

LABOUR GAZETTE

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

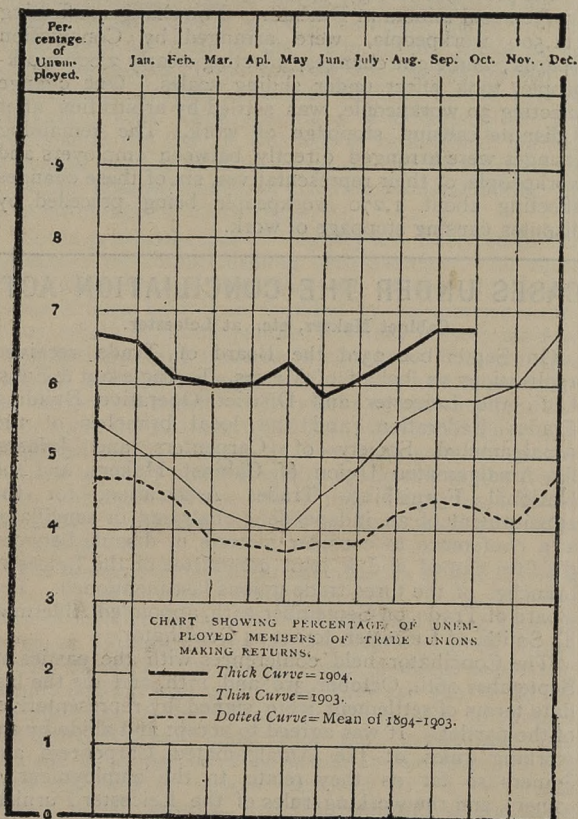
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NOVEMBER, 1904.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

EMPLOYMENT CHART.



STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN OCTOBER.

[Based on 4,420 returns, viz.: 3,078 from Employers, or their Associations, 1,258 from Trade Unions, and 84 from other sources.]

ON the whole employment in October was dull, and about the same as a month ago. A further decline took place in the shipbuilding and engineering trades, but on the other hand, employment in the cotton, woollen and tinplate industries continued to improve.

As compared with a year ago a general decline in employment was shown except in the cotton and tinplate industries.

In the 272 Trade Unions with an aggregate membership of 576,642 making returns, 39,396 (or 6.8 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of October, compared with 6.8 per cent. at the end of September, 1904, and 5.8 per cent. at the end of October, 1903.

Employment in various Industries.—Coal Mining.—Employment in this industry showed no change as compared with a month ago, and but little change as compared with a year ago. At collieries employing 544,832 workpeople, the pits worked an average of 5.16 days per week in October, as compared with 5.16 in September, and 5.21 in the corresponding month of 1903. At the pits for which returns were received the number of workpeople employed in October was slightly greater than in September, or in October, 1903.

Iron Mining.—Employment in this industry continued good. At the 126 mines and open works covered by the returns received from employers, the average number of days worked per week during the four weeks ended 22nd October was 5.83, as compared with 5.82 in September, and 5.73 a year ago. The number of workpeople employed was 0.3 per cent. greater than in September, and 0.6 per cent. less than in October, 1903.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment in this industry continued to show a slight improvement, but it was worse than a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 112 ironmasters showed that 302 furnaces, employing about 21,350 workpeople, were in blast at the end of October, compared with 300 in September, and 315 a year ago.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Employment in this industry showed a slight improvement as compared with September, but was not quite up to the level of a year ago. Returns relating to 194 works, employing 73,805 workpeople, showed an increase in the total volume of employment during the week ended October 22nd of 0.2 per cent. as compared with September, but a decrease of 0.5 per cent. as compared with October, 1903.

Tinplate Manufacture.—Employment in this industry continued to improve, and was much better than a year ago. At the end of October 394 mills were working, as compared with 382 at the end of September and 348 a year ago. The estimated number of workpeople employed in October was 19,700.

Engineering Trades.—Employment continued dull, and was slightly worse than a month ago. It was much worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of October was 7.9, as compared with 7.4 at the end of September, and 5.2 at the end of October, 1903.

Shipbuilding Trades.—Employment in these industries continued bad, and was worse than both a month and a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members who were unemployed at the end of October was 16.1, as compared with 15.3 at the end of September and 15.0 at the end of October, 1903.

Building Trades.—Employment generally continued dull, and was rather worse than a month ago and a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members among *Carpenters* and *Joiners* was 8.3 at the end of October, compared with 7.0 in September, and 5.6 a year ago. The percentage for *Plumbers* was 9.1 at the end of October, compared with 9.5 in September, and 6.6 a year ago.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment was slack, worse than a month ago, and considerably worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members (exclusive of coopers) at the end of October was 7.5, as compared with 7.1 per cent. in September and 5.3 per cent. a year ago.

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.—Employment in October showed some seasonal improvement. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of the month was 4.7, as compared with 6.3 in September and 4.2 in October, 1903.

Employment in the *Papermaking* trade was good. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members at the end of October was 2.6, compared with 3.0 in September and 2.5 a year ago.

Employment in the *Glass* trade was bad generally in the bottle-making branch, and slack in the flint-glass

branch. In the *Pottery* trades there was a slight improvement; in the *Brick* and *Tile* trades it was slack.

Cotton Trade.—Employment showed a general improvement, full time being the rule. Returns from firms employing 53,321 workpeople in *preparing and spinning* showed that only 4.3 per cent. were in mills working short time during the last week in October, compared with 29.7 per cent. during the last week of September, and 25.5 per cent. during the last week of October, 1903. Of the 96,358 workpeople in *weaving and other departments* 4.2 per cent. only were in factories working short time during the last week in October, compared with 9.7 per cent. in September and 30.4 per cent. a year ago.

Woolen and Worsted Trades.—Employment in the *Woolen* trade was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. In the *Worsted* trade, although a little better than a month ago, employment was still bad, and worse than a year ago. Returns received from 137 firms, employing 42,248 workpeople, and paying £31,058 in wages for the last week in October showed an increase of 7.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last week in September, and of 0.5 per cent. compared with the last week in October, 1903.

Employment in the *Hosiery* trade continued bad in England, but showed a further improvement in Scotland. In the *Jute* trade it was fair. In the *Flax* trade it was dull in Scotland, moderate and improved in Ireland.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the *Tailoring* trade showed some seasonal improvement, but was worse than a year ago. In the ready-made branch it continued bad in most centres, and was worse than a year ago.

Employment in the silk and felt *Hat-making* trades showed a further slight improvement. In the *Silk* hat trade the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of October was 11.3, compared with 13.1 in September, and 10.3 a year ago. In the *Felt* hat trade the corresponding percentages were 1.2, 1.5, and 1.3.

Boot and Shoe Trade.—Employment continued bad and was worse than a year ago. Returns received from 447 firms, employing 58,684 workpeople, and paying £53,945 in wages during the last week in October, showed an increase of 1.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last week in September, but a decrease of 5.4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Other Leather Trades.—Employment in these trades continued bad generally, and was worse than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members reported as unemployed at the end of October was 9.8, compared with 9.8 in September, and with 6.3 in October, 1903.

Agricultural Labourers were well employed during October, the weather having been favourable for outdoor work. The supply of day labourers was generally sufficient, and in certain districts was somewhat in excess of the demand.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—Employment during October was moderate; on the whole it showed a slight improvement on the previous month, but was not so good as a year ago. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves in London during the four weeks ended October 29th was 13,538, an increase of 8.4 per cent. on the average for September, and a decrease of 4.2 per cent. on the average for October, 1903. The average number employed in October during the seven years 1897-1903 was 15,952.

Trade Disputes.—The total number of workpeople involved in disputes which began or were in progress during October, 1904, was 7,741, compared with 13,916 in September and 10,747 in October, 1903.

The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old, amounted to 61,000 working days, as compared with 130,000 in the previous month, and 113,000 in October, 1903. Fifteen disputes began in October, involving 4,154 workpeople, compared with 21 in September, and 20 in October, 1903.

Definite results were reported during the month in the case of 13 disputes, new and old, affecting 2,605 workpeople. Of these disputes, four, involving 901 persons,

were decided in favour of the workpeople; six, involving 406 persons, were decided in favour of the employers; and three, involving 1,298 persons, were compromised. In the case of nine other disputes terminating during the month, and involving 3,664 persons, certain points are still under consideration.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes in rates of wages reported during October affected nearly 116,200 workpeople, of whom nearly 4,600 received advances, while nearly 111,600 sustained decreases. The net effect of all the changes was a decrease of about £1,400 per week. The changes of the previous month affected over 21,000 workpeople, the net result being a decrease of over £200 per week. During October, 1903, the number of workpeople affected was about 12,000, and the net result a decrease of about £200 per week.

The principal change reported was a decrease affecting 107,500 coal miners in Durham. Two changes, affecting 111,500 workpeople, were arranged by Conciliation Boards; and eight changes, affecting nearly 2,800 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. One change affecting 30 workpeople, was settled by arbitration, after a dispute causing stoppage of work. The remaining changes were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, six of these changes affecting about 1,270 workpeople being preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

Cabinet Makers, etc., at Leicester.

On September 23rd the Board of Trade received applications on behalf of Messrs. T. Inglesant & Sons, Ltd., the Leicester and District Operative Building Trades Federation, and the local branches of the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, the Amalgamated Union of Cabinet Makers, and the National Furnishing Trades Association, for the appointment of an independent chairman or conciliator at a conference to consider matters in dispute between the firm named and a joint committee of the Leicester branches of the three trade unions last-mentioned. The Board of Trade, on September 24th, appointed Alderman T. Smith, of Leicester, to act as Conciliator.

The Conciliator held conferences with the parties on September 26th, October 3rd and 17th, and on the last date terms of settlement were signed by representatives of the parties. It was agreed to accept and abide by the working rules of the Amalgamated Carpenters and Joiners so far as they relate to the employment of joiners, and the working rules of the Leicester Furnishing Trades Federation so far as they relate to the employment of workmen in the furniture trade. The firm agreed to make no objection to their employees joining a trade union or to their workmen continuing to be members of a trade union while in their employ. It was agreed that not less than 9d. per hour should be paid to members of the Leicester branches of the three unions affected when engaged in preparing, fitting, or fixing bank, bar, or office fittings. Provision was made in the terms of settlement for the appointment of joint committees to deal with disputes that may arise, and, in certain events, for the reference of disputed matters to a conference under a Conciliator appointed by the Board of Trade.

Cigar Makers.

On September 9th, a dispute arose at the Imperial Tobacco Company's factory at York Road, London, E.C., which subsequently spread to other of the Company's factories. Altogether over 700 cigar makers were directly affected, and in addition other persons (e.g., tobacco strippers) were thrown out of work owing to the dispute. The great majority of the workpeople were employed in London.

It having been agreed to refer the dispute to arbitration, the Board of Trade, on November 2nd, appointed Sir W. Markby, K.C.I.E., to act as arbitrator. The arbitration proceedings took place on November 9th and 10th, but the Award has not yet been issued.

RELIEF OF UNEMPLOYED IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

A REPORT on agencies and methods for dealing with the unemployed in certain foreign countries* (Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, Belgium and Holland), has just been issued by the Board of Trade. It is based partly on reports obtained through the Foreign Office, partly on official and other publications, and partly on original inquiries by an officer of the Department.

Labour Bureaux.

There has been a very considerable extension of Labour Registries in the last few years in most of the countries above mentioned. In the German Empire particularly the systematic organisation of these institutions has been carried to an extent which enables every workman, even if he be living in a remote village, as soon as he falls out of work, to ascertain the situations then open for men of his trade in the whole of an extensive section of the country, and to put himself in communication with a Labour Registry in the nearest important town. The operations of a Registry are not confined to the city in which it is established, but are extended so as to cover a large district by means of a carefully planned system of Clearing Houses, linking up a great number of local Registries.

Seven principal types of Registry are described in the section of the Report dealing with Germany. Of these the Public Labour Registries are of special interest. Some of these have been founded by voluntary associations, others by municipalities, but they possess most of their distinguishing features in common. The principal features are: (1) an agency of the modern type exists for the general benefit of the whole community (and not to promote the interests of a class, whether employers or employed); (2) a share in the management of the modern type of Labour Registry is allowed to the workmen. As a general rule, the Public Registries take no fees from workmen, though a few take fees from employers.

The German employment agencies are linked up by a system of inter-communication provided by the Federations of Labour Registries, of which there are at present seven, all dating from the last few years. In the Grand Duchy of Baden the bureaux are in direct telephonic communication with each other, they are subsidised by the State and by the Local Authorities (the communes and districts), and since 1901 the Government has granted a 50 per cent. reduction in the fares on the State railways to anyone provided with a certificate from a labour bureau. In Wurtemberg, where there are 14 labour offices, managed by the municipalities, each local Registry sends on three days in the week to the head office at Stuttgart a list of the situations open and the applications which it has been unable to satisfy. This material is put together by the central office and posted; and the next morning the general list is in the hands of the Registry authorities throughout Wurtemberg. All places with more than 2,000 inhabitants are provided with a copy, and the general lists are exposed for public inspection.

Bavaria, a country of 29,000 square miles and nearly 6,000,000 inhabitants, is the largest area in which centralisation has been attempted. The territory being too large for one central Labour Exchange, the Kingdom is divided into eight districts, for each of which there is a central Municipal Labour Bureau established in the principal town and operating as a clearing house for all the municipal or municipally-subsidised registries in the district, the number of co-operating bureaux in the different districts ranging from 2 to 10. Including the central bureaux there are 53 of these institutions, or, on an average, one bureau to every 116,500 inhabitants. Moreover each of the 45 outlying bureaux acts as intermediary between a group of small rural parishes and the district clearing house. A detailed account of the working of the Bavarian municipal bureaux, in particular of that at Munich, the chief Public Labour Registry in Germany, is given in the Report. The Munich Bureau

filled 51,664 situations in 1903, 65 per cent. of the applicants for work being successful. The average cost per situation filled was 8d.

Insurance against Unemployment.

This is a novel method, which has been adopted in certain parts of Germany, Switzerland, France and Belgium. Though the provisions made in different cases exhibit considerable variation, the schemes are all framed with the object of enabling workmen, especially those engaged in trades liable to seasonal and other fluctuations, to put aside in periods of more or less plentiful employment, savings, the amount of which is supplemented by donations, in some cases partly contributed by private individuals, but in practically every case very largely, and in many cases entirely, supplied out of public monies by the Local Authorities. The Unemployed Fund formed in this manner is drawn upon in times of slackness of work, enabling allowances to be paid on a fixed scale to those of the workmen insured with the Fund, who find it impossible to obtain employment.

Labour Colonies.

With respect to foreign labour colonies, the Report states that later experience suggests no alteration in, but tends strongly to confirm the conclusion drawn in the Board of Trade Report of 1893, viz., "that, whatever be the object of these colonies, the great bulk of the material with which they deal consists not of efficient workmen out of work, but of tramps, ex-prisoners and others, whose distress is caused by personal defects. They are not colonies of unemployed, so much as receptacles for social wreckage."

At the present time there are in all distributed throughout the German Empire 33 labour colonies, providing accommodation for nearly 4,000 persons. They are under the control of the Labour Colony Central Board, founded in 1883.

The special aim of the Colonies is to secure the permanent moral elevation of the inmates. All able-bodied men, who are willing to work, are admitted without distinction of character or religion so long as there is room. Intoxicating liquors are forbidden, but drunkards are received if willing to abandon drink. It is the rule that the scale of pay (board, lodging, and payment in cash or clothes, &c.) must be lower than the daily wage prevailing in the locality. Dismissal is the only form of punishment.

The funds for the support of the Colonies are obtained (a) from grants by the Provincial Governments, (b) from grants by the Municipalities, (c) from donations and subscriptions by members of the Provincial Societies, (d) from collections in the churches, (e) from house-to-house collections.

Statistics of the operations of the German Labour Colonies in 1903 were given in the LABOUR GAZETTE for March, 1904 (p. 68). The Report contains somewhat more detailed statistics for a series of years compiled from the same source.

The number of colonists, who leave to take up situations is comparatively small, and taking one year with another the men have been about as successful in finding places for themselves as the colony authorities who have attempted to find situations for their inmates. The number of colonists, who have had to be expelled for misconduct or incorrigible idleness has been very large. The colonies possess no legal powers of detention, and the number of colonists, who have left the colonies without notice, reaches a not inconsiderable figure. On the whole the statistics do not seem to indicate that the workmen, who have made use of the colonies, are of a high class. A very large proportion of these men, estimated at from 66 to 76 per cent., have suffered imprisonment for one offence or another. At the same time it appears beyond question that, especially in periods of serious trade depression, in particular in the winter months, a certain number of workmen of a better class find refuge in the colonies as a last resort; for except in dire distress the self-respecting workman never enters. With respect to the moral improvement, which the inmates of the Labour Colonies receive from their

* Cd. 2304, price 1s. Eyre & Spottiswoode.

stay in these institutions, it is practically impossible to supply any information of a precise nature. But, on the whole, the amount of this improvement appears to be, in most cases, far from considerable.

In Belgium the characteristic feature of the Labour Colonies is their penal character. They are maintained by the Belgian Government to fulfil the requirements of the law for the repression of vagrancy and begging which came into operation in 1892. The chief colonies are the "Beggars' Depot" at Merxplas and the "House of Refuge" at Wortel, both of which are described in detail in the Report. At Merxplas the inmates are professional beggars, vagrants and disreputable persons, whom the magistrates are empowered to commit for detention in the institution for a period of not less than two or more than seven years. The colony at Wortel is intended rather for persons found in a condition of vagrancy, but held to be willing to work if they could secure employment. Seclusion in a House of Refuge can in no case extend over a period longer than twelve months, except by the free will of the person concerned. The mean number of inmates of the Beggars' Depots in 1901 was 4,542, and of the Houses of Refuge, 1,761.

COURSE OF COAL MINERS' WAGES, 1886-1904.

GENERAL changes in wages, as distinct from local or colliery settlements, are arranged at the present time in all the principal coalfields by Boards of Conciliation representing the coal owners and the miners. Such changes in wages are made by means of percentage additions to, or deductions from, the rates prevailing in some specified year, these rates being termed the "standard" rates. In Northumberland, Durham and South Wales the 1879 rates are the "standard," while in the Federated districts and in Scotland the "standard" rates are those of 1888. In some districts, as in South Wales, a change in district rates affects all classes of workpeople employed at the mines by the same percentage, but in other districts the wages of some of the surface workers, though they move in the same direction as the miners, do so to a smaller extent. Accordingly, while the percentage changes shown in the following Table are true for hewers and for most other underground workers in all districts, they do not strictly apply to all classes of surface workers.

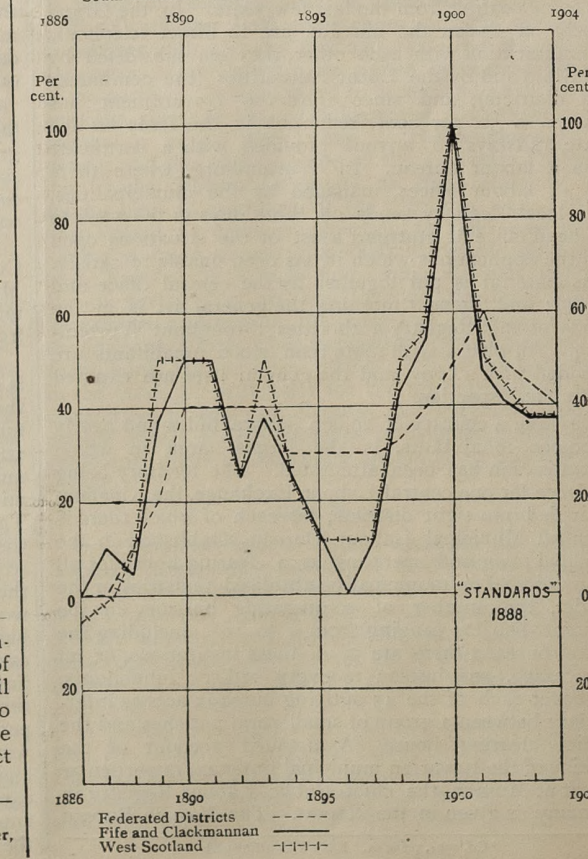
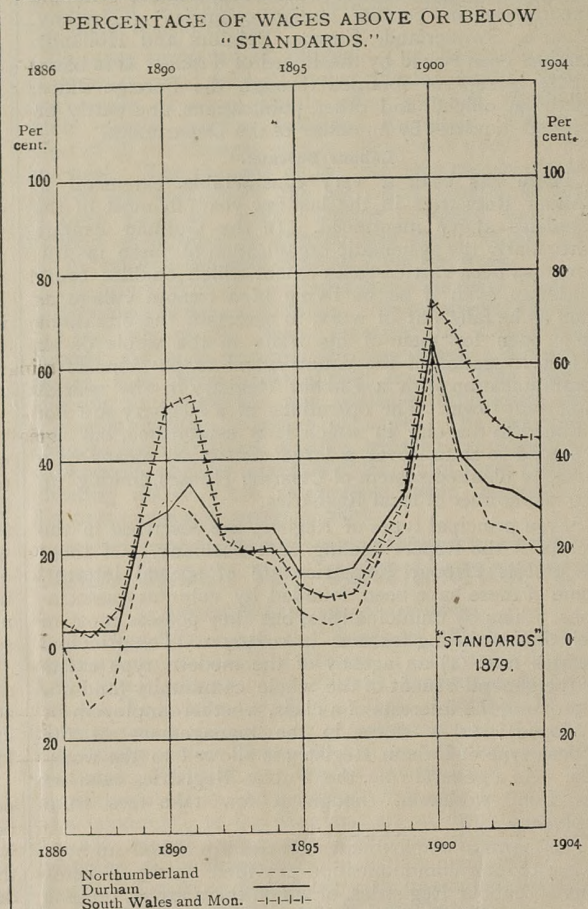
The Table shows for each of the principal districts the level of wages above or below the district "standards" at the end of each year from 1886 (when wages were at or near the standards) to 1903, and up to October, 1904.

End of Year.	PERCENTAGE OF WAGES ABOVE "STANDARDS."					
	Northumberland.	Durham.	Federated Districts.*	S. Wales and Mon.	Fife & Clackmannan.	West Scotland.
1886	At Standard	31	At Standard	5	At Standard	61*
1887	12½	32	At Standard	2½	10	21½*
1888	7½	31	At Standard	5	5	8½*
1889	20	25	20	25	37½	50
1890	31½	30	40	52½	50	50
1891	30	35	40	53½	50	50
1892	20	25	40	22½	25	25
1893	20	25	40	20	37½	50
1894	17½	25	30	21½	25	25
1895	7½	15	30	12½	12½	12½
1896	3½	15	30	10	At Standard	12½
1897	6½	17½	30	11½	12½	12½
1898	18½	25	32½	20	42½	50
1899	25	31½	40	30	51½	56½
1900	61½	65	50	73½	97½	100
1901	36½	40	60	66½	47½	50
1902	26½	33½	50	48½	41½	43½
1903	23½	37½	45	43½	37½	37½
1904 (31st Oct.)	18½	27½	40	43½	37½	37½

It will be seen that from 1888 to 1891 there was a considerable rise in wages followed by a fall to the end of 1896. From that date wages again began to rise, until at the end of 1900 the percentages ranged from 50 to 100 above the various standards. Since then wages have steadily declined, though in every case present district rates are much above those prevailing in 1886 or 1896.

* Below Standard.
 † Includes Lancashire, Cheshire, West Yorkshire, Notts, Derby, Leicester, Warwick, Salop, Staffs, and North Wales.

In the following Charts the particulars given in the above Table are shown in graphic form. In the first chart the standards are those of 1879, in the second the standards are those of 1888.



It should be borne in mind in reading the charts, that though the curves have all been drawn in relationship to one point indicated as the "standards," the level of wages which corresponds to "standard" may differ materially in the various districts. Further, while the fluctuations correctly represent the percentage changes in rates of wages they do not necessarily correspond to the changes in actual earnings, the latter being affected by the number of days per week worked and other changes in working conditions.

Since 1893 the Department has been recording changes in rates of wages and the number of workpeople affected by such changes, and in the Table below, the changes are summarised as regards their effect on aggregate weekly wages.

Year.	No. of workpeople (separate individuals) affected by changes.	Net effect on Weekly Wages.	
		Increase.	Decrease.
1893	292,000	£ 14,850	—
1894	526,000	—	£ 46,180
1895	314,000	—	£ 31,720
1896	203,000	—	£ 5,660
1897	240,000	£ 6,560	—
1898	660,000	£ 56,600	—
1899	653,000	£ 51,150	—
1900	681,000	£ 164,500	—
1901	705,000	—	£ 57,081
1902	736,000	—	£ 75,872
1903	752,000	—	£ 32,488
1904 (Jan. to Oct.)	595,890	—	£ 24,578

The Table shows that the net result over the whole period (January, 1893, to October, 1904) is a slight rise.

During this year 1904 the most important changes in miners' rates of wages have been reductions of 5 per cent. in the Federated districts of England, in South Yorkshire, South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire, three reductions in Durham, two of 1½ per cent. each and one of 2½ per cent., and two reductions in Northumberland of 2½ per cent. each. No change in wages has taken place in South Wales or in Scotland.

The following Table shows the mean number of days worked per week in the various districts in each of the years 1895 to 1903:—

Principal Coalfields.	Mean Number of Days worked per week by Coal Mines making Returns.								
	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
Northumberland ...	4.69	4.79	5.09	5.18	5.32	5.35	5.20	5.25	5.21
Durham ...	5.12	5.23	5.36	5.45	5.53	5.53	5.33	5.38	5.35
Yorkshire ...	4.50	4.78	5.12	5.26	5.55	5.57	4.99	5.00	4.95
Lancs. and Cheshire ...	4.03	4.90	5.03	5.23	5.43	5.42	4.95	5.02	4.80
Derbyshire ...	4.28	4.38	4.81	5.07	5.39	5.53	5.04	5.12	4.71
Notts and Leicester ...	4.11	3.95	4.51	4.52	4.84	5.04	4.60	4.77	4.39
Staffordshire ...	4.28	4.65	4.96	5.04	5.39	5.39	4.84	5.07	4.77
S. Wales and Mon. ...	5.17	5.28	5.47	5.73	5.91	5.31	5.64	5.58	5.58
West of Scotland ...	5.06	5.21	5.37	5.32	5.23	5.33	5.14	5.17	5.16
Fife ...	5.06	4.92	5.20	5.25	5.25	5.29	5.05	5.22	5.22
Other Districts ...	4.70	4.84	5.14	5.48	5.55	5.53	5.28	5.33	5.16
United Kingdom ...	4.74	4.92	5.13	5.25	5.46	5.47	5.12	5.22	5.09

LABOUR STATISTICS OF MASSACHUSETTS.

THE Labour Department has received the 34th Annual Report of the Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics of Labour, and also the Annual Statistics of Manufactures 1902 and 1903, of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Bureau's Annual Report is divided into four parts (i) Race in Industry; (ii) Free Employment Offices (Labour Bureaux) in United States and in Foreign Countries; (iii) Social and Industrial Condition of the Negro in Massachusetts; (iv) A Labour and Industrial Chronology for the year ended 30th September, 1903.

Free Employment Offices.

This section of the Report deals with the expediency of establishing free employment offices or labour bureaux in Massachusetts. The history of such agencies both in the United States and in other countries is fully reviewed, and the following conclusion, among others, drawn.— "As the State has not made, and probably will not make, appropriations for the employment on public works of

† The majority of mines in South Wales and Mon. were idle for about six months in 1895 owing to a labour dispute.

the unemployed, it would seem to be good public policy to assist them to obtain work by establishing free employment offices, if this would prevent them from becoming objects of charity."

Race in Industry.

For the purposes of the report a person is considered of foreign descent who was born in a foreign country of foreign parentage, or who, wherever born, had a foreign father and mother, or a foreign father.

Of the 1,079,090 persons enumerated as employed in the productive industries of the State, 673,966, or about 62½ per cent., were of foreign descent, and 405,124, or 37½ per cent., were of native descent. Of this 673,966 of foreign descent, 233,680 were native born.

In a Table classifying persons of native and foreign descent according to occupation, it is shown that those of foreign birth or descent exceed those of native birth or descent in 9 out of 13 classes of occupations, the natives being more numerous in the Government, Professional and Trade groups, and in Agriculture. The proportion of those of foreign descent to the total of the group was greatest in the Domestic Service (75.8 per cent.), Mining (86.4), Labourers (73.5), and Fisheries (73.2) groups. Those of Irish birth or descent formed 43.7 per cent. of those included in the Domestic Service group, 41.2 of those in the Labourers' group, 32.1 in the Government group, and 29 per cent. in the Personal Service and Manufactures groups.

"The fact is plain," concludes the Report, "that the strong industrial condition of Massachusetts has been secured and is held, not by the labour of what is called the 'native stock,' but by that of the immigrants from all climes. . . . It is doubtful whether any other country or state in the world could absorb so many diverse nationalities and yet retain so fully old-time ideas and customs."

Wages.

The annual statistics of manufactures contains, among other information, particulars of the earnings and hours of labour in 1902 and 1903, relating to 4,673 establishments employing on an average 431,762 workpeople in 1902 and 445,790 in 1903.

In both years 61 per cent. of the total number employed were men, 25 per cent. women, and 14 per cent. young persons of both sexes under 21 years of age. Of the men, 70 per cent. earned over 37s. 6d. per week in 1903, and 40 per cent. earned over 50s. per week. Of the women about 12 per cent. earned less than 20s. 10d. per week, about 63 per cent. between 20s. 10d. and 37s. 6d. per week, 25 per cent. over 37s. 6d. per week, and 5 per cent. over 50s. per week. The average yearly earnings of men in all industries were about £118, of women, £76, and of young persons, £52.

A Table is also given showing the average earnings per annum of men, women, and young persons respectively, in nine of the leading industries. It is as follows:—

Industries.	Average Yearling Earnings.		
	Men.	Women.	Young Persons.
Boots and Shoes (factory product) ...	£ 128	£ 87	£ 54
Carpetings ...	117	83	56
Cotton Goods (Woven) ...	100	75	54
Cotton Yarn and Thread ...	94	69	49
Leather ...	106	67	62
Machines and Machinery ...	125	70	58
Metals and Metallic Goods ...	126	66	58
Paper ...	119	66	61
Woollen Goods (Woven Goods and Yarn) ...	101	79	52
Woollen Goods (Shoddy, Waste, etc.) ...	102	60	52
Worsted Goods ...	103	74	53

In the nine industries above mentioned, which employ nearly two-thirds of all the persons employed in manufacturing industries in Massachusetts, it will be seen that the yearly earnings of men ranged from £94 in the cotton yarn and thread industry, to £128 in boot and shoe factories; of women, from £60 in the woollen goods (shoddy, waste, &c.) industry, to £87 in boot and shoe factories; of young persons from £49 in the cotton yarn and thread industry, to £62 in the leather industry.

The average earnings for all industries in 1903 were higher than in any of the years 1899-1902, as will be seen from the following Table:—

Average Yearly Earnings—All Industries.

Year.	Males.		Females.		Young Persons.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
1899	109	0 7	67	13 0	45	13 11
1900	110	11 9	69	14 7	47	11 4½
1901	112	19 3	71	7 10	48	6 0½
1902	115	2 9	73	12 4	50	17 8
1903	118	6 11	75	12 3	51	19 9½

Compared with 1902 the average yearly earnings of men show an increase of 2·79 per cent.; of women, 2·71 per cent.; and of young persons, 2·17 per cent.

NUMBERS EMPLOYED, ACCIDENTS AND OUTPUT AT MINES AND QUARRIES IN 1903.*

Persons employed in Mines.

The following Table shows the distribution of the mining population of the United Kingdom in 1903 among (a) coal mines, in which are included all mines worked for coal, whether alone or with other minerals, (b) iron mines, in which no coal is produced, (c) other mines producing neither coal nor iron ore:—

Class of Mine.	No. of Mines at Work.	Persons Employed.			Total Under and Above Ground.	
		Under-ground (Males).	Above Ground.			
			Males.	Fe-males.		Total.
Coal	3,309	666,144	157,501	5,323	162,824	828,968
Iron	124	11,561	3,681	15	3,696	15,257
Other	689	16,612	10,742	310	11,052	27,664
Total in 1903	4,122	694,317	171,924	5,648	177,572	871,889
" " 1902	4,052	680,936	168,993	5,674	174,667	855,603
" " 1896	4,116	576,328	144,364	5,114	149,478	725,803

The Table shows that, compared with the preceding year, there was an increase in 1903 of 16,286, or 1·9 per cent., in the total number employed. The corresponding figures are also given for 1896, the year in which the total numbers employed, which had been declining since 1894, fell to the lowest point in the 10 years 1894-1903. The increase since that year is shown to amount to 146,086, or 20·1 per cent. The number of females employed rose in the same period from 5,114 to 5,648, an increase of 10·4 per cent.

The proportion of underground workers to the total number employed is over 80 per cent. at coal mines and nearly 76 per cent. at iron mines. At "other" mines it falls to 60 per cent., owing to the number of persons employed in dressing the metallic ores and slate. The proportion of young persons (i.e., under 16) employed underground is 5·4 per cent. at coal mines, 2·3 per cent. at iron mines, and 1·2 per cent. at other mines. The Welsh collieries employ a larger number of persons underground in proportion to the total number of workers than the collieries of other parts of the kingdom, and a larger proportion of lads under 16.

The Yorkshire, &c., coalfield, including the West Riding of Yorkshire and the counties of Derby and Nottingham, employs 23·1 per cent. of the total coal mining population. The proportions for other coalfields are: Northern coalfield, 19·7 per cent.; South Wales, 19·2 per cent.; Scotland, 12·8 per cent.; Lancashire and Cheshire, 11·5 per cent.; Midland coalfields, 9·3 per cent. As compared with the previous year the increase in the total numbers employed at coal mines was greatest in the case of the South Wales coalfield and the Northern coalfield. Taking the several counties, the increase was especially noticeable in the counties of Durham, Monmouth, York, Lancaster, Glamorgan and Lanark, the total increase for these being more than two-thirds of the net increase for the United Kingdom.

* Mines and Quarries: General Report and Statistics for 1903. Part II.—Labour. [Cd. 2280. Price 10d.] and Part III.—Output. [Cd. 2283. Price 1s. 6d.]

Persons Employed in Quarries.

According to the returns received by the Inspectors, 98,155 persons were employed during 1903 in and about quarries which are in any part more than 20 feet deep. Of these, 62,921 were employed inside the actual pits, holes or excavations, including 6 females, and 1,315 males between 12 and 16 (of whom 50 were boys under 14), whilst 35,234 persons, including 32 females, and 1,946 boys under 16, were employed in factories and workshops outside.

Accidents.

In 1903 there occurred in and about the mines and quarries of the United Kingdom 1151 separate fatal accidents, causing the loss of 1,192 lives. Compared with the previous year there is an increase of 90 in the number of fatal accidents, and of 20 in the number of lives lost.

Accidents at Mines.—Roughly, the death roll has averaged about 1,100 yearly since 1850, and as far as the actual number of deaths is concerned there has been no improvement in the half century. During the same period, however, the number of workmen has quadrupled, so that the dangers of the occupation have been reduced to one-fourth of what they were. In 1851 about 19 persons were killed per 1,000,000 tons of coal raised; in 1903 the death-rate was 4·41 for a like quantity of mineral (mainly coal).

The death-rates from accident per 1,000 persons employed underground at mines under the Coal and Metalliferous Mines Regulation Acts, respectively, are shown for 1903, with quinquennial averages of the rates for previous years in the following Table:—

Quinquennial Period.	Average Death-rate per 1,000 employed Underground at Mines under the	
	Coal Mines Regulation Acts.	Metalliferous Mines Regulation Acts.
1873-1877	2·42	2·41
1878-1882	2·74	2·27
1883-1887	2·20	2·24
1888-1892	1·86	2·02
1893-1897	1·65	2·23
1898-1902	1·40	1·66
1903	1·35	1·20

The accident death rate for underground workers at all mines in 1903 was 1·351 per 1,000, the lowest rate on record. The separate rates for coal mines and metalliferous mines in the year 1903 were also the lowest on record.

Of the total number of deaths from accidents in 1903, in mines under the Coal and Metalliferous Mines Regulation Acts, 578, or 52·7 per cent. were due to falls of ground.

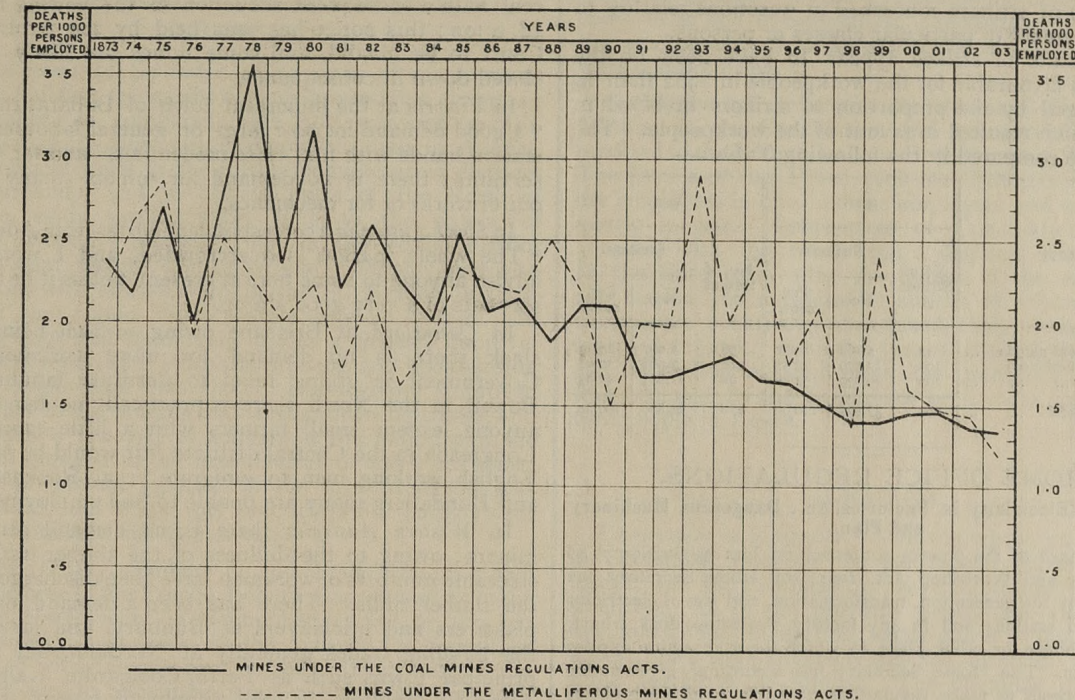
As the above Table shows, the occupation of coal miners during recent years has on the whole been safer than that of ore and stone miners. This is brought out in the accompanying Chart† which shows the death rate per 1,000 employed underground at coal and metalliferous mines for 1873 and later years. The highest death rate in any one year, was 3·6 per 1,000 in 1876 in coal mines and 2·9 per 1,000 in 1893, in metalliferous mines.

Taking the deaths from accidents underground in the different coalfields, in 1903, it is found that the death rate per 1,000 employed underground was only ·99 in the Northern coalfield and 1·06 in the Yorkshire, &c., coalfield, but was 1·66 in the Scotch coalfields and 1·67 in the South Wales coalfield.

Accidents at Quarries.—The total number of deaths in 1903 at Quarries under the Quarries Act was 95, or 24 less than in the preceding year. Of these, 84 deaths happened "inside" the quarries, and 11 deaths "outside." The death rate per 1,000 persons employed was ·97, compared with 1·23 per 1,000 in 1902, and 1·13 per 1,000 the mean of the period 1896-1902.

† Reproduced from Part II.

(Death rates from Accidents underground per 1,000 persons employed underground in Mines under the Coal and Metalliferous Mines Regulation Acts respectively, 1873-1903.)



MINES UNDER THE COAL MINES REGULATIONS ACTS.
MINES UNDER THE METALLIFEROUS MINES REGULATIONS ACTS.

Output of Coal and Iron.

The total output of coal in the United Kingdom in 1903 was 230,334,469 tons, the highest hitherto recorded. The value was only £88,227,547, as against £93,521,407 in 1902, when the output was less by more than three million tons, the average price of coal at the pit's mouth having fallen from 8s. 2·84d. per ton in 1902 to 7s. 7·93d. in 1903.

The quantity of coal exported was 44,950,057 tons, or nearly two million tons more than in 1902. This total is exclusive of the 2,055,444 tons exported in the form of coke and patent fuel, and the 16,799,848 tons shipped for the use of British and foreign steamers engaged in foreign

trade. Thus the amount of coal remaining for home consumption was 166,529,120 tons, or 3·930 tons per head of the population. 18,302,240 tons were used in the blast furnaces for the manufacture of pig iron, as against 17,649,137 tons in the previous year.

The output of iron ore, 13,715,645 tons, showed an increase of 289,641 tons on that for 1902, but the value, £3,229,937, was less by £58,164 than in 1902. The ore yielded 4,500,972 tons of iron, or about one half of the total quantity of pig iron made in the country. The imports of iron ore amounted to 6,314,162 tons during the year, 78 per cent. of which came from Spain.

LABOUR DISPUTES IN AUSTRIA IN 1902.

The Report on strikes and lock-outs in Austria in 1902,* recently issued by the Austrian Labour Department, shows that, though disputes in that year were slightly less frequent than in 1901, the number of workpeople involved was considerably larger, and the loss in working days 80 per cent. greater than in the preceding year. The number, extent and duration of strikes in 1902, as compared with 1901, are shown in the following Table, according to the principal groups of trades affected:—

Group of Trades.	Number of Strikes.		Number of Strikers.		Number of Working Days Lost.†	
	1902.	1901.	1902.	1901.	1902.	1901.
	Building Trades	24	24	10,505	3,214	109,949	5,538
Mining	63	40	13,573	7,496	44,360	24,572
Metal, Engineering, &c., Trades	33	27	1,754	2,282	16,482	19,194
Textile Trades	34	28	2,599	2,675	19,076	15,583
Clothing Trades	22	28	927	1,821	7,650	11,651
Transport and Communication	7	3	1,880	365	9,571	1,320
Woodworking, India-rubber and Furnishing Trades	20	27	1,312	2,025	36,287	34,244
Chemical, Glass, Pottery, &c., Trades	28	34	2,445	2,012	21,309	34,712
Miscellaneous Trades	33	49	2,476	2,080	19,362	13,930
Total	264	270	37,471	24,870	284,046	187,744

The working days lost by the building and mining industries in 1902 numbered 154,309 (as compared with 30,110 in the previous year), and thus accounted for the bulk of the figure (126,302) by which the aggregate loss in working days in 1902 exceeded that of 1901.

* Die Arbeitseinstellungen und Aussperrungen in Oesterreich während des Jahres 1902. Vienna, 1904. Alfred Hölder, I. Rotenturmstrasse, 13. Price 2s.
† Exclusive of days lost by workpeople locked-out and by those indirectly affected by strikes.

The figures in the Table are exclusive of 6,354 persons in 1902 (as compared with 2,846 in 1901) who suffered enforced idleness owing to strikes, although not themselves on strike. The working days lost in this way in 1902 numbered 79,168, as against 32,015 in 1901.

Some idea of the relative importance of the various kinds of demands advanced by strikers in the two years will be obtained from the following Table:—

Demands.‡	Strikers involved in Strikes in which the demands mentioned in the previous column were formulated.			
	Number.		Percentage of Total.	
	1902.	1901.	1902.	1901.
Wages:				
For increase	31,607	17,595	84	71
Against decrease	4,434	2,115	12	10
Other	5,011	4,669	13	19
Hours of Labour:				
For decrease	17,894	7,476	48	30
Other	898	1,417	2	6
Employment of Particular Classes or Persons	9,801	11,435	26	46
Working Arrangements	20,014	11,928	53	48
Trade Unionism	2,327	964	6	4
Other Objects	16,544	8,054	44	32

The Table shows that while demands for increase of wages were put forward by 84 per cent. of all who took part in strikes in 1902, only 71 per cent. were concerned with this question in 1901. The proportion concerned with demands for reduction of the hours of labour

‡ Where two or more demands have been formulated in a given dispute, the same strikers are counted under each demand.

was also greater in 1902, viz., 48 per cent., as compared with 30 per cent. in 1901. There was a decrease from 46 per cent. in 1901 to 26 per cent. in 1902 in the proportion of strikers concerned in questions relating to the employment of particular classes or persons.

The results of strikes appear to have been on the whole less favourable for the workpeople in 1902 than in 1901, judged by the proportion of strikers involved in strikes which resulted in favour of the workpeople. The figures are compared in the following Table:—

Result.	1902.			1901.		
	No. of Strikes.	Strikers.		No. of Strikes.	Strikers.	
		No.	Per cent.		No.	Per cent.
In favour of workpeople ...	52	5,162	13,777	56	5,007	20,113
In favour of employers ...	109	12,570	33,555	116	7,968	32,401
Compromised ...	103	19,739	52,668	98	11,895	47,83
Total ...	264	37,471	100.00	270	24,870	100.00

HOME OFFICE REGULATIONS.

The Use of Electricity in Factories, &c.: Dangerous Machinery and Plant.

In pursuance of the powers conferred on him by Section 79 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, the Home Secretary has certified that the generation, transformation, and use of electricity in electrical stations and in any factory, workshop, dock, wharf, quay, warehouse, or other place to which the said section applies is dangerous. The Home Secretary has accordingly given notice that he proposes to make regulations to apply to all such places other than electrical stations, in respect of the distribution and use of electricity where the normal working pressure is greater than 250 and less than 650 volts between any two conductors. These proposed regulations provide for the encasing of wires in connection with the supply, the protection of circuits, the control of power supplied to motors and arc lamps, the prevention of shock or fire from switches and cut-outs, the provision of safety fuses, the insulation of service lines, and other means of securing safety. Copies of the proposed regulations may be obtained at the Office of the Chief Inspector of Factories, Home Office, London, and at the local offices of the Inspectors of Factories. Objection to the draft regulations by or on behalf of any persons affected must be sent to the Home Secretary within 40 days from October 14th, 1904.

Docks, Wharves and Quays: Dangerous Processes.

The Home Secretary, in pursuance of the powers conferred on him by the Act, has made Regulations,* dated October 24th, 1904, for the protection of persons employed in the processes which had been certified to be dangerous. These regulations apply to the fencing of the dangerous parts of docks, &c.—to provisions for the rescue of persons from drowning—to the means of access to ships loading, unloading, or coaling—to the testing and examination of machinery, chains and other gear used in hoisting or lowering—to the fencing, and otherwise rendering more safe, of dangerous machinery—and to other matters connected with the processes in question. The Regulations are to come into force on January 1st, 1905, with the exception of certain of them which require structural alterations. These latter are not to come into force until January 1st, 1908.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE COLONIES.

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

Canada.

There has been a considerable opening for labour in Canada during the past season; but the winter has now commenced, and persons in employment in the United Kingdom are recommended to defer their departure till the spring, which is the best time for emigration.

Commonwealth of Australia.

In New South Wales at Sydney there is no demand for labour of any kind, except female servants; at the large Broken Hill silver mines work has increased, and the number of miners, &c., is greater than at any time since 1900; at Tamworth there is a demand for farm labourers

* Factory and Workshop, Dangerous and Unhealthy Industries. Statutory Rules and Orders, 1904. No. 1617. (Eyre & Spottiswoode. Price 1d.)
† Handbooks with maps on the different Colonies may be obtained from the Emigrants' Information Office, at a penny each, post free.

and female servants only; at Newcastle the coal trade is slack and labour is abundant; the mine owners have given notice of a reduction of 1s. a ton in the price of coal, with a consequent reduction in the hewing rate of 4d. a ton; this notice has been held by the Arbitration Court to be invalid, and some mines are likely to be closed down in consequence.

In Victoria at the important town of Ballarat there is "a good demand for good farm or general labourers and station hands with first class credentials," and for female servants; there is no demand for miners (many being out of work) or for mechanics.

In South Australia a correspondent writes from Adelaide: "The whole market is overcrowded, and I would not advise anyone to come here at present, unless it be female servants of a very good stamp."

In Queensland, at Brisbane owing to trade being very slack there is no demand for more workmen, and Government is giving relief to destitute families: at Bowen in the North there is practically no demand for anyone, except small farmers with a little capital: to Longreach in the Central districts "it would be folly for English working men to emigrate": at Rockhampton and Bundaberg many are unable to find employment.

In Western Australia there is no demand for more miners; owing to the dullness of the timber trade considerable numbers of workmen have been discharged from the timber mills. There has been a demand for a few plasterers and bricklayers at Bunbury, and for men in the building trades generally at Northam, but in the principal towns such as Perth, Coolgardie, Kalgoorlie, Albany, Geraldton, &c., the supply of labour is quite sufficient; there is a good demand for agricultural labourers and female servants.

New Zealand.

The last reports received from New Zealand were collected during the winter season, and show, as might be expected, less activity in the various trades. But as the summer there has now commenced there is more work in progress, especially farm work and building, and competent men in these trades should have little difficulty in procuring employment. There is an opening for good tailors at Wellington at 9s. to 11s. a day; and for female servants in nearly every district of the colony.

South Africa.

Cape Colony.—No one can enter the Colony unless he has secured employment, and possesses £20 on arrival. Persons are warned against going there at the present time. Large numbers of men are out of work at Cape Town, and the distress continues to grow.

It is officially notified that, owing to the circumstances of the Colony, and the consequent diminution of work in Public Departments, no new appointments, even of those candidates who have already passed the examination, are likely to be made in the Civil Service for a considerable time, and that therefore employment should be sought elsewhere.

Natal.—There are a number of unemployed in Durban and Maritzburg, and no one should go to Natal at the present time on the chance of work.

Transvaal.—No one is allowed to enter the Transvaal without a permit. The building trade is progressing at Johannesburg in spite of the depression, but there is no demand whatever for more outside labour, many persons on the spot being unemployed. Female servants may obtain assisted passages by applying to the South African Colonisation Society, 47, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

Orange River Colony.—No one is permitted to enter the Colony without a permit. There is no demand whatever for more labour at the present time; many persons are out of work, and the distress is becoming acute. Considerable numbers of white employees have been discharged from the railways owing to the depression. Country districts also are suffering as well as the towns, and some of the recent settlers on Government farms are in difficulties. Female servants may obtain assisted passages from the South African Colonisation Society above-mentioned.

LABOUR ABROAD.

FRANCE.*

Employment in September.—The state of employment in the building trades showed no appreciable change in September, as compared with the previous month. Metal workers were better employed than in August. A number of mills in the cotton manufacturing districts of Normandy, and in certain parts of the North of France, again worked short time to the extent of one or two days per week, but in the Vosges district employment became almost normal. Employment also improved with silk weavers in the St. Etienne district, but in the Lyons district there was no change. In the garment and hatmaking trades a general improvement was reported. With the printing and bookbinding trades employment was slack. Employment improved somewhat in the tanning and leather-dressing trades, and there was a renewal of activity in the majority of the districts engaged in the manufacture of boots and shoes. The improvement reported in the furniture trades was maintained, and there was practically full employment for coachbuilders and clogmakers.

Of the 167,354 members of 966 Trade Unions which made reports to the French Labour Department as to the state of employment in September, 17,658, or 10.5 per cent., were out of work on the 15th of the month, as compared with 11.1 per cent. in the previous month, and 12.6 per cent. in September, 1903. The totals on which the foregoing figures are based do not include returns from miners' Unions in the Nord and Pas-de-Calais Departments.

The following statement shows the percentages of members of Trade Unions reported unemployed in certain trades, for which the figures are shown separately:—

Trade Union.	Percentage reported unemployed in the middle of		
	Sept., 1904.	August, 1904.	Sept., 1903.
Building Trades:—			
Carpenters and Joiners ...	5.7	6.5	5.0
Other Branches ...	10.8	10.3	12.0
Metal and Engineering Trades ...	5.4	7.1	9.0
Textile Trades ...	9.1	10.9	14.0
Clothing Trades (exclusive of Boot and Shoemaking) ...	9.7	9.0	7.0
Printing Trades:—			
Paris ...	9.7	6.5	8.0
Provinces ...	6.2	6.5	4.0
Leather and Fur Trades:—			
Tanning, Dressing, &c. ...	35.0	51.0	16.0
Boot and Shoemaking ...	8.9	14.0	9.0
Furniture and Upholstery Trades ...	11.0	13.0	8.0
Food Preparation Trades ...	19.5	15.4	10.0

Coal Mining in September.—The average number of days worked per week by miners employed underground in September was 5.81, as compared with 5.77 in the preceding month and 5.83 in September, 1903. Taking surface and underground workers together, 65.6 per cent. worked full time (6 days and over per week), and 33.5 per cent. from 5 to 6 days, the percentages in the previous month being 46 and 41 respectively. The foregoing figures were furnished to the French Labour Department by the Committee of Coal Owners, and relate to over 148,000 workpeople, or more than three-fourths of all employed in and about the mines.

Labour Disputes in September.—Fifty-seven disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in September, as compared with 80 in the previous month and 57 in September, 1903. The number of persons taking part in 48 of the new disputes was 16,597, as compared with 21,791 who took part in 72 of the disputes in the previous month, and with 46,954 who took part in the disputes of September, 1903. Four of the new disputes occurred in the building trades, 5 in mining and quarrying, 10 in the textile trades, 4 in the clothing trades, 6 in agriculture, 18 in the transport trades, 1 in the glass trade, 5 in the food preparation trades, and 4 in trades not included within any of the

* Bulletin de l'Office du Travail (Journal of the French Labour Department).

foregoing groups. Of the 47 new and old disputes which came to an end in September, 9 terminated in favour of the workpeople, 16 in favour of the employers, and 22 were compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in September.—Six cases of recourse to the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported to the French Labour Department in September. The Justice of the Peace took the initiative in 4 cases, the employers in one, and the employers and workpeople jointly in one. Committees of Conciliation met in 3 cases, with the result that 2 disputes were settled. In the third case, after the failure of the attempt at conciliation and a refusal to submit to arbitration, the workpeople eventually abandoned their demands and returned to work. As to the 3 cases in which Committees of Conciliation did not meet, the proffered mediation was declined by the employers in 2 cases and by the workpeople in 1 case.

GERMANY.

Employment in September.*—On the whole employment in September, judging by the reports from different trades, was fairly satisfactory, save in mining and iron smelting. As in the previous month the rivers were low, and inland navigation, water-power milling and the paper trades were adversely affected, although not to the same degree as in August. The chemical trades and the manufacture of agricultural machinery were adversely affected in their export branches by the war in the Far East. Employment in the metal and engineering trades was satisfactory on the whole, and continued favourable in the electrical trades throughout the month. The textile trades showed some improvement in spite of the prevailing uncertainty as to the movement of prices of the raw material. Seasonal causes had a decidedly favourable effect upon the printing, ready-made clothing, and other trades which usually become busier at this period of the year. In agriculture there was a brisk demand for labour in connection with the potato harvest, which the available amount of German labour failed to meet.

Employment returns were supplied to the Imperial Statistical Office by Trade Unions with an aggregate membership of 589,928 for the quarter ended September 30th, as compared with 547,525 at the end of June last, and 414,855 at the end of September, 1903. According to these returns 11,083, or 1.8 per cent. of the total membership, were unemployed on September 30th, as compared with 1.9 per cent. at the end of June, and 1.8 per cent. at the end of September, 1903. The trades most largely represented in these returns were the metal, engineering and printing trades. The number and percentage of members unemployed on September 30th and June 30th respectively, in the three principal Unions in these trades, were as follows:—

	Total Membership.		Unemployed Membership.			
	Sept. 30th, 1904.	June 30th, 1904.	Total.		Per cent. of Membership.	
	Sept. 30th, 1904.	June 30th, 1904.	Sept. 30th, 1904.	June 30th, 1904.	Sept. 30th, 1904.	June 30th, 1904.
1. Federation of Metal Workers (Headquarters, Stuttgart)	168,750	168,750	2,480	2,489	1.5	1.5
2. Federation of German Engineers and Metal Workers (Headquarters, Berlin)	37,308	39,191	261	358	0.7	0.9
3. Federation of German Book Printers (Headquarters, Berlin)	36,943	34,794	3,039	2,378	8.2	6.8
Total of above Federations	243,001	242,735	5,780	5,225	2.4	2.2

Labour Disputes in October.—According to Der Arbeitsmarkt 49 disputes began in Germany during October, as compared with 50 in the previous month. Of these 3 occurred in the building trades, 2 in mining and smelting,

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

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—BUILDING TRADES.

11 in the metal and engineering trades, 5 in the clothing and cleaning trades, 4 in the leather trades, 2 in the transport trades, 4 in the pottery and earthenware trades, 4 in the printing and paper trades, 9 in the woodworking trades, 4 in the food and tobacco trades, and 1 among domestic servants.

AUSTRIA.*

Employment in September.—According to reports made to the Austrian Labour Department by public and private labour registries, relief stations, and other agencies for procuring employment, the number of applications for employment per 100 situations offered was as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Both Sexes.
September, 1904	191	111	147
August, 1904	173	98	142
September, 1903	182	90	136

Labour Disputes in September.—Fourteen disputes were reported to the Austrian Labour Department as having begun in September, the number of workpeople who took part in 12 of these being 1,398. One of the disputes occurred in the building trades, 1 in mining, 4 in the textile trades, 1 in the clothing trades, 2 in the pottery and glass trades, 2 in the printing and paper trades, 2 in the woodworking trades, and 1 in the transport trades. The results were reported in the case of 8 disputes; of these 4 terminated in favour of the workpeople, 1 in favour of the employers, and 3 were compromised.

NORWAY.†

Employment in July.—Out of 8,995 members of 103 Trade Unions which made returns to the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, 224 (or 2.5 per cent.) were out of work at the end of July, as compared with 2.0 per cent. reported out of work by the same Trade Unions at the end of June, and 2.3 per cent. at the end of May.

The following statement shows, by trades, the percentage reported unemployed by the same Unions at the end of each of the three months under review:—

Occupation.	Total Membership of the Unions reporting in July.	Percentage of Membership reported unemployed at the end of		
		May, 1904.	June, 1904.	July, 1904.
Masons and Bricklayers	164	16.0	11.0	9.8
Carpenters (including Ship Carpenters)	149	1.3	—	1.3
Painters	515	2.1	—	—
Stonecutters	334	—	—	—
Iron and other Metal Workers (except Moulders)	4,323	1.1	1.1	1.7
Moulders	713	3.0	1.0	3.1
Miners and Smelters	167	7.2	4.2	3.0
Railway Servants	319	—	—	—
Sawyers, Planers and Building Yard Employees	453	0.9	1.8	0.4
Road and Railway Labourers	93	—	—	—
Bakers	364	5.4	6.6	6.9
Printers	983	5.3	6.4	7.8
Food Preparation Trades	95	2.2	2.2	1.1
Others	323	0.5	0.5	0.3
Total of above Trades	8,995	2.3	2.0	2.5

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

CHICAGO CONSULAR DISTRICT.‡

State of Employment.—The Pullman Works did not return to the 10-hour day as was reported last month.

Strike in Illinois Coal Mines.—On October 31st, 800 hoisting engineers engaged in 240 bituminous coal mines in Illinois went on strike against a reduction of 5½ per cent. in wages. The strike affected about 50,000 workmen, but it was not expected to last long.

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Austrian Labour Department.

† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics.

‡ Based on information supplied through the Foreign Office by Mr. Alexander Finn, H.M. Consul at Chicago, under date of November 1st.

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES.

BUILDING TRADES.

(Based on Returns, from the Trade Correspondent, from Employers' Associations, Employers Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the building trades continued dull during October, and on the whole was rather worse than in September. It was also worse than a year ago.

Employment with carpenters and joiners was bad generally, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union carpenters and joiners was 8.3 at the end of October, compared with 7.0 at the end of September, and 5.6 at the end of October, 1903. With plumbers it was dull generally; it was, however, slightly better than last month, but was worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union plumbers was 9.1 at the end of October, compared with 9.5 at the end of September, and 6.6 a year ago.

The percentage proportion of unemployed carpenters and joiners and plumbers in the principal districts according to the returns of certain Trade Unions is shown in the following Table:—

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of October, 1904.*	Percentage of Members of Unions returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in Percentage for Oct., 1904, as compared with	
		Oct., 1904.	Sept., 1904.	Oct., 1903.	Month ago.	Year ago.
CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.						
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
London	6,888	8.5	6.2	6.9	+2.3	+1.6
Northern Counties†	6,057	11.5	9.8	12.0	+1.7	-0.5
Lancashire and Cheshire	10,307	7.6	6.4	4.9	+1.2	+2.7
Yorkshire	5,126	8.9	6.9	6.4	+2.0	+2.5
East Midlands	3,748	6.8	6.2	4.2	+0.6	+2.6
West Midlands	4,485	5.0	4.6	4.0	+0.4	+1.0
Eastern Counties	1,126	6.7	6.6	6.6	+0.1	+0.1
S. and S.W. Counties	5,952	5.7	4.8	4.1	+0.9	+1.6
Wales and Monmouth	1,236	3.5	3.4	2.8	+0.1	+0.7
Other Districts	650	6.8	2.6	4.4	+4.2	+2.4
SCOTLAND	5,616	11.0	9.6	3.5	+1.4	+7.5
IRELAND	4,791	11.0	10.4	2.6	+0.6	+8.4
UNITED KINGDOM	55,952	8.3	7.0	5.6	+1.3	+2.7
PLUMBERS.						
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
London	988	13.0	11.8	9.8	+1.2	+3.2
Northern Counties†	1,645	8.4	8.7	6.0	-0.3	+2.4
Lancashire and Cheshire	2,632	8.1	9.1	6.4	-1.0	+1.7
Yorkshire	1,936	8.2	6.6	3.8	+1.6	+4.4
East Midlands	684	6.6	6.3	4.1	+0.3	+2.5
West Midlands	511	11.4	7.4	4.0	+4.0	+7.4
Eastern Counties	111	4.5	4.5	7.4	—	-2.9
S. and S.W. Counties	517	5.2	3.5	7.5	+1.9	-2.3
Wales and Monmouth	231	3.5	5.2	7.9	-1.7	+4.4
Other Districts	28	14.3	7.1	13.9	+7.2	+0.4
SCOTLAND	1,949	11.6	12.9	7.1	-1.3	+4.5
IRELAND	622	9.0	16.9	10.1	-7.9	-1.1
UNITED KINGDOM	10,954	9.1	9.5	6.6	-0.4	+2.5

With bricklayers employment was dull, and about the same as a month ago and a year ago. With masons it continued moderate in England and dull in Scotland. With painters employment continued bad, and was worse than a year ago. With plasterers employment continued dull, and worse than a year ago. With slaters and tilers employment was dull generally. In England and Wales it was about the same as last month, but worse than a year ago; in Scotland it was rather worse than last month, and about the same as a year ago.

The returns received from 80 Employers' Associations show that employment generally was dull, and worse than a month ago and a year ago.

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

London.—Employment generally in London was slack; it was worse than a month ago and a year ago, and an increased amount of short time was worked. Returns

* Exclusive of Superannuated Members. † And Middlesbrough.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—BUILDING TRADES; COAL AND OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.

received by the Trade Correspondent from 79 employers show that in the last week of October they paid wages to 16,390 workpeople of all classes, as compared with 18,173 in the last week of September, and 18,058 in the last week of October, 1903.

Northern Counties.—The general condition of employment continued dull. It was about the same as last month, and rather worse than a year ago.

Lancashire and Cheshire.—Employment continued slack generally. The slaters at Bolton, however, reported it as moderate, and the bricklayers at Northwich as fair. There was some short time amongst the painters at Manchester.

Yorkshire.—In this district employment generally continued slack. At Barnsley, however, it had slightly improved, and with the painters at Doncaster, and the slaters and tilers at Hull it was fair, and moderate with the stonemasons at the latter place.

East Midland Counties.—Employment generally continued dull, though, with bricklayers at Coalville, and painters at Lincoln it was fair, and moderate with masons at Rugby. It had slightly improved with the plumbers at Leicester, and the plasterers' labourers at Nottingham.

West Midland Counties.—Employment generally throughout the district was dull, except at Tamworth and Dudley, where it was reported as fair.

Eastern Counties.—In this district employment generally was slack. The masons at Norwich, however, reported it as fair.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—Employment generally was dull. It was, however, reported as fair in some branches at Exeter and Cheltenham, and moderate at Hereford and Taunton.

Wales and Monmouthshire.—Employment generally was slack, though fair with painters at Oswestry, and (except at Cardiff) with stonemasons and plumbers in the South Wales district.

Scotland.—Employment generally continued dull, and was rather worse than a year ago. The bricklayers at Motherwell, however, and the masons and slaters at Aberdeen reported employment as fair.

Ireland.—In Dublin and Belfast employment was reported as bad. In Cork it was moderate.

COAL MINING.

(Based on Returns from Employers, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

THE returns received regarding employment in this industry show that there was little change in October as compared with either a month or a year ago.

The number of workpeople employed at collieries from which returns were received for the three periods was somewhat larger than in September and in October, 1903.

Returns received relating to 1,334 pits, employing 544,832 workpeople, show that the average number of days worked per week by the collieries* during the four weeks ended October 22nd was 5.16, as compared with 5.16 in September, and 5.21 in October, 1903.

Of the 544,832 workpeople included in the returns, 378,389 or 69.5 per cent. were employed at pits working 20 days or more during the four weeks ending October 22nd, and of these 116,612 were employed at pits working 23½ days or more.

In the Table below the average time worked by the pits in the various districts is shown for the three periods specified:—

* 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.

District.	No. of Workpeople employed in Oct., 1904, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average No. of Days worked per week by the * Collieries in Four Weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (–) in Oct., 1904, as compared with	
		Oct. 22nd, 1904.	Sept. 24th, 1904.	Oct. 24th, 1903.	A m'nth ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.						
Northerland	40,277	5.33	5.33	5.35	—	-0.02
Durham	95,046	5.38	5.40	5.37	+0.02	+0.01
Cumberland	6,156	5.34	4.59	5.39	+0.75	-0.25
South Yorkshire	60,303	5.23	5.18	5.39	+0.05	-0.16
West Yorkshire	19,795	4.78	4.37	4.80	+0.41	-0.02
Lancashire and Cheshire	49,877	4.72	4.52	4.74	+0.20	-0.02
Derbyshire	38,238	4.57	4.71	4.82	+0.14	-0.25
Nottingham and Leicester	27,709	4.68	4.49	4.61	+0.19	+0.07
Staffordshire	26,669	4.79	4.82	4.79	-0.03	—
Salop, Worcester, and Warwick	10,171	5.31	5.36	4.88	-0.05	+0.43
Gloucester and Somerset	8,257	5.18	4.89	5.28	+0.29	-0.10
North Wales	11,112	5.07	5.09	5.27	-0.02	-0.20
South Wales and Mon.	111,099	5.49	5.64	5.83	-0.15	-0.34
ENGLAND & WALES	505,709	5.15	5.14	5.20	+0.01	-0.08
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland	18,467	5.27	5.33	5.35	-0.02	-0.08
The Lothians	4,925	5.75	5.73	5.40	+0.02	+0.35
Fife	15,090	5.26	5.47	5.47	-0.21	-0.21
SCOTLAND	38,482	5.33	5.43	5.41	-0.10	-0.08
IRELAND.						
IRELAND	641	4.88	4.76	5.15	+0.12	-0.27
United Kingdom	544,832	5.16	5.16	5.21	—	-0.06

In Northumberland house and steam coal pits worked on an average over 5 days per week. In Durham employment was moderate.

Employment in the Leeds pits was slightly better than in the previous month. In the Sheffield, Barnsley, and Rotherham districts an average of over 5 days per week was worked.

In Lancashire employment was fair at Bolton and Wigan, moderate at Burnley, good at Accrington. In the St. Helen's District 4½ days per week were worked.

In Nottingham employment was reported as moderate, with an average of 4½ days worked per week. In Leicestershire it was fair. On Cannock Chase the average time worked was 3½ days per week. At Tamworth some improvement was shown. In South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire an average of 4½ days was worked. In Shropshire employment was fair.

Employment in the Radstock and Forest of Dean districts was fair, and good in the Bristol district.

In North Wales employment continued fair.

In Scotland employment was fairly good in Lanarkshire, and fair in Ayrshire and Dumbartonshire. In Stirlingshire an average of 5 days per week was worked. In Fifeshire it was not quite so brisk as in the previous month, an average of 5½ days being worked per week. In West Lothian there was no change, while in Mid and East Lothian a further improvement was shown.

The Exports of coal, coke, and patent fuel during October, 1904, amounted to 4,181,274 tons, as compared with 4,190,681 tons in September, and 4,197,229 tons in October, 1903.

OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.

(Based on information from Employers, Employers' Associations, a Trade Union and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in October continued good in iron and shale mines; moderate in tin and copper mines; fairly good in lead mines; and fairly good generally with quarrymen.

Mining.

Iron Mining.—Employment in this industry continued good; the average time worked was practically the same as in September, and was slightly greater than a year ago. During the four weeks ended 22nd October the average number of days worked per week by the 126 mines and openworks covered by the returns received from employers was 5.83, as compared with 5.82 in September, and 5.73 a year ago. The number of workpeople employed showed

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING; PIG IRON; TINPLATE WORKS.

an increase of 0.3 per cent. as compared with a month ago, and a decrease of 0.6 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

The following Table summarises the returns received:—

Districts.	No. employed in Oct., 1904, at the Mines included in the Table.	Average Number of Days worked per week by the Mines in 4 weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Oct., 1904, as compared with	
		Oct. 22nd, 1904.	Sept. 24th, 1904.	Oct. 24th, 1903.	A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND—						
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	4,661	5.89	5.92	5.93	- 0.03	- 0.04
Cleveland ...	7,377	5.94	5.95	5.96	- 0.01	+ 0.18
Lincolnshire and Leicestershire ...	851	5.77	5.57	5.84	+ 0.20	- 0.07
Northamptonshire Staffordshire and Shropshire ...	575	5.81	5.69	5.91	+ 0.12	- 0.10
Other places in England ...	987	5.15	5.25	4.32	- 0.10	+ 0.83
Total, England ...	14,388	5.85	5.85	5.71	...	+ 0.15
SCOTLAND ...	1,013	5.53	5.46	5.95	+ 0.07	- 0.42
IRELAND ...	85	5.74	3.86	6.00	+ 1.88	- 0.26
Total and Averages ...	15,486	5.83	5.82	5.73	+ 0.01	+ 0.10

Of the 15,486 workpeople covered by the returns 13,874, or 89.6 per cent., were employed in mines working 22 or more days during the four weeks ended 22nd October 1904, as compared with 89.8 per cent. a month ago, and 89.0 per cent. a year ago.

Shale Mining.—Employment with shale miners continued good. Returns received relating to 25 mines show that in October 2,854 men were employed, as compared with 2,793 a month ago, and 2,707 in October, 1903. The average weekly number of days worked by the mines in the four weeks ended 22nd October was 5.67, as compared with 5.72 in the previous month, and 4.65 in October, 1903.

Tin, Copper, and Lead Mining.—Employment in the tin and copper mines of Devon and Cornwall continued dull in the Calstock district, and moderate in the Camborne district. It was fair in the Marazion district. In North Wales lead miners were in full employment, and in the Weardale district about five days per week were worked.

Quarrying.

Slate.—Employment in North Wales was dull generally, except in the Festiniog district where it was good. In Cornwall quarrymen were steadily employed. In Argylshire employment was moderate.

Granite.—In Leicestershire employment continued fairly good. In Devon and Cornwall it was dull generally. In North Wales it was good. In Aberdeenshire and Kincardineshire it was dull generally.

Limestone.—In the Weardale district employment was fair. In Cumberland it was bad, and in some districts much short time was worked. In Derbyshire employment was slack generally. In North Wales it was good; in the Bath stone quarries bad; and in the Plymouth district dull.

Other Stone.—In the Gateshead district employment continued slack. In the Sheffield district it was quiet. It continued moderate at Barnsley; and at Normanton full time was worked. Employment with chert quarrymen in Derbyshire remained dull. In the Clee Hill district it continued good. In Devon and Cornwall it was quiet generally. At the grindstone and building stone quarries in the Rowsley district employment was moderate though slightly better than in the previous month. In Forfarshire it still continued bad.

Sett-making.—Employment in Leicestershire was slacker with settmakers than in September. In North Wales it was fairly good. In Scotland employment was fair at Airdrie; bad in the Edinburgh district; and fair at Aberdeen. It continued fair at Belfast.

China Clay.—Employment was moderate in the St. Austell district.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

(Based on Returns from Employers and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry showed on the whole an improvement as compared with a month ago. In England generally it was, however, considerably below the level of a year ago.

Returns relating to the works of 112 ironmasters show that two furnaces in Lanarkshire, one in Derbyshire, and one in Staffordshire were blown out, while three in Staffordshire, one in Monmouthshire, one in Lancashire, and one in Ayrshire were re-lit. At the end of October 302 furnaces were in blast as compared with 300 in September, and 315 in October, 1903. The number of workpeople employed at works included in the returns is estimated at about 21,350.

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

Districts.	Number of Furnaces, included in the returns, in Blast at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Oct., 1904, as compared with	
	Oct., 1904.	Sept., 1904.	Oct., 1903.	A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES—					
Cleveland ...	77	77	80	...	- 3
Cumberland & Lancs. S. and S.W. Yorks. Derby & Nottingham Leicester, Lincoln, and Northampton Stafford & Worcester S. Wales & Monmouth Other districts ...	31 13 36 25 30 15 6	30 13 37 25 28 14† 6	34 15 38 26 33 13 7	+ 1 ...	- 3 - 2 - 2 - 1 - 3 + 2 - 1
Returned from England & Wales ...	233	230†	246	+ 3	- 13
RETURNED FROM SCOTLAND ...	69	70	69	- 1	...
Total furnaces included in returns ...	302	300†	315	+ 2	- 13

TINPLATE WORKS.

(Based on returns from Employers and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the tinplate industry in October continued good and was better than in September. As compared with a year ago considerable improvement is shown. The supply of and demand for labour continued about equal.

At the end of October 394 mills were working, as compared with 382 at the end of September, and 348 a year ago. At the 76 works open, 65 had all their mills (356) in operation, while the remaining 11 had 38 mills working out of a total of 61. The estimated number of workpeople employed at the 394 mills was 19,700.

In the South Wales, Monmouthshire, and Gloucestershire district 384 mills were in operation at the end of October, as compared with 372 a month ago, and 336 a year ago.

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

	No. of Works open.	No. of Mills in such Works.		
		Working.	Not Working.	Total.
Works giving full employment ...	65	356	...	356
Works giving partial employment ...	11	38	23	61
Total at end of October, 1904* ...	76	394	23	417
<i>Corresponding Total for Sept., 1904*</i> ...	76	382	35*	415
<i>Corresponding Total for Oct., 1903†</i> ...	69	348	38	387

* It will be understood that, in addition to the works returned as giving full or partial employment, a certain number of tinplate works were wholly idle at each of the dates to which the returns relate.
† Revised figures.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—IRON AND STEEL WORKS; ENGINEERING TRADES.

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

	Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets (Iron or Steel).			Black Plates for Tinning (Iron or Steel).		
	Oct., 1904.	Sept., 1904.	Oct., 1903.	Oct., 1904.	Sept., 1904.	Oct., 1903.
To United States ...	4,645	6,747	5,672	54	15	11
Other Countries ...	28,920	21,523	21,957	5,198	5,017	5,458
Total ...	33,565	28,270	27,629	5,252	5,032	5,469

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.*

(Based on Returns from Employers, Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.)

COMPARED with the preceding month, employment in this industry showed a slight improvement, which was mainly due to an increase in the numbers employed in South Wales. On the whole, however, employment still remains somewhat below the level of a year ago. The volume of employment, as measured by the estimated total number of shifts worked, was 0.2 per cent. greater than in the previous month, but 0.5 per cent. less than a year ago.

Number Employed.

The following Table shows the changes in the numbers employed at 194 works in England and Wales, and in Scotland:—

District.	Numbers employed in week ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Oct., 1904, as compared with	
	Oct. 22nd 1904.	Sept. 24th 1904.	Oct. 24th 1903.	A month ago.	A year ago.
England and Wales ...	61,923	61,560	62,064	+ 363	- 141
Scotland ...	11,882	11,873	11,994	+ 9	- 112
Total ...	73,805	73,433	74,058	+ 372	- 253

Weekly Number of Shifts Worked.

The following Table relates to the number of shifts worked by about 90 per cent. of the workpeople referred to in the above Table. The average number of shifts worked by such workpeople in the week ended October 22nd was 5.38, being the same as a year ago. In the corresponding week of September the average was 5.39.

Number of Shifts worked.	Percentage of workpeople who worked the shifts stated in the first column during the week ended		
	Oct. 22nd, 1904.	Sept. 24th, 1904.	Oct. 24th, 1903.
Under 5 per week ...	14.5	13.3†	11.0
5 per week ...	29.8	31.1	33.8
5½ per week ...	2.0	1.8	1.0
6 per week ...	52.8	52.8†	51.5
Over 6 per week ...	0.9	1.0	0.9
Total ...	100.0	100.0	100.0

On the basis of the foregoing Table, the total number of shifts worked by all workpeople included in the returns was approximately 396,720 in the week ended October 22nd, as compared with 395,830† in the corresponding week of the previous month, and with 398,540 in the corresponding week of October, 1903.

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

Tyne and Wear District.—Employment declined with steel smelters, and was generally worse than in September. Steel plate mills worked less than full time. At Consett full time was worked at small bar and angle mills, but less than full time at big bar mills. At Jarrow and Newburn mills were idle a few days. With forge and hammerman on the Tyne and Wear employment was moderate, and scarcely so full as in the previous month.

* Includes iron puddling and rolling, and steel making and rolling.
† Revised figures.

Tees and Hartlepool.—Employment at iron and steel works in Hartlepool was fair. At metal expansion works in the district it was good, at pipe foundries fair. At rail mills and other branches employment was moderate.

South Yorkshire and Lincolnshire.—Employment with steel workers in the Sheffield district was quiet generally; with some firms it was slack. At Parkgate, Rotherham and Icicles an improvement was reported in the steel trade as compared with the previous month. Employment with ironworkers at Parkgate was slack; at Rotherham moderate. Steel workers at Scunthorpe reported employment as fair.

Midlands.—Steel smelters in South Staffordshire reported an improvement in employment, and there was also a slight improvement at the mills and forges. In Shropshire the steel works were busy. At Smethwick and West Bromwich iron and steel workers reported employment as quiet. In Derbyshire employment in all branches of iron and steel manufacture was slack, much short time being worked.

South Wales.—Employment on the whole was fair both with steel smelters and with iron and steel workers.

Scotland.—Employment with steel smelters was fairly good; with iron and steel workers it was fair.

ENGINEERING TRADES.

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

EMPLOYMENT generally was dull. It was slightly worse than a month ago, and much worse than a year ago.

Returns relating to branches of Trade Unions with 144,287 members show that 11,351 (or 7.9 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of October, as compared with 7.4 per cent. in September, and 5.2 per cent. in October, 1903.

The percentage of unemployed was greatest in the Belfast and Dublin, Oldham, Bolton and Blackburn, East of Scotland, West Riding towns, Notts, Derby and Leicester, Manchester and Liverpool, and Glasgow districts. The South Coast, London, and the South Wales and Bristol districts, in which employment is less subject to fluctuation, continued to show the lowest percentages of unemployed.

The percentages for the various districts are shown in detail in the following Table:—

District.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Oct., 1904, included in the returns.*	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of Oct., 1904.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed for Oct., 1904, as compared with a	
		Oct., 1904.	Sept., 1904.	Oct., 1903.	Month ago.	Year ago.
North-East Coast ...	14,429	7.6	7.6	7.2	...	+ 0.4
Manchester and Liverpool District	17,631	9.7	8.4	5.1	+ 1.3	+ 4.6
Oldham, Bolton, and Blackburn District	11,461	12.0	11.1	5.9	+ 0.9	+ 6.1
West Riding Towns ...	11,478	10.4	9.7	6.7	+ 0.7	+ 3.7
Hull and Lincolnshire District Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Coventry District	3,385 6,148	7.0 6.1	7.1 5.6	5.8 3.5	- 0.1 + 0.5	+ 1.2 + 2.6
Notts, Derby, and Leicester District	4,134	9.9	10.5	4.8	- 0.6	+ 5.1
London and Neighbouring District	12,527	5.4	5.2	4.1	+ 0.2	+ 1.3
South Coast ...	3,993	3.3	2.9	2.3	+ 0.4	+ 1.0
South Wales and Bristol District	6,439	5.5	5.3	3.5	+ 0.2	+ 2.0
Glasgow and District ...	13,938	9.2	8.9	5.2	+ 0.3	+ 4.0
East of Scotland ...	3,592	11.1	11.5	7.5	- 0.4	+ 3.6
Belfast and Dublin ...	3,465	12.2	9.9	7.7	+ 2.3	+ 4.5
Other Districts ...	5,496	6.4	6.1	4.0	+ 0.3	+ 2.4
United Kingdom (including certain Unions for which district figures are not available) ...	144,287	7.9	7.4	5.2	+ 0.5	+ 2.7

As compared with a month ago every district showed an increase in the percentage of unemployed, except four; the districts which showed the greatest decline in employment being the Belfast and Dublin, and the Manchester and Liverpool districts.

* Exclusive of Superannuated Members

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

Compared with a year ago every district showed a decline in employment, the percentage unemployed advancing from 5.9 to 12.0 in the Oldham, Bolton and Blackburn district, and from 4.8 to 9.9 in the Notts, Derby and Leicester district. A considerable falling off was also shown in the Manchester and Liverpool, the Belfast and Dublin, and the Glasgow districts.

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

North-East Coast.—Employment generally continued dull, it was about the same as a month ago, but slightly worse than a year ago. There was a better demand for fitters and turners in the Newcastle and Gateshead districts. With ironfounders at Newcastle employment had improved. On the north side of the Tyne it continued fairly good. At Jarrow it was slack, with a good deal of short time. On the Wear employment was steady, and much the same as a month ago. With pattern makers employment generally was quiet. In the Tees and Hartlepool districts employment generally was bad, but with bridge builders it was good at Stockton and Middlesbrough. With wagon makers in the Tees district it was fair.

Manchester and Liverpool District.—Employment generally was bad. It was slightly worse than a month ago, and much worse than a year ago. Machine workers, boiler makers, and brassfounders at Manchester reported employment as slack. At Liverpool employment with brassfounders was rather worse than last month. With ironfounders it was slack generally.

Oldham, Bolton and Blackburn District.—Employment in this district continued bad, and was much worse than a year ago. At Bolton, however, employment generally was slightly better than a month ago, though not so good as a year ago.

West Riding Towns.—Employment in this district was bad, and declined somewhat during the month. At Leeds the condition of employment continued bad, as in the previous month, and there was much short time. At Barnsley it was moderate with fitters and ironfounders.

Hull and Lincolnshire District.—Employment showed a slight improvement over the previous month, though it was rather worse than a year ago and was generally slack. With smiths and strikers and ironfounders at Hull, and with engineers at Doncaster and Grimsby, it was bad.

West Midlands.—Employment generally showed a slight decline as compared with a month ago; it was rather worse than a year ago. In the motor industry at Wolverhampton it was good, and with the electrical engineers and the motor section at Birmingham it was fair.

East Midlands.—Employment in this district showed slight improvement over that of the previous month, but was worse than a year ago. With general engineers it was bad at Loughborough, but good with electrical engineers; and at Nottingham employment was worse than a month ago, except with the cycle and motor cycle sections.

London and Neighbouring District.—Employment was dull and showed a slight decline as compared with a month ago; it was rather worse than a year ago. With fitters at Sheerness and with ironfounders at Woolwich it was good.

South Coast.—Employment continued moderate generally, and was slightly worse than a month ago and a year ago, but at Dockyard towns was generally steady.

South Wales and Bristol District.—Employment generally continued moderate, and was worse than a year ago. At Swansea and Llanelly it was slack generally. Ship repairing at Cardiff was still slack. At Bristol and Gloucester employment was bad.

Glasgow and District.—There was a slight decline in employment in this district as compared with the

previous month, and it was worse than a year ago. With engineers and ironmoulders it was moderate, and with brass finishers and brass moulders it was fair.

East of Scotland.—Employment showed signs of improvement but continued bad, as in the previous month, and was worse than a year ago. With blacksmiths at Dundee, however, it had improved, and machine makers had fair employment. Brass finishers and pattern makers at Aberdeen also had fair employment.

Belfast and Dublin.—Employment at Belfast was still bad, except with brassfounders with whom it was fair. At Dublin employment was very bad, a large number of engineers and ironfounders being idle.

Other Districts.—At Barrow employment continued moderate. In the Eastern Counties employment was dull generally. At Hanley and Stoke it was bad.

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

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

EMPLOYMENT continued bad during October, and was somewhat worse than both a month and a year ago.

Branches of Trade Unions with 57,244 members show a total of 9,206 (or 16.1 per cent.) unemployed at the end of October, as compared with 15.3 per cent. at the end of September, and 15.0 per cent. at the end of October, 1903. As compared with a month ago the general change has not been great, but in some instances local changes have been considerable. Thus the districts which have suffered most heavily are the Tees and Hartlepool, Thames and Medway, and Tyne and Wear. As compared with a year ago the districts which show the largest increase in the percentages of unemployed are Belfast, the Tees and Hartlepool, Bristol Channel Ports, and the Thames and Medway. On the Wear, however, the improvement compared with a year ago is considerable.

The following Table shows in detail the percentages of unemployed Trade Union members in the various districts:—

District.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Oct., 1904 included in the returns.*	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Percentage for Oct., 1904, as compared with a	
		Oct., 1904.	Sept., 1904.	Oct., 1903.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Tyne and Blyth	9,393	16.0	13.8	17.9	+ 2.2	- 1.9
Wear	4,970	12.5	10.2	25.2	+ 2.3	- 12.7
Tees and Hartlepool	5,095	25.9	19.5	15.4	+ 6.4	+ 10.5
Humber	2,421	15.0	15.6	12.5	- 0.6	+ 2.5
Thames and Medway	4,379	13.9	9.9	9.0	+ 4.0	+ 4.9
South Coast	4,005	5.2	6.9	7.9	- 1.7	- 2.7
Bristol Channel Ports	2,631	25.2	23.5	19.4	+ 1.7	+ 5.8
Mersey	3,757	15.7	19.3	17.6	- 3.6	- 1.9
Clyde	11,853	15.6	16.9	13.2	- 1.3	+ 2.4
Dundee, Leith, and Aberdeen	1,951	26.9	29.1	30.0	- 2.2	- 3.1
Belfast	2,018	18.7	19.0	5.3	- 0.3	+ 13.4
Other Districts	3,183	9.5	7.3	9.1	+ 2.2	+ 0.4
United Kingdom (Including certain Unions for which district figures are not available)	57,244	16.1	15.3	15.0	+ 0.8	+ 1.1

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

On the **Tyne** employment generally was dull, especially at yards on the south side of the river. On the lower reaches of the river repair work was moderate to fair.

On the **Wear** most yards remained moderately well employed, but in other cases there was considerable slackness. Shipsmiths were busy in some yards, and drillers and hole cutters described employment as fair and steady.

In the **Tees and Hartlepool** district employment generally was slack, and much worse than a month

* Exclusive of superannuated members.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—SHIPBUILDING AND MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

and a year ago with most branches. Ship repairing at Hartlepool showed some improvement.

On the **Humber** employment generally was bad. With sailmakers at Hull employment was fair. At Beverley employment generally was good, and at Selby and New Holland it was fair.

On the **Thames and Medway** employment fell off considerably during the month with the iron shipbuilders, shipwrights being less affected.

On the **South Coast** employment was fair at Government Dockyards, but not so good in private yards. At Southampton it was moderate on general shipwork, but bad on yacht and boat work, and there was some short time.

Bristol Channel Ports.—In South Wales employment was very slack, and worse than a month and a year ago, but at Pembroke Dock it was very fair. At Bristol, however, it was better than a month and year ago.

On the **Mersey** the number of unemployed shipbuilders showed some decrease, but employment generally was reported as very dull both on building and repairs.

On the **Clyde** iron shipbuilders and shipwrights report that employment was quiet generally, though slightly better than a month ago. Light platers and ship-range makers were, however, well employed, smiths and strikers moderately so, and shipyard helpers fairly so. Shipwrights were fairly employed at Clydebank and Dumbarton.

Dundee, Leith, and Aberdeen.—Employment generally remained bad at Aberdeen and Leith. At Dundee work was slack, but there were some indications of improvement.

At **Belfast** employment remained very bad, but the sailmakers and enginemen, cranemen and firemen reported it respectively as moderate and fair.

Other Districts.—Employment at Barrow remained moderate. At Dublin, Yarmouth and Lowestoft it was bad. At Preston, Ipswich and Northwich it was fair.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

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

THERE was a slight improvement in the state of employment as compared with a month ago; it was worse than a year ago. In the brass trade employment was bad, though there was a slight decrease in the number of unemployed. The Staffordshire tube trade showed a slight improvement, but the heavier branches of the Black Country trades were slack. The Sheffield cutlery trades remained slack.

Brasswork, Bedstead Making, etc.—Employment continued bad in the brass trade generally and there was a good deal of short time. It was about the same as last month and worse than a year ago. A slight improvement was reported in the employment of brassworkers at Birmingham and Rotherham; it was fair at Bolton and Exeter; slack at other places. At Birmingham the fender and fire brass branches were quiet, and with the bedstead makers employment was bad.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, etc.—Employment with nut and bolt makers was good in the Wolverhampton district, moderate at Birmingham and Smethwick; in South Wales it was slack, and worse than a month ago. In Birmingham employment was moderate with the cut nail makers, quiet with the machine made rivet makers, and bad with the wire nail makers. In the Blackheath district it was very quiet with makers of wrought nails and rivets.

Tubes.—Employment in South Staffordshire was slightly better than a month ago, but worse than a year ago. In Birmingham employment in the copper, brass and brazed sections was fairly good, but with the cased tube and bedstead tube makers it was slack. In South Wales it remained slack.

Chains, Anchors, Anvils, Vices, etc.—With makers of cable chains, block chains, side-welded and dolly chains and anchor smiths employment was slack at Cradley, and with chainmakers at Pontypridd it was very slack. At Gateshead employment with chain makers and strikers was good on large work and moderate on small work. With the anvil and vice makers in the Dudley district employment improved. In Birmingham and West Bromwich employment with axle makers was fair. With the spring makers at West Bromwich and in the South Wales district it was fair; at Wednesbury it was quiet; with makers of railway tyres and axles at the latter place it was good. Employment was bad with makers of bits, stirrups, buckles, and cart gear at Walsall.

Locks, Keys, and General Hardware.—In the lock, key and latch trade employment continued bad, it was about the same as last month, but was worse than a year ago. There was a good deal of short time in both the Wolverhampton and Willenhall districts. With the hollow-ware trades and galvanisers at Wolverhampton employment was good; at Birmingham it was moderate; and at West Bromwich it was quiet. At Sheffield employment with hollow-ware stampers was quiet, and with hollow-ware buffers slack. With makers of Brazil and plantation hoes at Wednesbury employment was good; with makers of spades and forks at Stourbridge, and iron fences and hurdles, vermin traps, builders' ironmongery, and enamelled ware at Wolverhampton it was quiet. Employment was slack with makers of electrical and malleable castings at Oakengates.

Files, Edge Tools, etc.—In the Wolverhampton district employment with file smiths was fair; at Sheffield the file trade generally was slack; with the file cutters at Birmingham moderate. At Wednesbury employment with the edge tool makers had improved, at Birmingham it was fair, at Sheffield slack.

Cutlery, etc.—In the Sheffield cutlery trades employment generally was slack. Employment in the needle trade at Redditch had greatly improved, especially for the Australian market, and at Nottingham it was better. The hosiery needle makers at Leicester only worked half time. In the fish hook trade in Redditch employment was good, overtime being worked.

Stoves, Grates, etc.—Employment in this trade was bad generally. In the Sheffield district, and at Falkirk, there was much short time. Employment, however, was good in the Tyne district, and fair in Birmingham.

Sheet Metal, etc.—In London the zinc workers were slack, but there was a slight improvement in other branches of the trade. At Birmingham it was moderate in the tin plate and rolled metal branches, and fair on iron plate; it had improved at Nottingham, and was fair at Glasgow, Manchester, Edinburgh, Hull and Exeter. In other centres employment generally was described as either slack or dull.

Gold, Silver, Britannia Metal, etc.—In London employment with the small silver workers was quiet, and was bad with the spoon and fork finishers, and quiet with the silver spoon and fork makers. Employment was a little better with goldsmiths and jewellers, fair with silver plate polishers, slack with gold beaters and diamond workers, and quiet with silversmiths and electroplaters. In Birmingham employment in the Britannia metal trade was good, and the improvement in the jewellery trade was maintained, but with the electroplaters and silversmiths it was quiet. In Sheffield employment among silver platers and gilders was good; among other sections bad. At Coventry the watch trade was quiet.

Wirework.—Employment with wire drawers at Manchester and Ambergate was fairly good; at Halifax it had slightly improved; at Warrington it was slack, and at Birmingham and Sheffield it was bad. With wire workers at Manchester it had improved; at other centres it was quiet. Employment with wire weavers was fair

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—COTTON TRADE.

at Glasgow; in other centres it was bad, and there was a good deal of short time at Norwich.

Farmers.—Employment was reported as generally quiet or bad, but was fair at Dublin, moderate in the Tyne district, at Hanley, and in Suffolk and Essex.

COTTON TRADE.

(Based on Returns received from Employers, through the Trade Correspondent, and on Returns from Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT showed a general improvement in all branches; the improvement in mills spinning Egyptian cotton was especially marked, although employment in them was not so good as in mills using American cotton. During October the price of raw cotton "middling American" was 5.50d. per lb. or lower than during any month since April, 1903. The price of "good fair" Egyptian was 7.63d. per lb. The visible supply is now nearly 50 per cent. greater than at the same period in 1903.

In the spinning mills covered by the employers' returns 98.1 per cent. of the total spindles were working in the last week of October, compared with 97.3 per cent. at the end of September, and 97.0 per cent. in the corresponding week in October, 1903. Of these spindles very few were running short time. The percentage of the total number of operatives covered by the returns who were in mills in which short time was worked in the last week of October was 4.3 only, compared with 29.7 per cent. a month ago, and 25.5 per cent. a year ago.

In the weaving branch employment showed a further improvement, a smaller percentage of workpeople working short time, a smaller percentage of looms standing, and much less slackness prevailing. Of the total looms covered by the employers' returns 96.0 per cent. were working in the last week of October, compared with 95.0 per cent. a month ago, and 89.2 per cent. a year ago. The proportion of the total number of operatives covered by the returns who were in weaving sheds in which short time was worked in the last week of October was 4.2 per cent. only, compared with 9.7 per cent. a month ago, and 30.4 per cent. a year ago.

It will be seen from the following Table that the number of persons employed by the firms sending returns showed a slight increase in the preparing and spinning departments, and a slight decrease in the weaving department compared with a month ago. All branches showed an increase compared with a year ago.

Departments.	Number of Workpeople employed in last week of			Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in number employed in last week of October, 1904, compared with	
	October, 1904.	September, 1904.	October, 1903.	A month ago.	A year ago.
Preparing ...	21,303	21,217	20,894	+ 0.4	+ 1.9
Spinning ...	32,018	31,776	30,326	+ 0.8	+ 5.6
Weaving ...	82,478	82,830	79,440	- 0.4	+ 3.8
Others ...	13,880	13,882	13,568	...	+ 2.3
Total ...	149,679	149,714	144,237	...	+ 3.8

SPINNING.

Employment was much better than a month ago and a year ago. Compared with a month ago every district, without exception, showed a diminution in the amount of short time worked. Bolton showed a slight decline in the percentage of spindles running, and in the Wigan and Leigh district no change was apparent; in the Burnley district no spindles were standing; in all other districts the percentage of spindles running increased.

Compared with a year ago every district except Bolton showed a decrease in the percentage of workpeople affected by short time; the percentage of spindles running was less in the Bolton, Wigan and Leigh, and Oldham districts, and greater in all the other districts.

The following Table shows the percentage of the total number of workpeople covered by the returns who were employed in mills working short time during the last week of October and September, 1904, and October, 1903. It also shows the percentage of spindles working during the last week of these months.

District.	Percentage of Total Number employed who were in Mills working short time in Preparing and Spinning Departments.			Spindles Working per cent. of Total Number of Spindles.		
	Oct., 1904.	Sept., 1904.	Oct., 1903.	Oct., 1904.	Sept., 1904.	Oct., 1903.
Ashton District ...	0.8	26.7	24.8	97.1	96.1	96.0
Stockport, Glossop, and Hyde ...	...	17.5	29.8	98.0	95.9	96.1
Oldham District ...	2.0	13.0	18.5	98.7	97.5	98.9
Bolton District ...	11.4	58.1	5.9	96.5	97.3	97.6
Wigan and Leigh District ...	...	44.4	11.0	97.7	97.7	100.0
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Todmorden, and Walsden ...	7.7	35.7	53.0	98.4	97.8	97.2
Preston, Chorley, and Lancaster ...	1.2	21.3	24.7	100.0	96.1	92.9
Blackburn, Accrington, and Darwen ...	14.2	14.1	43.6	99.1	98.4	92.4
Burnley, Padiham, Bacup, Clitheroe, Colne, and Nelson ...	...	31.6	61.7	100.0	100.0	89.1
Manchester District ...	...	62.6	55.8	98.8	97.9	94.3
Total ...	4.3	29.7	25.5	98.1	97.3	97.0

WEAVING.

The following Table shows the percentage of the total number of workpeople covered by the returns who were employed in weaving and other departments working short time during the last week of October and September 1904, and October, 1903; it also shows the percentage of looms working during the last week of these months.

District.	Percentage of Total Number employed who were in Mills working short time in Weaving and other Departments.			Looms Working per cent. of Total Number of Looms.		
	Oct., 1904.	Sept., 1904.	Oct., 1903.	Oct., 1904.	Sept., 1904.	Oct., 1903.
Ashton District ...	0.4	1.5	20.9	85.6	81.9	79.2
Stockport, Glossop, and Hyde ...	...	3.8	32.4	94.9	98.1	92.4
Oldham District ...	16.2	22.2	74.3	74.7	70.9	78.7
Bolton District ...	29.7	37.3	24.0	92.1	90.0	91.1
Wigan and Leigh District ...	13.3	31.9	21.0	80.6	81.6	80.0
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Todmorden, and Walsden ...	3.9	16.5	55.3	95.4	94.0	87.5
Preston, Chorley, & Lancaster ...	...	0.2	17.4	96.9	92.4	88.6
Blackburn, Accrington, and Darwen ...	2.3	0.8	26.8	99.6	98.9	85.6
Burnley, Padiham, Bacup, Clitheroe, Colne, & Nelson ...	0.4	3.9	19.6	98.7	98.0	95.4
Manchester District ...	8.3	54.8	56.5	87.7	87.3	94.2
Total ...	4.2	9.7	30.4	96.0	95.0	89.2

There was a decline both in the percentage of operatives affected by short time and in the percentage of looms standing idle as compared with a month ago. The decline in short time was shown in every district except the Blackburn, Accrington and Darwen district; in the Bolton, Oldham, and Wigan and Leigh district a high percentage of operatives were still affected by it. In the Stockport, Glossop and Hyde district and the Wigan and Leigh district a higher percentage of looms were standing idle; in all the other districts the percentage working showed an increase.

Compared with a year ago every district showed a decline in the percentage of operatives affected by short time, except Bolton which showed an increase. The percentage of looms standing showed an increase in the Oldham and Manchester districts, and a decrease in every other district.

PRICES OF RAW COTTON.

American Cotton.—During the month of October the average price of raw cotton "middling American" at Liverpool was 5.50d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 5.74d. and the lowest 5.32d. The price for September, was 6.58d. and for October, 1903, 5.83d.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—COTTON TRADE; WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

For the period from 1st to 10th November, the average price of "middling American" was 5.40d. per lb.

Egyptian Cotton.—The price of "good fair Egyptian" during October averaged 7.63d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 7.12d. and the lowest 7.38d. The price for September was 7.39d., and for October, 1903, 8.08d. For the period from 1st to 10th November the average price of "good fair Egyptian" was 7.75d. per lb.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following Table shows the number of bales of cotton imported, forwarded from ports to inland towns, and exported:—

	Month of October.			Ten months ended October.		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Imported ...	Bales. 356,802	Bales. 296,494	Bales. 320,499	Bales. 2,524,495	Bales. 2,478,110	Bales. 2,643,947
Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns ...	307,934	229,337	320,499	2,593,923	2,376,153	2,310,465
Exported ...	38,866	36,660	16,690	388,977	430,010	315,017

The quantity of all kinds of American cotton forwarded from English ports to inland towns during the first ten months of 1904, was 1,881,368 bales, or 82,175 bales less than in the same period in 1903. The corresponding figures for Egyptian cotton are 244,559 in 1904, and 207,614 in 1903.

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

Description of Cotton.	Month of October.			Ten Months ended October.		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
American ...	Bales. 256,545	Bales. 185,883	Bales. 278,473	Bales. 2,119,009	Bales. 1,963,543	Bales. 1,881,368
Brazilian ...	22,113	10,374	9,639	154,191	112,441	67,472
East Indian ...	2,428	3,910	2,937	15,537	44,568	78,333
Egyptian ...	21,733	24,563	25,165	233,200	207,614	244,559
Miscellaneous ...	5,165	4,598	4,285	71,986	47,657	38,933
Total ...	307,984	229,337	320,499	2,593,923	2,376,153	2,310,465

The visible supply of American cotton for the United Kingdom on 4th November was estimated by the Liverpool Cotton Association to be about 663,260 bales, compared with 449,920 bales at the corresponding date a year ago.

The following Table shows the quantities and average declared values of exported cotton yarn and cotton piece goods in October, 1904, and in the corresponding months of 1902 and 1903. The declared value of the cotton yarn and twist exported during October averaged 12.63d. per lb., as compared with 12.97d. per lb. in October, 1903, a decrease of about 2.6 per cent. The corresponding value for September, 1904, was 12.84d. per lb. The increase per yard in the value of exported cotton piece goods amounted to nearly 5 per cent., the value being 2.74d. per yard in October, 1904, as compared with 2.61d. in October, 1903. The declared value in September, 1904, was 2.78d. per yard:—

Description.	Quantities Exported.			Average Value in Pence.		
	Oct., 1902.	Oct., 1903.	Oct., 1904.	Oct., 1902.	Oct., 1903.	Oct., 1904.
Cotton Yarn & Twist—Grey ...	10,520,000	8,950,700	11,925,100	10.49	13.27	12.63
Bleached and Dyed ...	4,020,000	3,351,700	2,721,000	11.17	12.16	12.66
Total ...	14,540,000	12,302,400	14,646,100	10.68	12.97	12.63
Cotton Piece Goods—Grey or Unbleached ...	181,010,100	123,701,800	185,969,600	1.99	2.05	2.25
Bleached ...	106,223,700	106,121,500	127,939,000	2.50	2.47	2.64
Printed ...	82,448,300	91,314,700	87,529,700	2.66	2.73	2.89
Dyed or Manufactured or Dyed Yarn ...	74,375,500	81,381,400	85,140,400	3.34	3.50	3.78
Total ...	444,087,600	402,549,400	486,578,700	2.46	2.61	2.74

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

(Based on Returns received from Employers (through the Trade Correspondent) and on returns from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.)

An improvement was shown in October, compared with a month ago, in both the woollen and the worsted trade. Compared with a year ago an improvement was also apparent in the woollen trade and with mixed woollen and worsted manufacturers. Firms manufacturing worsted goods only showed a decline both in wages paid and numbers employed.

The number paid wages by the firms making returns at the end of October was 71,099, compared with 70,592 at the end of September, and 70,856 at the end of October, 1903, an increase of 0.7 per cent. compared with a month ago, and 0.3 per cent. compared with a year ago.

In addition to supplying returns of numbers employed, firms employing 42,248 workpeople have given detailed returns of the amount of wages paid on the last pay day in October and September, 1904, and October, 1903. From these returns it appears that, compared with a month ago the number employed showed an increase of 0.7 per cent., and the amount of wages paid an increase of 7.1 per cent. Compared with a year ago the number employed showed no change, and the amount of wages paid showed an increase of 0.5 per cent.

The following Table* enables a comparison to be made of the number employed and wages paid in the various processes of manufacture in Yorkshire, Scotland, and other districts reported on at the end of October with a month ago and a year ago so far as covered by the returns. The number of sorters and combers outside Yorkshire is too small for separate classification.

Branch of Woollen and Worsted Trade.	Number Paid Wages on last pay-day in			Weekly Amount of Wages Paid on last pay-day in		
	Oct., 1904.	Sept., 1904.	Oct., 1903.	Oct., 1904.	Sept., 1904.	Oct., 1903.
Wool Combing and Sorting—	3,879	3,927	4,145	1,953	2,013	2,115
Spinning—						
Yorkshire ...	16,516	16,565	16,340	9,180	9,112	9,301
Scotland ...	1,068	971	1,046	746	698	757
Other Districts ...	1,055	1,059	1,068	634	647	661
Total ...	18,579	18,595	18,454	10,560	10,457	10,729
Weaving—						
Yorkshire ...	8,309	8,028	8,103	7,243	6,245	7,049
Scotland ...	2,503	2,458	2,563	2,227	2,129	2,278
Other Districts ...	690	692	703	740	552	536
Total ...	11,502	11,178	11,369	10,010	8,926	9,863
Other Departments—						
Yorkshire ...	5,731	5,690	5,641	6,055	5,202	5,717
Scotland ...	2,081	2,074	2,158	2,056	1,964	2,056
Other Districts ...	476	480	477	418	429	427
Total ...	8,288	8,244	8,276	8,529	7,595	8,200
TOTAL FOR ALL BRANCHES—						
Yorkshire ...	34,210	33,987	33,987	24,180	22,326	23,926
Scotland ...	5,707	5,618	5,897	5,165	4,919	5,238
Other Districts ...	2,331	2,339	2,360	1,713	1,746	1,743
Total ...	42,248	41,944	42,244	31,058	28,991	30,907

In the Sorting and Combing branches there was a decrease of 3.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 7.7 per cent. compared with a year ago.

In the Spinning branch there was an increase of 1.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, but a decrease of 1.6 per cent. compared with a year ago. The number employed showed an increase compared with a year ago.

In the Weaving branch there was a large increase of 12.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 1.6 per cent. compared with a year ago.

* The Table refers only to those firms that returned wages paid as well as numbers employed.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES; OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.

In the other departments an increase of 12.3 per cent was shown in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 4.0 per cent. compared with a year ago. The number employed by firms making wage returns showed little change in this group, but firms not making wage returns showed a decline in the number employed of 1.7 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 4.2 per cent. compared with a year ago.

From the following Table* it will be seen that the improvement in the woollen trade was felt in Yorkshire as well as in Scotland:—

Trade and District.	Number paid Wages on last pay day in			Weekly Amount of Wages paid on last pay day in		
	Oct., 1904.	Sept., 1904.	Oct., 1903.	Oct., 1904.	Sept., 1904.	Oct., 1903.
Woollen—				£	£	£
Yorkshire	4,594	4,539	4,561	4,335	4,021	4,140
Scotland	5,449	5,361	5,597	4,946	4,719	4,983
Other Districts	1,164	1,174	1,184	952	990	976
Total	11,207	11,074	11,342	10,233	9,730	10,099
Worsted—						
Bradford	15,032	15,112	15,118	8,474	8,374	8,662
Other Parts of West Riding	13,070	12,871	13,104	9,837	8,748	9,967
Other Districts	861	854	872	559	558	577
Total	28,963	28,837	29,094	18,870	17,680	19,236
Woollen and Worsted (unspecified)	2,078	2,033	1,808	1,955	1,581	1,572
Total	42,248	41,944	42,244	31,058	28,991	30,907

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

Bradford District.—Firms employing over 15,000 operatives showed an increase of 1.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, but a decrease of 2.5 per cent. compared with a year ago. The improvement compared with a month ago took place in the weaving department; wages in the sorting, combing and spinning departments showed a decline. The Trade Union wool sorters and woolcombers reported employment as bad.

Keighley District.—Firms employing over 5,000 operatives showed a decrease of 0.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 3.1 per cent. compared with a year ago. The number employed showed a slight increase.

Halifax District.—Firms employing over 2,700 operatives showed an increase of 0.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 0.2 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Huddersfield District.—Firms employing over 6,000 operatives showed an increase of 36.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago (when earnings were affected by local holidays) and of 7.2 per cent. compared with a year ago. The number of operatives covered by the wage returns showed an increase of 3.1 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 5.0 per cent., compared with a year ago. Employment in the woollen trade was very good, most firms in the Colne Valley either working overtime or running machinery night and day. In the worsted trade an improvement was reported.

Leeds District.—Firms employing 1,700 operatives showed an increase of 6.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 0.4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Heavy Woollen District.—Firms employing over 1,000 operatives showed an increase of 1.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 9.5 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment was very good throughout the district, and night work or overtime was the rule.

Scotland.—Firms employing over 5,700 operatives showed an increase of 4.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, but a decrease of 0.7 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment was fair in Hawick and Galashiels, good in Selkirk.

* This Table refers only to those firms that returned wages paid as well as numbers employed.

Other Districts.—Employment was reported as dull in the Trowbridge district, and not so good as a month ago in Montgomeryshire. Only 4 days per week was being worked in the Rochdale and Milnrow district; at Stockport employment was slack.

Exports.—The following Table shows the quantities and average declared values of British and Irish exports of woollen, worsted, and alpaca and mohair yarn, and woollen and worsted piece goods in October, 1904, and in the corresponding months of 1902 and 1903.

	Quantities Exported.			Average Value in Pence.		
	Oct., 1902.	Oct., 1903.	Oct., 1904.	Oct., 1902.	Oct., 1903.	Oct., 1904.
Yarn:—				per lb.	per lb.	per lb.
Woollen	102,200	208,200	197,700	18.50	19.00	21.49
Worsted	4,514,400	6,162,700	4,033,000	15.97	17.66	19.38
Alpaca and Mohair	1,056,000	1,349,600	1,000,100	28.48	28.53	27.65
Total	5,672,600	7,720,500	5,230,800	18.35	19.60	21.04
Piece Goods:—				Per yd.	Per yd.	Per yd.
Woollen	3,245,300	4,217,600	4,742,700	24.77	22.50	24.57
Worsted	6,904,600	6,611,300	6,919,900	13.74	13.70	13.96
Total	10,149,900	10,828,900	11,662,600	17.27	17.12	18.28

OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.

Jute and Flax Trades.

(Based on Returns from Employers' Associations, a Trade Union, and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the jute trade was fair. In the flax trade in Scotland it was slack; in Ulster it was fair in the spinning branch and showed an improvement in the weaving branch although still dull.

In Dundee employment was reported as fair and better than a month ago, but not quite so good as a year ago. Information received with regard to jute and flax factories, employing about 9,000 men and boys, and 21,000 women and girls, shows that out of 38 spinning mills, 32 gave full employment; one mill resumed operations; out of 31 weaving factories, 26 gave full employment. In Forfar employment continued moderate, but was better than a year ago. It remained quiet at Arbroath. At Brechin short time was more prevalent. Short time was reported at Johnstone and Kilbirnie. In Dunfermline employment was slack, a considerable number of looms standing idle in most mills; it was much worse than a year ago.

In Ulster the Employers' Association reported employment in the flax spinning mills as fair. In Belfast on the whole there was an improvement; the Trade Unions reported employment as moderate with flax dressers, improving with flax roughers and with power loom yarn dressers and power loom tenters, and bad with beetlers; the women operatives' Trade Union reported it as dull. At Barnsley employment in linen factories was bad.

Hosiery Trade.

(Based on Returns received from Employers through the Local Correspondent at Leicester, and on Returns from Employers' Associations, a Trade Union and Local Correspondents.)

Employment continued bad in England, but again showed an improvement in Scotland.

Leicester District.—Returns received through the Local Correspondent from hosiery manufacturers employing 12,737 workpeople in their factories at the end of October showed an increase of 0.4 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 0.6 per cent. compared with a year ago. Of the total number of operatives, 60 per cent. were employed by firms reporting short time in some departments during the month, compared with 54 per cent. of those for whom returns were received in September. In Leicester, notwithstanding a slight increase in the number employed, employment was reported as worse than a year ago; in Hinckley it was fair with fashioned hose makers, but slack with shirt, pant and cotton hose makers; several firms reported short time. In Loughborough employment was moderate in the seamless hose branch, but slack with makers of cashmere underwear.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—OTHER TEXTILE TRADES; TAILORING TRADE; BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

Nottingham and Derby District.—Employment at Nottingham showed on the whole a slight improvement compared with last month, but was worse than a year ago; there was much short time however, and numbers were unemployed. With hand frame workers it was bad generally, but was moderate at Ruddington and Woodborough, and slightly improved at Arnold; it showed a further decline with shawl makers at Hucknall Torkard. At Belper and Ilkeston employment continued bad, with much short time.

Scotland.—In Selkirk employment continued good, and was the same as a year ago. In Hawick it again showed further improvement and was good.

Lace Trade.

(Based on Returns from an Employers' Association, a Trade Union, and Local Correspondents.)

Employment continued bad and was worse than a year ago. In Nottingham there was a slight improvement compared with a month ago, but employment was worse than a year ago; it was bad in the levers and curtain branches, fair in the plain net branch; female operatives in the finishing and making-up branch were slack. At Beeston employment showed an improvement; it was moderate at Stapleford, bad at Bulwell, Kimberley, Ilkeston and Long Eaton. Lace workers at Glasgow reported employment as good; at Newmilns as fair.

Carpet Trade.

(Based on Returns received from Employers, through the Trade Correspondent, and on Returns from a Trade Union, and the Local Correspondents.)

Employment in the woollen carpet trade showed a decline compared with a month ago and a year ago.

The total number of workpeople employed by firms making returns at the end of October was 3,396, an increase of 0.2 per cent. compared with a month ago, but a decrease of 3.0 per cent. compared with a year ago. Returns from five of these firms employing 1,086 workpeople, and paying £792 in wages during the last week of October, showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. in the number employed, but a decrease of 1.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago; and a decrease of 2.4 per cent. in the number employed, and of 8.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a year ago.

Employment at Kidderminster continued bad, and was worse than a year ago, many firms running short time. At Bridgnorth it showed an improvement. At Halifax it was reported as bad, with much short time. Employment in Midlothian continued good with those employed on narrow looms, but was quieter with those employed on broad looms. In the Glasgow district it was reported as very dull.

Printing, Dyeing, Bleaching, and Finishing.

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

Woollen and Worsted Dyers.—Employment in the West Riding was slack, but better than a month ago; it was worse than a year ago; about three-fifths of the Trade Union dyers worked short time and about one-tenth worked overtime.

Cotton Dyers.—Employment was moderate and much better than a year ago; at Bolton where it was dull a slight improvement was reported.

Calico Printers, etc.—Employment was fair at Manchester, New Mills, and Glasgow; it was good with calico printers' engravers at Dinting, dull at Glasgow; with block printers at Glasgow it was bad.

Hosiery Dyers, Trimmers, &c.—Employment continued slack at Leicester, all firms working short time, but it was not so bad as a year ago; at Hinckley it improved with dyers and was fair, but continued slack with trimmers. With hosiery dyers at Nottingham and Basford it was moderate and worse than a year ago; with bleachers at Basford it was slack; with hosiery trimmers at Bulwell and Basford it continued bad.

Calendriers, etc.—In Glasgow employment improved and was fair. In Dundee employment with bleachfield workers continued fair; with calender workers it was fair; dyers were busy.

TAILORING TRADE.

(Based on Returns from Employers, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

Employment in the *bespoke* branch showed an improvement, but was worse than a year ago. In the *ready-made* branch employment continued bad on the whole, and was worse than a year ago; in Manchester, however, it was moderate and better than a year ago.

Bespoke Branch.—Returns have been received from London firms employing 1,106 workpeople on their premises and 1,829 outworkers.* According to these returns employment generally was moderate. With indoor workers firms employing 67 per cent. reported employment as better than a month ago, and firms employing 52 per cent. as worse than a year ago. With outdoor workers* firms employing 79 per cent. reported it as better than a month ago; compared with a year ago firms employing 44 per cent. reported it as worse, and firms employing 36 per cent. as better. Employment was reported as slack in Manchester, improving in Liverpool, fair in Edinburgh and Glasgow, improving in Dublin, and bad in Belfast.

Ready-made Branch.—In London according to returns from wholesale clothiers, employment was moderate, and better on the whole than a month ago, and a year ago. The Trade Union cutters reported employment as bad.

In Leeds employment was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. According to returns received from ready-made tailoring manufacturers, employing about 8,800 workpeople in their factories in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops, employment during October was good or fair with firms employing 4 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns, moderate with firms employing 43 per cent., and bad with firms employing 53 per cent. Compared with a month ago, firms employing 8 per cent. reported employment as improved, firms employing 30 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 62 per cent. as worse. Compared with a year ago, firms employing 9 per cent. reported employment as improved, firms employing 28 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 63 per cent. as worse. In Manchester employment was reported as bad by one large firm, but otherwise was moderate on the whole with factory workers and better than a month ago and a year ago; the Jewish Trade Union tailors and machinists reported employment as fair. In Bristol employment was bad, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In Staffordshire employment was only moderate and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In Leicestershire it was fair. In Norwich employment was slack and worse than a month ago and a year ago; it was slack in the Suffolk centres. In Glasgow employment was fair, and better than a month ago, it was about the same as a year ago.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

(Based on Returns received from Employers, through the Trade Correspondent, and on Returns from Trade Unions and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT generally continued bad and was worse than a year ago. The number (71,937) employed by all firms (590) making returns at the end of October showed a decrease of 0.3 per cent. in the number (72,173) employed by these firms at the end of September, and of 3.0 per cent. in the number (74,134) employed a year ago. Of the total number of operatives 49 per cent. were employed by firms working full time in all departments during the last week of October.

A large number of firms (447) employing 58,684 workpeople, have also been good enough to supply returns of

* The numbers may include the same outworkers more than once, and do not include persons employed by outworkers.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—BOOT AND SHOE TRADE; HAT TRADE.

the amount of wages paid on the last pay day in October, in addition to particulars of the number employed. The returns from these firms are analysed in the following Table:—

District.	No. of firms making returns of both number employed and of wages paid.	Workpeople.				Earnings.		
		No. employed at end of Oct., 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Aggregate amount of wages paid on last pay day in Oct., 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		
			A month ago.	A year ago.		A month ago.	A year ago.	
ENGLAND & WALES.			Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.	
London	35	2,319	- 3'3	- 4'4	2,895	- 2'3	- 5'0	
Leicester	67	11,980	+ 0'9	- 5'4	11,128	+ 7'5	- 9'2	
Leicester Country District	23	2,371	+ 14'6	+ 3'2	2,078	+ 19'6	+ 4'4	
Northampton	55	7,553	- 2'6	- 1'7	6,991	- 4'2	- 2'5	
Kettering	22	2,788	- 0'6	- 1'9	2,652	- 4'2	- 8'1	
Northampton County District	79	8,394	...	- 4'1	7,571	+ 2'7	- 4'5	
Stafford and District	15	2,456	- 1'8	+ 3'1	2,009	+ 0'9	+ 0'6	
Norwich and District	24	3,656	- 0'8	+ 1'1	2,886	...	+ 1'1	
Bristol	13	1,954	- 3'6	- 7'5	1,721	- 4'1	- 9'1	
Kingswood	22	2,564	+ 1'1	+ 6'4	2,558	- 2'2	- 1'3	
Leeds and District	33	2,911	- 1'7	- 12'7	2,621	- 6'6	- 21'9	
Manchester & District	8	1,812	+ 1'8	+ 8'2	1,697	+ 1'7	+ 13'2	
Birmingham & District	6	898	+ 0'2	- 1'6	743	- 8'0	- 2'5	
Other parts of England and Wales	20	2,442	- 0'7	- 2'8	2,013	- 5'8	- 6'6	
Total, England and Wales	422	54,128	- 0'1	- 2'7	49,573	+ 0'7	- 5'4	
SCOTLAND	23	4,261	+ 9'7	- 5'4	4,137	+ 7'4	- 5'6	
IRELAND	2	295	+ 1'7	- 5'4	235	+ 4'9	- 8'2	
Total, UNITED KINGDOM	447	58,684	+ 0'0	- 3'0	53,945	+ 1'2	- 5'4	

Compared with a month ago, 7 districts showed an increase, from £27,195 to £28,855 in the amount of wages paid by 217 firms making returns, and 8 districts showed a decrease, from £23,202 to £22,204, in the amount paid by 206 firms making returns. The percentage increase was greatest in the Leicester country district (19'6 per cent.), Leicester (7'5 per cent.), and Scotland (7'4 per cent.). The percentage decrease was greatest in the Birmingham district (8'0 per cent.), and the Leeds district (6'6 per cent.).

The net result was an increase of 1'2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid during the last week of October, compared with the last week of September, while the number of workpeople employed by these 447 firms at the end of October showed no change compared with a month ago.

Compared with a year ago, 4 districts showed an increase, from £8,340 to £8,670, in the amount of wages paid by 70 firms making returns, and 12 districts showed a decrease, from £48,698 to £45,275, in the amount paid by 377 firms making returns. The percentage increase was greatest in the Manchester district (13'2 per cent.), and the Leicester country district (4'4 per cent.). The percentage decrease was greatest in the Leeds district (21'9 per cent.), Leicester (9'2 per cent.), Bristol (9'1 per cent.), Ireland (8'2 per cent.) and Kettering (8'1 per cent.). The net result was a decrease of 5'4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid during the last week of October, and a decrease of 3'0 per cent. in the number employed.

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

London.—Employment showed a decline compared with a month ago and a year ago. The operatives' Trade Union reported it as quiet; the Trade Union clickers, pressmen, and machinists as very dull. The hand-sewn bootmakers reported it as improved, although not good.

Leicester and District.—Employment in Leicester, although still bad, showed an improvement; more wages were earned, and the lasters and finishers' Trade Union had fewer unemployed; it was worse than a year ago. In the Leicester country district there was a considerable improvement compared with a month ago, and a slight one compared with a year ago.

Northampton, Kettering and District.—In Northampton and Kettering employment was worse than a month ago,

and a year ago. At Daventry, Higham and Rushden employment was fair, and in the Northampton country districts generally the employers' returns showed an increase in wages and no decline in numbers compared with a month ago; there was a decline in both compared with a year ago.

Stafford and District.—Employers' returns showed a decline in the numbers employed and a small increase in wages. The Trade Union lasters and finishers reported employment as quiet in Stafford with two thirds on short time, and as worse at Stone.

Eastern Counties.—Employment showed little change. In Norwich it was fairly good with women machinists, and with men making turn shoes and dress shoes; it was bad with the hand finishers and lasters.

Bristol and Kingswood.—Employment was bad at Bristol and worse than a month ago and a year ago. At Kingswood the number employed was greater and the amount earned less than a month ago and a year ago.

Leeds and District.—Employment generally was bad; it was worse than a month ago, and much worse than a year ago. It was reported as fair at Heckmondwike.

Other Districts in England.—The Trade Union lasters and finishers reported employment as bad at Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Nottingham, Derby, and Newcastle-upon-Tyne; as improving at Plymouth and Mansfield; as good at Bishop Auckland and Kendal.

Scotland.—Employment showed an improvement. The Trade Union lasters and finishers reported it as still slack at Glasgow, fairly good at Maybole, Edinburgh, and Dundee, moderate at Kilmarnock. Employment with hand-sewn shoemakers was slack at Edinburgh, quiet but improved at Glasgow, good at Aberdeen.

Imports and Exports.—The following Table gives the quantities and the values of the boots and shoes imported and exported during the undermentioned periods:—

	Month of October.			Ten months ended October.		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	Imports	19,116	21,954	17,842	205,289	202,821	277,999
Value £	72,272	90,954	66,005	738,902	811,943	657,852
Re-Exports	1,492	1,966	1,507	16,242	18,194	15,350
Value £	4,842	5,145	5,160	45,358	49,738	43,420
Exports (British and Irish)	80,498	62,978	65,168	610,364	661,520	544,800
Value £	200,253	151,991	145,622	1,475,959	1,579,055	1,271,593

HAT TRADE.

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

EMPLOYMENT in the hat trade showed a further slight improvement, and in the felt hat branch was better than a year ago; in the silk hat branch it was worse. Trade Unions with 5,437 members had 144 (or 2'6 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 3'1 per cent. at the end of September, and 2'5 per cent. a year ago. The percentage unemployed was still much higher in the silk than in the felt hat trade.

With *silk* hatters employment in London showed a slight improvement, though it was still bad; about 1½ hours a day short time was worked. In Denton employment was very quiet and worse than a month and a year ago. The Trade Union silk hatters had 11'3 per cent. of their members unemployed, compared with 13'1 per cent. a month ago, and 10'3 per cent. a year ago.

With *felt* hatters employment in Denton was good and slightly better than last month; on ladies' hats some overtime was reported. At Stockport employment was worse than last month, with much short time, but better than a year ago. Employment was moderate at Hyde and quiet at Failsworth. At Bury it was moderate and slightly worse than a month and a year ago. In Warwickshire it was fair and not so good as last month. The Trade Union felt hatters had 1'2 per cent. of their members unemployed, compared with 1'5 per cent. at the end of September, and 1'3 per cent. a year ago.

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—OTHER CLOTHING TRADES; OTHER LEATHER TRADES; PRINTING, BOOKBINDING AND PAPER TRADES.

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

(Based on Returns from Employers, Local Correspondents, Trade Unions, and Employment Bureaux in London.)

EMPLOYMENT in the London dressmaking trade showed a further improvement, and was about the same as a year ago. In the mantle trade employment was moderate and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In the shirt and collar trade employment was fair and better than a month ago, but the number employed was less than a year ago. In the corset trade the number employed showed an increase, but greater slackness was reported; employment was much the same as a year ago.

Dress, Millinery, and Mantle Trades.—In London returns received from retail firms, chiefly in the West-end district, employing 2,038 dressmakers at the end of October, showed an increase of 14'2 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 7'4 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment at the end of the month was fair. Court dress-makers employing 2,057 workpeople at the end of October showed an increase of 10'7 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, but a decrease of 4'9 per cent. compared with a year ago; dress-makers employing 70 per cent. of the total number reported employment as good or fair; with the remaining 30 per cent. it was quiet or bad. In the wholesale mantle and costume trades employment was only moderate, worse than a month ago, and about the same as a year ago. With mantle makers in retail firms employment was fair, and better than a month ago, but rather worse than a year ago. Manufacturers of blouses, aprons and under-clothing reported employment as moderate, and slightly better than a month ago and a year ago. The number of milliners employed in retail firms making returns was greater than a year ago, and employment at the end of the month was fairly good; in the wholesale millinery branch employment continued fair, and was better than a year ago.

Returns from three Employment Bureaux showed an increased demand for dressmakers compared with a month ago, and little change compared with a year ago; the number requiring situations was less than a month ago and a year ago.

In Manchester employment with mantle makers was moderate, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In the costume and skirt trade employment was slack, and was worse than a month ago and a year ago. Firms employing 1,766 workpeople at the end of October showed a decrease of 2'9 per cent. in the number employed at the end of September, and of 1'5 per cent. compared with a year ago.

In Glasgow employment in the mantle trade was fair, and slightly better than a month ago but worse than a year ago.

Shirt and Collar Trade.—Returns received from shirt and collar manufacturers in England, Scotland, and Ireland, employing about 8,512 workpeople in their factories at the end of October showed an increase of 0'6 per cent. in the number employed a month ago, but a decrease of 1'8 per cent. compared with a year ago. Firms employing 68 per cent. of the total number reported employment as good or fair at the end of October, and firms employing 32 per cent. as quiet or bad, to be compared with 40 per cent. and 60 per cent. respectively at the end of September.

Corset Trade.—Returns received from corset manufacturers employing 4,262 workpeople in their factories at the end of October, showed an increase of 2'5 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, but a slight decrease of 0'4 per cent. compared with a year ago. Firms employing 47 per cent. of the total number included in the returns reported employment as good or fair at the end of October, and firms employing 53 per cent. as quiet or bad, to be compared with 70 per cent. and 30 per cent. respectively at the end of September.

OTHER LEATHER TRADES.

(Based on Returns received from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents.)

THE state of employment continued bad generally in October, and was worse than a year ago. A considerable amount of short time continued to be reported. The percentage of Trade Union members returned as unemployed at the end of October was 9'8, compared with the same figure in September and 6'3 in October, 1903.

Skinner, Tanners, Curriers, Dressers, etc.—Generally employment continued bad in these branches. At Birmingham and London, however, skinner reported some improvement, but with curriers in these towns employment was rather worse. At Leeds curriers reported a slight improvement. At Bristol, Bolton, Bury, and Wigan employment was fair.

Saddle and Harness Makers, etc.—At Walsall employment was quiet with bridge cutters and gig saddlers, bad with horse collar makers, brown saddlers and harness makers. In London it was moderate with saddlers and harness makers, quiet with horse collar makers. In both towns short time was reported. Elsewhere employment generally was slack. It was reported as quiet at Edinburgh, Leeds, and Glasgow, and as fair at Dublin.

Miscellaneous Leather Workers.—With fancy leather workers and leather finishers employment generally was bad. In London it was fair and better than a month ago with fancy and morocco leather finishers and with pocket book and leather case makers. With portmanteau and trunk makers employment was quiet in London and poor in Manchester. At Walsall it was good in the purse, bag and legging trades.

PRINTING, BOOKBINDING, AND PAPER TRADES.

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

THE returns show that there was a general improvement in October, though employment was hardly so good as a year ago.

PRINTING AND BOOKBINDING TRADES.

Employment underwent a general improvement, but was not quite so good as a year ago. In *letterpress printing* Trade Unions with 39,489 members had 4'5 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 6'3 per cent. in September, and 4'3 per cent. in October, 1903. A revival is reported in the case of electrotypers and stereotypers. In *lithographic printing* the improvement is less pronounced, Trade Unions with 6,465 members having 5'8 per cent. unemployed, against 6'4 per cent. a month ago and 4'3 per cent. a year ago. With *bookbinders* the percentage unemployed of 7,018 Trade Union members was 4'5, compared with 6'4 a month ago, and 3'7 in October, 1903.

In the following Table are shown the percentages unemployed in certain Trade Unions in the *Printing and Bookbinding Trades* in the principal districts, compared with those for a month ago and a year ago:—

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Oct., 1904, included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		Oct., 1904.	Sept., 1904.	Oct., 1903.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		London	23,073	4'4	6'7	4'1	- 2'3	+ 0'3
Northern Counties	1,471	3'8	3'8	3'4	...	+ 0'4
Lancs. and Cheshire... ..	6,858	6'3	7'5	7'0	- 1'2	- 0'7
Yorkshire	4,203	4'3	5'7	3'6	- 1'4	+ 0'7
East Midlands	2,127	4'6	3'2	3'5	- 0'6	+ 1'1
West Midlands	2,546	5'8	7'6	4'1	- 1'8	+ 1'7
Eastern Counties	382	2'6	4'2	2'1	- 1'6	+ 0'5
S. & S. W. Counties... ..	2,577	2'4	3'8	1'7	- 1'4	+ 0'7
Wales and Mon.	826	1'7	3'2	2'1	- 1'5	- 0'4
Scotland	6,306	3'3	3'6	2'1	- 0'3	+ 1'2
Ireland	2,603	9'2	11'5	8'2	- 2'3	+ 1'0
United Kingdom	52,972	4'7	6'3	4'2	- 1'6	+ 0'5

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—PRINTING, BOOKBINDING AND PAPER TRADES; FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES; GLASS, &c., TRADES.

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

London.—Employment, though still quiet, has considerably improved with letterpress printers and bookbinders; with lithographic printers little change is shown. Trade Unions of letterpress printers, with 17,340 members, had 4.1 per cent. unemployed, the same percentage as a year ago, compared with 6.6 per cent. in September. In the lithographic trade employment remained slack with printers and good with artists, the percentage unemployed of 1,959 Trade Union members being 7.6. This is the same percentage as in September; in October, 1903, the percentage unemployed was 6.1. With bookbinders a considerable improvement is shown, though there was still some short time. Of 3,774 Trade Union members in this section, 4.2 per cent. were unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 6.3 per cent. in September and 3.1 per cent. in October, 1903.

Northern Counties.—Employment was quiet at Newcastle and Sunderland. Elsewhere it was good.

Lancashire and Cheshire.—Letterpress printers in Manchester reported employment as depressed, with 200 unemployed; lithographic artists as good, with overtime; lithographic printers as slack; bookbinders as fair. At Liverpool employment remained quiet generally. At Bolton, Blackburn, Burnley, Bury, Rochdale, Stockport, Preston, and Chester it was good; at Ashton, Oldham and Accrington moderate.

Yorkshire.—At Leeds employment was slack except with lithographic artists, who were moderately busy. There was an improvement with letterpress printers at Sheffield, Bradford, and Barnsley, and with lithographic printers at Hull. Letterpress printers at Huddersfield reported employment as good; at Halifax as fair; at York as poor.

East Midland Counties.—With letterpress printers employment was fair at Nottingham, slack at Derby and Leicester, good at Northampton and Lincoln. With lithographic printers it was bad at Nottingham, improving at Leicester. With bookbinders it was fair at Leicester, quiet at Nottingham and Derby.

West Midland Counties.—In Birmingham employment was bad with letterpress printers; moderate with other branches. Letterpress printers at Coventry, Stafford and Leamington reported it as good; at Hanley, Warwick and Worcester as improved; at Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury as dull.

Eastern, Southern and South-Western Counties, and Wales.—Employment was fairly good generally.

Scotland.—In Edinburgh employment was reported as fair with letterpress printers; moderate with lithographic printers; bad with bookbinders and typefounders. On the whole employment was worse than a year ago with regard to both the number unemployed and the amount of broken time. In Glasgow employment was quiet generally; at Dundee fair generally; at Aberdeen moderate with printers, good with bookbinders.

Ireland.—Employment remained quiet, but was better than a month ago.

PAPER TRADES.

Employment in England and Wales was good in the machine trade, especially in Lancashire. In the hand-made trade it was reported as slack. Branches of Trade Unions with 2,381 members had 2.6 per cent. unemployed at the end of October, compared with 3.0 in September, and 2.5 in October, 1903. Returns received from 31 employers in Scotland showed that 5,047 workpeople were employed by them at the end of October, as compared with 5,046 at the end of September, and 5,009 at the end of October, 1903. Employment in Scotland was good, rather better than a month ago, and about the same as a year ago.

FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

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

EMPLOYMENT during October was again slack, slightly worse than a month ago, and worse than a year ago. The percentage of unemployed Trade Union members in the furnishing and woodworking trades (exclusive of coopers) at the end of October was 7.5, as compared with 7.1 per cent. at the end of September, and 5.3 per cent. a year ago.

Millsawyers and Woodcutting Machinists.

Employment with millsawyers and woodcutting machinists was bad generally, about the same as a month ago, but worse than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 4,965 showed 309 (or 6.2 per cent.) unemployed at the end of October, as compared with 6.4 per cent. at the end of September, and 4.1 per cent. at the end of October, 1903.

Furnishing Trades.

In the furnishing trades employment remained bad as in the previous month and was worse than a year ago. An improvement was reported, however, with cabinet makers at Birmingham, Liverpool and Leeds. Sixteen Trade Unions, with a membership of 14,619, showed 1,256 (or 8.6 per cent.) unemployed at the end of October, as compared with 8.3 per cent. at the end of September, and 5.8 per cent. a year ago.

Coopers.

Employment with coopers remained dull on the whole, about the same as a month ago. It was, however, fairly good at Hull, Fraserburgh, Peterhead, and Greenock.

Coachbuilding.

In the coachbuilding industry employment generally remained slack, and was worse than a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions of coachmakers, wheelwrights, smiths, &c., with a membership of 7,728, reported 503 (or 6.5 per cent.) unemployed at the end of October, as compared with 4.9 per cent. at the end of September, and 5.4 per cent. a year ago.

Miscellaneous.

Brushmakers.—Employment with brushmakers still remained bad, and worse than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 1,678 reported 168 (or 10.0 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 10.3 per cent. at the end of September, and 5.8 at the end of October, 1903.

Other Trades.—Packing case makers, lathrenders and basket makers reported employment as dull generally. It was moderate, however, with packing case makers in London, and fair with lathsplitters at Edinburgh and bobbin makers at Dundee.

GLASS, POTTERY, AND BRICK AND TILE TRADES.

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

EMPLOYMENT in the Glass trade on the whole continued in much the same condition as in September. It showed signs of improvement in the Pottery trades, but was slack in the Brick and Tile trades.

Glass Trades.—Employment with glass bottle-makers was bad generally, with much short time. It was fair at Dublin, good at Glasgow and Portobello, moderate at Wakefield. At Rotherham employment with medicine bottle makers continued to improve.

With flint-glass makers employment was bad generally; in the Tyne district, three shifts per week only were worked; it was moderate at Barnsley and good at Birmingham, Stourbridge and Glasgow. Employment with flint-glass cutters was bad in Glasgow, in the Wordsley district and in Edinburgh; it had improved at Birmingham. Employment with plate-glass bevellers and silverers at Birmingham was quiet; and fair with sheet-glass flatteners and decorative glass workers at St. Helens. With sheet-glass makers at St. Helens employment was good. With pressed glass makers in the Tyne

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—GLASS, &c., TRADES; AGRICULTURAL LABOUR; DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

district it was bad, and slack at Glasgow. Employment with glass blowers in London was a little better than in September.

Pottery Trades.—In Staffordshire employment with hollow-ware and sanitary potters continued to improve. With printers, transferrers and ovenmen also a slight improvement was shown upon last month. With china potters at Longton employment was not good, but a little better than in September. With cratemakers it continued bad, but was fair with packers. At Swadincote (Derbyshire) the hollow-ware and sanitary potters continued to work only four days per week. At Newcastle-on-Tyne employment of hollow-ware potters continued fair. Employment with potters at Rotherham and Rawmarsh was moderate. In the Woodville district it was bad with sanitary ware makers, quiet with chimney and drain pipe makers, and fair in the conduit pipe branch. In North Devon it was quiet at Bovey Tracey, fair at Barnstaple, and at Kings Kerswell steady employment prevailed.

Employment was fair generally in Scotland. In Glasgow it was dull with tobacco-pipe makers, quiet with white hollow-ware potters, some working short time.

Brick and Tilemaking.—Employment was bad at Peterborough, Birmingham, West Bromwich, Nottingham, in the Buckley district of North Wales, and at Glasgow; slack in the Normanton and Sheffield districts, at Market Harborough, Ipswich and Sudbury; quiet with fire and faced brick makers in the Woodville district; quiet in the Plymouth district; moderate at Calstock and Gunnislake; fair in the Tees and Hartlepool district, at Oldham, Chelmsford, Cardiff, Bovey Tracey and in the Wrexham and Ruabon districts; good at Neath.

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

(Based on Reports from Correspondents in various parts of England.)

THE reports show that the weather during October was very favourable for all agricultural work, and farm labourers were, for the most part, fully employed. There was some demand for day labourers for threshing, lifting and storing potatoes and mangels, sowing wheat and, in certain districts, for fruit picking. The supply of labour was generally sufficient to meet the demand, and in some districts a few day labourers were in irregular employment.

Northern Counties.—Correspondents in Northumberland, Durham, Cumberland, and Westmorland state that agricultural labourers were regularly employed during October. Potato-lifting and mangel-storing furnished a certain amount of work for day labourers. Similar reports come from Lancashire. In Yorkshire the fine weather enabled good progress to be made with all outdoor work. The wheat sowing was well forward, and there was a good deal of employment in ploughing, threshing, and lifting and storing root crops. The supply of day labourers was about equal to the demand.

Midland Counties.—Regularity of employment is reported in Cheshire and Derbyshire. Day labourers were more plentiful, and rather in excess of the demand. A few agricultural labourers are reported to have been in irregular work in Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire. In Staffordshire and Shropshire the supply of extra labour was fairly good, and quite equal to the demand. Farm labourers were regularly employed in Worcestershire and Warwickshire; there was plentiful employment in potato-lifting, and one correspondent states that more corn has been sown in this district than for many years. The supply of day labourers was, on the whole, about equal to the demand.

Day labourers were regularly employed in most parts of Northamptonshire, and work was well forward at the end of the month. A correspondent in the Hardingston Union writes:—"A large number of shoe hands are out of work and are applying for all kinds of jobs. Many of these men left the land a few years ago to go to the factories." Competent men for permanent situations

were scarce. Reports from Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire state that the supply of extra men was, in some parts, rather more than sufficient. Men for permanent situations were in demand. In Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire day labourers were not in much request, and some were out of employment when the potato-lifting was over. There was some demand in the St. Neot's Union for women and boys for potato-picking.

Eastern Counties.—Agricultural work in Huntingdonshire and Cambridgeshire is reported to be well forward, and farm labourers were busy during October with the potato and other root crops. In Lincolnshire the fine weather enabled farmers to get on with the cleaning of the land without interruption. Most of the sowing and drilling was finished during the month. The supply of day labourers was generally sufficient. In Norfolk and Suffolk the supply of extra men was sufficient, and in certain districts some men were in irregular work. In Essex difficulty is reported in finding men for tending horses and stock, on account of the Sunday work involved.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—In Kent few men were in irregular employment. Day labourers were more plentiful than last year, and were in fairly good demand. Men for permanent situations are stated to be rather less difficult to obtain than of late. In Surrey and Sussex day labourers were fairly well employed. The supply was about sufficient in most parts. The supply of odd men in Hampshire and Berkshire was, on the whole, in excess of the demand. Men for permanent situations are said to be rather more plentiful. Farm labourers in Wiltshire were, generally speaking, in full employment during October.

Regularity of employment is reported in Dorsetshire. The supply of labour was generally ample. In Somersetshire there was a good deal of work in sowing wheat, carting mangels, picking apples and making cider, trimming hedges and threshing. The supply of extra men was generally sufficient, and better than a year ago. In the Langport Union, however, railway making is said to have absorbed many agricultural labourers and to have raised wages generally by 2s. per week. In Herefordshire employment was regular with agricultural labourers. The supply of extra men was sufficient, and in some parts in excess of the demand. Men for permanent situations are somewhat scarce, especially shepherds and waggoners. Farm labourers in Gloucestershire were well employed generally. The supply of extra men was rather better than last year, but men for permanent situations are said to be scarce in certain districts. In Devon and Cornwall the fine weather was very favourable for all kinds of farm work, and most of the day labourers were well employed.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

(Based as regards London, on Returns from Dock Companies, the Owners of the principal Wharves, the Shipping Federation, and from Trade Unions; as regards other principal ports on information supplied by Superintendents of Mercantile Marine, Trade Unions, and Local Correspondents of the Department.)

EMPLOYMENT during October was moderate; on the whole it showed a slight improvement on the previous month, but was not so good as a year ago.

London.

The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves during the four weeks ended October 29th was 13,538, an increase of 8.4 per cent. on the average for September, and a decrease of 4.2 per cent. as compared with October, 1903. The average daily number employed in October during the seven years, 1897-1903, was 15,952.

(1) *Weekly Averages.*—The following Table shows the estimated average number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily in each of the four weeks ended October 29th:—

EMPLOYMENT IN OCTOBER—DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR; FISHING.

Table with columns: Period, Labourers employed in Docks (By Dock Companies, By Ship-owners, &c., Total), Labourers employed at 115 Wharves making Returns, Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.

(2) Daily Fluctuations.—The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed by all the docks and principal wharves is shown in the following Chart.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 115 of the principal Wharves, for each day during the months of September and October, 1904.

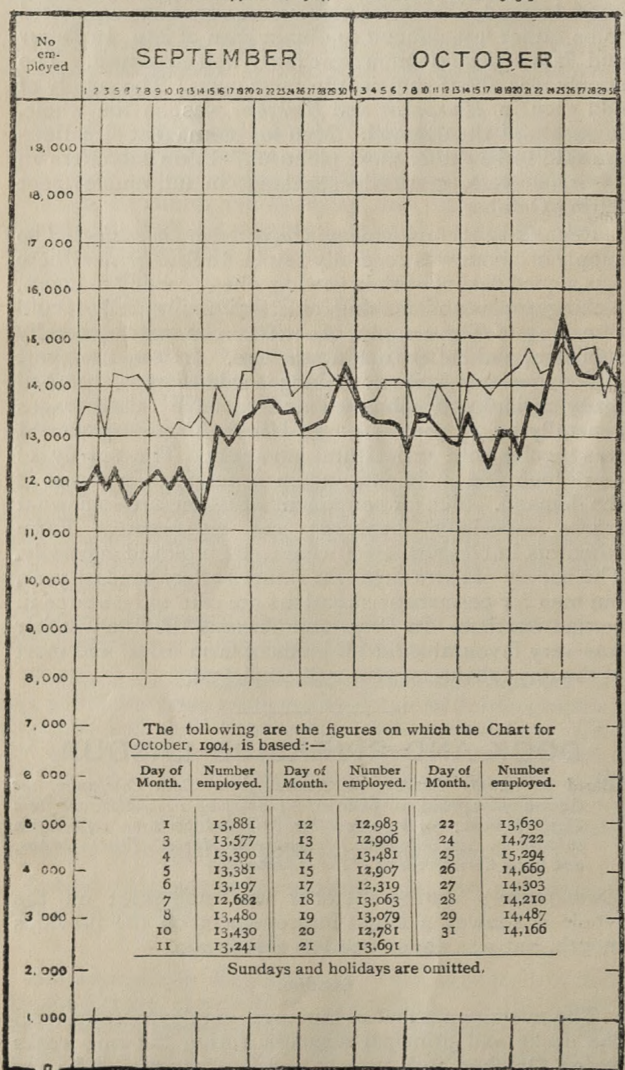


Table with columns: Day of Month, Number employed, Day of Month, Number employed. It provides data for the days of the month for both 1904 and 1903.

Employment was moderate with workers in mid-stream, winchmen, stevedores and lightermen; fair with deal and coal porters, and lumpers. With fruit porters in Thames Street it was also fair, the average daily number employed being 275, as compared with 280 in September, and 315 a year ago.

employed by the shipowners to whom the office supplies labour, as compared with 81 per cent. in the previous month, and 55 per cent. in October, 1903.

Other Ports.

North-East Coast.—Employment on the Tyne and Wear was reported as bad on the whole, and worse than a month ago. At Hartlepool and Middlesbrough it was moderate.

Hull, Goole, and Grimsby.—At Hull employment was slack; at Goole it was fairly good. At Grimsby timber and general labourers were well employed; other classes had fair employment.

Suffolk and Essex.—At Ipswich and Harwich employment was moderate; at Parkeston it was good.

Southampton and Plymouth.—At Southampton employment was moderate, though not so good as last month. In the Plymouth district it was moderate with the coal lumpers; in the other branches it was quiet.

Bristol Channel Ports.—Employment at Gloucester was good. At Avonmouth and Bristol it was slack; at Portishead it was fair. At the South Wales ports it was slack generally, though at Swansea it was good with coal trimmers, and fair with patent fuel loaders.

Liverpool and Manchester.—At Liverpool dock labourers were fairly well employed owing to the increased imports of cotton, which also had a favourable effect on the other branches. At Manchester employment was slack, and many men were on short time.

Glasgow.—With dock labourers employment was moderate.

East of Scotland Ports.—At Aberdeen employment was moderate; at Dundee it had improved; at Leith it was fair.

Irish Ports.—At Dublin and Belfast employment was fair; at Cork it was moderate.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

(Based on Returns from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Collectors of Fisheries for England and Wales, Fishery Board for Scotland, Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, and Local Correspondents.)

THE fish landed during October showed an increase as regards quantity and a decrease as regards value, as compared with a year ago.

The following Table gives the quantities and values of fish landed in October, 1904, and in October, 1903, respectively:—

Table with columns: Quantity, Value, Oct., 1904, Oct., 1903. It lists fish (other than shell) and shell fish with their respective quantities and values for 1904 and 1903.

From the Tyne and Wear it is reported that good supplies of white fish were landed, slightly better than a year ago. Good catches were also landed by the herring boats.

Employment at Hull and Grimsby was fairly good on the whole, the fish landed being greater in quantity and value than in October, 1903. At Yarmouth it was good in all branches, and better than a month ago. It was the same as a year ago with fishermen and fish dock labourers, and better among persons employed in fish curing. Employment was moderate at Lowestoft among fishermen; with persons employed in fish curing it was fair and better than a month and a year ago. At both ports the quantity of fish landed was much greater than a year ago, but the value was less. Large numbers of

PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.

I.—BREAD

THE returns as to the price of bread, furnished by the Local Correspondents of the Department, relate to London and 25 large Provincial Towns at the beginning of November, and of each of the twelve preceding months. Though it is not possible to state that the quality of bread referred to is in all cases the same, the figures for each place are believed to be, generally speaking, comparable over the whole period. Other qualities of bread are sold at both higher and lower prices than those quoted in the Table below. The prices selected represent, so far as can be ascertained, the prevailing prices paid at the various places by workpeople for 4 lbs. of ordinary bread of average quality.

Table showing bread prices for various places (London, Birmingham, Bolton, Bristol, Derby, Gateshead, Huddersfield, Hull, Ipswich, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester, Middlesbrough, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Norwich, Nottingham, Oldham, Plymouth, Potteries, Wolverpton, Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Belfast, Dublin) from November 1903 to November 1904.

SEAMEN SHIPPED IN OCTOBER.

(Based on Returns from the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.)

RETURNS received from certain selected ports (at which 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the Foreign Trade is entered and cleared) show that, during October, 36,841* seamen were shipped on foreign-going vessels, a decrease of 2,962 on the number shipped during October, 1903.

The supply of seamen is stated to have been in excess of, or equal to, the demand at the ports included in the returns.

During the ten months of 1904, 368,282* seamen were shipped, of whom 55,151 (or 15.0 per cent.) were foreigners. During the corresponding period of 1903, 362,841* seamen were shipped, of whom 56,279 (or 15.5 per cent.) were foreigners.

Lascars who are engaged in Asia are not included in these figures.

Table showing the number* of persons shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom in October, 1904 and 1903 respectively, together with the number* shipped in the ten months ended October in each of these years:—

Table showing the number of persons shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at principal ports (England and Wales, Bristol Channel, Other Ports, Scotland, Ireland) for October 1904 and October 1903, along with ten-month totals.

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

II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

The Table below gives the mean London Gazette price of British wheat, and the average declared value of the wheat and flour imports, for each month from October, 1903:—

Table showing wheat and flour prices for various months from October 1903 to October 1904, including British Wheat and Imports.

The imports of wheat from foreign countries and the Colonies from 1st September to 31st October, 1904,

* No change was recorded in any of the towns at 1st January, 1st February, 1st April, 2nd May, and 2nd August, 1904, except at Dublin, where the price was reduced 1/4d. at 1st April, and at Norwich, where the price was reduced 1/4d. at 2nd August, 1904.

amounted to 19,401,300 cwts. (4,526,970 quarters), compared with 16,714,200 cwts. (3,899,980 quarters), in the corresponding months of 1903. The imports of wheat-meal and flour amounted to 1,938,820 cwts., compared with 4,148,025 cwts. from 1st September to 31st October, 1903.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

DURING October 60 cases of lead poisoning and 3 cases of anthrax were reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshop Act. No cases of phosphorus, mercurial, or arsenic poisoning were reported. One death, due to lead poisoning, was reported.

During the ten months ended October the number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax was 522 as compared with 561 in the corresponding period of 1903. The number of deaths was 28, being 2 more than in 1903.

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

Disease and Industry.	CASES.		DEATHS.	
	10 months ended October, 1904.		10 months ended October, 1903.	
	Oct., 1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.
Lead Poisoning—				
Smelting of Metals	4	25	—	1
Brass Works	2	9	—	1
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping	—	7	—	—
Plumbing and Soldering	2	19	1	2
Printing	2	13	—	1
File Cutting	—	18	—	3
Tinning and Enamelling of Iron	1	8	—	—
Hollow-ware	—	—	—	—
White Lead Works	15	93	—	2
Red and Yellow Lead Works	1	9	—	—
China and Earthenware*	9	84	—	3
Litho-transfer Works	—	3	—	—
Glass Cutting and Polishing	1	2	—	—
Enamelling of Iron Plates	5	20	—	—
Electrical Accumulator Works	5	25	—	1
Faint and Colour Works	6	37	—	2
Coach Making	1	34	—	5
Shippbuilding	2	22	—	1
Paint used in other Industries	4	38	—	3
Other Industries	—	—	—	—
Total Lead Poisoning†	60	475	1	21
Mercurial Poisoning—				
Barometer and Thermometer making	—	1	—	—
Furriers' processes	—	2	—	—
Other Industries	—	—	—	—
Total Mercurial Poisoning	—	3	—	—
Phosphorus Poisoning	—	1	—	1
Arsenic Poisoning—				
Paints, Colours and Extraction of Arsenic	—	3	—	—
Other Industries	—	2	—	—
Total Arsenic Poisoning	—	5	—	—
Anthrax—				
Wool Sorting	—	2	—	—
Wool Combing	—	8	—	2
Handling of Horsehair	—	8	—	—
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.)	3	12	—	2
Other Industries	—	8	—	4
Total Anthrax	3	38	—	6
Grand Total	63	522	1	28

EXAMINATIONS FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

Newcastle-on-Tyne District.—An Examination for First and Second Class Certificates of Competency as Manager and Under-Manager of a Mine will be held at Newcastle-upon-Tyne on 5th and 6th January 1905. Candidates must, on or before 31st December, send their names to the Secretary, Mr. Walton Brown, Neville Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne from whom all particulars can be obtained.

Persons residing outside the district are eligible for examination.

* Of the nine persons affected in the china and earthenware industry in October, 1904, 6 were females.
† House Painters and Plumbers.—In addition to the cases included in the Table 25 cases of lead poisoning (including 1 death) were reported during October, among house painters and plumbers. The number of such cases reported during the ten months ended October, 1904, was 182 (including 31 deaths), and for the corresponding period of 1903, 171 (including 34 deaths).

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN OCTOBER.

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

EXCLUSIVE of seamen, the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during October, 1904, was 221, or 5 more than in September, and 31 less than in October, 1903. The mean number for October in the years 1899-1903, was 218, the maximum year in this period being 1903, with 252 deaths, and the minimum year 1899, with 200 deaths.

The number of fatal accidents to seamen reported in October, 1904, was 59. The number reported in October of the years 1899-1903 varied from 74 to 116, the mean for the five years being 104.

In the classes of industries in which the number of persons employed is approximately known, viz., Railway Service (exclusive of contractors' servants), Mines, Quarries, Shipping, Factories, and Laundries, the number of workpeople reported as killed was 244, as compared with 322 in the corresponding period of 1903. The approximate number of workpeople employed in these industries according to the latest returns was about 5,800,000.

In the following Table the accidents reported in October are classified by the trades in which they occurred, and comparative figures are given for the preceding month and for the corresponding month of last year.

SUMMARY.

Trade.	Number of Workpeople killed during			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in Oct., 1904, as compared with	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
	Oct., 1904.	Sept., 1904.	Oct., 1903.		
Railway Service—					
Brakemen and Goods Guards	1	2	1	— 1	—
Engine Drivers	4	1	3	+ 3	+ 1
Firemen	1	1	1	—	—
Guards (Passenger)	—	—	—	—	—
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	12	8	5	+ 4	+ 7
Porters	8	3	5	+ 5	+ 3
Shunters	—	1	5	— 1	— 5
Miscellaneous	16	12	20	+ 4	+ 4
Contractors' Servants	2	3	1	— 1	— 1
Total Railway Service	44	32	41	+ 12	+ 3
Mines—					
Underground	64	79	77	— 15	— 13
Surface	9	8	14	+ 1	— 5
Total Mines	73	87	91	— 14	— 18
Quarries over 20 feet deep	9	7	8	+ 2	+ 1
Factories—					
Textile—					
Cotton	5	2	4	+ 3	+ 1
Wool and Worsted	3	1	3	+ 2	+ 2
Other Textiles	2	—	—	—	—
Non-Textile—					
Extraction of Metals	—	5	7	— 5	— 7
Founding and Conversion of Metals	6	7	4	+ 1	+ 2
Marine and Locomotive Engineering	2	4	—	— 2	+ 2
Ship and Boat Building	9	5	3	+ 4	+ 6
Wood	5	—	4	+ 5	+ 1
Chemicals, &c.	2	1	4	+ 1	— 2
Other Non-Textile Industries	27	34	42	— 7	— 15
Total Factories	61	59	71	+ 2	— 10
Workshops	—	—	1	—	— 1
Accidents reported under Factory Act, Ss. 103-5—					
Docks, Wharves, and Quays	13	10	23	+ 3	— 10
Warehouses	—	5	3	— 5	— 3
Buildings to which Act applies	11	11	14	—	— 3
Laundries	—	—	—	—	—
Total under Factory Act, Ss. 103-5	24	26	40	— 2	— 16
Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	10	5	—	+ 5	+ 10
Total, exclusive of Seamen	221	216	252	+ 5	— 31
Seamen—					
On Trading Vessels—					
Sailing	12	18	56	— 6	— 44
Steam	39	48	44	— 9	— 5
On Fishing Vessels—					
Sailing	1	6	4	— 5	— 3
Steam	7	10	8	— 3	— 1
Total Seamen	59	82	112	— 23	— 53
Total, including Seamen	280	298	364	— 18	— 84

TRADE DISPUTES IN OCTOBER.*

Number and Magnitude.—Fifteen new disputes began in October, 1904, compared with 21 in September, and 20 in October, 1903. By the 15 disputes 3,811 workpeople were directly and 343 indirectly affected, and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople affected by disputes which began before October, and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 7,741 workpeople involved in trade disputes during October, 1904, compared with 13,916 in September, 1904, and 10,747 in October, 1903.

New Disputes in October, 1904.—In the following Table the new disputes in October are summarised by trades affected:—

Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople affected.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Coal Mining	4	2,214	—	2,214
Engineering	2	32	22	54
Textile	3	380	303	683
Boot and Shoe Trade	1	210	—	210
Transport	3	706	—	706
Other Trades	2	269	18	287
Total, October, 1904	15	3,811	343	4,154
Total, September, 1904	21	3,981	4,160	8,141
Total, October, 1903	20	5,738	1,244	6,982

Causes.—Of the fifteen new disputes, one arose on a demand for increased wages, one on objection to reduction, and eight on other wages questions, two on questions of employment of particular classes or persons, two on questions of trade unionism, and one on a question of working arrangements.

Results.—Definite results were reported in October in the case of seven new disputes, affecting 2,162 workpeople, and six old disputes, affecting 443 workpeople. Of these thirteen new and old disputes, four, involving 901 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; six, involving 406 persons, were decided in favour of the employers; and three, involving 1,298

persons, were compromised. In the case of nine other disputes terminating during the month, and involving 3,664 persons, certain points are still under consideration.

Aggregate Duration.—The aggregate duration in October of disputes that commenced or were settled in that month was 25,800 working days. In addition, 35,300 working days were lost in October, owing to disputes that began before that month, and at the end of the month were still unsettled. Thus the total duration of all disputes, new and old, was 61,100 working days, which compares with 130,000 in the previous month, and 113,000 in the corresponding month of 1903.

Summary for the First Ten Months of 1903 and 1904.—Summarised by trades, the number of disputes, the number of workpeople affected, and the aggregate duration in working days for the ten months January-October, 1903 and 1904, respectively, were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January to October.					
	1903.			1904.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople affected.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople affected.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.
Building	39	3,547	107,400	32	8,528	343,500
Mining and Quarrying	97	48,873	1,199,200	90	40,736	528,800
Metal, Engineering, and Shipbuilding	62	28,916	430,600	56	10,146	144,900
Textile	44	7,069	92,900	40	11,259	117,500
Clothing	22	2,284	139,600	21	1,128	11,200
Transport	14	2,039	22,000	8	1,747	32,700
Other Trades	24	1,502	45,600	34	3,621	102,700
Total	302	95,130	2,025,300	281	77,165	1,281,300

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

Principal Trade Disputes.

Occupation.†	Locality.	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began in 1904.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.‡	Result.‡
		Directly.	Indirectly.†				
Hewers, Shiftmen, Surface Workers, &c.	Whitehaven ...	1,672	—	27 June	65	Against proposal to make hewing and trailing one contract	Proposed alteration agreed to; prices to be settled by Conciliation Board.
Coal Miners	Kirkby, Notts	794	—	19 Oct.	4	Demand for more trams per man working at "face" and for payment of extra quarter days	Amicable arrangement arrived at.
Weavers, Winders, Warpers, Trimmers, &c., Spinners, Piecers, Twisters, Doffers, &c.	Hyde	147	250	27 Oct.	3	Dispute as to rates of wages to be paid to weavers working automatic looms	Amicable arrangement arrived at.

* 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 1904 the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information.
‡ The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly affected," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the dispute occurred, but not themselves on strike or locked-out. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

The following Table shows for 20 of the principal railway companies of the United Kingdom the receipts from Passenger and Goods and Mineral traffic and the total traffic receipts for the five weeks ended 5th November, 1904, together with the increase compared with the corresponding period a year ago:—

Goods and Mineral Traffic—	Five Weeks ended 5th Nov., 1904.	Five Weeks ended 7th Nov., 1903.	Increase of Oct., 1904, as compared with Oct., 1903.	
			Amount.	Per cent.
			£	£
Northern Lines of England	3,455,041	3,417,139	37,902	1.1
Southern and Western Lines, and Scotland and Ireland	1,824,749	1,785,498	39,251	2.2
Total	5,279,790	5,202,637	77,153	1.5
Passenger Traffic	3,760,718	3,695,638	65,080	1.8
Total Traffic	9,040,508	8,898,275	142,233	1.6

OLD AGE PENSIONS IN NEW ZEALAND.

The Sixth Annual Report of the Old Age Pensions Department of New Zealand for the year ended March 31st, 1904 has been issued.

From this it appears that at the end of March last there were 11,926 pensioners, 729 of whom were Maoris, on the books with an average pension of £16 17s. od., compared with 12,776 pensioners averaging £17 at the end of March, 1902.

The number of new pensions granted during the year was 1,063—or 27 per cent. of the population becoming eligible by age and residence—compared with 1,694, or 43 per cent. in 1902.

These reductions have been obtained by the institution of a more complete system of investigation, whereby the statements of a claimant for pension were verified before the claim was submitted to the stipendiary magistrate.

The position also of those already on the funds was exhaustively enquired into and a number of have-been pensions cancelled.

The total gross payments on account of pensions during the 5½ years the Act has been in force amount to £978,530, and the cost of administration to £15,280, or 1.56 per cent. of the total.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.*

WAGES.

Changes Reported in October.—The net effect of all the changes in wages reported in October was a decrease of £1,401 per week, as compared with a decrease of £245 in September, and a decrease of £206 in October, 1903. The number of workpeople affected was 116,181, of whom 4,586 received advances amounting to £152 per week, and 111,595 sustained decreases amounting to £1,553 per week. The total number affected in September was 21,032, and in October, 1903, 12,023.

The principal change reported was a decrease affecting 107,500 coal miners in Durham.

Two changes, affecting 111,500 workpeople, were arranged by Conciliation Boards; and eight changes, affecting 2,792 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. One change, affecting 30 workpeople, was settled by arbitration, after a dispute causing stoppage of work. The remaining changes, affecting 1,859 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, six of these changes, affecting 1,277 workpeople, being preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

Summary for the first Ten Months of 1904.—For the ten months, January—October, 1904, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) respecting whom wages changes have been reported was 640,296, as compared with 395,972 in the corresponding period of 1903. The changes arranged give 9,102 a net increase amounting to £768 per week, and 628,667 a net decrease of £33,304 per week, whilst the remaining 2,527 have had upward and downward changes which have left their

wages at the same level as at the beginning of the year. The net effect of all the changes reported was a decrease of £32,536 per week, as compared with a decrease of £14,477 in the corresponding period of 1903.

Summarised by trades, the number of workpeople affected by changes reported during the ten months, January—October, 1903 and 1904 respectively, and the net results of the changes on their weekly wages were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January—October.			
	1903.		1904.	
	No.	£	No.	£
Building	4,078	+ 322	9,120	- 738
Coal Mining	262,768	- 8,853	505,890	- 24,578
Iron Mining	9,161	- 414	10,813	- 531
Quarrying	3,160	- 217	2,731	- 91
Pig Iron Manufacture	13,710	- 596	11,235	- 680
Iron and Steel Manufacture	8,783	- 339	52,046	- 2,895
Engineering and Shipbuilding... ..	74,605	- 4,269	31,034	- 2,620
Textile Trades	599	+ 31	2,679	- 59
Glass Trades	5,098	- 361	4,479	- 668
Other Trades	10,072	- 10	5,330	- 64
Employees of Local Authorities	5,938	+ 229	4,939	+ 388
Total	395,972	-14,477	640,296	-32,536

HOURS.

The only change in hours of labour reported during October, 1904, affected 30 bricklayers at Bridgnorth, whose mid-winter working hours were reduced by 5½ hours per week. During the ten months January—October, the total number of workpeople reported as affected by changes in hours of labour was 10,273, the net reduction in their working time being 14,648 hours per week.

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which Change takes effect in 1904.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by	Particulars of Change.	
				Increase.	Decrease.

I.—CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN OCTOBER, 1904.

1 Increase—30 Workpeople.		BUILDING TRADES.		6 Decreases—1,277 Workpeople.	
Hartlepool	Bricklayers	19 Sept.	250	Decrease of 3d. per hour (10d. to 9d.).	
	Bricklayers' Labourers	24 Sept.	100	Decrease of 3d. per hour (7d. to 6d.).	
	Plasterers' Labourers	24 Sept.	381	Decrease of 3d. per hour (7d. to 7d.).	
	Bricklayers	19 Sept.	180	Decrease of 3d. per hour (10d. to 9d.).	
Middlesbrough	Bricklayers' Labourers	24 Sept.	40	Decrease of 3d. per hour (6d. to 6d.).	
	Plasterers' Labourers	19 Sept.	212	Decrease of 3d. per hour (10d. to 9d.).	
Stockton-on-Tees	Bricklayers	24 Sept.	104	Decrease of 3d. per hour (6d. to 6d.).	
	Bricklayers' Labourers	24 Sept.	10	Decrease of 1d. per hour (7d. to 6d.).	
Bridgnorth	Bricklayers	1 Oct.	30	Advance of 3d. per hour (6d. to 7d.).	
1 Increase—4,080 Workpeople.		COAL MINING.		1 Decrease—107,500 Workpeople.	
Durham	Coal Heavers, Deputies, Other Underground Workers, Banksmen, Cokemen, Enginemen and Mechanics	7 & 14 Nov.	107,500	Decrease of 1½ per cent., leaving wages 27½ per cent. above the standard of 1879.	
	Other Surface Workers	30 Sept.	4,000	Advance of 2½ per cent., making wages 27½ per cent. above the standard of 1879.	
Somersetshire (Radstock District)	Coal Heavers and Other Underground Workers	30 Sept.	4,000	Advance of 2½ per cent.	
	Banksmen, Screenmen, Enginemen and Stokers	30 Sept.	90	Advance of 2½ per cent., making wages 12½ per cent. above the standard of 1879.	
Increases—Nil.		METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES.		10 Decreases—2,818 Workpeople.	
Middlesbrough	Steel Workers	3 Oct.	740	Decrease of 4½ per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 7½ per cent. above the standard of 1897.	
	Blastfurnacemen	3 Oct.	130	Decrease of 1½ per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages of Furnacemen 13 per cent., and of other workpeople 10½ per cent., above the standard.	
Sheffield	Joiners in Iron and Steel Works	Oct.	15	Decrease of 3d. per hour.	
Ulverston	Blastfurnacemen	2 Oct.	132	Decrease of 1½ per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 10½ per cent. above the standard.	
Barrow-in-Furness	Blastfurnacemen	1 Oct.	260	Decrease of 2 per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 10½ per cent. above the standard.	
	Rail, Wire and Hoop Millmen	3 Oct.	650	Decrease of 4 per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 6 per cent. above the standard.	
South Lancashire (2 firms)	Blastfurnacemen	Oct.	220	Decrease of 3 per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 13 per cent. above the standard.	
North Staffordshire	Blastfurnacemen	Oct.	600	Decrease of 1½ per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 14 per cent. above the standard.	
Wolverhampton	Iron Moulders and Labourers	17 Sept.	11	Decrease of about 10 per cent.	
North Wales	Blastfurnacemen	6 Oct.	60	Decrease of 3 per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 13 per cent. above the standard.	

* Based on information obtained from all available sources verified and corrected by direct application to the Employers, Trade Unions, and other parties concerned. It will be understood that increments accruing under scales of pay, as in the case of policemen, some municipal employees, and many railway servants, &c., are not recorded here. The same remark applies to the changes in pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c. † Exclusive of agricultural labourers, seamen and fishermen, and railway servants. In making up the totals for the several months of the year the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information. ‡ See under Changes in Hours of Labour.

Locality.	Occupation	Date from which Change takes effect in 1904.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by	Particulars of Change.	
				Increase.	Decrease.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN OCTOBER, 1904—continued.

1 Increase—8 Workpeople.		PRINTING AND ALLIED TRADES.		Decreases—Nil.	
Ipswich	Compositors (Stone Hands)	1 Oct.	8	Advance of 2s. 6d. per week to 1 man; of 2s. to 4 men; of 1s. 6d. to 1 man; and of 1s. per week to 2 men.	
4 Increases—458 Workpeople.		EMPLOYEES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES.		Decreases—Nil.	
London:—Finsbury	Wharf and Cleansing Department:—Carmen, Sweepers, Dust Labourers, &c.	4 Nov.	173	Advance of 3s. per week to 10 men; of 2s. to 95; and of 1s. per week to 68 men.	
	Topmen	4 Nov.	6	Advance of 1d. per hour (6½d. to 7½d.).	
	Works Department:—Urinal Cleaners and Lavatory Attendants	4 Nov.	14	Advance of 2s. per week.	
Poplar	General Labourers and Rammersmen	4 Nov.	40	Advance of 3d. per hour; wages after change: Rammersmen 7½d., General labourers, 7d. per hour.	
	Dustmen, Sweepers and Labourers	1 Oct.	173	Advance of 6s. per week to 3 men; of 4s. 6d. per week to 71; of 3s. 6d. to 33; of 3s. to 12; of 2s. 6d. to 21; of 1s. 6d. to 17; and of 6d. per week to 16 men. Rates of wages after change: Dustmen, &c., 30s.; Leading Sweepers or Gangers, 33s. per week.	
Leyton (Essex)	Roller Drivers	1 Oct.	2	Advance of 1s. per week (36s. and 37s. to 37s. and 38s.).	
	Roadmen			41	Advance of 2s. per week to 10 men (24s. to 26s.), and 1s. per week to 31 men (26s. to 27s.).
Forfar	Scavengers	22 Sept.	9	Advance of 6d. per week to 2 men, and of 1s. per week to 7 men (18s. 6d. and 19s. to 19s. and 20s.).	

II.—CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN OCTOBER, 1904.

Bridgnorth	Bricklayers	1 Dec.	30	Decrease of 5½ hours per week during December and January (90½ to 45).	
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§ See also under Changes in Rates of Wages.

EMIGRATION AND ALIEN IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The number of passengers who left for places out of Europe during October was 49,616, as compared with 42,213 in October, 1903. During the ten months ended October, 1904, the number of passengers was 395,371, being 11,442 (or 2·8 per cent.) less than in the corresponding period of 1903.

British and Irish.—Of the 49,616 passengers in October, 1904, 31,405 were of British or Irish origin, an increase of 3,975 compared with a year ago. For the ten months ended October, 1904, the number was 244,828, as compared with 236,699, an increase of 8,129. The number of passengers to British South Africa shows a decrease of 21,639, while the numbers travelling to the United States and British North America increased by 19,134 and 9,236 respectively.

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

Destination. (Country in which passengers contracted to land.)	Ten months ended	
	Oct., 1904.	Oct., 1903.
British Empire:		
British North America	4,604	3,841
Australia and New Zealand	1,995	1,638
British South Africa	3,888	6,030
India (including Ceylon)	863	1,005
Other British Colonies and Possessions	543	523
Total, British Empire	11,803	13,037
Foreign Countries:		
United States	19,014	13,687
Other Foreign Countries	538	706
Total, Foreign Countries	19,552	14,393
Grand Total	31,405	27,430

Foreign.—The remainder of the 49,616 passengers in October, viz., 18,211, were foreigners, or other persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being 3,428 more than in October, 1903. For the ten months ended October, 1904, the number of such passengers was 150,543, of whom 118,912 were bound for the United States, 19,517 for British North America, and 4,522 for British South Africa. In the corresponding period of 1903, the number was 170,114, of whom 116,831 were bound for the United States, 36,010 for British North America, and 10,432 for British South Africa.

Alien Immigration.—During October, 18,987 aliens arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent. Of these, 9,692 were stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to places out of the United

Kingdom, an increase of 3,007 as compared with October, 1903. Those not stated to be on their way to places out of the United Kingdom numbered 8,996 (exclusive of seamen), or 3,085 more than a year ago. For the ten months ended October, 1904, the number of aliens stated to be en route to America or elsewhere was 86,803, and the number not so stated, 64,783 (exclusive of seamen), compared with 115,003 and 58,426 respectively in 1903.

The figures for October, 1904 and 1903, and also for the ten months ended October, 1904 and 1903, are as follows:—

	Oct., 1904.		Oct., 1903.	
	Oct., 1904.	Oct., 1903.	Oct., 1904.	Oct., 1903.
Aliens not stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to other countries	1,199	1,040	10,689	11,397
Seamen	8,096	5,011	64,783	58,426
Others	9,692	6,685	86,803	115,003
Aliens stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to other countries				
Gross Total	18,987	12,736	162,275	184,826

FACTORY WORKERS IN QUEENSLAND.

THE Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Shops in Queensland for 1903 has been issued. From this it appears that the number of persons employed in factories (i.e., places "where two or more persons are engaged working at any handicraft") was 17,022, or 146 less than in 1902. In the Townsville district there was an increase of 467, almost entirely due to the meat industry, which during the previous period was practically suspended owing to the drought. In the Brisbane district there was a decline of 461 persons. Of the 12,307 male and 4,715 female workers employed in factories in Queensland, 6,886 male and 3,806 female workers were in the Brisbane district. The Report gives the average weekly earnings of the workpeople included in the returns classified according to age and sex.

Bankruptcies.—The bankruptcies gazetted during October numbered 355, being 56 less than in October, 1903. During the ten months ended October, 1904, the number of bankruptcies gazetted was 3,750, as against 3,521 in the first ten months of 1903. The 3,750 bankruptcies in 1904 included 257 builders, 120 bakers, 84 boot and shoe manufacturers and dealers, as compared with 263, 105, and 92 respectively in the ten months ended October 1903.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The following statement has been communicated to the LABOUR GAZETTE by the Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade:—

Summary for October.

The trade returns for October, 1904, show an increase in the value, as compared with the corresponding month of 1903, of the Imports into the United Kingdom, but a decrease in the value of the Exports of British produce, and of the Exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

The value of the Imports in October, 1904, was £49,517,825, an increase of £1,759,637, or 3·7 per cent., as compared with those in October, 1903, whilst the total Exports amounted to £31,105,060, showing a net decrease of £1,137,577. The Exports of British produce alone show a decrease of £417,493, or 1·6 per cent., as compared with October, 1903, whilst there is a decrease of £720,084, or 11·3 per cent., in the Exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

Imports.*—The following Table shows the value of the Imports for October, 1904, as compared with the corresponding months of 1903 and 1902, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

	Month of October.			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1904 as compared with	
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1902.
I.—Food, Drink and Tobacco.	£ 21,390,288	£ 21,989,475	£ 22,044,160	+ 54,685	+ 653,872
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured.	13,546,121	14,093,440	16,080,856	+ 1,987,416	+ 2,534,735
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured.	11,724,525	11,512,760	11,233,284	- 279,476	- 491,241
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post).	193,396	162,513	159,525	- 2,988	- 33,871
Total value of Imports	46,854,330	47,758,188	49,517,825	+ 1,759,637	+ 2,663,498

Exports.†—The following Table shows the value of the Exports of British produce for the month of October, 1904, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1903 and 1902, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

	Month of October.			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1904 as compared with	
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1902.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco.	£ 1,780,856	£ 1,809,060	£ 1,770,186	- 38,874	- 10,670
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured.	3,353,129	3,067,944	3,026,236	- 41,708	- 326,893
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured.	19,633,860	20,572,759	20,263,962	- 308,797	+ 630,102
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post).	366,986	411,417	383,303	- 28,114	+ 16,317
Total value of Exports of British produce	25,134,831	25,861,180	25,443,687	- 417,493	+ 308,886

Tonnage of Ships entered and cleared with Cargoes.

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the month of October, 1904, amounted to 3,652,249 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 4,262,903 tons, as against 3,488,189 tons entered, and 4,319,421 tons cleared in the month of October, 1903. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during October, 1904, amounted to 2,786,818 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,752,676 tons, as against 2,700,235 tons entered, and 2,664,977 tons cleared in October, 1903.

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

† The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

PAUPERISM IN OCTOBER.

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

The number of paupers relieved in the 35 selected Urban Districts named below on one day in October corresponded to a rate of 219 per 10,000 of the estimated population of these districts. This is somewhat higher than the rate for October in any of the previous ten years, the next highest rates in this period being 215 per 10,000 in October, 1894, and 212 per 10,000 in October, 1895. The average of the October figures for the ten years 1894—1903 was 204.

Compared with September the number of persons relieved has increased by 6,965, and the rate per 10,000 by 4. This increase is due to an increase of 4,465 in the number of indoor paupers, and of 2,500 in the number of outdoor paupers. Increases are shown in 24 and decreases in 8 districts.

Compared with October, 1903, the number of persons relieved has increased by 26,530 and the rate per 10,000 by 13. The number of indoor paupers shows an increase of 9,757 (or 6·4 per cent.), and outdoor paupers of 16,773 (or 8·5 per cent.). Increases are shown in thirty-three districts, the rate of increase being greatest in the Leicester district (76 per 10,000), West Ham (41) and East London (29). Decreases occurred in two districts.

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of October, 1904.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in rate per 10,000 compared with	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.		A month ago.	A year ago.
	ENGLAND & WALES.*					
Metropolis.						
West District	11,435	3,485	14,920	181	+ 8	+ 9
North District	15,812	9,666	25,478	238	+ 10	+ 19
Central District	7,016	2,890	9,906	497	+ 16	+ 24
East District	14,663	6,668	21,331	297	+ 12	+ 29
South District	24,352	18,647	42,999	237	+ 9	+ 9
Total Metropolis	73,278	41,356	114,634	248	+ 10	+ 15
West Ham	3,988	11,192	15,180	235	+ 16	+ 41
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District	2,012	4,840	6,852	162	+ 1	+ 8
Stockton & Tees District	1,259	4,200	5,459	286	+ 7	+ 25
Bolton, Oldham, &c.	4,107	9,035	13,232	175	- 4	+ 6
Wigan District	2,018	6,332	8,350	212	...	+ 4
Manchester District	9,599	9,459	19,058	205	+ 6	+ 18
Liverpool District	11,691	9,135	20,826	206	+ 1	+ 14
Bradford District	1,701	3,234	4,935	136	+ 8	+ 19
Halifax & Huddersfield	1,296	3,779	5,075	139	- 4	+ 5
Leeds District	2,304	6,657	8,961	191	+ 1	+ 20
Barnsley District	785	2,907	3,692	186	...	+ 10
Sheffield District	3,188	4,040	7,228	188	+ 2	+ 15
Hull District	1,466	5,240	6,706	280	+ 2	+ 9
North Staffordshire	2,304	7,846	10,150	275	- 8	+ 23
Nottingham District	2,036	5,713	7,749	192	+ 1	+ 14
Leicester District	1,365	5,151	6,516	293	+ 15	+ 76
Wolverhampton District	3,678	13,050	16,728	262	+ 6	+ 10
Birmingham District	4,966	3,471	8,437	147	+ 1	+ 9
Bristol District	2,763	6,775	9,538	249	- 6	+ 1
Cardiff & Swansea	1,839	7,599	9,238	252	- 4	- 4
Total "Other Districts"	60,467	118,263	178,730	203	+ 1	+ 14
SCOTLAND.*						
Glasgow District	5,053	17,394	22,447	235	+ 3	+ 7
Paisley & Greenock District	670	2,530	3,200	184	...	+ 8
Edinburgh & Leith District	1,762	5,742	7,504	189	+ 2	+ 8
Dundee & Dunfermline	1,091	2,879	3,970	200	+ 1	+ 6
Aberdeen	626	2,964	3,590	221	+ 3	+ 10
Coatbridge & Airdrie	359	1,397	1,756	188	- 1	+ 20
Total for the above Scottish Districts	9,561	32,906	42,467	214	+ 2	+ 8
IRELAND.†						
Dublin District	6,812	4,945	11,757	303	- 3	+ 7
Belfast District	3,406	264	3,670	94	+ 1	+ 1
Cork, Waterford & Limerick District	4,129	4,761	8,890	362	+ 4	- 9
Galway District	333	310	643	180	- 1	+ 6
Total for the above Irish Districts	14,680	10,280	24,960	235	...	...
Total for above 35 Districts in October, 1904.	161,974	213,997	375,971	219	+ 4	+ 13

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

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

LABOUR BUREAUX IN OCTOBER.

At eleven Bureaux which furnished returns for both October, 1904 and 1903, 4,493 fresh applications for work were registered during October, 1904. During October these Bureaux found work for 1,635 persons, of whom 1,452 were engaged by private employers. The number of persons remaining on the registers at the end of the month was 3,885, as compared with 3,697 a year ago.

Returns were also received from three other Bureaux. At the fourteen Bureaux included in the Table below 5,064 fresh applications for work were registered, and work was found for 1,733 persons. The work procured for 422 of these persons was stated to be of a more or less permanent character, while, in the case of 1,311, temporary employment only was found. Of the 1,733 persons, 1,541 were engaged by private employers, 29 by Local Authorities, and 163 by the Salvation Army. At the end of October, the total number of persons on the registers was 5,028, viz., 4,351 men and boys, and 677 women and girls.

A Labour Bureau was opened at Hampstead on 10th October, and a return received (relating to the period, October 10th to 31st) shows that 230 applicants were registered; that work was found for 10 persons; and that the number of workpeople on the register at the end of the month was 220.

(I.) Work done in October.

Name of Labour Bureau.	No. of Fresh Applications by Workpeople during		No. of Situations offered by Employers during		No. of Workpeople found by Bureau during	
	Oct., 1904.	Oct., 1903.	Oct., 1904.	Oct., 1903.	Oct., 1904.	Oct., 1903.
	London.					
Battersea (Lavender Hill, S.W.)	230	172	23	35	23	35
Salvation Army (Whitechapel Rd. E.)	1,936	959	967	358*	1,114	521
St. Pancras (Crownale Rd., N.W.)	450	222	104	29	86	34
Southwark (Borough Road, S.E.)	29	157	2	9	2	6
Hammersmith (St. Church Lane, W)	41	37	7	11	7	8
Finsbury (Rosebery Avenue, E.C.)	383	201	131	77	113	74
Westminster (Caxton Hall, Caxton Street, S.W.)	149	137	87	102	56	67
Provincial.						
Ipswich (Fore Street)	48	69	25	35	16	22
Plymouth (Basket Street)	150	205	70	118	66	110
Liverpool (Dale Street)	215	214	...	2	...	2
Glasgow (158, George Street)	853	559	544	597	152	193
Total of 11 Bureaux	4,493	2,932	1,960	1,373	1,635	1,072
London.						
Kensington (Lancaster Road, W.)†	259	...	15	...	35	...
Fulham (Munster Road)‡	223	...	14	...	33	...
Provincial.						
Wigan (Library Street)†	89	...	30	...	30§	...
Total of 14 Bureaux	5,064	...	2,019	...	1,733	...

(II.) Employment found for Workpeople during October, 1904.

Capacity in which employed.	No. permanently engaged.	No. temporarily engaged.	Total.
Engaged by Private Employers.			
Men:—			
Building Trades	33	19	52
Carmen, Stablemen, Horsemen, &c.	20	8	28
Porters and Messengers	39	32	71
Bill Distributors	...	940	940
General Labourers	15	...	15
Other Occupations	62	18	80
Lads and Boys	93	21	114
Women and Girls:—	70	10	80
Domestic Servants	9	69	78
Charwomen, daily work, &c.	...	...	...
Other Occupations	69	5	74
Total engaged by Private Employers	410	1,131	1,541
Engaged by Local Authorities.			
Men, Lads, and Boys	12	17	29
Women and Girls	...	...	...
Engaged by Salvation Army.			
Men	...	163	163
Women and Girls	...	...	...
Grand Total of Bureaux	422	1,311	1,733

* Revised figure.

† Bureau not in operation in October, 1903.

‡ Figures not available for October, 1903.

§ This total includes 20 men sent to Canada by the Mayor's Relief Fund.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN OCTOBER.

DURING October 895 fresh applications for work were registered by seven Bureaux furnishing returns, and 704 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 217 persons, of whom 126 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 217 situations found for applicants, 171 were of a more or less permanent character, while 46 were temporary only.

Compared with the previous month the number of fresh applications for domestic servants rose from 443 to 512, and the number of servants applying rose from 457 to 536; the number permanently engaged rose from 80 to 107. The demand for dressmakers, milliners, etc., rose from 46 to 72, and the number requiring such situations fell from 121 to 84; the number engaged through the Bureaux was 40, compared with 27 in September.

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

WORK DONE IN OCTOBER.

	No. of Fresh Situations offered by Employers.	No. of Fresh Applications of Workpeople seeking Situations.	No. of Workpeople engaged by Employers.	
			Permanently.	Temporarily.
Summary by Bureau.				
Central Bureau— 9, Southampton-street, W.C. ...	64	107	20	1
Society for Promoting Training and Employment— 22, Berners-street, W. ...	29	42	11	19
Y.W.C.A.— 26, George-street (1) ...	463	545	87	13
Hanover-square, W. (2) ...	95	123	33	11
Other Bureaux (Liverpool, Manchester and Edinburgh) ...	53	78	20	2
Total of 7 Bureaux	704	895	171	46
Summary by Occupations.				
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc. ...	11	43	1	—
Shop Assistants ...	4	17	—	—
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc. ...	72	84	30	10
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists ...	23	66	4	15
Apprentices and Learners ...	36	13	13	2
Domestic Servants ...	512	536	107	19
Miscellaneous ...	46	137	16	—
Total Number in October, 1904 ...	704	895	171	46
Total Number in September, 1904 ...	684	915	143	40
Total Number in October, 1903 ...	801	911	168	84
Watford Bureau* ...				
Irish Central Bureau, Dublin† ...	17	32	4	2

INDUSTRIAL CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

THE passing into law in Western Australia of an Act "to facilitate the settlement of Industrial Disputes by Conciliation and Arbitration" dates from December, 1900. This statute was in February, 1902, replaced by the present Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act (see GAZETTE for July, 1902, p. 183). The third annual return under this Act shows that at the end of 1903 there were registered 127 Industrial Unions of Workers, compared with 78 at the end of 1902 and 54 in 1901. The number of Industrial Unions of Employers remaining on the register at the end of 1903 was 17, compared with 15 and 7 in 1902 and 1901 respectively. The total number of members belonging to industrial unions at the end of 1903 was 15,515. Of this number 221 were members of employers' unions and 278 were female workers. It is estimated that 76 per cent. of the male workers within the State do not belong to any industrial union.

During 1903, 86 cases of dispute were determined, 75 by the Court of Arbitration, and 11 by the District Boards of Conciliation. Twelve cases were pending before the Court at the end of the year.

* Opened July 1st 1904.

† In operation since November, 1903.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING OCTOBER.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Mines and Quarries, 1903. Part II.—Labour. General Report and Statistics relating to Persons Employed and Accidents at Mines and Quarries in the United Kingdom, and to the enforcement of the Mines and Quarries Acts. [Cd. 2280: pp. 80: price 10d.]

Report of the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis for 1903. Gives numbers, length of service, &c., of members of the Metropolitan Police Force. [Cd. 2272: pp. 86: price 8½d.]

Reformatory and Industrial Schools of Great Britain. Forty-seventh Annual Report, 1903. Part II. General Report and Appendices. [Cd. 2274: pp. 206: price 10d.]

Pauperism (England and Wales). Half-yearly Statement for 1st July, 1904. [H.C. 84-1: pp. xi. + 41: price 6d.]

Taxes and Imposts. Returns showing Rates of Duties, Taxes or Imposts collected by Imperial Officers, &c. [H.C. 317: pp. 26: price 3d.]

Fortieth Detailed Annual Report of the Registrar General, Ireland. Containing a general abstract of Marriages, Births, and Deaths in Ireland in year 1903. [Cd. 2222: pp. iv. + 199: price 2s. 5d.]

Congested Districts Board for Ireland. Thirteenth Annual Report, 1903-04. Statistics of Agricultural Banks or Credit Societies in Congested Districts; fishery statistics, men and boats employed, amount of loans, &c. [Cd. 2275: pp. 128: price 6½d.]

Irish Land Commission. Return of Proceedings under the Land Law, Labourers' and Land Purchase Acts, March-June, 1904. [Cd. 2276: pp. 46: price 5d.]

(All the above-mentioned Reports may be obtained direct from Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode, East Harding-street, Fleet-street, E.C., or ordered through any bookseller.)

BRITISH COLONIES.

Western Australia.

Second and Third Annual Return and Report of Proceedings under the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1902, by the Registrar of Friendly Societies. To 30th June and 31st December, 1903. Number of Industrial Unions registered under the Act, and their membership; summarisation of cases; cost of administration of the act, &c. [Perth (W.A.): W. A. Watson, Government Printer: pp. (2nd) 19, (3rd) 30.]

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

United States.

Thirty-fourth Annual Report of the Bureau of Statistics of Labour of Massachusetts, March, 1904. Part I.—Race in Industry; Part II.—Free Employment Offices in the United States and Foreign Countries; Part III.—Social and Industrial Condition of the Negro in Massachusetts; Part IV.—Statistics of Strikes, Wages, Trade Unions, &c. [Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Co., State Printers: pp. xix. + 436.]

The Annual Statistics of Manufactures of Massachusetts, 1903. Eighteenth Report. Number of industrial establishments, persons employed, wages paid, &c. [Boston: Wright & Potter, Printing Co., State Printers: pp. iv. + 77.]

New York.

New York State Department of Labour. Report on the Growth of Industry in New York, 1904. [Albany: The Argus Company, Printers: pp. viii. + 670, with charts.]

Germany.

Statistical Year Book of Wurttemberg for 1902 and 1903.—Königliches Statistisches Landesamt. Contains figures as to labour registries, strikes and lock-outs, workmen's insurance, prices and wages. [Stuttgart: Verlag von W. Kohlhammer: 1904: pp. x. + 243.]

Report on Accidents in Agriculture and Forestry in 1901, Part I. Reichsversicherungsamt. [Berlin: Verlag von A. Asher & Co., 1904: pp. 63 + 103.]

Austria.

Report on Strikes and Lock-outs in Austria in 1902. K. K. Arbeitsstatistisches Amt im Handelsministerium. [Vienna: A. Hölder, 1. Rothenthurmstrasse, 13: pp. 173 + 272: price 2s.]

Italy.

Italian Statistical Abstract for 1904. Ministero di Agricoltura, Industria e Commercio, Direzione General della Statistica. Contains statistics of poor relief, wages, disputes, prices, &c. [Rome: Tipografia Nazionale di G. Bertero & Co.: Via Umbria, 1904: pp. xiv. + 688: price 4s.]

Belgium.

Statistical Yearbook of Belgium, 1903. Contains statistics of population, wages, prices, savings banks, miners' relief funds, poor law administration, &c. [Brussels: J. B. Stevens, Chaussée de Waterloo, 133, 1904: pp. lxx. + 439.]

Holland.

Statistics of Loan and Savings Banks in Holland in 1902. [The Hague: Gebr. Belinfante, 1904: pp. 30 + 357.]

Switzerland.

Vol. I. of Report of Census of Switzerland, taken on December 1st, 1900. Bureau de Statistique du Département fédéral de l'Intérieur. [Berne: A. Francke, 1904: pp. xlviii. + 370 and charts: price 8s.]

Norway.

Report of Norwegian Factory Inspectors for 1903. Departementet for undernrigske Sager, Sjøfart, Handel og Industri. [Kristiania: W. C. Fabritius & Sønner, 1904: pp. 159.]

Roumania.

Vols. I. & II. of Report of First Roumanian Industrial Inquiry, taken in 1901 and 1902. Ministerul Agriculturii, Comerciului, Industriei si Domeniilor, Serviciul Statisticii Generale. [Bucarest: Inst. de Arte Grafice "Carol Göbi," 16, Strada Domnei: pp. (Vol. I.) xl. + 119 + 174: (Vol. II.) xi. + 995: price 8s. per volume.]

NOTE.—In addition to the above-mentioned publications, copies have been received of the official journals issued by the Labour Departments of Canada, New Zealand, State of New York, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Norway, Sweden, and Spain.

INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN OCTOBER.

Based on information supplied to the Department by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.)

(1) REGISTERED.

THE total number of Industrial Unions and Societies registered in October was as follows: Under the Trade Union Acts, 1; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 16; under the Friendly Societies Acts, 70 (including 37 branches of existing societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 3; in all, 90.

Among the new Societies registered in October are the following:—

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—None. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—1, viz., Kilkenny Brewery Labourers' Trade Union, Trades Hall, Kilkenny.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—England and Wales.—10, viz., Co-operative Society mainly for Distribution.—1, viz., Llangennech Co-op. Soc. (Ltd.), Castle Stores, Bridge Street, Llangennech, Carmarthen. Co-operative Agricultural Societies.—2, viz., Chailey and Dist. Farmers' Co-op Soc. (Ltd.), The Store, Chailey; Claro Dairy Soc. (Ltd.), The Dairy, Arkendale, Leeds. Miscellaneous Societies.—Working Men's Clubs, 3; others, 4. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—Co-operative Agricultural Societies.—6, viz., Belturbet Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., (Ltd.), Belturbet, Co. Cavan; Carrickallen Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., (Ltd.), Mountain Lodge, Cootehill, Co. Cavan; Riverview Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., (Ltd.), Riverview, Butlersbridge, Co. Cavan; Redhills Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., (Ltd.), Mulnanamagh, Redhills, Co. Cavan; Moyne Hall Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., (Ltd.), Moyne Hall, Co. Cavan; Kill Co op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., (Ltd.), Tullyvin, Co. Cavan.

Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—25, viz., Regent No 12, £30 Money Club, Rochdale; Villa Permanent Money Soc., Birmingham; Dudley and Dist. Co-op. Permanent Money Soc., Dudley; Rood End Permanent Money Soc. Oldbury; Crewe Anglers' Club and Inst., Crewe; Crewe Working Men's Club and Inst., Crewe; Denton Working Men's Social Inst., Manchester; Great Harwood Unity Working Men's Club, Great Harwood; Abersychan Dist. Working Men's Inst., Abersychan; Wilby Working Men's Club and Inst., Wellingboro; Chadsmoor Central Working Men's Club and Inst., Stafford; Altofts Working Men's Recreation Club and Inst., Normanton; Princeville Working Men's Club and Inst., Bradford; George Street Working Men's Club and Inst., Wombwell; Stairfoot and Ardsley Constitutional Club, Barnsley; Dau-y-Graig Social Working Men's Club and Inst., Treharris, Glamorgan; National Amal. Soc. of Operative House and Ship Painters and Decorators, Liverpool No. 2 Branch, Sick and Burial Tontine Soc., Liverpool; Industrial Mechanics Friendly Soc., Longridge, Lancs.; Leeds and Liverpool Tontine Friendly Soc., Ormskirk; Chowbent Unitarian Sunday School Sick and Burial Soc., Manchester; Leicester Independent Yearly Dividing Friendly Soc., Leicester; Holeburn Spartans Provident Soc., Gray's Inn Road, E.C.; Clock Sick and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; Shareholders' Friendly Sick and Dividend Soc., Birmingham; Carnarvon Friendly Tontine Soc., Carnarvon. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—8, viz., Mastergeeha Credit Soc., Waterville, co. Kerry; Glenflesh Credit Soc., Killarney, co. Kerry; Caberdanill Credit Soc., co. Kerry; Lohar Credit Soc., co. Kerry; Inny Valley Credit Soc., Spunkane, co. Kerry; Kilmuckridge Credit Soc., co. Wexford; Dungeel Credit Soc., Killorglin, co. Kerry; Kilmanon Credit Soc., co. Wexford.

(2) DISSOLVED.

The total number of Industrial Unions and Societies reported as having commenced to "wind up," or as having had registration cancelled in October, was as follows:—Under the Trade Union Acts, 7; under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 14; under the Friendly Societies Acts, 42 (including 24 branches of Societies); under the Building Societies Acts, 4; in all 67.

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

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