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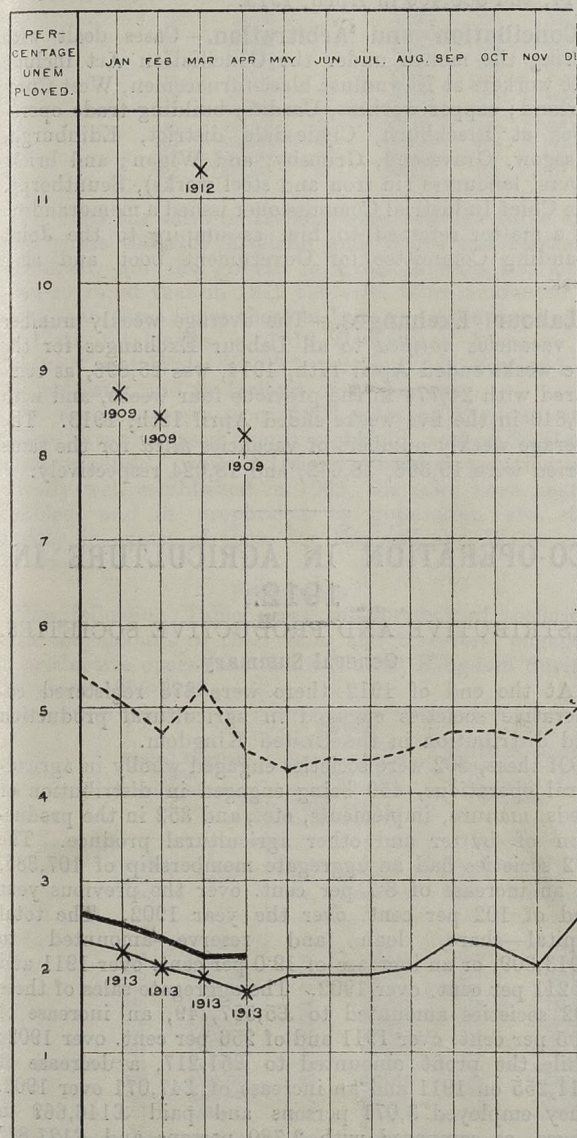
[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

— Thick Curve = 1914. — Thin Curve = 1913.
----- Dotted Curve = Mean of 1904-1913.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed, in the months named, during the years 1904-1913.



NOTE TO CHART.

The above Chart is based solely on Returns furnished direct to the Department of Labour Statistics 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.

THE LABOUR MARKET IN APRIL.

EMPLOYMENT in April continued good on the whole, and showed little general change from the previous month. The coal mining, engineering, and shipbuilding trades were still well employed, but there was some decline in pig-iron, iron and steel, and tinplate manufacture. There was a further seasonal improvement in the building and brickmaking trades.

It was reported by the Labour Exchanges that there was a continuance of the demand for labour in the shipbuilding industry. In the building trades there was a scarcity in some districts, and painters were in general demand in the provinces. There was also a deficiency of women in the clothing trades.

Compared with a year ago, employment showed a decline, which was especially marked in the pig-iron, iron and steel, and engineering trades. On the other hand, the tinplate trade was much more active than in April, 1913.

(1) TRADE UNION PERCENTAGES OF UNEMPLOYED.

(Based on 3,123 Returns.)

Trade Unions with a net membership of 991,874 reported 20,924 (or 2.1 per cent.) of their members as unemployed at the end of April, 1914, compared with 2.1* per cent. at the end of March, 1914, and 1.7 per cent. at the end of April, 1913.

Trade.	Membership at end of April, 1914 of Unions reporting.	Percentage Unemployed at end of April, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in Percentage Unemployed as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
Building ...	72,132	3.4†	- 0.9	- 0.1
Coal Mining † ...	167,147	0.5	...	+ 0.1
Iron and Steel ...	37,922	4.8	+ 1.9	+ 1.8
Engineering ...	241,054	2.5	+ 0.1	+ 1.1
Shipbuilding ...	74,606	2.4	+ 0.6	- 0.3
Miscellaneous Metal...	35,972	1.5	- 0.1	...
Textiles:—				
Cotton ...	88,503	2.0	- 0.3	+ 0.5
Woollen & Worsted	8,799	2.7	+ 0.1	+ 2.0
Other ...	63,469	1.4	- 0.2	+ 0.4
Printing, Bookbinding and Paper.	66,352	3.1	+ 0.3	- 0.4
Furnishing and Wood-working.	55,052	1.7	...	...
Clothing ...	67,036	2.1	- 0.1	+ 0.4
Leather ...	3,052	6.7	- 0.3	+ 1.6
Glass ...	975	0.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Pottery ...	7,506	0.9	+ 0.2	...
Tobacco ...	2,297	4.0	+ 0.4	- 2.3
Total...	991,874	2.1	...	+ 0.4

* Revised figure.

† This percentage is based mainly on Returns relating to carpenters and plumbers. The insurance figures on next page relate to all classes, and include non-unionists.

‡ 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.

(2) UNEMPLOYMENT IN "INSURED TRADES."

The percentage of "insured" workpeople unemployed at the end of April was 3.3, as compared with 3.6 at the end of March, 1914, and 2.8 at the end of April, 1913.

	Build- ing and Con- struc- tion of Works.	Ship- build- ing.	En- gineer- ing and Iron- found- ing.	Con- struc- tion of Vehi- cles.	Saw- mill- ing.	Other Insured Work- people.	All Insured Work- people.
Percentage un- employed at end of April, 1914 ...	3.8	3.2	3.1	2.5	3.8	1.9	3.3
Inc. (+) or dec. (-) compared with :-							
March, 1914	- 0.8	- 0.3	+ 0.1	...	+ 0.3	+ 0.2	- 0.3
April, 1913	...	+ 0.2	+ 1.1	+ 0.7	+ 1.3	+ 0.9	+ 0.5

(3) EMPLOYERS' RETURNS:—MINING AND METAL TRADES.

(Based on 832 Returns.)

The following Table summarises the returns from firms employing 857,782 workpeople in April, 1914, in the industries mentioned:—

Trade.	Workpeople included in the Returns for April, 1914.	April, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a	
			Month ago.	Year ago.
			Days.	Days.
			Days.	Days.
Coal Mining ...	684,763	5.54	- 0.02	- 0.15
Iron " ...	15,410	5.63	- 0.10	- 0.28
Shale " ...	3,628	5.92	+ 0.20	+ 0.07
			No.	No.
Pig Iron ...	25,205	268	- 9	- 68
			Per cent.	Per cent.
Tinplate & Steel Sheet	27,350	547	- 7	+ 66
Iron and Steel	101,426	548,843	- 2.8	- 8.1

(4) EMPLOYERS' RETURNS:—TEXTILE AND OTHER INDUSTRIES.

(Based on 1,908 Returns.)

Returns from firms employing 415,790 workpeople in the week ended 25th April, 1914, showed no change in the number of workpeople employed and a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 1.2 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.4 per cent. in wages paid.

Trade.	Number Employed.		Wages Paid.		
	Week ended 25th April, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Week ended 25th April, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
			£	per cent.	per cent.
Textiles:—					
Cotton ...	118,207	+ 0.1	118,451	+ 0.1	- 2.6
Woolen ...	24,653	- 0.6	23,425	- 1.5	- 4.9
Worsted ...	40,294	- 0.4	32,953	- 0.0	- 0.7
Linen ...	43,572	- 0.4	28,260	- 0.1	- 4.1
Jute ...	15,185	+ 0.1	12,364	+ 0.5	- 2.9
Hosiery ...	17,439	+ 0.3	14,258	- 1.3	+ 0.4
Lace ...	4,591	- 0.3	4,683	- 6.6	- 0.5
Other Textiles... Bleaching, Dye- ing, etc.	15,162	- 0.8	12,471	- 2.1	- 2.9
Total, Textiles...	310,065	- 0.1	285,346	- 0.4	- 3.2
Boot and Shoe ...	64,881	+ 0.1	67,465	+ 0.9	+ 1.8
Shirt and Collar ...	4,315	- 1.1	3,068	- 0.3	- 4.6
Pottery ...	17,360	- 0.4	16,147	- 1.1	- 1.3
Glass ...	7,837	- 3.6	9,284	- 15.7	- 12.1
Brick ...	11,332	+ 5.0	13,902	+ 8.3	+ 2.8
Grand Total	415,790	- 0.0	395,212	- 0.4	- 2.4

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes in rates of wages which came into operation in April affected 250,000 workpeople, of whom 46,000 received an increase of £3,300 per week, and 204,000 sustained a decrease of £12,000 per week, the net result being a decrease of £8,700 per week. The principal increases affected 3,700 painters at Glasgow and Edinburgh, 6,250 blast-furnacemen and iron and steel workers in South Wales and Mon., and 19,000 engineers at Leeds and Sheffield. Amongst those whose wages were reduced were 146,900 coal miners in Scotland, Cumberland, Somerset and Bristol, 11,500 ironstone miners and limestone quarrymen in Cleveland and Durham, 8,800 shale miners, etc., in Scotland, 6,900 blast-furnacemen in Cleveland, Durham and Cumberland, and 20,000 iron-workers in the Midlands.

Trade Disputes.—The principal disputes during the month were those affecting the coalmining industry in Yorkshire, which ended on the 18th April, and the building industry in London, which, at the time of going to press, is still in progress. The number of new disputes in April was 99, and the total number of workpeople involved in all disputes in progress was 211,211, as compared with 92,788 in the previous month, and 80,110 in April, 1913. The estimated total aggregate duration of all disputes during the month was 2,973,800 working days, as compared with 1,016,100 in March, 1914, and 588,400 in April, 1913.

Conciliation and Arbitration.—Cases dealt with during the month under the Conciliation Act include lace workers at Newmilns; blast-furnacemen, West Cumberland; copper workers, Cardiff; building trade operatives at Blackburn, Clydesdale district, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Gravesend, Grimsby, and Wigan; and bricklayers' labourers (in iron and steel works), Scunthorpe. The Chief Industrial Commissioner issued a memorandum on a matter referred to him as umpire to the Joint Standing Committee for Government boot and shoe work.

Labour Exchanges.—The average weekly number of vacancies notified to all Labour Exchanges for the five weeks ended April 17th, 1914, was 25,896, as compared with 24,774 in the previous four weeks, and with 24,840 in the five weeks ended April 18th, 1913. The average weekly numbers of vacancies filled for the same period were 19,308, 18,642, and 18,024 respectively.

CO-OPERATION IN AGRICULTURE IN 1912.

DISTRIBUTIVE AND PRODUCTIVE SOCIETIES.

General Summary.

At the end of 1912 there were 878 registered co-operative societies engaged in agricultural production and distribution in the United Kingdom.

Of these, 802 were societies engaged wholly in agricultural operations, 450 being engaged in distribution of seeds, manure, implements, etc., and 352 in the production of butter and other agricultural produce. The 802 societies had an aggregate membership of 107,385, or an increase of 8.7 per cent. over the previous year and of 102 per cent. over the year 1902. The total capital—share, loan and reserve—amounted to £913,309, or an increase of 19.0 per cent. over 1911 and of 211 per cent. over 1902. The aggregate sales of these 802 societies amounted to £5,557,749, an increase of 21.5 per cent. over 1911 and of 256 per cent. over 1902; while the profit amounted to £51,217, a decrease of £11,255 on 1911 and an increase of £47,071 over 1902. They employed 3,071 persons and paid £146,669 in wages, as compared with 2,780 persons and £127,872 in wages in 1911.

In addition there were 76 industrial co-operative societies having farming and dairying departments. These departments employed 694 persons, paid £38,644 in wages during 1912, and had sales amounting in that year to £301,069.

The following Table shows, for England and Wales,

Scotland and Ireland respectively, the distributive and productive sales of all the 878 societies in 1912:—

	Agricultural Distributive Societies.	Agricultural Productive Societies and Departments.	Total.	
			Amount.	Percentage.
England and Wales	£ 1,623,805	£ 319,554	£ 1,943,359	33.2
Scotland	367,273	241,541	608,814	10.4
Ireland	641,239	2,665,406	3,306,645	58.4
United Kingdom	2,632,317	3,225,501	5,858,818	100.0

The great predominance of Ireland in agricultural co-operative production is the outstanding feature of this Table, nearly 83 per cent. of the sales of productive societies and departments being in that country. In agricultural distribution England and Wales predominates with nearly 62 per cent. of the total sales.

Distribution.

The following Table shows for the years 1902-12 the sales of agricultural distributive societies in England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland respectively:—

Year.	England and Wales.		Scotland.		Ireland.	
	No. of Societies.	Sales.	No. of Societies.	Sales.	No. of Societies.	Sales.
1902	29	£ 68,080	1	£ 42,083	126	£ 360,509
1903	48	87,970	2	42,760	136	393,542
1904	65	146,197	2	44,850	155	372,080
1905	82	214,292	5	46,610	150	371,273
1906	111	387,775	8	51,511	161	420,223
1907	121	572,735	12	80,338	163	484,771
1908	131	751,445	19	99,530	157	469,556
1909	145	885,633	31	227,141	160	491,034
1910	165	1,036,515	43	291,838	168	521,193
1911	217	1,326,547	65	335,470	159	525,580
1912	228	1,623,805	69	387,273	153	641,239

In 1902 the sales in Ireland were between three and four times those of England and Wales and Scotland combined, but the growth in Great Britain has since been so rapid that in 1912 the sales there amounted to more than three times those in Ireland. Compared with 1911 the total sales in 1912 showed an increase in England and Wales of 22.5 per cent., in Scotland of 9.5 per cent. and in Ireland of 22 per cent.

In the ten years since 1902 sales in England and Wales have increased twenty-eightfold, and in Scotland nearly ninefold; while in Ireland, where co-operation was already well established in 1902, the sales have nearly doubled, and in proportion to population are still greatly in excess of those for England and Wales and for Scotland.

Production.

The following Table gives the number of societies, with the amount of their sales and transfers, engaged in productive operations in the United Kingdom during the years 1902-1912:—

Year.	Special Farming and Dairying Societies.		Farming and Dairying Departments of Wholesale and Retail Industrial Distributive Societies.		Total Agricultural Production by all classes of Societies.	
	No. of Socie- ties.	Sales.	No. of Socie- ties.	Sales and Transfers.*	No. of Socie- ties.	Sales and Transfers.*
1902	193	£ 1,101,611	48	£ 478,534	241	£ 1,580,145
1903	225	1,181,056	52	427,594	277	1,608,650
1904	256	1,232,668	61	401,383	317	1,634,051
1905	260	1,372,552	56	402,539	316	1,775,191
1906	272	1,683,120	61	473,258	333	2,156,378
1907	287	1,828,279	64	477,379	351	2,305,658
1908	303	1,865,552	70	494,389	373	2,360,471
1909	318	2,044,917	72	467,967	390	2,512,884
1910	336	2,255,047	72	435,568	408	2,690,615
1911	338	2,387,642	73	330,267	411	2,717,909
1912	352	2,925,432	76	301,069	428	3,226,501

During the period 1902-12 there was a great increase in the sales of the special farming and dairying societies, but a decline in those of the agricultural departments of industrial societies. Of the total production in 1912, 9.9 per cent. was in England and Wales, 7.5 per cent. in Scotland, and 82.6 per cent. in Ireland.

* The goods produced by the productive departments of co-operative societies are usually not sold, but transferred to the distributive departments.

The special farming and dairying societies show total sales in 1912 valued at nearly three million pounds, the sales having more than doubled since 1905 and nearly trebled since 1902.

Profit-Sharing.

The returns made to the Department show that of the 450 agricultural distributive societies 36, employing 213 persons and paying £14,349 in wages, paid bonuses to their employees amounting to £745, which was equal to 5.2 per cent. upon the wages of the participants.

Of the 352 agricultural productive societies 55, employing 316 persons and paying £14,361 in wages, paid bonuses amounting to a total of £950, or 6.6 per cent. upon the wages of the participants.

Of the 76 departments of industrial societies 12, employing 157 persons and paying £9,801 in wages, paid bonuses amounting to a total of £337 or about 3.4 per cent. upon wages; of this £337, about three-quarters was accounted for by the farming department of the Scottish Wholesale Society.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Cattle and Pig Insurance Societies.

In addition to the co-operative societies engaged in agricultural production and distribution in 1912, there were in England and Wales 60 registered societies for the mutual insurance of the pigs and cattle belonging to their members. There was also one cattle insurance society in Guernsey.

	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
Number of Societies making Returns	57	57	58	58	61
Total Membership	3,499	3,574	3,625	3,600	3,596
Receipts:—					
Contributions	£ 1,641	£ 1,761	£ 1,835	£ 1,809	£ 1,822
Other Receipts	476	495	507	453	472
Total Receipts	2,117	2,256	2,342	2,262	2,294
Expenditure:—					
Benefits to Members	2,038	1,908	1,751	1,924	1,815
Working Expenses	364	387	388	257	290
Total Expenditure	2,452	2,295	2,139	2,181	2,105
Total Funds at end of Year	7,868	7,671	8,105	8,112	8,344

Registered pig and cattle societies, however, constitute only a small minority of the total number of such societies. There were nearly 1,200 unregistered pig and cattle clubs in England alone, of which nearly 400 were in Lincolnshire; but complete information as to their membership, receipts, expenditure, or funds is not available.

Small Holdings and Allotments Societies.

In the year 1912 there were at work 110 co-operative small holdings and allotments societies, with a total membership of 12,281, compared with 94 societies and 10,245 members in 1911. Their total capital was £28,125, consisting of £9,137 in shares, £16,538 in loans, and £2,450 in reserve funds.

These societies held 11,915 acres of land, for which £21,115 was payable by them for rent, rates, and taxes; 11,770 acres were let to 9,578 tenants, who paid £25,181 to the societies for rent, rates, and taxes. A number of the societies have formed trading departments for the purchase of members' requirements and for the sale of their produce. The total sales of requirements to members in 1912 amounted to £2,979, and the sales of members' produce £1,496. The net result of the operations of the whole of the societies in 1912 was a profit of £365.

Co-operative Credit Associations.

At the end of 1912 there were at work in the United Kingdom 226 co-operative credit associations—18 urban and 208 rural—with an aggregate membership of 22,626, compared with 114 associations and 7,921 members in 1902. The number of societies has thus nearly doubled and the membership nearly trebled in the space of ten years. Of these 226 associations 47, with 3,969 members, were in England; one, with 353 members, was in Scotland; and 178, with 18,304 members, were in Ireland. All the Irish associations were rural and the single Scottish association was urban. In England and Wales 17 were urban and 30 rural.

The amount of loans advanced by these associations to their members in 1912 was £72,965, and the amount repaid (including interest) £77,321, compared with £31,107 advanced and £23,279 repaid in the year 1902. The total capital in 1912 was £169,351, and the amount owing by borrowers £116,827.

The associations are usually managed by unpaid officials, and the working expenses are therefore small. The total working expenses (including interest on capital) of the whole of the 226 associations was only £7,521 in 1912. The aggregate net profit made by all the associations was £983.

TENANTS' CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING SOCIETIES.

At the end of 1912 there were 49 tenants' co-operative housing societies in existence, of which, however, 21 had done no business during the year. The remaining 28 societies had an aggregate membership of 3,594, and a total capital of £1,441,544, consisting of £214,807 share capital, £1,224,166 loans and £2,571 reserve funds.

The total value of land and buildings owned by the societies was £1,446,371, the rent receivable during the year £77,352, and the profit (before payment of interest on shares) was £11,425.

Fourteen of the societies, with a total membership of 1,160, owning land and buildings to the value of £216,942, furnished particulars as to the extent to which the tenants shared in the membership and capital of the societies. These show that out of a total of 786 tenants 413 were shareholders, owning between them £5,139 out of the total share capital of £32,136, and £1,690 out of a total loan capital of £175,254.

The rents charged by the societies cover a wide range, the weekly rent for four rooms ranging from 4s. 9d. to 7s. 8d.; for five rooms, 4s. 9d. to 8s. 10d.; for six rooms from 6s. 3d. to 10s. 7d.

Four of the societies report that they paid a dividend to tenants on the rent paid by them, in two cases at the rate of 10 per cent., in one case at 7½ per cent., and in one at 5 per cent.

The following Table shows the growth of this group of societies for the years 1902-1912:—

Year.	No. of Societies.	Mem-ber-ship.	CAPITAL			Rent Receiv-able.	Profit.†	Cost Value of Land and Buildings.
			Share.	Loan.	Reserve and Insur-ance.*			
1902	4	540	£ 8,384	£ 36,943	£ 1,424	£ 3,166	£ 454	£ 51,206
1903	4	603	9,762	44,470	1,869	3,817	487	58,357
1904	5	678	12,413	53,627	1,845	4,423	679	70,489
1905	6	762	16,673	69,508	2,109	4,949	843	92,252
1906	9	917	25,418	109,718	1,848	7,522	1,300	145,387
1907	14	1,574	42,769	206,817	1,841	10,466	1,581	262,741
1908	15	1,971	70,080	362,776	1,717	16,050	2,118	433,632
1909	16	2,511	94,014	533,138	1,854	24,774	4,692	638,284
1910	21	3,232	131,556	814,904	2,280	39,560	6,214	938,319
1911	24	3,480	187,481	1,076,435	3,649	61,644	9,681	1,260,884
1912	28	3,594	214,807	1,224,166	2,571	77,352	11,425	1,446,371

During the period 1902-1912 the share and loan capital has increased over thirty times, the amount received for rent about twenty-four times, and the value of land and buildings owned by the societies over twenty-eight times.

STATE SUBVENTION TO UNEMPLOYMENT FUNDS IN DENMARK.

The following particulars with regard to Unemployment Funds recognised under the law of April 9th, 1907 (see BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE, 1907, p. 197), during the financial year ending March 31st, 1913, are taken from a report† made to the Danish Ministry of the Interior by the Inspector appointed to supervise these funds.

At the beginning of that financial year there were 53 approved Unemployment Funds with an aggregate membership of 111,187. During the year two Funds,

* Exclusive of Sinking Funds.
† The amount shown in this column is calculated before payment of interest on share capital.
† Arbejdsløshedsinpektrens Indberetning til Indenrigsministeriet for Regnskabsåret, 1912-1913. Copenhagen, 1913.

with a total membership of 579 at the beginning of the year, became approved under the Act. On March 31st, 1913, there were 55 recognised Funds, with an aggregate membership of 120,289, consisting of 107,437 men and 12,852 women. As regards distribution, 45.8 per cent. of the members belonged to Copenhagen (including the suburb of Frederiksberg), 37.8 per cent. to provincial towns, and 15.4 per cent. to rural districts, the place of residence of the remaining 1.0 per cent. not being stated.

The total income of the 55 approved Funds during the year 1912-1913 was £149,580, the largest items included being ordinary contributions of members £78,231, State subsidies amounting to £45,696 (in respect of 1911-1912), and municipal subsidies (also for 1911-1912) to £20,784. The expenditure of the Funds amounted to £104,933, of which £86,186 was for daily monetary allowances to members during unemployment, £5,391 for other forms of relief, and £13,356 for costs of administration (including £2,686 for expenses relating to labour exchanges connected with the Funds). The income of the Funds, therefore, exceeded their expenditure by £44,647. On March 31st, 1913, the total assets of the Funds amounted to £132,356, an average of 22s. per member.

During the year to which the report relates benefits were granted in respect of 1,173,557 days of unemployment to members of 53 Funds, an average of nearly 10 days per member, as compared with 12 per member during 1911-1912. Including periods in respect of which no unemployed benefit was paid, the total number of working days lost by members of 53 Funds, for which returns were to hand, was 2,304,276, or 20 per member, compared with 24 in the preceding year.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE IN APRIL.

Claims to Benefit.

THE total number of claims to unemployment benefit made at Labour Exchanges and other local offices of the Unemployment Fund during the four weeks ended April 24th, 1914, was 63,794—a weekly average of 15,948. During the four weeks ended March 27th the total was 75,183, and the weekly average 18,796.

The number of claims made during each of the four weeks ended April 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th, and the weekly averages for April and for March are given in the following Table:—

Division.	Week ended 3rd April.	Week ended 10th April.	Week ended 17th April.	Week ended 24th April.	Weekly Average of claims made during	
					4 weeks ended April 24th.	4 weeks ended Mar. 27th.
London & South-Eastern	4,392	4,135	4,520	4,240	4,447	5,653
London	3,308	3,076	3,540	3,339	3,431	4,342
South-Eastern	1,084	1,059	980	901	1,016	1,311
Scotland and Northern	2,975	2,736	2,602	2,721	2,760	3,193
Scotland	1,776	1,686	1,555	1,589	1,636	2,018
N. of England	1,199	1,110	1,047	1,133	1,124	1,180
North-Western	3,017	2,576	2,834	2,640	2,767	3,400
Yorkshire & E. Midlands	2,360	2,138	2,440	1,975	2,228	2,185
Yorkshire	1,657	1,587	1,712	1,325	1,563	1,463
East Midlands	703	611	698	650	665	722
West Midlands	1,221	973	1,121	1,261	1,144	1,274
South-Western	1,270	1,171	1,194	982	1,154	1,568
Wales	950	783	584	622	737	749
Ireland	717	722	685	721	711	769
United Kingdom	17,402	15,234	15,990	15,168	15,943	18,796

The particulars of claims given above include the claims made by members of those associations of work people in the insured trades which have effected arrangements with the Board of Trade under section 105 of the National Insurance Act. Under these arrangements members are able to draw unemployment benefit from their associations instead of directly from the Unemployment Fund through the local offices of the Fund. The associations subsequently claim repayment from the Fund of the sums to which their individual members would have been entitled. The total number of claims made through such associations during the four weeks ended April 24th was 21,656, as compared with 42,138 direct claims.

Number and Amounts of Payments of Benefit.

The total number of payments of unemployment benefit made during the four weeks ended April 24th to workpeople claiming direct was 76,272, and the total amount of such payments was £22,560. The estimated amount repayable to associations from the Unemployment Fund was £11,847, and the number of payments was 44,263. During the four weeks ended March 27th, 1914, 100,291 payments, amounting to £29,639, were made to workpeople claiming direct, and an estimated sum of £12,857 was repayable from the Fund in respect of 46,934 payments to members of associations.

Division.	4 weeks ended April 24th, 1914.			4 weeks ended March 27th, 1914.		
	Direct.	Associa-tion.	Total.	Direct.	Associa-tion.	Total.
London and S. Eastern	6,802	3,011	9,813	10,234	3,026	13,260
London	5,307	2,617	7,924	7,948	2,633	10,581
South-Eastern	1,495	394	1,889	2,286	393	2,679
Scotland and Northern	2,171	2,317	4,488	2,696	2,514	5,210
Scotland	1,465	1,567	3,032	1,321	1,714	3,035
North of England	766	750	1,516	875	800	1,675
North-Western	2,721	2,589	5,310	3,777	2,815	6,192
Yorkshire and East Midlands	2,479	1,478	3,957	2,734	1,560	4,294
Yorkshire	1,747	991	2,738	1,791	999	2,790
East Midlands	732	487	1,219	943	561	1,504
West Midlands	1,640	559	2,199	1,854	566	2,420
South-Western	1,544	534	2,078	1,968	602	2,560
Wales	405	367	772	410	222	632
Ireland	1,306	211	1,517	1,810	429	2,239
United Kingdom	19,068	11,066	30,134	25,073	11,734	36,807

Division.	Average Weekly Amounts Paid.					
	£	£	£	£	£	£
London and S. Eastern	2,046	819	2,865	3,087	854	3,941
London	1,603	722	2,330	2,398	747	3,145
South-Eastern	438	97	535	689	107	796
Scotland and Northern	649	596	1,245	798	693	1,491
Scotland	432	396	828	542	476	1,018
North of England	222	200	422	256	217	479
North-Western	816	714	1,530	999	770	1,769
Yorkshire and East Midlands	672	403	1,075	743	419	1,162
Yorkshire	472	268	740	488	270	758
East Midlands	200	135	335	255	149	404
West Midlands	496	157	653	539	157	696
South-Western	442	130	572	567	146	713
Wales	114	87	201	119	56	175
Ireland	405	56	461	558	119	677
United Kingdom	5,640	2,962	8,602	7,410	3,214	10,624

Unemployment in Insured Trades and Occupations.

Every holder of an unemployment book has, when unemployed, to lodge it at a Labour Exchange or other local office of the Unemployment Fund; and the proportion borne by the number of unemployment books thus lodged to the total number current may be taken to represent approximately the proportion of workpeople who were unemployed at any given date. The following table shows this proportion for the several industries on the 24th April, 1914:—

Division.	Build-ing and Con-struction of Works.	Ship-build-ing.	Engi-neering and Iron-found-ing.	Con-struction of Vehi-cles.	Saw-milling.	Other Insured Work-people.	All Insured Work-people.
London and South-Eastern	5.0	5.4	3.9	2.3	5.0	2.4	4.5
London	6.5	7.0	4.3	2.9	7.0	2.9	5.6
South-Eastern	2.6	3.4	3.3	1.2	1.8	1.8	2.7
Scotland and Northern	1.8	2.1	2.4	1.7	2.8	0.9	2.1
Scotland	1.8	2.1	2.3	1.1	2.1	2.3	2.1
North of England	2.9	2.6	2.5	3.7	2.2	3.2	2.8
North-Western	3.0	2.6	2.9	2.0	2.9	1.9	2.3
Yorkshire and East Midlands	2.9	2.7	3.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.8
Yorkshire	3.3	..	2.8	1.9	4.3	1.4	2.8
East Midlands	3.0	..	3.4	3.3	3.1	2.0	3.2
West Midlands	3.8	9.1	3.2	1.8	5.6	1.8	4.1
South-Western	1.6	2.7	2.0	1.8	1.4	1.0	1.8
Wales	9.4	4.1	4.2	4.5	7.4	2.8	6.5
Ireland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
United Kingdom	3.8	3.2	3.1	2.5	3.8	1.9	3.3
Percentage unem-ployed a month ago.	4.6	3.5	3.0	2.5	3.5	1.7	3.6
Percentage unem-ployed a year ago.	3.8	3.0	2.0	1.8	2.5	1.0	2.8

The following table shows, both by industry and by district, the proportion of unemployment books lodged to the total number current on each Friday during April, 1914, and on March 27th, 1914:—

INDUSTRIES.	27th Mar.	3 d April	10th April	17th April	24th April
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Building and Construction of Works.	4.6	4.3	4.1	4.1	3.8
Shipbuilding	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.2
Engineering and Ironfound-ing.	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.1
Construction of Vehicles	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.5
Sawmilling	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.9	3.8
Other Insured Workpeople	1.7	2.0	2.1	2.1	1.9
All Insured Workpeople	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.3
DIVISIONS.					
London and South-Eastern:—	5.4	5.0	4.8	4.8	4.5
London	6.7	6.1	5.9	6.0	5.6
South-Eastern	3.3	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.7
Scotland and Northern:—	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1
Scotland	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.1
North of England	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.1
North-Western	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.2
Yorkshire and East Midlands:—	2.8	2.8	2.9	3.2	2.8
Yorkshire	2.7	2.8	2.9	3.0	2.8
East Midlands	2.9	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.8
West Midlands	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.2
South-Western	4.9	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.1
Wales	2.1	2.2	2.4	2.3	1.8
Ireland	6.9	6.6	6.5	6.7	6.5
United Kingdom	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.3

MINIMUM WAGES FOR WOMEN AND MINORS IN AMERICA.

I. Massachusetts.

A REPORT* recently issued by the Minimum Wage Commission of Massachusetts shows that among the States of the Union Massachusetts was the first to enact legislation applying the principle of the minimum wage. In 1911 representatives of several groups of persons who were interested in social and industrial questions in the State presented to the Legislature a petition asking for an investigation with reference to the desirability of attempting minimum wage legislation in that State. As the result of their efforts, a resolution was passed providing for the appointment of an investigating committee "to study the matter of wages of women and minors, and to report on the advisability of establishing a board or boards to which shall be referred inquiries as to the need and feasibility of fixing minimum rates of wages for women and minors in any industry." The committee appointed in pursuance of this resolution consisted of five members, who made an investigation into the condition of workpeople in confectionery factories, retail stores and laundries. Referring to the results obtained, the committee stated that "a large number of women of eighteen years of age and upwards are employed at very low wages; it is indisputable that a great part of them are receiving compensation that is inadequate to meet the necessary cost of living."

With a view to remedying the state of affairs revealed in the course of its investigations, the committee recommended that a permanent commission of three members be appointed, to be known as the Minimum Wage Commission, which should enquire into the wages paid to the female employees in any occupation in the State, if the Commission should have reason to believe that the wages paid to a substantial number of employees were inadequate to supply the necessary cost of living and to maintain the worker in health. If, after such investigation, the Commission should still be of the opinion that the wages paid failed to meet the demands specified, the Commission should then establish a wage board composed of six representatives of the employers and six of the workpeople, with a number of disinterested members to represent the public. The wage determinations agreed upon by the board, if approved by the Commission, should be declared to be the minimum wages for the occupation.

* First Annual Report of the Minimum Wage Commission of Massachusetts, relating to the six months ending December 31st, 1913. Public Document No. 102. Boston, 1914: Wright & Potter, State Printers

The Legislature of the State of Massachusetts, as the result of the report of the committee, passed a law embodying in general the recommendations made, but substituting publicity for the penalty for failure to pay the rates determined.

II. Other States.

During the year 1913 eight States followed the example of Massachusetts in passing minimum wage laws. Seven of these—California, Colorado, Minnesota, Nebraska, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin—provided for commissions to deal with the matter of establishing minimum wages rates; while Utah prescribed a minimum wage for women and minors by statute. Investigating committees have been at work upon the subject in Michigan, New York, and Connecticut. Bills providing for the determination of minimum rates were introduced into the Legislature of several other States, but failed to pass.

With respect to the establishment of minimum wages, the provisions of the Acts of the various States, with the exception of Utah, are in general substantially the same. A preliminary investigation of wages in the occupations in question is usually required; and, if wages are ascertained to be unsatisfactory, the Commission is authorised to appoint a wage or advisory board, which becomes responsible for the fixing of the rates of wages. In Nebraska, as in Massachusetts, the Commission is empowered to publish in the newspapers of the State the names of employers who refuse to pay the rates of wages determined upon. In the remaining States a refusal to comply with the order regarding rates of wages constitutes a misdemeanour. In California, Oregon, and Washington the Commission is known as the Industrial Welfare Commission; and in each case the powers of these bodies have been extended beyond the mere determination of minimum wages. In Washington the Commission may also regulate conditions of labour, and in California and Oregon both conditions of labour and maximum hours may be determined. An account of the Oregon law was given in the BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for June, 1913, p. 203, and of the first two rulings of the Commission created by that law, in the GAZETTE for October, 1913, p. 373.

EXPENDITURE OF TRADE UNIONS ON UNEMPLOYED BENEFITS.

In the BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE for April the statistics of membership of all Trade Unions in the United Kingdom issued by the Board of Trade were brought up to the end of 1912, and particulars were also given regarding the income, expenditure and funds of 100 principal Trade Unions. The information respecting these 100 Unions is now supplemented as regards Unemployed Benefits in the following Table, which shows, by groups of trades, their expenditure upon such benefits for each of the years 1903-12. It should be stated that while the membership of the 100 Unions has constantly represented about 60 per cent. of the total membership of all unions, their expenditure on unemployed benefits represented 80 per cent. of the total expenditure of all Unions for this purpose in 1906 and 1908, the only years for which full particulars respecting unemployed benefits are available for all Unions.

Year.	Building.	Mining and Quarrying.	Metal Engineering and Ship-building.	Textile.	Printing, Paper, &c.	Other Trades (including Railway Service).	Total: 100 Principal Unions.
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1903	80,774	19,435	227,366	110,479	40,244	38,640	516,939
1904	137,381	48,663	307,246	171,273	43,007	52,550	660,070
1905	142,987	37,405	230,246	24,716	46,142	47,031	528,597
1906	125,560	32,021	158,722	24,370	43,657	44,199	428,529
1907	115,951	15,091	202,844	47,425	41,439	46,032	498,782
1908	164,416	61,480	500,224	168,876	53,999	77,019	1,026,014
1909	139,457	86,511	454,011	143,454	58,677	70,347	952,457
1910	113,635	86,870	216,732	171,002	54,415	59,079	701,733
1911	73,921	88,827	118,956	70,924	54,206	49,676	466,510
1912	67,603	79,005	146,268	67,928	53,184	183,674	597,662

Under the heading of Unemployed Benefits are included not only the regular weekly benefit paid by

many of the Unions whenever their members fall out of employment, but also weekly payments (especially by some of the Unions in the cotton and mining industries), on account of cessations due to breakdowns of machinery, &c., special grants made in times of excessive slackness in trade by Unions which do not pay unemployed benefit as a rule, payments to members travelling in search of work, fares to situations, emigration grants, and all other payments on account of unemployment, except such as are in the nature of Dispute Benefit.*

The total expenditure of the 100 Unions on Unemployed Benefits in 1912 was £598,000, an increase of £141,000 compared with 1911. The increase occurred chiefly in Unions of railway servants, whose expenditure on this benefit amounted to £121,000, as compared with £10,000 in 1911, and with an average of £4,800 in 1903-10. The large expenditure of the railway Unions in 1912 was almost entirely owing to the unemployment of their members during the national coal strike.

The group of Trade Unions in which the largest amount of unemployed benefits is paid is the metal, engineering, and shipbuilding group, and here the figures for 1911 and 1912 illustrate the prevailing good state of trade. The cost of the benefit per member of the Unions in this group was 7s. 10d. in 1912, as compared with 7s. 8d. in 1911, 36s. 0d. in 1908, and 11s. 8d. in 1906.

In the building trades, which have since 1910 been recovering from a long period of depression, few Unions paid unemployed benefit (other than travelling benefit), the bulk of the sums shown in the Table being accounted for by the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners. In the mining and textile industries slackness of work is usually met by organised short time rather than by a reduction in the numbers employed. Roughly half of the expenditure shown for these industries throughout the period was incurred by the Durham Miners' Association and the Amalgamated Cotton Spinners respectively.

COURT OF ARBITRATION.

In the autumn of 1908 the Board of Trade, in the exercise of their powers under the Conciliation Act, 1896, established a scheme whereby, on the application of the parties to an industrial dispute, a Court of Arbitration composed of three (or five) members might be appointed to determine the dispute, in the place of a single arbitrator as previously. Three panels of chairmen, employers' representatives and workpeople's representatives, respectively, were drawn up, and from these panels members are appointed to act on Courts of Arbitration as occasion requires. Additions having recently been made to the panels of the Court, the following is a copy of the revised list:—

Panel of Chairmen.

Rt. Hon. the Duke of Devonshire, G.C.V.O.	Sir William J. Collins, K.C.V.O.
Rt. Hon. the Earl of Derby, G.C.V.O.	His Honour Judge J. V. Austin.
Rt. Hon. Viscount St. Aldwyn.	His Honour Judge A. O'Connor, K.C.
Rt. Hon. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, K.T., G.C.M.G.	Sheriff-Principal J. A. Fleming, K.C.
Rt. Hon. Lord MacDonnell, G.C.S.I., K.C.V.O.	Sheriff-Principal A. O. M. Mackenzie, K.C.
Rt. Hon. Lord Richard Cavendish.	Sheriff-Substitute A. J. Louttit-Laing.
Rt. Hon. Lord Parker of Waddington.	Mr. C. J. Drummond, J.P.
Rt. Hon. Sir Edward Fry, G.C.B.	Mrs. Fawcett.
Rt. Hon. Sir David Harrel, K.C.B., K.C.V.O., I.S.O.	Miss Haldane.
The Hon. Mr. Justice Atkin.	Mr. John Haswell, D.C.L.
The Hon. Mr. Justice Bailhache.	Mr. A. A. Hudson, K.C.
Sir Ernest Hatch, Bart.	Prof. J. M. Irvine, K.C.
Sir Nathaniel Highmore, K.C.B.	Mr. Ernest Moon, K.C.
Sir E. Stafford Howard, K.C.B.	Mr. Alderman T. Smith, J.P.
Sir Alfred Bateman, K.C.M.G.	Mr. B. Francis-Williams, K.C.
	Mr. W. B. Yates.

* When members of a union are locked-out in order to bring the strike of other workpeople to a close, the amount paid to them as benefit for such unemployment is classed as Dispute Benefit. When they are locked-out not in order to close the strike, but only because work cannot be found for them, the amount paid is classed as Unemployed Benefit. In some cases it has not been possible to distinguish precisely the amount paid for disputes from that paid for ordinary unemployment, and in such cases an estimate has been made.

Employers' Panel.

Rt. Hon. Lord Pirrie, K.P.	Mr. H. Birchenough, J.P., C.M.G.
The Lord Aberconway.	Mr. W. Burton.
The Lord Glantawe.	Mr. J. Causton.
The Lord Merthyr.	Mr. W. A. Clowes.
The Lord Rotherham.	Mr. David Colville.
Rt. Hon. Sir A. Spicer, Bart., M.P.	Mr. J. H. C. Crockett.
Sir H. H. Bartlett, Bart.	Mr. James Currie, J.P.
Sir Hugh Bell, Bart.	Mr. F. L. Davis, J.P.
Sir S. B. Boulton, Bart, J.P.	Mr. T. L. Devitt.
Sir Gilbert Claughton, Bart.	Mr. A. H. Dixon.
Sir Charles Macara, Bart., J.P.	Mr. F. W. Gibbins.
Sir George Wyatt Truscott, Bart.	Mr. Wilkinson Hartley, J.P.
Sir F. Forbes Adam, C.I.E.	Mr. J. P. Maclay.
Sir Benjamin Browne, J.P.	Mr. L. A. Martin.
Sir A. K. Butterworth.	Mr. W. H. Mitchell, J.P.
Sir W. Guy Granet.	Mr. George Pate.
Sir Robert A. Hadfield, F.R.S.	Mr. A. F. Pease, J.P.
Sir Clarendon G. Hyde.	Mr. Alexander Siemens.
Sir Thomas R. Ratcliffe-Ellis.	Mr. Reginald J. Smith, K.C.
Mr. G. Ainsworth.	Mr. W. Thackray, J.P.
	Mr. Robert W. Thompson, J.P., D.L., M.P.
	Mr. J. W. White.
	Mr. G. Heron Wilson.

Labour Panel.

Rt. Hon. W. Abraham, M.P. (Mabon).	Mr. Alderman Allen Gee, J.P.
Rt. Hon. Thomas Burt, M.P.	Mr. A. H. Gill, M.P.
Rt. Hon. Charles Fenwick, M.P.	Mr. H. Gosling.
Mr. William Adamson, M.P.	Mr. Arthur Henderson, M.P.
Mr. T. Ashton, J.P.	Mr. John Hodge, M.P.
Mr. G. N. Barnes, M.P.	Mr. G. T. Jackson, J.P.
Mr. J. N. Bell.	Miss Mary Macarthur.
Miss Margaret Bondfield.	Mr. W. Mosses.
Mr. C. W. Bowerman, M.P.	Mr. E. L. Poulton.
Mr. W. Brace, M.P.	Mr. Geo. H. Roberts, M.P.
Mr. F. Chandler, J.P.	Mr. W. C. Robinson, J.P.
Mr. J. R. Clynes, J.P., M.P.	Mr. Robert Smillie, J.P.
Mr. W. J. Davis, J.P.	Mr. Alexander Wilkie, J.P., M.P.
Mr. James Gavin.	Mr. J. E. Williams, J.P.

RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES.

Lace Workers, Newmilns.

In December, 1913, the Newmilns and District Textile Workers' Union having presented to the lace manufacturers of Scotland demands for an advanced scale of rates and improved conditions as to working hours, &c., conferences took place between representatives of the Union and the manufacturers, who combined to form the Scottish Lace Manufacturers' Association. As a result of these negotiations agreement was reached on a number of points, but it was not found possible to reach agreement on the general rates, and on February 14th, 1914, the weavers ceased work.

The negotiations between the parties being discontinued, the Chief Industrial Commissioner entered into communication with them, and on March 8th, 9th, and 18th, presided at conferences at Kilmarnock of representatives of the two associations. Following on the suggestion of Sir George Askwith, new rates proposed by the employers were considered subsequently at meetings between representatives of the men and individual employers as they affected each factory.

On March 27th Sir George again met representatives of the associations to consider the reports of these meetings, and, after a protracted sitting, terms were arranged which it was agreed should be submitted by the Executives to their respective members. These suggested terms were in certain respects declined by the members of the Union, and the dispute continued; but as a result of further negotiations between the parties a settlement was shortly afterwards arrived at on the basis of these proposals.

Blastfurnacemen, West Cumberland.

Professor S. J. Chapman and the two arbitrators appointed by the parties (*see* LABOUR GAZETTE for April, p. 126), having taken evidence from the West Cumberland Iron Masters' Association and the National Federation of Blastfurnacemen, issued their award on 27th April, deciding that at the associated works the blastfurnacemen working under the sliding scale shall be paid at the rate of time and a quarter for all work done between 6 o'clock in the morning of every Sunday and

6 o'clock in the morning of the Monday following such Sunday, on the conditions agreed upon on 6th June, 1913, between the Cleveland ironmasters and the blastfurnacemen of Cleveland and Durham.

Copper Workers, Cardiff.

A stoppage of work of the Cardiff employees of a firm of sulphur and copper manufacturers having commenced on 9th April, owing to the reduction of a producer man in receipt of 6s. per shift to the position of assistant producer man at 5s. per shift, after some negotiations the parties agreed that the man should resume work as a producer helper at the rate of 5s. per shift, and the question of his wage be referred to a Board of Trade arbitrator, work being resumed generally at the same time.

In accordance with this agreement, Mr. R. E. Moore has been appointed to act as arbitrator.

Boot and Shoe Operatives, Government Work.

The Joint Standing Committee in connection with Government boot and shoe contractors having had under consideration the question of a stoppage of work of the pressmen at a firm at Raunds in connection with objection to a foreman, the matter was referred to a sub-committee, the men at the same time resuming work in accordance with a resolution of the committee. The sub-committee were, however, unable to arrive at a settlement, and the question was accordingly referred to Sir George Askwith, as umpire.

Sir George heard representatives of the parties on 4th May, and subsequently issued a memorandum dealing with the matter.

Building Trades.

Carpenters and Joiners, Blackburn.—Joint application having been made on April 3rd for the appointment of an arbitrator to determine matters affecting carpenters and joiners at Blackburn, His Honour Judge E. A. Parry was appointed to act in that capacity. Having heard the parties, Judge Parry issued his decision on April 17th, raising the rate of wages from 9½d. to 10d. per hour, and making alterations in the working rules relating to working-time in winter months and the radius for walking time.

Carpenters and Joiners, Clydesdale District.—On April 13th application was made by the Conciliation Board for the Carpenter and Joiner Trade in the Clydesdale District for the appointment of an arbiter to determine proposed alterations in the standard rate of wages, upon which matter the Conciliation Board were unable to agree. Professor J. M. Irvine, K.C., the arbiter appointed, issued his award on 13th May, raising the standard rate from 9d. to 9½d. per hour.

Bricklayers, Edinburgh.—Differences having arisen between the Operative Bricklayers' Society and the Edinburgh, Leith, and District Building Trades Association with regard to wages, the parties were unable to agree upon an arbiter to determine the matter, and accordingly made application for such appointment. Professor Richard Lodge, the arbiter appointed, issued his award on 11th May, deciding that the standard rate of wages should continue to be 10d. per hour.

Carpenters and Joiners, Glasgow.—Application having been made on April 17th by the Conciliation Board for the Joiner Trade in the Glasgow District for the appointment of a Court of Arbitration of three persons to determine matters upon which the Board were unable to agree, a Court has been appointed, consisting of Sheriff-Principal A. O. M. Mackenzie, K.C., and Messrs. Geo. Pate and W. Adamson, M.P. The matters referred to the decision of the Court concern hours of labour, overtime, travelling time and expenses, wages, country money, time employed to qualify for payment of grinding time, and application of rules and working regulations to warehouses and public works where joiners are employed.

Slaters, Glasgow.—On 15th April joint application was made by the Glasgow and West of Scotland Master Slaters' Association and the Glasgow branch of the Amalgamated Slaters' Society of Scotland for the appointment of an arbiter to determine a demand of the operatives for an advance in the rate of wages from 9½d. to 10½d. per hour. Professor J. M. Irvine, K.C., the

arbitrator appointed, issued his award on 1st May, raising the standard rate to 10d. per hour.

Building Trade Operatives, Gravesend, Northfleet and District.—Notices to expire on May 1st having been given to the Gravesend, Northfleet and District Master Builders' Association by five unions in the building trade (carpenters and joiners, bricklayers, plasterers, painters, and builders' labourers) for an advance in wages and the establishment of joint working rules, a strike was threatened, but after preliminary negotiations conducted by an officer of the Department it was agreed that the notices should be postponed pending a conference, which was subsequently held under the presidency of Sir George Askwith.

As a result of the conference, which was held on 6th May, an agreement was arrived at subject to confirmation by the respective associations. This agreement has since been confirmed, which includes an advance in wages of ½d. per hour to all the five trades involved, and deals in detail with hours of labour, overtime rates, walking time, etc. It also provides for the establishment of a Conciliation Committee for dealing with future disputes.

Painters, Grimsby.—In response to a joint application, dated 8th April, from the master and operative painters of Grimsby for the appointment of an arbitrator, Mr. R. E. Moore was appointed to act in that capacity, and, having heard the parties, issued his award on 29th April raising the standard rate of wages to 8½d. per hour. The arbitrator also recommended to the parties the adoption of a conciliation scheme to deal with any difficulties which might arise in the future.

Builders' Labourers and Painters, Wigan.—Sir Alfred Hopkinson, K.C., the arbitrator appointed to decide matters affecting builders' labourers and painters at Wigan (see LABOUR GAZETTE for April, p. 127), issued his awards on 7th and 21st April respectively. In the case of the labourers, the arbitrator awarded that there shall be a uniform rate of 7d. per hour for summer and winter months. In the case of the painters the arbitrator raised the standard rate of wages from 9d. to 9½d. per hour, and made other changes in the working rules.

Stonemasons, Wigan.—A notice and counter-notice for alteration of the working rules having been made by the operative and master stonemasons at Wigan, meetings took place between the parties with a view to arriving at an amicable settlement, but without effect. The employers then desired the reference of the dispute to arbitration in accordance with the working rules, and the men desired that the case should be dealt with by the local Building Trades' Conciliation Board. On the matter being brought by the employers to the attention of the Department, an officer visited the district and interviewed representatives of the parties, and made various suggestions with a view to a settlement. Subsequently the parties accepted a decision of the Northern Centre Building Trades' Conciliation Board officials that the matter should be placed before the local Conciliation Board.

Bricklayers' Labourers (in Iron and Steel Works), Scunthorpe.

The bricklayers' labourers in the employ of the Frodingham Iron and Steel Company, Ltd., Scunthorpe, having made application for increased wages and improved working conditions, negotiations between the parties failed to effect a settlement, and application was made for the appointment of an arbitrator to decide the matters in dispute.

Sir Nathaniel J. Highmore, K.C.B., the arbitrator appointed, heard the parties on 21st April, and issued his award on 6th May, deciding that the present system of the bricklayers' labourers being paid the sliding scale should be abolished, and fixing the wages of the labourers at 5½d. per hour net. Certain matters agreed to between the parties were embodied in the award, and the arbitrator also made other alterations in the conditions of labour.

RAILWAY CONCILIATION SCHEME.

The Right Hon. Sir Robert Romer, G.C.B., the Independent Chairman, presided on 31st March and 24th April at meetings of Conciliation Board No. 1 of the

Midland Railway, and gave his decision on matters referred to him.

TRADE BOARDS ACT, 1909.

SHIRTMAKING AND SUGAR CONFECTIONERY AND FOOD PRESERVING TRADES.

Establishment of Trade Boards in Ireland.

By the Trade Boards Provisional Orders Confirmation Act, 1913, the application of the Trade Boards Act was extended to certain trades, including shirtmaking and sugar confectionery and food preserving; and after consulting persons affected, the Board of Trade recently made Regulations with respect to the constitution and proceedings of the Trade Boards to be established in Ireland* for the two trades named. The Board of Trade have now established a Trade Board for the shirtmaking trade in Ireland, consisting of three appointed members (who are persons unconnected with the trade and appointed by the Board of Trade) and of thirteen representatives of employers and thirteen representatives of workers. They have also established a Trade Board for the sugar confectionery and food preserving trade in Ireland, consisting of three appointed members, together with nine representatives of employers and nine representatives of workers. In both cases the representative members have been selected by the Board of Trade after considering names supplied by employers and workers respectively. The Board of Trade have appointed Mr. Ernest Aves, Professor R. M. Henry, and the Hon. Ethel Macnaghten as appointed members of the Shirtmaking Trade Board, and Mr. Ernest Aves, Mr. J. R. O'Connell, LL.D., and Miss E. M. Cunningham as appointed members of the Sugar Confectionery and Food Preserving Trade Board. Mr. Aves will act as Chairman and Mr. G. T. Reid as Secretary of both Boards.

LACE FINISHING TRADE.

Establishment of a New Trade Board.

The term of office of the Lace Finishing Trade Board, established on 6th September, 1910, having expired, the Board of Trade have made Regulations, dated 16th March, 1914, with respect to the constitution and proceedings of a Trade Board for machine-made lace and net finishing, other than the finishing of the product of plain net machines, but including the finishing of hair nets, veilings and quillings, whether made on plain net or other machines. In accordance with the above Regulations a Trade Board has been established for the period of three years commencing 14th May, 1914, and thereafter until dissolved by order of the Board of Trade. The Trade Board consists of three appointed members (who are persons unconnected with the trade and appointed by the Board of Trade), namely, Mr. Ernest Aves (Chairman), Mr. George Sedgwick, J.P. (Deputy Chairman), and Mrs. M. Beer, together with eight representatives of employers and eight representatives of workers. The representative members have been selected by the Board of Trade after considering names supplied by employers and workers respectively. The Secretary of the Trade Board is Mr. G. T. Reid.

SHIRTMAKING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal to Fix Minimum Rates of Wages.

At a meeting of the Trade Board established for the shirtmaking trade in Great Britain, held on 29th and 30th April, 1914, it was decided to propose a minimum time-rate of wages for *female workers* of 3½d. an hour. The Trade Board also decided to propose minimum time-rates for *female learners* (as defined by them), ranging from 3s. to 12s. 6d. for a week of 50 hours, according to age and experience. The official notice of the proposal to fix minimum rates of wages required by the Act will be issued shortly. Objections to the proposed rates may be lodged with the Trade Board within three months from 1st July next. Further particulars may be obtained from the Secretary of the Shirtmaking Trade Board (Great Britain), Old Serjeants' Inn Chambers, 5, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

* For Notice of the Establishment of Trade Boards for these trades in Great Britain see LABOUR GAZETTE for February, 1914, page 48.

SUGAR CONFECTIONERY AND FOOD PRESERVING TRADE BOARD (GREAT BRITAIN).

Proposal to Fix Minimum Rates of Wages.

The Trade Board established for the sugar confectionery and food preserving trade in Great Britain have resolved to propose a minimum time-rate of wages for *female workers* of 3d. an hour. The official notice of the proposal to fix minimum time-rates of wages, containing particulars of the rates proposed to be fixed for special classes of workers, will be issued shortly.

DISTRIBUTION OF GOVERNMENT AND MUNICIPAL WORK.

Appointment of Treasury Committee.

The Treasury have appointed a Committee to consider whether any, and if so what, steps can be taken with a view to regularising the total demand for labour from year to year and in different seasons, by adjusting the distribution of public work conducted, or given out, by Government departments and local authorities with reference to the state of employment in the particular trades from time to time.

The members of the Committee are:—

Mr. Percy Alden, M.P. (*chairman*).
 Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, M.P.
 Sir Herbert H. Bartlett, Bart.
 Mr. L. J. Hewby, C.B. Mr. W. H. Beveridge.
 Mr. W. T. Jerred, C.B. Mr. Cyril Jackson.
 Mr. G. H. Barnes, M.P. Mr. H. E. Stilgoe, M.I.C.E.
 Mr. A. J. Knowlton, of the Exchequer and Audit Department, will act as secretary to the Committee.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE BRITISH DOMINIONS OVERSEA.

Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 34, Broadway, Westminster, London, S.W., from the latest official and other reports, newspapers, &c. Free quarterly circulars on Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa, and Handbooks (with maps) at 1d. each, may be obtained from the Office post free; and all enquiries about emigration addressed to the office will be answered.

Canada.

ALL emigrants landing in Canada between March 1st and October 31st must possess \$25 (£5 4s.) and children \$12 50 (£2 12s.) each, and between November 1st and the 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) certain relatives of residents in Canada. Employment has somewhat improved in several places with the opening of spring; but there are still considerable numbers, both of skilled and unskilled labourers, out of work. The above restrictive regulations, therefore, are being rigidly enforced, and no mechanic or labourer should go to Canada now, unless he goes to assured work. Good farm labourers are wanted. Female servants are wanted, both in towns and on farms. The coal miners' strike on Vancouver Island, and the garment workers' strike at Toronto are not yet fully settled.

Australia.

Military Service in Australia.—Military training in the Citizen Forces for a number of days is, subject to certain exceptions, obligatory under penalties in Australia for men under the age of twenty-six; but this obligation does not apply to any person who reached the age of eighteen years before the 1st January, 1911.

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

New South Wales.—The monthly cable just received from Sydney states: "All branches of the building trade are brisk except plasterers. The Cobar mines are closed. The engineering trade is brisk, but prospects are unfavourable except for boilermakers. Slaters and tilers are on strike, and the labour market in these trades will consequently be complicated for immigrants." There is no demand for bootmakers or compositors.

Unskilled labourers are greatly in excess of the demand, and are warned against going to Sydney. Skilled farm hands are wanted. There is a very fair demand for skilled labour at Newcastle; and mining at Broken Hill has been busy. Lads willing to learn farming may procure a cheap passage and a year's free training and maintenance at a Government Experiment Farm. There is a good demand for female servants.

Victoria.—The monthly cable just received states: "All branches of the building trades are brisk, but appear to be fairly well supplied with labour. The only pronounced shortage is in the boilermaking industry."

South Australia.—Most trades are busy, especially the building and engineering trades, but there is very little demand for more labour. There is an excellent demand for female servants, and for lads on farms, and a fair demand for experienced farm hands.

Queensland.—There is a good demand for farm labourers, dairymen, married couples without young children on farms and stations, and female servants; but the demand for mechanics is very limited. By a new Regulation farm hands and their families may be granted assisted passages by payment of 10s. to 20s. down and the balance in Queensland.

Western Australia.—There is a demand for men to take up free grants of land, and for female servants; but the supply of mechanics and miners is sufficient.

New Zealand.

Military Service.—All males in New Zealand from fourteen to eighteen years of age must serve in the senior cadets, from eighteen to twenty-five years in the Territorial Force, and from twenty-five to thirty years in the Reserve.

In large towns like Christchurch, Auckland, Wellington, and Dunedin work in the building and engineering trades has been "dull to fair," and there does not appear to be any demand for more men. Cheap passages are granted to agriculturists and female servants.

Union of South Africa.

Military Service.—All Citizens in the Union must undergo a certain period of training in time of peace for military service, and those between their seventeenth and sixtieth years are liable to serve in time of war.

The only demand in South Africa at the present time is for female servants.

Rhodesia.

The Chief Secretary, Salisbury, warns all persons in poor circumstances against going into Rhodesia, as there is little hope of such persons finding employment there.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Labour Statistics: Fourth Quarter of 1913.*

Employment.—The percentage of persons unemployed in the Commonwealth owing to lack of work, according to returns received from trade unions, decreased since the preceding quarter (July to September) from 5.3 to 3.9,† the decrease being shared by all industries except minor manufacturing trades and mining, quarrying, etc. All States showed a general improvement in the state of employment, the greatest improvement taking place in Victoria and in Western Australia.

Industrial Disputes.—The total number of disputes which began in the Commonwealth during October, November and December was 60 (39 of which took place in New South Wales), the same number as in the preceding quarter. The number of workpeople involved directly or indirectly in these new disputes was 8,546, and this number, when added to the number of workpeople involved in disputes which began before October, and were still in progress at the beginning of that month, gives a total of 9,279 workpeople involved in disputes in the fourth quarter, as compared with 13,885 during the third quarter, 21,041 during the second quarter, and 13,825 during January to March. The number of working days lost through new disputes in the quarter was 58,505, as compared with 80,249,

* Labour Bulletin, No. 4, the quarterly journal of the Bureau of Census and Statistics of the Commonwealth of Australia.

† These percentages are based, not on the numbers unemployed on a given day, but on the numbers unemployed "for any three days or more during a specified week." For this reason, apart from the fact that accurate and complete records of unemployment are difficult to obtain in Australia, owing to few of the unions paying unemployed benefit, the figures are not comparable with the unemployment percentages for the United Kingdom shown on pages 161-162.

126,602 and 98,601 in the third, second and first quarters respectively of 1913. The disputes which commenced prior to the beginning of October and continued into the fourth quarter were responsible for a loss of 34,388 working days.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—During the last quarter of the year particulars were collected concerning 131 changes in rates of wages, of which 56 occurred in New South Wales and 32 in Victoria. The total number of workpeople affected by these changes was 43,342, and the aggregate increase in wages per week was £10,188, or 4s. 10d. per head per week. The largest number of persons affected in any single industrial group was in the railway and tramway services, in which 12,657 persons obtained increases aggregating £1,719 per week.

Variations in Prices and Cost of Living.—The cost of living (retail prices and house rent) index number for 30 of the more important towns in the Commonwealth was lower in the fourth quarter of 1913 than in the third. Assuming that cost to have been represented by the figure 100 for the whole of the year 1912, the corresponding figure for the fourth quarter of 1913 was 99.1, as compared with 99.8 in the third quarter, 101.2 in the second quarter, and 99.8 in the first quarter. There was thus a fall of 0.7 per cent. since the preceding quarter. Compared with the corresponding period of 1912 the index number for the fourth quarter of 1913 shows a decline of 3.5 per cent.; the decline being common to all the States. Compared with the corresponding quarter of 1912, prices of groceries, dairy produce, and meat were lower, while house rents were higher. As regards the six capital towns only, the amount necessary on the average to purchase what would have cost £1 in 1911 was £1 1s. 11d. in the fourth quarter of 1913, as compared with £1 2s. 1d. in the third quarter, £1 2s. 4d. in the second quarter, and £1 2s. in the first quarter of 1913.

Immigration.—During the quarter 9,565 assisted immigrants, including 4,962 dependants, arrived in the Commonwealth. The greatest number (3,272) is reported from Victoria. As regards occupations, 1,613 of the males were classified in the agricultural, pastoral, etc., group, and 1,075 of the females were domestic servants, etc.

State Employment Bureaux.—During October, November and December, 1913, the six State free employment bureaux received 20,696 applications for employment. There were 12,001 applications by employers for workers, and 9,799 positions were filled.

LABOUR IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

[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. 161-162 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 March.—The seasonal revival in the building trades became more marked, the proportion out of work being considerably less than usual for the time of the year. In the metal and textile trades a general improvement was reported as compared with the previous month. The printing trades were well employed, both in Paris and the provinces. A further falling off in employment was reported in the leather trades. The proportion out of work among agricultural and vineyard workers was one of the lowest reported for several years. Employment was also better for woodmen, a large

* Bulletin du Ministère du Travail et de la Prévoyance Sociale (Journal of the French Ministry of Labour).

number of whom were engaged in agricultural occupations. Gardeners in the Paris district continued fully employed.

Returns showing the number of members unemployed at the middle of the month were received by the French Labour Department from 731 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 257,825. Excluding returns from the miners' unions in the Pas-de-Calais department 3.9 per cent. of the members were unemployed in March, as compared with 4.5 in the previous month and 7.5 per cent. in March, 1913.*

Coal Mining in March.—The average number of days worked per week by persons employed underground in coal mines during March was 5.93, as compared with 5.68 in the previous month and 5.98 in March, 1913. Taking surface and underground workers together, 71.3 per cent. worked full time (six days or over per week), and 26.8 per cent. from five to six days per week. In the previous month the corresponding percentages were 69.2 and 7.8, and in March, 1913, 89.0 and 11.0.

Labour Disputes in March.—One hundred and ten labour disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in March, as compared with 92 in the previous month and 90 in March, 1913. The groups of trades in which disputes were most frequent were: Building (27 disputes), textile (19), metal (11), transport (10), agriculture (8), leather (7), and clothing (6). Of 94 new and old disputes reported to have terminated, 20 ended wholly in favour of the workpeople, 48 wholly in favour of the employers, and 26 were compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in March.—Thirteen cases of recourse to the law of 1892 on conciliation and arbitration were reported to the French Labour Department during March. The initiative was taken in 3 cases by the workpeople and in 10 cases by a Justice of the Peace. Intervention was declined in 4 cases by the employers, while in one case the dispute terminated before a conciliation committee could meet. In the 8 remaining cases conciliation committees were formed resulting in the settlement of all the disputes concerned (6 by conciliation and 2 by arbitration), a collective agreement being signed in each case.

GERMANY.

Employment in March.—The improved state of employment in certain seasonal trades already reported continued during March, but in other important trades there was still no perceptible increase in activity. (This statement is based on all the information received, and not on trade union returns only.)

Returns relating to unemployment were furnished to the Imperial Labour Department by 49 trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 2,018,890. Omitting branches which failed to make returns, the membership covered was 1,961,625, of whom 55,028, or 2.8 per cent., were stated to be unemployed at the end of March, as compared with 3.7 per cent. in the previous month and 2.3 per cent. in March, 1913.*

UNION.	Membership reported on at end of March, 1914.	Percentage of Membership returned as unemployed at end of month.*		
		Mar., 1914.	Feb., 1914.	Mar., 1913.
All Unions making Returns ..	1,961,625	2.8	3.7	2.8
PRINCIPAL UNIONS:—				
Metal Workers (Soc. Dem.) ..	541,192	3.2	3.9	2.1
Engineers and Metal Workers (Hirch-Duncker) ..	31,055	3.0	4.7	1.4
Metal Workers (Christian) ..	41,604	0.6	1.3	0.7
Textile Workers (Soc. Dem.) ..	135,351	1.5	1.7	1.0
Textile Workers (Christian) ..	36,068	0.8	2.1	0.3
Boot and Shoe Makers ..	42,859	1.6	2.0	1.7
Transport Workers ..	229,618	2.2	3.7	1.6
Printers ..	66,651	3.0	3.5	2.7
Bookbinders ..	189,055	4.9	6.1	4.6
Woodworkers ..	28,491	6.8	7.4	6.4
Bakery and Corn Mill Workers ..	47,492	1.4	2.3	1.0
Tobacco Workers ..	29,055	2.3	2.1	4.0
Factory Workers (irrespective of trade) ..	206,111	2.2	3.4	1.4
State and Municipal Workers ..	47,273	0.6	1.6	0.5

* See Note under "Labour in Foreign Countries" in preceding column.

† Revised figure.

‡ Reichs-Arbeitsblatt (Journal of the German Labour Department).

The number of days lost owing to unemployment during the first quarter of 1914 by members of trade unions making returns was calculated to be 3.2 per cent. of the possible working days during that period, as compared with 2.5 per cent. in the previous quarter and 2.1 per cent. in the first quarter of 1913.

Reports from employers indicate that the state of employment on the whole was nearly as unfavourable as in the preceding month, and, with few exceptions, was worse than in March, 1913. In coal mining, employment further declined in the Ruhr district, in Upper and Lower Silesia, and (as regards lignite mining) in the Niederslausitz district. There was a slight improvement in pig iron manufacture, and an increased output from steelworks. Employment in potash mining fell off somewhat after the delivery of spring orders. In the general engineering trades employment was worse than in the corresponding month of 1913, except in certain branches engaged in the manufacture of special forms of machinery. On the other hand, it was good generally in the electrical and chemical trades. As regards the textile trades complaints as to scarcity of employment continued to be received from cotton spinning mills and weaving sheds. The building trades were also insufficiently employed, although there were signs of increasing activity in some localities.

Strike of Carmen in Hamburg.—In a despatch to the Foreign Office dated 9th May, H.M. Consul-General at Hamburg reports the commencement of a strike of the carmen employed by the local forwarding agents. It is stated that the drivers of two-horse vans demand 37 marks (36s. 4d.) a week and a shorter working day. It is also stated that these men now earn 35 marks (34s. 4d.) per week, their hours of labour being from 7 a.m. to 12, and from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. When the men do not get home in the middle of the day, their dinners are paid for by the employers.

HOLLAND.*

Employment in March.—Returns relating to unemployment in March were received by the Dutch Government Statistical Office from trade unions and municipal unemployment funds with a total membership of 71,636. The percentage of members out of work during the month was 5.1, as compared with 6.8 in the previous month, and 3.4 in March, 1913.† 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 total membership of the funds gives the percentage.

Group of Trades.	Number of Members entitled to Benefit in Mar., 1914.	Percentage unemployed†			Average Days lost per Week per Member unemployed		
		Mar., 1914.	Feb., 1914.	Mar., 1913.	Mar., 1914.	Feb., 1914.	Mar., 1913.
All Unions and Municipal Unemployment Funds making returns.	71,636	5.1	6.8	3.4	5.9	5.8	5.6
Do. Do. excluding Diamond Workers ..	61,130	1.5	2.4	1.2	—	—	—
PRINCIPAL TRADES:—							
Diamond Workers ..	10,506	26.3	32.8	14.1	†	†	†
Printing Trades ..	8,325	0.5	0.7	0.4	5.7	5.9	5.7
Building Trades:—							
Bricklayers and Masons ..	1,420	3.9	6.8	7.1	4.8	4.9	3.8
Painters ..	2,811	3.0	10.3	2.0	5.9	5.7	5.9
Carpenters ..	7,189	3.4	7.1	1.9	5.1	5.2	4.4
Mining (Metal and Coal) and Peat-getting ..	1,950	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ..	10,300	1.1	1.5	0.3	5.6	5.6	5.5
Textile Trades ..	2,270	0.1	0.1	0.02	4.5	5.0	5.5
Tobacco Workers and Cigar Makers ..	11,215	0.8	0.5	0.6	5.4	5.5	5.5

BELGIUM.‡

Employment in March.—According to returns made to the Belgian Labour Department, 1.9 per cent. of the 72,185 members of trade unions reporting were un-

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

† See Note under "Labour in Foreign Countries," on p. 170.

‡ In the case of the diamond workers the percentage relates only to those out of work for a full week.

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

employed in the middle of March, as compared with 3.7 per cent. in February and 1.3 per cent. in March, 1913.* Among the 4,017 diamond workers at Antwerp (who are excluded from the foregoing figures) the proportion out of work decreased from 20 per cent. in the previous month to 18 per cent. in March.

DENMARK.†

Employment in February.—According to returns furnished to the Danish Statistical Office 12.8 per cent. of the 117,200 members of trade unions reporting were unemployed at the end of February, as compared with 17.2 per cent. at the end of the previous month and 12.8 per cent. in February, 1913.* The average number of days lost through unemployment in February was 2.9 per member, as compared with 3.7 in the previous month and 2.8 in February, 1913.

NORWAY.‡

Employment in March.—The following Table shows the percentage of members reported unemployed at the end of March in certain trade unions making returns to the Statistical Office of the Norwegian Department of Labour, Commerce, Industry, and Fisheries, comparative figures being added for the previous month and for March, 1913:—

Group of Trades.	Membership.			Percentage Unemployed.*		
	Mar. 31st, 1914.	Feb. 28th, 1914.	Mar. 31st, 1913.	Mar. 31st, 1914.	Feb. 28th, 1914.	Mar. 31st, 1913.
Bricklayers and Masons (Christiania) ..	647	647	772	7.0	14.7	8.8
Carpenters, &c. ..	1,484	1,481	1,668	1.7	5.1	2.0
Painters (Christiania) ..	443	428	411	1.8	5.6	1.2
Iron and Metal Workers ..	8,628	8,526	8,119	1.5	1.6	2.0
Boot and Shoe Makers ..	749	756	710	1.2	1.5	0.7
Printers ..	2,059	2,059	1,951	2.2	0.7	0.4
Bookbinders (Christiania) ..	602	592	542	0.5	0.3	0.2
Wood Pulp & Paper Makers ..	955	986	1,027	1.4	2.9	0.8
Planers and Sawyers ..	545	534	505	10.6	3.4	0.8
Cabinet Makers ..	602	600	559	2.3	2.3	1.3
Bakers (Christiania) ..	445	442	425	10.1	7.9	5.6
Tinned Goods (Stavanger) ..	414	417	446	8.5	6.0	10.8
Total ..	17,573	17,468	17,135	2.5	2.7	2.2

SPAIN.

Strike of Ships' Officers.—Despatches from H.M. Ambassador at Madrid and H.M. Consuls at Bilbao, Barcelona and Malaga, dated May 2nd to 9th, report a strike of officers of the Spanish mercantile marine which began at Bilbao and which has spread to other Spanish ports. The origin of the dispute dates back to February last, when certain officers employed on steamers owned in Bilbao struck work, demanding increased pay. Arbitrators were appointed, who issued an award conceding in part the demands of the officers, and stipulating that no reprisals should be taken by owners against their officers. This award was accepted and work resumed. During the early part of April a firm of Bilbao shipowners decided to supply stores direct to their ships, instead of making an allowance to the masters as hitherto, and for this purpose they desired to take over stores belonging to the masters of certain of their vessels. This was resented by the masters, who considered the proposal to be a reflection upon their character, and they, together with their mates and engineers, resigned. Officers on other vessels also left work, and their association declared that the shipowners' action constituted a breach of the clause in the award prohibiting reprisals. At a meeting of this association it was decided to declare a general strike at all Spanish ports, to take effect from May 6th, the result being that on May 9th (the date of the last despatch received) the stoppage of shipping was practically complete in all ports throughout Spain, with the exception of the vessels belonging to one firm at Bilbao. Efforts toward mediation have been made by the Spanish Government, but without success. (From reports in the press it appears that the strike has extended to Spanish vessels in British and other non-Spanish ports.)

* See Note under "Labour in Foreign Countries," on p. 170.

† Statistiske Efterretninger (Journal of the Danish Statistical Office).

‡ Information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Department of Labour, Commerce, Industry, and Fisheries.

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES DURING APRIL.

COAL MINING.

EMPLOYMENT continued good, but showed some decline compared with a year ago.

Returns relating to 1,226 pits, employing 684,763 workpeople, showed that the average number of days* worked per week by the collieries during the fortnight ended May 2nd, 1914, was 5.54, as compared with 5.56 a month ago and 5.69 a year ago.

Of the 684,763 workpeople covered by the returns, 637,561 (or 93.1 per cent.) were employed at pits working ten or more days during the fortnight ended May 2nd, 1914, while 525,271 (or 76.7 per cent.) were employed at pits working 11 days or more.

The highest averages were in North Wales (5.86 days) and in South Yorkshire (5.84 days), and the lowest averages were in Ireland (4.46 days) and in West Scotland (5.11 days).

Districts.	No. of Work-people employed in April, 1914, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked* per week by the Collieries in Fortnight ended			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1914, on a	
		May 2nd, 1914.	March 28th, 1914.	April 26th, 1913.	Month ago.	Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.		5.54	5.56	5.69	-0.02	-0.15
Northumberland ..	51,242	5.43	5.42	5.50	+0.01	-0.07
Durham ..	127,280	5.44	5.41	5.56	+0.03	-0.12
Cumberland ..	7,636	5.75	5.81	5.79	-0.06	-0.04
South Yorkshire ..	64,237	5.84	5.82	5.88	+0.02	-0.04
West Yorkshire ..	18,380	5.63	5.75	5.73	-0.12	-0.10
Lancashire and Cheshire ..	62,288	5.49	5.53	5.62	-0.04	-0.13
Derbyshire ..	46,012	5.55	5.76	5.67	-0.21	-0.12
Nottingham and Leicester ..	41,357	5.27	5.32	5.43	-0.05	-0.16
Staffordshire ..	32,455	5.50	5.58	5.58	-0.08	-0.08
Warwick, Worcester, and Salop ..	10,528	5.58	5.72	5.78	-0.14	-0.20
Gloucester and Somerset ..	7,638	5.33	5.03	5.26	+0.30	-0.53
North Wales ..	11,313	5.86	5.86	5.92	...	-0.06
South Wales and Mon. ..	147,892	5.68	5.79	5.99	-0.11	-0.31
ENGLAND AND WALES	628,317	5.56	5.61	5.72	-0.05	-0.16
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland ..	23,927	5.11	5.19	5.27	-0.08	-0.16
The Lothians ..	3,396	5.32	5.01	5.15	+0.31	+0.17
Fife ..	28,534	5.42	4.77	5.51	+0.65	-0.09
SCOTLAND ..	55,857	5.28	4.96	5.38	+0.32	-0.10
IRELAND ..	589	4.46	4.81	6.00	-0.35	-1.54
United Kingdom ..	684,763	5.54	5.56	5.69	-0.02	-0.15

In Northumberland and Durham employment continued good, but showed some decline on a year ago. In Cumberland and in South Yorkshire it continued very good. In West Yorkshire, in Lancashire and Cheshire, and in Derbyshire it was good, but not so good as a year ago. In the other Midland counties it was good, but showed a decline on a month ago and a year ago. Employment continued very good in the Bristol coalfield, but there was a decline in Somersetshire. There was an improvement in the Forest of Dean. In North Wales and in South Wales and Monmouth employment continued very good.

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

Compared with a month ago there was a decline at pits producing all classes of coal except gas and mixed coal; the decline was most marked at anthracite and house coal pits.

Compared with a year ago there was a decline at all pits; the decline was greatest at anthracite and house coal pits.

The following table shows the numbers employed and the average number of days worked, distributed according to the principal kind of coal raised at the pits at which the workpeople were engaged:—

* 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.

Description of Coal.	No. of Work-people employed in April, 1914, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in Fortnight ended					Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1914, on a	
		May 2nd, 1914.	Mar. 28th, 1914.	April 26th, 1913.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
Anthracite ..	7,982	5.26	5.61	5.43	-0.35	-0.67		
Coking ..	34,374	5.54	5.63	5.74	-0.09	-0.20		
Gas ..	50,647	5.47	5.36	5.52	+0.11	-0.05		
House ..	74,063	5.29	5.48	5.61	-0.19	-0.32		
Steam ..	276,453	5.61	5.65	5.78	-0.04	-0.17		
Mixed ..	241,244	5.56	5.50	5.64	+0.06	-0.08		
All Descriptions ..	684,763	5.54	5.56	5.69	-0.02	-0.15		

The Exports of coal, coke and manufactured fuel during April, 1914, amounted to 5,445,728 tons, as compared with 6,170,720 tons in March, 1914, and 6,605,214 tons in April, 1913.

IRON, SHALE AND OTHER MINING, AND QUARRYING.

EMPLOYMENT was fairly good in iron mines, but showed a decline on a month ago and a more marked decline on a year ago. In shale mines it was good, and better than both a month ago and a year ago. It was moderate, and worse than a month ago, in tin mines, while it continued good in lead mines. In and about quarries employment on the whole was fairly good.

Mining.

Iron Mining.—During the fortnight ended May 2nd the weekly average number of days* worked by the mines and open works included in the returns was 5.63, as compared with 5.73 a month ago, and 5.91 a year ago. Employment showed a slight improvement in Cleveland, but there was a marked decline in Scotland and in the "other districts."

Districts.	Work-people employed in April, 1914.	Average Number of Days worked per week by Mines and Open Works in Fortnight ended					Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1914, on a	
		May 2nd, 1914.	Mar. 28th, 1914.	April 26th, 1913.	Month ago.	Year ago.		
Cleveland ..	7,303	5.68	5.61	5.93	+0.06	-0.27		
Cumberland and Lancashire ..	5,066	5.79	5.90	5.94	-0.11	-0.15		
Scotland ..	747	5.34	5.77	5.80	-0.43	-0.46		
Other Districts ..	2,294	5.26	5.73	5.81	-0.47	-0.55		
All Districts ..	15,410	5.63	5.73	5.91	-0.10	-0.28		

Shale Mining.—According to the returns received there were 3,628 workpeople employed in the fortnight ended May 2nd, who were employed at mines working on an average 5.92 days* per week, as compared with 3,640 workpeople in March, at mines working 5.72 days, and 3,524 workpeople in April, 1913, at mines working 5.85 days.

Tin Mining.—Employment in tin mines in Cornwall was moderate on the whole, but worse than a month ago; it was fairly good in the Camborne district, but bad in the Calstock district. Tin stream work was fairly good.

Lead Mining.—Employment continued good in North Wales and in Weardale, and was fair at Darley Dale.

Quarrying.

Slate.—Employment was generally fair in North Wales, though there was a decline in the Carnarvon district, where short time was reported.

Granite.—Employment continued good in the Aberdeen district, and was fairly good in Cornwall.

Limestone.—Employment in the Weardale district was fair but showed a decline, most of the quarries being idle one day each week. There was a decline in employment in the Buxton district, where it was described as quiet. In the Plymouth district employment was moderate, and better than a month ago.

Other Stone.—Employment was very good, and better than a month ago in the Cleve Hill road-material (basalt)

* The figures in this article only show the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which iron ore or stone or shale was got or drawn at the mines and open works included in the returns received. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed at these mines or open works worked the whole number of days.

quarries. It continued good in grindstone and building stone quarries in the Rowsley district. In chert quarries at Bakewell it was fairly good, but not quite so good as a month ago. In freestone quarries on the Tyne employment was good, and better than a month ago, and it continued good in whinstone quarries in Upper Wear-dale. It was bad, and worse than a month ago, in sandstone quarries in Forfarshire.

Settmaking, &c.—Employment with settmakers was generally good, and better than in the previous month, in Scotland, Leicestershire, and the Cleve Hill district. It continued good in North Wales. Monumental masons in the Aberdeen district continued very well employed.

China Clay.—Employment was very good in the St. Austell district, and good also at Shaugh and Lee Moor (Devon).

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry during April was affected by disputes in the coalmining industry. It was much worse than in April, 1913.

The returns show that 268 furnaces were in blast at the end of April, 1914, as compared with 277 in March, 1914, and 336 in April, 1913. During April 9 furnaces were either damped down or blown out (3 in Monmouthshire, 2 in Ayrshire, and one each in Cumberland, Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Northamptonshire). A number of furnaces were also damped down in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire during the month and relit before the end of the month.

District.	Number of Furnaces included in the Returns in Blast at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1914, on	
	April, 1914.	March, 1914.	April, 1913.	A Month ago.	A Year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES—Cleveland ..	75	75	90	..	- 15
Cumberland & Lancs. S. and S.W. Yorks. Derby & Nottingham ..	27	28	33	- 1	- 6
Leicester, Lincoln, and Northampton ..	9	10	12	- 1	- 3
Staffs & Worcester ..	33	34	41	- 1	- 8
S. Wales & Monmouth ..	25	26	31	- 1	- 6
Other districts ..	29	29	35	..	- 6
England & Wales ..	209	216	259	- 7	- 50
Scotland ..	59	61	77	- 2	- 18
Total ..	268	277	336	- 9	- 68

The Imports of iron ore in April, 1914, amounted to 512,904 tons, as compared with 517,120 tons in March, 1914, and 697,030 tons in April, 1913.

The Exports (British and Irish) of pig iron from the United Kingdom in April, 1914, amounted to 93,396 tons, as compared with 92,364 tons in March, 1914, and 101,413 tons in April, 1913.

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

EMPLOYMENT at iron and steel works showed some decline on the whole compared with a month ago. It showed a considerable decline compared with a year ago.

Compared with a month ago employment showed a noticeable improvement in Wales and Monmouth, but a marked decline in the Leeds and Bradford district, in the Cumberland and Lancashire district, and in Northumberland and Durham; the decline affected all the principal departments. It was reported that employment in Scotland was much depressed. The total number of workpeople employed decreased by 1,882.

Compared with a year ago there was a decline in the volume of employment in every district and in every department. The decline was greatest in the Leeds and Bradford district, in the Cumberland and Lancashire district, in Scotland, and in Northumberland and Durham; the departments most affected were puddling forges, Bessemer converters, crucible furnaces, and rolling mills. The total number of workpeople employed decreased by 6,046.

Returns from employers relating to 101,426 workpeople show that the aggregate number of shifts worked in the week ended April 25th, 1914, was 548,843, a decrease of 15,781 (or 2.8 per cent.) on the previous month, and of 48,579 (or 8.1 per cent.) on a year ago.

Departments.	No. of Workpeople employed by firms making returns.		Aggregate number of shifts worked.	
	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago.	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a Month ago.
Open Hearth Melting Furnaces ..	9,711	- 4.4	55,882	- 6.5
Crucible Furnaces ..	530	- 4.0	2,601	- 9.3
Bessemer Converters ..	1,597	- 11.1	7,346	- 20.0
Puddling Forges ..	7,913	- 4.0	35,111	- 5.0
Rolling Mills ..	31,178	- 2.5	157,464	- 4.1
Forging and Pressing ..	5,014	- 0.4	27,644	- 0.5
Founding ..	12,260	- 0.8	71,196	- 0.9
Other Departments ..	14,705	- 0.5	84,964	- 1.0
Mechanics, Labourers ..	18,518	+ 0.6	106,645	+ 0.4
Total ..	101,426	- 1.8	548,843	- 2.8
Districts.				
Northumberland & Durham ..	10,799	- 7.9	60,930	- 7.1
Cleveland ..	9,318	+ 0.8	48,972	- 5.6
Sheffield and Rotherham ..	21,397	- 0.7	119,419	- 0.6
Leeds, Bradford, &c. ..	4,350	- 11.0	23,558	- 13.5
Cumberland, Lancashire, and Cheshire ..	8,683	- 14.0	46,490	- 13.1
Staffordshire ..	9,478	- 4.6	49,823	- 4.0
Other Midland Counties ..	5,562	+ 4.7	28,225	+ 1.9
Wales and Monmouth ..	13,784	+ 12.9	76,036	+ 10.1
Total, England & Wales ..	83,381	- 1.8	452,512	- 2.9
Scotland ..	18,045	- 1.8	96,331	- 2.2
Total ..	101,426	- 1.8	548,843	- 2.8

The Imports of iron and steel and manufactures thereof during April, 1914, amounted to 223,057 tons, as compared with 216,967 tons in March, 1914, and 183,362 tons in April, 1913.

The Exports (British and Irish) of iron and steel and manufactures thereof (excluding pig and puddled iron and tinned plates and black plates) during April, 1914, amounted to 238,393 tons, as compared with 267,580 tons in March, 1914, and 311,613 tons in April, 1913.

TINPLATE AND STEEL SHEET.

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good, and was much better than during April, 1913, in which month the industry was very depressed.

At the end of April, 1914, 468 tinplate mills were in operation, as compared with 472 in March and 412 in April, 1913. The steel sheet mills working numbered 79 in April, 82 in March, 1914, and 69 in April, 1913.

—	Number of Works open.		Number of Mills in operation.	
	At end of April, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	At end of April, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.
Tinplate Works ..	77	+ 2	468	- 4
Steel Sheet Works ..	11	- 1	79	- 3
Total ..	88	+ 1	547	- 7

Exports (British and Irish).

—	April, 1914.		March, 1914.		April, 1913.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1914, on a	
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets.								
To United States ..	224	3,870	276	3,646
British East Indies ..	7,672	6,820	6,232	+ 1,852	+ 1,440	..	..
Germany ..	2,829	2,028	2,471	+ 801	+ 358	..	..
France ..	3,241	2,683	1,690	+ 653	+ 1,551	..	..
Netherlands ..	2,812	2,936	5,528	- 124	+ 2,716	..	..
Russia ..	1,910	147	144	+ 1,763	+ 1,765	..	..
Norway ..	2,904	1,828	1,973	+ 1,076	+ 1,785	..	..
Belgium ..	1,369	778	1,063	+ 691	+ 316	..	..
Portugal ..	1,316	1,373	1,238	+ 228	+ 610	..	..
Italy ..	1,785	3,044	2,395	+ 412	+ 78	..	..
Roumania ..	1,865	3,044	466	+ 1,179	+ 1,399	..	..
China and Japan ..	3,494	5,627	6,232	- 2,133	- 2,788	..	..
Australia ..	4,508	1,850	2,468	+ 2,658	+ 2,040	..	..
Canada ..	463	313	702	+ 150	+ 239	..	..
Argentina ..	507	180	1,532	- 327	- 1,025	..	..
Other Countries ..	7,397	7,398	7,432	- 1	- 35	..	..
Total ..	44,296	40,863	41,882	+ 3,433	+ 2,414	..	..
Black Plates for Tinning.								
Total ..	9,109	4,531	5,448	+ 4,578	+ 3,661	..	..

ENGINEERING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the engineering trades remained good in April, but showed a decline in all districts as compared with April of last year.

Trade Unions with 241,054 members—mostly skilled—furnishing returns to the Department showed 2.5 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of April, 1914, as compared with 2.4 per cent. at the end of March, and 1.4 per cent. at the end of April, 1913.

The following Table shows the unemployed percentage of "insured" workpeople of all classes in the engineering and ironfounding trades.

Division.	Estimated Number Employed.*	Percentage of Unemployment Books lodged at			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April compared with	
		Apr. 24th, 1914.	Mar. 27th, 1914.	Apr. 25th, 1913.	A Month ago.	A Year ago.
London	75,363	4.3	4.4	4.0	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Northern Counties .. .	78,263	2.3	2.2	2.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
North Western .. .	161,994	3.6	3.7	1.8	- 0.1	+ 1.8
Yorkshire .. .	98,620	3.0	2.7	1.9	+ 0.3	+ 1.1
West Midlands .. .	62,621	2.8	2.5	1.9	+ 0.3	+ 0.9
East Midlands .. .	75,448	3.4	3.1	2.0	+ 0.3	+ 1.4
Eastern and S.E. Counties .. .	43,230	3.3	3.3	2.3	- 0.1	+ 1.0
South Western .. .	39,920	3.2	3.3	2.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.6
Wales .. .	15,777	2.0	1.3	1.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.9
Scotland .. .	128,876	2.4	2.4	1.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.6
Ireland .. .	21,260	4.2	4.3	3.7	- 0.1	+ 0.5
United Kingdom .. .	801,362	3.1	3.0	2.0	+ 0.1	+ 1.1

The principal exceptions reported to the general state of employment as described above were as follows:—

London.—Employment continued slack with pattern-makers. It was slack with ironmoulders at Greenwich.

Northern Counties.—Employment on the North-East Coast remained very good. There was, however, a decline at Sunderland on repair work and at fitting-out quays, and also with brass moulders. Employment was quiet with patternmakers on the Wear and Tees, and declined with ironmoulders at Hartlepool and South Shields.

North-Western.—Employment in Lancashire and Cheshire, though fairly good on the whole, showed a considerable falling off compared with a year ago, and in several cases short time was reported. At Barrow, however, employment was better than a year ago, and at Crewe it was very good. With patternmakers at Liverpool and Preston it was dull.

Yorkshire.—An improvement was reported at Halifax, Huddersfield, Keighley and Dewsbury; also by textile tool makers at Leeds. On the other hand, a decline was reported by ironmoulders and by pattern-makers at Leeds, Sheffield and Bradford.

East Midlands.—A decline was reported at Grantham, Leicester and Loughborough, but an improvement at Lincoln and Stamford. Ironmoulders reported employment as bad at Nottingham, and moderate at Derby.

West Midlands.—Employment in the motor-car industry was good, with a fair amount of overtime being worked, in the Birmingham district, but a decline was reported in this industry at Wolverhampton, some workpeople being discharged. In the general engineering trades employment at Birmingham was reported as quieter than for some time past.

Other English Districts and Wales.—Employment at Erith was dull with ironmoulders and patternmakers. At Southampton it was bad generally. At the Bristol Channel ports an improvement was reported, and at Bristol employment was very good.

Scotland.—In the Glasgow and Edinburgh districts employment was reported as not quite so good as in March. At Glasgow it was still slack with pattern-makers. At Dundee employment was rather quiet.

Ireland.—Employment at Belfast was very good; at Dublin it was only moderate.

The Imports of machinery in April, 1914, amounted to £749,647, as compared with £724,947 in March, 1914, and £678,239 in April, 1913.

The Exports (British and Irish) of machinery in April, 1914, amounted to £2,994,339, as compared with £3,568,599 in March, 1914, and £3,344,594 in April, 1913.

* Based on the number of Unemployment Insurance Books issued.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued very good generally.

Trade Unions with 74,606 members—mostly skilled—reported 2.4 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of April, as compared with 1.8 per cent. a month ago and 2.7 per cent. a year ago.

The following Table shows the unemployed percentage of "insured" workpeople of all classes in the shipbuilding trades.

Division.	Estimated Number Employed.*	Percentage of Unemployment Books lodged at			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, compared with	
		April 24th, 1914.	Mar. 27th, 1914.	April 25th, 1913.	A Month ago.	A Year ago.
London .. .	10,188	7.0	7.8	9.0	- 0.8	- 2.0
Northern Counties .. .	67,030	2.1	2.2	2.3	- 0.1	- 0.2
North Western .. .	31,333	2.5	2.8	1.8	- 0.3	+ 0.7
Yorkshire .. .	6,938	2.7	2.2	2.2	+ 0.5	+ 0.5
Eastern and S.E. Counties .. .	8,154	3.4	2.9	2.1	+ 0.5	+ 1.3
South Western .. .	24,193	9.1	11.2	5.8	- 2.1	+ 3.3
Wales .. .	11,733	2.7	3.9	7.2	- 1.2	- 4.5
Scotland .. .	77,974	2.1	2.2	2.3	- 0.1	- 0.2
Ireland .. .	19,368	4.1	3.6	4.9	+ 0.5	- 0.8
United Kingdom .. .	288,747	3.2	3.5	3.0	- 0.3	+ 0.2

Employment continued very good on the Tyne, but was dull, and worse than a month ago, at Blyth. On the Wear it was fairly good, but showed a decline with shipwrights and platers' helpers. It was still good generally in the Tees and Hartlepool district. On the Humber employment was fairly good, but not so good as a month or a year ago; at Hull shipwrights reported it as fair, and boilermakers as moderate on merchant-ship work and good on trawler work.

Employment on the Thames and Medway showed some decline on a month ago, though it was still better than a year ago. It was still very good on the South Coast, though not quite so good as a year ago. At the Bristol Channel ports it was good in all departments, showing a marked improvement on a year ago.

On the Mersey employment was good, and rather better than a month ago. It continued good at Barrow, where a shortage of riveters and drillers was again reported. With shipwrights on the Clyde employment was still very good, while boilermakers were reported as almost fully employed; there was, however, a slight decline on a month ago, and employment was not so good as a year ago; there was some scarcity of riveters.

On the East Coast of Scotland employment was only fair on the whole, and not so good as a month ago, though it showed some improvement at Dundee. At Belfast employment continued very good.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good on the whole, though still bad in the jewellery trades. Trade Unions with 35,972 members reported 1.5 per cent. unemployed at the end of April, 1914, as compared with 1.6 per cent. at the end of March and 1.5 per cent. at the end of April, 1913.

Brasswork, Bedsteads.—Employment with brassworkers was fair, and a little better on the whole than in March; it was not so good as a year ago. Bedstead workers at Birmingham again reported employment as bad.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, &c.—Employment in the nut and bolt trade was moderate or fair in the Darlaston district, and fair to good at Black Heath and Halesowen. It was generally good on the Tyne, and fairly good at Birmingham and Smethwick. It was also fairly good with rivet makers at Birmingham and Smethwick, but quiet with wire nail and shoe rivet makers.

Wire.—Employment was fairly good generally. At Norwich full time and night shifts were worked. An improvement was reported at Warrington, but there was still much short time.

Locks, Hollow-ware, and General Hardware.—In the lock and latch trade at Wolverhampton and Willenhall short time was general. In the hollow-ware trades at Wolverhampton it was good with makers of enamelled

* Based on the number of Unemployment Insurance Books issued.

and cast hollow-ware, fair with makers of galvanised ware, and slack with tanners and turners. At Birmingham and West Bromwich employment in the hollow-ware trades was moderate. It was fair with makers of hurdles, iron fences, and tanks at Wolverhampton.

Stoves, Grates, &c.—Employment in England was generally quiet, with much short time. In Scotland it was very good.

Cutlery, Tools, Bits, Stirrups, &c.—Employment in the cutlery trades at Sheffield was fairly good on the whole; in the razor trades, however, employment was generally slack, and short time was reported by haft and scale pressers and cutters, and also by spring knife grinders and cutters. At Birmingham employment in the edge tool trades continued moderate; at Wednesbury it was fair, and better than a month ago. At Walsall it was slack with makers of harness furniture, and bad with bit and stirrup workers. Employment at Redditch was very good in the needle and fish hook trades.

Tubes.—Employment in South Staffordshire was very poor, and short time was reported. At Birmingham employment was fair in the brass and copper tube trades, but quiet in the bestead tube section.

Chains, Anchors, Springs, &c.—Employment was fairly good in the chain trades at Cradley; it was good at Walsall on motor chains, but slack in the buckle and cart gear trades. With anchor smiths it was good at Cradley, and fair on the Tyne and Wear. It was slack in the anvil and vice trades at Dudley. In the spring trades it was fair at West Bromwich, and very good at Redditch; it was good at Wednesbury with railway spring makers.

Sheet Metal Workers.—Employment with sheet metal and tinplate workers continued good on the whole. It was quiet, however, with sheet metal workers at Hull, Belfast, and Accrington, and showed a decline with tinplate workers at Birmingham and Dundee. Iron plate workers reported employment as good in London and at Birmingham; fairly good in the Lye district; and fair, but with some short time, at Dudley, Walsall, Bilston, and Wolverhampton.

Jewellery, Plated Ware, &c.—Employment in the jewellery trades was again reported as very bad at all centres, with much short time; it was worse than last year. Silversmiths and electroplaters at Birmingham reported employment as quiet.

Farriers.—Employment was generally fair.

Imports and Exports.

Description.	April 1914.	Mar. 1914.	April 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1914, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Cutlery .. .	£ 13,392	£ 11,631	£ 14,342	+ 1,761	- 950
Hardware .. .	126,444	138,303	108,368	- 11,859	+ 18,076
Exports (British & Irish):					
Cutlery .. .	55,849	67,996	63,079	- 12,147	- 7,230
Hardware .. .	184,821	196,196	204,852	- 11,375	- 20,031
Implements and Tools .. .	219,273	228,149	224,244	- 8,876	- 4,971

COTTON TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT on the whole was fair; it showed little change compared with a month ago, but was worse than a year ago, especially in the weaving branch. Short time and slackness were reported.

In the Oldham district employment with spinners was reported as moderate, and short time, estimated as equal to a stoppage of 4 per cent. of all the operatives employed, was worked during the month; with weavers employment was slack. In the Bolton and Manchester districts employment was reported as fair, but in the latter place there was a decline in all the principal departments compared with a year ago. In the Preston and Chorley district the decline shown, as compared with a year ago, was in the weaving branch. In the Blackburn district employment was fairly good with spinners and fair with weavers; but a large number of the operatives had their Easter holidays extended in this and other districts. In the Burnley district organised short time was in force part of the month in pursuance of a decision of the Employers' Associa-

tion to close the mills for four weeks during the sixteen weeks from February 13th to June 6th; employment was consequently much worse than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 118,207 workpeople in the week ended April 25th showed an increase of 0.1 per cent. both in the number employed and in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 0.6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Departments.	Workpeople.				Earnings.			
	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Per cent.	Per cent.
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.		
Preparing .. .	15,641	+ 0.1	- 0.3	£ 14,449	+ 0.4	- 0.3	+ 0.4	- 0.3
Spinning .. .	26,325	+ 0.2	- 1.4	26,805	+ 1.2	- 0.5	+ 1.2	- 0.5
Weaving .. .	53,631	+ 0.1	- 0.4	52,335	- 0.4	- 4.0	- 0.4	- 4.0
Other .. .	9,986	+ 0.2	- 0.1	11,294	+ 0.1	- 3.1	+ 0.1	- 3.1
Not specified .. .	13,014	- 0.1	- 0.7	13,568	- 0.6	- 2.9	- 0.6	- 2.9
Total .. .	118,207	+ 0.1	- 0.6	118,451	+ 0.1	- 2.6	+ 0.1	- 2.6
Districts.								
Ashton .. .	6,444	- 0.3	- 0.7	6,611	+ 0.5	- 2.4	+ 0.5	- 2.4
Stockport, Glossop and Hyde .. .	6,555	+ 0.1	- 1.5	6,232	- 2.1	- 4.5	- 2.1	- 4.5
Oldham .. .	14,045	+ 0.5	+ 2.9	15,185	+ 1.3	+ 2.0	+ 1.3	+ 2.0
Bolton and Leigh .. .	15,174	+ 0.4	+ 0.4	14,890	+ 1.1	+ 0.4	+ 1.1	+ 0.4
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden & Todmorden .. .	8,916	+ 0.3	- 1.6	9,458	+ 1.2	+ 0.6	+ 1.2	+ 0.6
Manchester .. .	9,717	+ 0.5	- 1.6	8,377	+ 1.2	- 4.3	+ 1.2	- 4.3
Preston and Chorley .. .	10,779	+ 0.0	- 1.3	10,664	+ 2.7	- 2.4	+ 2.7	- 2.4
Blackburn, Accrington & Darwen .. .	17,087	- 0.1	+ 0.5	18,827	+ 2.4	- 2.3	+ 2.4	- 2.3
Burnley, Padiham, Colne, and Nelson .. .	11,969	+ 0.5	- 0.3	13,461	- 2.7	- 10.2	- 2.7	- 10.2
Other Lancashire Towns .. .	4,991	- 0.9	- 6.0	4,228	- 1.1	- 6.4	- 1.1	- 6.4
Yorkshire Towns .. .	5,125	- 0.7	- 0.6	4,999	- 0.5	- 0.6	- 0.5	- 0.6
Other Districts .. .	7,405	- 0.3	- 3.8	5,519	- 10.6	- 15.8	- 10.6	- 15.8
Total .. .	118,207	+ 0.1	- 0.6	118,451	+ 0.1	- 2.6	+ 0.1	- 2.6

Prices of Cotton at Liverpool.

Description.	April, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1914, on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
Middling American:			
Monthly average of Daily Quotations .. .	7.32	+ 0.27	+ 0.45
Highest Price on any one day .. .	7.38	+ 0.17	+ 0.38
Lowest .. .	7.21	+ 0.28	+ 0.63
Good Fair Egyptian:			
Monthly average of Daily Quotations .. .	8.84	+ 0.20	- 0.92
Highest Price on any one day .. .	8.95	+ 0.10	- 0.85
Lowest .. .	8.75	+ 0.30	- 0.85

Cotton forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns.

Description of Cotton.	April, 1914.	March, 1914.	April, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1914, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
American .. .	Bales, 222,980	Bales, 244,979	Bales, 249,143	Bales, - 21,999	Bales, - 26,163
Brazilian .. .	18,405	19,128	10,106	7,223	8,299
East Indian .. .	11,703	6,979	4,961	+ 4,724	+ 6,742
Egyptian .. .	31,459	34,474	27,486	+ 3,015	+ 3,973
Miscellaneous .. .	11,178	12,086	7,828	+ 908	+ 3,350
Total .. .	295,725	317,646	299,524	- 21,921	- 3,799

Exports of British Cotton Goods.

Description.	April, 1914.	Mar., 1914.	April, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1914, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Cotton Yarn and Twist—					
Grey .. .	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.
Bleached and dyed .. .	14,842	16,506	15,587	+ 1,664	+ 745
Total .. .	4,150	3,318	2,932	+ 832	+ 1,158
Cotton Thread for Sewing .. .	1,575	1,872	1,870	- 297	- 295
Cotton Piece Goods—					
Grey or Unbleached .. .	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.
Bleached .. .	185,131	200,584	207,962	- 15,453	- 22,831
Printed .. .	156,578	185,311	167,618	- 28,733	- 11,040
Dyed or Manufactured of Dyed Yarn .. .	89,790	92,873	102,979	- 3,083	- 13,189
Total .. .	100,410	111,608	108,993	- 11,198	- 8,563

* Based on the number of Unemployment Insurance Books issued.

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

Woollen Trade.

EMPLOYMENT continued moderate and was worse than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 24,653 workpeople in the week ended April 25th showed a decrease of 0.6 per cent. in the number employed and of 1.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 2.9 per cent. in the number employed and of 4.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Departments	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Wool Sorting	658	+ 1.1	- 4.5	659	- 0.3	- 6.1
Spinning	5,042	+ 0.4	- 2.2	4,780	- 3.2	- 4.3
Weaving	10,007	- 0.8	- 3.8	8,862	- 2.4	- 7.5
Other Departments .. .	6,941	- 1.5	- 2.9	7,141	+ 1.3	- 4.7
Not specified	2,005	+ 0.7	+ 1.1	1,983	+ 5.6	+ 6.2
Total	24,653	- 0.6	- 2.9	23,425	- 1.5	- 4.9

Districts	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Huddersfield District ..	3,611	+ 0.5	- 0.1	4,019	+ 1.4	- 4.1
Leeds District	2,794	- 0.7	- 7.3	2,623	- 3.2	- 12.6
Dewsbury & Batley District	2,434	- 1.3	- 3.9	2,425	- 5.8	- 7.7
Other Parts of West Riding	2,438	+ 1.0	- 0.9	2,515	- 0.6	- 0.1
Total, West Riding .. .	11,277	- 0.1	- 2.8	11,582	- 1.7	- 6.1
Scotland	7,087	- 1.0	- 5.7	6,431	- 1.7	- 8.7
Other Districts	6,289	- 1.0	+ 0.4	5,412	- 0.9	+ 2.9
Total	24,653	- 0.6	- 2.9	23,425	- 1.5	- 4.9

In the Huddersfield and Colne Valley districts employment was slightly better than a month ago, but not so good as a year ago. At Leeds employment was quiet; it showed a decline compared with a month ago and was much worse than a year ago; short time was reported. In the heavy woollen district the dispute in the coal trade caused a large number to be unemployed about Easter, and employment at the end of the month was decidedly worse than a year ago.

In Scotland employment continued fair, but was not so good as a year ago.

Worsted Trade.

EMPLOYMENT continued fair, but was not so good as a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 40,294 workpeople in the week ended April 25th, showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed, and no change in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 1.9 per cent. in the number employed and of 0.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Departments	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Wool Sorting & Combing ..	5,452	+ 1.2	+ 1.7	6,222	+ 2.1	+ 5.3
Spinning	20,132	- 0.2	- 3.0	12,707	+ 0.5	- 1.2
Weaving	8,380	- 1.1	- 1.6	7,936	- 0.7	- 2.5
Other Departments .. .	4,562	- 1.6	- 0.9	4,605	- 3.3	- 3.5
Not specified	1,758	- 0.3	- 2.4	1,483	+ 1.7	- 2.2
Total	40,294	- 0.4	- 1.9	32,953	- 0.0	- 0.7

Districts	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Bradford District	21,220	- 0.1	- 0.4	17,961	+ 0.7	+ 1.2
Keighley District	6,311	- 0.3	- 2.0	5,112	- 1.4	- 0.0
Halifax District	2,912	- 1.8	- 6.0	2,131	- 2.7	- 5.5
Huddersfield District .. .	3,979	- 0.7	- 3.4	3,582	+ 2.3	- 6.3
Other Parts of West Riding	2,482	+ 0.4	- 4.6	1,784	+ 1.0	- 0.6
Total, West Riding .. .	36,934	- 0.3	- 1.8	30,570	+ 0.3	- 0.6
Other Districts	3,360	- 0.7	- 2.7	2,383	- 3.7	- 3.1
Total	40,294	- 0.4	- 1.9	32,953	- 0.0	- 0.7

In the Bradford district employment on the whole was fair, and showed little change compared with a month ago. In the Keighley district there was a slight decline in every branch compared with a month ago. In the Huddersfield district employment was better than a month ago, but not so good as a year ago; there was some slackness in the weaving branch. In the Halifax

district there was a decline in every department as compared with both periods under review.

Imports and Exports.

Description.	April, 1914.	March, 1914.	April, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1914, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports and Exports of Raw Wool (SHEEP OR LAMBS).					
Imports .. 1,000 lbs.	119,883	90,393	104,846	+ 29,450	+ 15,037
British Exports ..	4,610	3,670	2,027	+ 940	+ 2,583
Re-Exports of Wool .. 1,000 lbs.	48,023	37,589	36,852	+ 10,434	+ 11,171
British and Irish Manufactures Exported.					
Yarn:					
Woollen .. 1,000 lbs.	357	329	584	+ 28	- 227
Worsted	4,046	4,491	4,716	- 445	- 670
Alpacas and Mohair ..	1,402	1,552	1,679	- 150	- 277
Total, Yarn	5,805	6,372	6,979	- 567	- 1,174
Piece Goods:					
Woollen .. 1,000 yds.	5,050	6,615	6,028	- 1,565	- 978
Worsted	4,473	6,193	4,656	- 1,720	- 183
Total, Piece Goods ..	9,523	12,808	10,684	- 3,285	- 1,161

Prices of Wool in Bradford.

	April, 1914.	Mar., 1914.	April, 1913.
Average Prices:			
Lincoln Hogs	12 3/4	12 3/4	12
40's Crossbred tops .. .	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 3/4
60's Super Botany tops ..	29 1/2	29 1/2	30 1/2
Course of Prices:			
Lincoln Hogs	12 3/4	12 3/4	12
40's Crossbred tops .. .	16 1/2	16 1/2, 16 1/4	16 1/2, 16 1/4
60's Super Botany tops ..	29 1/2, 31 1/2	29 1/2	30 1/2

JUTE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT in the Dundee district was fair, and in other districts good, with a slight general improvement compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decline.

Returns from firms employing 15,185 workpeople in the week ended April 25th showed an increase of 0.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 0.5 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Departments	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing	3,509	- 0.0	- 0.6	2,660	- 0.2	- 3.2
Spinning	4,240	+ 0.6	+ 0.5	3,044	+ 0.2	- 1.9
Weaving	5,352	+ 0.1	- 0.8	4,411	+ 0.7	- 4.9
Other	2,084	- 0.8	- 1.3	2,249	+ 1.4	+ 0.3
Total	15,185	+ 0.1	- 0.5	12,364	+ 0.5	- 2.9

In the Dundee district, in which are employed 85 per cent. of the total number of workpeople covered by the returns, employment continued fair, though some short time was reported. In the Forfar, Brechin and Kirkcaldy districts employment continued good.

Imports and Exports.

Description.	April, 1914.	Mar., 1914.	April, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1914, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Jute tons	15,780	20,956	20,093	- 5,176	- 4,313
Exports (British & Irish):					
Jute Yarn .. 100 lbs.	35,654	40,641	34,861	- 4,987	+ 799
Jute Piece Goods 100 yds.	118,428	141,380	155,347	- 22,952	- 36,919

LINEN TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued fair on the whole, but showed a decline compared with a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 43,572 workpeople in the week ended April 25th showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 2.2

per cent. in the number employed, and of 4.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Description.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Departments.						
Preparing	5,889	- 0.3	- 1.3	3,577	- 1.6	- 3.8
Spinning	10,493	- 1.3	+ 1.1	5,674	+ 0.7	- 1.1
Weaving	14,529	- 0.5	- 5.8	9,892	+ 0.5	- 6.2
Other	6,803	+ 1.6	+ 1.6	5,625	- 0.2	+ 0.5
Not specified	5,858	- 0.7	- 3.7	3,492	- 0.9	- 9.3
Total	43,572	- 0.4	- 2.2	28,260	- 0.1	- 4.1
Districts.						
Belfast	17,556	- 0.7	- 1.1	11,417	+ 1.0	- 6.8
Other Places in Ireland ..	12,752	- 0.1	- 3.3	7,454	- 1.9	- 7.3
Total, Ireland	30,308	- 0.5	- 2.0	18,871	- 0.2	- 7.0
Fifehire	6,334	+ 0.2	- 1.3	4,456	+ 0.2	+ 3.3
Other Places in Scotland ..	6,185	- 0.2	- 2.3	4,437	- 0.1	+ 4.1
Total, Scotland	12,519	-	- 1.8	8,893	+ 0.1	+ 3.7
England	745	- 1.5	- 14.0	496	+ 2.9	- 15.5
United Kingdom	43,572	- 0.4	- 2.2	28,260	- 0.1	- 4.1

In Belfast and other districts in Ireland employment remained much the same as a month ago, but was not so good as a year ago; there was short time in many cases. There was little change in the Scottish districts, where employment was fair.

Imports and Exports.

Description.	April, 1914.	March, 1914.	April, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1914, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Flax (Dressed and Undressed, Tow or Codilla) tons	9,249	11,492	11,412	- 2,243	- 2,163
Exports (British & Irish):					
Linen Yarn .. 100 lbs.	13,955	14,367	15,651	- 412	- 1,706
Linen Piece Goods .. 100 yds.	152,544	188,783	185,489	- 36,239	- 32,945

SILK TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good, and showed little change compared with a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 6,750 workpeople in the week ended April 25th showed a decrease of 1.1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 2.4 per cent. in the number employed, and an increase of 2.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Branches.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Throwing	549	- 4.7	- 9.0	255	- 2.3	- 3.0
Spinning	1,675	- 0.7	- 3.6	1,449	+ 0.4	+ 2.2
Weaving	3,267	+ 0.3	- 1.6	2,402	- 0.6	+ 0.5
Other	452	- 3.0	- 1.1	441	+ 4.3	+ 10.8
Not specified	807	- 4.2	+ 1.3	665	- 1.6	+ 4.1
Total	6,750	- 1.1	- 2.4	5,212	- 0.1	+ 2.0
Districts.						
Lancashire and W. Riding of Yorkshire	2,610	- 1.0	- 4.6	2,328	+ 1.3	+ 2.9
Macclesfield, Congleton and District	535	- 1.8	+ 0.8	430	- 1.9	+ 4.1
Eastern Counties	1,983	- 0.4	+ 0.4	1,423	- 0.8	+ 3.0
Other Districts, including Scotland	1,622	- 2.0	- 2.8	1,031	- 0.8	- 2.0
Total	6,750	- 1.1	- 2.4	5,212	- 0.1	+ 2.0

At Macclesfield employment was good with throwsters, spinners, and power loom weavers, and fair with hand loom weavers and makers-up. At Leek employment was fair in all branches; at Congleton it was moderate. In the West Riding employment was also reported as moderate. In the Eastern Counties it was fair, and rather better than a year ago.

Imports and Exports.

Description.	April, 1914.	March, 1914.	April, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1914, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.

Branches	Workpeople.				Earnings.			
	Week ended April 25th, 1914.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.		Week ended April 25th, 1914.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Lavers	1,383	- 1.0	- 5.5	1,771	+ 9.5	- 1.0		
Curtain	1,191	+ 0.9	- 5.0	1,257	- 3.1	- 7.4		
Plain Net	1,574	- 0.6	+ 7.4	1,323	- 8.0	+ 13.1		
Others	443	- 0.7	- 12.3	322	+ 2.5	- 15.0		
Total	4,591	- 0.3	- 2.0	4,683	- 6.6	- 0.5		
Districts.	Week ended April 25th, 1914.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.		Week ended April 25th, 1914.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	
Nottingham City	1,363	+ 1.1	- 4.6	1,366	+ 0.1	- 4.0		
Long Eaton district	971	- 0.2	- 5.2	1,255	- 10.0	+ 0.4		
Other districts	2,257	- 1.3	+ 1.0	2,062	- 8.6	+ 1.4		
Total	4,591	- 0.3	- 2.0	4,683	- 6.6	- 0.5		

Imports and Exports.

Description.	April, 1914.	March, 1914.	April, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1914, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:	£	£	£	£	£
Cotton Lace	170,691	176,121	195,076	- 5,430	- 24,385
Silk Lace	24,902	33,741	17,203	+ 8,839	+ 7,699
Exports (British & Irish):					
Cotton Lace	319,294	410,476	309,402	- 91,182	+ 9,892
Silk Lace	825	2,424	1,125	- 1,569	- 300

CARPET TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during April showed some decline on a month ago, and was worse than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 8,412 workpeople, and paying £7,259 in wages in the week ended April 25th, 1914, showed a decrease of 0.6 per cent. in the number employed and of 3.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 3.1 per cent. in the number employed and of 6.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

In the Kidderminster district employment was reported as fairly good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. In the West Riding of Yorkshire it was quiet, and showed no improvement on a month ago. Employment in Scotland was not so good, on the whole, as a month ago.

BLEACHING, PRINTING, DYEING AND FINISHING.

EMPLOYMENT on the whole was fair; it was not quite so good as a month ago, and was worse than a year ago in every branch.

Returns from firms employing 30,962 workpeople in the week ended April 25th showed an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed and a decrease of 0.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was a decrease of 3.4 per cent. in the number employed and of 7.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Trade:—	Workpeople.				Earnings.			
	Week ended April 25th, 1914.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.		Week ended April 25th, 1914.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Bleaching	3,483	- 0.1	- 2.1	3,652	- 1.3	- 1.1		
Printing	887	- 1.9	- 4.4	1,087	- 2.2	- 6.8		
Dyeing	15,565	+ 0.4	- 4.2	21,739	- 0.7	- 10.5		
Trimming, Finishing, and other Departments	10,582	+ 0.0	- 2.3	11,507	- 0.2	- 2.8		
Not specified	435	+ 1.2	- 5.2	496	- 3.1	- 13.7		
Total	30,962	+ 0.2	- 3.4	38,481	- 0.7	- 7.4		
Districts:—	Week ended April 25th, 1914.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.		Week ended April 25th, 1914.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	
Yorkshire	13,770	+ 0.5	- 4.7	19,396	- 0.6	- 12.1		
Lancashire	9,789	+ 0.1	- 2.2	11,818	- 0.2	- 1.9		
Scotland	3,221	- 0.1	- 4.2	2,961	- 0.8	- 4.2		
Ireland	918	+ 0.7	- 0.9	726	- 5.2	- 3.1		
Other Districts	3,264	- 1.2	- 1.1	3,580	- 1.6	- 1.2		
Total	30,962	+ 0.2	- 3.4	38,481	- 0.7	- 7.4		

Bleaching.—Employment with cotton bleachers in Lancashire was slack, and much short time was reported. At Basford employment was slack; at Dundee it was fair.

Printing.—Employment with machine calico printers in England continued slack, and was worse than a year ago; with calico printers' engravers it was fair. In Scotland it was fair with printers and good with calico printers' engravers.

Dyeing.—Employment with woollen and worsted dyers in Yorkshire was reported as fair, but was not so good as a year ago. More than one-eighth of the trade union dyers worked short time, and more than one-sixth worked overtime. With cotton dyers in Lancashire employment continued fair. With silk dyers it was fair at Macclesfield and Leek, and good at Congleton. With lace dyers it was good at Nottingham and slack at Basford and Bulwell.

Trimming, Finishing, etc.—At Leicester employment was reported as quiet with hosiery dyers and trimmers. At Hinckley it was fairly good; at Loughborough there was a decline compared with a month ago. At Basford it was moderate with hosiery trimmers. With calender workers at Dundee it was fair.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT was fairly good in April, and showed an improvement at the end of the month at most centres, as compared with March. It showed little change on the whole as compared with a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 64,881 workpeople in the week ended April 25th showed no appreciable change in the number employed as compared with either the previous month or April, 1913; but there were increases of 0.9 per cent. and of 1.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with March, 1914, and April, 1913, respectively.

District.	Workpeople.				Earnings.			
	Week ended April 25th, 1914.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.		Week ended April 25th, 1914.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
ENGLAND & WALES.								
London	2,953	+ 1.3	+ 5.4	3,361	+ 1.7	+ 9.6		
Leicester	10,748	- 0.4	- 0.6	12,756	+ 2.5	+ 0.7		
Leicester Country District	3,036	+ 0.7	+ 1.0	3,158	- 1.1	+ 6.6		
Northampton	10,844	+ 1.0	- 3.1	11,643	+ 1.1	- 1.9		
Northampton Country District	9,620	+ 0.3	- 0.6	9,649	+ 0.9	+ 1.3		
Kettering	3,707	- 0.2	- 1.9	3,925	- 1.1	- 2.4		
Stafford & District	2,875	+ 0.3	- 3.2	2,958	+ 0.1	- 2.4		
Norwich & District	4,576	+ 1.7	+ 13.5	4,130	+ 0.5	+ 17.5		
Bristol & District	1,402	+ 0.1	+ 3.0	1,316	+ 6.7	+ 6.7		
Kingswood	1,973	- 0.7	+ 5.4	1,872	- 0.3	+ 6.3		
Leeds & District	2,215	- 1.0	- 3.8	2,025	- 2.0	- 8.6		
Manchester & District	3,066	- 3.3	- ..	3,180	+ 8.4	+ 7.9		
Birmingham & District	1,004	- 0.1	+ 0.6	864	+ 1.3	+ 2.6		
Other parts of England and Wales	3,015	- 0.7	- 2.4	2,891	+ 2.0	+ 4.1		
ENGLAND & WALES	61,040	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	63,638	+ 0.9	+ 2.1		
SCOTLAND	3,468	+ 0.4	- 2.6	3,560	+ 0.5	- 3.6		
IRELAND	375	+ 0.3	- ..	297	+ 7.7	+ 5.1		
UNITED KINGDOM	64,881	+ 0.1	- 0.0	67,465	+ 0.9	+ 1.8		

Employment in London showed little change compared with a month ago, but was much better than a year ago. At Leicester it was fair with lasters and finishers, and quiet with clickers and pressmen, who reported a decline. Employment at Northampton and at Kettering was slack for the time of year, short time being fairly general; as compared with the previous month there was a slight improvement at Northampton, but a slight decline at Kettering. Employment was dull at Higham and Rushden, and very slack at Wel-lingborough; in both districts it was rather worse than in March. Army bootmakers in the country districts of Northamptonshire were moderately well employed. Employment at Norwich was slack during most of the month, but showed an improvement towards the close; it was

very much better than last year. Employment was fair at Bristol and at Kingswood, but a good deal of short time was reported at both places. Employment was quiet at Leeds, and there was a marked decline compared with both a month ago and a year ago.

Employment was good at Kilmarnock, Edinburgh, and in the hand-sewn trade at Glasgow; a decline was reported at Arbroath. In Scotland as a whole it was not so good as last year.

Imports and Exports.

Description of Boots and Shoes.	April, 1914.	Mar., 1914.	April, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1914, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports (less re-exports):					
Leather .. doz. pairs	21,119	18,675	21,537	+ 2,444	- 418
.. value £	80,515	74,415	82,912	+ 6,100	- 2,397
Rubber .. doz. pairs	9,503	3,478	10,826	+ 6,025	- 1,323
.. value £	11,110	4,336	13,182	+ 6,774	- 2,072
Other materials doz. pairs	7,608	6,841	6,825	+ 767	+ 783
.. value £	3,621	4,064	3,741	- 443	- 120
Exports (British & Irish):					
Leather .. doz. pairs	106,712	133,858	100,825	- 27,146	+ 5,887
.. value £	316,079	370,449	313,749	- 54,370	+ 2,330
Rubber .. doz. pairs	6,533	10,738	8,646	- 3,805	- 1,713
.. value £	7,460	10,931	9,220	- 3,471	- 1,760
Other materials doz. pairs	7,036	9,429	7,864	- 2,393	- 828
.. value £	6,639	7,669	6,417	- 1,030	+ 222

TAILORING TRADE.

Bespoke Branch.

London.—Employment during April showed a further seasonal improvement, but was not quite so good as a year ago.

Returns from firms paying £14,735 in wages to their workpeople (indoor workers and outworkers) during the four weeks ended April 25th showed an increase of 12.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 1.2 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Other Centres.—Employment at Manchester, Glasgow and Belfast was reported as good.

Ready-made and Wholesale Bespoke Branch.

Employment continued fairly good, and was slightly better than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 35,469 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended April 25th showed a decrease of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 2.5 per cent. compared with a year ago.

District.	Number of Workpeople.			
	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a		Per cent.
		Month ago.	Year ago.	
Leeds	10,427	- 0.3	+ 2.5	
Manchester	2,555	+ 1.3	+ 17.1	
Other places in Yorkshire, Lancs. and Cheshire	4,963	+ 0.2	- 0.6	
Bristol	2,146	- 0.4	+ 5.1	
North and West Midland Counties (excluding Bristol)	3,409	- 1.1	+ 1.0	
South Midland and Eastern Counties	3,608	+ 0.1	+ 3.2	
London	3,650	+ 1.6	- 0.3	
Glasgow	1,914	- 0.5	+ 1.3	
Rest of United Kingdom	2,797	- 2.8	+ 3.2	
Total, United Kingdom	35,469	- 0.2	+ 2.5	

At Leeds employment continued fairly good. The Jewish operatives reported an improvement compared with a month ago. At Manchester and Wigan employment continued good, and was better than a year ago; at Liverpool it was fairly good. At Hebden Bridge it was fair, but not so good as a year ago; at Huddersfield it was good. At Bristol and Stroud employment was fair, and better than a year ago. At Nottingham, Leicester, Walsall, Norwich, and Plymouth employment was reported as good. At Colchester it was fair.

In London employment continued fairly good, and showed little change compared with a year ago. The Trade Union cutters reported it as good.

At Glasgow employment on the whole continued good.

At many of the principal centres there was still a deficiency of labour.

The Imports of apparel, not waterproofed, in April, 1914, were valued at £347,000, as compared with £420,616 in March, 1914, and £372,277 in April, 1913; and the Exports (British and Irish) for the same months at £550,502, £736,192, and £566,659 respectively.

HAT TRADE.

EMPLOYMENT during April in the silk hat trade continued quiet.

In the felt hat trade employment continued bad, and was worse than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of April was 4.8, compared with 5.2 a month ago and 1.4 a year ago.

At Denton and Stockport and in Warwickshire employment was reported as bad; at Denton 90 per cent. of the Trade Union operatives were on short time, while a large amount of short time was also reported at the other centres.

Imports and Exports.

Description.	April, 1914.	Mar., 1914.	April, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1914, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Hats, Felt .. dozens	7,908	4,052	18,070	+ 3,856	- 10,162
.. Straw	13,256	17,886	16,292	- 4,630	- 3,036
.. Other sorts	49,283	36,045	69,452	+ 13,238	- 20,169
Total	70,447	57,983	103,814	+ 12,464	- 33,367
Exports (British & Irish):					
Hats, Felt .. dozens	29,155	51,644	42,194	- 22,489	- 13,039
.. Straw	68,781	62,686	66,135	+ 6,095	+ 2,646
.. Other sorts	12,332	14,759	14,822	- 2,427	- 2,490
Total	110,268	129,089	123,151	- 18,821	- 12,883

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in London in the dressmaking trades was fair; compared with a year ago there was little change with retail firms, and a slight improvement with court and private dressmakers. In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, millinery, &c., trades it was fairly good. Employment generally was fairly good in the shirt and collar trade, and good in the corset trade.

Dressmaking, Millinery, Mantle, Costume and Blouse Trades.—Returns from retail firms in London, chiefly in the West End, employing 2,509 dressmakers in the week ended April 25th, showed an increase of 3.0 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 0.3 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was fair. Court and private dressmakers employing 1,995 workpeople in the week ended April 25th showed an increase of 2.3 per cent. compared with a month ago, and 1.9 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was fair. With milliners in the West End, employing over 900 workpeople, it was fairly good.

In the wholesale mantle, costume, blouse, underclothing and millinery trades, firms in London employing 8,603 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended April 25th showed a decrease of 1.4 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 2.7 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment was good in the millinery branch, and fairly good in the other branches. A deficiency of millinery workers and of machinists generally was reported.

In Manchester firms employing 5,517 workpeople in the week ended April 25th in the costume, skirt, blouse and mantle, &c., trades showed a decrease of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 2.5 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was good. Firms employing about 70 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns reported a deficiency of labour.

In Glasgow employment in the mantle, costume, underclothing, &c., trades was fairly good. Firms employing 2,627 workpeople in the week ended April 25th showed an increase of 1.0 per cent. in the number employed

compared with a month ago, and of 0.9 per cent. compared with a year ago. A deficiency of labour, principally of machinists, was reported.

Shirt and Collar Trade.—Returns from shirt and collar manufacturers in England, Scotland and Ireland employing 4,315 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers), and paying £3,209 in wages to indoor and outdoor workers in the week ended April 25th, showed a decrease of 0.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 5.3 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment generally was fairly good.

Corset Trade.—Returns from corset manufacturers employing 6,934 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) in the week ended April 25th showed an increase of 0.2 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 4.1 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment during the month was on the whole good.

LEATHER TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the leather trades in April continued quiet, and was worse than a year ago. Trade Unions with 3,052 members reported 6.7 per cent. unemployed at the end of April, compared with 7.0 per cent. a month ago and 5.1 per cent. a year ago.

Skinner, Tanners, Curriers, Leather Dressers, etc.—Employment continued quiet in most centres, but was good in some branches at Bolton, Rochdale and Hyde, and fair at Edinburgh, Northampton and Leeds. Compared with a year ago it was worse, on the whole, though an improvement was reported in London.

Saddle and Harness Makers.—Employment at Walsall continued bad, with much short time, and was worse than a year ago. At Birmingham it was moderate. In London it was quiet.

Miscellaneous Trades.—Employment with portmanteau makers continued fair at Manchester; in London it declined, and short time was general. With fancy leather workers in London employment continued quiet.

Imports and Exports.

Description.	April, 1914.	March, 1914.	April, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1914, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:					
Hides, raw, and pieces thereof, dry .. cwt.	66,736	60,106	55,798	+ 6,630	+ 10,938
Ditto, wet .. cwt.	50,484	58,322	72,361	- 7,838	- 21,877
Total, Hides, dry and wet .. cwt.	117,220	118,428	128,159	- 1,208	- 10,939
Goat skins, undressed, No. Sheep skins .. (value) £	1,343,868	777,054	1,096,623	+ 566,814	+ 247,245
Leather* .. cwt.	283,539	249,017	277,536	+ 34,522	+ 6,003
Exports (British & Irish):					
Leather .. cwt.	26,126	30,285	29,344	- 4,159	+ 5,782
Gloves .. doz. prs.	10,135	15,182	14,639	- 5,047	+ 4,504
Machinery Belting .. cwt.	4,600	4,932	4,203	- 332	+ 397
Saddlery and Harness (value) £	28,887	35,780	36,461	- 6,833	+ 7,574
Other Sorts .. (value) £	44,255	48,613	49,546	- 5,358	- 5,291

BUILDING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in April showed an improvement in all districts compared with a month ago, especially in the case of painters. Compared with a year ago little general change was shown.

Employment with **carpenters, bricklayers, masons and plasterers** was better than a month ago. It was also better than a year ago in many districts, but a decline was shown in London, in the North-Western Counties (except with masons), and in the East Midland Counties (except with plasterers).

With **painters** the seasonal improvement continued, and employment was also better than a year ago in most districts.

With **plumbers** and with **navvies** there was a slight improvement compared with a month ago and a decline compared with a year ago.

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

With **labourers** there was an improvement in nearly all districts compared with a month ago and in a majority of districts compared with a year ago.

The following Table shows the unemployed percentage of "insured" persons in each trade and in each geographical division.

Division.	Estimated Number Employed.	Per-cent. age at 25th April, 1914.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Year ago.	Estimated Number Employed.	Per-cent. age at 25th April, 1914.			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Year ago.
		April, 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.			April, 1914.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Carpenters, &c.										
London	26,727	6.4	- 0.8	+ 1.9	13,604	10.6	- 0.2	+ 4.0		
Northern Counties ..	7,474	1.2	- 0.3	- 0.8	4,325	1.2	- 0.3	- 0.7		
North Western ..	16,741	3.7	- 0.9	+ 1.8	9,248	2.4	- 1.3	+ 0.2		
Yorkshire	11,217	2.3	- 0.2	- 0.2	6,145	1.7	- 0.4	-		
East Midlands ..	7,432	2.7	- 0.2	+ 0.4	5,877	1.9	- 0.8	+ 0.1		
West Midlands ..	9,229	2.4	- 0.2	- 0.8	8,263	2.8	- 0.3	- 0.3		
Eastern & S.E. Cos. ..	22,322	1.5	- 0.6	- 0.6	16,113	2.3	- 0.9	- 1.1		
South Western ..	15,216	1.7	- 0.7	- 1.4	6,379	3.2	+ 0.3	- 1.2		
Wales	7,453	1.0	- 0.6	- 1.0	2,388	0.7	- 0.9	- 0.4		
Scotland	14,051	1.1	- 0.7	-	2,218	2.0	- 1.2	- 0.8		
Ireland	7,152	6.7	- 1.0	- 3.6	2,019	8.1	+ 0.5	- 5.7		
United Kingdom	145,014	3.0	- 0.4	..	76,580	3.9	- 0.5	+ 0.2		

Masons.										
London	2,922	17.7	+ 1.8	+ 11.4	5,517	15.8	- 2.3	+ 7.7		
Northern Counties ..	2,888	1.5	- 0.7	- 0.5	1,102	4.2	- 0.4	- 0.6		
North Western ..	4,137	2.4	- 1.9	- 0.7	2,627	6.7	- 1.6	+ 1.5		
Yorkshire	5,088	3.0	- 0.3	+ 0.7	1,631	4.0	+ 0.2	- 0.1		
East Midlands ..	1,239	4.2	- 0.1	+ 0.8	599	4.3	- 4.1	- 2.3		
West Midlands ..	1,014	3.9	- 1.0	- 1.0	1,102	3.5	- 2.2	- 3.6		
Eastern & S.E. Cos. ..	1,412	4.0	- 0.7	- 2.4	2,204	4.9	- 2.1	- 2.2		
South Western ..	8,927	0.6	- 0.4	- 0.2	3,354	4.1	+ 0.8	+ 1.0		
Wales	6,694	1.2	- 0.1	- 0.7	2,110	2.2	- 0.6	- 1.0		
Scotland	8,797	2.0	- 1.4	- 0.6	2,686	2.9	- 2.5	- 0.4		
Ireland	2,809	10.7	- 2.4	- 1.9	1,688	8.5	- 2.3	- 3.5		
United Kingdom	45,219	3.9	- 0.7	+ 0.1	23,392	7.4	- 1.7	+ 1.3		

Plasterers.										
London	4,317	1.5	- 3.3	- 1.5	8,139	5.3	- 0.5	+ 1.0		
Northern Counties ..	4,664	0.9	- 0.7	- 0.3	2,202	2.3	- 0.8	+ 0.2		
North Western ..	16,249	1.3	- 1.1	-	5,785	5.0	- 0.1	+ 1.0		
Yorkshire	8,927	0.6	- 0.1	-	3,354	4.1	+ 0.8	+ 1.0		
East Midlands ..	5,454	1.9	- 1.1	+ 0.8	1,620	3.9	+ 0.4	+ 0.6		
West Midlands ..	9,587	1.2	- 1.5	- 0.1	2,392	2.7	- 0.8	-		
Eastern & S.E. Cos. ..	22,701	0.9	- 0.9	- 0.7	4,265	1.5	- 0.6	- 0.3		
South Western ..	15,182	1.8	- 1.5	- 0.4	3,359	3.4	- 0.1	+ 0.3		
Wales	4,335	0.9	- 0.9	- 0.5	920	2.3	- 0.7	- 0.2		
Scotland	10,851	0.6	- 1.2	+ 0.1	6,879	2.9	+ 0.3	+ 1.0		
Ireland	5,048	6.9	- 5.9	- 0.1	1,512	9.7	+ 1.1	+ 2.1		
United Kingdom	145,385	1.4	- 2.0	- 0.6	40,427	3.9	- 0.2	+ 0.6		

Painters, &c.										
London	44,317	1.5	- 3.3	- 1.5	8,139	5.3	- 0.5	+ 1.0		
Northern Counties ..	4,664	0.9	- 0.7	- 0.3	2,202	2.3	- 0.8	+ 0.2		
North Western ..	16,249	1.3	- 1.1	-	5,785	5.0	- 0.1	+ 1.0		
Yorkshire	8,927	0.6	- 0.1	-	3,354	4.1	+ 0.8	+ 1.0		
East Midlands ..	5,454	1.9	- 1.1	+ 0.8	1,620	3.9	+ 0.4	+ 0.6		
West Midlands ..	9,587	1.2	- 1.5	- 0.1	2,392	2.7	- 0.8	-		
Eastern & S.E. Cos. ..	22,701	0.9	- 0.9	- 0.7	4,265	1.5	- 0.6	- 0.3		
South Western ..	15,182	1.8	- 1.5	- 0.4	3,359	3.4	- 0.1	+ 0.3		
Wales	4,335	0.9	- 0.9	- 0.5	920	2.3	- 0.7	- 0.2		
Scotland	10,851	0.6	- 1.2	+ 0.1	6,879	2.9	+ 0.3	+ 1.0		
Ireland	5,048	6.9	- 5.9	- 0.1	1,512	9.7	+ 1.1	+ 2.1		
United Kingdom	145,385	1.4	- 2.0	- 0.6	40,427	3.9	- 0.2	+ 0.6		

FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued good on the whole during April, and was about the same as in the previous month and in April, 1913. Trade Unions with a total membership of 55,052 reported 1.7 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, the same percentage as a month ago and a year ago.

Furnishing Trades.

Employment continued good in these trades; it was better than in March and about the same as a year ago. Trade Unions with 24,111 members reported 1.5 per cent. unemployed at the end of April, as compared with 1.8 per cent. in the previous month and 1.6 per cent. in April, 1913. The principal exceptions to the general state of employment were as follows:—In London em-

* Based on the number of Unemployment Insurance Books issued. Excludes workpeople directly involved in the building trades dispute. † The United Kingdom percentage for Slaters, &c. (7,660) was 4.8, showing a decrease of 0.5 compared with a month ago, and an increase of 0.9 compared with a year ago; for Navvies (14,144) it was 3.7, showing a decrease of 0.3 compared with a month ago, and an increase of 0.2 compared with a year ago. For other occupations (34,251) not shown separately in the Table, the corresponding figures were 4.0-0.2, and + 0.3 respectively.

ployment was bad, though better than a month ago, with French polishers, and showed a decline with cabinet makers. It also showed some decline with cabinet makers at Nottingham.

The **Imports** of furniture and cabinet ware in April, 1914, were valued at £44,023, as compared with £38,791 in March, 1914, and £45,600 in April, 1913; and the **Exports** (British and Irish) for the same months were valued at £77,256, £78,119, and £91,925 respectively.

Mill Sawyers and Woodcutting Machinists.

Employment continued fairly good, and was better than in April, 1913. The percentage unemployed at the end of April among "insured" workpeople engaged in sawmilling was 3.8, as compared with 3.5 in the preceding month and 2.5 at the end of April, 1913.

Trade Unions with a total membership of 7,973 reported 2.0 per cent. unemployed at the end of April, as compared with 2.1 per cent. at the end of March and 3.1 per cent. at the end of April, 1913. At Newcastle, Sunderland, Hartlepool and Hull employment was described as good. It was only moderate at Manchester, and quiet at Nottingham, Jarrow, Gloucester and Southampton.

Imports.

Description.	April, 1914.	March, 1914.	April, 1913.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1914, on a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Timber, hewn ..	212,140	207,078	265,776	+ 5,062	- 53,636
" sawn ..	166,630	137,090	187,647	+ 29,540	- 21,017
House Frames, Fittings, and Joiner's Work (value)	£ 14,572	£ 17,439	£ 18,608	- 2,867	- 4,036

Coachbuilding.

Employment continued good on the whole, but was not so good as a year ago.

Trade Unions with 14,594 members—mostly skilled—reported 1.5 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 1.2 per cent. a month ago and 0.9 per cent. at the end of April, 1913.

The following Table shows the unemployed percentage of "insured" workpeople of all classes engaged in the construction of vehicles:—

Division.	Estimated Number Employed.*	Percentage of Unemployment Books lodged at			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in April compared with	
		April, 24th, 1914.	March, 27th, 1914.	April, 25th, 1913.	A month ago.	A year ago.
London	28,354	2.9	3.0	3.2	- 0.1	- 0.3
Northern Counties ..	5,760	1.4	1.1	1.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.3
North Western ..	21,543	2.5	2.6	1.5	- 0.1	+ 1.0
Yorkshire	15,545	2.0	1.9	0.9	+ 0.1	+ 1.1
East Midlands ..	17,035	1.9	2.0	1.0	- 0.1	+ 0.9
West Midlands ..	60,894	3.3	3.3	2.1	- 0.3	+ 1.2
Eastern & S.E. Counties ..	17,654	1.2	1.5	1.2	- 0.2	+ 0.6
South Western ..	15,426	1.8	2.0	1.2	- 0.2	+ 0.6
Wales	3,819	1.8	2.2	1.1	- 0.4	+ 0.7
Scotland	13,729	1.7	1.7	0.9	..	+ 0.8
Ireland	4,628	4.5	4.7	4.2	- 0.2	+ 0.3
United Kingdom	204,368	2.5	2.5	1.8	..	+ 0.7

Coopers.

Employment improved somewhat on March, and was fair on the whole; it was better than in April, 1913. It was good at Glasgow and Edinburgh, but bad at Hull.

Miscellaneous.

Brushmakers.—Employment continued good, but was not so good as in April, 1913. Trade Unions reported 1.0 per cent. of their members as unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 1.2 per cent. in March and 0.6 per cent. in April, 1913.

The **Imports** of brushes and brooms in April, 1914, were valued at £40,735, as compared with £42,454 in March, 1914, and £38,770 in April, 1913; and the **Exports** (British and Irish) for the same months were valued at £18,205, £17,805, and £16,749 respectively.

Other Trades.—Employment continued moderate with general wheelwrights and smiths. With packing-case

* Based on the number of Unemployment Insurance Books issued.

makers it was generally fair, but slack at Manchester. Employment was good with skip and basket makers at Oldham, and with cane and wicker workers at Basford.

PRINTING, BOOKBINDING AND PAPER TRADES.

PRINTING TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good, and was rather better than a year ago. Compared with a month ago there was a slight decline with letterpress printers and a slight improvement with lithographic printers.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of April, 1914.	Percentage Unemployed at end of			Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a	
		April, 1914.	Mar., 1914.	April, 1913.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	22,174	3.0	2.6	3.7	+ 0.4	- 0.7
Northern Counties and Yorkshire ..	5,944	3.3	2.8	2.7	+ 0.5	+ 0.6
Lancs. and Cheshire ..	7,500	3.7	3.5	4.6	+ 0.2	- 0.9
East Midland and Eastern Counties ..	2,938	3.3	2.1	2		

and £634,568 in April, 1913; and the Exports (British and Irish) for the same months were valued at £268,746 £313,820, and £313,321 respectively.

GLASS TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in these trades was fair on the whole. In Yorkshire, however, it was seriously affected by the strike of coal miners.

Returns from firms employing 7,837 workpeople in the week ended April 25th showed a decrease of 3.6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 15.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was a decrease of 4.5 per cent. in the number employed, and of 12.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Branches.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Glass Bottle	5,525	- 4.9	- 8.1	6,628	- 20.2	- 16.1
Flint Glass Ware (not bottles)	1,632	- 0.9	- 0.5	1,842	- 2.7	- 1.0
Other Branches	680	+ 0.3	- 0.4	814	- 0.1	+ 1.5
Total	7,837	- 3.6	- 4.5	9,284	- 15.7	- 12.1

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
North of England	809	- 2.8	+ 8.6	1,010	- 6.7	+ 3.8
Yorkshire	4,179	- 5.1	- 11.2	4,881	- 23.6	- 22.7
Lancashire	994	- 1.8	+ 9.6	1,178	- 7.4	+ 9.4
Worcestershire and Warwickshire	1,031	- 2.0	+ 0.3	1,378	- 3.2	- 0.1
Scotland	509	- 2.9	+ 1.2	612	- 3.5	+ 3.2
Other parts of the United Kingdom	315	+ 2.3	..	325	+ 1.9	+ 1.6
Total	7,837	- 3.6	- 4.5	9,284	- 15.7	- 12.1

Employment in the glass bottle trade in Yorkshire was fairly good, apart from the effect of the coal strike. It continued good at Sunderland, Bristol and Portobello. At Glasgow it declined, and was slack. In London it continued bad with glass-blowers, and was worse than a year ago.

Employment continued fair with sheet glass flatteners and good with sheet and plate glass workers at St. Helens. With flint glass makers and cutters in the Birmingham, Wordsley and Stourbridge districts it was fairly good on the whole. With pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear it remained fair, and was better than a year ago, though short time was still reported.

Imports and Exports.

Description.	April, 1914.		Mar., 1914.		April, 1913.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in April, 1914, on a Month ago.		Year ago.	
	April, 1914.	Mar., 1914.	April, 1914.	Mar., 1914.	April, 1913.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	
Imports:										
Window and German sheet glass, including shades, &c.	100,708	112,346	114,135	112,346	114,135	- 11,638	- 13,427			
Plate	24,344	25,992	40,740	25,992	40,740	- 1,648	- 16,396			
Flint, plain, cut or ornamental, &c.	87,098	76,478	77,328	76,478	77,328	+ 10,620	+ 9,770			
Manufactures, other sorts	10	82	149	82	149	- 72	- 139			
Bottles	164,887	175,028	170,040	175,028	170,040	- 10,341	- 5,353			
Exports (British & Irish):										
Plate	23,713	22,430	23,034	22,430	23,034	+ 1,283	+ 679			
Flint	6,403	6,992	6,405	6,992	6,405	- 589	- 2			
Manufactures, other sorts	47,036	45,497	62,513	45,497	62,513	+ 1,539	- 15,477			
Bottles	71,215	77,677	85,474	77,677	85,474	- 6,462	- 14,259			

BRICK AND CEMENT TRADES.

Brick Trade.

EMPLOYMENT in the brick trade in April was good, and showed a considerable improvement on March, especially in the South and South-Western Counties and Wales; there was a slight improvement also on a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 11,332 workpeople in the week ended April 25th showed an increase of 5.0 per cent. in the number employed and of 8.3 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 2.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Districts.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire	3,607	+ 3.1	+ 5.5	4,511	- 0.6	+ 2.4
Midland and Eastern Counties	3,510	+ 2.5	- 1.4	4,083	+ 7.0	+ 3.4
South and South-Western Counties and Wales	2,813	+ 11.9	- 2.4	3,652	+ 23.5	+ 2.5
Scotland	703	+ 1.0	+ 1.0	832	+ 2.0	+ 6.0
Other Districts	699	+ 6.6	- 6.8	824	+ 16.5	..
Total	11,332	+ 5.0	+ 0.2	13,902	+ 8.3	+ 2.8

In the Northern Counties, Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire employment continued good. In the Midlands and Eastern Counties it was fairly good on the whole, and showed an improvement on a month ago. At Peterborough it continued quiet, and in the Nottingham district it was moderate. It was fair and worse than a month ago with firebrick workers in the Stourbridge district, and was good in the glazed brick and tile trade in the Shropshire district and at Tamworth. In the Southern and South-Western Counties and Wales employment was good, and showed a marked improvement on the previous month. In Scotland there was an improvement both on a month ago and a year ago.

Cement Trade.

Cement workers in the Tees and Hartlepool district reported employment as continuing good during April. There was a considerable amount of short time at the works in the Thames and Medway district.

The Imports of cement during April, 1914, amounted to 10,079 tons, as compared with 9,037 tons in March, 1914, and 8,043 tons in April, 1913. The Exports (British and Irish) for the same months were 66,782 tons, 51,710 tons, and 62,408 tons respectively.

POTTERY TRADES.

EMPLOYMENT in the pottery trades continued fairly good on the whole, but showed a slight decline on a month ago both in the china and earthenware sections. Compared with a year ago there was on the whole a decline, except in the china section.

Returns from firms employing 17,360 workpeople in the week ended April 25th showed a decrease of 0.4 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 0.5 per cent. in the number employed and a decrease of 1.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Branches:—	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
China Manufacture	2,991	- 0.8	+ 4.5	3,544	- 4.4	+ 4.5
Earthenware Manufacture	11,427	- 0.6	+ 0.3	10,031	- 1.1	- 2.4
Other Branches (including unspecified)	2,942	+ 0.8	- 2.7	2,512	+ 4.0	- 4.5
Total	17,360	- 0.4	+ 0.5	16,147	- 1.1	- 1.3

Districts:—	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.	Week ended April 25th, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on a Month ago.	Year ago.
Potteries	12,511	- 0.4	+ 0.6	10,664	- 0.9	- 2.6
Other Districts	4,849	- 0.5	+ 0.0	5,483	- 1.7	+ 1.3
Total	17,360	- 0.4	+ 0.5	16,147	- 1.1	- 1.3

In the Potteries employment was good on the whole in the china section and fair in the earthenware section, showing some decline, however, in both cases on a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was a considerable improvement in the china section. In other districts employment on the whole was good. Employment in tile, etc., works was fair and better than a month ago.

The Imports of chinaware and earthenware in April 1914, were valued at £109,786, as compared with £114,140 in March, 1914, and £96,784 in April, 1913. The

Exports (British and Irish) for the same months were £246,548, £268,594, and £285,300 respectively.

SEAMEN SHIPPED IN APRIL.

RETURNS received from certain selected ports (at which over 70 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade arrived and departed) show that during April 48,822 seamen,* of whom 4,449 (or 9.1 per cent.) were foreigners, were shipped on foreign-going vessels. Compared with April, 1913, there was a net decrease of 1,335, or 2.7 per cent. There was a large decrease at Liverpool (1,183), and a large increase at Southampton (746).

During the four months ended April, 1914, the total number of seamen shipped was 175,062, a decrease of 334, or 0.2 per cent., on the total for the corresponding period of 1913. There were large decreases at Glasgow and Liverpool, and large increases at Southampton and Bristol.

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in					
	April, 1914.			Four Months Ended April, 1914.		
	1913.	1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1914.	1913.	1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1914.
ENGLAND & WALES.						
East Coast.						
Tyne Ports	2,646	2,504	- 142	9,697	9,965	+ 268
Sunderland	251	323	+ 72	1,214	1,791	+ 577
Middlesbrough	185	291	+ 106	1,267	1,060	- 207
Hull	1,281	1,251	- 30	5,197	5,017	- 180
Grimsby	37	34	- 3	214	125	- 89
Bristol Channel.						
Bristol	826	1,138	+ 362	3,548	4,557	+ 1,009
Newport, Mon.	1,174	723	- 451	4,013	3,585	- 428
Cardiff	4,614	3,997	- 617	16,589	16,471	- 118
Swansea	395	288	- 107	1,475	1,650	+ 175
Other Ports.						
Liverpool	18,609	18,426	- 183	63,933	62,150	- 1,783
London	8,812	8,961	+ 169	31,928	32,617	+ 689
Southampton	4,585	5,331	+ 746	16,572	18,678	+ 2,106
SCOTLAND.						
Leith	466	408	- 58	1,720	1,654	- 66
Kirkcaldy, Methil, and Grangemouth	174	264	+ 90	1,001	873	- 128
Glasgow	4,838	4,622	- 216	16,066	14,124	- 1,932
IRELAND.						
Dublin	61	79	+ 18	219	252	+ 33
Belfast	203	112	- 91	753	603	- 150
Total	50,157	48,822	- 1,335	175,396	175,062	- 334

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

EMPLOYMENT on the whole was moderate, and showed a decline on both a month ago and a year ago.

London. §—Employment was reported as generally fair; it was about the same as a year ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves in the four weeks ended April 25th was 15,013, a decrease of 0.1 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 0.4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	By the Port of London Authority or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.	At 110 Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
Week ended April 4th	4,682	2,941	7,623	7,061	14,684
" " 11th	4,802	2,588	7,370	7,260	14,630
" " 18th	5,043	2,865	7,908	7,435	15,343
" " 25th	5,175	2,842	8,017	7,368	15,385
Average for 4 weeks ended April 25th, 1914	4,926	2,812	7,738	7,275	15,013
Average for Mar., 1914	4,956	2,786	7,742	7,290	15,032
" " April, 1913	5,112	2,731	7,843	7,106	14,949

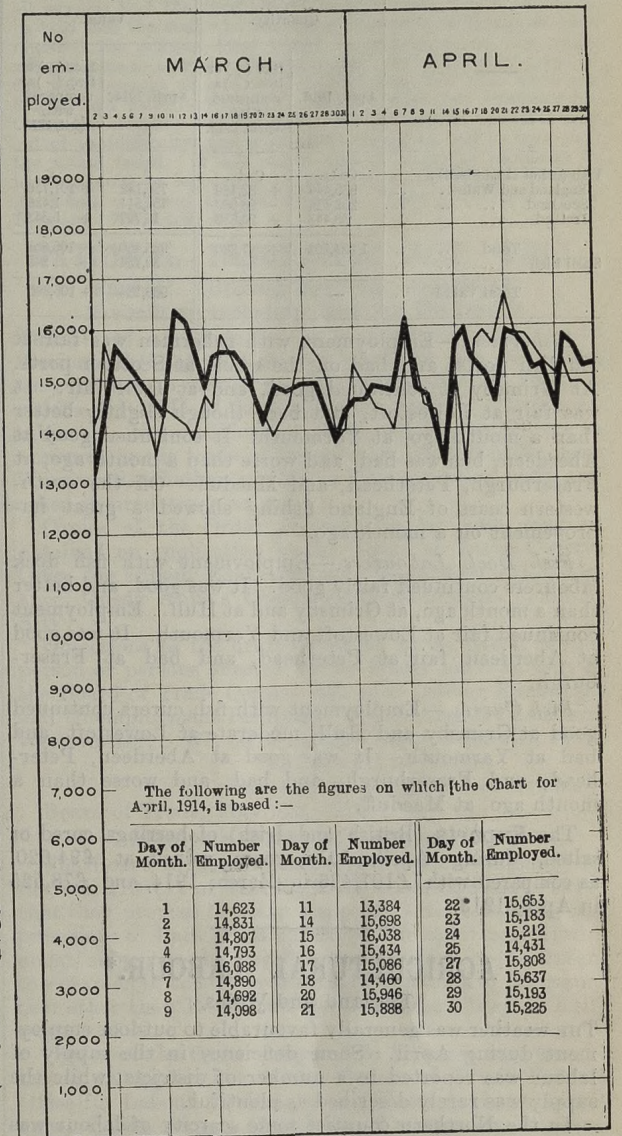
The numbers employed during April, 1914, fluctuated between a maximum of 16,088 and a minimum of 13,384.

* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, and not of separate individuals. † Including Barry and Penarth. ‡ Including Avonmouth and Portishead. § Exclusive of Tilbury.

The corresponding figures for April, 1913, were 16,677 and 13,365 respectively.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed at all the Docks, and at 110 of the principal Wharves, for each day during the months of March and April, 1914. The corresponding curve for March and April, 1913, is also given for comparison.

(The thick curve applies to 1914, the thin curve to 1913.)



The following are the figures on which the Chart for April, 1914, is based:—

Tilbury.—The mean daily number employed at the docks during April was 1,551, compared with 1,395 a month ago and 1,485 during April, 1913.

Liverpool.—Employment showed a general decline, and was bad with both dock labourers and quayside carters.

Other Ports.—Employment with dock and riverside labourers on the Tyne was slack, and worse than a month ago, a considerable amount of short time being reported; it was good at Seaham Harbour. With trimmers and teamers on the Tyne and Wear employment generally was fairly good. At Hartlepool and Middlesbrough it was fair, but not so good as a month ago. Employment with dock labourers at Hull and Goole was moderate, and at Grimsby bad; with coal workers at all three ports it was adversely affected by the Yorkshire miners' dispute.

Riverside labourers continued fairly well employed at Yarmouth and Lowestoft. Employment was fair at Harwich, and bad at Ipswich. At Plymouth and Devonport it was fair, and slightly better than a month ago. At Bristol employment continued moderate. It was good at Newport and fair at Cardiff and Barry.

Employment was reported as fair at Glasgow, Leith and Dundee, but showed a decline at Leith and Dundee. It was moderate, and worse than a month ago, at Belfast.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

THE fish landed showed an increase, both in quantity and in value, as compared with April, 1913.

The following Table shows the quantity and value of the fish landed in April, 1914 and 1913:—

	Quantity.		Value.	
	April, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with April, 1913.	April, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with April, 1913.
Fish (other than Shell):				
England and Wales..	Cwts. 935,444	+ 82,469	£ 755,142	+ 101,736
Scotland	252,314	- 96,069	154,511	- 1,426
Ireland	36,443	+ 20,886	16,797	+ 5,343
Total	1,224,201	+ 7,286	926,450	+ 105,653
Shell Fish	—	—	39,734	+ 242
Total Value	—	—	966,184	+ 105,895

Fishermen.—Employment with fishermen was fair at English ports, and bad on the whole at Scottish ports. At Grimsby it continued good, and at Hull fair. It was fair at Lowestoft, and bad, though slightly better than a month ago, at Yarmouth. It continued good at Aberdeen, but was bad, and worse than a month ago, at Fraserburgh, Peterhead, and Macduff. Off the south-western coast of England fishing showed a great improvement on a month ago.

Fish Dock Labourers.—Employment with fish dock labourers continued fairly good. It was good, and better than a month ago, at Grimsby and at Hull. Employment continued fair at Lowestoft and Yarmouth. It was good at Aberdeen, fair at Peterhead, and bad at Fraserburgh.

Fish Curers.—Employment with fish curers continued good at Grimsby and Hull, moderate at Lowestoft, and bad at Yarmouth. It was good at Aberdeen, Peterhead, and Fraserburgh, and bad, and worse than a month ago, at Macduff.

The Exports (British and Irish) of herrings, cured or salted, during April, 1914, were valued at £94,620, as compared with £107,436 in March, 1914, and £78,525 in April, 1913.

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.***England and Wales.**

THE weather was generally favourable to outdoor employment during April. Some deficiency in the supply of labour was reported in a number of districts, while the supply was rarely described as plentiful.

In the Northern counties some scarcity of labour was experienced in Durham, in the southern and western parts of Lancashire, and in a few districts of Yorkshire, though in the last-named county the supply generally was described as quite sufficient. Some increases in farm servants' wages were reported in Northumberland and Durham.

In the North Midland counties labour was generally somewhat scarce, skilled men in particular being difficult to obtain, though in north Shropshire the shortage was more especially noticeable among temporary labourers. There was also a deficiency of men in east Northamptonshire, north-east Warwickshire, south Buckinghamshire, and north and parts of south-east Hertfordshire. More stockmen were wanted in north Oxfordshire, and boy labour was scarce in north-west Bedfordshire.

The supply of labour was usually sufficient for requirements in the Eastern counties, with the exception of a few districts in Lincolnshire, in which county a rather short supply was reported in the north-west (for potato planting), south Kesteven and east Holland. Wages showed an upward tendency in parts of Lincolnshire.

Some shortage of labour was reported in parts of Surrey and Kent, and in north Wiltshire; otherwise there was usually a sufficient supply in the Southern counties. In the south-west a scarcity of men was reported in mid Cornwall, in south and west Devon, and in Somerset;

* Based on information supplied by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, and by the Board of Agriculture for Scotland.

in the last-named county it was stated that the scarcity was not serious.

The supply of labour was short of requirements in most parts of North Wales, and in several districts of Mid and South Wales. Wages were said to be rising in parts of the northern and central counties of Wales.

Scotland.

Owing to the fine weather which prevailed for the greater part of April, most of the arrears into which farm work had fallen during March were made up. Generally speaking, there was no marked deficiency in the supply of labour; but it is stated that in several districts where the supply was described as sufficient there appears to be but a small reserve to meet any extra demand later in the season.

A noticeable but not serious scarcity of labour was reported in Banffshire and Kincardineshire, while there was also some deficiency in the eastern districts of Aberdeenshire. In north and east Perthshire labour was very scarce, especially as regards horsemen; there was also a deficiency of labour in south-west Perthshire, where an upward tendency in wages was reported.

The demand for labour was reported as a little in excess of the supply in Dumbartonshire, Stirlingshire, Lanarkshire, and Renfrewshire. There were few female workers to be obtained in north Argyllshire, while there was some scarcity of labour in central Argyllshire.

Wages were said to be advancing in Inverness-shire and Nairnshire, where the supply of labour was barely sufficient; and further north a scarcity of labour was reported in Caithness-shire and in Orkney.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.**(1) Workmen's Compensation Act.**

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF EMPLOYMENT: BREACH OF REGULATIONS: MINER DOING SHOT-FIRERS' WORK.

Where a workman is injured by accident he is entitled to compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, only where the accident was one arising out of and in the course of his employment.

A miner, in discharge of his ordinary duties, prepared a hole for blasting and placed the charge and the detonator therein. Under the statutory regulations it is the duty of the properly appointed shot-firer to connect the charge by cable with the firing apparatus or battery, to see that all persons in the vicinity have taken proper shelter, and then to operate the battery so as to discharge the shot. On the occasion in question the miner himself connected the cable between the charge and the battery, on the instructions of the shot-firer, and was on his way to a place of safety when the shot-firer turned the handle of the battery, discharged the shot and injured the miner. He claimed compensation under the Act, and succeeded, before the Sheriff-Substitute, in obtaining an award in his favour. The Court of Session, however, on appeal reversed this decision. The claimant then appealed to the House of Lords. It was argued on behalf of the employers that as the man had taken upon himself to do something which was quite outside his duties—that is to say, connecting the shot with the apparatus—his accident was not one arising out of his employment. The House of Lords held that if the accident had been due directly to the claimant having taken upon himself to do acts which were outside the sphere of his employment, he would not have been entitled to compensation; but here the facts were different. The man had certainly gone beyond his duties in making the connection, but that act was only a remote, and not a direct, cause of the accident. It was the duty of the shot-firer before operating the battery and firing the shot to have ascertained that all persons near had taken proper shelter. Until he did so he was not justified in firing the shot. The accident was directly caused by the shot-firer's neglect of what was clearly his duty. The accident, therefore, to the miner was one arising out of his employment, and he was entitled to compensation. The appeal was therefore allowed.—*Smith v. Fife Coal Company Limited.*—House of Lords. 28th April, 1914.

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF THE EMPLOYMENT: CHILL CAUGHT IN MINE.

In June, 1911, while a miner was at work in a pit, an accident took place in a shaft which made it impossible for the workmen to use their usual exit from the mine. The miner accordingly was told to leave the pit by another shaft. At this shaft the man had to wait an hour and a half before he could ascend. It was a cold place in which to wait, with a strong current of air blowing, and the man had been sweating at his work and felt the cold severely. Next day he was ill; pneumonia supervened, and he died, leaving a widow and several children. His dependants claimed compensation, and the Sheriff-Substitute found as facts that the man had died from the effects of injuries due to accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, and he

made an award in favour of the dependants. The Court of Session held that there was no evidence to support this finding, and reversed the decision. The dependants appealed.

The House of Lords held that there had been an accident interfering with the normal working of the mine. In consequence of that accident the deceased man had been exposed for a prolonged period to severe climatic conditions. His illness was due to this exposure, and the injuries were due to accident arising out of and in the course of his employment. The appeal was therefore allowed.—*Brown v. John Watson, Limited.*—House of Lords. 28th April, 1914.

ACCIDENT ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF THE EMPLOYMENT: SCHOOLMASTER ASSAULTED BY BOYS: FATAL RESULT.

A schoolmaster employed in an industrial school had become unpopular with the boys, and as the result of a prearranged plan of attack was assaulted by his pupils and so severely injured that he died. The mother of the deceased, as a dependant, claimed compensation under the Act, and the County Court judge made an award in her favour against the Board of Management of the school. The Board appealed, contending that the death could not be said to be due to an accident. The Court of Appeal of Ireland dismissed the appeal, and the Board of Management appealed to the House of Lords. The House of Lords held that the death of the deceased was due to injury by accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, and that therefore his dependants were entitled to compensation. The appeal was therefore dismissed.—*The Board of Management of Trim District School v. Kelly.*—House of Lords. 6th April, 1914.

POSTHUMOUS ILLEGITIMATE CHILD: EVIDENCE OF PATERNITY.

Where a workman is killed by an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, his "dependants" are entitled to compensation under the Act. "Dependants" includes an illegitimate child.

A workman employed by a colliery company was killed in October, 1911, by accident in circumstances entitling his dependants to compensation. A young woman became the mother of a child in May, 1912, and subsequently proceedings were taken on behalf of this infant against the colliery company for compensation under the Act, the mother of the child alleging that the deceased was the father. In support of the claim the mother gave evidence of having had intercourse with the deceased on several occasions, that a week before his death she told him that she was expecting a child in May, and that then he promised to marry her before that time. Further evidence was given by way of corroboration as to statements made by the deceased to other persons. The company contended that evidence of statements by the deceased was not admissible, and that therefore there was no corroboration of the mother's story. The County Court judge, however, admitted the evidence, and made an award in favour of the infant. The company appealed, and the Court of Appeal set aside the award on the ground that the evidence was inadmissible, and that there was not sufficient evidence of the paternity of the child. The infant appealed to the House of Lords, and the House of Lords held that on the question of the paternity of the child the evidence objected to was admissible, and that the County Court judge was right. The appeal was therefore allowed.—*Lloyd v. The Powell Duffryn Steam Coal Company.*—House of Lords. 6th April, 1914.

(2) Shops Regulation Acts.

CLOSING OF SHOPS: WEEKLY HALF HOLIDAY: OFFENCE BY A LIMITED COMPANY.

It is provided by the Shops Act, 1911, that (with certain exceptions) every shop must be closed for the serving of customers not later than 1 p.m. on one week day in every week. It is an offence against the Act not to comply with this provision, and every person guilty of an offence against the Act is liable to punishment. A limited company, being the proprietors of a certain shop, were proceeded against, convicted, and fined for this offence. The company appealed against the conviction on the grounds that a limited company is not a "person" within the meaning of the Act, and therefore not liable to conviction or punishment. The High Court upheld the conviction and dismissed the appeal.—*Evans & Company, Limited v. London County Council.*—King's Bench Division. 30th April, 1914.

(3) Miscellaneous.

PENSION FUND OF RAILWAY COMPANY: REMOVAL OF MEMBER: TEMPORARY REDUCTION IN RANK.

A pension fund for the benefit of the "salaried officers engaged by the month or longer" of a railway company was established by Act of Parliament, the clerical staff contributing to the fund from their salaries, and the company supplementing this by contributions and guaranteeing the fund. The funds are vested in trustees and administered by a committee partly elected and partly nominated. During the coal strike of 1912 the traffic on the railway became so small that the company reduced the wages of a large number of the clerical staff by giving them notice, and placing them on a system of employment from day to day as work was found. Members of the staff so treated continued to pay their contributions to the fund. This state of things only lasted a few weeks, and all the members at the end of that time returned to their work under former conditions. Later, one member of the staff of long standing claimed that on account of what had happened he had been removed from his employment and had thereupon become entitled to his pension. Litigation followed, and it was held that he had been removed and was

entitled to his pension. This decision has had a very serious effect upon the bulk of the staff, for if they had all been removed, men over forty were no longer eligible to be members of the pension scheme. In this state of things members of the staff affected brought an action in the High Court asking for a declaration on their rights in the fund and for an injunction restraining the company and the trustees from administering the funds except according to the rules. At the hearing it was stated that the company and its officers, as well as the staff, were all anxious that the fund should be preserved; but if it was to be held that the staff who had been reduced in 1912 had all been removed the pension fund would be destroyed and the whole scheme come to an end. The judge held that the notice given to the staff brought an end to their contracts, and that when the trouble had passed away new contracts came into existence between the company and the staff. He was unable to find a way out of the difficulty, and with great regret he had to hold that the action failed. It was stated that it might be necessary to have recourse to legislation to put the matter right.—*Kershaw & Others v. Great Central Railway Company.*—King's Bench Division. 7th April, 1914.

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT, 1911.**Part II. Unemployment Insurance.****Sawmilling including Machine Woodwork.**

THE Board of Trade hereby give notice, pursuant to Section 113 (1) of the National Insurance Act, 1911, that they propose to make a special Order extending the provisions of Part II. of the Act (Unemployment Insurance), subject to the modification contained in the Order, to workmen in the trade of Sawmilling, including Machine Woodwork, whether carried on in connection with any other insured trade or not.

Copies of the Order proposed to be made may be obtained on application to the Board of Trade Central Office for Labour Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance, Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, London, S.W.

Objections to the draft Order by or on behalf of any person or persons affected by the Order must be sent to the Board of Trade Central Office for Labour Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance, Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, S.W., on or before Friday, June 5th, 1914.

H. LLEWELLYN SMITH,

Secretary to the Board of Trade.

Board of Trade, May 6th, 1914.

Repairing Works of Construction.

The Board of Trade hereby give notice, pursuant to Section 113 (1) of the National Insurance Act, 1911, that they propose to make a special Order extending the provisions of Part II. of the Act (Unemployment Insurance), subject to the modification contained in the Order, to workmen in the trade of Repairing Works of Construction other than Roads and the Permanent Way of Railways.

Copies of the Order proposed to be made may be obtained on application to the Board of Trade Central Office for Labour Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance, Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, London, S.W.

Objections to the draft Order by or on behalf of any person or persons affected by the Order must be sent to the Board of Trade Central Office for Labour Exchanges and Unemployment Insurance, Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, S.W., on or before Friday, June 5th 1914.

H. LLEWELLYN SMITH,

Secretary to the Board of Trade.

Board of Trade, May 6th, 1914.

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:—

307. Workmen employed in steel works, tin-plate works, &c., in the manufacture or repair of trolleys or wagons for conveying material in the works.

308. Workmen engaged in rivetting together metal parts or metal and leather parts of motor-cycle seats.

(This may involve reconsideration of decision 1333.)

309. Workmen employed by a firm of safe makers and engaged in making the mechanism of roller shutters, a retarding device for controlling the closing of shutters.

310. Workmen engaged in excavating in a motor garage for the construction of an inspection pit.

DECISIONS BY THE UMPIRE.

[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.]

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:—

- 1445. Workmen engaged— (1) in building on the site urinals, shelters of iron and similar structures; or (2) in the preparation in a workshop of ironwork of such structures. (Application 238.)
- 1446. Workmen employed at a pipe foundry, and engaged in painting castings such as iron pipes.
- 1448. Workmen engaged in preparing or erecting lych gates. (Application 304.)
- 1450. Workmen employed by a copper smelting company, and engaged in the upkeep and repair of machinery, including machinery connected with calciner furnaces.
- 1451. Workmen engaged in overhauling and repairing old engines and machinery, for the purpose of rendering them fit for re-use.

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

- 1444. Workmen engaged wholly or mainly in making chargers for small-arms ammunition.
- 1447. Workmen employed by firms of tube-makers, and engaged wholly or mainly in tagging, skimming or bell-mouthing tubes for the automobile industry. (Application 301.)
- 1449. Workmen employed by a firm of organ builders, and engaged in the preparation and fixing of casings for organs. (Application 304.)

IMMIGRATION INTO THE UNITED STATES IN MARCH, 1914.

The total number of immigrant aliens admitted into the United States in March, 1914, was 92,621, of whom 67,114 were males, and 25,507 were females. Persons to the number of 3,015 were debarred from landing, principally on the ground that they were "likely to become a public charge."

The principal countries of origin of these immigrants were Austria-Hungary (21,553), Italy (26,416), and Russia, including Finland (13,704). The number from British North America was 4,805, and from the United Kingdom 3,765. A majority of the immigrants were described as farm labourers and labourers (46,534) and servants (8,599).

RAILWAY GOODS AND MINERAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

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

The goods and mineral traffic receipts of nineteen of the principal railways in the United Kingdom during the five weeks ended May 2nd, 1914, amounted to £5,500,942, a decrease of £720,531 (or 11.6 per cent.) on the total for the corresponding period of 1913.

During the eighteen weeks ended May 2nd, 1914, the receipts amounted to £20,983,387, a decrease of £553,545 (or 2.6 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1913.

	5 weeks ended May 2nd, 1914.		18 weeks ended May 2nd, 1914.	
	Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on 1913.	Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) on 1913.
English Lines:—				
L. & N.W., Midland, N. London, and N. Staffs.	1,600,464	- 268,719	6,453,539	- 201,447
Gt. Northern, Gt. Central, and Gt. Eastern	942,200	- 183,000	3,789,700	- 84,600
N. Eastern and Lancs and Yorks	964,300	- 153,950	3,680,650	- 150,750
Gt. Western and L. & S.W.	908,000	- 64,700	3,303,300	- 5,500
S. E. & C. and L. B. & S. C.	195,397	- 5,050	684,692	+ 5,464
Scottish Lines:—				
Caledonian, N. British, and Glasgow & S. Western	720,100	- 29,600	2,486,900	- 99,500
Irish Lines:—				
Gt. Southern and Western, Midland & Gt. Western, and Gt. Northern	170,481	- 15,512	578,606	- 17,212
Total	5,500,942	- 720,531	20,983,387	- 553,545

PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.

I.—BREAD.

RETURNS showing the predominant prices of 4 lbs. of bread on May 1st, 1914, 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 tables:—

District.	May 1st, 1914.			April 1st, 1914.			May 1st, 1913.		
	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	5	5.3	6	5	5.3	6	5½	5.6
E. & N.E.	5½	4½	5.2	5½	4½	5.2	6	5½	5.6
S.E.	5½	4½	5.0	5½	5	5.1	5½	5½	5.5
S.W.	5½	5	5.3	6	5	5.3	6	5½	5.8
W. & W.C.	6	5½	5.9	6	6	6.0	6	6	6.0
N. Counties & Yorks, Lancs. & Cheshire.	6½	5	5.8	6½	5	5.9	7	5½	6.0
Midlands	6	4½	5.4	6	4½	5.4	6	5	5.5
Eastern Counties	6	5	5.4	6	5	5.4	6	5	5.5
Southern Counties	6½	5½	6.0	6½	5½	6.0	6	5½	6.0
S. Western Counties and Wales	6	5	5.6	6	5	5.7	6	5	5.7
Scotland	7	5½	6.2	7	5½	6.2	7	5½	6.2
Great Britain	7	4½	5.6	7	4½	5.6	7	5	5.8

The mean of the predominant prices shows no change as compared with April 1st; as compared with May 1st, 1913, there is a slight decrease.

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 May 1st, 1914.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with a		Last change.
		Month ago.	Year ago.	
London	d. 5½	d. —	d. -¼	Dec. '13 -¼
Birmingham	5½ & 6	..	..	May '12 -¼
Bolton	5½	..	..	Jan. '13 -¼
Bristol	6	..	..	May-July '13 +¼
Cardiff	6	..	..	1st Apr. '12 +¼
Derby	6	..	..	April '12 +¼
Hull	5½	..	..	June '10 +¼
Ipswich	6	..	..	March '12 +¼
Leeds	5 & 6	..	..	March '12 +¼
Leicester	5½	..	..	April '12 +¼
Liverpool	5	..	..	Feb. '14 -¼
Manchester	5	..	..	Oct. '11 +¼
Middlesbrough	5½ & 6	..	..	July '12 +¼
Norwich	5	..	..	Nov. '09 -¼
Nottingham	5	..	..	June '10 -¼
Oldham	4½	..	..	March '13 -¼
Plymouth	5 & 6	..	..	..
Portsmouth	6	..	..	Oct. '10 +¼
Stoke-on-Trent	5	..	..	..
Southampton	5½ & 6	..	..	March '14 +¼
Wolverhampton	5	..	..	July '12 -¼
Aberdeen	5½	..	..	Sept. '13 -¼
Dundee	5½	..	..	Sept. '12 -¼
Edinburgh	6½	..	..	Nov. '12 -¼
Glasgow	6	..	..	Oct. '11 +¼
Belfast	6	..	..	March '13 -¼
Dublin	6	..	..	Feb. '13 -¼

As compared with May 1st, 1913, the price on May 1st, 1914, was lower in 6 of the towns; in the remaining towns no change was shown.

II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

Month.	British Wheat		Imports.		Average Monthly Price of Flour (Town Households ex Mill for Cash).
	Mean London Gazette Price (England and Wales).	Per qr. of 480 lbs. s. d.	Per qr. of 480 lbs. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	
April 1913	31 5	36 2	10 4½	27 8	26 8
March 1914	31 5	34 5	10 4	26 10	26 8
April 1914	31 7	34 5	10 3	26 8	26 8

The imports of wheat during September, 1913—April, 1914, amounted to 14,662,531 qrs., or 1,991,262 qrs. less than in the corresponding months of 1912-13. The imports of wheat-meal and flour during September, 1913—April, 1914, amounted to 8,260,089 cwts. (equivalent to 2,676,881 qrs. of wheat, allowing 28 per cent. for offal), or 523,415 cwts. more than in September, 1912—April, 1913.

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

DISTRESS COMMITTEES IN APRIL.

THE total number of Distress Committees whose registers were open at the end of April, 1914, was 25, of which 5 were in "Outer London," 14 in the provincial towns of England and Wales, 4 in Scotland and 2 in Ireland.

The registers of the London Committees are now closed for ordinary purposes. The Committees at Barking, Walthamstow, Northampton and Yarmouth have also closed their registers.

The total number of persons who received employment relief during April, 1914, was 2,786, of whom 1,707 were in London and "Outer London," 268 in the provincial towns of England and Wales, 142 in Scotland and 669 in Ireland.

The average earnings amounted to 44s. 8d. per head, and those who were not on piecework received an average of 3s. 4d. per day; the average duration of employment relief was 13.5 days.

Districts.	No. of Applicants given Employment Relief.		Aggregate Duration of Employment Relief.		Total Amount of Wages Paid.	
	April, 1914.	April, 1913.	April, 1914.	April, 1913.	April, 1914.	April, 1913.
London:—			Days.	Days.	£	£
County	1,062	1,822	16,293	13,376	3,229	1,376
Outer	645	548	7,085	6,265	1,245	1,030
Total, London	1,707	2,370	23,378	19,641	4,474	2,406
Northern Counties Lancs. and Cheshire	180	262	1,348	868	223	174
Yorkshire	17	26	piecework	21	36	353
Midlands	242	34	1,079	420	194	58
Eastern Counties	71	41	252	194	194	60
Southern Counties and Wales	142	173	3,527	3,818	309	343
Scotland	669	276	8,028	2,304	1,004	312
United Kingdom	2,786	3,424	37,360	30,810	6,225	3,742

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN APRIL, 1914.

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

DURING April 873 fresh applications for work (508 from domestic servants, &c.) were registered by 11 Bureaux furnishing returns, and 1,095 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 284 persons, of whom 185 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 284 situations found for applicants, 233 were of a more or less permanent character, while 51 were temporary only.

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

Bureau.	Applications by Work-people during		Situations offered by Employers during		Number of Workpeople engaged by Employers.			
	Apr., 1914.	Apr., 1913.	Apr., 1914.	Apr., 1913.	Perma-nently.	Temp-orarily.	Apr., 1914.	Apr., 1913.
Central Bureau:—								
5, Princes Street, Caven-dish Square, W.	125	119	84	107	32	42	9	8
Y.W.C.A.:—								
25, George Street, (1).. Hanover Sq., W. (2).. Girls' Friendly Society, 39, Victoria Street, S.W.	248	293	452	543	40	64	22	26
Dublin:—								
30, Molesworth Street.. Other Bureaux (Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Edinburgh) and Glasgow	170	212	264	284	65	69	5	2
Total of 11 Bureaux	873	966	1,095	1,244	233	245	51	57

Occupation.	No. of Workpeople engaged.	
	Apr., 1914.	Apr., 1913.
Superintendents, Forewomen, &c.	57	58
Shop Assistants	7	8
Dressmakers, Milliners, &c.	29	25
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists	125	125
Apprentices and Learners	12	20
Domestic Servants	508	580
Miscellaneous	135	147
Total of 11 Bureaux	873	966

In addition to the above registered applications, the

returns show that 29 persons in London and 18 in the provinces were referred to other agencies; 241 persons in London, and 83 in the provinces, were given advice as to training, etc., but were not registered.

PAUPERISM IN APRIL, 1914.

[Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland and Ireland.]

The number of paupers relieved on one day in April, 1914, in the 35 urban districts named below, corresponded to a rate of 189 per 10,000.

Compared with March, 1914, the total number of paupers relieved decreased by 7,046 (or 2.0 per cent.), while the rate per 10,000 decreased by 4. The number of indoor paupers decreased by 3,505 (or 2.0 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers by 3,541 (or 2.0 per cent.). There were small increases in two districts, but in 29 districts there were decreases, all, however, of small amount, the greatest being 13 per 10,000 in the Dublin district. The remaining 4 districts showed no change.

Compared with April, 1913, the rate per 10,000 decreased by 3. The number of indoor paupers decreased by 2,907 (or 1.7 per cent.), and the number of outdoor paupers increased by 277 (or 0.2 per cent.). There were increases in 17 districts, the greatest being in the Stockton and Tees district (14 per 10,000). The remaining 18 districts showed decreases, the most marked being in the North London district (18 per 10,000), in the Dublin district (15 per 10,000), and in the Aberdeen district (14 per 10,000).

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of April, 1914.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	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	12,579	2,082	14,661	180	- 5	- 8
North District	15,333	7,085	22,418	221	- 9	- 18
Central District	4,895	1,407	6,302	424	- 4	+ 7
East District	14,365	5,223	19,588	291	- 5	- 2
South District	25,101	14,643	39,744	213	- 6	+ 1
Total, Metropolis	72,273	30,440	102,713	227	- 7	- 6
West Ham	5,250	10,809	16,059	218	- 5	- 8
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District	2,523	4,813	7,336	184	- 2	- 5
Stockton & Tees District	1,282	3,514	4,796	195	- 5	+ 14
Bolton, Oldham, &c.	4,367	4,060	8,427	105	..	- 1
Wigan District	2,226	5,061	7,287	168	- 3	- 9
Manchester District	10,913	6,910	17,823	178	- 6	- 5
Liverpool District	12,157	10,843	23,000	206	- 1	+ 4
Bradford District	2,207	1,696	3,903	105	- 3	+ 1
Halifax & Huddersfield	1,307	2,785	4,092	107	- 2	+ 2
Leeds District	2,768	3,489				

TRADE DISPUTES IN APRIL.*

(Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.)

Number and Magnitude.—The number of disputes beginning in April was 99, as compared with 105 in the previous month and 153 in April, 1913. In these new disputes 25,184 workpeople were directly, and 2,888 indirectly involved; and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople involved in disputes which began before April and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 211,211 workpeople involved in trade disputes in April, 1914, as compared with 92,788 in March, 1914, and 80,110 in April, 1913.

New Disputes in April, 1914.—In the following Table the new disputes for April are summarised by trades affected:—

Groups of Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople involved.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Building	24	3,486	12	3,498
Coal Mining	19	14,131	1,865	15,996
Quarrying	2	67	..	67
Engineering	8	874	48	922
Shipbuilding	2	888	212	1,100
Other Metal	2	500	..	500
Textile	6	431	651	1,082
Boot and Shoe	2	742	..	742
Transport	9	1,171	..	1,171
Other Trades	20	2,894	100	2,994
Total, April, 1914	99	25,184	2,888	28,072
Total, March, 1914	105	17,685	13,270	30,955
Total, April, 1913	153	47,150	16,493	63,643

Causes.—Of the 99 new disputes, 50, directly involving 8,643 workpeople, arose on demands for advances in wages; 13, directly involving 10,377 workpeople, on other wages questions; 17, directly involving 2,660 workpeople, on questions respecting the employment of particular classes or persons; 16, directly involving 2,994 workpeople, on questions of Trade Union

Principal Disputes which began or ended in April.

Occupations and Locality.†	Number of Workpeople involved.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.‡	Result.§
	Directly.	Indirectly.				
Building— Electrical wiremen, etc.—London ..	900	..	1 Apr.	..	For advance in wages and other concessions, and refusal to agree to work peaceably with non-unionists.	No settlement reported.
Painters—Edinburgh and Leith ..	1,200	..	20 Apr.	9	For advance in wages from 9d. to 10½. per hour (instead of to 9½d. as offered by employers), agreement to terminate at end of February instead of December, 1915.	Advance to 9½d. per hour granted, agreement to terminate in December, 1915, but a conference to be held at the end of 1914, under the presidency of an officer of the Board of Trade, to decide whether a further advance of ½d. per hour should then be granted.
Coal Mining— Miners, etc.—Yorkshire	150,000 ¶	..	16 Feb.	52	Strike at certain collieries in South Yorkshire district against refusal of employers to add to the newly-established district minimum daily wage the percentages above standard paid on the old minimum; followed at end of March by general sympathetic strike in South and West Yorkshire.	A lower minimum to be fixed for certain collieries by the South Yorkshire Joint District Board, and percentages above standard to be added.
Miners, etc.—Ebbw Vale	6,000 ¶	..	27 Apr.	12	Alleged insufficient payment for working in certain abnormal places, and other alleged grievances.	Agreement arrived at providing for discussion of matters in dispute, and for the prevention of future disputes.
Textile— Lace weavers and other workpeople—Ayrshire and Glasgow ..	700	1,500	14 Feb.	55	For adoption of a new list of prices, involving advances in wages, etc.	A modified list agreed upon. (See also p. 167.)
Clothing— Boot and shoe makers (hand-sewn)—London, W.	700	..	24 Apr.	..	For advance in wages.	No settlement reported.
Furnishing— Upholsterers—London	900	..	18 Apr.	..	For advance in wages of 1d. per hour to time workers, with a minimum of 11d. per hour, advance of 10 per cent. on piece rates, and other concessions.	No settlement reported.

Unsettled Disputes.—34 disputes, involving about 27,000 workpeople, which began before 1st May, were still in progress at the time of going to press. The most important of these was the dispute in the building

* 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.
‡ This includes the aggregate duration in 1914 of the general dispute at Dublin, estimated at 202,000 days.
§ 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.

principle; and 3, directly involving 510 workpeople, on other questions.

Results.—During the month settlements were effected in the case of 51 new disputes, directly involving 9,260 workpeople, and 26 old disputes, directly involving 103,911 workpeople. Of these disputes 14, directly involving 2,829 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 25, directly involving 2,304 persons, were settled in favour of the employers; and 38, directly involving 108,038 persons, were compromised.

Aggregate Duration.—The number of working days lost in April by disputes which began, or were settled, in that month amounted to 2,439,200. In addition 534,600 working days were lost during April owing to disputes which began before that month, and were still in progress at the end of the month. Thus the total duration in April of all disputes, new and old, was 2,973,800 working days, as compared with 1,016,100 in the previous month and 588,400 in the corresponding month of last year.

Summary, January to April, 1913 and 1914†:—

Groups of Trades.	Jan. to April, 1913.			Jan. to April, 1914.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople Involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople Involved.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days of all Disputes in progress.
Building	40	3,497	37,500	59	25,460	1,353,500
Coal Mining	37	42,143	197,500	61	202,233	2,910,400
Other Mining and Quarrying	5	1,847	38,800	4	434	24,900
Engineering	39	12,946	158,900	26	3,346	339,100
Shipbuilding	39	6,079	32,200	35	7,025	43,100
Other Metal	28	8,085	89,400	22	5,422	104,400
Textile	86	36,287	659,900	47	10,975	322,100
Clothing	29	7,441	121,100	22	2,206	23,100
Transport	38	27,815	827,300	24	3,303	31,800
Other Trades	67	13,660	112,700	57	7,660	248,200
Total	408	159,800	2,275,100	357	273,114	5,602,600†

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.*

(Based on Returns from Employers and Workpeople.)

Wages.
Changes taking effect in April.—The net result of all the changes taking effect in April, 1914, was a decrease of £8,667 per week, affecting 250,064 workpeople, of whom 46,320 received an increase of £3,308 per week, and 203,744, all in the mining and quarrying and iron and steel industries, sustained a decrease of £11,975 per week.

Four changes, affecting 1,660 workpeople, were arranged by arbitration; eight changes, affecting 122,733 workpeople, were arranged by conciliation boards; and twenty-one changes, affecting 40,794 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives. In twenty-eight cases, affecting 3,317 workpeople, the changes were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

Summary for January-April, 1914.—The total number of workpeople (separate individuals) whose rates of wages were changed, so far as reported, during the four months ended April 30th, 1914, was 342,046. The changes arranged gave 113,887 workpeople a net increase of £9,046 per week, and 228,159 a net decrease of £15,172 per week. The net effect of all the changes was thus a decrease of £6,126 per week. The net decreases were confined to the mining and quarrying and iron and steel industries, and resulted from a decline in selling prices of coal and iron. In all other industries wages showed an upward movement.

The following Table summarises by trades the number of individuals affected by changes in rates of wages in January-April, 1913 and 1914, and the net increases or decreases in their weekly wages:—

GROUPS OF TRADES.	January to April.			
	1913.		1914.	
	No.	£	No.	£
Building	38,231	+ 3,831	28,246	+ 2,774
Coal Mining	728,653	+ 66,246	147,707	- 9,294
Iron, &c., Mining	18,847	+ 2,313	20,747	- 1,443
Quarrying	3,747	+ 411	4,340	- 17
Engineering	17,574	+ 1,549	17,600	- 1,349
Iron and Steel Manufacture	47,648	+ 2,392	47,982	- 2,663
Engineering and Shipbuilding	78,868	+ 4,506	29,264	+ 1,997
Other Metal Trades	2,549	+ 211	1,287	+ 183
Textile Trades	91,471	+ 5,220	14,195	+ 694
Clothing Trades	4,647	+ 700	2,146	+ 139
Transport Trades	7,739	+ 599	4,500	+ 464
Printing, &c., Trades	2,651	+ 177	9,382	+ 622
Glass, &c., Trades	11,559	+ 818	1,078	+ 140
Other Trades	5,969	+ 517	10,040	+ 1,273
Employees of Local Authorities	3,715	+ 288	3,532	+ 349
Total	1,063,812	+ 89,778	342,046	- 6,126

Hours.

The changes in hours of labour taking effect in April, 1914, affected 1,558 workpeople, whose working-time was reduced by 2,153 hours per week. In the four months ended April 30th, 192 workpeople had their hours increased by 1,096 per week, and 12,233 had reductions amounting to 29,699 per week.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES IN APRIL, 1914.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change took effect.	Occupations.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in Italics.)
Building	Glasgow	13 Apl.	Painters	2,500	Increase of ¼d. per hour (9½d. to 10d.).
	Edinburgh and Leith.	30 Apl.	Painters	1,200	Increase of ½d. per hour (9d. to 9½d.).
	Cumberland	13 Apl.	Hewers and other underground workers.	7,000	Decrease of 2¼ per cent., leaving wages of hewers 62½ per cent., and of other underground workers 52½ per cent. above the standard of 1879.
Coal Mining	Bristol	6 Apl.	Hewers, other underground workers and banksmen.	2,500	Decrease of 1½ per cent., leaving wages 33½ per cent. above the standard of 1912.
	Radstock District	6 Apl.	Hewers, other underground workers, banksmen, enginemen and stokers.	4,100	Decrease of 2½ per cent., leaving wages of hewers 52½ per cent. above the standard on the Gloucester side, and 51½ per cent. and 60 per cent. respectively on the Somerset side.
	Scotland	28 & 29 Apl.	Surfacemen, mechanics and boiler firemen. Enginemen	110,000	Decrease of 6¼ per cent., leaving wages 81¼ per cent. above the standard of 1888. Decrease of 1d. per shift.
Iron Mining	Cleveland	27 Apl.	Ironstone miners	9,000	Decrease of 3d. per day.
	Scotland	29 Apl.	Underground oncostmen and surface workers.	1,450	Decreases of 1d. to 3d. per day.
Shale Mining	Scotland	30 Apl.	Shale miners	3,600	Decrease of 3d. per day.
			Underground oncostmen	1,200	Decreases of 1d. to 3d. per day.
Quarrying	W. and S. Durham	27 Apl.	Winding enginemen	100	Decrease of 3d. per day.
	West Cumberland	6 Apl.	Surface oncostmen and other surface workers.	750	Decrease of 1d. or 1½d. per day.
Fig Iron Manufacture	Cleveland and Durham.	4 Apl.	Oilworkers	3,150	Decrease of 1¼d. per day.
	West Cumberland	6 Apl.	Limestone quarrymen	2,500	Decrease of 4¼ per cent., leaving wages 30 per cent. above the standard of 1879.
Iron and Steel Manufacture	South Staffs.	6 Apl.	Blastfurnacemen	5,500	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 4¼ per cent., leaving wages 24¼ per cent. above the standard of 1879.
	S. Wales and Mon.	1 Apl.	Blastfurnacemen	1,400	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 4 per cent., leaving wages 25 per cent. above the standard of 1889.
Engineering	Consett, Jarrow & Newburn.	1 Apl.	Steel millmen	1,000	Increase, under sliding scale, of 2½ per cent.
	Midlands (including parts of S. Yorks. and S. Lancs.)	6 Apl.	Blastfurnacemen	1,250	Increase, under sliding scale, of ½ per cent., making wages 30½ per cent. above the standard of 1895.
Textile	Leeds	1st pay Apl.	Iron puddlers	1,184	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 5 per cent.
	Sheffield	3 Apl.	Iron millmen	20,000	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 3d. per ton. Rate after change (including bonus) 10s. per ton.
Iron and Steel Manufacture	S. Wales and Mon. (6 firms)	1 Apl.	Iron and steel workers and mechanics	5,000	Increase, under sliding scale, of ½ per cent., making wages 30½ per cent. above the standard of 1895.
	S. Wales and Mon. (6 firms)	6 Apl.	Iron puddlers, iron and steel millmen, enginemen, &c.	2,000	Decrease, under sliding scale, of 3d. per ton, or 2½ per cent.
Engineering	Leeds	1st pay Apl.	Engineers, &c.	14,000	Increase on time rates of 1s. per week, and on piece rates of 2½ per cent.
	Sheffield	3 Apl.	Engineers, &c.	5,000	Increase on time rates of 2s. per week, and on piece rates of 6 per cent.
Textile	Macclesfield	24 Apl.	Hard silk workers	1,200	Increase of 1s. per week.

Addenda.—In addition to the changes mentioned above, builders' labourers in London were granted an increase of ½d. per hour, but owing to the building dispute being still in progress it is not possible to say how many have actually received the higher rate.

Changes in May.—Full particulars will appear in the June Gazette of the following important changes arranged to take effect in May:—

Coal Mining.—Decrease of 5 per cent. in the wages of miners in the Forest of Dean, and of 2½ per cent. in Durham.
Pig Iron Manufacture.—Decrease of 5 per cent. in the wages of blastfurnacemen in Darbyshire and Nottinghamshire.
Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Decrease of 5 per cent. in the wages of steel melters, &c., in various parts of Great Britain.

* Exclusive of agricultural labourers, seamen, and railway servants.

BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR EXCHANGES—FIVE WEEKS ENDED 17TH APRIL.

The total number of workpeople remaining on the Registers* of the Board of Trade Labour Exchanges on April 17th was 106,472, as compared with 123,714 on March 13th, 1914, and with 97,854 on April 18th, 1913. The total number of registrations of workpeople during the five weeks ended April 17th was 240,434, a daily average of 8,587, as compared with a daily average of 9,259 in the previous four weeks, and of 8,440 in the five weeks ended April 18th, 1913.

Excluding re-registrations of persons placed in vacancies through the Exchanges during the period, the total number of workpeople on the Register at some time or other during the period was 335,719 (men 232,870, women 61,996, boys 22,192, and girls 18,661), as compared with 345,061 in the four weeks ended March 13th, 1914, and with 328,422 in the five weeks ended April 18th, 1913.

The total number of vacancies notified to the Exchanges during the period was 120,837, a daily average of 4,316, as compared with 4,129 in the four weeks ended March 13th, 1914, and with 4,140 in the five weeks ended April 18th, 1913.

The total number of vacancies filled during the period was 90,104, a daily average of 3,218, as compared with 3,107 in the previous four weeks, and with 3,004 in the five weeks ended April 18th, 1913.

The vacancies filled during the period include 11,556 cases in which persons were placed in Exchange districts other than those in which they were registered. Of these 557 represent transferences from one division to another. Of the total vacancies filled, 5,494 were filled by applicants residing more than five miles from the place in which the work was to be performed.

The average daily numbers of registrations, vacancies notified, and vacancies filled are shown below for the periods stated:—

	5 weeks ended April 17th, 1914.		4 weeks ended Mar. 13th, 1914.		5 weeks ended April 18th, 1913.	
	Adults.	Juveniles.	Adults.	Juveniles.	Adults.	Juveniles.
Insured Trades.						
Registrations†	4,084	45	4,443	51	3,769	47
Vacancies notified	1,608	47	1,542	51	1,504	58
Vacancies filled	1,297	33	1,253	37	1,183	37
Uninsured Trades.						
Registrations†	Males 1,668	Females 569	Males 1,811	Females 602	Males 1,925	Females 542
Vacancies notified	Males 1,729	Females 491	Males 1,811	Females 542	Males 1,864	Females 456
Vacancies filled	Males 1,015	Females 329	Males 919	Females 357	Males 876	Females 330
	Males 653	Females 285	Males 597	Females 300	Males 668	Females 264
	Males 726	Females 219	Males 674	Females 247	Males 635	Females 217

The Exchanges open at April 17th numbered 422.

INSURED TRADES. §

Registrations.—The number of registrations effected during the period was 98,191 (men 96,720, women 245, boys 1,208, and girls 18), a daily average of 3,507, as compared with 3,877 in the preceding four weeks. The total number of workpeople on the Register at some time or other during the period was 168,653 (men 166,581, women 429, boys 1,622, and girls 21). These figures exclude 17,443 cases in which persons who obtain employment during the period were re-registered on again becoming unemployed, and represent separate individuals.

The number of workpeople remaining on the Register on April 17th was 60,366, as compared with 70,462 on March 13th.

Vacancies Notified and Filled.—The number of vacancies notified to the Exchanges during the period was 46,339, a daily average of 1,655, compared with 1,593 in the previous four weeks. The number of vacancies filled was 37,227, a daily average of 1,330, as compared with 1,290 in the previous four weeks. The percentage of vacancies filled to vacancies notified was 80.3.

* Excluding workmen in certain occupations of a more or less casual nature (i.e., dock labourers, cloth porters and cotton porters), which are dealt with in the last paragraph but one.

† Including re-registrations of persons placed in vacancies through the Exchanges during the period.

§ The figures for these trades relate to workpeople who are insured against unemployment under the provisions of Part II. of the National Insurance Act, 1911.

The following table shows, for men, the proportion of registrations, vacancies notified and vacancies filled, respectively, in each group of occupations:—

Groups of Occupations.	Registrations.	Vacancies Notified.	Vacancies Filled.
Building and Construction of Works	Per cent. 48.9	Per cent. 52.7	Per cent. 52.4
Sawmilling	0.7	0.3	0.3
Shipbuilding	16.4	21.8	21.2
Mechanical Engineering	31.9	23.3	24.5
Construction of Vehicles	1.7	1.5	1.3
Cabinet Making, etc.	0.4	0.4	0.3

UNINSURED TRADES.

Registrations.—The number of registrations effected during the period was 113,814 (men 41,219, women 43,880, boys 15,363, and girls 13,352), a daily average of 4,065, as compared with 4,447 in the preceding four weeks. The total number of workpeople on the register at some time or other during the period was 167,066 (men 66,289, women 61,567, boys 20,570, and girls 18,640). These figures are exclusive of re-applications from persons already placed in vacancies by the Exchanges during the period, which numbered 10,986.

The number of workpeople remaining on the register at April 17th was 46,106 (men 20,904, women 15,615, boys 4,954, and girls 4,633), as compared with 53,252 on March 13th.

Vacancies Notified and Filled.—The number of vacancies notified during the period was 74,498, a daily average of 2,661, as compared with 2,536 in the preceding four weeks.

The number of vacancies filled during the period was 52,877, a daily average of 1,888, as compared with 1,817 in the preceding four weeks. The percentage of vacancies filled to vacancies notified was 71.0.

Of the vacancies filled during the period, 11,281 (men 6,097, women 4,707, boys 284, and girls 193) were known to be for less than a week's employment; of these 2,937 were for men in conveyance of men, goods and messages, 1,380 were for general labourers, and 3,081 were for women in domestic offices or services.

Of the 14,114 vacancies for boys and girls filled during the period, 4,456 (boys 2,405 and girls 2,051), or 31.6 per cent., were filled by applicants who obtained their first situations since leaving school.

The following table shows the proportion of registrations, vacancies notified and vacancies filled in certain groups of trades to the total for the uninsured trades:—

Trade Group.	Registrations.	Vacancies Notified.	Vacancies Filled.
Men:—			
Conveyance of Men, Goods, &c.	Per cent. 27.6	Per cent. 26.5	Per cent. 29.3
General Labourers	23.4	18.9	21.9
Textiles	6.4	7.6	7.0
Commercial Occupations	6.3	3.7	3.3
Women:—			
Domestic Offices or Services	55.3	56.6	56.6
Textiles	9.7	10.4	11.3
Food, Tobacco, Drink, &c.	8.7	10.6	12.0
Dress	4.9	7.4	5.4

CASUAL EMPLOYMENT.

The number of men given casual employment through the Exchanges was 2,174, and the number of casual jobs given was 17,157, a daily average of 613, compared with 625 in the preceding four weeks, and of 669 in the five weeks ended April 18th, 1913. Of the jobs given during the period, 11,676 were for dock labourers, 5,338 for cloth porters at Manchester, and 143 for cotton porters at Liverpool. During the period there were also 1,511 cases in which men were given employment through the Clearing House System for Dock Labourers at Liverpool.

UNSATISFIED DEMAND FOR LABOUR.

During the period covered by the Returns there was a continuance of the demand for labour in the shipbuilding trades, and in the building trades there was a scarcity in some districts. Painters were in general demand in the provinces. There was also a deficiency of women in the clothing trades.

I.—DISTRICT TABLES.*

Registrations, Vacancies Notified, and Vacancies Filled in the Period of Five Weeks ended April 17th, 1914.

A.—ADULTS AND JUVENILES.

	Exchanges Open.	London and South Eastern.	Scotland and North of England.	North Western.	Yorkshire and East Midlands.	West Midlands.	South Western.	Wales.	Ireland.	Total.
		76	78	77†	64	43	27	34	22	421‡
On Register at beginning of period	Insured Trades	25,388	9,986	11,057	7,237	5,215	5,921	1,619	4,039	70,462
	Uninsured Trades	18,510	6,779	7,637	6,710	5,239	3,895	1,767	2,725	53,252
	Total	43,898	16,765	18,694	13,947	10,454	9,816	3,386	6,764	123,714
Registrations†	Insured Trades	28,015	19,770	18,860	16,426	7,729	9,311	11,510	4,013	115,634
	Uninsured Trades	40,417	17,585	21,552	16,483	10,378	7,748	5,058	5,569	124,800
	Total	68,432	37,355	40,412	32,909	18,107	17,059	16,578	9,582	240,434
On Register at end of period	Insured Trades	19,053	8,412	9,797	7,977	5,059	4,975	1,775	3,308	60,366
	Uninsured Trades	16,129	5,702	7,037	5,982	4,059	3,249	1,606	2,342	46,106
	Total	35,182	14,114	16,834	13,959	9,128	8,224	3,381	5,650	106,472
Vacancies Notified	Insured Trades	7,597	9,338	5,060	7,680	2,624	3,879	9,226	940	46,339
	Uninsured Trades	20,693	11,631	14,077	10,612	5,442	5,854	3,708	2,481	74,498
	Total	28,290	20,969	19,137	18,292	8,066	9,733	12,934	3,421	120,837
Vacancies Filled	Insured Trades	6,203	7,096	3,909	6,487	2,103	3,250	7,527	653	37,227
	Uninsured Trades	14,885	8,516	9,642	7,397	3,586	4,540	2,629	1,682	52,877
	Total	21,088	15,611	13,551	13,884	5,689	7,790	10,156	2,335	90,104

B.—ADULTS.

District.	REGISTRATIONS.									VACANCIES.					
	On Register at Beginning of Period.			Registrations during Period.†			On Register at End of Period.			Notified during Period.			Filled during Period.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
London and South Eastern	34,858	5,421	40,279	42,118	15,681	57,799	26,788	4,866	31,654	12,375	8,082	20,457	9,751	5,991	15,742
Scotland and North of England	12,231	2,738	14,969	24,290	8,019	32,309	10,326	2,230	12,556	12,189	5,078	17,267	9,231	3,971	13,202
North Western	14,275	3,151	17,426	28,982	9,645	38,627	12,855	2,946	15,801	9,562	6,368	15,930	7,197	4,514	11,711
Yorkshire and East Midlands	10,586	2,163	12,749	22,933	5,965	28,898	10,906	1,889	12,795	10,934	3,845	14,779	9,132	2,603	11,735
West Midlands	7,353	1,795	9,148	11,358	3,333	14,691	6,650	1,507	8,157	4,049	1,773	5,822	3,049	1,115	4,164
South Western	8,001	1,050	9,051	13,437	2,110	15,547	6,611	931	7,542	6,990	1,333	8,323	6,119	938	7,057
Wales (including Mon.)	2,330	609	2,939	13,556	1,771	15,327	2,372	586	2,958	10,918	1,195	12,113	8,835	753	9,588
Ireland	5,297	944	6,241	6,131	2,148	8,279	4,403	828	5,231	1,972	859	2,831	1,289	682	1,871
Total (28 days)	94,931	17,871	112,802	160,805	48,672	209,477	80,711	15,783	96,494	68,939	28,563	97,502	54,603	20,467	75,070
Total a Month ago (24 days)	115,767	17,650	133,417	149,806	43,700	193,506	94,931	17,871	112,802	55,552	22,203	77,755	44,867	16,290	60,557
Total a Year ago (28 days)	89,901	15,935	105,836	159,137	46,870	206,016	70,638	17,518	88,156	67,847	24,657	92,504	51,706	17,890	69,596

C.—JUVENILES. †

District.	REGISTRATIONS.									VACANCIES.					
	On Register at Beginning of Period.			Registrations during Period.†			On 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	2,143	1,476	3,619	6,431	4,202	10,633	2,182	1,346	3,528	4,948	2,885	7,833	3,387	1,959	5,346
Scotland and North of England	739	1,057	1,796	2,303	2,743	5,046	681	877	1,558	2,001	1,696	3,697	1,201	1,208	2,409
North Western	527	741	1,268	2,075	1,710	3,785	539	694	1,233	1,900	1,307	3,207	1,096	744	1,840
Yorkshire and East Midlands	542	656	1,198	2,042	1,969	4,011	523	641	1,164	2,009	1,504	3,513	1,174	975	2,149
West Midlands	669	637	1,306	1,907	1,509	3,416	514	457	971	1,336	908	2,244	884	641	1,525
South Western	453	312	765	852	660	1,512	391	291	682	884	526	1,410	445	288	733
Wales (including Mon.)	189	248	437	627	624	1,251	211	212	423	526	295	821	333	235	568
Ireland	359	164	523	955	348	1,303	302	117	419	441	119	560	358	106	464
Total (28 days)	5,621	5,291	10,912	17,192	13,765	30,957	5,343	4,635	9,978	14,045	9,240	23,285	8,878	6,166	15,044
Total a Month ago (24 days)	5,931	5,949	11,880	15,669	13,020	28,689	5,621	5,291	10,912	12,780	8,604	21,384	8,074	5,947	14,021
Total a Year ago (28 days)	4,494	4,674	9,168	16,455	13,844	30,299	4,623	5,031	9,654	14,398	9,012	23,410	8,388	6,123	14,511

* Exclusive of casual employments. † Including re-registrations of persons placed in vacancies through the Exchanges during the period. ‡ Excluding the Manchester Cloth Porters' Exchange, which deals only with casual employment. § Persons under 17 years of age are classed as juveniles.

II.—TRADE TABLES.
A. INSURED TRADES.

Registrations, Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the Five Weeks ended April 17th, 1914.

OCCUPATION GROUPS.†	ADULTS.					JUVENILES.				
	REGISTRATIONS.			VACANCIES.		REGISTRATIONS.			VACANCIES.	
	On Register at Beginning of Period.	Registrations during Period.	On Register at End of Period.	Notified during Period.	Filled during Period.	On Register at Beginning of Period.	Registrations during Period.	On Register at End of Period.	Notified during Period.	Filled during Period.
Building—										
Carpenters, Joiners, etc.	6,446	10,070	5,386	3,998	3,158	17	59	21	83	41
Bricklayers	4,266	5,343	3,186	2,013	1,542	1	2	1	5	2
Masons	2,155	2,261	1,706	863	597	4	1	1	9	1
Painters, Decorators, &c.	5,996	6,397	1,857	5,243	3,840	9	1	1	5	2
Plumbers and Glaziers	1,797	2,528	1,563	503	435	10	25	9	121	38
Other skilled occupations	2,418	3,404	2,074	723	574	21	9	6	31	10
Labourers	12,199	17,903	9,561	5,678	4,753	10	32	9	12	4
Construction of Works	3,313	7,898	2,920	4,618	4,035	—	6	—	62	46
Sawmilling	732	848	648	151	111	1	12	2	17	15
Shipbuilding—										
Platers, Riveters, &c.	2,048	6,338	2,315	3,295	2,416	18	43	7	30	29
Shipwrights	240	1,969	187	1,712	1,289	1	1	1	12	3
Labourers	4,380	10,454	4,063	4,754	3,969	56	113	35	99	61
Mechanical Engineering—										
Moulders (Iron and Steel)	3,224	4,332	3,553	879	805	9	59	12	73	52
Smiths	883	1,479	1,005	394	297	7	14	6	36	20
Erectors, Fitters, Turners	5,855	10,082	6,259	2,927	2,498	133	417	146	262	253
Metal Machinists	2,092	2,887	1,997	745	607	39	124	38	116	100
Wiremen, Electricians, &c.	724	1,308	745	446	326	15	41	18	32	22
Other skilled occupations	3,157	5,098	3,161	1,286	978	23	93	29	102	72
Labourers	6,269	11,133	5,963	3,724	3,260	41	109	31	82	71
Construction of Vehicles	1,369	1,929	1,440	656	469	16	56	14	73	56
Cabinet Making, &c.	301	393	220	200	113	4	17	4	22	14
Total Males	69,861	114,104	59,807	44,872	36,172	414	1,254	389	1,285	890
Total Females	184	253	168	151	135	3	18	2	31	30
Grand Total	70,045	114,362	59,975	45,023	36,307	417	1,272	391	1,316	920

* Including cases in which persons who obtained employment during the period were re-registered on again becoming unemployed.
† Occupations are grouped according to the industry with which they are mainly connected.

B. UNINSURED TRADES.

1.—ADULTS.

Registrations, Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the Five Weeks ended April 17th, 1914.

TRADES.	REGISTRATIONS.									VACANCIES.								
	On Register at Beginning of Period.			Registrations during Period.*			On Register at End of Period.			Notified during Period.			Filled during Period.					
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.			
Mining and Quarrying	266	67	333	1,199	7	1,206	254	65	319	1,241	12	1,253	897	13	910			
Miscellaneous Metal Trades	399	256	655	749	669	1,418	245	203	448	468	395	863	304	310	614			
Textiles—																		
Cotton	480	696	1,176	1,839	3,117	4,956	429	696	1,125	1,456	2,016	3,472	1,016	1,566	2,582			
Wool and Worsted	342	147	489	651	523	1,174	332	142	474	136	289	425	149	247	396			
Other Textiles	282	234	516	491	1,037	1,528	231	299	530	181	654	835	129	487	616			
Dress—																		
Boot and Shoe Workers	600	85	685	958	248	1,206	465	84	549	554	136	690	350	94	444			
Others	282	749	1,031	452	2,100	2,552	194	544	738	344	1,964	2,308	94	1,010	1,104			
Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages—																		
On Railways	88	—	88	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
On Roads, Seas, Rivers, &c.	7,180	—	7,180	12,642	247	13,151	110	84	194	6,158	5,706	11,864	571	66	637			
Agriculture	718	84	802	1,437	260	1,697	93	665	758	1,107	636	1,743	82	647	729			
Paper, Prints, Books and Stationery	392	244	636	824	1,061	1,905	409	295	704	323	314	637	603	135	738			
Wood, Furniture, Fittings and Decorations	107	13	120	166	37	203	67	16	83	323	627	950	235	503	738			
Chemicals, Oil, Grease, Soap, &c.	125	87	212	324	259	583	95	71	166	400	155	555	382	144	526			
Bricks, Cement, Pottery and Glass	160	204	364	509	491	1,000	153	129	282	408	270	678	258	183	441			
Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging—																		
Bread, Biscuit, &c., Makers	346	30	376	481	104	585	239	34	273	268	154	422	140	101	241			
Others	725	1,360	2,085	1,293	4,128	5,421	620	1,503	2,123	636	2,864	3,500	427	2,331	2,758			
Skins, Leather, Hair, Feathers	126	71	197	247	215	462	107	70	177	86	106	192	41	78	119			
Precious Metals, Jewels, Watches, Instruments and Games	145	46	191	282	103	385	107	25	132	73	50	123	38	75	113			
Gas, Water, Electricity Supply and Sanitary Service	87	—	87	198	—	198	71	—	71	287	—	287	250	—	250			
Commercial	2,085	1,216	3,301	2,929	1,661	4,590	1,847	1,065	2,912	896	512	1,408	610	359	969			
Domestic (Outdoor)—																		
Laundry and Washing Service	1,838	660	2,498	1,970	2,853	4,823	1,584	504	2,088	1,316	1,808	3,124	863	1,432	2,295			
Others	5,490	8,517	14,007	10,943	24,813	35,756	4,577	7,572	12,149	4,563	14,264	18,827	4,036	10,072	14,108			
General Labourers	856	1,272	2,128	1,171	2,004	3,175	642	994	1,636	237	660	897	93	408	501			
Shop Assistants	1,951	1,475	3,426	3,801	3,340	7,141	1,590	1,127	2,717	2,617	1,003	3,620	2,072	691	2,763			
All Others	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Total	25,070	17,687	42,757	46,701	48,414	95,115	20,904	15,615	36,519	24,117	18,412	52,529	18,431	20,335	38,766			
Casual Employments	2,928	—	2,928	931	—	931	2,961	—	2,961	—	—	—	—	—	—			

* Including re-registrations of persons placed in vacancies through the Exchanges during the period.

2.—JUVENILES.

Vacancies Notified and Vacancies Filled in the Five Weeks ended April 17th, 1914.

TRADES.	NOTIFIED DURING PERIOD.			FILLED DURING PERIOD.			TRADES.	NOTIFIED DURING PERIOD.			FILLED DURING PERIOD.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.		Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
	Mining and Quarrying	64	2	66	44	3		47	Total brought forward ..	7,119	3,808	10,927	4,077	2,634	6,711
Miscellaneous Metal Trades	343	247	590	258	211	469	Food, Tobacco, Drink and Lodging	492	472	964	272	373	645
Textiles	452	765	1,217	270	546	816	Skins, Leather, Hair, &c.	87	136	223	64	100	164
Dress	398	1,446	1,844	177	861	1,038	Watches, Instruments, &c.	132	93	225	97	70	167
Conveyance of Men, Goods and Messages	4,971	527	5,498	2,740	356	3,096	Gas, Water, Electricity Supply and Sanitary Service	12	—	12	6	—	6
Agriculture	153	41	194	91	19	110	Commercial	1,337	372	1,709	945	291	1,236
Paper, Prints, Books, &c.	400	510	910	275	412	687	Domestic (Outdoor)	625	3,392	4,017	344	2,004	2,348
Wood, Furniture, Fittings, &c.	72	39	111	64	35	99	Shop Assistants	428	551	979	202	341	543
Chemicals, Oil, Grease, &c.	86	143	229	58	125	183	All Others	2,528	385	2,913	1,961	313	2,274
Bricks, Cement, Pottery, &c.	170	88	258	97	68	165	Total	12,760	9,209	21,969	7,988	6,126	14,114

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS
IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

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

THE total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act during April, 1914, was 50, of which 41 were due to lead poisoning, 2 to other forms of poisoning, and 7 to anthrax; 5 deaths, 3 due to lead poisoning and 2 to anthrax, were also reported. In addition, 14 cases of lead poisoning (1 of which was fatal) were reported among house painters and plumbers.

During the four months ended April, 1914, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported under the Factory and Workshop Act was 211, as compared with 235 during the corresponding period of 1913. The number of deaths in 1914 was 19, as compared with 10 in 1913. In addition there were 66 cases of lead poisoning (including 11 deaths) among house painters and plumbers during the first four months of 1914, as compared with 77 cases (including 15 deaths) during the corresponding period of 1913. No cases of phosphorus poisoning were reported for any of the periods covered by the Table.

Analysis by Industries.

INDUSTRY.	CASES.			DEATHS.		
	April, 1914.	Four Months Ended		April, 1914.	Four Months Ended	
		April, 1914.	April, 1913.		April, 1914.	April, 1913.
Lead Poisoning.						
Among Operatives engaged in—						
Smelting of Metals	6	13	8	1	2	1
Brass Works	—	3	4	—	—	—
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping	1	10	10	—	—	—
Plumbing and Soldering	3	9	5	—	1	1
Printing	1	5	8	—	—	—
File Cutting	3	7	1	—	—	—
Tinning of Metals	—	7	5	—	—	—
White Lead Works	1*	17	26	2	3	4
Red and Yellow Lead Works	—	1	5	—	—	—
China, Earthenware, and Litho-Transfer Works	—	1	2	—	1	—
Glass Cutting and Polishing	1	4	2	—	—	—
Vitreous Enamelling	3	12	17	—	—	—
Electrical Accumulator Works	3	7	7	—	—	—
Paint and Colour Works	8	33	39	—	2	—
Coach and Car Painting	1	10	8	—	3	—
Shipbuilding	6	19	17	—	—	—
Paint used in other Industries	4	22	33	—	1	—
Other Industries	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total in Factories & Workshops	41	183	202	3	14	8
House Painting and Plumbing	14	66	77	1	11	15
Other Forms of Poisoning.						
Mercurial Poisoning—						
Barometer and Thermometer Making	2	2	2	—	—	—
Furriers' Processes	—	—	1	—	—	—
Other Industries	—	—	3	—	—</	

BUILDING PLANS.

RETURNS have been received by the Department from 94 of the principal urban districts (exclusive of the County of London) in the United Kingdom, showing the estimated cost of the buildings for which they passed plans during the first quarters of 1913 and 1914 respectively. The population of the districts included in the returns is over 12 millions. The particulars, classified by districts and descriptions of buildings, are summarised in the following table:—

District and Population at Census of 1911.	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops and other Business Premises.	Churches, Schools, and Public Buildings.	Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Outer London (1,710,000)	320,437	50,120	17,515	76,545	66,566	531,183
Northern Counties (725,000)	27,940	15,615	82,050	29,200	29,593	184,398
Yorkshire (1,925,000)	171,330	175,974	53,521	103,431	60,699	564,945
Lancashire & Cheshire (2,375,000)	331,260	247,248	95,852	103,950	98,450	876,760
Midlands (1,200,000)	144,020	71,313	57,219	44,455	57,841	374,848
Other Districts in England (1,145,000)	210,635	9,300	19,755	27,700	32,363	299,653
Wales & Mon. (430,000)	97,675	1,180	4,210	17,030	37,211	157,276
Scotland (1,830,000)	59,709	56,540	50,269	130,004	105,568	402,090
Ireland (825,000)	42,400	3,000	9,150	27,995	14,797	97,342
Total	1,405,406	630,290	389,641	560,280	502,978	3,488,495

District and Population at Census of 1911.	Dwelling Houses.	Factories and Workshops.	Shops and other Business Premises.	Churches, Schools, and Public Buildings.	Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Outer London (1,710,000)	429,927	34,698	59,116	42,075	68,014	634,830
Northern Counties (725,000)	52,551	11,230	34,715	37,000	21,847	157,343
Yorkshire (1,925,000)	217,490	118,460	77,175	170,430	67,078	650,633
Lancashire & Cheshire (2,375,000)	403,755	224,693	97,805	80,935	120,501	927,689
Midlands (1,200,000)	223,263	58,800	35,241	79,447	76,129	473,060
Other Districts in England (1,145,000)	237,480	100,835	49,350	59,055	42,122	468,842
Wales & Mon. (430,000)	47,840	4,065	1,673	6,200	21,070	80,848
Scotland (1,830,000)	56,290	107,435	91,006	63,532	141,383	465,646
Ireland (825,000)	57,015	2,190	4,675	39,580	10,936	114,396
Total	1,728,611	661,606	451,756	584,254	569,080	3,992,307

As compared with the three months January-March, 1913, there was during the March quarter of 1914, a net increase of £503,812 (or 14·4 per cent.). The most marked increase was £320,205 (or 22·8 per cent.) in the case of Dwelling Houses. Shops and Other Business Premises showed an increase of 16·0 per cent., whilst "Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations" showed an increase of 13·1 per cent.

The following table shows for each class of building the increase in the quarter ended March 31st, 1914, as compared with the corresponding quarter of 1913:—

Class of Building.	Increase.	
	Amount.	Per cent.
Dwelling Houses	£ 320,205	22·8
Factories and Workshops	131,316	5·0
Shops and other Business Premises	62,215	16·0
Churches, Schools and Public Buildings	23,974	4·3
Other Buildings, Additions and Alterations	66,102	13·1
Total	£ 503,812	14·4

The following table shows for each district the increase or decrease in the quarter ended March 31st, 1914, as compared with the corresponding quarter of 1913:—

District.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-)	
	Amount.	Per cent.
Outer London	+ 102,647	+ 19·3
Northern Counties	+ 27,055	+ 14·7
Yorkshire	+ 85,638	+ 15·2
Lancashire and Cheshire	+ 50,929	+ 5·8
Midlands	+ 98,232	+ 26·2
Other Districts in England	+ 189,189	+ 63·1
Wales and Monmouthshire	+ 76,428	+ 48·5
Scotland	+ 63,556	+ 15·8
Ireland	+ 17,054	+ 17·5
Total	+ 503,812	+ 14·4

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Imports.
April, 1914.—The total value of the imports into the United Kingdom in April, 1914, was £61,625,000, showing a decrease of £1,329,000, or 2·1 per cent., on April, 1913, and an increase of £1,219,000, or 2·0 per cent., on April, 1912.

Food, Drink, and Tobacco.—The imports in this group showed a decrease of £1,390,000, or 5·9 per cent., as compared with April, 1913. All the principal kinds of grain and flour, with the exception of rice, showed a decline in quantity; and there was also a decline in average value under nearly every heading. There was an increase both in the quantity and in the average value of beef and of mutton; but a decline in the quantity and in the average value of bacon. Butter, eggs, and lard, apples and oranges, and potatoes declined in quantity.

Raw Materials.—There was an increase in this group of £452,000, or 2·1 per cent. Cotton showed an increase of 501,000 cents, or 48·6 per cent., and wool 15,036,000 lbs., or 14·5 per cent.; whilst other important textile materials, except silk, showed a decline. There were decreases in iron ore, timber and petroleum. The average value of cotton, wool, and jute rose, whilst that of the other textile materials, iron ore and petroleum, fell.

Manufactured Articles.—In this group there was a decrease of £384,000, or 2·3 per cent. The manufactures of iron and steel, however, showed an increase on the whole, whilst other metals and manufactures thereof showed a fall.

Four Months, January-April, 1914.—The total imports for the four months were valued at £258,614,000, showing a decrease of £584,000, or 0·2 per cent., compared with 1913. Grain and flour showed a decrease, and meat an increase. In the raw materials group cotton, oils, and oil-seeds showed increases, but other articles declined.

	April, 1914			Four months ended April, 1914		
	Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with		Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with	
		1913.	1912.		1913.	1912.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco	Thou- sand £ 22,349	Thou- sand £ - 1,350	Thou- sand £ + 888	Thou- sand £ 90,860	Thou- sand £ + 2,406	Thou- sand £ + 4,565
II.—Raw Materials & Articles mainly Unmanufactured	22,460	+ 452	- 1,713	99,941	- 3,901	- 862
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured	16,592	- 384	+ 2,038	66,588	+ 738	+ 6,451
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcels Post)	224	- 7	+ 6	1,225	+ 173	+ 249
Total	61,625	- 1,329	+ 1,219	258,614	- 584	+ 10,403

Exports (British and Irish).

April, 1914.—The total value of the exports of produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom during April, 1914, was £39,947,000, a decrease of £3,106,000, or 7·2 per cent., on April, 1913, and an increase of £7,060,000, or 21·5 per cent., on April, 1912, when the national coal strike was in progress.

Food, Drink, and Tobacco.—This group showed a slight increase, due to a rise in tobacco. Grain and flour declined.

Raw Materials.—There was in this group a decrease of £811,000, or 13·3 per cent., resulting from a heavy fall in coal.

Manufactured Articles.—In this group there was a decrease of £2,432,000, or 7·2 per cent. Amongst the textiles, cotton, silk and jute yarn showed increases, but cotton piece goods, woollen and worsted yarn and tissues, silk broad stuffs, jute piece goods, and linen yarn and piece goods all showed a decline. There were considerable decreases in iron and steel and manufactures thereof, and in machinery.

Four Months, January - April, 1914.—The total exports during the four months ended April, 1914, amounted to £173,533,000, showing increases of £3,172,000, or 1·8 per cent., and of £22,025,000, or 14·5 per cent., on the corresponding periods of 1913 and of 1912, respectively. As compared with 1913, there were large increases in wool, in machinery, and in cotton and woollen and worsted manufactures. The principal decreases were in coal and in metal manufactures.

	April, 1914			Four months ended April, 1914		
	Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with		Amount.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) as compared with	
		1913.	1912.		1913.	1912.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco	Thou- sand £ 2,304	Thou- sand £ + 14	Thou- sand £ - 218	Thou- sand £ 9,478	Thou- sand £ + 705	Thou- sand £ - 180
II.—Raw Materials & Articles mainly Unmanufactured	5,268	- 811	+ 2,865	22,799	+ 376	+ 7,927
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured	31,503	- 2,432	+ 4,282	137,849	+ 1,802	+ 13,898
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcels Post)	872	+ 123	+ 131	3,407	+ 289	+ 380
Total	39,947	- 3,106	+ 7,060	173,533	+ 3,172	+ 22,025

APPOINTMENT OF CERTIFYING SURGEONS DURING APRIL, 1914.

District.	Certifying Surgeon.	Place and time for examination *
Cavan (Cavan)	Dr. K. R. C. Hallowes, Farnham Street, Cavan.	Tuesday, 9-10 a.m.
Colnbrook (Bucks)	Dr. G. Walker, Colnbrook	Weekdays, 9-10 a.m. and 6-7 p.m.
Crewkerne (Somerset)	Dr. J. E. R. Orchard, Orchard House, Crewkerne.	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
King's Cliffe (Northampton)	Dr. A. B. H. Kramer, King's Cliffe.	Weekdays, 9-10 a.m. and 6-7 p.m.
Old Meldrum (Aberdeen)	Dr. A. Baxter, Ugie Cottage, Urquhart Road, Old Meldrum.	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Pontyberem (Carmarthen)	Dr. J. R. Smith, Wellfield, Pontyberem.	Wednesday, 9-10 a.m.
Rhymney (Monmouth)	Dr. R. V. de A. Redwood, Terrace House, Rhymney.	Central Surgery, Rhymney, weekdays, 11 a.m.-12.30 p.m.
St. Just (Cornwall)	Dr. J. R. M. Richmond, Noon Grass, St. Just.	Weekdays, 9-10 a.m. and 6-7 p.m.
Shoreham (Sussex)	Dr. F. H. Allfrey, 25, Roman Crescent, Southwick, Sussex.	Weekdays, 8-9.30 a.m. and 6-7 p.m.
Tredegar (Monmouth)	Dr. E. T. H. Davies, The Grove, Tredegar.	Central Surgery, Tredegar, weekdays, 9.30-10.30 a.m.

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

PASSENGER MOVEMENT TO AND FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM IN MARCH.

In March, 1914, the total number of passengers who landed in the United Kingdom from other countries was 93,574, and the number who embarked for other countries was 95,103. In the three months ending March the inward passengers numbered 242,219, and the outward passengers 260,878, the inward being 9,827 and the outward 53,976 less than in the corresponding period of 1913.

Excluding passengers to and from the Continent of Europe, the number of passengers in March was 40,166 outward, of whom 27,047 were British subjects, and 23,954 inward, including 14,158 British subjects. The numbers in the three months ending March were 90,542 outward, including 62,517 British, and 61,112 inward, including 34,956 British, the number of British subjects being less by 35,489 outward, and more by 5,511 inward, than in the first three months of 1913.

The total of passengers of British nationality in March includes 20,903 passengers outward, who were recorded as leaving permanent residence in the United Kingdom, and intending to reside permanently in non-European countries; while 6,124 of the inward passengers were recorded as having been resident in such countries, and intending to reside within the United Kingdom. The British passengers who were so recorded as changing their country of permanent residence during the three months ending March numbered 45,378 outward, and 14,471 inward, showing a decrease of 35,419, and an increase of 2,843, respectively, compared with the corresponding figures for 1913. The distribution of the migratory movement of British subjects during March and the three months ending March, is shown below, so far as the principal countries involved are concerned:—

Migrants of British Nationality.*	March.		Three months ending March.	
	1913.	1914.	1913.	1914.
Emigrants to—				
British North America	24,020	10,180	36,950	16,574
Australia	4,635	3,372	17,895	9,422
New Zealand	873	461	3,986	1,843
British South Africa	991	694	2,547	2,152
India (including Ceylon)	369	303	1,364	1,380
Other British Colonies and Possessions	375	456	1,329	1,395
Total British Empire	31,263	15,466	64,071	32,766
United States	7,443	4,833	14,495	10,673
Other Foreign Countries	722	544	2,221	1,939
Total Emigrants	39,428	20,903	80,797	45,378
Immigrants from—				
British North America	1,002	1,299	2,413	3,998
Australia	767	994	1,879	2,307
New Zealand	192	217	532	458
British South Africa	937	1,172	2,049	2,201
India (including Ceylon)	696	477	1,044	953
Other British Colonies and Possessions	330	377	688	787
Total British Empire	3,924	4,536	8,405	10,704
United States	756	1,073	2,081	2,521
Other Foreign Countries	527	515	1,142	1,246
Total Immigrants	5,207	6,124	11,628	14,471
Excess of Emigrants	34,221	14,779	69,169	30,907

It will be seen that the smaller emigration in the three months ending March of this year is due to the decreased movement to

* Exclusive of persons travelling via Continental ports.

the North American Continent and to Australasia, while there has also been a considerable increase in the number who returned to this country after having resided for some time in Canada.

INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED DURING APRIL.
(Based on information supplied to the Department by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.)

In the following Tables particulars are given as to the number of each of the various classes of unions and societies which were (1) registered or (2) dissolved during April, 1914.

(1) Registered.			
Class of Society.	Number Registered.	Class of Society.	Number Registered.
Trade Unions	1	Friendly Societies	27
Industrial and Provident Societies	28	Building „ „	55
			1

(2) Dissolved.			
Class of Society.	Notices received in April of		Registry Cancelled.
	Commencement of Dissolution or Winding-up.	Termination of Dissolution or Winding-up.	
Trade Unions	2	4	3
Industrial and Provident Societies	..	..	..
Friendly Societies	..	16	26
Building „ (Branches)	..	26	..
Building „ „	2	9	3

HOME OFFICE ORDER.

Explosives in Coal Mines.

The Home Secretary has made an Order under Section 61 of the Coal Mines Act, 1911, entitled "The Explosives in Coal Mines Order of the 7th April, 1914."* The effect of the order is to add the following explosives, viz., Abelite No. 1, Arkite No. 2, Duxite, Super-Curtisite, Super-Excellite No. 2, and Super-Kolax No. 2, to the list of permitted explosives in the First Schedule to the Order of the 1st September, 1913,† and to substitute an amended definition for the definition of the explosive Tutol No. 2 contained in that Schedule.

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING APRIL.

UNITED KINGDOM.

All the United Kingdom Official Publications, including Consular Reports, may be purchased either directly or through any Bookseller from Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, London, E.C., and 54, St. Mary Street, Cardiff; H.M. Stationery Office (Scottish Branch), 28, Forth Street, Edinburgh; or E. Ponsoby, Ltd., 116, Grafton Street, Dublin; or from the Colonial and Foreign Agencies of T. Fisher Unwin, London, W.C.

Report of the Metropolitan Poor Law Inspectors' Advisory Committee on the Homeless Poor, to 31 December, 1913. Local Government Board. [Cd. 7307: pp. 22: price 2½d.]

Merchant Shipping. Life-saving Appliances. Draft of Rules proposed to be made by the Board of Trade under Section 427 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894. [Cd. 7342: price 2½d.]

Explosion at Senghenydd Colliery, Glamorganshire, on 14th October, 1913. Report to Home Office by R. A. S. Redmayne, Evan Williams, and Robert Smillie. [Cd. 7346: pp. 64, with diagrams: price 1s. 6d.]

Aliens Act, 1905. Part I.—Statement with regard to the expulsion of Aliens. Part II.—Eighth Annual Report of H.M. Inspector. Year 1913. Home Office. [Cd. 7345: price 7½d.]

Post Office (Changes in Wages, &c.). Return showing the changes in the Wages and Conditions of Service of Post Office Servants (excluding the Clerical Classes) in connection with the Report of the Select Committees on Post Office Servants, 1907 and 1913. [Cd. 7355: pp. 72: price 7d.]

Agricultural Statistics, 1913. Part I.—Acreage and Live Stock Returns of England and Wales, with Summaries for the United Kingdom. [Cd. 7325: pp. 119: price 6d.] Part II.—Returns of Produce of Crops in England and Wales, with Summaries for the United Kingdom. [Cd. 7334: pp. 62: price 3½d.] Annual Report of Proceedings under the Small Holdings and Allotments Acts, 1908 and 1910, and other Acts, 1913. Part I.—Small Holdings. [Cd. 7328: pp. 58: price 3d.] Part II.—Allotments and Miscellaneous. Board of Agriculture and Fisheries. [Cd. 7336: pp. 60: price 3d.]

Nineteenth Annual Report of the Local Government Board for Scotland, 1913. Poor Law Administration, Unemployed Workmen Act, Old Age Pensions, Housing and Town Planning, &c. [Cd. 7327: pp. cxxxv. + 400: price 2s. 2d.]

Fifty-sixth Annual Report of H.M. Inspector of Const

Twenty-first Report of the Congested Districts Board for Ireland, 1912-13. Loans to fishermen, home industries, agricultural banks, the condition of Connemara, &c. [Cd. 7312: pp. 77: price 4d.]

Emigration Statistics of Ireland for the year 1913. [Cd. 7313: pp. 16: price 2½d.]

Appendix to Report of Departmental Committee on Housing Conditions of the Working Classes in the City of Dublin. Minutes of Evidence, with Appendices. [Cd. 7317: pp. 393: price 4s.]

BRITISH INDIA AND BRITISH DOMINIONS.

British India.—Statistics of Cotton Spinning and Weaving in January, 1914. [pp. 25.]

Canada.—*The Labour Gazette, March, 1914.* Proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act during February; wholesale and retail prices, disputes and industrial accidents during February. [pp. 103.] *Report of the Royal Commission on Industrial Training and Technical Education, Part IV.* Inquiry in Canada. [Ottawa: King's Printer: pp. 768.]

Fourteenth Report of the Bureau of Labour of Ontario, 1913. [Toronto: L. K. Cameron, King's Printer: pp. 345.]

Census and Statistics, Monthly, January, 1914.

Saskatchewan.—The Public Service Monthly, March, 1914.

Commonwealth of Australia.—*Labour Bulletin, No. 4, February, 1914.* Industrial conditions, prices, wages, rents, cost of living, disputes, accidents, &c., in fourth quarter of 1913. [Melbourne: McCarron, Bird & Co.: pp. 59.]

New South Wales.—*The Industrial Gazette, February, 1914.* Industrial dislocations, proceedings before Industrial Registrar, &c. [Sydney: W. A. Gullick, Government Printer: pp. 296.]

Victoria.—*Wages Board Determinations.*—*Electrical Supply,* dated 29th January, 1914. *Brick Trade,* dated 20th February, 1914, cancelling that of 10th April, 1911. *Gas Meter,* dated 29th January, 1914, cancelling that of 16th January, 1914. *Plate Glass,* dated 9th February, 1914, cancelling that of 18th September, 1911. *Engravers,* dated 23rd February, 1914, cancelling that of 14th June, 1911. *Cigar Trade,* dated 10th March, 1914, cancelling that of 1st October, 1912. *Grocers,* dated 11th March, 1914, cancelling that of 28th August, 1911. *Butchers,* dated 16th March, 1914, cancelling that of 19th June, 1912.

Queensland.—*Awards under the Industrial Peace Act.* *Brisbane Chemists' Assistants,* dated 6th February, 1914, cancelling that of 12th June, 1912. *Northern Sugar Field Workers,* dated 6th February, 1914. *Industrial Appeals, Carpenters and Joiners, Townsville and Cairns Divisions,* dated 23rd February, 1914.

New Zealand.—*Journal of the Department of Labour, February, 1914.* Condition of trade and employment as at 31st January, 1914; persons assisted to employment, co-operative works, accidents in factories and as reported under the Scaffolding Inspection Act. [pp. 79.] *Awards, Agreements and Decisions under the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act.* Vol. XIV., Part IX. (pp. 95). Part X. (pp. 95). Part XI. (pp. 95). [Wellington: John Mackay, Government Printer.]

Union of South Africa.—*Report of the Indian Enquiry Commission.* [Cd. 7265: pp. 40: price 4s.]

Correspondence relating to the General Strike in South Africa. [Cd. 7343: pp. 269: price 2s. 3d.]

Report of the Labour Department, February, 1914. Applications for employment, employment found, &c. (pp. 11).

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

International.—*Journal of the International Labour Office* (German edition), Nos. 11-12, 1913, and 1-2, 1914. [Jena: Gustav Fischer.]

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GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

LIST OF NEW CONTRACTS, APRIL, 1914.

ADMIRALTY.—CONTRACT DEPARTMENT.

Anchors, Stockless.—W. L. Byers & Co., Ltd., Tavistock House, Sunderland. *Barrels, Elm.*—W. Ryan & Co., Bromley-by-Bow, E. *Bed Berths.*—Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Midland Works, Bordesley, Birmingham. *Beeswax.*—Wilkins, Campbell & Co., 24/25, Great Tower St., E.C. *Bunting.*—Wm. Ecrov & Sons, Lomeshaye Mills, Nelson, Lancs; Wm. Bancroft & Sons (of Halifax), Ltd., King Cross, Halifax; Cyrus Brook & Sons, Ltd., St. Dunstan's Mills, Mill Lane, Bradford; C. B. Brook & Co., 39, Swaine St., Bradford; J. Clough & Son, Baildon Green Mills, Shipley; G. H. Eady & Co., 6, Drake St., Bradford; Henry Farrar & Co., Clay Pits Mills, Halifax; John Knox, Airedale Shed, Silsden, near Keighley; Morton & Holcroft, Fenton Rd. Works, Halifax; Thos. Riley & Co., 32, Charles St., Bradford. *Canvas, Grey.*—Richards, Ltd., Broadford Works, Aberdeen. *Carpenters' and Joiners' Work.*—East & Son, Berkhamsted, Herts; Fosters, Ltd., Boxmoor, Herts; C. H. Glover & Co., Ltd., Ormside St., Old Kent Rd., S.E.; J. F. Goodwillie, North St., Gosport; A. Lloyd & Sons, Ltd., Pier Wharf, Deptford Green, S.E.; Edred Marshall, Sutton Rd., Plymouth; Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd., Woolwich, S.E.; S. Snawdon, The Factory, Yealmpton, Devon; E. Spencer & Co., Longfellow Rd., Bow, E.; Stotesbury & Co., 1, Colwick St., Deptford, S.E. *Clothing, Waterproof.*—New Pegamoid, Ltd., 124, Queen Victoria St., E.C.; Johnson & Sons, Ltd., Great Yarmouth. *Cloths, Sponge.*—C. E. Austin & Sons, Ltd., Marlborough Mills, Manchester. *Cocks, Gunmetal Steam, Valves, &c.*—W. N. Baines & Co., Ltd., Phoenix Brass Works, Rotherham; J. Blakeborough & Sons, Brighouse; Cockburns, Ltd., Clydesdale Engineering Works, Cardonald, Glasgow; Dennystown Brass Works, Ltd., Dalreoch, Dumbarton; S. Dixon & Son, Ltd., Swinegate, Leeds; Glenfield & Kennedy, Ltd., Kilmarnock; Hayward, Tyler & Co., Ltd., 99, Queen Victoria St., E.C.; Sir J. Laing & Sons, Ltd., Deptford Yard, Sunderland; T. Lister & Co. (Brassfounders), Ltd., Brighouse; Steven & Struthers, Eastvale Place, Kelvinhaugh, Glasgow; Shiphart & Co., Ltd., Trinity Brass and Copper Works, Hawthorn Avenue, Hull. *Coffee.*—S. Hanson & Son, 14/18, Eastcheap, E.C. *Cotton, Cotton Packing, and Wicks.*—Geo. Haynes & Co., Hampstead Cotton Mills, Stockport; Morgan, Crossley & Co., Ltd., Ducie Mills, Miles Platting, Manchester; J. Shawcross & Co., Store Street Mill, Manchester. *Enamelled Ware.*—Anglo-American Tin Stamping Co., Ltd., West Bromwich; Griffiths & Browett, Ltd., Bradford St., Birmingham; Orme, Evans & Co., Ltd., Elgin Works, Birmingham; J. Sankey & Sons, Ltd., Albert St. Works, Bilston. *Electrical Fittings (Switches, Sockets, Plugs, &c.).*—British Insulated and Helsby Cables, Ltd., Prescott, Lancs; Clarke, Chapman & Co., Ltd., Victoria Works, Gateshead-on-Tyne; Edison & Swan, &c., Co., Ltd., 36, Queen St., E.C.; Foster Engineering Co., Ltd., Wimbeldon, S.W.; Hawkers, Ltd., The Crescent, Hockley, Birmingham; McGeoch & Co., Ltd., 46, Coventry Rd., Birmingham; Player & Mitchell, Cambridge St., Birmingham; Sterling Telephone, &c., Co., Ltd., 210/212, Tottenham Court Rd., W. *Hides, Buffalo, and Buttons.*—T. Crundall, Black Swan Yard, Bermondsey St., S.E.; George & Co., 21A, Noel St., Soho, W. *Holland.*—Sir E. Armitage & Sons, Ltd., 48, Mosley St., Manchester; The Hollins Mill Co., Ltd., 5, Portland St., Manchester. *Hose Couplings.*—Nunan's Hose Couplings, Ltd., 10, Norfolk St., Strand, W.C.; J. Stone & Co., Ltd., Deptford, S.E. *Hose Tubing, Canvas,*

G. Angus & Co., Ltd., St. John's Works, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Richards, Ltd., Broadford Works, Aberdeen; F. Reddaway & Co., Ltd., Pendleton, Manchester. *Jean, Blue and Brown.*—J. Bright & Bros., Rochdale; J. Bentley & Sons (Radcliffe), Ltd., 37, Faulkner St., Manchester. *Lamps, Incandescent.*—Stearn Electric Lamp Co., Ltd., 47, Victoria St., S.W.; British Thomson Houston Co., Ltd., 77, Upper Thames St., E.C.; Cryselco, Ltd., Kempston Works, Bedford; Edison & Swan, &c., Co., Ltd., 36 and 37, Queen St., Cheapside, E.C.; General Electric Co., Ltd., 71, Queen Victoria St., E.C.; The Rugby Lamp Co., Ltd., 10, Bush Lane, E.C.; Popes Electric Lamp Co., Ltd., Hythe Rd., Willesden, N.W. *Lamps and Lanterns.*—Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., 153, Camden St., Birmingham; Gabriel & Co., 4 A. B. Row, Birmingham; Eli Griffiths & Sons, 102, Bradford St., Birmingham; J. Hinks & Son, Ltd., Great Hampton St., Birmingham; Howes & Burley, Ltd., 101, Holloway Head, Birmingham; Player & Mitchell, Ltd., Cambridge St., Birmingham; The Reform Lighting Co., Ltd., 154, Bermondsey St., London, S.E. *Lanyards, Knife.*—Edwards & Son, St. Michael's Net Works, Bridport; Wm. Coombs, 19, Tavistock St., Devonport. *Lime Juice.*—Evans, Sons, Lescher & Webb, Ltd., Hanover St., Liverpool. *Linen, Osnaburgh.*—J. Boath, Jr., & Co., Forfar; R. Stocks & Co., Kirkcaldy. *Linoleum Floor Cloth and Cork Carpet.*—Barry, Ostlere & Shepherd, Ltd., Forth Works, Kirkcaldy; Fife Linoleum Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy; M. Nairn & Co., Ltd., Kirkcaldy; Miles Sykes & Son, Ltd., Calder Works, Sowerby Bridge; Tayside Floorcloth Co., Ltd., Newburgh, Fife. *Motor Generators, Control Gear and Motors.*—Veritys, Ltd., 31, King St., Covent Garden. *Mustard.*—Keen, Robinson & Co., Ltd., Denmark St., St. George's-in-the-East. *Oil, Linseed.*—F. F. Fox & Co., Bristol; Smith Bros. & Co., Marshgate Oil Works, Stratford, E.; Youngusband, Barnes & Co., Lower King and Queen Wharf, Rotherhithe, S.E. *Oil, Mineral Sperm.*—Anglo-American Oil Co., Ltd., 36/38, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W. *Oil, Rapeseed.*—Youngusband, Barnes & Co., Lower King and Queen Wharf, Rotherhithe, S.E. *Pepper.*—J. Travers & Sons, Ltd., Cannon St., E.C. *Reps, Damasks, &c.*—Greenwood & Scatchard, Forest Mills, Ovenden, Halifax; J. Hoyle & Son, Prospect Mills, Longwood, Huddersfield; Walsh & McCrea, Ltd., Arches St. Mills, Halifax. *Saw Blades, Hack.*—C. Baynes, Knuzden Brook, Blackburn. *Scuttles, Side.*—J. Roby, Ltd., Rainhill, nr. Liverpool. *Steel Wire Ropes.*—W. B. Brown & Co. (Bankhall), Ltd., Globe Works, Bankhall, Liverpool; R. Hood Haggie & Son, Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Dixon & Corbitt & R. S. Newall & Co., Ltd., Teams Rope Works, Gateshead-on-Tyne; Warrington Wire Rope Works, Ltd., 13, Gorse Piazzas, Liverpool; Bullivant & Co., Ltd., 72, Mark Lane, E.C.; Craven & Speeding Bros., Sunderland; J. Crawhall & Sons, Eldon St., Gateshead-on-Tyne; E. Ellis & Co., Ltd., Alpha Rd., Millwall, E.; Excelsior Wire Rope Co., Ltd., Cardiff; Glaholm & Robson, Ltd., Sunderland; W. J. Glover & Co., St. Helens, Lancashire. *Surgical Dressings.*—A. Berliner, 15/17, Worship St., E.C.; Cuxson, Gerrard & Co., Ltd., Oldbury, Birmingham; G. Haynes & Co., Hampstead Cotton Mills, Stockport; B. Lees & Co., Ltd. (Chewsome Dept.), 18, London Rd., Manchester; Robinson & Sons, Ltd., Wheatbridge Mills, Chesterfield; T. J. Smith & Nephew, Ltd., 5, Neptune St., Hull; W. G. Taylor, New Charford Mills, Salfrey, Birmingham; Vernon & Co., Ltd., Penwortham Mills, Preston. *Threads.*—W. Barbour & Son, Ltd., Hilden, Lisburn; Finlayson, Bousfield & Co., Ltd., Johnstone; W. & J. Knox, Ltd., Kilbirnie, Ayr; Lindsay, Thompson & Co., Ltd., Linen Thread Mills, Belfast. *Towelling, Terry.*—W. R. Lee, Hooley Bridge Mill, Heywood. *Twines.*—Wm. Barbour & Sons, Ltd., Lisburn; The Belfast Ropework Co., Ltd., Belfast; H. Cardwell & Sons, Ltd., 65, Shudehill, Manchester; The Edinburgh Roperie & Sailcloth Co., Ltd., 15A, Bath St., Leith; Pymore Mill Co., Ltd., Pymore, Bridport; Port Glasgow & Newark Sailcloth Co., Port Glasgow; Webster Bros. & Co., Stanley Works, Arbroath.

ADMIRALTY: WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Buckets for Dredger, H.M. Dockyard, Chatham.—Fleming & Ferguson, Ltd., Phoenix Works, Paisley. *Cranes and Grabs for H.M. Dockyard, Chatham.*—Booth & Bros., Ltd., Union Foundry and Ironworks, Rodley, Leeds.

WORKS SERVICES.

Additional Reservoir at Castlandhill, Rosyth.—A. Blair, 102, Bath St., Glasgow. *Additional Workmen's Cottages at Crombie.*—R. Bruce & Son, 25, Greenside Place, Edinburgh. *Foundations for Oil Tanks.*—W. Dobson, Yeaman Lane, Dundee St., Edinburgh. *Landing Pier at Kingsnorth.*—G. Munday & Sons, 9, Botolph Lane, London, E.C. *Nursing Sisters' Quarters, Portland.*—Theo. Conway, Ltd., Commercial Rd., Weymouth. *Painting Tanks.*—H. Ross, 9, King St., Tain, Ross-shire. *Steel Oil Tanks.*—Barrowfield Ironworks, Ltd., 100, Fordneuk St., Glasgow. *Steelwork for Crane Tracks, Portsmouth.*—E. C. & J. Keay, Ltd., Corporation St., Birmingham. *Wireless Station, Latrines and Drainage at Kingsnorth.*—Geo. Gates & Sons, Frindsbury, Rochester. *W.I. Railing and Gates, Rosyth.*—W. Bain & Co., Ltd., Coatbridge, N.B.

WAR OFFICE.

Ambulance Fittings.—Hill & Smith, Ltd., Brierley Hill. *Aprons, Basil.*—Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., Grange Mills, Bermondsey, S.E. *Bags, Kit.*—T. Briggs (London), Ltd., 2 and 4, Southgate Rd., N.; C. Groom, Ltd., Ramornie Works, Dod St., Limehouse, E.; T. & D. Henry, Duncan St., Leman St., E. *Baskets.*—E. Collumbell, Sowter Rd., Derby; John G. Payne, High St., Lutterworth; Royal Blind Asylum and School, 58, Nicolson St., Edinburgh; E. Sellers & Son, Woodston, Peterborough. *Binoculars.*—Ross, Ltd., 3, North Side, Clapham Common, S.W. *Bottles, Oil.*—Bartlett & Digby, 66, Blackfriars

Rd., S.E.; Haynes Bros., Gervase St., Old Kent Rd., S.E. *Brassfoundry, Plumbers' and Hot Water (Term Contract)*.—Pegler Bros. & Co. (Doncaster), Ltd., Belmont Works, Doncaster. *Brushes*.—D. Clark & Sons, Ltd., Walsall; Incorporated Association for the Welfare of the Blind, 258, Tottenham Court Rd., W. *Cans, Petrol*.—John Feaver, 120, Tower Bridge Rd., S.E.; Henry Grant & Co., Ltd., Riley St., Tower Bridge, S.E.; Valor Co., Ltd., Rocky Lane, Aston Cross, Birmingham. *Cars, Motor*.—Vulcan Motor & Engineering Co. (1906), Ltd., Crossens, Southport, Lancashire. *Cases, Wood*.—A. Lloyd & Sons, Ltd., Pier Wharf, Deptford Green, S.E.; Priddy & Hale, Ltd., Railway Wharf, Plough Rd., Rotherhithe, S.E.; Redmond, Sons & Co., 65, Great George St., Belfast. *Clothing (Uniform)*.—T. Briggs (London), Ltd., 2 and 4, Southgate Rd., N.; E. Broderick & Co., Ltd., St. James' Barton, Bristol; R. B. Brown & Sons, Hanging Royd, Hebden Bridge; J. Compton & Sons, Ltd., Swindon and Old Ford, E.; W. 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Glanfield & Son, 1, 3 and 5, Brick Lane, E., and 4-5, Osborne Place, E. *Clothing, &c., for Royal Hibernian Military School (Term Contract)*.—Brown, Thomas & Co., Ltd., Dublin; Clery & Co., Ltd., Dublin; Henry St. Warehouse Co., Ltd., Henry St., Dublin; J. Ireland & Son, 12 and 15, Ellis's Quay, Dublin; Merrion Blind Asylum, Merrion, Co. Dublin; Moore, Taggart & Co., 18, Albion St., Glasgow. *Collars, Breast, &c.*—Hepburn Gale & Ross, Ltd., Grange Mills, Bermondsey, S.E.; Martins-Birmingham, Ltd., Granville St., Birmingham. *Conversion of Collars*.—Antrum Allen, 4, King's Rd., Reading, &c.; D. Mason & Sons, Ltd., Bath Row, Birmingham, and Wisemore, Walsall; Middlemore & Lamplugh, Ltd., Marsh St., Walsall; Rawle & Son, 231 and 232, Blackfriars Rd., S.E., &c.; H. J. Stevens & Son, 121, New North Rd., N. *Drums, Oil, &c.*—Baldwins, Ltd., Orchard Place, Blackwall, E.; Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Camden St., Birmingham; Griffiths & Browett, Ltd., Birmingham; B. Noakes & Co., Spa Rd., Bermondsey, S.E. *Embroidery*.—S. Hess & Son, Ltd., 44, Bethnal Green Rd., E.; F. W. Hoare, 21, Rosebery Avenue, E.C.; Hobson and Sons, 1, Lexington St., Golden Square, W.; G. Kenning & Son, 1-4, Little Britain, E.C., and 16a, Great Queen St., W.C.; Pipe & McGill, Ltd., 27, Maiden Lane, W.C.; Read & Spence, 266 to 268, Battersea Park Rd., S.W.; S. Simpson, Avenham Rd. Works, Preston, Lancashire. *Equipment, Web*.—T. Briggs (London), Ltd., 2 and 4, Southgate Rd., N.; Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., Grange Mills, Bermondsey, S.E.; Mills Equipment Co., Ltd., Imperial Works, Fountayne Rd., Broad Lane, Tottenham, N.; E. H. Price & Co., Station St., Chatteris, and Chandler St., Wapping, E.; M. Wright & Sons, Ltd., Quorn and Mill St., Loughborough. *Felt Roofing (Term Contract)*.—D. Anderson & Son, Ltd., Roach Rd. Works, Old Ford, E. *Files, Re-cutting, &c. (Term Contract)*.—Cranes (Birmingham), Ltd., 183, Moseley St., Birmingham. *Flannelette*.—W. N. Berry & Sons, Spring Mill, Earby, nr. Colne; Pickles Bros., Ltd., Pendle View Mill, Brierfield, nr. Burnley; Scholfield, Preston & Co., Ltd., Manor Mill, Nelson. *Gauntlets*.—Hobson & Sons, 154-164, Tooley St., S.E. *Head-dresses*.—Almond & Smith, 45, Aspindean Rd., Rotherhithe, S.E.; Christy & Co., Ltd., 175, Bermondsey St., S.E.; J. Compton & Sons, Ltd., Old Kent Rd., S.E.; Hepburn, Gale & Ross, Ltd., Grange Mills, Bermondsey, S.E.; S. Hess & Son, Ltd., 44, Bethnal Green Rd., E., and Upton Lovel, Wiltshire; Hobson & Sons, High St., Woolwich, S.E.; Myers & Co., 222-226, Cambridge Rd., N.E.; S. Schneiders & Son, Durward St., E.; E. W. Vero & Co., 43, East Dulwich Rd., S.E.; Vero & Everitt, Ltd., Atherstone. *Heads, Maul*.—P. & A. Crawford, 5, South Croft St., Paisley; East & Son, Berkhamsted, Herts. *Holdalls*.—T. Briggs (London), Ltd., 2 and 4, Southgate Rd., N.; C. Groom, Ltd., Ramornie Works, Dod St., Limehouse, E.; Hoare, Marr & Co., Dundee Works, Brewhouse Lane, Wapping, E. *Hollow-ware*.—Izons & Co., Ltd., Albion, West Bromwich. *Lathes*.—J. Lang & Sons, Johnstone, nr. Glasgow. *Liquor Cresoli Saponatus (Term Contract)*.—Jeyes' Sanitary Compound Co., Ltd., Richmond St., Plaistow, E. *Locks (Term Contract)*.—Walsall Locks and Cart Gear, Ltd., Neale St., Walsall. *Machines, Chaff-cutting*.—Buck & Hickman, Ltd., 2, Whitechapel Rd., E. *Mess-tins*.—Bulpitt & Sons, Ltd., Camden St., Birmingham; H. Cresser, 97, Irving St., Birmingham; Griffiths & Browett, Ltd., Bradford St., Birmingham; Matthew J. 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