10,427	- 0.1	+ 2.7	10,239	- 3.0	+ 16.8
Other Branches (including unspecified)	2,584	- 0.4	- 4.0	2,357	- 1.0	+ 10.4
Total ..	16,446	- 0.2	+ 3.4	16,356	- 3.7	+ 14.8

Employment in the Potteries continued good, and was better than a year ago. It was also good with stoneware potters in Scotland, and earthenware manufacturers in South Yorkshire reported an improvement on both a month ago and a year ago. In the West of England, though some firms worked short time, employment was fairly good generally. With clay tobacco pipe makers in Scotland employment was reported as dull, and at Manchester as good.

The Imports of chinaware and earthenware in August, 1912, were valued at £110,669, as compared with £88,176 in July, 1912, and £72,390 in August, 1911; the Exports for the same months were valued at £300,319, £264,906, and £245,432 respectively.

BRICK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued fair generally, but showed a slight decline as compared with a month ago. It was better than a year ago, when the railway dispute caused short time.

Returns from firms employing 11,945 workpeople in the week ended August 24th, 1912, showed an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed and a decrease of 1.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed and of 5.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended August 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended August 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	3,474	+ 0.3	+ 4.7	£ 4,362	+ 1.7	+ 18.5
Midlands and Eastern Counties	3,630	+ 0.2	+ 0.9	3,983	- 2.1	+ 4.7
South and South-Western Counties and Wales	2,932	+ 0.2	- 2.0	3,447	- 3.3	+ 0.7
Scotland	913	- 0.3	-	1,012	+ 3.9	+ 4.8
Other Districts	996	+ 0.8	- 9.7	937	- 14.0	- 20.5
Total ..	11,945	+ 0.4	+ 0.2	13,741	- 1.8	+ 5.3

In the Northern Counties, Yorkshire and Lancashire, employment continued fairly good, and was much better than a year ago. In the Midland and Eastern Counties there was a slight decline on a month ago, but an improvement on a year ago; in the South Staffordshire district it was fair, but continued slack, with short time, in Nottinghamshire; in the Peterborough district time was lost on account of the yards being flooded. In the Southern and South-Western counties employment was fair on the whole, but not as good as a month ago; in North Wales it was good in the Buckley district, but slack at Wrexham and Ruabon. In Scotland it was fairly good and better than a month ago and a year ago.

GLASS TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT during August showed some decline on a month ago, but was still good and much better than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 8,868 workpeople in the week ended August 24th showed a decrease of 2.9 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 an increase of 4.0 per cent. in the number employed, and of 15.2* per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Branches.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended August 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended August 24th, 1912.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Glass Bottle ..	6,073	- 4.3	+ 4.6	£ 3,241	- 1.1	+ 18.6
Plate Glass ..	718	+ 0.3	+ 5.1	909	- 2.9	+ 9.0
Flint Glass Ware (not bottles)	1,862	+ 0.5	+ 2.2	2,062	- 0.4	+ 6.9
Other Branches ..	215	- 1.8	- 1.8	244	+ 1.2	+ 5.6
Total ..	8,868	- 2.9	+ 4.0	11,476	- 1.1	+ 15.2*

Employment with glass bottle makers was good generally in all the principal districts; at Seaham Harbour it was fair, and some short time was reported. At St. Helens it was reported as fair with sheet glass flat-tens, and as good with sheet and plate glass workers. At Birmingham employment was good with flint glass makers, and plate glass bevellers and silverers. With flint glass cutters it was fair. At Wordsley and Stourbridge it was fairly good with flint glass makers and good with cutters. Employment was reported as fair with pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear.

* This is partly due to increases in rates of wages.

Imports and Exports.

Description.	August, 1912.	July, 1912.	August, 1911.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in August, 1912, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Window and German Sheet Glass, including Shades, &c.	cwts. 124,138	101,076	84,274	+ 23,062	+ 39,864
Plate	34,428	27,067	21,190	+ 7,361	+ 13,238
Flint, plain, cut or ornamental, &c.	82,833	78,944	66,968	+ 3,889	+ 16,266
Manufactures, other sorts	2,581	1,525	1,314	+ 1,056	+ 1,267
Bottles	151,292	133,519	110,128	+ 17,773	+ 41,164
Exports:					
Plate	19,006	17,179	14,356	+ 1,827	+ 4,650
Flint	6,714	5,764	6,072	+ 960	+ 642
Manufactures, other sorts	57,875	52,663	47,429	+ 5,212	+ 10,446
Bottles	85,613	79,261	57,461	+ 6,352	+ 28,152

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN ENGLAND.

Owing to the exceptional amount of rain which fell during August harvesting operations suffered serious hindrance, and labourers outside the regular farm staff were generally in irregular employment. When the weather permitted there was generally a good demand for such extra labourers, and in several districts in the Northern and Midland counties an insufficient supply was reported.

Northern Counties.—Rain caused considerable interruption to haymaking and other outdoor work in these counties. When the weather permitted, however, there was a good demand for extra labour, which was not always satisfied by the supply. A correspondent in the Doncaster (Yorkshire) Rural District mentioned a falling-off in the number of Irish migratory labourers, and some scarcity of extra labourers was reported in the Hexham (Northumberland), Penrith (Cumberland), Whiston (Lancashire), and Easingwold (Yorkshire) Rural Districts.

Midland Counties.—A good deal of time was lost by extra labourers in many districts on account of wet weather. Apart from such interruption extra men were generally well employed; the demand was in excess of the supply in the Bucklow (Cheshire), Belper and Hayfield (Derbyshire), Billesdon and Melton Mowbray (Leicestershire), Cannock, Leek, and Stone (Staffordshire), and Buntingford (Hertfordshire) Rural Districts. A surplus of such men was reported in the Buckingham and Watford (Hertfordshire) Rural Districts.

Eastern Counties.—In most districts in these counties the corn harvest was seriously hindered by rain, particularly in the latter part of the month. A good deal of time was in consequence lost by extra labourers, many of whom had already been engaged by farmers to perform the harvest on contract. A scarcity of Irish migratory labourers was reported by a correspondent in the Welton (Lincolnshire) Rural District.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—In these counties, as in most other parts of the country, rain caused a good deal of interruption to outdoor work, and extra men were generally in irregular employment. There was a good demand for extra labourers for haymaking, the corn harvest, hoeing, and hedge-trimming when the weather permitted. A surplus of such men was mentioned in reports from the Guildford and Hambleton (Surrey), Droxford, Havant, and Winchester (Hampshire), and Westbury (Wiltshire) Rural Districts; in the Eltham (Kent) Rural District an insufficiency of men was reported. Some scarcity of men for permanent situations was mentioned in the Godstone (Surrey), Petworth (Sussex), Dursley and Stow-on-the-Wold (Gloucestershire), and West Penwith (Cornwall) Rural Districts.

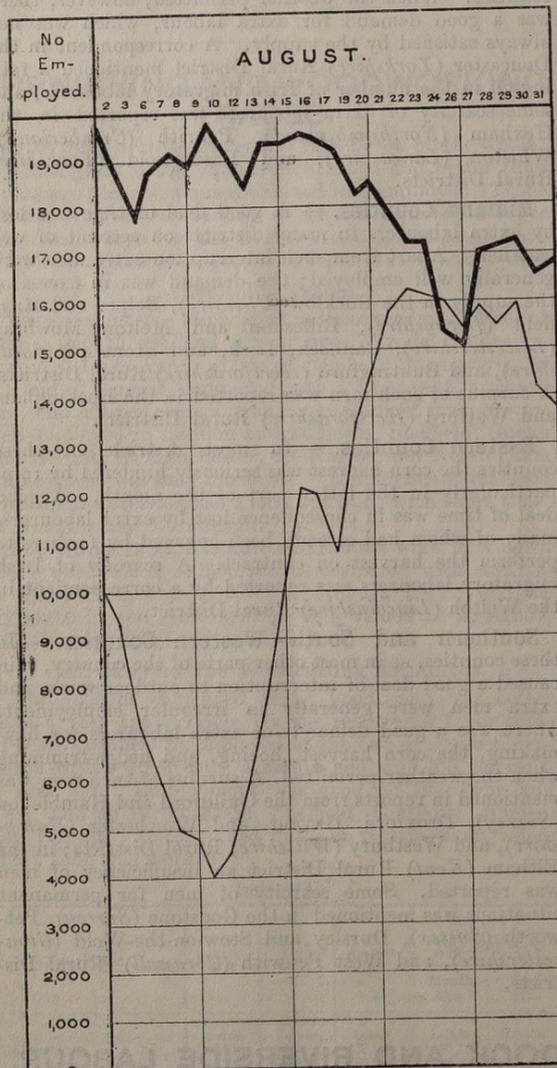
DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT was good in London, and fairly good, on the whole, at the other principal ports, with the exception of Liverpool, where it was slack.

London.*—Dock and quayside labourers were well employed in London, the congestion of goods occasioned by the recent dispute causing the numbers employed in the early part of the month to be greater than usual. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves in the four weeks ended August 31st, 1912, was 18,033. Comparison with both August, 1911, and July, 1912, is affected by the disputes which were in progress in those months. No statistical comparison can be made with a month ago, but there was an increase of 74.9 per cent. on a year ago.

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks* and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks.			At 102 Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended Aug. 10th	8,424	3,651	12,075	7,044	19,119
" " 17th	8,325	3,713	12,038	7,110	19,148
" " 24th	7,340	3,227	10,567	6,843	17,410
" " 31st	6,829	3,028	9,857	6,781	16,638
Average for 4 weeks ended Aug. 31st, 1912.	7,699	3,394	11,093	6,940	18,033
Average for Aug. 1911	3,878	1,509	5,387	4,921	10,308

During August, 1912, the maximum number employed was on the 9th (19,721), and the minimum number on the 26th (15,008). During August, 1911, the maximum number occurred on the 24th (16,158), and the minimum number on the 11th (4,045).



The following are the figures on which the chart for August, 1912, is based:—

* Exclusive of Tilbury.

Day of Month.	Number Employed.	Day of Month.	Number Employed.	Day of Month.	Number Employed.
1	19,403	13	19,293	25	17,206
2	18,701	14	19,300	26	15,319
3	17,776	15	19,419	27	15,008
4	18,821	16	19,349	28	17,084
5	19,091	17	19,113	29	17,168
6	18,821	18	18,291	30	17,200
7	18,721	19	18,540	31	16,580
8	19,141	20	17,899		
9	19,721	21	17,207		
10	19,141	22			
11	18,414				
12					

Sundays and holidays are omitted.

The mean daily number employed at Tilbury Dock was 2,215 in August, 1912, as compared with 1,266 a year ago.

Liverpool.—Employment with dock labourers and quay and railway carters was slack, and worse than a month ago.

Other Ports.—Employment on the Tyne and Wear continued fairly good with dock and quayside labourers, and with trimmers and teamers. It was good, and about the same as a month ago, at Hartlepool and Middlesbrough. With dock labourers it was moderate at Hull and Goole, and good at Grimsby; with coal porters it was good at Hull, fair at Grimsby, and moderate at Goole. Dock and riverside labourers were well employed at Yarmouth and Lowestoft; at Ipswich, Harwich, and Parkeston employment was fair. It was fair at Plymouth, and better than a month ago; quiet at Bristol, and worse than a month ago; and fair at Gloucester. At the South Wales ports employment was well maintained.

Employment was good, on the whole, at Leith and Grangemouth, and at Glasgow, and was fair at Dundee.

SEAMEN SHIPPED IN AUGUST.

RETURNS received from certain selected ports (at which 83 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared) show that during August 50,148 seamen,* of whom 4,653 (9.3 per cent.) were foreigners, were shipped on foreign-going vessels. Compared with August, 1911, there was a net increase of 4,636 in the total number shipped. There were noticeable increases at London, Liverpool, Cardiff, Glasgow, Hull and Sunderland.

During the eight months ended August, 1912, the total number of seamen shipped was 352,034, an increase of 2,996 on the total for the corresponding period of 1911. There were marked increases at Southampton, Liverpool and London, but the Tyne ports, Cardiff and Glasgow showed decreases. Lascars are not included in the figures.

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in					
	August,			Eight months ended August,		
	1911.	1912.	Inc.(+) or Dec.(-) in 1912.	1911.	1912.	Inc.(+) or Dec.(-) in 1912.
ENGLAND & WALES.						
East Coast.						
Tyne Ports	3,272	3,178	- 94	22,541	20,546	- 1,995
Sunderland	521	797	+ 276	2,971	3,284	+ 313
Middlesbrough	501	469	- 32	3,183	3,402	+ 219
Hull	1,326	1,644	+ 318	10,139	11,084	+ 945
Grimsby	235	83	- 152	1,114	913	- 201
Bristol Channel.						
Bristol	1,272	1,376	+ 104	9,537	9,590	+ 53
Newport, Mon.	1,125	906	- 219	7,430	6,546	- 884
Cardiff	3,637	4,291	+ 654	30,677	29,288	- 1,389
Swansea	653	445	- 208	3,748	2,950	- 798
Other Ports.						
Liverpool	15,157	16,766	+ 1,609	126,549	128,818	+ 2,269
London	6,772	9,266	+ 2,494	68,846	60,782	- 8,064
Southampton	5,131	4,948	- 183	31,939	35,712	+ 3,773
SCOTLAND.						
Leith	376	273	- 103	3,248	3,117	- 131
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth	362	148	- 214	1,975	2,152	+ 177
Glasgow	4,940	5,293	+ 353	33,320	32,078	- 1,242
IRELAND.						
Dublin	53	82	+ 29	412	570	+ 158
Belfast	179	183	+ 4	1,409	1,217	- 192
Total	45,512	50,148	+ 4,636	349,038	352,034	+ 2,996

* 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 Penarth.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

The fish landed in the United Kingdom during August, 1912, showed a decrease in quantity and an increase in value compared with August, 1911; in Ireland, however, both quantity and value showed an increase.

The following Table shows the quantity and value of the fish landed in August, 1912, and 1911:—

	Quantity.		Value.	
	Aug., 1912.	Aug., 1911.	Aug., 1912.	Aug., 1911.
Fish (other than Shell):	Cwts.	Cwts.	£	£
England and Wales	1,158,321	1,149,706	757,189	632,972
Scotland	1,119,153	1,596,856	499,324	603,656
Ireland	94,502	67,907	31,027	23,093
Total	2,371,976	2,814,468	1,287,540	1,259,720
Shell Fish	—	—	30,095	31,113
Total Value	—	—	1,317,635	1,290,833

Employment at the principal ports was good on the whole. At Grimsby it was good with fishermen and fish dock labourers, and fair with fish curers; it was better than either a month ago or a year ago. At Hull it was bad with fishermen and moderate with fish dock labourers and fish curers. Employment at Lowestoft was good with fishermen and fish dock labourers, and fair with fish curers; it was better than a year ago with all classes. At Great Yarmouth and Aberdeen it was good with fishermen, fair with fish dock labourers, and moderate with fish curers; at both ports it was about the same as a year ago. Employment at Peterhead was good with fishermen, fair with fish dock labourers and fish curers. At Fraserburgh it was fair with all classes; at Macduff employment was moderate generally. Off the South-Western Coast of England fishing operations were only moderately successful.

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT, 1911.

Part II.—Unemployment. APPLICATIONS TO THE UMPIRE.

In pursuance of Regulations made by the Board of Trade and dated 26th day of March, 1912, notice is hereby given that the Umpire (Unemployment Insurance) has received applications for decisions as to whether contributions are payable or not in respect of the following classes of workmen* :—

- 216. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of cash tills.
- 217. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of buffalo hide pickers.
- 218. Workmen employed at coal washery—(a) Carpenters repairing troughs, bunkers, plungers, nut-coal boxes and coal elevators. (b) Fitters changing pinions, brasses and shaft, and repairing screens, elevators, &c.
- 219. Workmen described as blacksmiths making hardening and annealing pots.
- 220. Workmen engaged in the making of iron ash buckets for steamships.
- 221. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of lifting jacks for automobiles.
- 222. Workmen engaged in fixing cash overhead railways in shops.

DECISIONS BY THE UMPIRE.

Pursuant to paragraph (5) of the Unemployment Insurance (Umpire) Regulations, the Board of Trade hereby give notice of the following decisions by the Umpire on questions whether contributions are payable:—

- A.—The Umpire has decided that contributions ARE PAYABLE in respect of:—
- 800. Workmen engaged in—(1) Manufacturing wood wheels. (2) Bending shafts, wings, car sides, motor panels.
- 801. Workmen employed by an iron and steel company, and described as joiners, fitters and labourers who are engaged in turning rolls for mills, turning hammers and anvils, turning and fitting material for the machinery in the forge.
- 803. Workmen employed in a mechanical engineering establishment, and engaged in—(1) Making and repairing leather driving belts and leather hose pipes. (2) Repairing and testing chains, all being for use in the work of the establishment.

* Applications Nos. 1-215 were published in the Labour Gazette for April, May, June, July and August.

808. Persons engaged in the manufacture of mechanical driving chains and chain gearing.

809. Workmen employed by a firm of motor wheel makers and tyre-smiths, and engaged in the work of—(1) Assembling machined wood for wheels. (2) Wood machinists. (3) Cleaners of wood motor wheels and lead colourers. (4) Blacksmith doing iron tyreing and pressing on rubbers. (5) Labourers.

812. Workmen employed by river conservators, and engaged wholly or mainly in—(1) driving machinery for the mechanical engineering establishment, and otherwise working in that establishment. (2) Driving cranes at the works for unloading and loading material to be used in connection with the carrying on of any trades set out in Schedule VI. of the National Insurance Act, 1911.

815. A workman engaged in mixing paint, and delivering same to painters on the job, and acting as a plumber and painters' labourer.

821. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making, shaping, &c., sheet metal panels for motor-car bodies.

824. Bricklayers and their mates or assistants (commonly called "grate fixers") who fix grates and kitchen ranges, and fill in their time making repairs to house property.

826. Workmen engaged in making and fixing deep well machinery, engines, windmills, machine pumps and other mechanical appliances for raising water from the ground. (Application 137.)

838. (1) Hose mounters engaged in fitting india rubber hoses to iron unions for use as couplings between railway carriages; (2) Youths engaged in the making of Rocker joint chain used for power transmission.

841. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the upkeep and maintenance of linotype machines.

850. Labourers employed as raftsmen to signal in connection with the testing of torpedoes.

853. Wheelwrights, carpenters, smiths, fitters or other workmen, including unskilled labourers, engaged wholly or mainly in the construction, decoration or repair of vehicles in connection with businesses other than those included under the trades specified in Schedule IV. of the National Insurance Act, 1911.

854. Electricians and assistants engaged wholly or mainly in the installation, upkeep and repair of electrical machinery (including conductors), electrical wiring for power, light or bells in factories, workshops or other buildings in connection with businesses other than those included under the trades specified in Schedule VI. of the National Insurance Act, 1911.

856. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the installation or in the upkeep and repair of hot-water and steam pipes, ventilating systems or permanent gas-piping in buildings in connection with businesses other than those included under the trades specified in Schedule VI. of the National Insurance Act, 1911.

860. Workmen engaged in scaling pontoons.

862. Workmen, not being usually members of a ship's crew, engaged in scraping, cleaning and painting ships when undergoing Board of Trade survey.

863. Workmen employed by manufacturers of safety boiler mountings and high-pressure steam valves, and engaged—(a) in testing with hydraulic pressure (1) rough castings in gun-metal or other copper alloys, iron and steel, (2) machined castings in all the above-mentioned metals, and (3) articles in all the above-mentioned metals finished and fitted up ready for sale; and (b) in testing, with steam pressure, iron, steel and gun-metal articles finished and fitted up ready for sale.

868. Machinemen, planers, benders, grinders, pattern-makers employed in connection with the manufacture of armour plates.

869. Workmen engaged in the construction, reconstruction or alteration of steel works plant.

870. Boilermakers and labourers engaged wholly or mainly in repair of boilers in connection with steel works or other businesses, whether such businesses are among those specified in Schedule VI. of the National Insurance Act, 1911, or not.

This decision is intended to make it clear that decision 464 ("Board of Trade Labour Gazette" for July, page 311) does not cover the repair of steam boilers.

871. Bricklayers and labourers engaged wholly or mainly in repair of boiler-settings in connection with steel works or other businesses, whether such businesses are among those specified in Schedule VI. of the National Insurance Act, 1911, or not.

This decision is intended to make it clear that decision 464 ("Board of Trade Labour Gazette" for July, page 311) does not cover the repair of steam boiler-settings.

872. A workman engaged wholly or mainly in the work of turning warpers' beams and loom beams of wood and iron.

876. Workmen employed by a firm of motor-car manufacturers, and described as inspectors or viewers engaged in testing for defects, and in measuring with micrometers and other instruments for accuracy.

877. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in dry-docking ships and other craft for the purpose of inspection and repair where repair may be found necessary.

878. Workmen engaged in turning tyres, axles and wheels.

880. Typewriter mechanics, engaged in such work as filing, drilling and tapping, riveting, turning, soldering and general overhauling of typewriter mechanism.

881. Workmen engaged in guillotine cutting, punch-press stamping and turning of brass work for electrical motor brushes for dynamos.

A.—The *Umpire* has decided that contributions are payable in respect of:—

883. Workmen described as thatchers and thatchers' mates, and engaged wholly or mainly in thatching houses, barns and other buildings, and not employed mainly in thatching hay, corn or other stacks.

888. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of automatic weighing machines for flour, sugar and cocoa, and described as tinmen, fitters-up of machines, electric switch and contact makers, testers and machine hands.

890. Workmen engaged in lining shells and bushes with anti-friction metal.

893. Workmen engaged in the application of various materials used for non-conducting work in connection with refrigerating plants in buildings or ships.

894. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in casing doors, hanging windows, boarding ceilings.

895. Workmen engaged in making fireproof doors. (Application 187.)

897. Workmen engaged in turning off copper rollers, dies and mills in lathe by motive power.

898. Toolmakers engaged in making, or in the upkeep and maintenance of, metal perforating presses, or in making punches and tools used in the manufacture of dustbins, tanks, cylinders, cisterns, &c.

Note.—Decision 119 (9) ("Board of Trade Labour Gazette" for June, p. 255) relates only to punches for small articles of the kind mentioned in that decision.

900. Workmen employed by a firm of mining tool manufacturers, and engaged wholly or mainly (1) in case-hardening steel for hand boring and power machinery and tools; (2) in grinding parts of hand boring and power drills; (3) in moulding and casting pick heads; (4) as blacksmiths, stampers, their strikers and pickers, making parts of hand and power boring tools and machinery; (5) as planers; (6) as labourers; (7) in assisting at annealing furnaces; (8) as engine tenters, and working gas-producing plant; (9) in filing pick blades and parts of hand boring machines and tools.

902. Workmen employed by a firm of cart and carriage axle makers, and engaged as (1) axle nut and washer drop forgers, cap screwers, turners and casters; (2) axle box screwers, turners, tappers; (3) axle setters, turners, pinners, hardeners, grinders, polishers, assemblers and fitters; (4) labourers.

904. Workmen employed by a firm of automobile engineers both to drive motor-cars for the purpose of testing them, and to repair and adjust the machinery.

905. A workman engaged wholly or mainly in repairing guns, rifles and revolvers.

908. Workmen employed in case-hardening parts of the products of a mechanical engineering establishment, and in respect of sweaters employed in a mechanical engineering establishment soldering together metal parts with use of blowpipes.

909. Workmen engaged in building up from sections on the site constructional steel work for wireless telegraphy aerial supports such as cylindrical poles and lattice structures.

911. Workmen engaged in applying to steamships coatings composed of bitumen specialties.

914. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in erecting oxy-acetylene welding and metal cutting plant on purchasers' premises, and using same for work in connection with any insured trade.

919. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in installing lightning conductors, repairing church steeples and spires, and chimney shafts, and felling chimney shafts.

922. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture of air-craft (other than non-rigid balloons), together with the portable sheds used in connection with them. (Application 191.)

924. Workmen employed as tool makers and setters in connection with the manufacture of bells.

926. A workman engaged in erecting machinery in showrooms, and running same where required to demonstrate for customers the various motions, &c.

928. Metal perforation toolmakers (heavy work).

929. A workman engaged in shipyards in boiling a chemical solution for the preservation of iron and steel.

930. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making steel dies for drawing sections of brass rods.

933. Cranemen (hand or power), enginemen (stationary engines), firemen (stationary engines) and boilermen in any business included in Schedule VI of the National Insurance Act, 1911.

934. Workmen engaged in glutting wheels.

937. Blacksmiths engaged wholly or mainly in the upkeep and repair (including sharpening) of rock drills used in quarries.

939. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in welding, in the track, the joints of tramway rails in the construction of new tramway lines, and in the reconstruction and alteration (but not the repair and relaying) of existing ones.

941. Workmen engaged as patent floor layers, in laying coverings of a permanent character over steel, iron, wood, concrete, &c., foundations.

943. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture or in the repair of vacuum cleaning machines (hand or power), including the woodwork, but excluding the manufacture of hose pipes.

944. Workmen engaged in making and polishing parts of typewriters, and assembling typewriters.

945. Workmen engaged in uncasing and assembling the parts of imported agricultural implements which are worked or drawn by horse or mechanical power.

946. A signal fitter employed wholly or mainly in repairing and putting in order signals.

947. Fitters employed by a firm of constructional engineers, and engaged in making, fitting and repairing tools for use in connection with the manufacture of fencing and washers.

948. Workmen employed in the roofing department of a firm of constructional engineers, and described as wood template makers, punchers, shearers, benders and straighteners, chippers and filers, smiths, strikers, drillers, planers, sawyers, platers, carpenters, painters, loaders, labourers, crane drivers, electric wiremen, erectors, fitters, riveters, rivet-heaters and holders-up.

950. Workmen described as employed in mechanical engineering, and engaged wholly or mainly in fitting finished millstones to the hursting or grinding mill.

952. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the work of fixing on the site, or the preparation, including dressing, enamelling or polishing of slate or marble to finished dimensions (other than roofing slates, paving flags, or slate for electrical appliances, tanks and vats) for use in connection with any trade set out in the sixth schedule of the National Insurance Act, 1911.

953. Workmen employed by a firm of tin mine owners, and engaged wholly or mainly—(1) as masons and labourers repairing buildings; (2) as fitters and their assistants repairing machinery, etc.; (3) as electricians and their labourers in the upkeep and repair of electrical machinery and conductors. (Application 124.)

955. Workmen engaged in building up at the works loco gas machines, and fixing them in buildings, also fixing any necessary gas piping and fittings, and overhauling and repairing existing installations.

956. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in fixing boiling water apparatus and coffee-making machines in restaurants and buildings generally, and in keeping in repair the gas and water fittings after they are fixed.

959. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture or repair of lighthouse, light vessel and fog signal apparatus, including buoys and beacons.

960. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the construction, reconstruction, alteration or repair of lighthouses and light vessels.

963. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making and repairing press tools for use of door bolt and padlock manufacturers.

970. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in fitting flanges and clips to motor omnibus wheels to stop rubber tyres from coming off.

972. Workmen employed by a firm of gun makers, and engaged in the manufacture of guns and rifles for sporting purposes, including the stocking and finishing of the same.

978. Workmen described as builders' labourers, and engaged wholly or mainly in gathering and dressing stone for building purposes, and otherwise generally assisting in the building operations.

980. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the reconstruction of an existing railway road, by the conversion of it from a steam to an electric railway.

981. A workman employed as a mechanic in an engineering laboratory, and engaged wholly or mainly in attending and repairing machinery.

984. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture, assembling, erecting, or repair of electrical switches, cut-outs, circuit breakers, and switch gear generally (including main and sub-station switchboards, motor control panels and starters and accumulator boards), except small switches, cut-outs, circuit breakers, distribution boxes, and other fittings which are commonly used for ordinary domestic services.

986. Workmen employed as toolmakers, and engaged in making press tools, dies, chills, etc., for the use of meter makers.

987. Workmen engaged in casting malleable iron nails and protectors for the boot trade and brattice nails used for miners' cloths.

988. Workmen employed by a firm of press and stamped brass founders, and engaged wholly or mainly as tool makers and tool setters, making tools for the manufacture of household brass goods, nail eyelets, etc.

989. Workmen described as fitters, who are engaged wholly or mainly in making tools and dies for tin box making machinery.

992. Workmen described as needle toolmakers, and engaged wholly or mainly in the work of making dies to be used in the manufacture of needles.

994. Workmen employed as patternmakers, making wooden patterns for iron foundries or brass foundries, covered by decision No. 23 (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for May).

995. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture and fixing of wooden bookstalls, kiosks, etc., for the sale of goods at railway stations, etc.

996. Workmen described as tool makers, and engaged wholly or mainly in making tools for capstan lathes.

997. Workmen employed by a firm of tyre manufacturers, and engaged in—(1) pressing on endless rubber tyres by hydraulic pressure; (2) forcing rubber into steel channels with hand machines.

999. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in preparing, fitting, or fixing by screw, nail, or other process, fittings of wood designed or intended for specific buildings, or parts thereof (not being portable counters, show cases, or other similar portable fittings).

1001. Workmen employed as toolmakers, and engaged wholly or mainly in making dies and tools used in the manufacture of lamps and gas and electric light fittings.

1007. Workmen employed by a firm of mechanical engineers wholly or mainly by way of manual labour, and engaged in testing motor road rollers built by the firm, and assisting as labourers in the erection of the rollers.

B.—The *Umpire* has decided that contributions ARE NOT PAYABLE in respect of:—

802. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in general repairs to removable gas cookers, gas fires, gas fittings other than pipes in customers' houses.

804. Workmen engaged in making—(1) Compositors' type cases; (2) composing frames; (3) imposing surface stands; and other similar articles of wood used by printers, and not being machinery.

805. Workmen employed as ebonite and vulcanised fibre workers, making insulating parts for the electrical trade.

806. Workmen employed by a firm of sand and ballast pit owners, and engaged in digging ballast, and screening same.

807. Workmen engaged in—(1) Roasting zinc ore for the elimination of sulphur. (2) Smelting or distillation of zinc ore for spelter.

810. Workmen engaged in making and repairing wooden articles, such as wooden guards for washing machines, label boxes, crates and cases.

811. Workmen employed by river conservators on dredgers, tugs, barges, hoppers or launches, and engaged wholly or mainly in work the primary purpose of which is the maintenance of the river channels.

813. Workmen employed by a firm of knife-cleaning machine and coffee mill manufacturers, and engaged—(1) In assembling and fitting up metal work for household knife cleaners, mincing machines and coffee mills. (2) In assembling and fitting up wood, iron and leather domestic rotary knife cleaners. (3) As japanners.

814. Workmen engaged in making light sheet metal pumps.

816. Workmen engaged in the salvage of ships and cargoes, and all descriptions of labour incidental thereto.

817. A workman engaged in preparing steel dies for medallists, hardening and stamping from them in various metals.

818. Workmen employed by a firm of ship owners, and engaged wholly or mainly in—(1) Attending donkey engine on steamer and discharging cargo. (2) Clearing engine room, receiving stores. (3) Attending to shifting of vessels, to gangways for disembarking passengers and other similar work.

819. Workmen employed by a cab company, and engaged wholly or mainly in the work of removing and replacing rubber tyres of motor-cabs.

820. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly—(1) In finishing up and putting together the parts of hand presses for embossing addresses on paper, &c. (2) In striking copper counterparts from the engraved die, and fitting same to the above presses.

822. Workpeople engaged wholly or mainly in making indexes and clockwork for water meters.

823. Workmen engaged in the manufacture and erection of boxes for fixing on outside sun blinds.

825. Workmen engaged in the work of well sinking and artesian well boring, and in the equipment by such well borers of temporary test pumping plant. (Applications 137 and 181.)

827. Workmen employed by a railway company, and engaged in—(1) Preparing signal posts wholly or mainly for purposes of maintenance. (2) Repairing station barrows, furniture, axes, hammer shafts, brake sticks, &c.

828. Workmen employed as makers of wooden brick moulds.

829. Tinsmiths and japanners making hand chemical fire extinguishers and fire buckets.

830. Workmen employed in connecting and disconnecting pipes in general work connected with stills for motor spirit and oils.

831. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the work of—(1) Tent, sail, flag and cover makers. (2) Tent erectors and labourers.

832. Workmen engaged in the making of magneto electric cycle lamps.

833. Workmen employed in the manufacture of asbestos jointless floor covering.

834. Workmen employed in the manufacture of cement.

836. Workmen engaged in filling explosives into fuses for artillery shells, and filling explosives into port-fires.

837. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of cast-iron radiators for household purposes, other than those covered by the decisions relating to ironfounding.

839. Workmen employed by a firm of harness furniture manufacturers, and engaged wholly or mainly in barrelling brass nickel buckles and general harness furniture.

840. Workmen employed wholly or mainly as linotype operators or their assistants.

842. Workmen engaged in fitting together the castings which form moulds for artificial teeth.

843. Persons employed in theatres or music halls, and described as—(1) Stage carpenters and their assistants, not engaged in construction or repair of buildings. (2) Stage electricians and their assistants, not engaged in wiring buildings or other work of a permanent character.

844. Persons engaged wholly or mainly in sharpening tools used by masons and sculptors.

845. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of electrical signs. (Application 197.)

846. Persons employed by a firm of wood-wool makers, and engaged in grinding cutters for wood-wool making machines, and assisting generally in the manufacture of wood-wool.

847. Rail bank workmen employed in connection with rolling mills, and engaged in straightening, drilling, planing and dressing, cutting, loading and discharging rolled rails.

848. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly making music stands, filing devices and similar articles, and not engaged in ironfounding.

849. Workmen engaged in making spare rims for motors, called Stepney wheels.

851. Coxswains and drivers of motor-boats engaged in bringing back torpedoes after trial testing.

855. Switchboard attendants or other workmen engaged wholly or mainly in minding, tenting or driving electrical machinery in connection with businesses other than those included under the trades specified in Schedule VI. of the National Insurance Act, 1911, and not engaged wholly or mainly in the upkeep and repair of electrical machinery and conductors.

857. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of cricket stumps, croquet implements, tennis presses, tennis poles, lawn bowls, Indian clubs, dumb-bells, and billiard table legs, by means of circular saws, turning lathes and planing and moulding machines.

858. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the work of—(1) making and painting garden seats, tables, pergolas, trellises, tubs and other garden furniture; (2) making trellage for use on walls. (Application 203.)

859. Workshop instructors in technical institutes in connection with any insured trades, who engage in manual labour incidentally to the giving of instruction.

861. Workmen employed by a firm of tube manufacturers, and engaged in the welded pipe industry in the work of drilling, cutting, &c., iron and steel pipes, and making, &c., and welding on flanges of the same.

864. Patternmakers working in lead or brass in connection with the manufacture of fenders.

865. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of gas testing apparatus, or in testing and fitting incandescent gas burners, except in so far as same is covered by decisions relating to ironfounding.

866. Workmen engaged in boring holes to prove the existence or non-existence of coal or other minerals.

867. Workmen described as casual labourers who are not employed in factories or workshops, or in yards or stores connected therewith, but who are engaged wholly or mainly in unloading barges of timber and carrying it on to the timber stacks in the yard.

873. Workmen engaged in feeding power-driven washer-cutting machines with steel plates.

874. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making wrought iron domestic utensils, such as eurus, meat safes, fire irons and saucepans.

875. Workmen engaged in the work of making brass, gun-metal, &c., sanitary fittings for closets, cisterns, &c.

879. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of gramophones, cabinets for gramophones, gramophone records or packing cases for them.

882. Workmen described as thatchers and thatchers' mates, and engaged wholly or mainly in thatching hay, corn or other stacks.

884. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in fitting and screwing advertisement plates, boards, &c., to omnibuses and like vehicles.

885. Workmen engaged in attending automatic machines for welding wire together to form the reinforcement for concrete.

886. Workmen engaged in making endless wires for attaching the outer covers to the rims of cycles.

887. Workmen employed by a firm of type foundry, and described as justifiers engaged in (1) the rectification of small pieces of copper, bronze or nickel in relation to the mould cavity electrotyped or struck therein; (2) the preparation of sketches, drawings, moulds in wax, models or formers in Portland cement, and the operating of reproducing machines in connection therewith.

889. Workmen engaged in making and running anti-friction metal into ingots, and in making and casting into ingots ferro-aluminium, &c.

891. A workman employed by a firm of architectural modellers, and engaged in modelling in clay for decoration of buildings, and for stone and wood carving.

892. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of incubators and brooders for poultry-rearing.

899. Workmen engaged in making or fixing glass, wood, electric, and wood letter signs, stall plates, &c. (Application 197.)

901. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of cycle tubes as follows:—(1) Cutting up sheet steel into strips on guillotine; (2) grinding the edges of strips; (3) stamping the strips into a round section; (4) charging the seam on the tube; (5) brazing the joint; (6) polishing to remove the joint surplus solder; (7) stamping into sections; (8) flattening ends, cutting and slotting.

903. Workmen engaged in grinding knives used in connection with tobacco-cutting and cigarette-making machines.

906. A workman engaged in repairing mechanical toys, and in stock and general toy repairs.

907. (1) Art metal workers engaged in producing artistic wrought metal, such as electric fittings, stove fronts, and *reposés* silver, copper and brass work; (2) packers of artistic wrought metal.

910. Workmen employed by a firm of boot tree manufacturers, and engaged—(1) in making and polishing boot lasts; (2) as lads riding cycle carriers.

912. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture and delivery of coffins, and in attendance at funerals.

913. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture of wooden gates and sheep troughs.

915. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in—(1) giving demonstrations of oxy-acetylene welding and metal cutting and

B.—The Umpire has decided that contributions are not payable in respect of:—

instruction to purchasers of plant; (2) running gas engines, air compressor and producer plant, and charging the latter with fuel for the purposes of such demonstrations and instruction; (3) running oxygen-producing plant; (4) running gas engines and producer plant, and charging the latter with fuel in connection with the manufacture and compression of oxygen or acetylene.

916. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in shaping wood blocks for the shaping of felt hats.

917. Workmen engaged in the manufacture of clocks and watches, including the turning on small lathes and special machines of clock parts and small mechanisms.

918. Persons engaged in engraving on gold, silver, or other precious metals, or on fittings for dressing cases and similar articles.

920. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making gauges for measuring the thickness of wire rods and sheets of metals.

921. Workmen employed by a saw-blade and gauge manufacturer, and engaged wholly or mainly in making saw-blades by hand for cutting metals.

923. Workmen engaged in overhauling, cleaning, filling, sewing and repairing, rubber solutioning non-dirigible balloons, lining balloon baskets, or doing any rope work in connection with the above.

925. Workmen engaged in making bells either from sheet metal of any kind, or by casting and turning metals (other than iron or steel).

927. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making, trimming and packing lead traps and bends for sanitary purposes.

931. Workmen engaged in rolling, drawing and straightening brass for turbine blades. (Application 209.)

932. A workman engaged in making moulds for shaping micanite for use in the manufacture of insulators.

935. Workmen engaged in the work of making and repairing dry stone walls and fences.

936. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the upkeep and repair (including sharpening) of simple hand tools, such as picks and chisels used in quarries.

938. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in—(1) forging golf iron heads, and polishing them; (2) fitting up iron ratchets and tubes to tennis posts, and making and riveting small tinwork, parts of tennis markers, etc.

940. Workmen described as employed on lathe and vice, and engaged in the manufacture of arc lamps for cinematographs.

942. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly—(1) in affixing posters and advertisements on hoardings and walls; (2) as poster-writers, hand-painting advertisements on bills.

949. Workmen employed by a firm of chain cable and anchor makers, and engaged wholly or mainly as—(1) chain cable makers; (2) forgers and helpers making anchors, square link chain and forgings for smiths; (3) anchor smiths.

951. A workman described as an instrument maker, and engaged wholly or mainly in making—(1) instruments for testing gas; (2) recording instruments for general use in engineering works. (Application 210.)

954. Workmen employed by a firm of tin mine owners, and engaged wholly or mainly—(1) in sharpening and repairing hand tools, and not employed wholly or mainly in sharpening and repairing rock drills; (2) as carpenters and their labourers on work about the mines, but not wholly or mainly engaged on buildings. (Application 124.)

957. Workmen described as metal workers, and engaged wholly or mainly (1) as brass finishers grinding in gas cocks for incandescent lamps, parts for hand fire extinguishers, &c.; (2) as brass finishers, making patterns for gas and water fittings for use on the above; (3) in putting together gas fittings into casings for lamps; (4) in making gas fittings and parts of hand fire extinguishers; (5) in fitting together automatic boiling water apparatus for restaurants, and testing same; (6) in annealing copper, brass and German silver spinnings.

958. Workmen employed by a vulcanized fibre and gutta percha dealer, and engaged wholly or mainly in the production of fibre goods.

961. Workmen employed by Water Companies, and engaged in (1) examining and testing, by means of hydraulic pressure, taps, stop taps, cisterns, &c.; (2) examining stop tap boxes, and stamping same with official mark.

962. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the work of making and covering cork fenders, life buoys and life belts.

963. Workmen employed by a firm of cotton doublers, and engaged wholly or mainly in putting on belting for driving shafting, and in general supervision of same, but not engaged in attending to the shafting or the machinery.

964. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in repairing acetylene motor head lamps, deck searchlights, &c., and making parts incidental thereto.

965. Workmen engaged (1) as wood turners and polishers in turning and French polishing wood knobs and finger plates for doors, knobs for drawers, cupboards, &c., bell handles, cistern pulls, wood parts for electrical fittings, cornice poles and similar articles; (2) as wood machinists on drilling and turning machines, making electrical work such as adaptors, wall plug covers, pillars for lamps, bobbins for electrical wire and conduit bushes; (3) putting together and fitting with terminals electric fittings such as wall plugs and adaptors; (4) breaking down timber and cutting blanks for (2) above.

966. Workmen engaged in minding machines for the purpose of making nails.

969. Workmen, including sawyers, engaged wholly or mainly in making railway keys and trenails.

971. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in the navigation of horse cart ferries, and not engaged wholly or mainly in repair of the same.

973. Glass blowers employed by a firm of scientific apparatus makers, and engaged wholly or mainly in making burettes, pipettes and glass retorts.

974. Workmen engaged in turning and assembling the brass parts of domestic lamps.

975. Workmen employed by a firm of tin smelters, and described as furnacemen engaged wholly or mainly in working reverberatory tin ore furnaces.

976. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in fitting up and finishing ready for sale box irons, fire dogs, and rests for hearth suites and umbrella stands, and not engaged in iron-founding.

977. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in finishing the rough castings and fitting the various metal parts used in the manufacture of backs of covers for loose leaf ledger binders, and not covered by the decisions on iron-founding.

979. Workmen employed by a firm of expanded metal makers, and engaged wholly or mainly in dividing rolled steel plates by shearing machines, and distorting into mesh-work formation.

982. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in fixing, removing, or repairing portable and removable market stalls, or the temporary gas fittings attached thereto.

983. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly—(1) In fixing or mounting fuse wire or strip on china, porcelain, or other insulators. (2) In fitting and fixing fuses in protecting cases.

985. Turners, machinists, and sawyers engaged wholly or mainly in the manufacture of keys and trenails supplied to railway companies.

990. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making tiling and mosaics and not engaged wholly or mainly in fixing the same.

991. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in breaking up, by means of blasting operations, beds of iron at works not forming part of the buildings.

993. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in stamping needle eyes or in other processes in the actual manufacture of needles.

998. Workmen employed by a firm of stove and grate makers and manufacturers of sanitary fittings, and described as box fitters, fitting iron moulding boxes.

1000. A steam hammer forger engaged in making copper refining ladle plates and rabble heads and light forgings for use in copper, spelter, and steel works (not being essential parts of machinery).

1003. Joiners and other workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making wooden drums for electric light cables.

1004. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making brass bung guards and wooden bungs.

1005. Persons engaged wholly or mainly in—(1) Charging electric accumulators; (2) making carbons for arc lamps.

1006. Workmen engaged in screwing the ends of tubes (not being for the purposes of any of the insured trades).

CORRECTION.—Decision No. 776 (BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE of August, page 355), should read as follows:—"A. The Umpire has decided that contributions are payable in respect of workmen employed in the manufacture of copper rollers for use in printing and engraving works (turning and polishing, hammering and piercing)."

NOTE.—WHERE NO REFERENCE IS GIVEN TO AN APPLICATION, THE QUESTION HAS BEEN DECIDED BY THE UMPIRE, WITHOUT NOTICE, AS A MATTER NOT ADMITTING OF REASONABLE DOUBT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (2) OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE (UMPIRE) REGULATIONS.

DECISIONS RELATING TO INDIVIDUAL WORKMEN WHICH RAISE NO QUESTION OF GENERAL INTEREST, OR WHICH MERELY APPLY A PRINCIPLE LAID DOWN IN A PREVIOUS DECISION, ARE NOT PUBLISHED.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

(1) Workmen's Compensation Act.

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF THE EMPLOYMENT: BURDEN OF PROOF: DISAPPEARANCE OF SEAMAN FROM SHIP.

Compensation for injury by accident is only payable under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, when the accident was one arising out of as well as in the course of the employment. The burden of proof is upon the claimant to show that an injury was due to such accident.

While a steamship was at sea in the tropics, a fireman was seen at 4.30 a.m. doing his usual work at the furnaces. At 4.45 a.m.

he was missed, and search was made, but he was never again seen or heard of. He was in good health, and there was no ground whatever to think that he had committed suicide. His watch was from midnight till 6 a.m., and a short time before he was missed he was seen on deck getting a drink. It was the habit of the firemen in the tropics to go on deck occasionally for a breath of fresh air and a drink. The widow of the deceased made a claim for compensation, but her claim was resisted on the ground that there was no evidence that any accident had happened arising out of and in the course of the employment. The county court judge held that he was justified in inferring that the deceased had come on deck for fresh air and a drink, in order the better to perform his duty, and had accidentally fallen overboard; that therefore the accident had arisen both out of and in the course of the employment, and that compensation was payable. The shipowners appealed.

The Court of Appeal held that the judge was entitled to come to the conclusion to which he had come, and the appeal was dismissed.—*Lee v. Stag Line Limited.*—*Court of Appeal.* (Reported) 3rd August, 1912.

INDUSTRIAL DISEASES: NYSTAGMUS: PARTIAL RECOVERY: INCAPACITY FOR WORK DUE TO INCREASED SUSCEPTIBILITY.

It is provided by the Act that where a certifying surgeon certifies that a workman is suffering from any one of certain diseases, and is thereby disabled from earning full wages at the work at which he is employed, the disablement shall be treated as the happening of an accident, and the workman shall be entitled to compensation during incapacity.

A miner employed at a colliery was certified as suffering from nystagmus (one of the diseases under the Act), which so affected his eyesight that he was incapacitated for work. He was paid compensation voluntarily for some time at the rate of £1 a week, and subsequently, on the award of the county court judge, at the rate of 13s. 6d. a week. Later the employers applied to the county court judge to terminate or diminish the weekly payment of 13s. 6d., on the ground that the workman had either wholly or partially recovered. The workman denied that he had recovered. Medical witnesses, while not agreeing as to whether he had fully recovered or not, agreed that he could not safely work again under ground, because of the great susceptibility to the disease which had been caused by the disease. The judge decided that the workman was not then suffering from nystagmus, but that he was unable to work under ground because of the susceptibility to nystagmus due to the attack from which he had suffered. He, therefore, refused to alter the weekly payment. The employers appealed; but the Court of Appeal held that the county court judge had decided rightly, and dismissed the appeal.—*Garnant Anthracite Collieries, Ltd., v. Rees.*—*Court of Appeal.* (Reported) 3rd August, 1912.

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 bread on September 2nd, 1912.

The figures in the following Table are based on Returns from 225 Co-operative Societies in England and Wales, and 132 in Scotland:—

District.	Predominant price per 4 lbs. on Sept. 2nd, 1912.			Predominant price per 4 lbs. on June 1st, 1912.			Predominant price per 4 lbs. on Sept. 1st, 1911.		
	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.
ENGLAND AND WALES.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
N. Counties and Yorkshire ..	7½	5½	6'43	7½	5½	6'35	7½	5½	6'24
Lancs. & Cheshire ..	6½	5	5'94	6½	5	5'96	6½	4½	5'61
N. Mid. Counties ..	6	5	5'43	6	5	5'43	6	5	5'19
W. do. do. ..	6	5	5'67	6	5	5'69	6	5	5'40
S. do. do. ..	6	5	5'51	6	5	5'49	6	5	5'19
Eastern Counties ..	6½	5	5'89	6½	5	5'89	6	5	5'57
London ..	6	5½	5'94	6	5½	5'94	6	5	5'50
S. E. Counties ..	6½	5½	6'04	6½	5½	6'10	6½	5½	5'92
S. W. Counties, Wales & Mon. f	6	5	5'77	6	5	5'75	6	5	5'54
England and Wales f	7½	5	5'81	7½	5	5'81	7½	4½	5'55
SCOTLAND.									
Northern Counties ..	7	5½	6'28	7	5½	6'30	6½	5½	5'81
Eastern Counties ..	7	5	6'48	7½	5	6'45	7	5	6'07
Lanarkshire ..	6½	6	6'03	6½	6	6'03	6	5½	5'60
Other Southern Counties ..	7	6	6'43	7	6	6'43	6½	5½	5'93
Scotland ..	7	5	6'38	7½	5	6'37	7	5	5'92
Great Britain ..	7½	5	6'02	7½	5	6'02	7½	4½	5'69

As compared with June 1st, 1912, the mean of the prices shows no change. As compared with September 1st, 1911, an increase of 0'33d. per 4 lbs. is shown.

Returns showing the predominant prices of 4 lbs. of bread on September 2nd, 1912, have been received from 140 of the principal Master Bakers' Associations in the United Kingdom and 30 from other sources. The returns are summarised in the following Table, in which the highest predominant rates and the lowest predominant rates are shown, together with the mean of all the predominant rates in each district:—

District.	Sept. 2nd, 1912.			August 1st, 1912.			Sept. 1st, 1911.		
	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.
London:—	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
N. & N.W. ..	6	5½	5'6	6	5½	5'6	5½	5½	5'5
E. & N.E. ..	6	5½	5'7	6	5	5'7	5½	5	5'5
S.E. ..	5½	5½	5'5	5½	5½	5'5	5½	5	5'3
S.W. ..	6	5½	5'8	6	5½	5'8	6	5	5'4
W. & W.C. ..	6	6	6'0	6	6	6'0	6	5½	5'6
N. Counties & Yorks, Lancs. & Cheshire ..	6½	5½	6'1	6½	5½	6'1	6½	5	5'6
Midlands ..	6	5	5'5	6	5	5'5	5½	5	5'3
Eastern Counties ..	6	5	5'5	6½	5	5'6	6	5	5'4
Southern Counties ..	6½	5½	6'0	6½	5½	6'1	6	4½	5'8
S. Western Counties and Wales	6	5	5'7	6	5	5'8	6	4½	5'6
Scotland ..	7	5½	6'4	7	5½	6'4	7	5½	5'9
Great Britain ..	7	5	5'8	7	5	5'8	7	4½	5'6

Compared with a month ago the mean of the predominant prices remains unchanged. Compared with September 1st, 1911, an increase of '2d. per 4 lbs. is shown.

Of the various prices at which bread was sold in each of the following towns the predominant price (i.e., the price at which the greatest quantity was sold) was as under:—

Place.	Predominant Price per 4 lbs. on Sept. 2nd, 1912.*	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Last Change.	
		Month ago.	Year ago.	Date.	Am't per 4 lbs.
London ..	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Birmingham ..	5½ & 6	..	+ ¼	Feb. '12	+ ¼
Bolton ..	5½ & 6	..	+ ¼	May '12	- ¼
Bristol ..	6	..	+ ½	April '12	+ ½
Cardiff ..	6	..	+ ½	Feb. '12	+ ½
Derby ..	6	..	+ ½	1st Apl. '12	+ ½
Hull ..	5½	..	..	April '12	+ ½
Ipswich ..	5½	..	..	June '10	- ½
Leicester ..	6	..	+ ½	March '12	+ ½
Leeds ..	6	..	+ ½	May '10	- ½
Liverpool ..	6	..	+ ½	April '12	+ ½
Manchester ..	6	..	+ 1	April '12	+ ½
Middlesbrough ..	5½ & 6	..	+ ½	July '12	+ ½
Norwich ..	5	..	..	Nov. '09	+ ½
Nottingham ..	5½	..	..	June '10	- ½
Oldham ..	5	..	+ ½	April '12	+ ½
Plymouth ..	6	..	..	June '10	- ½
Portsmouth ..	6	..	..	Oct. '10	- ½
Potteries ..	5½	..	+ ½	April '12	+ ½
Southampton ..	5½ & 6	..	+ ½	May '12	+ ½
Wolverhampton ..	6	..	..	July '12	- ½
Aberdeen ..	6	..	+ 1	May '12	- ½
Dundee ..	6	..	+ ½	April '12	+ ½
Edinburgh ..	7	..	+ ½	April '12	+ ½
Glasgow ..	6	..	+ ½	Oct. '11	+ ½
Belfast ..	6½	..	+ 1	June '12	+ ½
Dublin ..	6½	..	+ ½	April '12	+ ½

The price on September 2nd was the same as on August 1st at each of the towns. As compared with September 1st, 1911, the price is higher in 20 of the towns; in the remaining 7 towns no change is shown.

II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

Month.	British Wheat	Imports.		Average Monthly Price of Flour (Town Households ex Mill for Cash).
		Wheat.	Wheat-meal and Flour.	
	Mean London Gazette Price (England and Wales).	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.
1911.		7 4½	10 3¼	10 5¼
August .. 1912.		7 9¼	11 0	11 11¼
July ..		8 11¾	8 5	11 4¼
August ..		8 8	10 7¼	11 4¼

The imports of wheat during the twelve months ended August, 1912, amounted to 103,325,388 cwts., or 2,541,912 cwts. more than during the corresponding period of 1910-1911. The imports of wheat-meal and flour during the twelve months ended August, 1912, amounted to 10,257,343, or 187,470 cwts. more than in the corresponding period of 1910-11.

* Where two prices are quoted about equal quantities were sold at each price.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Cases include all attacks reported during the month, and not previously reported during the preceding 12 months. Deaths include all fatal cases reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not.

The total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during August, 1912, was 58, of which 52 were due to lead poisoning, 2 to mercurial poisoning, and 4 to anthrax; 2 deaths, both of which were due to lead poisoning, were also reported. In addition, 21 cases of lead poisoning (5 of which were fatal) were reported among house painters and plumbers.

During the eight months ended August, 1912, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax was 436, as compared with 496 in the corresponding period of 1911. The number of deaths was 36 in 1912, as compared with 32 in 1911. In addition, there were 159 cases of lead poisoning (including 28 deaths) among house painters and plumbers during the first eight months of 1912, as compared with 168 cases (including 34 deaths) in the corresponding period of 1911.

No cases of phosphorus poisoning were reported for any of the periods covered by the table.

Analysis by Industries.

INDUSTRY	CASES.		DEATHS.	
	Month of August, 1912.	Eight months ended August, 1912.	Month of Aug., 1912.	Eight months ended Aug., 1912.
Lead Poisoning.				
Among Operatives engaged in—				
Smelting of Metals	5	37	—	4
Brass Works	1	4	—	1
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping ..	1	3	—	—
Plumbing and Soldering	3	21	—	3
Printing	5	21	—	1
File Cutting	2	8	—	1
Tinning of Metals	8	10	—	1
White Lead Works	—	18	—	—
Red Lead Works	—	2	—	—
China and Earthenware*	6	55	2	13
Litho-Transfer Works	—	1	—	—
Glass Cutting and Polishing	—	1	—	—
Vitreous Enamelling	—	4	—	—
Electrical Accumulator Works ..	3	12	—	—
Paint and Colour Works	4	53	—	—
Coach and Car Painting	3	26	—	3
Shipbuilding	5	34	—	3
Paint used in other Industries ..	10	46	—	4
Other Industries	—	—	—	—
Total in Factories & Workshops	52	384	2	33
House Painting and Plumbing	21	159	5	28
Other Forms of Poisoning.				
Mercurial Poisoning—				
Barometer and Thermometer Making	—	3	—	—
Furriers and Felt Hat Works	2	7	—	—
Other Industries	—	7	—	—
Total.. .. .	2	17	—	—
Arsenic Poisoning—				
Paints, Colours, and Extraction of Arsenic	—	—	5	—
Other Industries	—	3	—	—
Total.. .. .	—	3	—	—
Total "Other Forms of Poisoning"	2	20	5	—
Anthrax.				
Wool	3	22	21	3
Handling of Horsehair	1	7	3	—
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.) ..	—	2	12	—
Other Industries	—	1	1	—
Total Anthrax	4	32	37	3
Total reported under Factory and Workshop Act	58	436	496	36
Grand Total	79	595	664	66

* Of the 6 persons affected in the china and earthenware industry 3 were females.

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.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN AUGUST.

(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 August, 1912, was 273, a decrease of 45 as compared with July, 1912, and an increase of 36 as compared with August, 1911. The mean number for August during the five years 1907-1911 was 241, the maximum year being 1908, with 274 deaths, and the minimum year 1911, with 237 deaths.

The total number of fatal accidents at mines in August, 1912, was 103, a decrease of 85 on a month ago, and an increase of 14 on a year ago. The fatal accidents at quarries numbered 6 during August, 1912, an increase of 3 on July, 1912, and a decrease of 6 on August, 1911. The total number of accidents reported under the Factory and Workshop Act in August, 1912, was 134, as compared with 95 in July, 1912, and 93 in August, 1911.

The number of fatal accidents to seamen reported in August, 1912, was 55, as compared with 52 in both July, 1912, and August, 1911.

During the eight months ended August, 1912, the total number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment (exclusive of seamen) was 1,933, as compared with 1,879 in 1911. The number of seamen killed in the same period was 1,662 in 1912 and 750 in 1911.

Trade.	Number of Workpeople killed during			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Aug., 1912, on a	
	Aug., 1912.	July, 1912.	Aug., 1911.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Railway Service—					
Brakemen & Goods Guards	3	2	—	+ 2	+ 3
Engine Drivers	2	—	—	+ 2	—
Firemen	2	—	—	+ 2	—
Guards (Passenger)	2	—	—	+ 2	—
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	2	9	—	- 7	- 6
Porters	6	1	6	+ 5	—
Shunters	2	1	2	+ 1	—
Miscellaneous	9	12	17	- 3	- 8
Contractors' Servants	1	2	—	+ 1	+ 1
Total, Railway Service	29	28	40	+ 1	- 11
Mines—					
Underground	85	177	83	- 92	+ 2
Surface	18	11	6	+ 7	+ 12
Total, Mines	103	188	89	- 85	+ 14
Quarries over 20 feet deep	6	3	12	+ 3	- 6
Factories and Workshops—					
Textile—					
Cotton	2	7	3	- 5	+ 1
Wool and Worsted	3	1	2	+ 2	+ 1
Other Textiles	2	—	2	+ 2	—
Non-Textile—					
Extraction of Metals	5	3	4	+ 2	+ 1
Founding and Conversion of Metals	14	14	7	+ 7	+ 7
Marine and Locomotive Engineering	7	—	1	+ 7	+ 6
Ship and Boat Building	15	7	19	+ 8	- 4
Wood	5	—	1	+ 5	+ 4
Chemicals	6	2	4	+ 4	+ 2
Laundries	—	—	—	—	—
Other Non-Textile Industries	52	29	36	+ 23	+ 16
Total, Factories and Workshops	111	63	79	+ 48	+ 32
Accidents reported under Factory Act, Ss. 104-5.					
Docks, Wharves, and Quays	16	22	5	- 6	+ 14
Warehouses	1	2	1	- 1	+ 1
Buildings to which Act applies	6	8	8	- 2	- 2
Total under Factory Act, Ss. 104-5.	23	32	14	- 9	+ 9
Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	1	4	3	- 3	- 2
Total, excluding Seamen	273	318	237	45	+ 36
Seamen—					
On Trading Vessels—					
Sailing	8	8	7	+ 1	+ 1
Steam	40	44	42	- 4	- 2
On Fishing Vessels—					
Sailing	7	—	3	+ 7	+ 4
Steam	—	—	—	—	—
Total, Seamen	55	52	52	+ 3	+ 3
Total, including Seamen	328	370	289	- 42	+ 39

DISTRESS COMMITTEES IN AUGUST.

The total number who received employment relief during August was 586, of whom 454 were in London and "Outer London," 27 in the provincial towns of England and Wales, and 105 in Scotland. The average duration of employment relief was 23.9 days per person employed, and the wages paid amounted to about 53s. 11d. per head, or about 2s. 4d. per day.

The net total number of applicants remaining on the registers at the end of August (after deduction where practicable of persons disqualified, those who had found work, &c.) was 7,826, of whom 1,127 were in "Outer London," 3,474 in the provincial towns of England and Wales, 253 in Scotland, and 2,972 in Ireland.

The total number of Distress Committees in operation at the end of August, 1912, was 24, the same number as at the end of July, 1912, and 6 more than at the end of August, 1911. Of the Distress Committees in operation at the end of August, 1912, 4 were in "Outer London," 14 in other places in England and Wales, 5 in Scotland, and 1 in Ireland.

The following Table summarises the information received from the various Distress Committees as to their operations in August, 1912, together with the corresponding statistics for the previous month and for August, 1911. It should be noted that the figures do not necessarily relate to the same Committees in the three periods:—

Districts.	No. of Applicants given Employment Relief.			Aggregate Duration of Employment Relief.		
	August, 1912.	July, 1912.	August, 1911.	August, 1912.	July, 1912.	August, 1911.
London—						
County	356	306	311	7,083	6,262	5,912
Outer	99	104	89	1,779	2,012	1,459
Total, London	454	410	400	8,862	8,274	7,371
Northern Counties	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lancs. and Cheshire	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yorkshire	—	—	—	—	—	—
Midlands	27	28	31	piecewkr	piecewkr	piecewkr
Eastern Counties	—	—	—	—	—	—
Southern Counties	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wales and Monmouth	—	49	—	—	567	—
England and Wales	481	487	431	8,862	8,841	7,371
Scotland	106	213	217	4,486	4,994	5,032
Ireland	—	47	—	—	—	—
United Kingdom	586	747	648	13,348	13,835	12,403

Districts.	Total Amount of Wages Paid.			Net No. of Applicants Remaining on the Registers at end of		
	August, 1912.	July, 1912.	August, 1911.	August, 1912.	July, 1912.	August, 1911.
London—						
County	£ 844	£ 741	£ 685	1,127	1,109	1,329
Outer	230	251	164	—	—	—
Total, London	1,074	992	849	1,127	1,109	1,329
Northern Counties	—	—	—	34	63	285
Lancs. and Cheshire	—	—	—	30	32	285
Yorkshire	—	—	—	2,528	2,512	2,825
Midlands	—	—	—	32	40	693
Eastern Counties	—	—	—	—	—	—
Southern Counties	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wales and Monmouth	—	128	—	121	116	294
England and Wales	1,106	1,160	877	4,601	4,561	5,735
Scotland	474	488	510	253	255	440
Ireland	—	15	—	2,972	2,919	—
United Kingdom	1,580	1,663	1,387	7,826	12,735	6,175

In addition, there were certain cases in which men and women were given employment by arrangement with Local Authorities or with contractors, or were engaged on piecework. Of the 7,826 applicants remaining on the registers at the end of August, 1912, 4,747 were stated to be labourers, porters, &c.; 1,858 were connected with the building trades; 223 were carters, &c.; 130 were clerks, shop assistants, &c.; the occupations of the remainder were not specified.

* In some cases it has been necessary to take the actual number on the registers, as the Distress Committees were unable to furnish the particulars necessary for deducting persons disqualified, &c.

PAUPERISM IN AUGUST.

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

THE number of paupers relieved on one day in August, 1912, in the 35 urban districts named below corresponded to a rate of 197 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Compared with July, 1912, the total number of paupers relieved decreased by 13,994 (or 3.8 per cent.), and the rate per 10,000 by 8. The number of outdoor paupers relieved decreased by 14,845 (or 7.5 per cent.), and the number of indoor paupers increased by 851 (or 0.5 per cent.). There were increases in seventeen districts, decreases in thirteen districts, and in the Halifax and Huddersfield, Leicester, Wolverhampton, Bristol, and Dundee and Dunfermline districts there was no change. Of the decreases, the most marked were in the West Ham district (164 per 10,000), and in the East Metropolitan district (44 per 10,000).

Compared with August, 1911, the rate per 10,000 showed no change. The number of outdoor paupers increased by 2,369 (or 1.3 per cent.), and the number of indoor paupers remained practically the same. There were decreases in twenty districts, the greatest being in the Coatbridge and Airdrie district (25 per 10,000). There were increases in fourteen districts, the most marked being in the Birmingham district (68 per 10,000). In the Halifax and Huddersfield district no change was indicated.

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of August, 1912.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.*					
Metropolis.					
West District	11,546	2,123	13,669	171	+ 3
North District	15,913	3,038	18,951	235	+ 6
Central District	15,922	3,354	19,276	425	+ 3
East District	14,625	5,116	19,741	290	- 4
South District	25,187	13,063	38,250	207	+ 1
Total, Metropolis	73,193	29,684	102,877	228	- 5
West Ham	5,084	12,642	17,726	248	- 164
Other Districts.					
Newcastle District	2,619	4,973	7,592	164	- 2
Stockton & Tees District	1,284	3,475	4,759	199	- 1
Bolton, Oldham, &c.	4,368	4,638	9,006	114	+ 2
Wigan District	2,373	5,587	7,960	187	+ 1
Manchester District	10,735	7,963	18,698	188	+ 2
Liverpool District	11,913	10,604	22,517	203	+ 2
Bradford District	2,040	1,875	3,915	106	+ 2
Halifax & Huddersfield	1,342	3,004	4,346	115	+ 3
Leeds District	2,796	3,565	6,361	135	- 1
Barnsley District	920	3,325	3,456	120	- 1
Sheffield District	3,096	3,325	6,421	135	- 1
Hull District	1,975	5,282	7,257	242	+ 3
North Staffordshire	2,249	5,670	7,919	202	+ 5
Nottingham District	2,243	4,			

TRADE DISPUTES IN AUGUST.*

Number and Magnitude.—The number of disputes beginning during August was 48, as compared with 68 in the previous month, and 100 in August, 1911. In these new disputes 29,554 workpeople were directly, and 3,667 indirectly involved, and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople involved in disputes which began before August and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 54,961 workpeople involved in trade disputes in August, 1912, as compared with 117,333 in July, 1912, and 373,615 in August, 1911, when great disputes in the transport trades were in progress.

New Disputes in August, 1912.—In the following Table the disputes beginning in August are summarised by trades affected:—

Groups of Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople involved.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building	1	38	6	44
Coal Mining	18	17,922	2,652	20,574
Engineering and Shipbuilding	13	8,582	220	8,802
Other Metal	4	1,067	68	1,135
Textile	6	1,180	321	1,501
Transport	3	625	—	625
Other Trades	3	140	400	540
Total, August, 1912	48	29,554	3,667	33,221
Total, July, 1912	68	31,546	10,071	41,617
Total, August, 1911	100	238,576	11,904	250,480

Causes.—Of the new disputes, 32 arose on various wages questions, viz., 19, directly involving 10,100 workpeople, on demands for advances in wages, and 13, directly involving 10,749 workpeople, on other wages questions. Of the remaining disputes, 9, directly involving 7,139 persons, arose on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons, 4, directly involving 1,206 persons, on details of working arrangements, 2, directly involving 210 persons, on questions of trade union principles, and 1, directly involving 150 persons, on a demand for reduction in hours of labour.

Principal Disputes that began or ended in August.

Occupations.†	Locality.	Number of Workpeople involved.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object. ‡	Result. ‡
		Di-rectly.	Indi-rectly‡				
Building— Builders' labourers, bricklayers, masons, joiners, &c.	Manchester ..	1,050	—	1912, 22 July	29	For advance in wages to a minimum of 6d. per hour, and other concessions.	Wages advanced to 6½d. per hour for hod-carriers and 6d. for other labourers; code of working rules to be arranged.
Coal Mining— Underground and surface workers, mechanics, deputies, &c.	Gateshead ..	1,673	130	18 Aug.	5	Dispute as to payment to certain men working in alleged abnormal places.	Work resumed; grievances subsequently considered and settled.
Hewers, other underground workers and surface workers.	Wakefield (near)	650	550	18 Apl.	91	Dissatisfaction with certain alterations in method of working.	Work resumed on employers' terms.
Miners and surface-workers	Kirkby-in-Ashfield	959	—	14 Aug.	1	For a re-tare of trams	Trams re-tared.
Miners and surface-workers	Rhondda Valley	3,000	500	27 Aug.	1	Against short payment for a day when work was stopped after a fatal accident.	Work resumed; matter to be referred to Joint District Board for decision.
Engineering and Shipbuilding— Engineering, shipbuilding, &c., apprentices.	Scotland ..	5,500§	—	6 Aug.	—	For advance in wages to cover the contributions under the National Insurance Act.	Work resumed on old terms in most cases, in other cases certain advances granted.
	Tyne and Wear	1,100§	—	21 Aug.	..	For advance in wages of 1s. per week to cover the contributions under the National Insurance Act, and for other concessions.	No settlement reported.
Labourers, engineers, ironmoulders, &c.	Blackburn ..	591	2,209	28 June	32	For establishment of minimum wage of 21s. per week in textile engineering works, advance of 1s. in general engineering works, and other concessions.	Minimum of 20s. per week established in textile engineering works, advance of 6d. granted in general engineering works, and certain other concessions made.
Fitters, turners, pattern-makers, smiths and joiners; labourers, &c.	Blackburn ..	276	220	10 Aug.	..	Against employment of labourers instead of skilled workmen on certain machines.	No settlement reported.
Bobbin turners, sawyers, &c. .. .	Liverpool and Todmorden	680	1,030	6 May	88	Refusal of firm to recognise trade unions in connection with a demand for advances in wages and improvement in working conditions.	(See p. 378.)

* 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 have been 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 parties to the disputes. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.
§ Estimated number involved in August.

Results.—Settlements were effected in the case of 30 new disputes, directly involving 20,934 workpeople, and of 19 old disputes, directly involving 4,517 workpeople. Of these new and old disputes, 10, directly involving 7,738 persons, were successful, from the point of view of the workpeople; 16, directly involving 4,470 persons, were unsuccessful; and 23, directly involving 13,243 persons, were compromised or partially successful. In the case of 10 other disputes, directly involving 5,394 persons, work was resumed pending further negotiations.

Aggregate Duration.—The number of working days lost in August by disputes which began or were settled in that month amounted to 261,500. In addition, 102,400 working days were lost during August owing to disputes which began before that month and were still in progress at the end of the month. Thus, the total duration in August of all disputes, new and old, was 363,900 working days, as compared with 1,323,200 in the previous month (largely due to the London transport workers' strike), and 2,323,800 in the corresponding month of last year, when the transport trades were much affected by disputes.

Summary for the First Eight Months of 1911 and 1912 †:—

Groups of Trades.	Jan.—August, 1911.			Jan.—August, 1912.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Work-people involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in Progress.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Work-people involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in Progress.
Building	19	2,447	70,300	47	5,248	100,200
Coal Mining	103	90,142	3,371,400	87	1,075,982	31,327,600
Other Mining and Quarrying	6	1,037	21,000	6	722	37,000
Engineering and Shipbuilding	99	55,973	637,400	95	40,296	741,100
Other Metal	30	4,627	71,200	29	5,565	51,700
Textile	71	46,910	730,000	69	47,296	3,541,600
Clothing	22	6,742	65,800	34	20,616	474,300
Transport	38	385,948	2,436,900	53	127,422	2,548,600
Other Trades	81	29,756	433,600	81	17,055	386,500
Total	469	623,582	7,837,600	501	1,340,206	39,208,600

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.*

Changes in Wages in August.

THE net result of all the changes taking effect in August was an increase of £6,298 per week, as compared with one of £13,242 per week in July, 1912, and one of £9,375 per week in August, 1911. The number of workpeople affected was 149,952, all of whom received advances. The total number affected in July, 1912, was 290,165, and in August, 1911, 228,555.

One change, affecting 800 workpeople, was settled by arbitration; four changes, affecting 91,850 workpeople, were arranged by conciliation methods, and nine changes, affecting 32,660 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting 24,642 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives. In seven cases, affecting 5,575 workpeople, the changes were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

Changes in Hours.

The changes in hours of labour taking effect in August affected 800 workpeople, whose working time was reduced by 3,600 hours per week. In the eight months ended August 31st the number of workpeople whose hours were changed was 48,625, and the net amount of the reduction was 89,575 hours per week.

Changes in Wages—January to August.

The following Table summarises by trades the number of workpeople affected, and the net effects of the changes on their weekly wages:—

Groups of Trades.	January—August.			
	1911.		1912.	
	No.	£	No.	£
Building	12,415	+ 1,147	51,699	+ 4,683
Coal Mining	390,050	- 10,673	525,260	+ 28,005
Iron, &c., Mining	10,309	- 179	15,840	+ 929
Quarrying	2,909	- 49	3,142	+ 132
Pig Iron Manufacture	15,751	- 324	16,886	+ 1,188
Iron and Steel Manufacture	38,972	+ 1,433	48,543	+ 4,194
Engineering and Shipbuilding	164,529	+ 10,627	103,088	+ 5,701
Other Metal Trades	1,831	+ 233	10,017	+ 1,591
Textile Trades	9,361	+ 592	283,781	+ 11,877
Clothing Trades	2,751	+ 184	601	+ 34
Transport Trades	70,616	+ 11,658	14,553	+ 1,374
Printing, &c., Trades	196	+ 16	3,420	+ 217
Glass, &c., Trades	3,502	+ 340	8,498	+ 506
Other Trades	4,400	+ 470	8,902	+ 846
Employees of Local Authorities	6,679	+ 408	8,230	+ 584
Total	734,271	+ 15,883	1,102,460	+ 61,861

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR IN AUGUST, 1912.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics.)
I.—RATES OF WAGES.					
Building ..	Bradford and Shipley Manchester ..	9 Aug.	Builders' labourers	1,000 ..	Increase of ¼d. per hour (6d. to 6½d.).
		26 Aug.	Builders' labourers	2,500 ..	Increases to rates of 6d. per hour for bricklayers' and masons' labourers, concreters, navvies and excavators, and 8½d. for hod carriers.
Coal Mining ..	Northumberland	26 Aug. and 2 Sept.	Underground workers, and "banksmen" (except deputies, mechanics, enginemen and firemen)	45,000 ..	Increase of 2½ per cent., making wages 35 per cent. above the standard of Nov. 1879.
		5 Aug.	Ironstone miners	1,000 ..	Increase of 2 per cent., making wages 28 per cent. above the standard of Nov. 1879.
Ironstone Mining	North Lincs. ..	5 Aug.	Iron puddlers	20,000 ..	Increase, under sliding scale, of 2½ per cent., making wages 3¼ per cent. above the standard of May 1909.
		5 Aug.	Iron millmen	1,200 ..	Increase, under sliding scale, of 3d. per ton and addition of bonus of 6d. per ton, making rate 10s. per ton.
Pig Iron and Iron and Steel Manufacture	Derbyshire and Notts South Staffs ..	1st pay Aug.	Blastfurnacemen, &c.	850 ..	Increase, under sliding scale, of 5 per cent., making wages 10 per cent. above the standard of 1905.
		5 Aug.	Iron puddlers	1,000 ..	Increase, under sliding scale, of 2½ per cent.
Shipbuilding	South Wales and Mon. West of Scotland	1 Aug.	Iron and steel millmen, enginemen, &c.	2,000 ..	Increase, under sliding scale, of 2½ per cent.
		1 Aug.	Blastfurnacemen and labourers	3,500 ..	Increase, under sliding scale, of 2½ per cent., making wages 27½ per cent. above the standard of 1 Jan., 1899.
Other Metal Trades	Tyne, Wear, Tees, Hartlepool, Hull, Barrow, Birkenhead, Clyde, Aberdeen, Dundee and Leith	19 Aug.	Iron puddlers	3,000 ..	Increase under sliding scale, of 3d. per ton (8s. 9d. to 9s.).
		19 Aug.	Angle-iron smiths, platers, rivetters, cutlery, holders-up, smiths, drillers, hole cutters, tinsmiths, sheet metal workers, shipwrights, ship joiners, ship painters, cabinet makers, wood-cutting machinists, &c.	42,000 ..	Increase on piece rates of 5 per cent., and on time rates of ¼d. per hour or 1s. per week.
Textile Trades	South Staffs. .. Wolverhampton, Walsall, Willenhall, Birmingham, &c.	1 Aug.	Plumbers, electricians, planers, strikers, enginemen, cranimen, platers' helpers, counter-sinkers, red-loaders, general labourers, &c., in shipyards	7,500 ..	Increase on piece rates of 5 per cent., and on time rates of 1s. per week to men rated at 25s. per week and over, and of 6d. to all able-bodied men rated below 25s. per week.
		5 Aug.	Fittings and socket makers	900 ..	Increase of 2½ per cent.
Printing Trades	Bradford and Dist. Ashton - under - Lyne and Dist.	1 Aug.	Lock, latch and key makers	4,000 ..	Increase of 5 per cent.
		2 Aug.	Warehousemen	800 ..	Increase of 6d. per week.
Food Trades ..	Liverpool ..	1 Aug.	Weavers, winders, warpers, beamers, twistors and overlookers	8,500 ..	Increase of 5 per cent.
		12 Aug.	Compositors (Jobbing and Weekly News)	1,350 ..	Increase of 6d. per week (37s. 6d. to 38s.).
Food Trades ..	Liverpool and Dist.	12 Aug.	Bakers I	800 ..	Increases to rates of 32s. to 33s. per week.
		12 Aug.	Bakers §	800 ..	Decreases for day work to 51 hours per week in hand bakeries, and 54 in factories.

II.—HOURS OF LABOUR.

Note.—Full particulars will appear in the October GAZETTE of the following important change which has been arranged to take effect in September:—
Coal Mining.—Increase of 6¼ per cent. in the wages of miners in South Wales and Monmouthshire.
* Exclusive of Agricultural Labourers, Seamen and Railway Servants.
† Except on the Clyde.
‡ See also under Hours of Labour.
§ See also under Rates of Wages.

WORK OF BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR EXCHANGES IN AUGUST.

Summary.—The total number of workpeople's applications on both the General and Casual Registers* of the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges at the end of August was 95,967, compared with 96,381 a month previously, and 80,629 a year ago. The number of Exchanges open at August 23rd was 393, compared with 383 a month ago and 229 a year ago. Comparisons with a year ago are affected by the coming into operation on July 15th of Part II. of the National Insurance Act.

GENERAL REGISTER.

Applications Received.—The number of applications received during the period was 183,892 (men 118,323, women 37,923, boys 15,619, and girls 12,027), a daily average of 7,995, compared with 8,049 in July, 1912. The total number of applications on the register at some time or other during the period was 275,982 (men 182,920, women 54,871, boys 21,187, and girls 17,004). These figures are exclusive of re-applications from persons already placed in vacancies by the Exchanges during the period, which numbered 14,944 in August, and represent separate individuals, except in so far as there may have been duplicate registration in London and other places where more than one exchange is easy of access to the same person.

Of the men's applications on the Register at some time during the month, the largest percentages occur in the following groups of trades:—Metals, machines, implements and conveyances, 22.5; building, 20.2 (labourers 5.3, others 14.9); general labourers, 17.2; conveyance of men, goods, and messages, 12.8.

Of the women's applications, the largest percentages occur in domestic (outdoor) service, 47.1; food, tobacco, drink, and lodging, 10.8; textiles, 7.8; and dress, 5.7.

The total number of applications remaining on the register at August 23rd was 91,941 (men 61,258, women 19,042, boys 6,093, and girls 5,548), as compared with 92,090 (men 64,597, women 16,948, boys 5,568, and girls 4,977), at July 26th, and 78,886 at August 25th, 1911.

The following Table shows the number of applicants on register at end of each week during August, 1912; July, 1912; and August, 1911:—

Month.	August, 1912.	July, 1912.	August, 1911.
1st week	87,760	79,105	70,815
2nd week	84,633	81,267	66,704
3rd week	94,297	87,133	75,070
4th week	91,941	92,090	78,886

Vacancies Notified.—The number of vacancies notified during the period was 84,463 (men 53,486, women 15,963, boys 9,347, and girls 5,667), a daily average of 3,672, compared with 3,494 in July, and 2,398 in August, 1911.

Of the men's vacancies notified during August, the largest percentage occurs in metals, machines, implements and conveyances, 35.3; building, 19.5 (labourers 5.2, others 14.3); general labourers, 11.4; and conveyance of men, goods and messages, 6.2. Of the women's vacancies notified, the largest percentages occur in domestic (outdoor) service, 41.0; food, tobacco, drink and lodging, 18.1; textiles, 11.7; and dress, 5.6.

Vacancies Filled.—The number of vacancies filled during the period was 67,529 (men 44,461, women 11,804, boys 6,903, and girls 4,361), a daily average of 2,936, compared with 2,573 in July, 1912, and 1,901 in August, 1911.

Of the vacancies filled during August, 16,925 (men 13,985, women 2,359, boys 374, and girls 207) were temporary, in the sense of being known to be for less than a week's employment.

The vacancies filled during August include 7,583

* Certain employments of a peculiarly casual nature followed by men and women are dealt with on a separate register, described as the Casual Register, and the statistics for these employments are shown in Table V. Tables I-IV, below referring only to applications and vacancies on the General Register.

cases in which persons were placed by the Exchanges in districts other than those in which they were registered. Of the total number of such transferences, 2,544 were in London, 1,378 in Scotland and the North of England, 1,332 in the North-Western Division, 900 in the Yorkshire and East Midlands Division, and 432 in the West Midlands Division, representing respectively 23.0, 14.8, 9.9, and 11.1 per cent. of the vacancies filled in these areas.

The proportion of vacancies filled by the Exchanges to vacancies notified by employers was 79.8 per cent. (men 83.1, women 73.9, boys 73.9, and girls 77.0), as compared with 73.6 per cent. during July, 1912.

Of the men's vacancies filled during August, the largest percentages occur in metals, machines, implements and conveyances, 38.3; building, 18.9 (labourers 5.3, others 13.6); general labourers, 12.4; and conveyance of men, goods and messages, 5.8.

Of the women's vacancies filled, the largest percentages occur in domestic (outdoor) service, 37.3; food, tobacco, drink, and lodging, 21.6; textiles, 12.0; and dress, 5.7.

Of the 11,264 vacancies for boys and girls filled during August, 3,259 (boys 1,749 and girls 1,510) were filled by applicants who obtained their first situation since leaving school, representing 28.9 per cent. (boys 25.3 and girls 34.6) of the vacancies filled by juveniles.

The following Table gives the figures for the 228 Exchanges which have been open for a year or more:—

	Aug., 1912.	July, 1912.	Aug., 1911.
Applications received during month	166,678	178,688	150,024
Total Number	166,678	178,688	150,024
Daily Average	7,247	7,445	6,523
Vacancies notified during month	67,348	74,364	55,148
Total Number	67,348	74,364	55,148
Daily Average	2,928	3,099	2,398
Vacancies filled during month	54,129	55,269	43,715
Total Number	54,129	55,269	43,715
Daily Average	2,353	2,303	1,901
Applications remaining on register at beginning of month	79,431	68,765	73,650
Applications remaining on register at end of month	78,383	79,431	78,886

CASUAL REGISTER.

The total number of applicants given work in the casual employments included in the Casual Register was 3,570 (men 3,408, women 162). The total number of separate jobs given in such employments was 29,009 (men 28,636, women 373), a daily average of 1,261, as compared with a daily average of 859 a month ago, and 335 in August, 1911.

During the period from 15th July to 30th August, there were 4,733 cases in which men were given employment through the clearing house system now in operation for dock labourers at Liverpool. These figures are not included above.

Unsatisfied Demand for Labour.

The demand for workers during the month exceeded the supply in the case of the cotton, woollen, and worsted trades, and in the case of women in the clothing trade and in laundry work. In the building and shipbuilding trades there was also a large demand for workmen of all classes, and in the engineering and metal trades there was a scarcity of workers in some districts.

New Exchanges.

The following 11 Exchanges were opened during the month, and their returns are incorporated in the Tables:—*Airdrie*, 50 and 52, Stirling-street; *Barrhead*, 71/75, Cross Arthurlie-street; *Bromley*, West-street; *Chester-le-Street*, Ashfield-terrace; *Coalville*, Hotel-street; *Gosport*, Aubrey House, 12, High-street; *Harwich*, 69, Church-street; *Southend*, 3, Electric-parade; *Southwick-on-Wear*, 9, Cross-street; *Watford*, 64, Queen's-road; *Willington Quay-on-Tyne*, Stephenson-street.

ADULTS—DISTRICT TABLE.*

Table I.—Applications for Employment, Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the period of four weeks ended August 23rd, 1912. (General Register.)

Districts. (The numbers in brackets refer to the number of Exchanges.)	APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT.									VACANCIES.							
	On Live Register at Beginning of Period.			Received during Period.†			On Live Register at End of Period.			Notified during Period.			Filled during Period.				
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Temporary.	Other.	Men.	Women.	Total.
London and South-Eastern (63)	22,393	5,716	28,109	37,138	14,769	51,907	21,722	7,364	29,086	8,524	4,498	13,022	1,410	9,098	6,915	3,593	10,508
South-Western (27)	5,686	840	6,526	8,747	1,769	10,516	5,640	905	6,545	3,380	753	4,133	298	3,013	2,763	548	3,311
West Midlands (42)	5,354	1,482	6,836	8,552	2,815	11,367	5,377	1,742	7,119	2,851	990	3,841	229	2,570	2,137	662	2,799
Yorkshire and East Midlands (70)	7,767	2,125	9,892	15,176	4,707	19,883	6,934	2,283	9,217	6,849	2,065	8,914	912	6,292	5,604	1,600	7,204
North-Western (73) ‡	8,479	3,123	11,602	17,381	6,849	24,230	7,486	2,899	10,385	6,656	3,730	10,386	1,367	6,364	5,027	2,704	7,731
Scotland and North of England (63)	7,244	2,144	9,388	25,693	5,964	31,657	7,002	2,244	9,246	15,423	2,613	18,036	5,629	9,494	13,190	1,933	15,123
Wales (including Mon.) (34)	3,766	620	4,386	11,266	1,524	12,790	3,472	773	4,245	8,406	712	9,118	6,334	1,972	7,848	458	8,306
Ireland (20)	3,908	898	4,806	6,367	1,638	8,005	3,625	832	4,457	1,397	602	1,999	165	1,118	977	306	1,283
Total (892) †	64,597	16,948	81,545	130,320	40,035	170,355	61,258	19,042	80,300	53,486	15,963	69,449	16,344	39,921	44,461	11,804	56,265
Total a month ago (382) ‡	50,906	16,829	67,735	133,573	42,546	176,119	64,597	16,948	81,545	46,522	20,478	67,000	11,866	38,468	35,229	15,105	50,334
Total a year ago (229) ‡	50,628	13,782	64,410	91,699	32,642	124,341	52,866	15,391	68,257	30,098	12,793	42,891	6,880	28,124	24,392	9,612	34,004
Towns.																	
(Pop. 500,000 and over).																	
London (30)	16,944	4,385	21,329	29,120	11,697	40,817	16,670	5,079	21,749	6,017	3,531	9,548	1,169	6,608	4,829	2,948	7,777
Glasgow, Govan, Partick (6)	1,353	414	1,767	7,396	1,271	8,667	1,253	359	1,612	4,402	428	4,820	2,536	2,026	4,202	360	4,562
Liverpool and Bootle (5)	1,062	593	1,655	2,481	1,034	3,515	961	265	1,226	506	288	794	105	538	421	262	643
Manchester (2)	1,349	270	1,619	1,890	680	2,570	1,132	250	1,382	499	269	768	35	382	234	183	417
Birmingham (5)	1,730	399	2,129	2,772	929	3,701	1,808	449	2,257	504	320	824	39	638	423	254	677
(Pop. 250,000 and over).																	
Sheffield (3)	652	136	788	1,245	359	1,604	585	155	740	468	103	571	25	345	298	72	370
Leeds (4)	1,157	227	1,384	1,497	487	1,984	815	255	1,068	562	176	738	60	563	458	155	613
Edinburgh and Leith (3)	726	235	961	1,729	697	2,426	856	318	1,174	664	154	818	114	636	611	139	750
Belfast	565	101	666	1,143	242	1,385	624	60	614	171	46	217	42	118	129	31	160
Bristol (2)	763	207	970	1,002	385	1,387	624	243	887	155	410	27	295	206	116	322	447
Dublin	1,697	281	1,978	2,650	449	3,099	1,769	251	2,010	295	54	349	41	243	237	47	284
Hull	383	63	446	769	154	923	308	57	365	336	93	429	139	179	233	85	318
Newcastle-on-Tyne	534	166	700	661	347	1,008	413	184	597	133	118	251	35	143	96	82	178
Nottingham	630	152	782	807	498	1,305	521	198	719	202	135	337	39	180	116	103	219
Nottingham	766	170	936	1,126	463	1,589	604	185	789	266	176	442	65	347	255	167	412
Salford and Eccles (2)	450	161	611	853	380	1,233	444	169	613	210	107	317	8	245	168	85	253
(Pop. 100,000 and over).																	
Stoke-on-Trent (4)	403	204	607	577	300	877	427	218	645	137	123	260	1	137	79	59	138
Portsmouth	1,209	60	1,269	1,310	198	1,508	1,106	77	1,183	368	47	405	42	360	361	41	402
Leicester	452	141	593	833	284	1,117	502	170	672	355	88	443	17	365	514	68	382
Cardiff (3)	519	176	695	2,442	378	2,820	719	152	871	2,219	133	2,352	2,040	290	149	143	2,000
Bolton	363	117	480	783	222	1,005	358	96	454	187	85	272	49	226	112	2,000	112
Dundee	109	80	189	1,184	400	285	688	200	100	300	91	110	201	17	137	77	154
Aberdeen	151	84	235	400	285	688	200	100	300	91	110	201	17	137	77	154	154
Sunderland	510	96	606	625	209	834	393	37	184	135	94	229	35	123	85	73	158
Oldham	235	96	331	327	230	617	187	137	324	46	46	92	6	122	78	50	128
Blackburn	128	48	176	299	115	414	155	120	475	121	68	181	6	122	85	73	158
Brighton	377	118	495	521	293	814	355	120	475	121	68	181	6	122	85	73	158
Birkenhead (2)	772	132	904	868	370	1,238	382	164	546	190	181	371	42	249	137	154	291
Chatham, Rochester and Gillingham	966	110	1,076	1,047	144	1,191	907	119	1,026	436	20	456	—	462	445	17	462
Derby	365	91	456	603	194	797	319	80	399	223	53	276	17	237	204		

JUVENILES—DISTRICT TABLE.

Table II.—Applications for Employment, Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the period of four weeks ended August 23rd, 1912.

Districts.	APPLICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT.									VACANCIES.					
	On Live Register at Beginning of Period.			Received during Period.†			On Live Register at End of Period.			Notified during Period.			Filled during Period.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
London and South Eastern (63)	1,721	1,304	3,025	5,685	3,764	9,449	2,070	1,446	3,516	3,090	1,678	4,768	2,408	1,364	3,772
South Western (27)	476	228	704	1,047	523	1,570	509	282	791	594	241	835	427	153	580
West Midlands (42)	568	520	1,088	1,504	1,230	2,734	700	596	1,296	795	603	1,398	619	481	1,100
Yorkshire and East Midlands (70)	684	805	1,489	2,225	1,942	4,167	766	883	1,649	1,492	1,028	2,520	1,103	816	1,919
North Western (73)‡	540	654	1,194	1,720	1,485	3,205	467	789	1,256	1,262	830	2,092	763	529	1,292
Scotland and North of England (65)	896	1,093	1,989	2,597	2,664	5,261	867	1,147	2,014	1,519	1,068	2,587	1,163	870	2,033
Wales (including Mon.) (34)	237	189	426	533	465	998	266	532	240	120	360	184	99	283	
Ireland (20)	446	184	630	870	227	1,097	448	139	587	355	99	454	246	49	295
Total (392)†	5,568	4,977	10,545	16,181	12,300	28,481	6,093	5,548	11,641	9,347	5,667	15,014	6,903	4,361	11,264
Total a month ago (382)‡	4,932	4,462	9,394	15,574	12,424	27,998	5,568	4,977	10,545	10,676	6,174	16,850	6,772	4,643	11,415
Total a year ago (229)‡	5,192	4,048	9,240	15,693	9,990	25,683	6,182	4,447	10,629	8,000	4,257	12,257	6,210	3,501	9,711
TOWNS.															
Population 500,000 and over:—															
London (30)	1,421	1,131	2,552	4,909	3,328	8,237	1,643	1,233	2,876	2,696	1,404	4,100	2,121	1,163	3,284
Glasgow, Govan, Partick (6)	223	226	449	688	728	1,416	134	148	282	328	374	702	246	318	564
Liverpool and Bootle (5)	169	227	396	455	470	925	110	251	371	249	129	378	214	102	316
Manchester (2)	38	20	58	169	92	261	27	48	75	85	71	256	94	33	127
Birmingham (5)	197	101	298	496	401	896	295	124	419	251	296	547	195	231	426
Population 250,000 and over:—															
Sheffield (3)	31	47	78	167	155	322	43	43	86	145	76	221	87	68	155
Leeds (4)	180	118	298	363	210	573	295	203	498	126	82	208	110	59	169
Edinburgh and Leith (3)	93	39	132	158	4	162	98	32	130	36	10	46	24	2	26
Belfast	117	71	188	297	166	463	157	78	235	184	81	265	112	53	165
Bristol (2)	91	35	126	252	74	326	103	29	132	104	14	118	93	12	105
Dublin	9	9	18	36	14	50	8	7	15	31	7	38	20	4	24
Bradford	9	9	18	36	14	50	8	7	15	31	7	38	20	4	24
Hull	19	90	109	265	136	272	408	53	188	241	45	51	96	38	40
Newcastle-on-Tyne	19	90	109	265	136	272	408	53	188	241	45	51	96	38	40
Nottingham	65	56	121	213	159	372	69	42	101	158	118	276	126	105	231
Salford and Eccles (2)	14	16	30	84	78	162	17	20	37	57	45	102	53	37	70
Population 100,000 and over:—															
Stoke-on-Trent (4)	45	75	120	108	123	231	59	87	146	44	54	78	29	23	52
Portsmouth	99	8	107	168	39	207	120	15	135	60	15	65	45	15	60
Lecester	30	26	56	163	66	229	38	19	57	102	41	143	87	34	121
Cardiff (3)	66	46	112	186	151	337	68	59	127	91	43	134	86	40	126
Bolton	9	7	16	35	35	70	10	9	19	44	25	79	14	24	38
Dundee	3	5	8	16	8	24	3	2	5	10	5	15	6	4	10
Aberdeen	60	31	91	190	123	313	46	31	77	118	67	185	94	45	139
Sunderland	38	34	72	90	109	199	31	68	89	48	23	71	43	17	60
Oldham	7	6	13	16	20	36	3	14	17	19	6	25	6	4	9
Blackburn	7	1	8	23	6	29	9	2	11	9	3	12	8	1	9
Brighton	17	9	26	100	53	153	32	16	48	63	43	109	46	30	76
Birkenhead (2)	34	75	109	65	123	188	42	98	140	38	48	86	11	32	43
Chatham, Rochester and Gillingham	144	20	164	151	22	173	16	188	16	12	28	21	10	31	
Derby	30	17	47	107	58	165	45	19	61	56	32	88	62	29	81
Norwich	25	16	41	107	58	165	45	19	61	56	32	88	62	29	81
Southampton (2)	14	7	21	34	22	56	12	5	17	49	27	76	12	14	26
Preston	14	53	67	58	122	180	22	49	71	13	23	36	16	11	27
Gateshead	12	20	32	51	61	112	14	29	43	30	14	44	84	32	116
Swansea (2)	150	75	225	175	106	281	83	83	166	105	37	140	84	32	116
Plymouth and Devonport (3)	5	4	9	36	24	60	18	8	26	21	19	40	12	12	24
Stockport	23	35	58	51	62	113	15	4	29	80	25	105	63	19	82
South Shields (2)	17	8	25	43	15	58	12	3	15	12	12	24	7	8	15
Huddersfield	6	6	12	15	13	28	6	3	9	24	8	32	6	2	8
Coventry	33	48	81	67	62	129	28	27	55	43	29	72	33	25	58
Burnley (2)	3	4	7	9	6	15	2	1	3	4	2	6	2	1	3
Middlesbrough	14	5	19	22	6	28	15	5	20	23	15	38	13	7	20
Halifax	4	13	17	15	11	26	3	11	14	16	5	21	4	4	8
Population 50,000 and over:—															
St. Helens	17	80	97	111	90	201	24	77	101	76	27	103	53	20	73
Wolverhampton	21	16	37	45	142	16	26	42	34	23	57	31	20	51	
Walsall	8	7	15	20	11	31	4	2	6	10	6	16	5	3	8
Rochdale	6	9	15	20	11	31	4	2	6	10	6	16	5	3	8
Northampton	2	4	6	8	23	31	4	2	6	10	6	16	5	3	8
Paisley	20	12	32	42	21	63	9	46	22	6	28	14	10	24	
Wigan	18	30	48	60	147	32	32	64	39	18	57	25	14	39	
Newport (Mon.) (2)	88	7	95	145	68	213	87	9	96	92	52	144	58	111	
York	10	6	16	10	5	15	5	3	8	1	1	2	1	2	
Merthyr Tydvil	108	36	144	106	36	142	61	27	88	54	25	79	32	8	40
Cork	26	28	54	62	64	126	14	18	32	29	26	55	24	26	50
Reading	19	36	55	68	59	127	14	18	32	29	26	55	24	26	50
Greenock	21	16	37	45	78	123	18	26	44	41	85	42	35	77	
Grimaby	12	21	33	39	37	76	16	19	35	27	18	45	19	13	32
Ipswich	16	90	106	54	129	183	17	109	126	64	50	114	36	43	79
Warrington	17	12	29	57	25	82	15	10	25	37	12	49	26	6	32
Bath	32	19	51	48	60	108	19	25	44	24	21	45	15	15	30
West Bromwich	23	57	80	67	69	136	26	68	94	69	29	98	29	23	52
West Hartlepool (2)	7	20	27	32	31	63	13	25	38	14	22	36	13	21	34
Barrow	21	25	46	63	36	99	26	1	41	40	11	51	39	11	50
Rotherham	2	2	4	6	6	12	1	1	2	4	2	6	4	2	6
Bury	6	16	22	23	43	66	6	23	29	21	24	45	21	21	42
Lincoln	2	5	7	9	7	16	3	12	15	17	9	26	5	7	12
Darlington	13	22	35	30	37	67	4	9	13	21	15	36	18	15	33
Dewsbury	12	10	22	43	33	76	6	11	17	24	14	38	24	7	31
Stockton and Thornaby	4	8	12	22	31	53	11	12	23	9	10	19	5	9	14
Wakefield	4	8	12	22	31	53	11	12	23	9	10	19	5	9	14
Dudley	6	26	32	20	54	73	13	13	26	15	17	32	12	17	29
Barnsley	12	3	15	20	10	30	16	7	2						

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN AUGUST, 1912.

(NOTE.—These are not connected with the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges.)

During August 581 fresh applications (287 from domestic servants, etc.) for work were registered by 9 bureaux furnishing returns, and 512 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 147 persons, of whom 77 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 147 situations found for applicants, 91 were of a more or less permanent character, while 56 were temporary only.

The demand for cooks, parlourmaids, and children's nurses exceeded the supply; the supply of ladies' maids and companions exceeded the demand.

	Applications by Work-people during		Situations offered by Employers during		Number of Workpeople engaged by Employers.			
	Aug. 1912.	Aug. 1911.	Aug. 1912.	Aug. 1911.	Permanently.		Temporarily.	
					Aug. 1912.	Aug. 1911.	Aug. 1912.	Aug. 1911.
Central Bureau:— 5, Princes Street, Cavendish Square, W.	74	83	72	75	20	25	9	4
Y.W.C.A.:— 26, George Street, (1)— Hanover Sq. (2)—	250	236	291	280	26	22	27	18
Dublin:— 30, Molesworth Street..	16	45	32	30	4	..	6	..
Other Bureaux (Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, and Glasgow)	167	158	88	93	30	27	4	10
Total of 9 Bureaux ..	581	583	512	498	91	80	56	33
Summary by Occupations.								
Superintendents, Forewomen, &c.	54	35	11	23	6	5	1	..
Shop Assistants ..	15	5	4	..	1	1	1	..
Dressmakers, Milliners, &c.	29	29	16	18	3	4	5	3
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists	65	62	39	16	10	3	15	6
Apprentices and Learners	8	7	12	8	9	7	..	..
Domestic Servants ..	287	316	375	381	50	46	27	23
Miscellaneous	123	129	55	52	12	14	7	1
Total of 9 Bureaux ..	581	583	512	498	91	80	56	33

In addition to the above registered applications, the returns show that 30 persons in London and 15 in the provinces were referred to other agencies; 297 persons in London and 84 in the provinces were given advice as to training, etc., but were not registered.

PASSENGERS TO AND FROM PLACES OUT OF EUROPE.*

THE total number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe in the seven months, January-July, 1912, was 364,693, of whom 273,338 were British subjects; the corresponding number for January-July, 1911, was 359,194, of whom 270,787 were British subjects. The total number of passengers who arrived in the United Kingdom from places out of Europe in January-July, 1912, was 198,195, of whom 118,994 were British subjects; the corresponding number for January-July, 1911, was 209,011, of whom 119,196 were British subjects. The balance outward during January-July, 1912, was 166,498, as compared with 150,183 in January-July, 1911, and an annual average of 118,531, in January-July for the five years, 1907-11; the corresponding numbers for British subjects only were 154,344 and 151,591, and an average of 103,846. Of the balance of outward British subjects 63 per cent. left for British North America in January-July, 1912, as compared with 69 per cent. in January-July, 1911, and 68 per cent. in January-July, 1907-11, while for the United States the corresponding percentages were 17, 19 and 31 respectively.

	Seven months, Jan.-July, 1912		Seven months, Jan.-July, 1911.		Average for Jan.-July, 1907-1911.	
	British.	Total.	British.	Total.	British.	Total.
Outward:						
Total	273,338	364,693	270,787	359,194	207,827	309,379
To British N. America ..	122,433	141,226	129,667	147,616	90,063	107,180
To Australia	46,844	47,081	33,153	33,365	..	..
To United States	67,259	134,247	72,841	137,907	70,903	150,843
Inward:						
Total	118,994	198,195	119,196	209,011	103,981	190,848
From British N. America ..	24,537	35,478	25,145	37,087	19,542	29,174
From Australia	10,483	10,622	9,566	9,685	..	..
From United States	41,774	102,660	43,282	114,618	38,764	109,733
Balance Outward:						
Total	154,344	166,498	151,591	150,183	103,846	118,531
To British N. America ..	97,896	105,748	104,522	110,529	70,521	78,006
To Australia	36,361	36,459	23,587	23,680	..	..
To United States	25,585	31,587	29,559	23,289	32,139	41,110

* Exclusive of passengers travelling indirectly via Continental ports.
† Not shown separately previous to 1910.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM. Summary for August, 1912, and for the eight Months ended August, 1912.

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.

	August, 1912.			Eight Months ended Aug., 1912.		
	Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with		Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with	
		1911.	1910.		1911.	1910.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco	24,877	+ 2,203	+ 3,417	178,039	+ 13,205	+ 9,973
II.—Raw Materials & Articles mainly Unmanufactured*	18,192	+ 3,523	+ 1,306	170,961	+ 11,136	+ 8,338
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured†	16,386	+ 3,379	+ 2,978	120,987	+ 11,596	+ 17,629
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcels Post)	232	+ 33	- 33	1,877	+ 207	+ 166
Total value of Imports	59,687	+ 9,138	+ 7,668	471,864	+ 36,144	+ 36,106

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.

	August, 1912.			Eight Months ended Aug., 1912.		
	Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with		Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with	
		1911.	1910.		1911.	1910.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco	3,041	+ 870	+ 576	20,116	+ 3,603	+ 4,251
II.—Raw Materials & Articles mainly Unmanufactured†	5,637	+ 1,447	+ 1,153	36,820	+ 2,356	+ 1,723
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured‡	34,367	+ 5,309	+ 3,204	248,005	+ 10,089	+ 22,046
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcels Post)	734	+ 70	+ 207	6,137	+ 672	+ 1,445
Total value of Exports of British Produce	43,779	+ 7,696	+ 5,140	311,078	+ 16,719	+ 29,465

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

The exports of foreign and colonial merchandise amounted to £9,953,000 during August, 1912, an increase of £3,309,000 compared with August, 1911, and of £1,858,000 compared with August, 1910. During the eight months ended August, 1912, they amounted to £74,885,000, an increase of £5,170,000, and £3,252,000 on the amounts for the corresponding period of 1911 and 1910 respectively.

RAILWAY GOODS AND MINERAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

(Based on information published weekly in the "Times.")

THE goods and mineral traffic receipts of 20 of the principal railways in the United Kingdom during the five weeks ended August 31st, 1912, amounted to £5,522,751, an increase of £734,031 (or 15.3 per cent.) on the total for the corresponding period of 1911. During the 35 weeks ended August 31st, 1912, the receipts amounted to £37,655,993, a decrease of £597,405 (or 1.6 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1911.

	5 weeks ended August 31st, 1912.		35 weeks ended August 31st, 1912.	
	Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on 1911.	Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on 1911.
English Lines:—				
L. & N. W., Midland, N. London, and N. Staffs ..	1,840,145	+ 289,812	12,076,414	+ 8
Gt. Northern, Gt. Central, and Gt. Eastern	928,000	+ 113,700	6,101,396	+ 79,863
Lancs and Yorks, and N. Eastern	1,068,145	+ 191,573	6,824,178	- 151,797
L. & S. W., and Gt. Western	887,400	+ 106,200	5,851,400	- 36,600
L. B. & S. C., and S. E. & C.	203,362	+ 14,005	1,325,401	- 37,137
Scottish Lines:—				
Glasgow & S. Western, N. British, and Caledonian ..	445,000	+ 16,500	4,375,500	- 298,541
Irish Lines:—				
Gt. Southern and Western, Midland, Gt. Western, and Gt. Northern	150,699	+ 2,241	1,101,704	+ 6,525
Total	5,522,751	+ 734,031	37,655,993	- 597,405

CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETIES.

Quarterly Returns of Sales.

The Table below gives details as to the sales in the second quarter of 1912, 1911 and 1907 respectively, by the three Co-operative Wholesale Societies in England, Scotland and Ireland:—

Names of Societies and Nature of Business.	Sales* in the second quarter of			Percentage Increase compared with	
	1912.	1911.	1907.	A year ago.	Five years ago.
	£	£	£		
ENGLISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY:— Distributive Departments ..	6,934,457	6,711,629	5,940,597	3.3	16.7
Productive	1,766,080	1,652,141	1,366,176	6.9	29.3
SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETY:— Distributive Departments ..	2,028,602	1,901,204	1,873,379	6.7	8.3
Productive	731,351	661,240	626,168	10.6	16.8
ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH WHOLESALE SOCIETIES' JOINT COMMITTEE:— Productive Departments ..	78,730	74,219	61,545	6.1	27.9
IRISH AGRICULTURAL WHOLESALE SOCIETY:— Distributive Departments †	58,791	43,845	20,746	34.1	183.4
Total—Distributive Depts. ..	9,021,850	8,656,678	7,834,722	4.2	15.2
" Productive	2,576,161	2,387,600	2,053,889	7.9	25.4
Grand Total	11,598,011	11,044,278	9,888,611	5.0	17.3

* The amounts given for the productive departments represent sales and transfers to distributive departments.
† This Society has no productive departments.

APPOINTMENT OF CERTIFYING FACTORY SURGEONS DURING AUGUST, 1912.

District.	Certifying Surgeon.	Place and time for examination.*
Caistor (Lincoln)	Dr. A. Fraser, Caistor House ..	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Garforth (York)	Dr. A. H. Radcliffe, South Milford	Care of Mrs. Howorth, Wakefield Road, Garforth, Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Grey Abbey (Down)	Dr. W. A. Huston, Grey Abbey	Surgery, Kircubbin, Thursday, 9-10 a.m.
Lisbellaw (Fermanagh)	Dr. T. P. Dowley, Lisbellaw ..	Lisbellaw Dispensary, Wednesday and Saturday, 11 a.m.—1 p.m.
Maidstone (Kent)	Dr. C. Pye Oliver, The Gables, 40, Tonbridge Road	Tuesday, 9-10 a.m.
Newtyle (Forfar)	Dr. H. Johnston, North Street ..	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Scalloway (Shetland)	Dr. T. Pretsell, Scalloway ..	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Sheerness (Kent)	Dr. T. B. Heggs, Council Offices, Sheerness	Council Offices, Sheerness, Tuesday, 10-11 a.m.

NOTE.—Except where otherwise stated, the place of examination is at the residence of the Certifying Surgeon.
* i.e., of young persons and children from factories and workshops in which less than five are employed.

HOME OFFICE ORDER.

Coal Mines Act: Certificates of Competency: Rules as to Examinations.—The Coal Mines Act, 1911, requires managers of mines to have certificates of competency. In order to ascertain the fitness of applicants for such certificates a Board is constituted, styled "The Board for Mining Examinations," and power is given to such Board to fix the times and places for such examinations, and to make rules for the conduct of such examinations, and for the qualifications of applicants, subject always to the approval of the Home Secretary. In pursuance of these powers, the Board has made three Orders, which have received the approval of the Home Secretary, and each of which bears date August 1st, 1912. The first of these Orders* provides that examinations are to be held in the last week in May and in the last week in November in each year, simultaneously at Edinburgh, Newcastle, Sheffield, Wigan, Cardiff, and Birmingham. The second Order† contains a body of rules for the conduct of the examinations. The third Order‡ contains rules as to the qualifications of applicants, and a complete syllabus of the subjects of examination for both first class and second class certificates. Candidates must be at least 23 years of age, with at least five years' practical experience in mining, and must have a certain knowledge of mathematics, physics (including electricity), chemistry, geology, and engineering science.

* Statutory Rules and Orders, 1912. No. 1149. Wyman & Sons, Ltd. Price 1d.
† Statutory Rules and Orders, 1912. No. 1150. Wyman & Sons, Ltd. Price 1d.
‡ Statutory Rules and Orders, 1912. No. 1151. Wyman & Sons, Ltd. Price 1d.

AGRICULTURAL HIRINGS IN SCOTLAND.

Information has been received from correspondents in various parts of the country respecting the rates of wages agreed upon at the principal hiring fairs for farm servants held in Scotland during the first six months of 1912.

According to the reports received, there was a slight upward movement in wages in Forfarshire and the counties north of Perth, and in the counties of Argyll, Lanark, and Ayr. In the other counties the rates agreed upon generally remained at the same level as a year ago. A scarcity of women workers was reported in the Orkney Islands, Inverness-shire, and in nearly all the counties south of Perthshire, where advanced wages for such workers were offered in a number of instances. In certain districts, owing to the difficulty in procuring women for milking, farmers are hiring young lads to take their place.

Such increases in the wages of menservants as occurred appeared to be most numerous in the counties of Aberdeen, Banff, Kincardine, and Forfar, and usually amounted to about 10s. for the half-year. The increases reported for women servants in the South generally ranged from 10s. to £1 for the half-year.

DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION.

The Second Report* of the Development Commissioners recently issued shows that during the year ended March 31st, 1912, grants were recommended for agricultural research and education, bee-keeping, horse and livestock breeding, the organisation of co-operation among agriculturists, forestry, construction and improvement of harbours, etc.

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING AUGUST.

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.)

Census, 1911. Scotland Vol. 1. Part 16. County of Elgin. [Cd. 6097—xv.: pp. 44: price 5d.] County of Fife. [Cd. 6097—xvi.: pp. 217: price 11½d.] Ireland:—Ulster. County of Antrim. [Cd. 6051: pp. 162: price 1s. 5d.] City of Belfast. [Cd. 6051—i.: pp. vii. + 47: price 5½d.] County of Donegal. [Cd. 6051—iv.: pp. viii. + 168: price 1s. 5d.] County of Down. [Cd. 6051—v.: pp. viii. + 161: price 1s. 5d.] County of Tyrone. [Cd. 6051—ix.: pp. viii. + 146: price 1s. 5d.] Leinster. County of Dublin. [Cd. 6049—i.: pp. viii. + 109: price 11½d.] City of Dublin. [Cd. 6049—ii.: pp. vii. + 51: price 6d.] Province of Connaught. Summary Tables. [Cd. 6052—v.: pp. x. + 36: price 5½d.] Province of Munster. Summary Tables. [Cd. 6050—vi.: pp. viii. + 52: price 7½d.]

Mines and Quarries, 1911. Part 1. District Statistics. Persons employed, output, accidents, etc. [Cd. 6340: pp. 48: price 6½d.] Inspectors' Reports. Manchester and Ireland District. [Cd. 6237—iv.: pp. 42: price 4½d.] Midland and Southern District. [Cd. 6237—viii.: pp. 81: price 11½d.]

Transport Workers' Strike. Report by Mr. Chester Jones to Home Office on certain disturbances at Rotherhithe on June 11th, 1912, and complaints against the conduct of the Police in connection therewith. [Cd. 6367: pp. 6: price 1d.]

Merchant Shipping—Life Saving Appliances and Safety of Life at Sea. Report of the Merchant Shipping Advisory Committee respecting the Statutory Regulations as to boats and life-saving appliances and other means of ensuring safety of life at sea. Board of Trade. [Cd. 6353: pp. 175: price 2s.]

Shipping Casualties. Loss of the steamship "Titanic." Report of a Formal Investigation. [Cd. 6352: pp. 74: price 7½d.]

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—*Census and Statistics Monthly.* Bulletins 43 (May and June) and 49 (July), 1912.

—*Special Report on Immigration. Movement of the People from the United Kingdom to Canada.* Arthur Hawkes, Commissioner. [Ottawa : Government Printing Bureau : pp. 96.]

Commonwealth of Australia.—*Immigration Restriction Act, 1901-1910.* Return for 1911, showing persons refused, persons who passed the dictation test, etc. (pp. 4.) *Contract Immigrants Act, 1905.* Return for 1911 showing number admitted, disapproved, and refused, etc. (pp. 4.)

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—*Regulations under the Census and Statistics Act, 1905, S.R.O. 116. Provisional Regulations, S.R.O. 137.*

Victoria.—*Determinations of Wages Boards. Ovenmakers' Board,* dated May 21st, 1912, cancelling that of December 14th, 1908. *Printers' Board,* dated June 11th, 1912, cancelling that of August 29th, 1911. *Polish Board,* dated May 27th, 1912, cancelling that of April 7th, 1911. *Butchers' Board,* dated June 19th, 1912, cancelling that of July 27th, 1911. *Carters' Board,* dated June 24th, 1912, cancelling that of January 16th, 1912. *Boilermakers' Board,* dated July 1st, 1912. *Wholesale Grocers' Board,* dated July 8th, 1912. *Engineering Board,* dated May 31st, 1912, cancelling that of October 30th, 1911.

—*Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories, Workrooms, and Shops for the year ended December 31st, 1911.* [Melbourne : J. Kemp, Government Printer : pp. 147.]

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—*Consumption of Articles in Common Use.* Table showing rate of, per head of population, 1891-1911. (pp. 4.) [The above printed by John Mackay, Government Printer, Wellington, N.Z.]

South Africa.—*Report of the Labour Department for June, 1912.* State of the labour market, applications for employment, etc. (pp. 10.)

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