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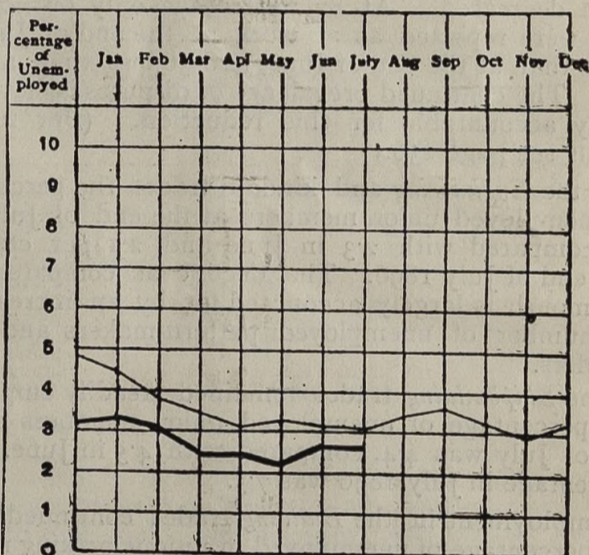
## STATE OF EMPLOYMENT IN JULY.\*

DURING the past month the state of employment on the whole remained stationary, and is still better than a year ago. It may be observed that the numbers of unemployed given below do not include the workmen affected by disputes such as that now in progress in the engineering trade.

In the 113 trade unions making returns, with an aggregate membership of 465,561, 12,371 (or 2·7 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of July, the same percentage as at the end of June, compared with 3·1 per cent. in the 109 unions, with a membership of 427,441, from which returns were received for July 1896.

The following chart enables a comparison to be made with last year:—

Chart showing the percentage of unemployed members of the trade unions making returns at the close of each month of 1896 and of each completed month of 1897.



The table below classifies the total membership of the 113 unions making returns according to the percentage proportion of their members that each union had unemployed at the end of the undermentioned periods:—

Percentage of members unemployed.	At end of July 1897.		Corresponding Percentages for		
	Number of Unions making Returns.	Total Membership of such Unions.		A Month ago.	A Year ago.
		Number.	Percentage.		
Under 1 per cent. ...	24	140,605	30·2	35·2	8·8
1 and under 2 per cent. ...	27	132,391	28·4	26·1	51·4
2 " 3 " ...	17	44,468	9·6	3·7	11·5
3 " 5 " ...	17	46,889	10·1	15·4	7·8
5 " 7 " ...	15	77,351	16·6	14·6	8·1
7 " 10 " ...	5	16,782	3·6	3·1	11·7
10 per cent. and upwards	8	7,075	1·5	1·9	1·0
Total ... ..	113	465,561	100·0	100·0	100·0

\* The reports on the State of Employment refer strictly to the month of July, and do not cover any changes which may have occurred between July 31st and August 15th. This remark also applies to the reports on pp. 239-246.



**Employment in Various Industries.—Coal Mining.**—Employment during July was generally better than a year ago. Pits employing 410,977 persons worked on an average 4.95 days per week in July, as compared with 4.83 days in July 1896. Unemployed miners in trade unions in Northumberland and Durham amounted to 0.6 per cent. of the membership at the end of July, being the same percentage as at the end of June. The percentage at the end of July 1896 was 1.4. (For further details see p. 235.)

**Iron Mining.**—Employment continued good, and was slightly better on the whole than a year ago. Mines employing 16,518 workpeople worked on an average 5.78 days per week in July, as against 5.71 days in July 1896. (For further details see p. 236.)

In the **Pig Iron Industry** employment though not quite so good as at the end of June was slightly better than a year ago. At the works of 111 ironmasters 347 furnaces were in blast at the end of July, the number of persons employed being 22,369, compared with 350 furnaces and 22,414 persons at the end of June, and 346 furnaces and 22,013 persons at the end of July 1896. (For further details see page 236.)

Employment at **Steelworks** improved during the month, and at the end was better than a year ago. At 138 works 39,459 persons were employed at the end of July, or 1,334 more than at the end of June, and 2,614 more than at the end of July 1896. (For further details see page 236.)

At **Puddling Furnaces and Rolling Mills** employment also improved during July, and was better at the end of the month than at the end of June and at the end of July 1896. At 94 works 19,240 persons were employed at the end of July, being 1,097 more than at the end of the previous month, and 766 more than a year ago. (For further details see page 236.)

In the **Timplate** trade the number of mills at work again decreased. At 87 works 272 only out of 479 mills were reported as at work at the end of July, or 6 less than at the end of June, and 36 less than a year ago. The continued prevalence of disputes is, however, partly accountable for this reduction. (For further details see page 236.)

In the **Engineering** and kindred trades the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of July was 2.7 compared with 2.3 in June and 2.1 per cent. at the end of July 1896. The decline as compared with last month is largely accounted for by an increase in the number of unemployed pattern-makers and iron-funders.

The **Shipbuilding** trades remained steadily employed, the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of July was 4.4, compared with 4.5 in June. The percentage in July 1896 was 7.5.

Employment in the **Building** trades continued brisk, the percentage of unemployed in unions making returns was 1.3 compared with 1.5 in May. The percentage for July 1896 was 1.8.

The **Furnishing** trades though still well employed were scarcely so busy. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of July was 1.9, compared with 1.5 in June, and 2.0 per cent. in July of last year.

Employment in the **Printing** and **Bookbinding** trades, especially in the former, was active for the season. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of July, was 3.1, compared with 4.4 in June. The percentage for July 1896, was 4.2.

In the **Paper** trade employment fell off considerably, owing to seasonal causes. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of July was 6.0, compared with 2.7 in June. The percentage for July 1896 was 5.1.

Employment in the **Glass** trade remained almost stationary, the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of July being 11.6 as compared with 11.4 in June and 11.8 at the end of July 1896.

Employment in the **Leather** trades continued to fall off. The percentage of unemployed union members at

the end of July was 3.5 compared with 3.0 in June and 4.9 per cent. at the end of July last year.

Employment in the ready-made **Boot and Shoe** trade declined, and was slack in every important centre. In the bespoke branch it was fair.

Employment in the ready-made **Tailoring** trade was only moderate during the month, but improved in certain towns towards the close; in the bespoke branch it declined.

In the **Cotton** trade employment showed little change, being moderate in the **Spinning** branch and slack in the **Weaving** branch.

Employment in the **Woollen** trade continued dull except at Huddersfield, from which town the reports were rather more favourable. In the **Worsted** trade it showed no improvement. In the **Hosiery** trade employment was fair in Leicester, quiet in Nottingham.

As regards the employment of **Women** in the **Textile** trades, information respecting 476 mills, employing 73,500 women and girls, shows that 67 per cent. were in mills giving full employment during the month, compared with 71 per cent. among those for whom returns were received for June and 88 per cent. for July 1896. (For further details, see page 239.)

**Dock and Riverside Labour.**—In London employment on the whole was better in July than a year ago and about the same as in June. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves was 15,135 in July, 15,049 in June and 14,247 in July 1896. (For further details, see p. 238.)

**Agricultural** employment during the month of July was very satisfactory, as there was plenty of work to do and exceptionally fine weather. Labourers have been very busy hay-making and weeding and thinning root crops. During the latter part of the month, in the Southern and South-Western Counties and some of the Home Counties, they have been busy with the corn harvest. A number of reports state that extra labour has been difficult to obtain.

**Trade Disputes.**—Sixty-five fresh disputes occurred in July 1897, involving 46,539 workpeople, as compared with 66 involving 15,871 workpeople in June, and 85 involving about 19,000 workpeople in July 1896. Sixteen disputes took place in the building trades, 12 in mining and quarrying, 9 in engineering and shipbuilding, 4 in the other metal trades, 4 in the textile trades, 3 in the clothing trades, 4 in connection with transport, and 13 in other industries. Of the 79 new and old disputes involving 12,380 workpeople, of which the settlement is reported, 35 involving 2,429 workpeople were successful from the workpeople's point of view; 19 involving 4,829 workpeople partially successful; and 25 involving 5,122 workpeople unsuccessful.

**Changes in Wages.**—Changes in wages affecting about 32,200 workpeople were reported during July, of which number 31,500 received increases and 700 sustained decreases. The net result was an average advance estimated at 1s. per head on the weekly wages of those affected. The increases included 20,600 iron workers in the Midlands and South Lancashire and South Yorkshire. Changes affecting about 3,100 workpeople were preceded by strikes, and changes affecting 20,000 workpeople took place under sliding scales. The remainder, involving about 9,100 workpeople, were arranged by negotiation or otherwise.

**Pauperism.**—In the 35 selected urban districts 315,241 persons were relieved on one day in the second week of July. These figures correspond to a rate of 201 per 10,000 of the population of those districts, or 3 less per 10,000 than in July 1896. (For further details, see page 251.)

**Emigration.**—The number of British and Irish passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during July was 13,205, as compared with 13,564 in July 1896. (For further details, see page 255.)

## THE DISPUTE IN THE ENGINEERING TRADE.

IN the last issue of the GAZETTE (page 195) the narrative of events in connection with the eight hours' movement in the engineering trade was continued and brought up to July 14th. At that time about 160 firms in the London district, employing from 10,000 to 11,000 workmen of the classes concerned, had conceded the eight hours' day asked for by the joint committee of the men's trade unions. In the case of five selected shops which had refused the concession, the men came out on strike under the sanction of the joint committee. Lock-out notices had thereupon been given by those employers who were, in different parts of the kingdom, connected with the Employers' Federation of Engineering Associations, to 25 per cent. of the members of the trade unions concerned in the movement, in their employ. The trade unions had, in consequence, arranged for the withdrawal of the remaining 75 per cent. of their members, simultaneously with the expiry of lock-out notices which began to take effect from the 13th July.

It soon became apparent that all the chief centres of the trade would be more or less affected by the dispute, for on July 17th the Employers' Federation published a preliminary list of those who had agreed to lock out the union men in their employ. This list showed a total of close upon 250 firms.

On July 27th it was known that cycle building, general engineering and machine building firms (to the number of 21) in Nottingham had also issued notices of lock-out to 25 per cent. of their union workmen, and this lock-out was accompanied by the withdrawal of the remaining 75 per cent. by the unions involved. Since then some further adhesions to the policy of the Federation have been announced, of which the most important are Sheffield, Oldham, Keighley, and Ipswich, where the principal employers have decided to shortly lock out 25 per cent. of the union men in their works. The only important abstentions from the lock-out movement of firms formerly acting with the Federation have been one large firm on the Clyde and one at Belfast.

In some districts a considerable number of non-society men decided to come out with the society men. During the latter part of July and the early part of August statements of their case were from time to time issued by the disputants, and meetings were held in different centres, but from none of these did any proposal emanate which seemed likely to lead to any steps being taken to bring about an early settlement of the dispute.

In London the list of firms conceding the eight hours' day was gradually increased, and the joint committee now states that in all there are 196 firms in the London district working under the eight hours system. It is not claimed, however, that the more recent concessions cover a very large number of workmen, the total now working under the eight hours arrangement being stated at an aggregate of about 12,000 to 14,000 of the classes of workmen concerned, including 3,500 who were employed on the eight hours' system before the beginning of the present dispute.

As to numbers affected by the dispute, it is not yet possible to speak with certainty, but the following figures may be taken as a near approximation to the actual figures up to the 12th of August: Members of trade unions, 22,000; non-society men, 5,000. This is a total in round numbers of about 27,000 actually on strike or locked out. In addition, the number of unskilled labourers affected will probably be about 5,000; while among ironfounders, pattern-makers, boiler-makers, and other sections not directly implicated, the number of unemployed members is being gradually increased by reason of the dispute.

Up to the present the dispute has been confined to the original parties concerned, but it may be noted that on July 23rd a meeting of the executive of the Federation of Engineering\* and Ship-

building Trades of the United Kingdom was held at Newcastle-on-Tyne, and a resolution was carried to the following effect: "That we respectfully approach the Employers' Federation in the Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades, requesting a conference between them and this executive, to consider the advisability of reducing the working hours, the conference to be held at an early date."

The employers' federation replied to this proposal on the 5th August, stating that while they were at all times ready to meet representatives of their workmen, the present was not a time when the subject would be likely to receive the calm and dispassionate consideration its importance demanded. They therefore thought it would be better to postpone the matter for the present, but in the meantime they would be happy to consider any further representations on the subject.

## STATE CONCILIATION IN TRADE DISPUTES.

THE first report† by the Board of Trade of proceedings under the Conciliation (Trade Disputes) Act, 1896, which has just been issued, deals with cases which arose during the period from the passing of the Act (August 7th, 1896) up to the end of June, 1897.

During this period action by the Board of Trade has been taken or invited in 35 cases. In 31 of these disputes applications were received from one or both parties, viz., 9 from employers, 16 from workmen, and 6 from both sides. In addition, action has been taken by the Board of Trade in four cases without formal application from either party. In 26 of these 35 cases there was an actual cessation of work either at the time of action or during the course of the negotiations.

The following table distributes the 35 cases according to groups of trades, and summarises the modes in which the disputes in each group were dealt with, and the results obtained.

GROUPS OF TRADES.	Total disputes dealt with.	Application refused.	Disputes settled under Conciliation Act.		Disputes settled between parties during negotiations.	Disputes in which settlement was not effected.	Cases pending.
			By conciliation.	By arbitration.			
Building and kindred Trades	7	1	2	1	—	2	1
Engineering, Metal, and Shipbuilding	12	3	4	3	2	—	—
Mining and Quarrying	4	—	1	1	1	1	—
Clothing	4	—	3	—	—	1	—
Textile	3	1	2	—	—	—	—
Printing	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Transport	4	1	2	—	1	—	—
Total	35	7	14	5	4	4	1

It will be seen that seven of the applications were refused, that 19§ disputes were settled under the Act, and that four of the disputes were settled between the parties during the negotiations, while in four cases the efforts of the Department to promote a settlement were unsuccessful. One case is still pending.

(1) *Disputes Settled under the Act.*—Of the 19 disputes settled, 12 were arranged by negotiations with the parties by the Board of Trade, as prescribed in § 2 (1) (b) of the Act. In the case of seven of these disputes joint conferences were held, a Board of Trade representative being present in six of the cases. In the remaining five disputes the agreement was arrived at without a joint conference by negotiations by the Board of Trade officer with the parties separately. In two cases, gentlemen unconnected with the Board of Trade acted at their request as chairmen of conferences. Conferences were also arranged by the Board of Trade, and held in the case of four disputes in which no settlement has at present been effected under the Act.

\* It is important to observe, however, that the principal union concerned in the dispute—the Amalgamated Engineers—is not represented in this Federation, which consists of the Boilermakers' and 15 other trade unions.

† First Report by the Board of Trade of Proceedings under the Conciliation (Trade Disputes) Act, 1896. (C 8,533. Price 3d.)

§ Including one application from middlemen.

§ Including one case in which the award of the arbitrator appointed has not yet been given.



In two cases the Board has appointed conciliators under § 2 (1) (c) of the Act, viz., Sir Horatio Lloyd, County Court Judge for Chester and North Wales who acted in the case of the Wynnstay Colliery dispute (see the GAZETTE for July 1897, p. 198), and Mr. W. E. Willink in the case of a dispute affecting carpenters at Prescott (see the GAZETTE for June and July 1897, pp. 166 and 198).

Five cases have been dealt with by arbitration. In four cases the arbitration was the result of joint application by the parties. Sir William Markby, K.C.I.E., was appointed to act in two cases, and Sir David Dale and Mr. Thomas Bell (formerly one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Mines) in one case each. The remaining case arose out of an agreement effected under the Act by conciliation, Sir Courtenay Boyle being named as umpire in this agreement. Captain Wilson, Chief Board of Trade Officer in the Port of London, has been also nominated as an umpire for any cases that may arise out of one of the agreements effected under the Act.

The informal collection of information has in many cases preceded any steps for the actual settlement of disputes, though no occasions have yet arisen in which, in the judgment of the Board of Trade, a formal inquiry and report would have served to promote a settlement.

(2) *Disputes Settled between the Parties during the Negotiations.*—In three of these cases the action of the Board of Trade did not go beyond the initial stage of communication with the parties. In the remaining case invitations to a conference were accepted by both parties, but before the holding of the conference an amicable settlement was mutually arrived at.

(3) *Disputes in which no Settlement could be effected.*—In one of these cases, a demarcation dispute between bricklayers and plasterers at Newcastle, the dispute was afterwards settled by private mediation. In the three remaining cases, viz., the Penrhyn Quarry dispute, a dispute in the Norwich boot and shoe trade, and a strike of painters at Middlesbrough, the disputes have not yet been settled.

(4) *Applications Refused.*—Seven applications for intervention have been declined, mainly on the general ground that no useful purpose would be served by any action on the part of the Department. These applications have been received on behalf of strikers after their places had been filled, or on behalf of employers after most of their workmen had obtained work elsewhere. In these and similar cases the discretion of the Department is freely exercised with regard to intervention.

Under § 1 of the Act, 15 Conciliation Boards have been registered, viz., 8 District Boards, 6 Trade Boards, and one General Board.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1897.

The Act to amend the law with respect to compensation to workmen for accidental injuries suffered in the course of their employment received the Royal Assent on 6th August, and can now be obtained from Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswoode, East Harding-street, Fleet-street, E.C., or through any bookseller. (Price 2d.) The Act will come into operation on 1st July 1898.

FAIR WAGES RESOLUTION.

The Select Committee appointed to consider the working of the Fair Wages Resolution of February 1891, and its administration by the various Government Departments, has presented its report (P.P. 334, Eyre & Spottiswoode, price 3d.). The Committee recommend that a common form of tender and of contract should be used by all the Government Departments, and that a list of the Government contractors, together with the nature of their contracts, should be from time to time laid before Parliament and published. The application of the resolution in the shipbuilding industry and in relation to the employment of men who have served in the Army and Navy is especially dealt with by the Committee in their report.

LABOUR DISPUTES, CONCILIATION & ARBITRATION IN FRANCE IN 1896.\*

(1) *Labour Disputes.*—The report of the French Labour Department for 1896 on labour disputes, and the working of the Conciliation and Arbitration Law of 1892, shows the number of disputes which took place in France in 1896 to have been 476 (compared with 405 in the preceding year), the number of workpeople directly involved in these disputes being 49,851 (compared with 45,801), and the total number of days lost by all the workpeople directly or indirectly affected, 644,168 (compared with 618,895). The figures just given for 1896 include particulars of four lock-outs. Particulars of two lock-outs which occurred in 1895 are not, however, included in the figures for that year.

The extent to which the principal groups of trades were affected by disputes in the two years is shown in the following statement, for which the figures for 1895 are taken from the report for that year:—

GROUPS OF TRADES.	Disputes.		Workpeople directly involved.		Days lost by all workpeople affected.	
	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.
Building Trades ... ..	No. 69	No. 47	No. 8,288	No. 4,586	No. 69,053	No. 61,870
Textile " ... ..	148	210	14,286	17,333	194,455	135,154
Metal " ... ..	49	70	3,623	5,728	41,118	153,921
Mining and Quarrying ...	22	23	4,375	8,730	60,916	115,197
Glass, Pottery, Brick and Tile Making, &c. ... ..	14	20	2,555	2,975	135,483	109,882
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing ... ..	4	12	61	5,571	53	32,735
Miscellaneous Trades ...	99	94	12,113	4,928	116,391	35,409
Total ... ..	405	476	45,801	49,851	617,469†	644,168

It will be seen that the increase in the number of disputes in 1896 is chiefly due to their greater frequency in the textile group of trades, though fewer days were lost in that group in 1896 than in 1895. The trades contributing most to the increase in the number of days lost were those included in the metal and mining groups.

As in previous years, most of the disputes had reference to wages, viz.—303 disputes involving 34,204 workpeople, and entailing the loss of 498,515 days.

The following table shows the extent to which workpeople engaged in disputes in the five years ending with 1896 were successful or otherwise (the figures for 1892 to 1895 are taken from the reports for those years):—

Years.	Percentage Proportion of Workpeople engaged in Disputes of which the results for the Workpeople were—			
	Successful.	Partially Successful.	Unsuccessful.	Not known.
1892 ... ..	20.4	49.7	29.6	0.3
1893 ... ..	21.3	26.3	52.4	—
1894 ... ..	23.6	45.4	31.0	—
1895 ... ..	18.6	45.5	35.9	—
1896 ... ..	23.2	34.2	42.6	—

(2) *Conciliation and Arbitration.*—Some of the leading facts connected with the working of the Conciliation and Arbitration Law of December 27th 1892, during the first four years of its operation, are contained in the following table:—

	1893	1894	1895	1896
	Total number of Labour Disputes ... ..	634	391	405
Disputes in which law was put into operation:—				
By initiative of Employers ... ..	5	4	2	4
" Workpeople ... ..	56	51	46	57
" Both Sides ... ..	2	2	3	4
" <i>Juges de Paix</i> ... ..	46	44	34	39
Total ... ..	109	101	85	104
Number of Refusals to Conciliate ... ..	42	29	31	44
" Arbitrate ... ..	15	16	17	19
Total Refusals ... ..	57	45	48	63
Number of Disputes settled through operation of law ... ..	51	53	36	37

\* Statistique des Grèves et des Recours à la Conciliation et à l'Arbitrage Survenus pendant l'Année 1896. (Office du Travail.) On sale at establishment of M.M. Berger-Levrault et Cie, Paris.  
† Excludes days lost through two disputes, which had not terminated when the report for 1895 was published.

The refusals to conciliate or arbitrate were mainly on the part of the employers, as is shewn by the following figures:—

No. of Refusals to Conciliate or to Arbitrate.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.
By employers ... ..	43	37	36	53
By workpeople ... ..	9	4	2	5
By both sides ... ..	5	4	10	5
Total refusals ... ..	57	45	48	63

In 1896 53 Conciliation Committees were formed, the same number as in 1895; of these 21 settled disputes by conciliation and one by arbitration.

PRICES OF COAL AND IRON.

THE results of the ascertainment of the average selling prices of coal and iron in certain districts, as ascertained at the last audits, are shown in the following table, in which are also included, for purposes of comparison, the results of the previous audits.

It will be seen that an increase is shown in the average selling price of manufactured iron in both districts, and in the Midlands the rise was sufficient to give an increase under the sliding scale agreement in the rate of wages of puddlers and millmen. In South Wales and Monmouthshire the wages of coal miners remain unchanged.

Product and District.	Number of workpeople.	Period over which prices were ascertained at last audit.	Date from which last audit affects wages.	Average ascertained selling price per ton.		
				According to last audit.	According to previous audit.	Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in price per ton.
<b>Coal.</b>						
Northumberland— (Average for all classes of coal at pit's mouth)	30,000	March, April, May	—	s. d. 5 2'69	s. d. 4 11'52	+ 0 3'17
South Wales and Monmouth— (Average for certain classes of coal, f.o.b.)	100,000	May, June	August 1	9 12'*	9 12'*	—
				9	9 32	—
<b>Pig Iron.</b>						
Cumberland ... ..	1,500	Apr., May, June	July 1	47 10'42	49 8'51	+ 1 10'09
<b>Manufactured Iron.</b>						
North of England— (Rails, plates, bars and angles)	6,000	May, June	Aug.	101 3'51	101 1'02	+ 0 2'49
Midlands— (Bars, hoops, sheets, plates, and strips)	20,000	May, June	Aug. 9.	123 '81	122 1'64	+ 1 1'17

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS IN JULY.

(For Detailed Tables, see p. 247.)

THE following table contains a summary of the number of workpeople killed or injured by industrial accidents in July 1897 and 1896 respectively, so far as reported. It will be seen that the number killed was greater by 77 in July 1897 than in July 1896, and the number reported as injured greater by 291. The particulars are given in greater detail in the tables on page 247.

Occupations.	Killed.		Injured.	
	July 1897.	July 1896.	July 1897.	July 1896.
Railway Servants—				
Accidents connected with movement of vehicles ... ..	46	36	311	329
Other accidents ... ..	4	1	919	857
Miners ... ..	68	64	394	458
Quarrymen ... ..	9	4	60	59
Seamen ... ..	130	79	261	233
Factory and Workshop Operatives:—				
(1) Accidents reported to Certifying Surgeons—				
In Factories ... ..	60	56	1,298	1,178
In Workshops ... ..	—	—	—	—
(2) Other Accidents (non-fatal and only reported to Inspectors)—				
In Factories ... ..	—	—	1,880	1,708
In Workshops ... ..	—	—	4	—
Others (so far as reported) ... ..	4	4	112	126
Totals ... ..	321	244	5,239	4,948

\* The exact amount of the ascertained selling price cannot be stated

CHAMBERS OF LABOUR IN HOLLAND.

THE following are some of the principal provisions of a law promulgated on May 2nd 1897, copies and translation of which have been supplied to the Foreign Office by Mr. Henry Howard, H.M. Minister at the Hague, under date of July 6th. By this law, which is to come into operation at a date to be fixed by Royal Decree, provision is made for the appointment of Chambers of Labour in Holland, the objects of these institutions being (a) to collect information on questions affecting labour; (b) to advise the heads of departments of the State and provincial and communal administrations, either at the request of such authorities or upon the initiative of the Chambers, on subjects relating to the interests of labour; (c) to give advice and frame agreements and regulations at the request of the parties interested; and (d) to prevent and adjust disputes in regard to questions affecting labour, and, in cases in which the necessity should arise, to bring about the reference of such disputes to arbitration between the parties. In any case in which the establishment of a Chamber of Labour appears necessary and practicable, it shall be established by Royal Decree, upon a representation made by the Minister of Waterways, Commerce and Industry. The Chamber may have jurisdiction in regard to either one community or several communities jointly, and to either one particular industry or several industries jointly.

The Decree establishing a Chamber will fix the number of its members, of whom one half shall be employers, elected by the employers concerned, and the other half workmen elected by the workmen concerned, and who shall hold office for 5 years, and be eligible for re-election. The elections are to be by ballot. Each Chamber will have two chairmen, who will be, one an employer elected by the employers' section from their own number, and one a workman similarly elected by the workmen's section. The two chairmen act in turn, each for one half of the year. The chairman for the time being and two other members of the Chamber (one elected by and from the employer's section, the other by and from the workmen's section) shall form the executive committee. The Chamber will have a secretary chosen by it from two persons nominated by the executive committee.

With respect to the settlement of industrial disputes, the new law enacts that in any case in which a dispute appears imminent, or has actually broken out in a community possessing a Chamber of Labour on which the trade concerned is represented, the parties or either of the parties to the dispute shall have power to address to the Chamber a written communication specifying the cause of the difference and requesting the intervention of a Council of Conciliation.

In the contingency of no such Chamber existing, the parties to a dispute or either of them have power to address a similar communication to a Chamber of Labour having jurisdiction in regard to the community concerned (notwithstanding that the trade in question be not represented at this Chamber), or, in default of the existence of such a Chamber, to a Chamber possessing jurisdiction in regard to a neighbouring community. It is provided that, in the contingency last named, the power conferred on the parties (both or either) shall be equally possessed by the mayor of the community and the Queen's Commissary of the Province concerned. Upon receiving a communication of the nature above mentioned, the Executive Committee of the Chamber to which it is addressed is to try, if circumstances admit of this being done, to effect a settlement itself, failing which the matter goes before the Chamber, and if the Chamber is of opinion that it is possible for intervention to lead to a settlement of the dispute, it must appoint a Council of Conciliation consisting of a chairman, who may be one of the members of the Chamber, or may be chosen outside it, and of a number



of its members (one half belonging to the employers', the other half to the workmen's section). Except in order to decide a tie vote under certain defined circumstances, the chairman of a Council of Conciliation has no vote; the chairman will endeavour to get the parties to agree that, pending the investigation, no cessation of work, or dismissal of any person involved, shall take place without his being first consulted.

The Council of Conciliation, after investigation and deliberation, is to notify in writing to the parties its conclusions in regard to the matters in dispute, and the appropriate measures to be adopted for their settlement. If there is a difference of opinion, the minority may append a minority report. The Council is at liberty to publish its conclusions, in whole or in part.

When a Chamber of Labour has occasion to put any matter to the vote, the members voting must be an even number, one half from the employers', one half from the workmen's section. Unless one half of each section be present, there is no quorum for business.

## AGRICULTURAL HIRINGS.

### Whitsuntide Half-Yearly Hirings in Cumberland, Lancashire and Westmorland.

THE rates of wages obtained at these hirings were on the whole in an upward direction. Generally speaking, rates of wages for the half-year for the best men, for big youths, and for all female labour increased by 15s. to 20s. per head compared with the corresponding period in 1896, while the wages of second-class men and boys were quite as high as those obtained last year, notwithstanding that the present summer term is 14 days shorter than the corresponding one in 1896. Ulverston is now the principal market, and the wages obtained there rule the rates for a considerable portion of North Lancashire, West Cumberland and South Westmorland.

The rates of wages obtained at Ulverston for the half-year (board and lodging in addition) were for best men £15 to £17. A few got £18, and a few farm-managing men qualified to take charge in absence of master got £20. The rates for second-class men were for the half-year, £12 to £14; for youths, £8 to £10 10s.; for boys, £4 10s. to £7 10s.; for best women, £11 to £12; for second-class women £8 to £10; for girls, £4 to £7.

Taking the hiring fairs of Carlisle, Penrith, Kendal, and Lancaster, the rates of wages generally obtained for the half-year (board and lodging in addition) were as follows:—best men, £13 to £16, and £17 in some cases; second-class men and youths, £8 to £13; boys, £4 10s. or £5, to £7 or £8. Best women, £10 to £12 10s.; second-class women, £8 to £10; girls, £4 to £7.

### Spring and Summer Hirings in Scotland.

Reports have been received of the rates of wages obtained by farm servants at the principal hiring fairs which took place between the months of February and June in the Counties of Aberdeen, Banff, Berwick, Dumfries, Edinburgh, Forfar, Haddington, Inverness, Kirkcudbright, Lanark, Linlithgow, Nairn, Moray, Perth, Peebles, Roxburgh, Stirling, Selkirk, and Wigtown.

Speaking generally, the information from all these counties is to the effect that wages in 1897 are the same as in 1896. Occasionally, when servants were leaving their places they had to submit at the hirings to small reductions, but in other cases capable servants remaining on in their places sometimes got slight advances. In a few districts it is reported that men servants were rather more easily procured this year than has been the case for a few years, and this is attributed to the fact that in such districts the farmers are employing fewer men. Women workers are said to be scarce in most parts of the country.

At the annual spring hiring fairs in the Border Counties, namely, Berwick, Roxburgh, and Peebles, there is said to have been a moderate attendance of all classes of farm servants. Men were rather more easily hired than

in the last year or two owing, it is said, to the farmers employing fewer hands. Ploughmen got, as a rule, from 15s. to 17s. and in some cases 18s. a week, with free house and the usual perquisites, and women workers 8s. to 10s. a week with 20s. to 30s. extra at harvest.

In the Lothians at the yearly fairs in Haddington, Edinburgh, and Linlithgow the rates obtained were very similar to those in the Border Counties, namely, 15s. to 18s. a week for ploughmen with cottages and the usual perquisites. Women workers 8s. to 10s. a week, and from 3s. to 5s. per week extra during potato lifting and grain harvest.

At the half-yearly fairs in the counties of Aberdeen, Banff, Dumfries, Forfar, Inverness, Kirkcudbright, Lanark, Moray, Nairn, Perth, Stirling, and Wigtown there were generally no changes in wages compared with 1896. As a rule first horsemen got from £14 to £17 for the half year, in some cases up to £18 or £19, with the usual perquisites; other horsemen got from £10 to £14 with the usual perquisites. Cattlemen got from £10 to £19 for the half year with perquisites. Youths under 15 years were paid from £3 to £10, usually with board and lodging. Women workers generally got from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. a day, with 20s. to 30s. extra in harvest. Byre-women in the South-West of Scotland got from £7 to £11 per half year and board and lodgings.

## CO-OPERATIVE FARMING IN 1896.

THE following particulars relating to co-operative farming in the United Kingdom in 1895 and 1896 are based upon statistics collected by the Co-operative Union, and presented to the Congress held in Perth last week.

Forty societies\* have made returns showing that 4,869 acres were farmed in 1896; of these 1,532 were in Scotland, and the remainder in England. Of the total, 3,628 acres were farmed by thirty-six associations of consumers, eight of which had purchased the land, the remaining twenty-eight paying rent amounting to a total of £5,231. Twelve hundred and forty-one acres were farmed by four special farming associations, which paid a total rent of £1,983.

Nineteen of the associations of consumers report profits amounting to £2,993 and twelve losses amounting to £3,709, of which £2,280 was lost by one society, the remaining five not stating whether a profit or a loss had been made. Of the four special farming associations, two showed profits amounting to £309 and two losses amounting to £142.

The following table, comparing the results for 1895 and 1896 of the working of those farms, only includes farms for which returns were received for both years:—

TABLE showing for Co-operative Farms of 10 or more acres, from which returns were received for 1895 and 1896, the acreage, capital employed, and profit or loss resulting.

	Number of Societies making Returns.	Acreage.	Capital employed.	Profits + and Losses -
I.—FARMED BY ASSOCIATIONS OF CONSUMERS.				
Societies returning profits ... ..	16	1,900	40,478	+ 2,178
" " " losses ... ..	8	997	21,742	- 3,300
Totals for 1896 ... ..	24†	2,897	62,220	- 1,122
" " " 1895 ... ..				
II.—FARMED BY SPECIAL FARMING ASSOCIATIONS.				
Societies returning profits ... ..	2	776	13,435	+ 309
" " " losses ... ..	2	465	4,643	- 142
Totals for 1896 ... ..	4	1,241	18,078	+ 167
" " " 1895 ... ..				
III.—SUMMARY.				
Totals of all Societies, 1896 ... ..	28	4,138	80,298	- 955
" " " 1895 ... ..				

\* Societies farming less than 10 acres are excluded.

† For 11 other societies in 1895 and 12 in 1896, with a total acreage of 534 and 731 respectively, the returns are incomplete in some respects, and have not been used for the above Table.

## RECENT CONCILIATION & ARBITRATION CASES AND COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.

### North-Eastern Railway Arbitration.—Award.

It will be remembered (see LABOUR GAZETTE, April 1897, p. 99) that after the termination of the strike of employees of the North-Eastern Railway Company, a Conference was held at York on March 12th and adjourned to March 30th. At this Conference proposals were made by the Company for a reference to arbitration of the points in dispute subject to certain conditions. These proposals and conditions were subsequently accepted by the men. Two arbitrators were appointed by the Company and the men respectively, and these selected Lord James of Hereford as Umpire. The award was made by Lord James on August 9th and its provisions are to come into operation on and from August 27th. In the following summary of some of the more important points touched on in the award the hours of labour are given exclusive of meal times.

*Drivers, Firemen and Goods Guards*.—Time worked over 10 hours in one shift is to be paid for at a rate and a quarter, the ordinary rate per hour being one-sixtieth of the standard weekly wage. Sunday labour is to be paid at a rate and a half. Firemen in receipt of 4s. 9d. per day as passed drivers during three years are to receive 5s. a day.

*Cleaners*.—Payment must be made according to a prescribed scale dependent on the age of the cleaner. Persons under 16 years may only be appointed for special causes and must be paid the same rate as cleaners 16 years of age.

*Signalmen*.—Certain twelve hour cabins are to be classed as ten hour cabins, and certain ten hour cabins as eight hour cabins. Sunday duty at all cabins, whatever their classification, is to be paid at the rate of one forty-eighth of the standard week's wage per hour. In cases where signalmen in 12 hour or 10 hour cabins work seven shifts in one week they are to be paid not less than one week's pay for the six week-day shifts, even though the aggregate number of hours worked in these shifts be less than 72 hours or 60 hours respectively. A scale of pay for intermittent Sunday duty is prescribed. Assistant-signalmen and signal-lads are to be paid in accordance with scales given in Schedules 2 and 3 attached to the award.

*Platelayers*.—All in receipt of 17s. a week are to be paid 18s. Special work on Sundays in the case of gangmen and lengthmen is to be paid for at double rate, the rate per hour to be taken as one-fifty-fourth of the standard week's wage.

*Goods Station and Yard Staff*.—(1) *Porters, Loaders and Callers-off, Capstanmen and Checkers*.—At certain specified stations the hours worked are to be 54 per week; at certain other stations 60 per week, and at all other stations 63 per week. Overtime is to be paid at rate and a quarter, and Sunday duty at rate and a half. (2) *Rulley-men, Trace-horse Lads, Rulley Lads, Horse Shunters, Chainhorse Lads, and Loftmen*.—The hours of work are to be 60 per week, there being the same stipulation as to overtime and ordinary Sunday duty as in the other cases.

The standard of wages of the various sections of the goods station and yard staff is dealt with in Schedule 5. Men entitled under the scales of standard wages therein prescribed to higher wages than they are at present receiving in accordance with their years of service in the various grades are to be advanced 1s. per week per annum until they reach the maxima of the new rates.

*Passengers Station and Yard Staff*.—At town stations the hours of labour are to be 63 per week, and at country stations 66 per week. Overtime is to be paid at rate and a quarter, and Sunday duty at rate and a half. Rates of wages for the different grades, according to class of station, are prescribed in Schedule 7.

*Passenger Guards*.—The hours of work are to be 66 per week, overtime to be paid for at rate and a quarter, the rate per hour being taken at one-sixtieth part of the standard weekly wage. Sunday duty is to be paid for at rate and a half.

*Shunters*.—Certain mineral shunting yards are to be added to the eight hour list. Any time worked over the normal weekly hours is to be paid for at rate and a quarter, the rate per hour being taken as one forty-eighth part of the standard weekly wage in 48 hour yards, and as one-sixtieth in 60 and 63 hour yards. Sunday duty is to be paid for at the rate of one forty-eighth part of the standard weekly wage for each hour worked. A classified scale of payment is prescribed in Schedule 9, and shunters not yet in receipt of such standard wage are to be advanced 1s. per week per annum until they reach the maxima of the new scales.

### Arbitration in the Ipswich Building Trades.

A strike of carpenters and joiners at Ipswich commenced on May 17th and affected about 150 men. The principal matter in dispute related to overtime pay, the employers desiring to impose the same conditions on the carpenters as had already been accepted by the bricklayers. By the bricklayers' rules overtime was to be paid for after 11 hours' work, and the carpenters and joiners asked that in their case it should be paid for after 10 hours' work at the rate of time and a quarter for the first two hours, and time and a half afterwards. Other minor points in dispute were mutually agreed upon, but the overtime question remained for some time unsettled.

Finally on July 1st the men agreed to accept the employers' offer to refer this question to arbitration. Each side appointed two arbitrators, the four thus appointed having power to call in an umpire in case of disagreement. Their award was issued on July 14th, and the operative clause is as follows:—

"All work done after the completion of a ten hours' working day on any other day than Saturday, and a six and a-half hours' working day on Saturday shall be considered as overtime. In addition to ordinary wages overtime shall be paid for at the following rates, namely:—For the first and second hours at the rate of 1d. per hour, for the third and fourth hours at the rate of 2d. per hour. All work done on Sunday and Christmas Day shall be paid for at the rate of double time."

### Hull Fish Dock Workers Wages' and Hours' Agreement.

An agreement has been signed by representatives of the Hull Fishing Vessel Owners' Association and the Port of Hull Trawl Fishermen's Protective Society, regulating the hours and wages of fish dock workers. For working fish cargoes the hours are fixed at from 5 a.m. to 4 p.m., and the wages at 5s. 6d. per day and 9d. per hour overtime. Work such as tarring, scraping and cleaning vessels, &c., is to be paid for at the rate of 5s. per day, and 9d. per hour overtime, the hours being fixed at from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. This agreement is the first defining the hours of work, which have previously been of a very indefinite character. It came into operation on July 19th and resulted in an advance of 6d. per day to 180 workpeople.

## METHODS OF RELIEVING THE UNEMPLOYED IN FRANCE.

THE Conseil Supérieur du Travail has issued a report entitled "Rapport sur la question du Chômage," six special reports on various aspects of the question being contributed by the Office du Travail. The following account of methods of relieving the unemployed in France is based on the second, third and fourth of these reports.

(1) *Trade Unions*.—Of 2,178 unions, having a membership of 408,025, in existence on July 1st 1894, 487 provided in their rules for benefits to unemployed members. The Office du Travail addressed inquiries to these, and received 246 replies. Of these 246 unions, 159 did not pay benefits, 15 did not commence the system until 1895, and 6 had not actually paid any benefits in 1894. The remaining 66 unions, with a membership of 14,601, distributed about £3,018 during 1894, or an average of 4s. 2d. per member. The average amount paid per day's unemployment was 1s. 8d.

(2) *Local Relief Works 1890-1894*.—The following particulars apply only to towns with an annual revenue of over £4,000. In 22 Departments no such towns have organised relief works. In the case of 41 towns distributed over 24 Departments the work consisted only of removing snow and ice, or the persons employed were only the aged or infirm. Regular relief works for the able-bodied unemployed have been in existence during the period 1890-1894 in 114 towns with an aggregate population of about 3,400,000 persons. The total expenditure on the works during the five years dealt with was £196,150, or an average of £39,230 per annum.

(3) *Dépôts de Mendicité*.—This class of establishment was introduced in 1808, the principle being that work was



compulsory, the wages being fixed by the préfet, two-thirds of these wages being returned to the establishment and the remaining third being kept in reserve and handed over to each person on leaving. The number of these establishments has varied considerably from time to time and at present amounts to 30, which gave relief in 1892 to 20,741 persons. Work is now said to be organised in 14 only.

(4) *Private Societies for providing work for the unemployed.*—Forty of these societies are in existence in France, 22 in Paris and 18 in the provinces. Of these, 10 in Paris and 13 in the provinces adopt the principles first introduced in a society founded at Marseilles in 1892. The persons or bodies who are members of the society receive books of tickets, each of which gives to the bearer the right to work for a varying number of hours at a rate usually of 2½d. per hour. The societies which have not adopted this procedure are for the most part of a special character, such as the agricultural colony of La Chalmelle\* and the society at Sedan called "La Reconstitution de la Famille," which gives grants of land, tools, &c., to families for a period of a year or more, or they are designed for special classes of persons—as, for example, discharged prisoners. The average number of days' work given to each person assisted by the ordinary type of society is estimated at 19 per year. The work given is usually cutting firewood for men and plain sewing for women. The annual expenditure of 15 societies in Paris amounted to £17,200, and of 10 societies in the provinces to £5,760.

#### CO-OPERATIVE DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES IN ITALY.

A REPORT† on Co-operative Associations for Distribution (including baking societies formed for the benefit of consumers, but not those worked for the profit of the producers), recently issued by the Statistical Department of the Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, mentions 478 "recognised" (registered) societies (including 47 which had suspended, or not yet commenced business) as in existence in Italy at the end of 1895, and 535 "non-recognised" societies as in existence at the close of 1893. Of this total of 1,013 societies, 450 replied, in full or in part, to the questions addressed to them. It is stated that the membership of 283 societies was 95,286, and the value of the goods sold in the year to which the figures relate by 291 societies was £968,177; but the figures relate in most cases to 1892, since when, it is pointed out, a very considerable increase has taken place in the turnover of nearly all the societies.

The report states that the majority of Italian societies sell at cost price (i.e., at a price sufficient to cover the cost of the goods and working expenses, though it is stated that the addition made to actual cost price may be taken to be sufficient to provide also a moderate profit), and this is the practice prevailing among the non-recognised societies; but the societies which sell at current prices (described as the "English system") include all the larger associations.

A large number of societies give credit (limited in most cases to the amount paid-up on the member's shares). With regard to the disposal of the profits, a sum is usually carried to reserve fund (the recognised societies being bound by law to place to reserve one-twentieth of the net profits until this fund equals one-fifth of the share capital); the balance is in most cases divided among the shareholders, but in some instances is distributed as dividend on purchase, non-members, in the rare instances in which the public is allowed to purchase, getting the same dividend as members, or a lower rate.

\* A description of this colony was given in the "Report on Agencies and Methods for Dealing with the Unemployed" [C-7182 of 1893].

† Statistica delle Società Cooperative. Società Cooperative di consumo al 31 Dicembre 1895. Ministero di Agricoltura, Industria e Commercio (Direzione Generale della Statistica). Rome, 1897: Libreria Bocca. Price, 2 lire (about 1s. 7d.).

#### LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.\*

(Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31 Broad-way, Westminster, S.W., from official and other reports newspapers, &c., mostly dated June and July last.)†

**Canada.**—There has been no general demand this summer for more farm hands in Manitoba; during the harvest many extra hands are no doubt wanted, but these are mostly supplied from the Eastern Provinces; the demand for female servants continues. A report from the mining locality of Midway, in the district of Yale, British Columbia, states that miners can nearly always get work at 3 dollars to 3 dollars 50 cents a day without board. A report from Toronto states "there is still a great surplus of men in every trade or calling in Toronto." Almost the only factories in Ontario which were busy in 1896 were those in connection with agricultural implements and bicycles.

The Minister of the Interior of Canada has informed the High Commissioner in London that arrangements have been made with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for giving a number of immigrants employment on the Crow's Nest Railway. This line is to be constructed at once from Lethbridge, in the North-West Territories, through the Kootenay district, in British Columbia—a distance of about 350 miles. It is stipulated that the men must be either farmers, farm labourers, or persons accustomed to agricultural work, who desire to take up free farms in Manitoba or the North-West Territories; Welsh or Scotch are preferred. The object is to give persons of the classes mentioned an opportunity of obtaining employment, by which they may acquire a little capital or to supplement what they may already possess, and also gain some experience of the country. All persons will be required to pay their ocean passages to Montreal, where arrangements will be made for their transportation to the works, the charge for which will be deducted from their wages. The engagements will be with the railway company, and subject to the usual conditions governing employment of the kind. The general wages for unskilled labour are at the rate of 1 dollar 50 cents (6s.) per day, and the cost of board and lodging will not exceed 4 dollars (16s. 5d.) per week. The work will last one year, and possibly longer. Any further information may be obtained from the High Commissioner for Canada, 17 Victoria-street, Westminster, or from any of the Canadian Government Agencies.

**Warning to intending emigrants to the Yukon (Klondike) Goldfields.**—It is too late for anyone to start now to the Yukon Goldfields, and all persons are strongly warned against attempting it. Under the most favourable conditions, and supposing that steamboats, canoes, and food supplies were all ready and available, the journey would take from six to eight weeks, and the traveller would reach the gold diggings just as winter was closing in and mining was to a great extent stopped.

Persons going to the diggings should leave here next April, so as to reach Vancouver or Victoria in time to start for the North as soon as the routes and rivers are open. The journeys, though not exactly dangerous, are difficult and expensive, and no one should think of going there who is not strong and well supplied with money (£160 at the least) for the journey, and for food for 12 months. Nor should anyone go who has not some considerable experience in prospecting and in roughing it in wild and unsettled countries. All others are strongly warned against going there.

**New South Wales and Tasmania.**—There is no demand for more hands in either of these colonies.

**Victoria.**—There is very little demand for labour, and the population declined during the first three months of this year. The carrying on of the Mildura Irrigation Colony is now practically assured, and the Government will bring in a Bill to authorise a guarantee

\* And the South African Republic (Transvaal).

† Handbooks with maps on the different colonies may be obtained from the Emigrants' Information Office at a penny each, post free.

#### LABOUR ABROAD.

##### FRANCE.\*

**Employment in July.**—Employment was better in July than in June, in the mining, leatherworking, (especially leather-dressing), iron and steel, and building and allied trades. The textile, and the boot and shoe trades, continue slack. The clothing (tailoring &c.) trades are in their slack season.

**Coal Mining in June.**—The average number of days per week on which coal was hewn and wound in June was 5.87 as compared with 5.96 in the previous month. In June full time (six days and over) was worked by 68 per cent., and from five to six days by 30 per cent. of the miners, while in the previous month the percentages were 89 and 11 respectively. The pits making these returns employ over three-fourths of the coal miners of France.

**Conciliation and Arbitration in June.**—During June 12 attempts were made to apply the law on Conciliation and Arbitration. In 5 cases (in 4 of which the initiative came from the *juge de paix*) a conciliation committee was for various reasons not formed. In 2 cases a committee was formed but no agreement arrived at. In one of these cases the initiative came from the *juge de paix* and in the other from the workpeople. In one case at the request of the workpeople a joint committee was convened, but work was resumed before a meeting took place.

In a strike of hat makers against a proposed reduction in piece wages, the parties agreed to meet before the *juge de paix*, and an agreement was come to. A strike of fishermen to obtain higher prices from the tinned fish manufacturers was settled by a conciliation committee convened at the request of the fishermen. A strike of power-loom silk weavers was, at the request of the weavers, discussed by a conciliation committee. Although all concessions were refused the operatives returned to work. In a strike of spinners the action of the *juge de paix* led to a settlement.

##### GERMANY.

**Labour Disputes in July.**—The three most serious disputes reported on in July by the *Deutscher Reichs-Anzeiger* were strikes of woolcombers and sorters and jutespinners and weavers in Delmenhorst (Oldenburg), a strike of coalminers in Meuselwitz and Rositz (Saxe-Altenburg), and a strike in the building trades in Berlin, all originating in demands for increased wages.

The first of these disputes affected some 1,600 operatives at two establishments, and terminated for one of the establishments on July 19th in a compromise. The second affected some 1,400 operatives, and was still in progress at the end of July. The strike in Berlin affected the carpenters, who demanded payment of 7.2d. per hour, and the masons and bricklayers, to whom this rate had already been conceded (see last month's GAZETTE, page 200), and who came out again to enforce its continuance. By the end of the month the strike had terminated for both branches, the result in the case of the carpenters being described by the men's wage committee as unsatisfactory.

**Operations of Public Labour Registries in July.**—The total number of situations offered by employers in July at 39 of the municipal or municipally-subsidized registries which have sent returns to *Soziale Praxis* was 26,608, compared with 24,300 in the preceding month, and 20,632 in July 1896.

The number of situations sought by workpeople during the month was 29,278, compared with 26,750 in the previous month, and 26,717 in July 1896. The number of situations found was 19,113, compared with 15,661 in the previous month, and 17,433 in July 1896. (This last set of figures is subject to some deduction, since in some registries a situation found is counted twice—viz., once to the employer and once to the workman.)

**The Clearing House System of Labour Registries in Bavaria.**—The municipal employment registry of Kaiserslautern is now a centre for focussing and redistributing information as to applications for work and for workpeople received at 9 outlying registries in the Palatinate. The lists of situations offered and applied for at the outlying registries are posted by the latter on Tuesdays and Fridays to the head office in Kaiserslautern, where they are embodied, with

\* Information supplied through the courtesy of the French Labour Department.

of money for five years. Coal mining is being developed in the colony, 226,500 tons having been raised in 1896, as compared with only 32,300 in 1892. There are estimated to be about 250 trained nurses in Melbourne at the present time, nearly all of whom have received their training in the local hospitals. There is a good demand for their services in private houses, the pay ranging from £2 2s. to £3 3s. a week.

**South Australia.**—There is no improvement in the demand for labour. The strike of bootmakers has at last come to an end, the men having failed in their object. The services of all the bootmakers, who were brought over from the other colonies, are being retained, so that many of the strikers have been unable to find employment in their old factories.

**Queensland.**—The colony has been suffering for some time past from the tick plague, which has seriously damaged the cattle industry, and from drought which has been prevalent throughout Australia. From these causes the demand for labour has been small, but the numerous railway and other works, which are now in progress, are helping to provide labourers with work. An agricultural college has been recently established under Government at Gatton, where students may learn farming for a small fee.

**Western Australia.**—Men in the building and other trades continue to be well employed, and skilled artisans, miners and farm labourers have little difficulty in getting work. Land settlement has been much greater this year than it was a few years ago, and this increase is likely to keep up the demand for labour.

**New Zealand.**—The building, engineering, boot, and clothing trades have been well employed in most of the large centres and smaller country towns. Many unskilled labourers, however, have been out of work, as is usually the case in the winter season; others are finding employment at earth and drain works, bush-felling, rabbit poisoning, railway construction, and on Government works.

**Cape Colony.**—There is stated to be a considerable amount of building going on at Mafeking; but carpenters and labourers have already arrived there from other parts of Cape Colony, so that there is no demand for men from England.

**Natal.**—Revised regulations for the introduction into Natal of European immigrants were issued on the 2nd July last. Under these regulations assisted passages will be provided to Europeans from London, on application only from persons residing in the Colony, for wives and families (excluding males over 16) of colonists, female relatives, intended wives, domestic servants, and agriculturists. Other cases will be considered on their merits. In the cases of domestic servants and agriculturalists applicants must guarantee a stated wage for 12 months. Particulars must be sent to the secretary of the European Immigration Department, Point, Durban, from whom forms of applications can be obtained. Applications must be accompanied by £5 for each adult and £2 10s. for each child under 12. For females travelling alone 10s. extra may be charged for supervision. Passages may also be granted to small capitalists and their families who intend to settle in Natal for £10 2s. (open berths for males only) and £12 12s. for males and females; children under 15 pay one-sixteenth thereof for each year of age. These rules are not applicable to returning colonists. All applicants must subscribe a declaration in support of application, and furnish reasonable explanations.

**Transvaal.**—Business, especially in the building trades, is very depressed in Johannesburg, and many mechanics have left the Transvaal for other parts of South Africa. There is no room whatever at Johannesburg for clerks or shopmen; thoroughly skilled artisans—except those in the building trades—are the only persons who have at present any chance of finding employment.



the applications received at that office, in a general list, copies of which are sent to the outlying offices on Wednesdays and Saturdays, to be posted up or otherwise brought to the notice of persons likely to be interested. The cost is borne by the Municipality of Kaiserslautern.

An employer, to whom a workman has been sent by the registry within a fortnight from the date on which he was sought through the registry, must, in the event of the situation having in the meantime been filled, pay the workman's fare back to the place from which he was sent.—*Deutscher Reichs-Anzeiger*.

*Munich Municipal Employment Registry as an Agency for Skilled Trades.*—The first report of the Municipal Employment Registry of Munich, covering the period from the date of its establishment (Nov. 1, 1895) to the end of 1896, shows the institution to have been very successful as an agency for skilled workers. The number of situations applied for in 1896 was 47,008; that of situations offered, 30,057, and of situations found, 25,586. (These figures include the work of the female branch of the registry, with 14,653 situations applied for; 13,332 offered, and 9,933 found.) Among the 16,725 situations offered in the male branch those for skilled workers numbered 9,022, of which 8,518 (94.5 per cent.) were filled, the corresponding percentage in the case of unskilled workers being 97.6 per cent.—*Deutscher Reichs-Anzeiger*.

*Special Rules to be observed in Printing and Type-founding Works.*—The Federal Council of Germany have issued special rules to be observed in printing and type founding works. Workrooms must not be more than 19½ inches below the level of the street. A minimum of 530 cubic feet of air space must be allowed for each worker in places where type or stereotype plates are cast, and 424 cubic feet in other cases. (Exemptions from this rule may be granted in exceptional cases, for not more than 30 days in any one year.) Rules are prescribed for securing ventilation and cleanliness. The melting and mixing of metals used for type, etc. is prohibited in places where persons are engaged in other operations. The employment of young persons in the removal of dust from type cases is prohibited, and precautions against injury to health must be observed. The rules will not take full effect until August 1st 1898.

#### SWITZERLAND.

*Labour Disputes in July.*—The most important dispute reported on in July by *Der Grütli* was a strike of 140 woolworkers (female) at Burgdorf, in Bern, who demand a working day of 10 hours. The strike, which began on July 5th, was still in progress on August 10th. A strike of 55 compositors at Lucerne, owing to the alleged failure of the employers to adhere to the terms of an agreement concluded in May, is also in progress.

*The Grütli Sickness and Burial Societies in 1896.*—The report of the central body for administering the funds of the Grütli Sickness and Burial Societies shows a total membership, at the end of 1896, of 5,273 in 263 societies, as compared with 6,003 members in 265 societies at the end of 1895.

Sick pay amounting to £2,919 was drawn in 1896 by 1,982 members for 49,397 sick days, the rate being a little over 1s. 3d. per day in the case of 1,626 members, with 41,826 days of sickness; and a little over 7d. per day for the remaining 356, who obtained the benefit for a total of 7,551 sick days. The average number of sick days per member was 9.4, and per member drawing sick pay, 25.

Funeral benefits, amounting to £806, were paid in respect of 73 deaths. The assets at the end of the year (sick and burial funds combined) amounted to £4,383.—*Der Grütli*.

#### BELGIUM.\*

*Employment in July.*—The general state of employment in July showed no marked change in comparison with the previous month. The iron and steel, engineering, brickmaking and building trades continued to be busy. Three of the four coal-mining districts were fully employed, but in the fourth (the Borinage) district the general strike begun at the end of June continued throughout the whole of July, with the result that only one-fortieth of the usual quantity of coal was mined in this district. The textile trades (more especially cotton-weaving) and glassworking continued depressed. The clothing trades have entered upon their slack season.

*Labour Disputes in July.*—Ten disputes begun in July and ten outstanding since previous months were reported to the Belgian Labour Department. These

\* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Belgian Labour Department by Dr. Vercruyse.

twenty disputes affected 56 firms and 20,800 workpeople. The disputes begun in July were on the whole of slight importance, all except one of them being settled within a few days, while the total number of workpeople involved did not exceed 700. In the Borinage district the number of coal miners on strike had by July 7th reached 19,000. From that date their number out gradually fell, and by August 6th all had returned to work on the old conditions.

Of twelve disputes terminated, nine (affecting 19,500 persons) ended unfavourably, and three (affecting 400 persons) favourably for the workpeople.

#### HOLLAND.

*Provision made for workpeople in case of accidents sustained during work.*—Some particulars on this point, obtained from the Report of the Netherlands Factory Inspectors for 1894 have already been given in the GAZETTE (September 1895, p. 278). The reports for the years 1895 and 1896, which have now appeared in a single volume,\* contain detailed information as to the provision actually made in the case of 4,868† factory and workshop operatives, reported to have been injured in accidents in five out of the six districts into which the country is now divided for purposes of factory inspection.

Of the 4,868 injured, 1,369, it appears, received their full wages, and 524 a part of their wages, from the employer during the whole time of absence from work. (This last figure includes some cases of "slight assistance.") Medical expenses were in many cases paid as well.

Allowances were obtained from sick funds (supplemented in 142 cases by grants from employers) by 1,236 persons, the amount being equivalent to full wages in the case of 215. Of the 1,236 persons who drew allowances from sick funds 1,066 obtained the whole or part of the benefit from funds connected with the factory and supported in part by themselves.

Insurance companies paid allowances to 1,264 workers. Two inspectors mention that the premiums were paid by the employer the others make no statement with regard to this point. The allowance obtained from this source was, in 113 cases, supplemented by the employer; 475 workers received no compensation or allowance from any of these sources during illness due to accidents sustained during work.

#### AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

*Strikes of Harvesters in Hungary.*—In a report to the Foreign Office, dated July 13th, Mr. Beauclerk, H.M. Consul-General at Buda-Pesth, states that by the end of June the strike movement among the harvesters of Hungary (see July GAZETTE, p. 201), had assumed serious proportions. From Bacs Almas the news came of a general strike of 5,000 to 6,000 harvestmen, whose demands included an eighth or ninth share of the crop, in addition to increased wages and a large reduction in the hours of labour. Employers were obliged to have recourse to outside workers, who came to the farms under police escort. In the district of Bacs Bodrog outside labour was also employed.

*Strike of Brick and Tile Workers in Buda-Pesth.*—In a despatch bearing the same date as the above, Mr. Beauclerk reports that a general strike was begun by the brick and tile makers of Buda-Pesth on July 12th, to secure among others the following concessions:—a working day from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. with 1½ hours for meals; abolition of the canteen and credit system; rise of 25 per cent. in wages, with weekly payments.

These demands were laid before the employers a week before the commencement of the strike, in which, it was anticipated, some 15,000 workpeople would take part.†

*Other Labour Disputes in July.*—Of disputes (other than the above) reported on in Austrian employers' and workmen's papers‡

\* Verslagen van de Inspecteurs van den Arbeid in het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden over 1895 en 1896. The Hague, De Gebroeders van Cleef.

† The total number injured was 5,016, but details are not given in 148 cases.

‡ According to the *Arbeiter Zeitung* most of the strikers had returned to work on July 17th, on which day a Conference took place for the purpose of settling the conditions under which work was to be carried on in future. The Conference, which was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Commerce and the Factory Inspectorate, appears, however, not to have reached any definite conclusions. The number of workpeople still on strike on July 19th was said to be 2,000.

§ Including *Die Industrie* (the organ of the Federation of Austrian Manufacturers' Associations), *Das Handels-Museum*, *Die Gewerkschaft*, *Die Arbeiter Zeitung*, and others.

## REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

### (a) COAL MINING IN JULY.

**Summary.**—Employment during July was generally better than a year ago. As compared with June, when employment was to some extent interfered with by the Whitsuntide holidays, the average number of days worked was greater in most districts of England and Wales, but less in the Scottish districts.

Returns received respecting 1,299 pits, at which 410,977 workpeople are employed, show that in the four weeks ended July 24th an average of 4.95 days per week was worked at the pits as compared with 4.82 days in June and 4.83 days in July 1896. The following table gives the average number of days worked in each division of the United Kingdom:—

District.	No. employed in July 1897 at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the pits in four weeks ended		
		24th July 1897	25th July 1896	19th June* 1897
England and Wales ... ..	375,553	4.94	4.84	4.78
Scotland ... ..	34,728	5.03	4.80	5.28
Ireland ... ..	636	4.39	4.10	4.49
<b>United Kingdom ... ..</b>	<b>410,977</b>	<b>4.95</b>	<b>4.83</b>	<b>4.82</b>

The following table gives the average number of days worked in pits, classified according to the class of coal principally raised. The average number of days worked in July was most in excess of the number worked in June in the case of gas coal.

Description of Coal.	No. employed in July 1897 at the Collieries included in the Table.	Number of days worked per week.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in July 1897.
		July 1897	June 1897*	
Coking Coal ... ..	24,901	5.55	5.51	+ .04
Gas " ... ..	33,148	4.97	4.69	+ .28
House " ... ..	73,308	4.26	4.18	+ .08
Manufacturing Coal... ..	18,148	4.81	4.82	-.01
Steam " ... ..	129,018	5.29	5.16	+ .13
Mixed " ... ..	132,454	4.89	4.76	+ .13
<b>All Classes of Coal ... ..</b>	<b>410,977</b>	<b>4.95</b>	<b>4.82</b>	<b>+ .13</b>

If the workpeople be classified according to the number of days worked by the pits at which they were employed, it will be seen that 64.2 per cent. were employed at pits working five or more days per week, as against 53.1 per cent. in July 1896.

#### CLASSIFICATION OF THE WORKPEOPLE ACCORDING TO THE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED IN FOUR WEEKS BY THE COLLIERIES.

Number of days on which Coal was hewn and wound in four weeks.	July 1897.		Corresponding percentages in—	
	No. of Workpeople employed.	Percentage proportion to total.	July 1896.	June 1897.*
24 days (full time) ... ..	33,886	8.3	6.5	2.0
20 and under 24 days ... ..	220,586	55.9	47.6	55.2
16 " " 20 " " ... ..	85,640	20.8	31.6	23.1
12 " " 16 " " ... ..	36,249	8.8	9.8	11.4
8 " " 12 " " ... ..	19,709	4.8	4.7	5.4
Under 8 days ... ..	5,847	1.4	0.8	0.9
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>410,977</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The number of workpeople employed at pits covered by the returns is greater than a year ago by 6,851 in England and Wales, and by 1,238 in Scotland.

**Comparison by Districts.**—The greatest improvement as compared with a year ago is in the Gloucester and Somerset district, where the time worked has increased by three-fifths of a day per week. Increases ranging from about one-third to nearly one-half a day per week have taken place in Derbyshire, South Wales and Monmouth and the Lothians. In Salop, Worcester and Warwick on the other hand employment has fallen off by over half a day per week, and in Nottingham and Leicester by more than a third of a day, whilst a slight falling off has also taken place in Staffordshire, in Lancashire and Cheshire and in Northumberland.

The highest average during the month was worked in South Wales and Monmouth (5.57 days), followed by the Lothians (5.54 days) and Cumberland (5.49 days). Over 5 days per week were also worked in Durham,

\* Whitsuntide included in this period.

in July, the most important appears to have occurred in the building trade in Meran (Tyrol) where from 1,400 to 1,600 operatives struck on July 13 for a working day of 10 hours. The strike ended on July 28, in favour of the men. The Factory Inspector took an active part in the negotiations between the employers and the men.

*Increased Premiums for Accident Insurance.*—The petition of the Accident Insurance Institution of Lower Austria for leave to increase the premiums payable under the Accident Insurance Law in the Province of Lower Austria, has been granted by the Ministry of the Interior. The premiums are to be increased by 10 per cent. The Government, in granting this petition, is said to have alluded to the probability of a still further increase being necessary. (See July GAZETTE, p. 202.)—*Arbeiter-Schutz*.

*Mediation of Factory Inspectors in disputes between Employers and Workpeople.*—The report on Factory Inspection in Austria in 1896\* shows that in that year the inspectors were applied to by the workpeople on 6,742 occasions, compared with 6,522 in 1895. The points involved had to do with wages questions on 1,203 occasions, and with strikes on 151 occasions. In many cases the questions were such that the inspectors could not intervene. In 2,595 cases the inspectors actually intervened. In 2,057 of these they succeeded in effecting settlements, and in 538 they were either unsuccessful or were not informed of the result of their mediation.

#### UNITED STATES.

##### CHICAGO CONSULAR DISTRICT.

*Strike of Bituminous Coal Miners.*—In a report dated July 21st, and forwarded through the Foreign Office by Mr. A. G. Vansittart, H.M. Consul at Chicago, it is stated that the number of miners estimated to be on strike in Illinois on July 15th was 27,000. Nearly every mine in the Danville and Springfield districts of Illinois was idle, and railroads were taking all the coal mined in the Bloomington district.

At a meeting held by the Chicago Federation of Labour on July 18th, it was resolved that sympathy and support be extended to the miners on strike in the United States. With this purpose in view a committee of five men will call on the leading business people of the community to solicit aid for the miners, especially in the way of food, clothing, &c. The miners state that for the last 25 years wages have been going lower, until the present price is below the lowest scale paid in England. They declare the wages of many men do not average 8s. 3d. per week and the best miner in the Spring Valley Section (Illinois) is unable to earn £1 4s. 9d. a week.

##### PHILADELPHIA CONSULAR DISTRICT.

*Taxation of Foreign Labour.*—Captain C. Clipperton, H.M. Consul at Philadelphia, has forwarded under date of July 13th, copies of an Act of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, approved June 15th, and taking effect on July 1st, the chief provisions of which are as follows:—

Any person, firm, association or corporation employing one or more foreign-born, unnaturalised male persons over 21 years of age within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is taxed at the rate of 1½d. per day for each day each such person may be employed. One half of this tax is allocated to the Schools, and the other half is to be used for defraying the general expenses of county government. The employer has the right to deduct the amount of the tax from the wages of any and all employes. The Act imposes upon the employers the duty of ascertaining whether any of their male employes are foreign born unnaturalised persons over 21 years of age, and, should there be any such, of keeping a record of their number, names, and place of birth, together with the exact number of days such persons are employed during each month, the record to be subject to inspection by the County Commissioners, or anyone designated by them for that purpose.

For violation of the Act the minimum penalty for each offence is £40, and the maximum £200.

\* Bericht der K. K. Gewerbe-Inspectoren über ihre Amtstätigkeit im Jahre 1896. Vienna, 1897.







EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—SPECIAL INDUSTRIES (continued).

Thingoe; in Cambridgeshire in the Unions of North Witchford, Chesterton, Whittlesea, Wisbech, and the Cambridgeshire portion of the Peterborough Union (Northants); in Lincolnshire in the Unions of Brigg, Grimsby, Lincoln, Louth, Sleaford, and Stamford, and the Lincolnshire portion of the Newark Union (Notts).

**Home Counties.**—Favourable reports come from Buckinghamshire from the Unions of Aylesbury, Buckingham, Newport Pagnell, and Winslow; from Berkshire from the Union of Wantage, and from the Berkshire portion of the Abingdon and Wallingford Unions (Oxon and Berks); from Surrey from the Farnham and Godstone Unions; from Kent from the Unions of Bridge, Faversham, Hollingbourne, Hoo, and Sevenoaks; from Hertfordshire from the Unions of Buntingford, Hatfield, Hertford, Hemel Hempstead, and from part of the Hertfordshire portion of the Luton Union (Beds.).

**Southern and South Western Counties.**—In Sussex employment is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Chailey, Horsham, Lewes, and Rye; in Hampshire in the Unions of Hartley Wintney, Stockbridge, and Kingsclere. Favourable reports come from Dorsetshire from the Unions of Blandford, Bridport, Dorchester, and Wimborne; from Wiltshire from the Unions of Devizes, Pewsey, Warminster, Westbury and Whorwellsdown, and Wilton; from Gloucestershire from the Unions of Barton Regis, and Gloucester; from Herefordshire from the Unions of Bromyard, and Ledbury; from Somersetshire from the Unions of Langport, Taunton, Wellington, and Wells; from Devonshire from the Unions of Paiglestaple, Crediton, Tavistock, Torrington; and from the Bodmin Union of Cornwall.

EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN JULY.

(Data supplied by the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.)

The number of men shipped in July last as the crews of foreign-going vessels from certain selected ports (at which about 80 per cent of the total tonnage of vessels in the foreign trade is entered and cleared) was 42,152, being 3,179 more than in July 1896. The supply of seamen and firemen during July was reported as equal to or in excess of the demand at nearly all the ports, but at North Shields there was a difficulty in obtaining firemen, while at Poplar seamen were reported as scarce and also at Leith in the case of sailing vessels.

Particulars of changes in rates of wages of seamen and firemen which have taken place during the month at Newcastle-on-Tyne, North Shields, Hull and Liverpool will be found on page 249.

Table showing the number\* of men, &c., shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom in July 1897 and 1896 respectively, together with the number\* shipped in the seven months ended July in each of these years:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Men, &c., shipped in July 1897.			Total in July 1896.	Total number Shipped* in seven months ended July	
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in July 1897.		1897.	1896.
<b>ENGLAND.</b>						
<b>East Coast.</b>						
Tyne Ports ...	159	5,109	5,268	4,222	24,889	21,700
Sunderland ...	—	986	986	986	4,602	4,568
Middlesbrough ...	—	854	854	744	3,512	3,789
Hull ...	57	1,831	1,888	1,819	8,787	8,474
Grimsby ...	—	283	283	266	775	676
<b>Bristol Channel.</b>						
Bristol ...	—	374	374	241	1,545	1,554
Newport, Mon. ...	21	1,872	1,893	1,216	9,162	8,061
Cardiff ...	622	5,304	5,926	5,934	39,785	38,495
Swansea ...	163	1,022	1,185	849	8,134	4,347
<b>Other Ports.</b>						
Liverpool ...	363	9,388	9,751	9,597	66,654	67,167
London ...	496	7,135	7,631	7,384	43,112	41,650
Southampton ...	—	1,231	1,231	1,226	9,308	8,909
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
Leith, Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth ...	24	1,395	1,419	1,437	5,329	5,244
Glasgow ...	69	2,871	2,940	2,587	16,562	15,285
<b>IRELAND.</b>						
Dublin ...	—	195	195	175	693	455
Belfast ...	58	270	328	280	1,725	1,258
<b>Total, July 1897</b> ...	<b>2,032</b>	<b>40,120</b>	<b>42,152</b>	—	<b>241,344</b>	—
<b>Ditto, July 1896</b> ...	<b>2,184</b>	<b>36,789</b>	—	<b>38,973</b>	—	<b>231,631</b>

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

(g) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN JULY.

EMPLOYMENT during July was better at the docks, and about the same at the wharves as compared with a year ago. It improved week by week throughout the month, but the average number employed for the whole month, was only slightly greater than the average for the preceding month. For the four weeks ended July 24th, the average daily number employed at all the docks, and 114 of the principal wharves was 15,135, the average for the four preceding weeks being 15,049, and for July 1896, 14,247. The estimated numbers employed on any one day ranged from 13,858 on July 6th, to 16,394 on the 16th.

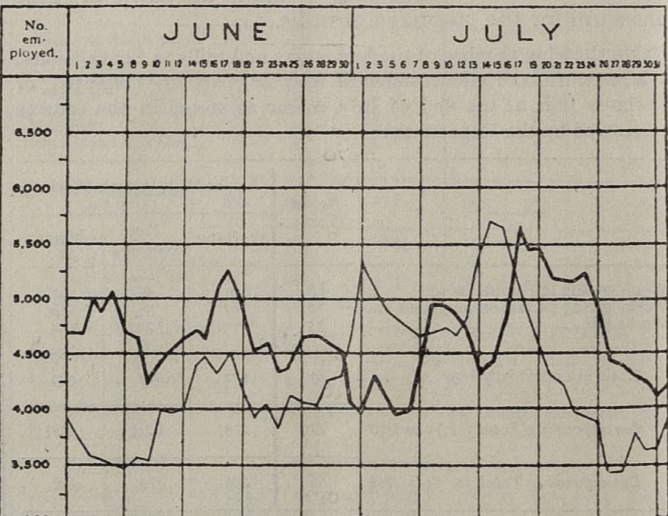
**Detailed Figures.**—(1) The following table shows the estimated daily average number of dock and wharf labourers employed in each week of the month:—

Period.	Labourers employed in Docks.			Labourers employed at 114 Wharves making Returns.	Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
1st week of July ...	7,089	2,244	9,333	5,091	14,424
2nd " " ...	7,280	2,321	9,604	5,030	14,634
3rd " " ...	7,808	2,492	10,300	5,047	15,347
4th " " ...	8,248	2,756	11,044	5,092	16,136
<b>Average for 4 weeks ending July 24th, 1897</b>	<b>7,666</b>	<b>2,464</b>	<b>10,070</b>	<b>5,065</b>	<b>15,135</b>
<b>Average for July 1896</b>	<b>7,402*</b>	<b>1,749</b>	<b>9,151*</b>	<b>5,096</b>	<b>14,247*</b>
<b>Average for June 1897</b>	<b>7,288</b>	<b>2,466</b>	<b>9,754</b>	<b>5,295</b>	<b>15,049</b>

(2) The daily fluctuation in the number of dock labourers employed by the London and India Docks Joint Committee during June and July is shown on the chart below. The numbers in July ranged from 3,948 on the 5th to 5,655 on the 16th.

Chart showing the total number of Dock Labourers employed by the Joint Committee at the London, St. Katharine, East and West India, Victoria and Albert Docks, and the Town Warehouses, for each day during the months of June and July 1897. The corresponding curve for June and July 1896 is also given for comparison.

(The thick curve applies to 1897, and the thin curve to 1896.)



The following are the figures on which the Chart for July 1897 is based:—

Day of Month.	Number employed.	Day of Month.	Number employed.	Day of Month.	Number employed.
1	3,989	12	4,732	22	5,182
2	4,299	13	4,311	23	5,258
3	4,123	14	4,450	24	4,939
4	3,948	15	4,825	25	4,457
5	3,987	16	5,655	26	4,397
6	4,286	17	5,438	27	4,278
7	4,559	18	5,473	28	4,236
8	4,654	19	5,307	29	4,121
9	4,569	20	5,194	30	4,207
10	4,569	21	5,194	31	4,207

Sundays and Holidays are omitted.  
During July 1896 the total number of Dock Labourers employed varied from 3,900 on the 15th to 3,420 on the 27th.  
Taking the London and St. Katharine Docks only, the number employed during July 1897 varied from 2,467 on the 15th to 1,435 on the 30th.  
Wool sales were held from 7th July to 28th July in 1897, and from 30th June to 21st July 1896.

\* Amended figures.

EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—DISTRICT REPORTS.—LONDON.

Employment in mid-stream has been moderately good and steady, with a slight improvement towards the end of the month. Lumpers, lightermen, stevedores and deal porters have had good employment; coal porters and winchmen, moderate employment. The corn porters have had fair employment at the lower docks, but only moderate employment at the Millwall and Surrey Commercial Docks.

The fruit porters in Thames Street have had fair employment, the average number of men employed being 368, as compared with an average of 421 in June.

(h) EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE TEXTILE TRADES IN JULY.

ACCORDING to returns from women correspondents, employment for women showed no improvement during July in any branch of the textile trades. Information has been received with regard to 476 cotton, woollen, worsted and silk mills, which is summarised in the following table, which also gives for comparison the corresponding figures for the previous month and for a year ago.

Trade and Month.	Approximate No. of Women and Girls in Mills reported on.	Percentage ordinarily employed in Mills which were			
		Working full time	With Full Employment.	With Partial Employment.	Working Short Time.
<b>Cotton Trade—</b>					
July 1897 ...	58,400	67	29	3	1
June 1897 ...	63,200	70	22	3	5
July 1896 ...	70,890	91	6	2	1
<b>Woollen and Worsted Trade—</b>					
July 1897 ...	13,530	71	22	6	1
June 1897 ...	14,620	74	23	2	1
July 1896 ...	9,250	68	27	4	—
<b>Silk Trade—</b>					
July 1897 ...	1,630	48	52	—	—
June 1897 ...	1,350	82	11	7	—
July 1896 ...	1,120	93	7	—	—
<b>Total of above Trades</b>					
July 1897 ...	73,560	67	29	3	1
June 1897 ...	79,170	71	22	3	4
July 1896 ...	81,260	88	8	3	1

**Cotton Trade.**—The number of women and girls usually employed in the cotton mills reported on is 58,400. Of these 67 per cent. were employed in mills working full time (to be compared with 70 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in June, and with 91 per cent. in July 1896); 29 per cent. in mills running full time, but giving only partial employment; 3 per cent. in mills running short time; while mills employing 1 per cent. were stopped during the whole or part of the time.

**Woollen and Worsted Trades.**—The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted trades reported on is 13,530. Of these 71 per cent. were employed in mills running full time (to be compared with 74 per cent. in June and 68 per cent. in July 1896); 22 per cent. in mills running full time, but giving only partial employment; 6 per cent. in mills running short time; while mills employing 1 per cent. were stopped during the whole or part of the time.

DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

LONDON.

**Employment in Various Industries.**—On the whole but little change took place in the state of employment during July. Returns from 394 branches of 104 unions, with an aggregate membership of 72,555, show that 2,464 (or 3.4 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of July, compared with 3.5 in June and 2.7 per cent. at the end of July 1896.

The Engineering, Metal and Shipbuilding trades were unsettled owing to the dispute in connection with the eight hours movement.

Reports from 117 branches of 24 unions, with a membership of 22,797, show that, apart from the dispute, 829 (or 3.6 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of July, as in June. The percentage in July of last year was 2.2.

Employment in the Building trades was good. Reports from 168 branches of 5 unions paying unemployed benefit, with a membership of 10,345, show that 127 (or 1.2 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of July, compared with 1.9 in June and 1.5 per cent. in July 1896. The bricklayers, stonemasons, and mill sawyers describe employment as good; the carpenters and joiners, plasterers and stonecarvers as fair; the painters and decorators and plumbers as moderate.

In the Furnishing trades employment continued to decline to some extent. Reports from 37 branches of 9 unions, with a membership of 6,590, show that 191 (or 2.9 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of July, compared with 2.7 in June and 0.3 per cent. in July 1896.

The Coopers continued busy. Two societies with a membership of 970 return only 3 (or 0.3 per cent.) unemployed, as in June. The percentage for July 1896 was 0.4.

The Coachbuilding trades continued actively employed. Returns from 12 branches of 8 unions with a membership of 1,258, show 20 (or 1.6 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 1.3 in June and 1.1 per cent. in July 1896.

Employment in the Printing and Bookbinding trades improved. Reports from 22 unions, with a membership of 21,646, show 647 (or 3.0 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 3.5 in June and 3.2 per cent. at the end of July 1896.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment in the wholesale clothing trade was fairly busy; in the East End bespoke trade quiet; in the West End bespoke trade dull. Employment in the mantle trade was unsettled; in the hat trade depressed; in the cap trade fairly good; with fur skin dressers slack; with furriers good; with silk weavers fair.

**Boot and Shoe Trades.**—Employment in the machine branch was quiet; in the high-class bespoke branch fairly good; with slipper makers good.

The Leather trades continued to decline. Returns from 6 societies, with a membership of 1,336, show 43 (or 3.2 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 2.5 in June and 4.0 per cent. in July 1896.

**Glass and Pottery Trades.**—Employment in these trades remained stationary. Returns from 7 unions, with a membership of 1,453, show that 74 (or 5.1 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of July, as at the end of June. The percentage for July 1896 was 5.2.

**Workers in Fibre, Hair, &c.**—These trades were better employed. Returns from 5 societies, with a membership of 884, show that 16 (or 1.8 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.5 in June and 4.6 per cent. in July of last year.

The Gold and Silver trades were scarcely so well employed. Reports from 6 societies, with a membership of 1,048, show 19 (or 1.8 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 1.3 in June and 0.8 per cent. in July 1896.

The Tobacco trades continued slack. Reports from 4 societies, with a membership of 2,342, show 182 (or 7.8 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 8.0 in June and 7.5 per cent. in July 1896.

**Dock and Riverside Labour.**—At the docks and principal wharves the average number of labourers daily employed in July was 15,135, or 888 more than in July 1896, and 86 more than in June last. Employment has been moderately good with mid-stream workers; good with lumpers, lightermen, stevedores and deal porters; fair with fruit porters; moderate with coal porters and winchmen; fair with corn porters at the lower docks, but only moderate at the Millwall and Surrey Commercial Docks.

**Disputes and Trade Movements.**—In addition to the engineers' agitation for an eight hours' day, three fresh disputes were reported as taking place during the month, viz., one in the mantle trade, one in the basket manufacturing trade, and one with wire weavers—involving in all 69 persons (see p. 253). Advances in wages were obtained by 64 employees of local authorities and 32 cabinet-makers and shop-fitters (see p. 249), while 2,500 engineers obtained a reduction in their working hours from 54 to 48 per week (see p. 250).

**Labour Bureaux.**—Returns from the eight labour bureaux which furnished returns for July, show that 1,129 fresh applications for work were registered during the month, as compared with 2,035 in July 1896, a decrease of 906. The number of persons for whom work was found was 783, of whom 551 were engaged by private employers and 232 by local authorities, as compared with 1,452 in the corresponding month of 1896 (viz., 1,154 engaged by private employers and 298 by local authorities), a falling off of 669. This was chiefly owing to a decline in the operations of one bureau.



## EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd).—NORTHERN COUNTIES AND LANCASHIRE.

**Pauperism.**—The number of persons in receipt of relief on one day in the second week of July was 96,214. Compared with the corresponding day of June there was a decrease in the number relieved of 555. As compared with July 1896 there were slight decreases in the Central, Eastern and Southern districts, and slight increases in the Western and Northern districts. For the whole of London there was a decrease of 631.

On the same day in July there were 810 vagrants in London who received relief, as compared with 889 in June and 878 in July 1896.

In the West Ham district there were 8,183 paupers relieved on one day in the second week of July, the corresponding numbers for June 1897 and July 1896 being 8,176 and 8,443 respectively.

## ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES.

## Tyne and Wear District.

**Coal Mining.**—*Northumberland.*—Both steam and house coal collieries have worked well, the former averaging 5.03 days, the latter 5.20 days per week (excluding the annual "gala day"). Of a membership of 20,252 two are unemployed, as against one in June. *Durham.*—At gas coal pits an average of 5.14 days per week was worked. Coking coal collieries have worked 5.58 days per week. The average number of days worked per week throughout the month was 5.36, compared with 5.25 in June. The number of miners idle owing to bad trade is 440 (or 0.7 per cent.), as against 498 (or 0.9 per cent.) in June. Of the 3,000 coke workers all are fully employed.

**Metal Mining.**—Lead mines in Weardale are slack, men being discharged during the month. Iron miners still work short time.

**Quarrying.**—Employment in freestone and whinstone quarries at Blyth and Stanhope is fairly brisk. One or two limestone quarries are somewhat slack. Of the 278 union quarrymen in Gateshead and district all are employed.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—*On the Tyne.*—Branches with 11,947 members have 431 (or 3.6 per cent.) out of work, and there are also 47.9 per cent. of the engineers locked out. Shipyard workers continue fairly busy, the stoppage in the engineering trade having as yet but little effect, boiler and repairing shops, however, are not so busy. Electrical engineers are well employed. Work in the engine shops is dislocated owing to the dispute. *On the Wear.*—Of the 4,302 members of these trades, included in 19 returns, 188, or 4.4 per cent., are idle (in addition to 32.5 per cent. of the engineers idle through the dispute). Employment with riveters and caulkers is not so good. Engineers in the principal shops are locked out. Non-associated firms, however, are busy. Drillers and hole cutters in the yards continue fully employed on both rivers. Smelting furnaces (with the exception of two at Newburn laid off for repairs) are working full time. Angle mills at Consett are working 5 shifts per week; iron mills 4 shifts per week; steel-plate mills full time. At two yards on the Wear 40 shipwrights have been discharged. At three other yards ship-joiners are working extra time; sailmakers have 20 per cent. of their members idle.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—Sailors and firemen have been in brisk demand; coal porters have averaged 4 days per week during the month; watermen are reported as fairly well employed; trimmers and teamers report employment as good.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is good in all branches.

**Woodworking Trades.**—Upholsterers report employment as still good; coopers in the chemical and white lead factories as slack; in breweries as good.

**Printing and Kindred Trades.**—Letterpress printers on the Tyne and at Sunderland report an improvement; bookbinders are quiet. Of the 772 members of these trades 38 (or 4.9 per cent.) are unemployed.

**Glass and Chemical Trades.**—With the exception of one or two furnaces "out" for repairs, glass bottle-makers are fully employed on the Wear and at Seaham Harbour. Pressed glassmakers also report employment as good. Chemical and white lead factories show no change. Employment in copper works is good.

**Fishing.**—Herring fishing has not been good, but prices have been above the average. Steam trawl and line boats have done better, landing fair catches.—*J. Ratcliffe.*

## Middlesbrough, Stockton, and District.

**Iron Mining.**—Cleveland miners have been fairly employed during the month.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—At most of the iron and steel works employment has been good, but slackened at the end of the month, one mill having stopped. Under the sliding scale of the North of England Arbitration Board wages remain unchanged for August and

September. At blastfurnaces, bridge works and foundries employment is reported as fairly good.

**Engineering.**—Until the commencement of the dispute employment was good in all branches.

**Shipbuilding.**—Employment is good throughout the district, all yards except one being well employed. The dispute in the engineering trade has not yet materially affected this industry.

**Building Trades.**—All branches report employment as very good, bricklayers, joiners, machinists and sawyers report none out of work, and in some cases more men are wanted.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—Employment is reported as improving with sailors and firemen, good with dock labourers, and fair with riverside labourers.—*A. Main.*

## Cumberland and Barrow District.

The following is a summary of the returns received as to the state of employment in the above district:—

**Coal Mining.**—Employment in this industry is good. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended 24th July at pits from which returns have been received, was 5.49 per week, as against 5.36 in July 1896. The number of workpeople employed was, so far as shown by the returns, more by 332 than in the corresponding month of last year.

**Iron Mining.**—Employment is good at the Cumberland iron mines. The average number of days worked per week during the four weeks ending 24th July, at the 46 mines from which returns have been received, was 5.95, as against 5.96 in July 1896. The number of workpeople employed was 6,274, compared with 6,125 in the corresponding month of last year, an increase of 149.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—Returns received from Cumberland and North Lancashire show that the number of furnaces in blast during July was 43, as compared with 42 in June of this year and in July 1896. The number of workpeople employed was 3,423, an increase of 99 when compared with June, and of 155 when compared with July 1896.

## LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.

## Oldham and District.

**Cotton Trade.**—*Spinning.*—Employment remains about the same. In Oldham and the surrounding district, in Rochdale, Mossley, Stalybridge, and Stockport it is reported as moderate, and in Ashton-under-Lyne and Dukinfield as slack. One mill in Stalybridge and one in Rochdale are closed through bad trade. Out of 9,144 union members 335 (or 3.7 per cent.) are on unemployed benefit, the same percentage as at the end of June. The cardroom operatives in Oldham and Mossley report employment as moderate. Out of 11,962 union members 519 (or 4.3 per cent.) are on unemployed benefit, as against 315 (or 2.6 per cent.) at the end of June. Ring frame spinners report employment as good, and the twiners as moderate. *Weaving.*—The power loom overlookers and the weavers report employment as bad in velvets and fastians and slack in calicoes. A number of looms are empty. Employment in sectional warping, reeling and winding is reported as moderate.

**Woolen Trade.**—Employment is reported as bad in Rochdale and Milnrow districts, and as slack in Stockport.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—In four branches of the engineers employment is reported as good; in six as moderate. Pattern-makers, tinplate workers, gas meter makers, boiler-makers, and ironfounders report employment as moderate; irongrinders, plate and machine moulders, and brassfounders as good. Out of 3,335 union members, 37 (or 1.1 per cent.) are on unemployed benefit, as against 33 (or 1.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

**Building Trades.**—Bricklayers, painters, and carpenters and joiners, report employment as good; plumbers as moderate, and plasterers as fair. Out of 903 union members, there are none unemployed.

**Coal Mining.**—At four collieries the miners are reported as working 5 days per week, and at another 6 days. Out of 580 miners employed at these collieries, none are on unemployed benefit.—*T. Ashton.*

## Bolton and District.

**Cotton Trade.**—*Spinning.*—A further slight depression in employment is reported in Bolton and the immediate neighbourhood. Branches with 4,463 members report 77 (or 1.7 per cent.) on unemployed benefit, as against 55 (or 1.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. In Chorley employment is fairly good; in Bury and Wigan moderate. Card and blowing room operatives in Bolton and district report employment as fairly good; in Chorley as good; in Bury and Wigan as steady.

## EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd).—LANCASHIRE AND YORKSHIRE.

**Weaving.**—Employment is still slack in Bolton. It is irregular in Bury, Chorley and Wigan, with continued waiting for warps at most mills, and with over 1,000 looms absolutely idle.

**Engineering and Iron Trades.**—Owing to the dispute the engineers (and many workmen in other departments) at the principal establishments in the district are idle. Societies with 2,300 members report that 1,000 are idle, chiefly owing to dispute. Labourers in ironworks report 230 out of 1,320 members as idle through the dispute. In Bury one large machine shop is reported as unusually busy, while two other firms are moderately so; the rest are affected by the dispute. In Wigan the engineers are reported as busy and unaffected by the dispute. Steel roller-makers and steel smelters are regularly employed. At Chorley the engineers are only moderately busy; other ironworkers are somewhat dull.

**Building Trades.**—In Bolton most branches are well employed. In Bury a slight improvement is reported. Employment is good at Chorley and Wigan.

**Coal Mining.**—In Bolton, Little Hulton, Walkden, Radcliffe and Darcy Lever employment shows a slight decline, the average working time being slightly over 4 days per week. In Wigan most collieries are working about 4 days per week.

**Miscellaneous.**—Tanners are reported as slack; lace cutters, belt-makers and picker-makers as busy; cloggers, shoemakers and tailors as moderately well employed.—*R. Tootill.*

## Blackburn, Burnley, and District.

**Cotton Trade.**—*Weaving.*—Employment in the various branches of the weaving trade shows little change, and is only moderate. In Burnley no looms are now on systematic short time, but a considerable number are still stopped for warps; in Darwen 710 looms are totally stopped, together with some 530 waiting for warps; in Nelson 400 looms are working short time, besides a considerable number stopped for warps; in Colne a slight improvement is shown; in Preston looms continue to be stopped for want of warps; in Blackburn no change is reported. Employment in the hard waste trade is moderate; in the coloured goods trade, bad. Work is still irregular with loomers and drawers in the Blackburn district, whilst in Burnley no material improvement is shown; winders and warpers are better employed than for some weeks back. *Spinning.*—Employment is fair in Preston and Padiham; moderate in Accrington, Darwen, Burnley and Blackburn. Employment continues good in the carding department, with few unemployed. Branches of twisters, warp dressers and spinners, with 3,985 members, return 163 (or 4.1 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 173 (or 4.3 per cent. of their membership), at the end of June.

**Building Trades.**—Employment continues good with masons, joiners, bricklayers, painters and decorators. Plumbers report no improvement, being only moderately employed.

**Engineering and Iron Trades.**—Employment is good in machine works, but is only moderate with moulders, engineers and labourers in other works.

**Coal Mining.**—Employment continues good in Burnley, the men being on full time. In Accrington employment is fair, though some of the pits are stopping Saturdays. In Townley the average time worked is four days per week.

**Miscellaneous.**—Calico-printers are only moderately employed. Tailors are fairly employed. Boot, shoe and slipper workers in the Rossendale district are slack. Letterpress printers are busy.

W. H. Wilkinson.

## Manchester and District.

**General.**—Branches of societies with 27,328 members have 732 (or 2.7 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage as at the end of June.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Engineers and steam engine makers in Manchester report employment as moderate; in Warrington and Northwich as bad. Iron moulders report employment as good in Manchester and Stockport and bad at Northwich, boiler makers as moderate in Manchester and Stockport and good at Northwich. Brassfounders are busy; smiths and strikers report employment as bad; sheet metal workers at Warrington, Stockport and Manchester as moderate; wire drawers are fully employed, and wire weavers are busy; filesmiths are fairly well employed.

**Textile Trades.**—Cotton spinners in Manchester report employment as moderate. In Macclesfield cotton workers are fairly well employed. In the silk trade a large number of hand-loom weavers are entirely out of employment, and powerloom weavers are very slack; fustian cutters are in full work; dressers, dyers and finishers report employment as bad; doublers in Stockport are not so busy as in June.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment in the bespoke tailoring department is moderate at Manchester, and good at Stockport and Warrington; in the wholesale trade it is reported as quiet. Ready-made mantle-makers and capmakers are well employed; shirt-makers fairly so. Employment with waterproof garment-makers and boot and shoe makers is moderate. Amongst hatters employment on mens' felts is bad, on ladies' felts good.

**Building Trades.**—In Manchester, joiners and carpenters, bricklayers' labourers and fret lead glaziers report employment as good; stonemasons, plasterers and painters as moderate. Employment at Northwich and Stockport is fairly good, and at Macclesfield it is moderate.

**Printing and Kindred Trades.**—Lithographic artists and lithographic printers report employment as good in Manchester; letterpress printers, bookbinders and pattern card makers as moderate.

**Woodworking and Coach Building Trades.**—The Hebrew cabinet-makers report employment as bad, other cabinet-makers as good in Manchester; fair in Warrington and Stockport; coachmakers throughout the district as good.—*G. D. Kelley.*

## Liverpool and District.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—The boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders report improvement; engineers, pattern-makers, brass-founders, whitesmiths, iron and steel dressers, and cycle workers report employment as good; ironfounders, drillers and hole-cutters as moderate; shipwrights and joiners as fair. Branches of societies with 3,964 members have 228 (or 5.8 per cent. unemployed) as against 380 (or 9.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment is good in all branches of the furnishing and coachbuilding trades, and fair with woodworking machinists and coopers.

**Shipping, Dock and Transport Labour.**—Sailors and firemen report employment as improving; Mersey flatmen as good. Dock labourers report employment in the timber trade as good; other work as moderate. Quay and railway carters are quiet; coal and salt heavers slack.

**Printing and Kindred Trades.**—Branches with 1,284 members have 69 (or 5.4 per cent.) unemployed, as against 64 (or 5.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

**Clothing Trades.**—Tailors in the better class trade report employment as fair; in the ready-made trade as moderate; boot and shoe-makers as unchanged.

**Building Trades.**—All branches report employment as good.

**Coal Mining and Quarrying.**—Employment with coalminers is rather quiet; quarrymen continue busy.

**Glass and Chemical Trades.**—Glass bottle-makers continue busy; chemical workers are dull.—*C. Rouse.*

According to a report from Winsford, employment in the salt trade is slack generally in that district and at Middlewich. In the building trades employment is moderate at both towns, painters being well employed. Chemical workers at Middlewich continue dull, one set being still closed. Moulders at Winsford are very fairly employed. Fustian cutters are only working four days per week at most factories.

## YORKSHIRE.

## Hull and District.

**Shipbuilding and Engineering.**—The sailmakers, and general labourers in shipyards, engineering and boilershops report employment as bad; the boiler-makers as moderate. With most other branches employment is fairly good, though about a thousand members are affected by the dispute in the engineering trade. Employment at repair work is slack. The shipwrights at Grimbsy and Goole, and boiler-makers at Goole are well employed; the engineers at Doncaster report employment as moderate.

**Building Trades.**—The slaters and tilers are affected by a dispute. Branches of the other trades with 2,946 union members, have only 7 unemployed, as against 12 at the end of June.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—Employment with sailors and firemen continues moderately good; with dock and wharf labourers and railway workers, it is fair; with deal carriers in Hull and Grimbsy, good; with dock labourers at Goole, moderate.

**Fishing Industry.**—Employment for trawl fishermen, is moderate; for steam fishing vessel engineers, good. Fish curers and general fish trade workers at Grimbsy, are well employed.

**Seed Crushing, Paint and Colour Works.**—Employment in the Hull seed crushing mills is bad; most of the mills have been stopped. The paint and colour works continue fairly well employed.



## EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd).—YORKSHIRE AND MIDLAND COUNTIES.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—The letterpress printers in Hull report employment as good; the bookbinders and machine rulers as moderate.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—The coopers and coach-builders in Hull report employment as good; the cabinet-makers as moderate: the brushmakers as bad; the coachmakers at Doncaster as moderate.—*W. G. Millington.*

**Leeds and District.**

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Owing to the dispute in the engineering trade the majority of the engineers in Leeds, as well as a large number of machine workers, apprentices and labourers are idle. Other trades are beginning to feel the effect of the dispute, the ironfounders particularly showing an increase of unemployed. Boiler-makers, spindle and flyer makers and whitesmiths report employment as good; smiths and strikers and brassworkers as affected by the dispute. At Wakefield engineering work is fair; at Stanningley employment is slackening for moulders and pattern-makers; at Rodley and Bramley it is good.

**Clothing Trades.**—There is no particular change to report in the boot and shoe industry, which continues quiet. Employment in the ready-made clothing trade has been only moderate, but is improving; with bespoke tailors it is moderate, but getting slacker.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment remains quiet. Willeyers and fettlers report it as dull, with one firm stopping its night staff; blanket raisers as dull. Flax and linen workers are fairly employed. At Yeadon, Stanningley, and Bramley work continues slack; at Wakefield fairly good.

**Building Trades.**—In Leeds employment with bricklayers, masons and plasterers is good; with joiners fair, but slackening; with plumbers dull; with painters moderate. At Harrogate work has fallen off; at Wakefield and Stanningley it is good.

**Leather Trades.**—Work continues dull at the tanyards. Leather shavers and curriers report employment as quiet; saddlers as moderate.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—The letterpress printers report employment as good; lithographers and bookbinders and machine-rulers as moderate; paper mill workers as rather quiet.

**Glass Trades.**—The glass bottle-makers report employment as exceptionally good in Leeds, and good at Castleford and Wakefield; flint glassmakers as moderate.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Cabinet-makers continue well employed; brushmakers are rather quiet.—*O. Connellan.*

**Bradford and Huddersfield District.**

**Worsted Trade.**—Employment in the worsted piece trade in Bradford is no better; in the sorting and combing branches there is a slight improvement. In Keighley, Halifax, and Huddersfield employment shows little change.

**Woollen Trade.**—Employment in the woollen trade round Huddersfield is slightly better. In the heavy woollen trade many are only working short time.

**Other Textile Trades.**—Employment in the silk trade at Halifax, Manningham, and Brighouse is rather worse. In the carpet and carriage cloth trade it is quiet. In the cotton trade in Brighouse it is rather worse than last month; and in the rag trade of Batley and Dewsbury it is quiet.

**Metal Trades.**—Employment is moderate or good in most centres. The dispute in the engineering trade has not greatly affected Bradford, Huddersfield, Keighley\* or Dewsbury. In Halifax some eight firms are affected.

**Building Trades.**—Employment in the building trade is still very good throughout the district, though the masons and labourers are on strike in Huddersfield.

**Miscellaneous.**—Dyers and tailors are still fairly well employed. Most of the printers are indifferently employed.—*A. Gee.*

**Sheffield, Barnsley, and Rotherham District.**

**General.**—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 14,738 members, have 81 (or 0.5 per cent.) unemployed, as against 83 (or 0.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

**Iron and Steel Industries.**—Armour plate makers are on the whole quiet. In steel forges there is a fair amount of work. Engineers, iron and steel founders and stove grate workers report employment as good; the railway spring makers as fair. Workmen employed on railway material are busy. Branches with 5,497 members have 30 unemployed (or 0.5 per cent.) as against 0.7 per cent. of their

\* This statement refers to the end of the month, since then several of the principal employers have decided to lock out 25 per cent. of their men (see p. 227)

membership) at the end of June. At Barnsley, with engineers and ironfounders, employment on the whole is quiet. All sections of the iron and steel trades at Rotherham, Iccles, Thorncliffe and Chapelton are busy.

**Cutlery and Tools.**—Employment is fair with the table and butcher's knife forgers; unsettled with pen and pocket knife cutlers, grinders and forgers; quiet in the razor and scissor trades. In the file and saw trades all departments continue busy; saw handle makers and handle and scale cutters are well employed; haft and scale pressers fairly so. Sword and bayonet workers report an improvement. Agricultural and horticultural implement makers are busy. Engineers, joiners, and edge tool makers, are well employed. The wool shear grinders and benders report employment as bad. Branches with a membership of 5,375 have 32 (or 0.6 per cent.) unemployed, as against 0.3 per cent. of their membership at the end of June.

**Other Metal Trades.**—Silversmiths, electro plate finishers, hollow ware buffers and brassworkers are well employed; Britannia metal smiths and spoon and fork workers fairly so.

**Coal Mining.**—Returns from 54 collieries show an average of 5.19 days per week worked during the month, as compared with 4.98 in June.

**Building Trades.**—Branches of bricklayers, masons, carpenters and joiners and plumbers, with 1,356 members, have only 6 unemployed.

**Linen Trade.**—Employment in the Barnsley linen trade continues to improve, although the workers are not yet on full time.

**Clothing Trades.**—In Sheffield employment in the bespoke tailoring trade is quieter, in Rotherham and Barnsley good; in the ready made branch it is fairly good; in the boot and shoe trade it has improved.

**Glass Trade.**—At Mexborough, Swinton, and Rotherham bottle-makers are fairly well employed; at Barnsley both bottle-makers and flint glass workers report employment as good.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—The letterpress printers have fewer unemployed than for many months past; the bookbinders and lithographers are also well employed.

**Woodworking Trades.**—Coachmakers, cabinet-makers, railway carriage and wagon-builders are all well employed. Employment at Barnsley in the bobbin and box trade and at Penistone in the box trade is good.—*S. Utley.*

## ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

**Derbyshire District.**

**General.**—Branches of societies (exclusive of coalminers) with 6,667 members have 47 (or 0.7 per cent.) on unemployed benefit, as against 76 (or 1.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

**Engineering and allied Trades.**—Branches with 2,380 members have 23 (or 1.0 per cent.) on unemployed benefit, as against 21 (or 0.9 per cent.) of their membership at the end of June. Employment in locomotive works continues good, moderate in other engineering works and in bridge and girder yards. Ironfounders in Derby report employment as improving; at Butterley, Chesterfield and Somercotes as good; brassmoulders and finishers at Derby and Burton-on-Trent as good; lace machine-builders as bad; cycle-workers at Draycott and Long Eaton as dull, men being discharged; stove grate workers in Derby, Balper and Langley Mill continue fairly well employed.

**Coal Mining.**—Returns from collieries employing upwards of 33,000 men show an average worked of 4.37 days per week, an increase as compared with June, when 4.18 days per week were worked.

**Quarrying.**—Employment in limestone quarries and sawmill work has been fairly maintained.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment with cotton spinners and weavers in Borrowash, Belper, Draycott, Glossop and Hadfield is somewhat depressed, though full time generally is being worked. Hosiery workers at Heanor, Belper and Ilkeston report employment as moderate; dyers and bleachers in Belper continue well employed. Lacemakers in Long Eaton and Ilkeston continue very slack; surgical bandage-makers in Derby report employment as good; elastic web weavers as very bad; calico-printers and engravers in Hayfield, Dinting, and New Mills as improving.

**Building Trades.**—All branches in these trades continue well employed. Branches with 1,748 members report 8 out of employment.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment with boot and shoe operatives, and tailors is reported as moderate; with dress and mantle makers as very good.

## EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—DISTRICT REPORTS (continued).—MIDLAND COUNTIES.

**Coachbuilding Trades.**—Railway carriage and wagon builders in Derby report employment as good; in Long Eaton as fair. Carriage builders in private shops are well employed.

**Woodworking Trades.**—The coopers in Burton-on-Trent report employment as good. In most timber yards employment is regular.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—Employment with letterpress and lithographic printers and bookbinders is good.—*C. White-Deacon.*

**Nottingham and District.**

**Lace Trade.**—Employment in the plain net branch continues active, but in the levers and curtain branches is very slack. In other branches employment is reported as bad. Finishers at Bulwell and dyers at Nottingham are very slack; bleachers and dyers at Basford are moderately employed.

**Hosiery Trade.**—Framework knitters report a majority on short time. Employment in the hand frame and hand ribbed branches is only moderate; on circular hosiery very slack. The hand frame branch on best goods is busy at Sutton-in-Ashfield and Kirkby. Shetland shawl workers are well employed at Hucknall Torkard. Hosiery trimmers and finishers at Bulwell and Basford are moderately well employed.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—There is a marked decline in cycle works, many firms suspending workmen. Engineering and lace-machine building is only moderate, and hosiery machine builders are not actively employed. Boiler-makers are very busy. Ironfounders report employment as busy at Nottingham, moderate at Mansfield and Retford; brassworkers, bobbin and carriage makers, carriage straighteners, wheelwrights and smiths as good; tool machinists as slack; farriers as moderate. Blast furnacemen at Bestwood are making full time.

**Building Trades.**—Employment generally is good. Branches with 2,833 members have 21 (or 0.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 14 (or 0.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

**Coal Mining.**—Returns from 30 collieries, employing over 16,000 men, show that the average number of days worked per week during the month was 3.42 as compared with 3.25 days in June. Employment in the pits in the north of the county has somewhat declined.

**Printing Trades.**—Employment is slack with letterpress printers and bookbinders, moderate with lithographic printers.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment is moderate in bespoke tailoring, and only average in the ready-made branch. Mantle-makers and machinists, and women workers generally are well employed. Employment in the boot and shoe trade is quieter.

**Woodworking Trades.**—Cabinetmakers, polishers, upholsterers, coopers, brushmakers and basketmakers are well employed.—*W. L. Harstaff.*

**Leicester and Northampton District.**

**Boot and Shoe Industry.**—All the chief centres in this district except Kettering report a rapid decline in employment during the month, and short time has become general. Work is exceptionally slack in the clicking and rough stuff departments, numbers being wholly unemployed.

**Hosiery, Yarn and Wool Spinning Trades.**—At Leicester the workpeople employed on shirts, pants, and heavy hosiery are fairly well employed. At Loughborough work is slack, except in the circular rib branch. Employment continues moderate in the yarn and wool spinning trades; it is better in the dyeing and trimming departments.

**Clothing Trades.**—Work is steady in the wholesale clothing trade, but slack with bespoke tailors, many working short time. Dress-makers and milliners are moderately busy; corset-makers are in full work, and employment is improving with mantle-makers. Employment keeps regular in the silk hat trade; it is slacker with cap makers, and quiet with felt hatters.

**Elastic Web Trade.**—In nearly all branches of the elastic web industry employment is reported as slack, and many of the workpeople are on short time.

**Engineering and Cycle Trades.**—In the principal departments of the engineering trade employment is reported as good, but owing to the lock-out it is unsettled in many of the auxiliary branches. Work is slacker with boot and shoe machinery builders and cycle makers.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—Coalminers in South Leicestershire are only partially employed. Of 15 pits from which returns have been received, one worked between 5 and 6 days per week, 2 worked 4 days and under 5, 3 worked 3 and under 4, and 9 worked less

than 3 days per week. Employment is good with stone quarrymen, and regular with limestone and ironstone workers.

**Printing and Bookbinding Trades.**—Letterpress and lithographic printers report employment as good at Leicester and Northampton, fair at Kettering, but quieter at Loughborough and Rugby. It is moderate with bookbinders.

**Building Trades.**—Employment generally is good.

**Furnishing and Coachmaking Trades.**—Employment is good with coachmakers, road and tramcar builders and railway wagon makers. In all branches of the furnishing trades work continues regular.

**Leather Trades.**—Curriers at Northampton engaged on black work are fairly well employed, while those on brown leathers are slacker. Tanners at Market Harborough are in full work.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is good with all grades of railway workmen and with brick, tile, and terra-cotta workers, farriers, cigar-makers, and bakers and confectioners. Gasfitters and gas workers are not so fully employed.—*T. Smith.*

**Potteries District.**

**Pottery Trades.**—Employment shows a general falling-off. Hollow-ware pressers are moderately employed at the southern end of the district, but at Burslem and Tunstall great slackness prevails, the operatives working less than three days per week, with many unemployed. Sanitary pressers are working well; flat-pressers report no improvement; printers and transferers report extreme slackness; women gilders and decorators, men artists, modellers, designers and mouldmakers, throwers and turners report a decline; ovenmen, kilnmen and saggard-makers report no improvement; encaustic tilemakers are well employed.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—Forgemen are well employed, but millmen are only working about half time. Blast furnacemen are well employed. In the steel trade employment has improved. Anchor chainmakers at Ford Green are well employed.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Engineers throughout the district are well employed; boiler-makers report an improvement. The moulders' dispute in North Staffordshire continues. Copper workers at Froggall and Oakamoor, and agricultural engineers at Rugeley and Uttoxeter report an improvement.

**Coal Mining.**—At coal mines in Staffordshire from which returns have been received, an average of 4.22 days per week was worked during the four weeks ending 24th July, compared with 4.45 in June.

**Textile Trades.**—At Leek employment in the silk trade has fallen off. At Congleton employment is moderate in all branches. Fustian cutters are again very slack. Employment at Cheadle and Tean with silk and tape operatives is good.

**Clothing Trades.**—Tailors are generally busy. At Stafford and Stone boot and shoe-makers report a general falling off, fully one-third being on short time. Corset-makers at Uttoxeter are well employed.

**Building Trades.**—All branches of the building trades throughout the district continue busy.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—Letterpress printers report an improvement in the Potteries, and a slight decline at Stafford; lithographic artists, and printers, and bookbinders, and machine rulers are fairly employed.

**Miscellaneous.**—At Alton and Hollington stone quarrymen are well employed; railway servants and brushmakers are well employed; bakers are not quite so busy; gas stokers are slack.—*I. S. Harvey.*

**Wolverhampton and District.**

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—In South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire employment is still good in the steel smelting, iron bar, and angle and hoop trades; in the sheet steel trade it is depressed. Mills and forges in the iron sheet trade are on full time. The Shropshire mills and forges are still working steadily.

**Engineering and allied Trades.**—Employment in the engineering trade is good, especially in the electrical branch; boiler, bridge, and girder-makers and moulders are busy; employment at Coalbrookdale and Wednesbury is good; cycle factories are working on the average only 3 days per week.

**Hardware Trades.**—Employment is quiet in the anchor and anvil trades, but brisk in the vice trade. A slight falling off is reported in most branches of the chain trade. Makers of axles, springs, tubes, nuts and bolts, iron fences and hurdles, axes, galvanised tanks, tin and galvanised oddware, hand cut files, keys, light hollow ware, and hinges and stampers and piercers are well employed. Tinplate workers, except gear case makers, are



## EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—MIDLAND, E. AND S.W. COUNTIES.

busy. Brassworkers, makers of wrought and cast nails, gun locks, protectors, spring traps, iron plates, steel toys, wrought iron odd-work and builders' ironmongery report employment as fair. Cycle casters have worked only 15 days during the month. Makers of tips, tacks, cut nails, rims and mortices, latch and cabinet locks are slack. An improvement is reported in the edge-tool, plantation and Brazil hoe trades.

**Coal Mining.**—On Cannock Chase the pits are working on an average about 3 days per week; in the Tamworth district they are still slack; in Shropshire employment is unchanged.

**Building Trades.**—Bricklayers, carpenters, painters and plasterers are well employed; plumbers are not quite so brisk.

**Glass Trades.**—At Wordsley, Stourbridge and Brettle Lane employment is reported as improved in the etching and engraving departments, and as fully maintained in the making and cutting shops. The Brierley Hill glass bottle works have not yet recommenced working.

**Leather Trades.**—Employment in the leather trades has improved, and is fairly good.

**Textile Trades.**—At Kidderminster employment in the carpet and spinning trades is slack, some firms only running 40 hours per week. At Bridgnorth and Tamworth work in the mills is reported as steady.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment continues good in the ready-made and bespoke tailoring trades. Full time is being worked in the boot and shoe factories.—C. Anthony.

**Birmingham and District.**

**General.**—Branches of societies, with 14,321 members, return 245 (or 1.7 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 223 (or 1.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

**Engineering.**—Employment in the engineering trade continues good, being as yet unaffected by the general dispute, and many firms are working overtime. In the cycle industry employment is quiet. At one large firm the men are suspended for a month, and many men all over the district are being discharged owing to want of orders. In the Coventry District general engineering is good; cycle and tyre making is slack, and men are being discharged. At Redditch employment on cycles keeps good, overtime being worked in some departments.

**Brass and Copper Working.**—Employment in the brass trade is good, overtime being worked at many shops. Fender and fire brassworkers are well employed.

**Jewellers, Silversmiths, and Electro Platers.**—Employment in the jewellery trade is still slack. Electro-plate workers are fairly well employed, several firms working overtime. Employment with Britannia metal-workers is only moderate, one firm working overtime and several short time.

**Other Metal Trades.**—Ironfounders are fully employed. Bedstead-makers and flemishers report employment as good. Employment in the iron-plate trade is quiet; in the Lye district it is fair.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is good throughout the district.

**Glass Trade.**—The flint glassmakers report employment as fair; the glass bevellers and silverers as good. In the West Bromwich district employment in the glass trade is good.

**Woodworking Trades.**—Cabinet-makers, mill sawyers and machinists, and coachmakers report employment as good. Coopers report wet work as good; dry work as rather slack.

**Clothing Trades.**—Tailors report employment as fair, with no overtime; boot and shoe operatives as not brisk. The dispute at Dudley still continues.

**Miscellaneous.**—Printers are fairly occupied. In Coventry the letterpress printers are working overtime. Sporting and military gunmakers report employment as fairly good, some firms working overtime. Gasworkers are fairly well employed. In Coventry the watch trade is good; weavers are on short time. In Redditch employment with needle-makers has improved.—A. R. Jephcott.

**ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES.  
Norfolk and neighbouring District.**

**General.**—Branches of societies, with 3,219 members, have 12 unemployed, compared with none unemployed at the end of June.

**Clothing Trades.**—The ready-made tailoring factories at Norwich are on full time and fairly busy. Bespoke tailors are fairly busy throughout the district. Boot and shoe makers at Cambridge are well employed. The dispute in the boot and shoe trade at Norwich still continues.

**Building Trades.**—Employment throughout the district is fairly good, except with painters, with whom it is falling off.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—Engineers and boiler-makers throughout the district are well employed; shipwrights and boat-

builders at Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Brundall and Wroxham are fairly well employed.

**Textile Trades.**—At Norwich and Yarmouth the silk and crape factories are running full time.

**Printing and Bookbinding.**—Employment with letterpress printers at Norwich, Yarmouth and Fakenham is fair; with lithographic printers moderate; with bookbinders good.

**Fishing Industry.**—At Yarmouth and Lowestoft fishing is dull, as the Midsummer voyage is finishing. Trawl fishing has not been good.

**Miscellaneous.**—Horticultural builders are busy; navvies and general labourers are well employed.—G. Cleverley.

**Suffolk, Essex, and District.**

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—The engineers report employment as good at Bury St. Edmunds, Beccles, Colchester, Chelmsford, Halstead and Earl's Colne; as fair at Ipswich and Leiston; bad at Wickham Market; the boiler-makers and shipwrights as good at Ipswich; and the shipwrights as good at Rowhedge and Wivenhoe.

**Clothing Trades.**—The boot and shoe operatives at Ipswich and Colchester report employment as moderate. In the wholesale tailoring trade employment is fair at Ipswich and good at Colchester. Employment is fair with corset-makers at Ipswich and Sudbury.

**Textile Trades.**—The mat weavers at Sudbury, Long Melford, Lavenham and Hadleigh report employment as good; at Glensford as moderate. Horsehair weavers at Lavenham, silk weavers at Sudbury, and silk and crape operatives at Halstead, Earl's Colne and Braintree are well employed.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is good generally throughout the district.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—Employment with letterpress printers is good at Ipswich, Beccles, Bury St. Edmunds, and Chelmsford; moderate at Colchester. Lithographers and bookbinders at Ipswich are moderately employed.

**Miscellaneous.**—Shipping and dock labour at Ipswich is dull. Horticultural builders at Ipswich and Chelmsford, and brickmakers at Sudbury, Chelmsford and Braintree are well employed. Leather workers are moderately employed. Gasworkers are busy at Ipswich and Colchester. General labourers are reported as well employed throughout the district.—R. W. Mather.

**ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES.  
Bristol, Somerset, and Gloucestershire District.**

**General.**—Societies and branches with 8,647 members have 143 (or 1.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 82 (or 1.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is good throughout the district, except at Weston-super-Mare and Taunton, where there is a slight falling off.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—Employment varies in the Radstock coalfield from 2 to 5 days per week. In the Bedminster district it averages 5 days; on the other side of Bristol it does not exceed 3½ days per week. In the Forest of Dean it is reported as fair on house and good on steam coal. Stone quarrymen and iron ore workers are busy.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—Branches of these trades with 3,020 members have 40 (or 1.3 per cent.) unemployed, as against 8 (or 0.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. The increase in unemployed is principally among the shipwrights, employment in most other branches being good. The sailmakers report employment as moderate.

**Dock Labour.**—In Bristol grain and timber handlers report employment as fairly good; the general cargo hands as slack.

**Clothing Trades.**—Extreme slackness is reported in the Bristol boot and shoe industry; the operatives are not working on an average more than 2½ days per week. The heavy nail trade at Kingswood is improving. The bespoke tailors, silk hatters, and wholesale garment-makers report employment as fair.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment in Trowbridge is reported as slack in the worsted, and improving in the woollen branches. At Wellington it is good in the worsted branch, slack in other branches. Employment in the glove industry at Yeovil is reported as fair.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment is good in the furnishing trades, improving with coopers, and fair with mill sawyers and wood cutting machinists.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment, with letterpress and lithographic printers is reported as fair; with bakers as moderate; with glass bottle-makers as good.—J. Curle.

## EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—WALES AND SCOTLAND.

**Plymouth and South-Western District.**

**Mining, Quarrying and Clay Industries.**—The metal mining industry of Cornwall remains unchanged, and a further number of miners have left the district. Clay workers and quarrymen continue busy.

**Engineering and allied Trades.**—Branches of engineers, ironfounders, boiler-makers, brassfounders and finishers report employment as good. These branches, with 1,447 members, have only 4 unemployed. Wheelwrights and smiths continue busy.

**Clothing Trades.**—Both in the ready-made and bespoke departments of the tailoring trade employment has continued good. The boot and shoe trades have shown a decline.

**Building Trades.**—Employment in the building trade generally is good, except in Torquay.

**Transport.**—Employment remains quiet at the docks, and quayside labourers have been on short time during the month. Seamen show no change. Men on the river service and bargemen are well employed.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—Employment with the letterpress printers is fairly good. The lithographic printers and bookbinders are moderately employed.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment continues fairly good with the mill-sawyers and machinists, upholsterers, polishers and cabinet-makers.

**Miscellaneous.**—The bakers are fairly busy. The fishing industry has been good. General labourers, excavators and workers in brickyards are well employed.—J. Welland.

**WALES.****North Wales District.**

**Mining.**—Except at a few collieries, employment has been good during the month.

**Quarrying.**—Except at the Penrhyn quarry, which continues closed, employment in the slate quarries is good. It is also good in the granite, sett, limestone, roadstone, and freestone quarries.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment is good at the Brymbo steel works. At an iron works in Holywell a blast furnace has been restarted and more men are being employed. Engineers at Oswestry report employment as still moderate; employment is good at the spelter works at Bagillt, and at the wagon works at Johnstown.

**Building Trades.**—At Wrexham employment is reported as good with the bricklayers; fair with the carpenters and joiners; and slack with painters. At Oswestry as dull with the bricklayers; moderate with the carpenters. Employment in every branch continues steady in the Rhos district, brisk at Ruabon and Cefn.

**Brick and Terra Cotta Works.**—Employment continues good at the various brick and terra cotta works in the Wrexham, Rhos, Ruabon and Penybont districts.

**Chemical Trades.**—Full time is being worked at the chemical works at Flint and Ruabon.

**Textile and Clothing Trades.**—The workmen in the tweed industry of Montgomeryshire are reported as fairly well engaged. The bespoke tailors at Oswestry report employment as fairly good; at Rhyl as good.—G. Rowley.

**South Wales District.**

**Coal Mining.**—Employment in certain districts has not been so good, especially in the Rhondda Valley. At Ebbw Vale, Blaena, Tredegar, Dowlais and Cyfarthfa colliers are reported as working regularly; at Blaenavon and Rhondda as averaging about 5 days a week; in the Garw Valley and the western district from 4½ to 5 days a week. The sliding scale audit for the 2 months ending June 30th 1897 makes no change in wages.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is generally reported as good or moderate. Branches of carpenters and joiners with 1,396 members have 18 (or 1.3 per cent.) unemployed, as against 23 (or 1.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

**Ship Repairing and Engineering.**—Employment has not been so good in either branch. Boiler-makers report 20 per cent. out of work, shipwrights 30 per cent. Branches of engineers with 2,895 members have 92 (or 3.2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 58 (or 2.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. Moulders report employment as good. Engineering firms in the colliery and inland districts are busy. Sailmakers report employment as quiet.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—Employment on coal shipments at Cardiff, Barry, and Penarth has been moderate, at Newport and Swansea fair; in the iron ore, pitwood, and timber trades, good; in the corn trade dull; on general cargo shipment slack. The shipment of crews has been quiet.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—Returns from Ebbw Vale, Tredegar, Dowlais, Cyfarthfa, Rogerstone, Briton Ferry, Neath and Landore, report mills and furnaces as going regularly. The Cardiff Dowlais steel works are brisk, but the mills are only working 4 days a week.

**Miscellaneous.**—Wagon-builders and lifters report employment as good; fuel workers as moderate. Employment in smelting and chemical industries is dull.—T. Davies.

**The Tinplate Trade in South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire.**

—It is reported that this industry is still disturbed owing to the continuance of trade disputes. Workmen unemployed through depression of trade and other causes unconnected with disputes are gradually finding work in other trades. Returns relating to 87 works with 479 mills show that 36 works with 191 mills were giving full employment at the end of July, and 33 works with 172 mills were idle. The remaining 18 works with 116 mills were giving partial employment, 81 of these mills being at work, thus bringing the total number of mills at work up to 272 as compared with 278 at the end of June, and 308 at the end of July 1896.

**SCOTLAND.****Edinburgh and District.**

**General.**—Branches with 16,709 members return 221 (or 1.3 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 269 (or 1.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

**Coal Mining.**—Employment continues good in Mid and East Lothian. Quite 90 per cent. of the miners are fully employed; the remainder are getting from 9 to 10 days' work per fortnight. There is no change in the state of employment in West Lothian.

**Shale Mines and Oil Works.**—Employment in these trades continues fairly regular with all classes of workers. Returns have been received relating to 36 pits, employing 4,023 workpeople, compared with 4,604 in July 1896. Full time was worked at 14 pits, employing 2,051 workpeople; 2 small pits worked 12 days only, while at the other 20 pits employment ranged from 17 to 23 days during the four weeks ended 24th July.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Branches with 2,522 members have 54 (or 2.1 per cent.) idle, as against 23 (or 0.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. Branches of the iron trades in Falkirk with 2,239 members report one member idle.

**Shipbuilding.**—Employment in the shipbuilding yards in Leith has improved with the boiler-makers, but is still bad with the shipwrights. Three branches of boiler-makers and shipwrights with 570 members have 70 (or 12.3 per cent.) idle, as against 140 (or 24.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

**Textile Trades.**—The carpet-weavers in Midlothian report employment as good. Employment in the linen industry in Dunfermline has not improved. In the woollen industry in Selkirk employment is quiet with the spinners; with the weavers it is slightly better than with the spinners; in Galashiels most of the mills are running short time; in Hawick both weavers and spinners have much broken time. Hosiery workers are quiet in Hawick, fairly employed in Selkirk.

**Building Trades.**—Branches with 5,840 members have 3 idle, as against 4 at the end of June.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Branches with 1,067 members have 13 (or 1.2 per cent.) idle, as against 18 (or 1.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—The seamen and firemen report employment as good; dock labourers were slack the first half of the month, and busy the latter half; coal porters have been steadily employed.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—Branches with 2,265 members have 56 (or 2.5 per cent.) idle, as against 55 at the end of June.

**Miscellaneous.**—The carriers, shoemakers, bakers and tailors report employment as quiet; the glass cutters and glassmakers as fair; the saddlers and setmakers as good.—J. Mallinson.

**Glasgow and West of Scotland.**

**Shipbuilding.**—Reports are of a favourable character, but the output has not been large on account of the holidays. Branches with 10,509 members have 329 (or 3.1 per cent.) idle, as against 318 (or 3.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. Sailmakers report employment as good.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment continues good throughout the West of Scotland, except in so far as it is disturbed by the lock-out of the engineers. Branches with 25,957 members have 701 (or 2.7 per cent.) idle, as against 457 (or 1.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

**Mining.**—In Dumbartonshire work has been disturbed by the holidays. In Stirlingshire the miners were busy before the holidays. In Ayrshire employment is fair. The Dalry ironstone workers are still on four days per week. In Lanarkshire employment is good,



EMPLOYMENT IN JULY—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.).—SCOTLAND AND IRELAND.

In the Renfrewshire collieries full time continues. In the ironstone pits at Nitshill the men are working four days per week; full time is being worked at Lugton and Paisley.

Building Trades.—Employment is good generally. Branches with 12,319 members return 58 (or 0.5 per cent.) as idle, as against 31 (or 0.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment has been good, except with the packing box makers, who have not recovered; from the effects of the late dispute. Branches with 3,818 members return 58 (or 1.5 per cent.) as idle, as against 40 (or 1.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Textile Trades.—In Glasgow and district employment in weaving is still dull. The calendermen, powerloom beamers, calico engravers, and rope and twine spinners report employment as dull. In Kilbirnie the linen thread mills are busy; some networkers are not working full time. In Port Glasgow textile workers are busy. In Paisley the thread mills are now working full time.

Clothing Trades.—The bespoke tailors report employment as fairly good before the holidays but only moderate since. The tailors' machinists and pressers report employment as dull; the clothiers' operatives give a favourable report; the mantle factories are busy. The boot and shoe operatives have been dull during the month; the boot, pump, and slipper makers report employment as improved the knee shoemakers as fair, the curriers as dull.

Shipping Dock and Transport Labour.—The sailors and firemen, dock labourers, coal trimmers, carters, railwaymen, tramwaymen, and hackney carriage drivers are all well employed.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress printers continue dull in Glasgow; they are moderately employed in Paisley. Lithographic printers, electrotypers and stereotypers are busy; bookbinders dull.—A. J. Hunter.

Dundee and District.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the jute and linen trades continues quiet. In several instances, manufacturers have closed their establishments for a longer holiday period than usual. The percentage of unemployed is higher than for a considerable time.

Coal Mining.—The coal trade in Fife remains good, although work at the pits has been somewhat interfered with by the holidays. Returns from collieries employing upwards of 11,000 workpeople show an average of 4.79 days per week worked during the four weeks ending 24th July, as compared with 4.87 in June.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—Considerable activity has prevailed in all branches of the engineering and shipbuilding trades. Branches with 2,272 members report 66 (or 2.9 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 37 (or 1.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. Sailmakers report employment as quiet.

Building and Woodworking Trades.—The building trades generally continue well employed, and the cabinet and house furnishing industries remain busy. Societies with 1,550 members report 14 (or 0.9 per cent.) as idle, as compared with 10 (or 0.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Dock Labour.—Employment at the docks and jetties has continued good throughout the month.

Fishing Industry.—The herring fishing has not been attended with much success as yet, and very few boats are engaged in the haddock fishing. The salmon fishing boats have done better during the month.

Miscellaneous.—Employment in the printing and kindred trades is reported as slack; with tailors as fair; in the boot and shoe trade as quiet. Floorcloth-makers are busy.—P. Reid.

Aberdeen and District.

General.—Branches with 5,951 members have 31 (or 0.5 per cent.) unemployed, as against 70 (or 1.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Quarrying.—The blockers, drillers, cranemen, settmakers, granite polishers, and labourers report employment as good; monumental masons as still improving.

Building Trades.—Employment is good generally. Branches with 2,258 members have none idle, as against 14 at the end of June.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—The boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders report employment as declining in shipyards, busy in boiler shops, and bad in bridge shops. Other branches of these trades report employment as good. Branches, with 1,231 members, return 31 (or 2.5 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 27 (or 2.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Printing and kindred Trades.—All branches of these trades report employment as good, with none idle.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—Tailors and hand sewn boot and shoe makers report employment as good; boot and shoe riveters and finishers as moderate; jute, woollen, and cotton operatives as fair; carpet weavers as slightly improved.

Transport Trades.—Railway servants, sailors and firemen and carters report employment as good.

Fishing.—In July at the port of Aberdeen trawl and line boats landed 54,491 cwts. of fish, valued at £25,936, a decrease in weight and value as compared with the previous month.

Miscellaneous.—Cabinet-makers and upholsterers report employment as good, combmakers as moderate, bakers as good.

W. Johnston.

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

Building Trades.—Employment has been fair in all branches except with paviors. Branches with 3,228 members have 57 (or 1.8 per cent.) unemployed, as against 74 (or 2.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Metal Trades.—Work in all branches is reported as fair. Branches with 852 members return 22 (or 2.6 per cent.) as idle, as against 24 (or 2.9 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Clothing Trades.—The tailoring industry has not been so good, but work has been fair with branches of the bootmaking trade.

Printing and kindred Trades.—The letterpress printers report employment as not so good as in June; the lithographers as moderate; the binders, stereotypers, machine assistants, and despatch hands as fair. Branches with 1,250 members return 81 (or 6.5 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 47 (or 3.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.

Dock and Transport Labour.—Employment generally has been good among the dockers; fair with sailors and firemen, and tramway and railway servants; dull with the grain checkers.

J. P. Nannetti.

Belfast and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Branches with 10,588 members return 198 (or 1.9 per cent.) as unemployed, in addition to 561 (or 5.3 per cent.) directly affected by the dispute in the engineering trade. The blacksmiths report employment as dull; the iron-founders as moderate; other trades as fair or good.

Linen Trades.—Societies with 4,076 members report 118 (or 2.9 per cent.) as unemployed, the same percentage as of June. The power-loom tenters report employment as bad; the flax-roughers and power-loom yarn dressers as dull; the flax-dressers as middling; linen-lappers and yarn bundlers as fair; beetling enginemen, hackle and gill makers and spindle and flyermakers as good.

Building Trades.—The plumbers are on strike. Other branches, with 3,163 members, have only 12 unemployed.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Associations with 651 members return 24 (or 3.7 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 11 (or 1.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. Packing case makers report employment as slack; cabinet makers as fair; coopers, coach-builders, french polishers and upholsterers as good.

Printing and kindred Trades.—Organisations with 891 members report 44 (or 4.9 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 16 (or 1.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June. The bookbinders and machine rulers report employment as dull; letterpress printers as fair; lithographic printers as good.

Clothing Trades.—The boot and shoe operatives, and the tailors, with 764 members, return none as totally unemployed, though some are only partially employed.

Miscellaneous.—Societies with 1,751 members return 51 (or 2.9 per cent.) as unemployed, as against 39 (or 2.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of June.—R. Sheldon.

Cork and District.

Shipbuilding.—Boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders in Cork, Passage West, and Limerick report employment as fair; in Waterford as dull; shipwrights and shipjoiners as slack generally.

Building Trades.—Employment in all branches of these trades in Cork, Limerick, Waterford and Tralee is good.

Textile and Clothing Trades.—Flax, tweed and feather operatives, tailors, boot and shoe operatives and handsewn boot and shoemakers report employment as fair throughout the district.

Furnishing and Woodworking.—Cabinet-makers and coachmakers, sawyers and woodcutting machinists report employment as fair; coopers as bad.

Miscellaneous.—Cork cutters, letterpress printers, gasfitters, carters, bacon-curers, and quay labourers report employment as fair.

P. O'Shea.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN JULY.

(For Summary of these detailed Tables, see p. 229.)

I. Railway Servants.

(Supplied by the Railway Department of the Board of Trade.) Table showing the number of railway servants reported as killed or injured by accidents in which the movement of railway vehicles was concerned, during the month of July 1897. [The number of Servants employed by the Railway Companies of the United Kingdom was 465,112 on 31st December, 1895.]

Table with 7 columns: Class of Service, Killed, Cause of Accidents, Dislocations, Contusions, Cuts, Unspecified, Total Injured. Rows include Brakesmen and Goods Guards, Engine Drivers, Firemen, Guards (Passenger), Permanent Way Men, Porters, Shunters, Miscellaneous, and Total for July 1897.

NOTE.—In addition to the above the companies have reported 4 servants killed and 919 injured by accidents occurring on the companies' premises, but in which the movement of vehicles was not concerned, during July, as compared with 1 killed and 897 injured in July 1896.

II. Miners and Quarrymen.\*

Table showing the number of persons reported as killed or injured in and about mines and quarries during the month of July 1897. [The number of persons employed in and about mines was returned as 725,803, and in and about quarries (more than 20 feet deep) as 112,829, in 1896.]

Table with 4 columns: Cause of Accident, Number of Persons (Killed, Injured), Cause of Accident, Number of Persons (Killed, Injured). Rows include Underground (Explosions, Falls, etc.) and Surface (Miscellaneous) for both Mines and Quarries.

\* Supplied by the Home Office.

III. Seamen (Fatal and Non-fatal Accidents).

(Supplied by the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen.) Table showing the number of persons forming the crews of registered vessels of the undermentioned classes, belonging to the British Islands, reported during the month of July 1897 as having been killed or injured by accidents at sea, or in rivers or harbours.

Table with 6 columns: Cause and Class of Accident, On Trading Vessels, On Fishing Vessels, Total in July 1897, Total for 3 months May to July 1897, Corresponding total for 3 months of 1896. Rows include I.—By Wreck or Casualty, II.—By other Accidents, III.—All Accidents.

NOTE.—Deaths or injuries on yachts and vessels employed exclusively in rivers and inland navigation, and injuries on fishing vessels employed in and out of Scottish Ports, and on vessels trading exclusively between Scottish Ports, or to Asiatics serving under Asiatic articles of agreement, are not included.

IV. Factory and Workshop Operatives.\*

(A) Table showing the number of persons reported to H.M. Chief Inspector by Certifying Surgeons as killed or injured during the month of July 1897, distinguishing Factories and Workshops. † [The classes of accidents reported are those specified in Section 18 (2) of the Factory and Workshop Act of 1895.]

Table with 7 columns: Class of Accident, Number of Males (Adults, Young Persons, Boys, Total), Number of Females (Young Persons, Girls, Total), Total Males and Females. Rows include In Factories (Killed, Injured) and In Workshops (Killed, Injured).

\* Supplied by the Home Office. † There were also 1,884 other non-fatal accidents only required to be reported to H.M. Inspectors, viz., 1,880 in Factories and 4 in Workshops, as compared with a total of 1,708 in July 1896.

(B) Table showing the number of persons killed or injured by accidents reported to H.M. Inspectors of Factories by occupiers of factories and workshops during June and July 1897 respectively, grouped according to industries.\*

Table with 4 columns: Groups of Industries, July 1897 (Killed, Injured), June 1897 (Killed, Injured). Rows include Textiles, Non-Textiles, Metals, Founding and Conversion, etc.

\* Exclusive of accidents reported by Mines' Inspectors.

V. Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894.

(Supplied by the Railway Department of the Board of Trade.) Table showing the number of persons killed and injured in accidents reported to the Board of Trade under the Notice of Accidents Act, 1894, during the month of July 1897.

Table with 4 columns: Nature of Works, Construction or Repair, Use or Working, Injured. Rows include Bridge, Canal, Railway, Tramroad, Tunnel, etc.

\* Accidents during the working of railways being reportable under other Acts are not notified under the Act of 1894. † Authorised by any local or personal Act of Parliament. ‡ Or other steam engine or machine in the open air.



CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN JULY.

(Based on information obtained from all available sources, verified and corrected by direct application to the Employers, Trade Unions, and other parties concerned.)

Summary.—The total number of workpeople affected by changes in wages reported in July was about 32,200, and the net effect per head on the wages of these workpeople was an average increase of 1s. per week. About 31,500 received increases averaging 1s. 0½d. per head per week, and 700 sustained decreases averaging 1s. 4½d. per head per week.

Increases.—The ironworkers, to the number of 20,600, in the Midlands and South Lancs and South Yorks, and about 3,200 employees in the building and 3,250 engineering and shipbuilding groups of trades, received increases.

Decreases.—One hundred and fifty coal miners and 507 workpeople in the textile trades sustained decreases.

Method of Settlement.—Strikes preceded changes affecting about 3,100 workpeople, negotiation or voluntary concession taking place in the cases of changes affecting 9,100, the 20,000 ironworkers in the Midlands receiving their advance under sliding scale agreement.

Totals for first seven months of 1897.—For the seven months, January to July, about 381,000 workpeople were reported as receiving advances and 7,500 as having sustained decreases. The net effect of all these changes on the weekly wages of these 388,600 workpeople is estimated at an increase of 1s. 1d. per head.

NOTE.—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 changes in the pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c.

Table with columns: Employment, Locality, Date of change, Approximate Number of workpeople directly affected, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of wages in a full week, exclusive of overtime, Increase or Decrease in a full week, exclusive of overtime.

26 Increases—3,196 Workpeople.

BUILDING TRADES. Decreases—Nil.

Table listing building trades such as Bricklayers, Stonemasons, Carpenters and Joiners, Plumbers, Plasterers, Painters, Stonemasons' Labourers, Builders' Labourers with their respective wages and changes.

2 Increases—177 Workpeople.

MINING AND QUARRYING. 2 Decreases—159 Workpeople.

Table listing mining and quarrying trades such as Hurriers, Coal Miners, Ditto, Quarriers, Labourers.

2 Increases—20,600 Workpeople.

IRON TRADES. Decreases—Nil.

Table listing iron trades such as Ironworkers—Puddlers, Millmen, Blastfurnacemen.

21 Increases—3,235 Workpeople.

ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES. Decreases—Nil.

Table listing engineering and shipbuilding trades such as Boilermakers, Ship Joiners, Fitters, Turners, &c., Patternmakers, Cycle Fitters, &c., Ironfounders, Patternmakers, Riveters and Holders-up, Smiths' Strikers, Ironfounders, Brassfinishers, Brassmoulders.

\* Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade, the weekly rate given in the table is the result of averaging the wages for five summer weeks and two winter weeks. When a change in wages is accompanied by a change in hours of labour, the weekly wages before and after change are computed on the basis of the old and new hours respectively. † See also under Changes in Hours of Labour.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN JULY—continued.

Table with columns: Employment, Locality, Date of change, Approximate Number of workpeople directly affected, Particulars of Change, Estimated Rate of Wages in a full week, exclusive of overtime, Increase or Decrease in a full week, exclusive of overtime.

ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES. (continued).

Table listing engineering and shipbuilding trades such as Ironmoulders, Blacksmiths, Boiler makers and Shipbuilders, Brass Finishers, Ironfounders, Fitters (Tramways), Electrical Workers, Fitters, etc.

Increases—Nil.

TEXTILE TRADES. 3 Decreases—507 Workpeople.

Table listing textile trades such as Worsted Weavers, Hand-loom Silk Weavers, Fustian Cutters.

6 Increases—452 Workpeople.

WOODWORKING AND FURNISHING TRADES. Decreases—Nil.

Table listing woodworking and furnishing trades such as Mill sawyers and Machinists, Saw Handle Makers, Cabinet Makers and Shop Fitters, Cartwrights, Mill sawyers, Wood Turners.

10 Increases—1,778 Workpeople.

EMPLOYEES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES. Decreases—Nil.

Table listing employees of local authorities such as Tramway employees—Drivers, Conductors, Other Workpeople, Park Gardeners, Horse Drivers, Gasworkers, Labourers, Coke Wheelers, Engine Drivers, Boiler Firemen, Valvemans, Yard Labourers, Plumbers' Mates, Scaffolders, Timbermen, Carmen, Dust Collectors, Baths and Washhouse Attendants, Close & Court Sweepers.

10 Increases—2,070 Workpeople.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADES. Decreases—Nil.

Table listing miscellaneous trades such as Cement Workers, Fish Landers, Table and Butcher Blade Grinders, Handle and Scale Cutters, Flatmen, Saddlers, Railway Porters, Labourers (Golf ground), Bakers, Carters, Road Labourers.

3 Increases—13 Workpeople.

SEAMEN. 1 Decrease—8 Workpeople.

Table listing seamen with columns: Port, Voyage, Occupation, No. shipped at new Rate during July, Particulars of Change, June, July, Increase, Decrease.

\* See also under Changes in Hours of Labour. Agricultural Wages.—Wages for the hay harvest in the West Riding of Yorkshire are generally £1 per month higher than last year, but in the Ongar Union of Essex £1 5s. less owing to the great storm. For particulars of Agricultural Hirings see p. 230.



CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN JULY.

THE changes in hours of labour reported during July were all decreases, and affected about 3,100 workpeople, 2,500 engineers in London, in addition to the 7,000 published last month, obtaining the 48 hours week. The average reduction of working hours was 5.4 per week.

Strikes preceded changes affecting 2,565 workpeople, the changes affecting the remaining 535 being effected by negotiation or voluntary concession.

Table with columns: Employment, Locality, Date of change, Approximate number of work-people directly affected, Hours of labour in a full week (Before change, After change), Extent of decrease per week.

\* See also under Changes in Rates of Wages. † Winter hours. ‡ Mid-winter. § Summer hours. ¶ On 6th August the hours labour of these boys were further reduced to 57 per week. †† This 2,500 is in addition to the 7,000 shown in the July GAZETTE.

LABOUR CASES IN JULY.

THE following are among the more interesting legal cases of the month, specially affecting labour. The accounts are based principally upon reports appearing in local newspapers.

(1) MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT.

Conveyance of Seamen to England when discharged abroad.—This was an appeal from the trial of an action without a jury. The action was brought by a seaman against shipowners to recover certain expenses incurred by the plaintiff by reason of the master of the defendants' ship, in which the plaintiff was employed, having failed to comply with the requirements of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894. The plaintiff lived at West Hartlepool, and he signed articles for a voyage on one of the defendants' steamships from West Hartlepool to any port or ports within certain limits for a period not exceeding one year, and back to a final port of discharge in the United Kingdom, or on the Continent of Europe between the Elbe and Brest, at the master's option. The ship sailed on her voyage, and on November 25th 1896 she arrived at Antwerp, and on the 27th the crew were discharged. The master had an interview with the Consul, and according to the master's evidence (which the judge at the trial accepted), the Consul arranged with the crew for the payment of their passage home, offering them a passage to Grimsby, which they all accepted, and the master gave a guarantee to the Consul for the particular sum which the Consul told him he would have to pay for the expenses thereof. The crew's wages were, therefore, paid, and the Consul made out and handed to them vouchers for their passages by a steamer leaving Antwerp on the next day, the 28th, for Grimsby, where the steamer arrived on the 29th. From Grimsby the plaintiff took the train to West Hartlepool. The voucher for the passage did not include maintenance on board. The master subsequently paid the Consul the guaranteed sum. The plaintiff claimed (1) maintenance and expenses for one day at Antwerp; (2) maintenance on the voyage to Grimsby; and (3) the train fare from Grimsby to West Hartlepool. The claim was based on Section 186 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, which is as follows:—

(1) In the following cases—namely, . . . (b) where the service of any seaman or apprentice belonging to any British ship terminates at any port out of her Majesty's dominion . . . (2) The master shall also, besides paying the wages to which the seaman or apprentice is entitled, either (a) provide him with adequate employment on board some other British ship bound to the port in Her Majesty's dominions at which he was originally shipped, or to a port in the United Kingdom agreed to by the seaman or (b) furnish the means of sending him back to some such port, or (c) provide him with a passage home, or (d) deposit with the Consul officer or merchants aforesaid such a sum of money as is by the officer or merchants deemed sufficient to defray the expenses of his maintenance and passage home. Upon failure of the master to comply with the requirements of the Section the expenses of the maintenance or passage home shall be recoverable

by the seaman. The judge held that the master, having paid the Consul what he demanded, had satisfied the requirements of Section 186, Sub-section 2 (d); and, further, that the passage to Grimsby was a "passage home" within Sub-section 2 (c). He accordingly gave judgment for the defendants. The plaintiff appealed.

The Court, in dismissing the appeal, said that as far as the agreement was concerned the appellant might be discharged at a port in the United Kingdom or any one of certain particular ports abroad, of which Antwerp was one. He was discharged at Antwerp, and by the contract he was entitled to be paid his wages up to the time of his discharge, and nothing more. But with regard to the appellant's rights under Section 186 of the Merchant Shipping Act, the Court, having discussed the various sub-sections, held that the effect of Sub-section 2 (d) was to put upon the Consul officer the duty of determining what sum of money was sufficient, and made the Consul officer the arbitrator of what the amount should be without appeal. If the shipowner paid that sum, he could not be under any further liability, and no action could lie against him at the suit of the seaman; and of course no action would lie against the Consul officer. The Court expressed the opinion that where the Consul officer did undertake to send a seaman home, he ought to take into account the maintenance on board as well as the passage home, but if sub-section 2 (d) was complied with the seaman could do nothing further. As regarded the train fare from Grimsby to West Hartlepool, the plaintiff could not claim that, having agreed to be sent to Grimsby. As regarded his claim to maintenance while he was at Antwerp, the Court held that no such claim could be made under the Act. Appeal dismissed.—Court of Appeal, July 19th.

(2) EMPLOYERS AND WORKMEN'S ACT.

Cumulative Penalties for Continuing Breach of Agreement.—This was an appeal against a decision of a stipendiary magistrate, ordering the appellant to pay a sum of £10 damages and costs. The facts of the case were as follows:—The appellant was a workman, and the respondents were a firm of tube manufacturers. By an agreement in writing made on October 22nd 1896, the respondents agreed to take the appellant into their employment for 52 weeks at a certain rate of weekly wages. The appellant worked until November 16th, and then left his work without any intention of returning. On December 16th 1896, the respondents took proceedings in the Police Court under the Employers and Workmen's Act to recover the sum of £10 as damages, and the stipendiary magistrate gave judgment for the respondents for the amount claimed with costs. On December 29th the respondents again took proceedings against the appellant in the same court to recover a further sum of £10 as damages for absentsing himself from work from November 30th to December 12th, and the same magistrate again gave judgment for the amount claimed with costs. Against this second judgment the appellant appealed. It was contended, on behalf of the appellant, that the judgment in the second case was wrong, because the jurisdiction being limited by Section 4 of the Act to £10, the jurisdiction was exhausted by the judgment in the first case. Secondly, that the claim in both proceedings was for one and the same cause of action, and that the respondents ought to have brought an action in the County Court or the High Court to recover damages for the abstinence from work during different periods of time covered by the same agreement. The Court held that the first of these objections must prevail. It was clear that both periods of absence might have been sued for in one action, and that the whole claim for damages in respect of such continued absence formed at the expiration of the continuous period of absence, in fact and in law, one dispute only, and ought to have been so treated. It was not competent for the respondent to divide the one continuous period of absence into two periods of about a fortnight each for the mere purpose of making it appear that there were two separate disputes between the parties, and thus harassing the workman. In this case the workman from the first intimated his intention of breaking his contract, and did so by leaving his service. But it was one breach, though each day's additional absence might add to the damages recoverable against him in an action. Appeal allowed with costs.—Queen's Bench Division, July 3rd.

DAINGEROUS TRADES.

THE report of the Departmental Committee appointed to enquire into the conditions of work in wool-sorting and other kindred trades has just been issued. The industries inquired into are those in which anthrax is alleged to occur, viz., wool-sorting, hair factories, brushmaking, bone factories, fellmongers' works, furriers' works, and tanneries. The committee have also enquired into the conditions in woolcombing, blanket-storing and tenting, warpdressing, carbonising and grinding of rags, flockmaking and feather-cleaning. The wools which have come to be regarded as dangerous are only used in the worsted manufacture, including certain branches of carpet-making, and this report contains in an appendix the special rules proposed for regulating "wool sorting and the processes incidental thereto." The Committee recommend that the processes preceding the immersion in lime pits of Russian, Chinese, and dry East Indian hides and skins should be certified as dangerous, and that special rules should be issued. They recommend the total exclusion from factories and workshops of Russian and Siberian manes. Failing such exclusion they advise that all manipulation of Russian, Chinese or South American tail or bristles should be certified as dangerous, and that special rules should be issued. They also consider that special rules should be issued in the rag trade. They do not consider that any of the other trades referred to them are of a sufficiently dangerous character to warrant special rules.

\* Dangerous Trades (Anthrax) Committee Report.—3,506. Price 1s.

PAUPERISM IN JULY.

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

THE number of persons relieved in 35 selected urban districts of the United Kingdom on one day in the second week of July was 315,241, corresponding to a rate of 201 per 10,000 of the estimated population of those districts in 1897.

Compared with June last, the number relieved has decreased by 229, the rate per 10,000 remaining the same. Twelve districts only show increased rates, viz.:—Dublin District (7 per 10,000), North Staffordshire (4), Hull (2), and Stockton and Tees, Wigan, Bradford, Leeds, Sheffield, Paisley and Greenock, Aberdeen, Belfast, and Galway districts 1 each. In 8 districts the rate remains the same, while in the remaining 15 districts decreases are shown; the largest decreases being in the West London district (3), and in the North London, Central London, Newcastle, Leicester, Edinburgh, Dundee, and Cork districts (2 each). The rate for the whole Metropolis has fallen by 1 per 10,000.

Compared with July 1896, the total number relieved has decreased by 357, and the rate per 10,000 of population by 3. The decrease was entirely in outdoor pauperism, indoor pauperism showing an increase. Fourteen districts show an increased rate, the largest increases being in the Paisley and Greenock district (21 per 10,000), Barnsley, Cork, Waterford and Limerick, and Galway districts (9 each). In 2 districts the rate was the same, while in the remaining 19 districts decreases are shown, the most marked being in the Hull district (18), Wolverhampton (14), West Ham (11) and Leicester (10).

Table with columns: Selected Urban Districts, Paupers on one day in second week of July 1897 (In-door, Out-door, TOTAL), Paupers on corresponding date in previous year (Total Number, Rate per 10,000 of estimated Population).

\* 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.

WORK OF LABOUR BUREAUX IN JULY.

DURING July 1,647 fresh applications for work were registered by the 13 bureaux making returns. Of the 985 persons for whom work was found, 748 were engaged by private employers, and 237 by local authorities. At the end of the month there were 2,286 workpeople on the registers, of whom 1,132 were men, 144 lads and boys, and 1,010 women and girls.

The number of fresh applicants for work in the case of the 12 bureaux which also furnished returns for July 1896 decreased by 39 per cent. as compared with that month.

(I.) Work Done in July.

Table with columns: Name and Address of Labour Bureau, No. of Fresh Applications by Workpeople during July 1897, No. of Situations offered by Employers during July 1897, No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureaux (Engaged by Private Employers, Engaged by Local Authorities) for July 1897 and July 1896.

(II.) Workpeople on Registers at end of July classified by Occupations.

Table with columns: Name of Labour Bureau, Men (Building, Engineering and Metal Trades, Carmen and Stablemen, Clerks and Warehousemen, Porters and Messengers, General Labourers, Other Occupations, Total Men), Women and Girls (Lads and Boys, Char-women, Daily Work, &c., Ser-vants, Dress-makers and Semp-stresses, Others, Total Women and Girls), Grand Total (July 1897, July 1896).

\* Not furnished.

† Women and Girls are not registered.



TRADE DISPUTES IN JULY.

(Based on information obtained from all available sources, verified and corrected by direct application to the Employers, Trade Unions, and other parties concerned.)

**Number and Magnitude.**—Sixty-five fresh disputes occurred in July 1897, compared with 66\* in June and 85 in July 1896. In these disputes 46,539 workpeople were involved, compared with 15,871\* in June and about 19,000 in July 1896.

**Trades Affected.**—In the building trades 16 disputes took place, involving 902 workpeople; mining and quarrying, 12 disputes, involving 5,804 workpeople; engineering and shipbuilding, 9 disputes, involving 32,311 workpeople; other metal trades, 4 disputes, involving 884 workpeople; textile trades, 4 disputes, involving 967 workpeople; clothing trades, 3 disputes, involving 287 workpeople; transport, 4 disputes, involving 1,385 workpeople; and in other industries, 13 disputes, involving 3,999 workpeople.

**Causes.**—Of the 65 disputes, 38 arose chiefly on wages questions, 4 on questions of wages together with other matters, 2 were for reduced hours of labour, 11 arose on questions of working arrangements, 5 arose through the dismissal of fellow-workmen, 4 arose on questions of the employment of other workpeople, and 1 on the question of boy labour.

**Results.**—Forty-six new disputes, involving 8,134 workpeople, and 33 old disputes, involving 4,246 workpeople, were reported as settled. Of the 79 new and old disputes settled, 35, involving 2,429 persons, were successful from the point of view of the workpeople; 19, involving 4,829 persons, partially successful; and 25, involving 5,122 persons, unsuccessful.

**Number of Working Days Lost.**—The number of working days lost in July owing to labour disputes, new and old, was about 761,000, as compared with 249,000\* in June and 454,000\* in May. The increase in July is mainly due to the engineering dispute.

**Total Disputes for the first Seven Months of 1897.**—For the seven completed months of 1897 the aggregate number of workpeople involved in the 607 disputes which commenced in those months was 162,068, as compared with 122,257 workpeople involved in the 622 disputes occurring in the corresponding months of 1896. The number of working days lost owing to disputes in the first seven months of 1897 was about 2,781,000.

Employment.	Locality.	Date when Dispute began.	Alleged Cause or Object.	No. of Workpeople directly and indirectly affected.	Total Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Result.
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I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN JULY 1897.

16 Disputes.		BUILDING TRADES.		902 Workpeople affected.	
Bricklayers	Exeter	July 1	For advance in wages of 1d. per hour, and reduction in hours from 5½ to 5¼ per week in summer	83	No settlement reported.
Stonemasons	Sunderland	19	For reduction in hours of labour	65	Hours reduced to 4½ in summer and 4¼ in winter.
Carpenters and Joiners	Halifax	6	For advance in wages of ¼d. per hour	12	Men have found work elsewhere, and shop is closed to trade unionists.
	Exeter	1	For alteration in code of working rules	103	No settlement reported.
Slaters and Tilers	Dublin	9	In consequence of dismissal of some of their number for refusal to unload timber brought for use upon the building	18	Misunderstanding which caused dispute satisfactorily cleared up.
	Londonderry	2	For advance in wages of 1d. per hour	140	Advance of ¼d. per hour (¾d. & 6d. to 6d. & 6d.) to be conceded from Aug. 1. Country piece-working to be abolished.
Plumbers	Bury	1	For advance in wages of ¼d. per hour (¾d. to 9d.) in the summer rate of wages, apprentices to be legally bound before reaching the age of 15, and their ratio to journeymen lessened	44	Advance granted, and agreement arrived at as to number of future apprentices, who are to be bound before the age of 16.
	Belfast	1	For advance in wages of 1d. per hour, and limitation of number of apprentices	220	No settlement reported.
Plasterers	Leith	12	To enforce payment of the standard rate of wages	10	Standard rate to be paid.
	Leith	13	Ditto	3	Ditto.
Builders' Labourers	Dewsbury, Heckmondwike &c.	5	For advance in wages of ¼d. per hour (¾d. to 8d.) and other concessions	62	Men's demands conceded.
	Batley	3	Objection to employment of a non-union man at less than union terms	10	Men obtained employment elsewhere
Masons' Labourers	Killarney	15	Objection to employment of labourers not belonging to the town	36	The labourers in question discharged.
Builders generally	Kilbirnie	6	For advance in wages of ¼d. per hour (¾d. to 6d.)	24	Advance granted.
	Hull	3	Objection to plastering being let out to sub-contract on piece-work system	15	Sub-contracting and piece-working to be abandoned.

12 Disputes.		MINING AND QUARRYING.		5,804 Workpeople affected.	
Coal Miners	Bedlington	2	Alleged refusal of employers to pay an increased rate per ton awarded by the joint committee	520	No settlement reported.
Ditto	Chester-le-Street	3	To compel non-unionists to join union, and men in arrears to pay up subscriptions	436	Non-unionists agreed to join the union.
Ditto	Washington	6	Men applied for "keepers up" in one district of the mine	1,18	Work resumed on assurance of joint committee that question should be considered.
Ditto	Castleford	15	For increase in wages of 1d. per ton on account of using lamps, and dispute on the question of slack and thin coal	950	No settlement reported.
Ditto	Near Leeds	8	For increase in tonnage rate on account of extra work required to be done	390	Ditto.
Ditto	Staveley	20	Against proposed tonnage rate	92	Ditto.
Ditto	Mansfield	31	Dispute as to price to be paid for coal getting	384	Ditto.
Ditto	Buckley	17	Dispute as to distance of haulage and rate of payment for the same	200	Ditto.
Ditto	Lydbrook	5	Against proposed reduction in wages of 5 per cent.	100	Proposed reduction withdrawn.
Hauliers	Aberdare	1	Objection to work with men who refused to join the trade union	1,400	Some of the non-union hauliers removed to other work.
Coal Miners	Benhar	20	Against proposed readjustment of tonnage rates involving a reduction in wages of from 1d. to ¼d. per ton	114	Work resumed at a reduction of 1d. per ton.
Granite Quarry Drillers	Near Aberdeen	5	Alleged refusal of foreman to allow a particular man to resume work	32	Work resumed by order of the union executive.

\* Amended figures, disputes being included of which information was received too late for insertion in previous GAZETTES.

TRADE DISPUTES IN JULY—(continued).

Employment.	Locality.	Date when Dispute began.	Alleged Cause or Object.	No. of Workpeople directly and indirectly affected.	Total Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Result.
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I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN JULY 1897—(continued).

9 Disputes.		ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES.		32,311 Workpeople affected.		
Ship Joiners	Hull	July 17	For advance in wages to the general rate prevailing in the town	15	13	Advance granted.
Fitters, Blacksmiths, &c	Middlesbro'	5	For advance in wages of 1s. 6d. per week	62	27	An advance granted to 12 men.
Cycle Engineers	Oldham	5	For advance in wages to certain men	71	8	Advance of 5 per cent. (about 2s. per week) granted to 2 men
Nivvetters & Holders-up	Darlaston	26	For advance in wages of 2s. per week	18	13	Men accepted employers' offer of "entailing" advances of from 1s. to 2s. per week.
Cycle Makers	Loughborough	26	Against proposed reduction in wages	20	...	No settlement reported.
Engineers	London & other districts of United Kingdom	5	Strike in certain London shops for an eight hours' working day, followed by lock-out of 25 per cent. of trade unionists concerned, and strike of remaining 75 per cent. and some non-unionists in shops of employers affiliated to the Federation of Employers in chief centres of the trade	32,000	...	Still unsettled.
Boiler Makers	Ebbw Vale	12	For advance in wages	25	—	No settlement reported.
Iron Moulders	Glasgow	12	Demand for payment of wages weekly instead of fortnightly	80	19	Men withdrew demand but received an advance of 1s. per week.
Fitters, &c.	Dublin	...	For advance in wages of 1s. per week (32s. to 33s.)	20	8	Advance granted.

4 Disputes.		OTHER METAL TRADES.		884 Workpeople affected.		
Wrought Nail Makers	South Staffs. & North Worcestershire Districts	12	For advance in wages	800	...	No settlement reported.
Keysmiths	Wolverhampton, Willenhall & District	5	For advance in wages of 10 per cent., which had been generally conceded	30	...	Ditto.
Steelworks' Labourers	Leeds	28	Refusal of men to be transferred from the employment of the firm to that of a sub-contractor	25	3	Work resumed on the old conditions.
Wire Workers	London, E.C.	12	Objection to boy labour	29	...	No settlement reported.

4 Disputes.		TEXTILE TRADES.		967 Workpeople affected.		
Overlookers (Woollen Weaving)	Bradford	17	Against alleged additional work through discharge of a colleague	7	...	No settlement reported.
Cotton Weavers	Church, Accrington	14	Weavers left work without stating cause, but afterwards alleged bad material	210	3	Work resumed after conferences, each man to pay small fine for leaving work without notice, employer to put in better material.
Fustian Cutters	Macclesfield	6	Against proposed reduction in wages of about 10 per cent.	100	14	Reduction accepted.
Ditto	Warrington	14	Against introduction of machinery, alleged to have the effect of reducing wages	650	5	New conditions accepted. Employers state that the effect of the machinery is to increase rather than to reduce wages.

3 Disputes.		CLOTHING TRADES.		287 Workpeople affected.		
Boot and Shoe Operatives	Armley, Leeds	16	For reinstatement of a workman who was refused the minimum wage, and whom the employer subsequently discharged	80	10	Employer agreed to pay minimum wage and to reinstate the workman.
Ditto	Bristol	3	Objection to dismissal of a fellow-workman	176	20	Work resumed unconditionally.
Mantle Makers, &c.	London, E.	29	Employer locked out men in anticipation of threatened strike, and the men refused to resume without advance in wages and better conditions of labour	31	6	Employer agreed to supply cotton and trimmings free, and granted certain other concessions.

4 Disputes.		TRANSPORT.		1,385 Workpeople affected.		
Flatmen	Liverpool	1	For increase in tonnage rate	500	6	Advance of ¼d. per ton granted.
Firemen	Gravesend	22	Desire for more men to each watch	25	1	Hands replaced.
Cart Boys	Manchester	27	For advance in wages	80	1	Forty-five of the boys returned to work unconditionally, the remainder were superseded.
Carters	Aberdeen	23	For advance in wages from minimum of 18s. to 22s. per week	780	5	Concession made by principal firms of graduated rates of 20s., 21s. and 22s. per week, and overtime rate of 6d. per hour. Bye-laws to be settled at a conference.

13 Disputes.		MISCELLANEOUS TRADES.		3,999 Workpeople affected.		
Dock Labourers	Sunderland	1	For advance in wages of 3s. per week	350	4	Work resumed, the general question of wages to be afterwards considered. One firm is stated to have given an advance of 2s. per week to 12 men.
Packing Case Makers	Bradford	17	For reinstatement of discharged fellow-workman	24	5	Work resumed without attainment of object.
Upholsterers and Polishers (Chair Makers)	Keighley	12	Alleged disproportion of apprentices to journeymen	12	5	Firm agreed to employ apprentices according to union ratio.
Timber Carriers	Fleetwood	8	For advance in wages	150	1	Advance conceded for one day.
Ditto	Ditto	9	Alleged failure to give the advance previously promised	150	4	Work resumed without the advance.
Timber Dischargers	Ditto	9	For advance in wages	200	3	Work resumed without the advance.
Cycle Rubber Makers	Birmingham	21	Against reduction in wages	52	...	No settlement reported.
Saddlers	Walsall	21	For advance of 6d. per saddle	32	9	Advance of 3d. per saddle granted.
Deal Carriers, and Pilers	Cardiff	5	For advance in wages	500	4	Work resumed, to give employers time to consider demands.
Ditto	Ditto	12	For advance in wages (see termination of foregoing dispute)	500	...	No settlement reported.
Navvies and General Labourers	Barry	5	For advance in wages of ¼d. per hour and code of working rules	2,000	...	Ditto.
Road Labourers	Larne	14	For advance in wages	20	3	Advance of about 2s. 6d. per week granted.
Basket Makers	London, E.	26	Against proposed reduction in the price of one article	9	1	Proposed reduction withdrawn.

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE JULY, AND WERE SETTLED IN THAT MONTH.

Building Trades.		BUILDING TRADES.		3,999 Workpeople affected.		
Bricklayers	Preston	1 May	For advance in wages of 1d. per hour (gd. to 10d.), with alterations in working rules	100	55	Advance conceded, and modified concessions as to working rules.
Stonemasons	Near Bakewell	4 May	Against introduction of ready-dressed stone, and for discharge of non-unionists	17	55	Work given to other employers, who agreed to concede union terms.
Carpenters and Joiners	Ipswich	17 May	For an improved code of working rules	150	40	Question referred to arbitration (see p. 231), and work resumed.
Builders' Labourers	Tunbridge Wells	19 June	For advance in wages of ¼d. per hour (5d. to 5½d.)	150	33	Advance granted.
Plasterers	Weston-super-Mare	1 May	Against proposed reduction in wages from 7½d. to 7d. per hour	12	61	Proposed reduction withdrawn.
Stonemasons	Weston-super-Mare	1 May	For advance in wages of 1d. per hour, and reduction in hours of 2½ per week	81	53	Advance in wages of ¼d. per hour (7d. to 7½d.) conceded, but hours to remain as before.



TRADE DISPUTES IN JULY—(continued).

Employment.	Locality.	Date when Dispute began.	Alleged Cause or Object.	No. of Workpeople directly and indirectly Affected.	Total Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Result.
<b>II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE JULY, AND WERE SETTLED IN THAT MONTH—(continued).</b>						
Other Trades. Woolen Operatives ...	Kirkburton ...	13 April	For advance in wages and reduction in hours of 2½ per week	11	77	Places filled by other workpeople.
Leather Shavers ...	Leeds ...	2 Mar.	Dispute as to leather shaving by a machine process	23	104	Men replaced by non-unionists.
Felt Hatters (Twisters and Stretchers) ...	Hyde ...	15 May	For change of system from day to piece-working	42	32	Piecework system conceded.
Silk Weavers ...	Macclesfield ...	15 Feb.	Against proposed reduction in wages on certain classes of goods	14	139	Employers' terms accepted by 7 men; rest obtained work elsewhere.
Brass Moulders and Finishers ...	Dundee ...	15 Mar.	For advance of ¼d. per hour in wages	76	94	Advance granted of 2s. per week to moulders, and 1s. 1½d. to finishers. (This dispute was partially settled in March, and reported in April GAZETTE)
Rivet Heaters ...	Low Walker ...	24 May	Objection to other boys being taken on as apprentice drillers, instead of a selection being made from among themselves	433	40	Boys summoned and fined for leaving work without notice.
Ship Plumbers ...	Liverpool ...	21 May	Demarcation dispute with brass finishers as to sanitary work on ships	12	43	Workpeople replaced.
Engineers ...	Dublin ...	26 May	Refusal to concede an advance in wages of 1s. per week	2	26	Advance granted.

III.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE JULY, BUT OF WHICH FULL INFORMATION HAS ONLY RECENTLY BEEN OBTAINED.

Building Trades. Bricklayers ...	Ormskirk ...	3 May	For advance in wages, with a code of working rules	55	7	Advance in wages granted, and other changes in working rules.
Bulldozers' Labourers ...	Luton ...	31 May	For advance in wages of ¼d. per hour (¼d. to ½d.)	70	8	Advance granted as from 28th June. Cause of difficulty removed.
Bricklayers ...	London, N. ...	1 June	Objection to employment of labourers to lay drains	8	2	Job finished by men other than plasterers.
Plasterers ...	Windsor ...	4 June	Against employment of bricklayers and labourers to do plasterers' work	2	13	Slaters to be withdrawn from the work, and employers to pay expenses incurred by union for stoppage.
Stonemasons ...	Edinburgh ...	25 June	Against employment of slaters to do rough pointing work.	10	14	Employer signed the local rules.
Plasterers ...	Nairn ...	30 Apl.	Alleged refusal of employer to observe local working rules	4	8	
Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades. Cycle Fitters, &c. ...	Oldham ...	7 June	Objection to discharge of two fellow workpeople; also question of labourers being employed on skilled work	16	13	Amicably settled after interview with union officials.
Fitters ...	Newport, Mon. ...	23 June	Against refusal to reinstate a particular man into his original position	26	3	After interview with union delegate the man in question was restarted. No settlement reported.
Brass Moulders ...	Clydebank ...	9 June	Against introduction of piecework	17	...	Temporarily allotted to shipwrights.
Shipwrights ...	Govan ...	29 April	Alleged encroachment by caulkers fastening window guards	350	2	Dispute referred to Standing Committee, who allotted the work in dispute to riveters
Ironmoulders ...	Falkirk ...	29 June	Alleged refusal of employer to pay a day's wages agreed upon for work done in cleaning up shop after rain floods. Some men locked out in consequence of strike	43	21	Work resumed by order of union, strike having been undertaken without notice.
Textile Trades. Little Piecers ...	Waterhead, Oldham ...	24 May	Against the introduction of a piecer from outside, instead of the promotion of one of their number	9	3	Work resumed unconditionally.
Ditto ...	Ditto ...	25 May	Against the discharge of one of their number, said to have been the ringleader in the previous dispute	9	1	Work resumed by all the piecers.
Cotton Weavers ...	Blackburn ...	24 June	Alleged bad material	389	12	Work resumed, the weavers being fined for absence, but complaints to be inquired into.
Ditto ...	Blackburn ...	28 June	Ditto	411	9	Ditto
Cotton Operatives ...	Bristol ...	22 June	Work refused and factory closed, some operatives not having presented themselves at usual hour on day following Jubilee Day	1,400	5	Factory reopened and work resumed.
Miscellaneous Trades. Fender Makers ...	Dudley ...	27 Feb.	To compel employer to join the trade alliance	32	...	21 workpeople have obtained other employment, 11 still out.
Hollow-ware Makers ...	West Bromwich ...	21 May	Dissatisfaction with the quality of the castings supplied	30	...	No settlement reported.
Tinplate Workers ...	Aberdare ...	12 June	Refusal to accept a reduction in wages of 15 per cent.	109	...	Ditto
Coal Miners ...	Wishaw ...	21 June	Against proposed reduction in tonnage rate of 1½d. per ton	55	4	Reduced rate accepted, but earnings remain the same owing to improved facilities.
Quarriers and Labourers ...	Monkzie, Dundee ...	11 May	For advance in wages of ¼d. per hour	130	3	¾d. per hour granted to certain of the workmen, and 1s. per week to the others.
Slipper Makers ...	Glasgow ...	10 Apr.	Refusal of employer to pay the minimum rate of wages settled by arbitration for the Glasgow district	119	58	Employer agreed to pay the minimum rate and limit the number of apprentices, but many men's places had been filled up.
Labourers (on golf ground construction) ...	Porthcawl ...	21 June	For advance in wages of 3s. per week	6	10	Advance of 2s. per week granted.

IV.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE JULY, AND WERE STILL UNSETTLED AT THE END OF THAT MONTH.

The following 27 disputes, the commencement of which has been previously reported, and which now involve about 6,300 workpeople, were still unsettled at the end of July:—Disputes commencing in September 1896: Quarrymen, Bethesda; January 1897: Boot and shoe operatives, Norwich; March: Tinplate workers, Pentrych; lace operatives, Beeston; April: Carpenters and joiners, Tavistock, and Dudley; tinplate workers, Gowerton and Garnant; hosiery workers, Ilkeston; May: Building trades, Plymouth (carpenters have settled); bricklayers' labourers, Preston; plasterers, Colne and Nelson, and Liverpool; masons and masons' labourers, Huddersfield (since settled, August); ironfounders, Potteries; iron and steel dressers, Liverpool; hammermen, Govan; tinplate workers, Lydbrook and Llantrissant; boot and shoe operatives, Dudley; June: Carpenters and joiners, Oxford and Bournemouth; mill-sawyers, Nottingham; coffin furniture makers, Birmingham; lace operatives, Newmilns; sanitary pressers, Hanley; tinplate workers, Lydney.\*

\* ERRATUM.—In the July GAZETTE the cause of this dispute was given as "Against proposed reduction in wages, and in sympathy with men on strike in another works under same employ." It should have been described as "In sympathy with strikers at other works and in anticipation of a reduction being proposed at the Lydney works."

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

Table showing number of cases of Lead poisoning and Anthrax reported as having occurred in factories and workshops during July, classified by industries [M.—Males, F.—Females]:—

Disease and Industry.	Adults.		Young Persons.		Children.		Total.		Grand Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Lead Poisoning—China, Earthenware, and Glass	13	9	3	1	—	—	16	10	26
White Lead and Colour Works	11	23	—	—	—	—	11	23	34
Smelting ...	15	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	15
Tinning and Enamelling	3	2	—	—	—	—	3	2	5
Coach-making, &c. ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Other Industries ...	12	2	—	—	—	—	12	2	14
<b>Total Lead Poisoning</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>97</b>
Corresponding Total for July 1897	79	40	7	2	—	—	80	42	122
Anthrax—Wool Sorting ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2

\* No cases of Anthrax were reported in July 1896.

FOREIGN TRADE IN JULY.

Imports.—The total declared value of the imports during July was £36,123,523, an increase of 5.1 per cent. on the value for July 1896. An increase is also shown for the seven completed months of the year of 4.3 per cent. over the figure for the corresponding period of last year. The following table gives the total declared value of the imports grouped in large classes for July 1897 and July 1896:—

Class of Goods.	July, 1897.	July, 1896.	Increase.	Decrease.
Food, Drink, and Tobacco	£15,961,753	£15,319,782	£641,971	—
Metals	1,983,600	1,820,622	162,978	—
Oil, Chemicals, Dyeing and Tanning Substances	1,189,829	1,252,800	—	62,971
Raw Materials for Manufacture	8,990,219	7,902,842	1,087,377	—
Manufactured Articles	6,842,953	6,850,798	—	7,845
Miscellaneous	1,155,169	1,231,314	—	76,145
<b>Totals</b>	<b>36,123,523</b>	<b>34,378,158</b>	<b>1,745,365</b>	<b>—</b>

The quantity of wheat imported shows a decrease of nearly 3 million cwt., the decrease in value of wheat imported amounting to £594,945, and of all classes of corn to £234,159. Sugar has decreased by £404,117, but almost all classes of meat, dairy produce and fruit show increased imports. The increase in the group of metals is chiefly due to an increase of £127,765 in the value of copper imported. Over raw materials for textile manufacture there are increases of over 6½ million lbs. in the imports of sheep or lambs' wool, and of about 3¼ million lbs. in goats' wool or hair, the corresponding increases in value being £103,968 and £172,382 respectively. Raw cotton shows a decrease of 37,974 cwt. in the quantity and of £84,510 in the value imported. Among other raw materials there is an increase in the value of wood imported of £931,162.

British and Irish Exports.—The exports during July were of a total declared value of £21,501,452, or 0.7 per cent. more than in July 1896. For the first seven months of the year, however, there is a decrease of 1.1 per cent. as compared with the first seven months of last year. The following table gives the total declared value of the exports grouped in large classes for the months of July 1897 and July 1896:—

Class of Goods.	July 1897.	July 1896.	Increase.	Decrease.
Articles of Food and Drink	£1,120,509	£1,000,480	£120,029	—
Raw Materials	2,237,472	1,553,795	683,677	—
Yarns and Textile Fabrics	8,738,404	9,703,895	—	965,491
Metals and Articles manufactured therefrom (except machinery)	3,023,282	2,964,036	59,246	—
Machinery and Mill Work	1,638,167	1,552,724	85,443	—
Miscellaneous	4,743,618	4,584,209	159,409	—
<b>Totals</b>	<b>21,501,452</b>	<b>21,359,139</b>	<b>142,313</b>	<b>—</b>

Among raw materials the exports of coal, coke and patent fuel show an increase of 575,899 tons in quantity and of £286,185 in value. The decrease in the group of yarns and textile fabrics is largely due to a falling off of over 77 million yards (or about 16 per cent.) in cotton piece goods exported, the corresponding decrease in value amounting to £848,969. The decrease was mainly in the exports to the East Indies, China and South America. Jute piece goods also decreased by about 6 million yards, and woollen tissues by half a million yards. Linen piece goods, on the other hand, show an increase of 2¼ million yards in the quantity exported.

Among metals, iron wrought and unwrought shows a decrease of £77,295 in the value exported, tinplates and sheets alone showing a decrease of £101,587.

Re-exports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.—These amounted in value in July to £5,014,337, or £764,005 more than in July 1896.

Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared.—The total tonnage of vessels entered at ports of the United Kingdom in July, from Foreign Countries and British Possessions was 3,353,416 tons or 184,956 tons more than in July 1896. The tonnage cleared was 3,726,985 tons, or 280,433 tons more than a year ago. The tonnage entered Coastwise amounted to 2,752,295 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,698,797 tons, as compared with 2,712,078 and 2,613,513 tons respectively in July 1896.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Cotton Statistics.—The imports of raw cotton during July show a falling-off of 18.5 per cent. as compared with a year ago, and of 53.7 per cent. as compared with July 1895, both decreases being chiefly accounted for by a falling-off in the quantity of American cotton imported. The quantity forwarded from ports to inland towns was less than in July 1896, but more than in July 1895.

The figures for the different periods are as follows:—

	Imports. Bales.	Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns. Bales.	Exports. Bales.
July 1897	54,553	244,213	56,943
" 1896	66,941	251,481	36,913
" 1895	117,902	234,732	33,241

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 21 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended July 31st amounted to £6,960,097, being £167,408 (or about 2½ per cent.) more than for the corresponding period of 1896. The receipts from passenger traffic were £3,676,235, an increase of £94,912, and those from goods and mineral traffic £3,283,863, an increase of £72,496.

Fishery Statistics.—The total value of the fish (including shell-fish) landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom during July was £706,484, a decrease of £10,877 as compared with July 1896. In England and Wales there was an increase of £21,512, while in Scotland and Ireland there were decreases of £30,994 and £2,295 respectively.

Bankruptcies.—The number of bankruptcies gazetted during July was 378, being one more than in July 1896, five less than in July 1895, and eight less than in July 1894.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during July was 18,691, as compared with 19,993 in July 1896.

British and Irish.—Of the 18,691 passengers 13,205 were of British or Irish origin, being a decrease of 359 compared with a year ago. The falling off was mainly due to a decrease of 1,009 in the number bound for the United States, partly balanced by an increase of 483 in the number proceeding to British North America. The following table gives the figures for July 1897 and 1896:—

Destination.	July 1897.	July 1896.
United States	7,284	8,293
British North America	2,377	1,894
Australasia	871	722
South Africa	1,995	2,024
Other places	678	631
<b>Totals</b>	<b>13,205</b>	<b>13,564</b>

The remainder of the 18,691 passengers, viz., 5,486, were foreigners and others whose nationality was not distinguished, being 943 less than in July 1896.

Alien Immigration.—The number of aliens that arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent during July was 7,482. Of these, 2,131 were stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, compared with 2,770 so stated in July 1896. Those not stated to be on their way to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, numbered 5,351 (including 870 sailors), the corresponding figure for July 1896 being 4,780 (including 938 sailors).

TRUCK ACT EXEMPTION.

The Secretary of State for the Home Office, in pursuance of the power conferred on him by Section 9 of the Truck Act 1896, has granted an exemption from the provisions of that Act in respect of the persons engaged in iron ore mines and limestone quarries in the Furness or detached part of Lancashire and in the Millom Urban district in the county of Cumberland, and in ironstone mines in the North Riding of Yorkshire.



## INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN JULY.

## I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.\*

Nature of Offence.	Informations laid.	Con- victions	Amount of Penalties.	Amount of Costs.
<b>By Owners, Managers, &amp;c.:</b>				
Neglecting to Limewash ... ..	2	2	£ s. d. 1 5 0	£ s. d. 1 3 0
Neglecting to Fence Machinery ... ..	11	10	9 8 0	5 15 0
Employing Young Persons without necessary Certificates ... ..	38	36	16 11 0	17 10 4
Employing Women and Children in forbidden Trades ... ..	2	2	2 0 0	1 3 0
<b>Illegal Hours or Times of Employment—</b>				
Before or after the legal hour ... ..	135	133	60 4 3	65 4 0
During meal times, or without proper intervals for meals ... ..	111†	113	57 6 0	62 0 0
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted ... ..	25†	30	7 11 6	8 7 0
On Sundays or holidays, or children on successive Saturdays... ..	1	1	1 0 0	0 5 0
At night ... ..	57†	58	22 0 0	23 13 0
Other ... ..	7	7	3 0 0	4 18 6
<b>Registers, Abstracts, Notices, &amp;c.:</b>				
Not keeping Registers ... ..	38	38	16 1 9	18 12 4
Not affixing or properly filling up Notices and Abstracts ... ..	14†	16	5 9 0	4 12 3
Not sending Notices required by Act ... ..	6	4	4 1 0	2 3 6
<b>By Workmen:</b>				
Employment before or after legal hours or at night ... ..	3	3	0 17 0	2 0 6
Other offences ... ..	2	2	0 15 0	1 0 6
<b>Total for July 1897 ... ..</b>	<b>482†</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>207 9 6</b>	<b>218 7 11</b>
<b>Total for July 1896 ... ..</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>193 2 0</b>	<b>143 4 0</b>

## II.—Under the Mines and Quarries Acts.\*

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Con- victions.	Cases with- drawn.	Cases dis- missed.	Amount of Fines and Costs.
UNDER THE MINES ACTS.					
<b>By Owners, Managers, &amp;c.:</b>					
Ventilation ... ..	4	2	—	2	£ s. d. 2 15 0
Miscellaneous ... ..	4	3	—	1	4 5 6
<b>By Workmen:</b>					
Safety Lamps ... ..	3	3	—	—	4 4 6
Shot-firing and Explosives ... ..	1	1	—	—	0 13 0
Timbering ... ..	4	4	—	—	3 15 0
Lucifer Matches, &c. ... ..	3	3	—	—	2 8 6
Riding on Trams ... ..	3	2	—	1	2 19 0
Miscellaneous ... ..	9	9	—	—	11 0 0
<b>Total for July 1897 ... ..</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>32 0 6</b>
<b>Total for July 1896 ... ..</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>38 3 6</b>
UNDER THE QUARRIES ACT.					
<b>By Owners, Managers, &amp;c. ... ..</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>£ s. d. 4 2 2</b>
<b>By Workmen ... ..</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Total for July 1897 ... ..</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>4 2 2</b>
<b>Total for July 1896 ... ..</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>6 17 0</b>

## III.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

(Supplied by the Solicitor's Department, Board of Trade).

Nature of Offences.	Prosecu- tions.	Convic- tions.	Penalties.	Costs
<b>By Owners or Masters of Ships:</b>				
Not providing lights ... ..	2	2	£ s. d. 20 0 0	£ s. d. 4 1 10
Not furnishing the half-yearly agreement with crew ... ..	4	4	1 0 0	1 0 0
<b>Total for July 1897 ... ..</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>21 0 0</b>	<b>5 1 10</b>
<b>Total for July 1896 ... ..</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5 0 0</b>	<b>7 9 4</b>

## USE OF EXPLOSIVES IN COAL MINES.

## Revised Order.

An order has been issued by the Home Secretary under date June 4th, by which the original Explosives in Coal Mines Order noticed in the LABOUR GAZETTE for January 1897, is revoked. The new order comes into force on January 1st 1898, and is a modification of the former order. The list of permitted explosives is identical with that in the previous order.

## EXAMINATION FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

**South-Western District.**—An examination for Certificates of Competency as Manager of a Mine will be held in Bristol on September 7th, 8th and 9th, and as Under-Manager on September, 14th, 15th and 16th. Intending candidates should communicate on or before September 5th with the Secretary of the Examination Board, Mr. Sydney J. Thomas, Coleford, Gloucestershire.

\* Supplied by the Home Office.

† The numbers of convictions in these cases are greater than the numbers of informations laid, the practice in Scotland being to lay one information against one person, however many offences he is charged with.

## INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS

## REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN JULY.\*

(Supplied to the Department by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.)

FROM the following summary of the changes in the Register of Industrial Organisations in July it will be seen that 4 Trade Unions, 1 Co-operative Association for Distribution, 5 Associations for Production, 13 new Friendly Societies, and 33 new branches of existing Friendly Societies have been added to the Register for the United Kingdom during the past month. Three Trade Unions, 23 Building Societies, and 3 Industrial and Provident Societies are reported as having ceased to exist, or to have commenced "winding up," while 1 Co-operative Society has amalgamated with another Society.

## NEW ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

**Trade Unions.**—*England and Wales.*—Cab Trade Council, 21 St. Martin's Court, London, W.; Leigh and District Licensed Victuallers' Wine and Beer Retailers' Association, New Inn, 148 Chapel St., Leigh; Manchester Jewish Tailors', Machinists' and Pressers' Trade Union, Victoria Labour Hall, Mary St., Strangeways, Manchester; Bus Workers' Protective Soc., 67 Camden Road, London, N.W. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

**Industrial and Provident Societies.**—(A) *Associations for Distribution.*—*England and Wales.*—Redbourn Industrial Co-operative Soc., Ltd., Fish St., Redbourn, Herts. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

(B) *Associations for Production.*—*England and Wales.*—Mashamshire Co-op. Dairy Soc. Ltd., The Dairy, Marfield, Masham; Coventry Printing Soc., Ltd., 42 Cox St., Coventry; Blackpool Mineral Water Supply, Ltd., 17 Vance Rd., Blackpool. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Doons Co-op. Agricultural and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Doons; Latteragh Co-op. Agricultural and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Latteragh.

(c) *Miscellaneous.*—None.

**Friendly Societies.**—(A) *New Friendly Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—Ordinary Friendly (Females) 1; Working Men's Clubs, 5; Specially Authorised, 1; Dividing, 5. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Ordinary Friendly, 1.

(B) *New Branches of Existing Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—I.O. Rechabites, 15 (including 1 Juvenile and 1 new District); Manchester Unity Oddfellows, 6; A.O. Foresters, 3; various, 8. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—B.O.A. Free Gardeners, 1.

## OLD ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

**Trade Unions.**—*England and Wales.*—Ashton, Haydock, Bolton, &c. Miners' Trade Union, Bradshawgate, Bolton; Rochester and District Associated Ship, Barge, Yacht and Boat Builders Mastmakers', Smiths', Joiners', Sailmakers' and Sawyers' Trade Union, St. Margaret's Banks, Rochester; Norfolk and Norwich Amalgamated Labour Union, Aylmerton, Roughton. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

**Industrial and Provident Societies.**—*England and Wales.*—(By instrument), Freehold Liberal Club Land and Building Soc., Ltd., 41 Gloucester Street, Oldham; (Resolution to wind up received), Nottingham Operative Tailors' Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 4 Lower Parliament Street, Nottingham; Cobden Industrial Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 22 Oak Street, Crewe. The following Society has amalgamated with the Oxford Co-op. and Ind. Soc. Ltd.:—Clifton Hampden Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Clifton Hampden, Abingdon. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

**Building Societies.**—By instrument of dissolution, 9; notice of commencement of dissolution, 3; notice of termination of dissolution, 10; notice of termination of winding up, 1.

\* The Employees' Provident Society, Port Sunlight, which appeared in the GAZETTE for July under "Miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Societies" should have been classed under "Associations for Distribution."

## NOTICE.

Communications respecting the contents of the GAZETTE should be addressed to:—

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