ABOUR GAZETTE THE

JOURNAL OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

PUBLISHED ON THE 15th OF EACH MONTH.

JUNE, 1900.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

VIII.—No. 6. TABLE. CLASSIFIED CONTENTS 161 Employment Chart, 1899-1900 State of the Labour Market in May Special Articles and Reports-MINERAL STATISTICS, 1899 MINERAL STATISTICS, 1899 ... EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION IN 1899 ... ACCIDENTS TO RAILWAY SERVANTS IN 1899 DISPUTE IN THE EARTHENWARE TRADE 164 ... 165 BELGIAN OLD-AGE PENSION LAW ... THE ILLINOIS FREE EMPLOYMENT REGISTRIES ... AGRICULTURAL LABOUR BUREAUX IN HUNGARY RECENT CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION CASES AND COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS PRICES OF COAL AND IRON 166 PRICES OF COAL AND IRON ... Employment in Certain Industries and Districts-REPORTS ON CERTAIN INDUSTRIES. COAL MINING IRON MINING ··· 172 PIG IRON MANUFACTURE ••• 172 IRON AND STEEL WORKS TINPLATE WORKS ... TINPLATE WORKS..., ... AGRICULTURAL LABOUR ...

LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR ... ··· 175 Women in Textile Trades DISTRICT REPORTS LONDON ENGLAND Northern Counties I77 Lancashire Yorkshire Midland Counties ... Eastern Counties 179 South-Western Counties 181 WALES 182 ... Labour in the Colonies and Abroad-Colonies... ... 169 Austria ... GERMANY... SWITZERLAND ... BRIGHM ... 170 SWEDEN 170 SPAIN ... 170 UNITED STATES ...

RECENT PROGRESS IN CO-OPERATION			166
LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR			167
INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS		•••	192
FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM		•••	191
MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES	****	•••	186
EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION	•••	•••	183

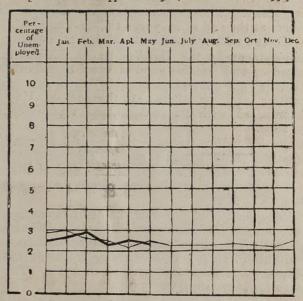
•••	•••	***		188
•••	•••	•••	•••	184
				186
	•••		•••	187
•••	•••			192
	•••			191
•••	•••			190
	•••			190
	•••		•••	162

and Hollons				
ANNUAL CO-OPERATIVE CONGRESS				I
FRIENDLY SOCIETIES IN AUSTRALASIA				I
PRICES OF IRISH AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE				I
				I
HANDBOOKS TO THE COLONIES				I
MASSACHUSETTS STATE BOARD OF ARBITR	ATIO	N AND	CON-	
CILIATION				I
Examination for Mining Managers' CE:	RTIFI	CATES		I
WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION SCHEMES		1		

EMPLOYMENT CHART, 1899-1900.

Chart showing the percentage of unemployed members of the Trade Unions making returns at the close of each complete month of 1899 and 1900.

[The thick line applies to 1900, the thin line to 1899.]



STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN MAY.

[Based on 2,514 returns, viz.: 1,750 from Employers, 615 from Trade Unions, and 149 from other sources.]

During May the general state of employment has remained good in most of the important industries, and increases of wages involving a large number of workpeople were reported during the month.

In the 138 Trade Unions making returns, with an aggregate membership of 531,608, 12,645 (or 2.4 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of May, compared with 2.5 per cent. in April, and with 2.5 per cent. in the 123 unions, with a membership of 498,836, from which returns were received for May,

Employment in Various Industries. - Coal Mining. -Employment in May has continued good. At collieries at which 451,117 workpeople were employed, the pits worked on an average 5.63 days per week in the four weeks ended May 26th, as compared with 5.64 days a

Iron Mining.—Employment continues good, although the number of days worked is slightly less than a year ago. The average number of days worked by iron mines and open works, at which 16,884 workpeople were employed, in the four weeks ended May 26th, was 5.79 per week, compared with 5.83 days in May, 1899.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment continues good, but shows a slight decline. At the works of 116 masters, 381 furnaces were in blast at the end of May, employing about 26,000 workpeople, as compared with 383 furnaces at the end of April, and 381 a year ago.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Employment continues good, showing little change as compared with April. and continuing decidedly better than a year ago.

At 209 works covered by the returns, employing 83,122 workpeople at the end of May, the total volume of employment (taking into account both the numbers employed and the number of shifts worked) has diminished by 0.6 per cent. as compared with April, but has increased by 6.8 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

162

Tinplate Trade.—Employment shows a slight improvement as compared with April, and is still much better than a year ago. At the end of May 416 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of black-plates), compared with 411 mills at the end of April, and 379 mills at the end of May, 1899. The number of workpeople employed at the end of May, 1900, is estimated to be about 20,800.

Employment in the Engineering and Metal trades has remained good. The percentage of unemployed union members in this group of trades at the end of May was 2'3, compared with 2'4 in April and also in May, 1800.

In the Shipbuilding trades employment was good during May. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May was 1.6, compared with 2.1 in April, and with 2.4 per cent. in May of last year.

Employment in the Building trades has continued to improve, and remains good in most branches. The percentage of unemployed union members among carpenters and plumbers at the end of May was 1.9, compared with 2.2 in April, and 1.3 per cent. in May 1800

In the Furnishing trades employment has continued to improve, and remains good. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May was 1.0, compared with 1.3 in April, and 0.9 per cent. in May of last year.

Employment in the *Printing* trades has continued to fall off, but the *Bookbinding* trades are somewhat better employed. The percentage of unemployed union members in the *Printing* and *Bookbinding* trades at the end of May was 4.4, compared with 4.1 in April. The percentage for May, 1899, was 3.9.

In the Paper trade employment is scarcely so good, the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May being 2.8, compared with 2.1 in April and also in May, 1899.

In the Glass trades the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May was 10.1, compared with 10.3 in May, 1899.

Employment in the *Leather* trades remains good. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of May was 1.6, compared with 1.7 in April. The percentage for May, 1899, was 3.1.

Employment in the Boot and Shoe trade shows a decline and is only moderate.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the *Tailoring* trade is fairly good; in the ready-made branch it continues good.

Employment continues good in the Spinning and Weaving branches of the Cotton trade. Information respecting Cotton factories employing about 79,550 women and girls shows that 87 per cent. of those in Spinning mills, and 93 per cent. of those in Weaving factories, were working in factories giving full employment during the month, compared with 97 and 94 per cent. respectively in April, and with 97 and 87 per cent. respectively a year ago. The figures regarding cotton spinning in May, however, are affected by a local dispute.

Employment in the Woollen and Worsted trades continues good on the whole, but again shows a slight decline. In the Hostery trade it remains good.

Dock and Riverside Labour in London.—Employment at the docks and wharves shows a slight decline as compared with both a month and a year ago. During the four weeks ended May 26th, an average number of 13,943 labourers were employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves, as compared with averages of 14,176 in April, and 14,280 in May, 1899.

Agricultural Labourers.—Employment was generally quite regular during May. The greater part of the month was dry and very favourable for outdoor work.

Trade Disputes.—Forty-four fresh disputes occurred in May, 1900, involving 15,931 workpeople, of whom 10,043 were directly and 5,888 indirectly affected. The corresponding number of disputes in April was 52, involving 31,181 workpeople, and in May, 1899, 94, involving 23,577 workpeople. Of the 44 fresh disputes in May, 1900, 25 occurred in the building trades, 4 in the mining industry, 5 in metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, 6 in textile trades, and 4 in miscellaneous industries. Of the 36 new and old disputes, involving 28,316 workpeople, of which the termination is reported at the time of writing, 10, involving 2,294 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 8, involving 2,581 persons, in favour of the employers; and 16, involving 23,234 workpeople, were compromised. With regard to the remaining 2 disputes, involving 207 persons, certain points are still under consideration.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—Changes in the rates of wages of about 181,200 workpeople were reported during May, of which number 180,900 obtained advances, averaging 1s. 03/4d. weekly per head, and about 300 sustained decreases, averaging 2s. o1d. weekly per head. The net result was an increase of about rs. 03d. per head in the weekly wages of the 181,200 workpeople affected. The principal increases were in the mining and iron and steel industries. The decreases affected 300 building trade operatives in Scotland. Changes affecting about 9,900 workpeople were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work. Changes affecting about 158,400 workpeople in the metal and mining industries took effect under sliding scales, and changes affecting about 800 workpeople were determined by Conciliation Boards. The remaining changes, affecting about 12,100 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS. (Compiled from returns supplied by the Home Office.)

The following table shows the number of cases* of lead and mercurial poisoning, and of anthrax reported during May, as having occurred in factories and workshops. Of the 106 cases of lead poisoning reported during the month 40 (37 males and 3 females) occured in white lead works, and 14 (5 males and 9 females) in the china and earthenware industry, the number of cases in these industries in May, 1899, being 39 and 17 respectively. Of the 40 cases in white lead works 10 occurred

of the 40 cases in white lead works to occurred several months ago but were not reported at the time of their occurrence.

Seven deaths of adult males from lead poisoning were reported during the month.

		Ma	у, 190	00.		Total
Disease and Industry.	Adu	ılts.		ing ions.	Total	May. 1899.
	M.†	F.+	м.+	F.+		
White Lead Works	37 5 9 4 3 5	36 2	111 11 111	- 3 - I - I - I - I - I - I - I - I - I	40 14 9 4 4 5	39 17
Total Lead Poisoning	91	11	-	4	108	113
Mercurial Poisoning Anthrax	4 3	-	=		4 4	5 7

In addition to the cases included in the Table, 12 cases of lead poisoning were reported among journeymen painters and plumbers. In four of these lead poisoning is stated to have been a contributory cause of death.

MINERAL STATISTICS, 1899.*

June, 1900.

Output.—In the GAZETTE for March, page 66, allusion was made to certain Tables dealing with the output of coal and other minerals at mines in 1899. Particulars have now been issued of the total output of minerals at quarries as well as mines. The figures for the principal minerals are given below. It will be seen that there was a very general increase in the production of all the most important minerals during 1899 as compared with 1898.

N	ame of M	fineral			Total o	utput in
	anc or i	ill Clai.			1899.	1898.
The Park Inches	STANK!	37317	196161		Tons.	Tons.
Coal					220,094,781	202,054,516
Clays and Sh	ale	***			15,064,857	14,738,474
Iron Ore		****			14,461,330	14,176,938
Limestone					12,302,890	11,980,578
Sandstone					5,212 624	5,242,115
Chalk				•••	4,678,132	4.298,014
Oil Shale					2,210,824	2,137,993
					1,735,883	1,695,895
Gravel and S				***	1,771,276	1,625,690
Slates and Sl	ate Slabs				639,840	668,859

Numbers Employed.—The total number of persons employed at mines and at the quarries under the Quarries Act in the United Kingdom and the Isle of Man during 1899 was 862,161, as compared with 875,603 in 1898. As will be seen from the Table below, the decrease was entirely amongst those employed in quarries. This decrease, moreover, is apparent, not real. It is due to the transfer of the duty of inspecting works for making bricks, tiles, Portland cement, &c., outside the quarries from the Mines branch of the Home Office to the Factory branch. The number employed at coal mines increased by about 22,000, and at metalliferous mines by 1,000. The following Table shows the distribution of the numbers employed in 1899 and 1898:—

Class of Mine or Quarry.	Employed under- ground or inside Quarries.	Employed above ground or outside Quarries.	Total in 1899.	Total in 1898.
Under Coal Mines Act , Metalliferous Mines Act	583,009 20,618	146,000 14,539	729,009 35,157	706,894 34,231
" Quarries Act	64,159	33,836	97,995	134,478
Total for 1899	667,786	194,375	862,161	-
Total for 1898	650,049	225,554	10-14	875,603

The increase amongst coal miners was general throughout the different inspection districts. As regards metalliferous mines, over three-quarters of these are employed in three out of the thirteen inspection districts, viz., North Wales, Newcastle, South Western. In the Newcastle district there was a slight falling off. In the other two districts the numbers employed increased.

Fatal Accidents.—The following Table gives the number of deaths from accidents of various natures in mines and quarries in each of the last four years:—

Number of Deaths from Accident.

1899. 1898. 1897. 1896.

ons of Firedamp & Coal Dust 54 27 19 173
Ground 456 451 490 439
s ... 83 66 59 79
neous Underground 258 262 307 244

otal Underground ... 851 806 875 935
otal Surface ... 121 135 104 130
otal Mines ... 972 941 979 1,065

 Quarries:—
 Inside
 ...
 ...
 ...
 98
 100
 93
 90

 Outside
 ...
 ...
 19t
 34
 30
 34

 Total Quarries
 ...
 ...
 117
 134
 123
 124

 Gross Total
 ...
 ...
 1,089
 1,075
 1,102
 1,189

Preliminary figures for the total number of deaths

from fatal accidents at mines and quarries in 1899 were given in the GAZETTE for March,

'Mines and Quarries: General Report and Statistics for 1899, Part I. [Cd. 167]

Price 8d

†Diminution partly due to transfer of many of outside works to the Factory transh of the Home Office.

p. 67. The corrected figures show 1,089 deaths from fatal accidents (as compared with 1,075 in 1898), viz., 916 at coal mines, 56 at metalliferous mines and 117 at quarries. These figures correspond to death rates of 1.26 per thousand employed at coal mines, 1.59 per thousand at metalliferous mines, and 1.19 at quarries. Amongst underground workers at coal and metalliferous mines and inside workers at quarries the death rates were 1.37, 2.43 and 1.53 respectively.

BELGIAN OLD-AGE PENSION LAW.

By a law dated May 10th, 1900, the system of State-aided provision for old age in Belgium is placed upon a new footing.

The new Act provides that yearly bonuses, by way of subventions to moneys paid to secure pensions payable in old age, shall be granted by the State (1) to persons who are purchasing an old-age pension from the National Superannuation Fund through a recognised Friendly Society, provided that their payments into the Fund on account of their pension do not exceed 60 francs (£2 8s.) for the whole of a year; and (2) to all other persons purchasing such pensions directly from the National Fund except persons who pay direct State taxes exceeding certain specified limits, varying from 50 francs (£2) per annum in places with less than 10,000 inhabitants to 80 francs (£3 4s.) in towns with 50,000 or more inhabitants.

An old-age pension purchased from the National Fund under the present law must not fall due before the completion of the 55th, or after the completion of the 65th year of the beneficiary's age. (Hitherto the limits have been 50 and 65 years of age.) The annual bonus payable as the subvention of the State is fixed at 60 centimes on every franc up to 15 francs (i.e., 53d. on every shilling up to 12 shillings) paid into the Fund in the year on each pass-book. (In the case of persons who had already reached the age of 40 on January 1st of the present year, the bonus will be paid on every franc up to 24.) When the amount standing to a person's credit with the Fund has reached a sum sufficient to purchase a pension of 360 francs (£14 8s.) per annum, commencing at the age of 65, the payment of bonus will cease.

The law also provides, that all necessitous Belgians, who are (or have been) workpeople, who reside in Belgium, and who shall have reached the age of 65 years by January 1st, 1901, are to receive an annual allowance of 65 francs (£2 12s.). The same allowance will be paid, on their reaching the age of 65, to persons whose age on that date is not less than 55; but in the case of those who are less than 58 years old, the granting of the allowance is to be conditional upon their having, for at least three years, paid into the National Fund not less than 3 francs (say 2s. 5d.) per annum, or less than 18 francs (say 14s. 5d.) in the aggregate.

In order to defray the expenses entailed by the present law, a special fund is to be established, the resources of which are to be supplied by (a) an annual vote of £480,000 appearing in the ordinary Budget, and (b) special sums to be obtained from Parliament in the event of the resources provided under (a) being insufficient

In the Report of a Commission appointed by the Belgian Government,* it is stated that sums have been voted by Parliament every year since 1891 for the encouragement of provision against old age, but solely in aid of old-age pensions obtained from the National Fund through the Friendly Societies; from 1891 to 1895 the yearly vote for this purpose was £800; in 1896 it was increased to £1,200; in 1897, to £1,840; while for 1898, 1899 and 1900, sums of £6,000, £12,000 and £24,000 respectively were voted. In the future, as in the past (sse "Provision for Old Age by Government Action in certain European Countries," C. 9414 of 1899; pp. 31, 32), grants are to be made to recognised Friendly Societies existing for the purpose of affiliating their members to the National Superannuation Fund. These grants will be additional to

* Commission des Pensions Ouvrières; Rapport sur les Travaux de la Commission. Brussels: Hayez, 112, Rue de Louvain, 1900.

^{*} Cases include all attacks, fatal or otherwise, reported during the month and not previously reported, so far as is known, during the preceding 12 months. Fatal cases include all deaths reported during the month, whether included (ascases) in previous returns or not. + M.=Males. F.=Females.

those obtained by the members individually under the present law, and will amount to 2 francs (about 1s. 7d.) for each pass-book on which at least 3 francs (about 2s. 5d.) shall have been paid into the National Fund during the previous year. The amount necessary to cover these grants will be provided by a special vote.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION IN 1899.

In 1899 the passenger movement both to and from the United Kingdom was greater than in 1898. The net effect of the whole movement was a balance outwards of about 22,000 persons, as compared with one of 36,000 persons in 1898. This balance outwards has, in fact, during recent years shown a continuous decrease.

Reasons are given in the course of the recently issued report* for regarding this total outcome of the whole passenger movement of 1899 as the result of a net efflux on balance of about 47,400 natives, and a net influx on balance of 25,400 foreigners. This latter figure includes 13,400 foreign sailors who come as passengers, but of whom no record is kept when they leave as the crews of outgoing ships. After deducting these, therefore, the total addition during the year to the foreign population of the United Kingdom resulting from the passenger movement may be estimated at about 12,000 persons.

As regards the movement to and from places out of Europe, there were in 1899, 240,696 emigrants, of whom 146,362 were stated to be British and Irish (as compared with 205,171 emigrants, including 140,644 British and Irish in 1898), and 162,111 immigrants, of whom 100,246 were stated to be British and Irish (as compared with 139,346 immigrants, including 91,248 British and Irish in 1808).

The report states that the chief features of the passenger movement between this country and countries out of Europe "were (1) a diminished emigration to the South African colonies—the troops sent thither not being counted among the emigrants—and a considerably enhanced immigration from those colonies, due, without doubt, to the outbreak of hostilities in that part of the world, and (2) a large increase, especially among foreigners, in the passenger movement to and from the United States, in part, no doubt, of the nature of a reaction from the low figures brought about in 1898 by the war between America and Spain. Attention may also be called to the increase amongst Irish, and decrease amongst English, emigrants, and to the large net movement of foreigners towards British North America."

The passenger movement between this country and the continent of Europe was larger in both directions in 1899 than in any year since 1890, when the first figures were obtained. The excess inwards amounted to 56,660, a figure nearly twice as great as that for 1898, and more than three times as great as in 1897. The information obtained does not include particulars as to the nationalities of the passengers; but it is on the assumption that the numbers of British passengers to and from the Continent roughly balance each other, so that the excess inwards represents foreigners who came from Europe and did not return within the year, that the estimated increase of the foreign population of the United Kingdom already given is based.

The information contained in the "Alien Lists" gives, with regard to the classes included in those lists, particulars of the nationalities of the immigrants from European ports. With respect to immigrants not noted in the lists as being en route for other countries, the most noticeable increases were those of over 30 per cent. in the number of Russians and Poles and of Italians. With regard to destitute aliens the report concludes "that, except, perhaps, in London, there has not been any increase among destitute aliens, and with regard to London, although the number of resident aliens is increasing, the report of the Jewish Board of Guardians.

. . appears to indicate that the amount of destitution among the Jewish population was less in 1890 than in the previous year."

DISPUTE IN THE EARTHENWARE TRADE.

Notices for an advance in wages and certain other alterations in conditions having been given by the workpeople engaged in various branches of the pottery trades, a certain proportion of these, principally ovenmen, printers and transferrers, ceased work on March 25th. A large number of operatives continued at work, giving a further notice of one month. The Manufacturers' Association, however, decided on a general lock-out to enforce a settlement, and the majority of works in the earthenware trade were closed on April 28th, the number of operatives thrown idle being altogether about 20,000. The dispute did not affect the china trade, nor the sanitary branch of the earthenware trade. The chief towns involved were Tunstall, Burslem and Hanley, and to a less degree Stoke-on-Trent.

The advance asked for amounted to about 10 per cent., or, roughly, the equivalent of the reduction of one penny in the shilling made in 1879 by the arbitrator, Lord Hatherton. Since that date general wages have not been changed. In addition to this claim, the printers and transferrers asked for a re-arrangement or levellingup of "counts," i.e., of the numbers of different classes of articles that are included in the nominal "dozen" paid for at a fixed rate.

A meeting took place on April 20th between representatives of the Pressers', Mould Makers', and Clay Potters' Society and the employers, the former modifying their demands to one for an advance of 5 per cent. at once, and a further advance of 5 per cent. on March 25th next.

In reply the Manufacturers' Association passed a resolution in which they declared that they would be "quite willing to consider an advance on the 25th March next, provided that the state of trade will then admit of it, and to meet the operatives to discuss the question in ample time before the close of the trade year." They subsequently by advertisement in the press announced that "any questions as to count or wages which are not in accordance with the general rates ruling in the district can be at once referred to the Board of Conciliation."

On May 3rd representatives of three trade societies, representing printers and transferrers, ovenmen, and pressers, clay potters, etc., held a joint meeting at which they agreed to act in concert. On May 14th the secretary for the united executive wrote to invite the employers to a conference.

This proposal was accepted by the employers and a conference was held on May 18th, between representatives of the manufacturers and operatives. The following proposal was submitted by the manufacturers:—

"That provided all operatives will agree to return to their work on Wednesday next, the 23rd inst., on the old terms, manufacturers are willing to meet those branches of operatives now asking for an advance early in September to discuss the question as to how far the then condition of trade will allow of any alteration in the rate of wages; and if at such meeting a satisfactory agreement cannot be arrived at, manufacturers will be prepared to submit whatever questions may be unsettled with any branch to the decision of some independent person to be agreed upon between manufacturers and operatives, and any alterations which may then be awarded shall date from the 1st day of October next."

The operatives submitted the following counterproposal:—

"That this meeting of representatives of the operative potters are willing to agree to accept a 5 per cent. advance to date from the first Saturday in October, if by making such concession a peaceful settlement of the unfortunate dispute can be arrived at."

The meeting broke up without any agreement being arrived at.

On May 26th a further conference took place between employers and operatives' representatives, when the former made the following offer:—

"The manufacturers having met the operatives' executive, and further discussed the matters in difference, and in order to put an end to the unfortunate dispute, agree to give the advance asked for—5 per cent. from October 1st next. All works will be opened on Tuesday next. At the same time the manufacturers again

repeat their promise that all individual prievances shall be referred to the committee of conciliation at the earliest possible moment."

June, 1900.

This proposal was accepted by a mass meeting of operatives on May 28th, and work was resumed on May 29th.

THE ILLINOIS FREE EMPLOYMENT REGISTRIES.

In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated April 28th, 1900, Mr. W. Wyndham, H.M. Consulat Chicago, reports on the working of the Illinois Act for the establishment of free employment offices, and for the regulation of private employment agencies. This Act, which was passed on April 11th, 1899, and has been in operation since July 1st, 1899, provides that one free employment office shall be established in each city of not less than 50,000 inhabitants, and that three such offices shall be established in each city containing a population of one million or more. Each free registry is to have a superintendent, an assistant superintendent, and a clerk. Of the last two, either one or the other is to be a woman. The salaries of these officers and all necessary office expenses will be paid by the State. Each superintendent has to report once a week (on Thursday) to the State Bureau of Labour Statistics the number of applications for work and for workpeople received during the preceding week, and also the unfilled applications remaining on the books at the beginning of the week, These lists must show the number of situations desired and the number of persons wanted at each specified trade or occupation; also the number and character of the positions secured during the preceding week. Upon receipt of these lists, and not later than Saturday in each week, the State Bureau of Labour Statistics must cause a sheet to be printed, showing separately and in combination the lists received from each free employment office, and must post two copies of this sheet every Saturday to the superintendents of all such offices (one to be filed. and one to be posted conspicuously in each office), and must also send a copy to each factory inspector and mine inspector. These inspectors must notify the free employment offices of all vacancies or opportunities for employment which come to their notice, and must assist in other ways in securing situations for applicants

One of the provisions of the Act specially prohibits superintendents from supplying workmen, or exhibiting any list of names or addresses of applicants for employment to any employer whose workmen are on strike or locked out. By another section of the Act all private agencies in any of the cities, in which free employment offices are to be opened by the State, are forbidden to carry on business without taking out a license, which

will cost £40 per annum.

The superintendents are required to report annually on the work done by their offices. The first of these reports, just issued, relates to the three offices established in Chicago in accordance with the Act, and covers the period from August 2nd to October 1st, 1899. It shows that during the 9 weeks in question there were received at all the offices 9,825 applications for male and 3,272 for female employment, a total of 13,097. During the same time the number of applications for workpeople was, for males, 6,103, and for females 4,267, a total of 10,370. The number of situations obtained through the agencies was 6,497, viz., 3,752 for males and 2,745 for females. Of the entire number of male applications for employment, 38.2 per cent. secured positions, while in the case of females the corresponding percentage was 84. Sixty-two per cent. of all applications for male, and 64.3 per cent. of all applications for female, workpeople were filled.

Combining both male and female applications for employment, it is shown that 50 per cent. have been supplied with positions, and of all applications for workpeople, 62.7 per cent. have been successful. It is remarked that the superintendents of the offices report that a considerable percentage of the applicants for work were employed at the date of filing their applications, and hoped by so doing to secure better positions.

ACCIDENTS TO RAILWAY SERVANTS IN 1899.*

In 1899 there were 531 servants of railway companies and of contractors killed and 4,633 injured by accidents to trains and other accidents connected with the running of trains or the movement of railway vehicles, whilst 53 were killed and 10,949 were injured by other accidents on the premises of the railway companies. These figures may be compared with 504 killed and 4,149 injured in 1898 by accidents of the first class, and 38 killed and 8,830 injured by accidents of the second class. All accidents are reported which prevent the servant injured from being employed for five hours on his ordinary work on any one of the three working days next after the accident.

Of the total 584 killed and 15,582 injured, 29 killed and 191 injured were contractors' servants, of whom the number employed is not known. The number of persons employed by the companies at the end of 1898 was 534,141, so that the mortality and accident rate among these amounted to about 1 in 962 killed and 1 in 35 injured. The liability to accident is, however, very different among the different grades as the following Table will show. In this Table are given the numbers of the principal grades of railway servants killed and injured by accidents of both classes in 1899, and the numbers of each grade employed at the end of 1898. The grades given include about 88 per cent. of the total number employed:—

morbs to			r of persons injur		killed or	COLO DE
Nature of Employment.		trains, accidents with the trains or ment of	idents to or other connected running of the move- frailway icles.	By acciden comp	Number of persons employed at 31st Dec., 1898.	
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	dina es
Carmen and Van Gu	ards	2	23	3	622	22,342
Carriage Cleaners		8	47	ī	136	4,441
checkers		3	12	-	166	7,015
lerks		5	16	I	50	53,821
Engine Cleaners		12	137	. 2	587	20,793
Engine Drivers		19	4:9	5	546	22,237
iremen		26	591	I	775	21,821
Goods Guards & Bra	kesmen	49	803	-	253	14,720
assenger Guards		10	112		106	6,826
nspectors		6	32	-	37	8,610
abourers		34	185	10	1,774	52,900
fechanics		35.13	46	6	453	77,270
ermanent-way Men	•••	124	179	4	1,008	63,360
hamatana		69	667	6	2,783	50,844
ignalmen		29	669	-	137	9,244
			41	2	167	25,543

ANNUAL CO-OPERATIVE CONGRESS.

The 32nd Annual Congress of Delegates from Workmen's Co-operative Societies in the United Kingdom was held at Cardiff on Whit-Monday and two following days, under the presidency of Councillor W. H. Brown, of the Newport (Mon.) Co-operative Society. There were 1,029 delegates present, and among the more important subjects discussed was the Housing question, it being stated in a report upon the subject presented by the Central Board that upwards of £5,000,000 had been expended on house building by co-operative societies.

Considerable discussion took place upon a proposal that co-operators should endeavour to secure direct representation in Parliament, a resolution in favour being negatived by a large majority.

A scheme for providing old-age pensions for members of co-operative societies was submitted by the Central Board, and after discussion the question was adjourned until next Congress in order to permit of further consideration by the local district conferences.

It was decided by Congress to establish a library and hostel at Newtown as a permanent memorial of the late-Robert Owen.

The next Congress will be held at Middlesbrough in 1901.

^{*}Statistical Tables relating to Emigration and Immigration in 1899, and report to the Board of Trade thereon. House of Commons Paper, No. 163. Price 64d.

^{*} See Railway Accidents—Returns of Accidents and Casualties during the Year ending 31st December, 1899. (Cd. 169.) Price 3s. 3d.

RECENT CONCILIATION & ARBITRATION CASES & COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.

(a) CONCILIATION ACT, 1896. Arbitration in the Brass Trade.

Reference was made in the last number of the GAZETTE (p. 133) to an application received by the Board of Trade from representatives of the employers and workmen for the appointment of an arbitrator to decide certain questions affecting the brass trade. The Board have now appointed Sir David Dale, Bart., to act in that capacity.

Arbitration in the House Painting Trade at Tamworth.

Reference was made in the last number of the GAZETTE (p. 133) to the appointment of Mr. G. R. Askwith as arbitrator in the matter of an application of the painters and decorators at Tamworth for an advance of wages of ½d. per hour. The arbitrator issued his award on May 16th, deciding that "the said claim for ½d. per hour advance in the standard rate of wages ought not now to be granted."

(b) OTHER.

Arbitration in the London Tailoring Trade.

A dispute with regard to the price to be paid for making khaki uniforms arose at the end of last year at two firms in London, and some 226 tailors struck work. The dispute terminated in an agreement that a joint committee of the Association of London Master Tailors and the Amalgamated Society of Tailors should fix prices for the work. Most of the items of the list were agreed upon jointly, but a few points (having reference to the payment for cuffs, plaits and yokes), remaining unsettled, the parties agreed to abide by the decision of Mr. W. H. Hill, the chairman of the Employers' Association, who has now issued his award dealing with the disputed points.

Mediation in the Wigan Building Trade.

A strike of bricklayers' labourers at Wigan for an advance in wages from $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 7d. per hour commenced on May 1st, and affected, directly and indirectly, about 140 persons. On May 8th the parties attended a conference at the invitation and under the chairmanship of Mr. Charles Wall. At the conference a settlement was arrived at, the increase being given for the winter months, November to February inclusive. Work was resumed on May 9th.

Arbitration in a Demarcation Dispute. (Plumbers and Brassfinishers.)

A dispute having arisen between the plumbers and brassfinishers as to which should do the work in connection with iron water service pipes upon shipboard in the Port of the Mersey, the executive of the Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades of the United Kingdom decided that the matter should be referred to arbitration in accordance with the Federation rules. The arbitrators issued their award on May 16th, the substantive clauses being as follows:—

"Both plumbers and brassfinishers have proved according to local custom that they have done this class of work, viz.:—Water service (iron pipe). And we consider that both are entitled to do the same, as we find employers give this class of work to the trade they consider best qualified to carry it out.

"We are also of opinion that plumbers only should make all connections from the iron pipes to saloons, cabins, pantries, galleys, bars, bathrooms, lavatories, w.c., and all other places where water is drawn off for sanitary and domestic purposes.

PRICES OF IRISH AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE.

The Irish Land Commission have published a return of prices of agricultural produce in Ireland for the years 1881 to 1899 inclusive.* The prices are, for the most part, for the years 1881 to 1886 inclusive, compiled from returns collected by the Commission in 1887, and for subsequent years, compiled from weekly returns supplied by the Inland Revenue officers at certain market towns. On the whole the prices of cattle, sheep, butter, eggs, flax and hay were higher in 1899 than in 1898, whilst the prices of wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, pork and wool were lower.

* [Cd.-113.] Price 113d.

RECENT PROGRESS IN CO-OPERATION,

RETURNS received from 1,170 co-operative retail distributive societies in the United Kingdom, with a total membership of 1,534,977, show total sales for the first quarter of 1900 amounting to £11,349,973, as compared with £10,357,138 in the corresponding period of 1899.

Of these societies 926 show an increase, 243 a decrease, and one the same amount as in the previous year. The largest increases are as usual in Wales and Monmouth and in Ireland, and the net increase for the United Kingdom is £992,835, or 9.6 per cent.

Returns from three of the four wholesale federations for the same period show total sales in their distributive departments amounting to $\pounds 4,884,582$, as compared with $\pounds 4,311,066$ in the corresponding period of 1899, an increase of $\pounds 573,516$, or 13.3 per cent. The sales and transfers from the manufacturing to the distributive departments of the English and Scottish wholesale societies amounted to $\pounds 900,843$, compared with $\pounds 778,384$ in the first quarter of 1899, an increase of $\pounds 122,459$, or 15.7 per cent.

The following Table, based on reports and balancesheets supplied direct to the Department, shows the progress in trade of the wholesale and retail distributive societies grouped by districts:—

		es making turns.		Sal	les.					
Description of Societies and Districts.	No.	Member-	In 1st qu	arter of	Increas	e in 1900 with 1899				
	140.	ship.	1900. 1899.		Amount.	Per cent, on Sales.				
Retail Distributive Societies.										
ENGLAND AND	Dec.	1			are the					
WALES:-	M-165	1000000	£	£	£	4				
Northern Counties	120	206,384	1,867,250	1,720,568	146,682	8.5				
Yorkshire	184	304,154	2,184,899	2,007,132	177,767	8.9				
Lancashire and	171	370,820	2,693,782	2,473,335	220,447	8.9				
Cheshire North and West	142	162,077	946,902	858,868	88,034	10.3				
Midland Counties				-6-6-						
South Midland and Eastern Counties	102	, 74,357	402,151	367,679	34,472	9'4				
London (12 mile radius)	37	36,527	200,624	171,172	29,452	17.2				
South Eastern Counties	55	44,832	235,422	211,862	23,560	11.1				
Southern and Western Counties	58	50,829	223,165	198,513	24,652	12.4				
Wales and Monmouth	47	17,150	139,521	109,710	29,811	27.2				
Total—England and Wales	916	1,267,130	8,893,716	8,118,839	774,877	9'5				
SCOTLAND-North	92	97,227	803,478	745,985	57,493	7.7				
" South	151	168,393	1,637,060	1,479,709	157,351	10.6				
Total—Scotland	243	265,620	2,440,538	2,225,694	214,844	9.7				
IRELAND ,	II.	2,227	15,719	12,605	3,114	24.7				
TOTAL RETAIL DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES	1,170	1,534,977	11,349,973	10,357,138	992,835	9.6				

| Corland - | Corl

Workmen's Compensation Act.—A Return (Cd. 142 of 1900; price 1½d.) has been presented to Parliament giving statistics of the proceedings in Sheriff Courts in Scotland and in County Courts in Ireland under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, and the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, during 1898. The corresponding Return for England and Wales was C—9251 of 1899 (see GAZETTE, May, 1899, p. 131).

* Number and membership of federated societies, † Transfers from manufacturing to distributive departments.

PRICES OF COAL AND IRON.

June, 1900.

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:—

	Num-	Period over which	Date from	Av		Average ascertaine price per to				
Product and District,	ber of work- people.	prices were ascer- tained at last audit.	prices which last audit affects tained at wages.		According to last audit.		According to previous audit.		rease or De- se(-) price ton,	
Coal. Northumberland:— (Average for all classes of coal at pit's mouth)	30,000	Dec. Jan. Feb.		s. 8	d. 9'29		d. 6.12	s. + I		
South Wales and Monmouth:— (Average for cer- tain classes of coal free on board)	125,000	Mar. Apr.	ıst June		0'00 to	100	5'14 to 6'86	+	*	
Pig Iron. Cumberland	1,350	Jan, Feb. Mar.	ıst Apr.	77	4.436	75	8.735	+1	7.701	
Cleveland	5,500	Jan. Feb. Mar.	ıst Apr.	66	8.26	64	1.41	+ 2	7.15	
Manufact'r'd Iron. North of England:— (Rails, plates, bars and angles) Midlands:—	6,000	Mar. Apr.	28th May	153	5.67	146	10.21	+ 6	7,16	
(Bars, angles, tees hoops, sheets, plates, and strips, &c.)		Mar. Apr.	4th June	186	6.36	174	7'97	+ 1	1 10.39	
West of Scotland:— (Rounds, squares, flats, angles, tees, hoops and rods)	3,500	Mar. Apr.	28th May	169	3'40	160	11.56	+	8 4.14	

Further advances are shown in the ascertained selling prices of coal and iron. In South Wales the increase in the price of coal has brought about an advance of 5 per cent. in the wages of the miners under the sliding scale agreement. Since the beginning of 1900 these men have received a total advance on their standard rates of 23\frac{3}{4} per cent., bringing their wages up to 53\frac{3}{4} per cent. above standard. In the Midlands, the North of England and West Scotland, owing to advanced prices, the puddlers and millmen have received advances of 6d. per ton and 5 per cent. respectively under the sliding scales operative in each of those districts.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES IN AUSTRALASIA.

Victoria.—The twenty-first Annual Report of the Actuary for Friendly Societies in Victoria for the year $1898\dagger$ returns the membership of the 31 Friendly Societies in the Colony as 88,726, compared with 84,012 at the end of 1897. The contributions paid during the year to sick and funeral, medical and management funds amounted to £250,547, while the receipts for interest amounted to £41,222. The payments of sick benefit during 1898 amounted to £111,068, distributed over 18,693 members. The total sick and funeral fund capital at the end of the year was £1,133,156, and the aggregate capital of all the societies amounted to £1,220,276. The report also gives the results of the quinquennial valuations of certain societies, with aggregate figures of all the societies for each of the twenty-one years 1878-1898, showing membership, receipts, expenditure, total funds, and sickness and mortality experience.

Australasia.—The report also gives a statement of the number of friendly societies, branches and members, with the total and relative amount of their funds, in the several colonies of Australasia, at the latest date for which particulars have been supplied. The figures are given in the following table:—

Colony.	Year ended 31st Dec.	No. of Separate Societies.	No. of Branches.	No. of Members.	Amount of Funds.	Capital per Member.
	13-16-1	sheep keep			£	£ s. d.
Victoria	1898	31	1,088	88,726	1,220,276	13 15 1
New South Wales	1897	44	817	69,124	595,463	8 12 7
Queensland	1898	19	320	27,135	201,830	7 8 10
outh Australia	1895	15	487	42,703	475,654	II 2 9
Western Australia	1898	15	68	4,543	35,409	7 15 11
asmania	1898	18	120	11,871	95,202	8 0 5
New Zealand	1897	33	388	32,670	637,011	19 10
Total		175	3,288	276,772	3,261,845	11 15 9

* The exact amount of the difference cannot be stated. † R. S. Brain, Government Printer, Melbourne. Price 3s. 3d.

LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

(1) Workmen's Compensation Act.

"ARISING OUT OF AND IN THE COURSE OF THE EMPLOYMENT."

The Act provides, that if in any employment to which the Act applies personal injury by accident arising out of and in the course of the employment is caused to a workman, his employer shall, subject as therein mentioned, be liable to pay compensation. The mother of an engine-cleaner in the employment of a railway company, who had met with a fatal accident, claimed compensation from the company. A new engine-shed having been opened at a place about four miles from where the deceased had previously been employed, he was directed by his foreman to go on a certain day to the new shed for the purpose of working there. No particular instructions were given him by the foreman as to how he was to get to his work. On the day in question and also on the next day he went to the place where the new shed was situated by one of the company's trains, travelling with some other engine-cleaners, and not taking or being asked for a ticket. On arriving at this place, which he reached about a quarter of an hour before the time for beginning his work, he proceeded to cross the railway lines, when a train on the main line caught him, inflicting fatal injuries. He chose this way because it was the shortest; but he might have crossed over the lines by a footbridge or a subway. The company resisted the claim for compensation, on the ground that the injury to the workman was not due to an accident arising out of and in the course of his employment. The County Court judge was of opinion that the accident arose out of and in the course of the deceased man's employment—while he was carrying out the orders of his superior officer and proceeding to the particular place upon his employers' premises to which he was directed to go. He accordingly made an award in favour of the applicant for £150. The employers appealed; and the Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal. The Court theld that the only question for its consideration was, whether there was an implied contract between the employers and the workman that, if he would get into a train at t

"SERIOUS AND WILFUL MISCONDUCT."

It is provided by the Act that, "If it is proved that the injury to a workman is attributable to the serious and wilful misconduct of that workman, any compensation claimed in respect of that injury shall be disallowed." A workman claimed compensation from his employers in respect of personal injury by accident under the following circumstances. On the day when the accident occurred the workman, whose duty it was to attend to a press for corrugating iron, went out fer his supper; and on his return the foreman, believing him to be intoxicated, told him that he (the foreman) would take the sheets of iron from the machine. Being inflated at this remark, the workman stepped forward in front of the foreman in order to take the sheets off the press himself, when his hands were drawn in between the rollers and seriously injured. The County Court judge held that the workman was not intoxicated, and that the accident happened through his being irritated by the conduct of the foreman. He awarded the workman compensation, and the employers appealed against this decision on the ground that the injury was attributable to his serious and wilful misconduct in disobeying the foreman. The Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal with costs. In giving judgment the Court stated that, when a County Court judge on a question of fact had held that there was no "serious and wilful misconduct" on the part of the injured person, the Court of Appeal would not alter his decision except under very exceptional circumstances. In the present case the judge had clearly found that drunkenness was not the cause of the accident, but that it was due to the foreman irritating the workman by treating him as if he was drunk. There were no exceptional circumstances in this case.—Reeve v. The Birmingham Corrugated Iron Company, Limited, Court of Appeal, May 5th.

In another case the father and mother of a workman who had met with a fatal accident claimed compensation from his employers, a firm of engineers. The deceased was employed to stand by a planing machine, and sweep from the table beneath the machine the bits of metal and turnings as they were planed off. While he was so engaged, his neck became jammed between the crank and the standard of the machine, and he sustained injuries which caused his death. It was given in evidence that the deceased had been warned not to stand in the position in which he was when he met with the accident; but the foreman said, "I do not suggest he did this wilfully." The County Court judge held that the accident was due to the serious and wilful misconduct of the deceased, and that, accordingly, the employers were not liable under the Act. The applicants appealed, contending that, even if the deceased had been guilty of serious.

misconduct, yet there was no evidence to show that it was serious and wilful. The Court of Appeal was clearly of opinion that there was evidence to support the finding of the judge, who might very well hold upon the evidence that the accident was attributable to the wilful misconduct of the workman, and dismissed the appeal with costs.-Penny and Wife v. Vickers, Sons, & Maxim, Limited,

TIME FOR TAKING PROCEEDINGS.

The Act provides that, "Proceedings for the recovery under this Act of compensation for an injury shall not be maintainable. unless the claim for compensation with respect to such accident has been made within six months from the occurrence of the accident causing the injury, or, in case of death, within six months from the time of death. Provided always that the want of or any defect or inaccuracy in such notice shall not be a bar to the main-tenance of such proceedings, if it is found in the proceedings for settling the claim that the employer is not prejudiced in his defence by the want, defect, or inaccuracy, or that such want, defect, or inaccuracy was occasioned by mistake or other reasonable cause." A workman was, on December 19th, 1898, injured by accident arising out of and in the course of his employment. He did not make any claim on his employers until more than six months after the date of the accident, when he claimed compensation from them. In the meantime, from two weeks after the accident, weekly payments had been made to him by an insurance company with whom his employers had insured themselves against liability under whom his employers had insured themselves against liability under the Act, such payments being equivalent to one-half of his previous wages, as stated by his employers in particulars sent by them to the company; and in respect of these payments he gave receipts "on account of compensation which might be, or become due to him under the Workmen's Compensation Act." The County Court judge held that the workman was not precluded from recovering compensation by lapse of time, and made an award in his favour. The employers appealed; and the Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, holding that the weekly payment made to the workman was no evidence of any agreement by the employers that they were liable to pay compensation, and that, therefore, there was no evidence of a waiver by them of the condition that proceedings must be commenced within six months.—Rendall v. Hill's Dry Dock Company, Court of Appeal, May 5th. Dry Dock Company, Court of Appeal, May 5th.

ON OR IN OR ABOUT A MINE.

The Act applies "only to employment by the undertakers as hereinafter defined on or in or about a railway, mine, quarry, or engineering work, and to employment by the undertakers as hereinafter defined on in or about any building which exceeds 30 feet in height, and is either being constructed or repaired by means of a scaffolding, or being demolished, or on which machinery, driven by steam, water, or other mechanical power, is being use the purpose of the construction, repair, or demolition thereof.' the Act, "Mine" in relation to a coal mine means a mine to which the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1887, applies; and in that Act "unless the context otherwise requires, "mine" includes. all the shafts, levels, planes, works, tramways, and sidings, both below ground and above ground, in and adjacent to and belonging to the mine." A claim for compensation was made against a colliery company by the personal representative of a workman who was killed by accident arising out of and in the course of his employment by the company. The company own a private railway many miles in length, connecting their various colieries with each other and with the lines of a railway company. The private railway is not a railway within the meaning of the Compensation Act. The deceased workman was an engine-driver on the private railway, and was killed by accident while driving the engine of a train carrying coal from one of the company's mines upon some sidings on the private railway about three-quarters of a mile away from that mine. The County Court judge held that the deceased was employed on or in or about a mine of the company, being employed on "works" of the company's which were a part of the mine in question, within the meaning of the Act, and made an award in question, within the meaning of the Act, and made an award in favour of the applicant. The employers appealed; and the Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, holding that the words in the section of the Coal Mines Regulation Act quoted above "adjacent to and belonging to the mine," meant physically adjacent to and belonging to the mine itself, and not merely belonging to the mine owner, and that the deceased was not employed on or in or about a mine, within the meaning of the Act.—Turnbull v. Lambton Collieries, Limited, Court of Appeal, May 5th and 7th.

WHO ARE "THE UNDERTAKERS"?

In the Act "undertakers" in the case of a factory means "the occupier thereof within the meaning of the Factory and Workshop Acts, 1878 to 1895"; in the case of an engineering work (which expression includes all work for the construction, alteration, or repair of which machinery driven by steam, water, or other mechanical power is used) means "the person undertaking the construction, alteration, or repair"; and in the case of a building means "the persons undertaking the construction, repair, or

A firm of chemical manufacturers were having a building erected A firm of chemical manufacturers were having a building erected on their premises. The building, which was over 30 feet in height, and was being constructed by means of a scaffolding, was being erected under the supervision of this chemical firm, who supplied the materials for it, and who employed the architect. At the request of the firm, a certain man supplied the labourers for the brickwork of the building, this contractor paying these labourers and being remunerated by receiving from the firm an extra halfpenny an hour upon the men's time. The men so supplied acted under the orders of the firm's foreman, and the contractor had nothing to do with the work, nor was he

responsible for the way in which the work was done, nor had he any control over the men when at work. One of the labourers so supplied, while at work on the building, fell off a scaffolding, and was killed. His widow claimed compensation from the contractor. The County Court judge held that the contractor was the person undertaking the construction of the building, and was therefore an undertaker, within the meaning of the Act and was therefore an undertaker, within the meaning of the Act, and made an award in favour of the widow. The contractor appealed and the Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, holding that the fact that the contractor merely undertook to supply the labour, did not make him an "undertaker" within the meaning of the Act, and that the persons undertaking the construction of the building (who were the persons against whom proceedings must be taken to recover compensation) were the chemical firm.—Percival v. Garner, Court of Appeal, May 19th.

June, 1900.

In another case an engineering firm were carrying out a contract which they had made with a company for the supply of certain machinery. In carrying out this work they did not use any machinery driven by mechanical power. Two of the workmen employed by the firm were engaged in fixing a rail round the flywheel of one of the steam-engines which formed part of the plant created on the premises by the firm when one of them methans wheel of one of the steam-engines which formed part of the plant erected on the premises by the firm, when one of them met with a fatal accident, being caught by the machinery in motion, during a preliminary run. The widow of this workman claimed compensation from his employers. The sheriff-substitute held that the premises were at the date of the accident a factory within the meaning of the Act, but that the employers of the deceased were not the occupiers of the factory or undertakers, within the meaning of the Act. He therefore disundertakers, within the meaning of the Act. He therefore dismissed the action, with expenses. On appeal, the Court of Session affirmed the decision of the sheriff, with additional expenses.—

Mrs. Annie Smail or Purves v. L. Sterne and Company, Limited, Court f Session, May 22nd.

COMPENSATION IN CASE OF FATAL ACCIDENT: TO WHOM PAYABLE.

With respect to compensation payable where death results from the injury, the Act provides that "(4) the payment shall, in case of death, be made to the legal personal representative of the workman, or, if he has no legal personal representative, to or for the benefit of his dependants, or, if he leaves no dependants, to the person to whom the expenses are due; and if made to the legal personal representative shall be paid by him to or for the benefit of the dependants or other persons entitled thereto under this Act. (5) Any question as to who is a dependant, or as to the amount payable to each dependant, shall, in default of agreement, be settled by arbitration under this Act. (6) The sum allotted as compensation to a dependant may be invested or otherwise applied for the benefit of the persons entitled thereto, as agreed, or as ordered by the committee or other arbitrator. (7) Any sum which is agreed or is ordered by the committee or arbitrator to be invested, may be invested in whole or in part in the Post Office Savings Bank by the registrar of the County Court in his name as registrar." The widow of a workman, who had been killed by accident arising out of and in the course of his employment, took out letters of administration, and made a claim against his employers for compensation, as his legal personal representative. The Courty Court judge, by his award, ordered the employers to pay (216 ps. for compensation, as his legal personal representative. The County Court judge, by his award, ordered the employers to pay £246 78, to the dependants of the deceased, and declared that the persons entitled to share in such compensation as dependants were the widow and two infant sons of the deceased, and he ordered that sum to be apportioned as follows:—£146 7s. to be paid to the widow, and £100 for the benefit of the two sons equally, to be paid to the Registrar and invested in his name in the Post Office Savings Bank for their benefit. The widow appealed from this decision, contending that the whole amount ought to be paid to her as the legal personal representative of the deceased. The Court of Appeal held that the Act gave the County Court judge power to make the order which he had made, and dismissed the appeal, but, as the question raised on the appeal did not concern the employers, dismissed it without costs.—Daniel v. The Ocean Coal Company, Limited, Court of Appeal, May 5th.

REVIEW OF COMPENSATION.

The Act provides that "Any weekly payment may be reviewed at the request either of the employer or the workman, and on such review may be ended, diminished or increased, . . . and the amount of payment shall, in default of agreement, be settled by arbitration under this Act." A workman, a youth aged 18 years, had his left leg amputated as the result of an accident at a colliery on December 1st, 1898, and was awarded 8s. 8d. per week during partial or total disablement. His employers (the owners of the colliery) continued this payment until the beginning of the present year, when they learned that the workman was fit to do work. They offered him, accordingly, employment in the lamp-room of the colliery at 14s. a week. The workman, however, had been apprenticed to a bootmaker, and took no notice of this offer. Thereupon the employers applied to the County Court judge to have the award of 8s. 8d. a week reduced; but the judge refused this application, on the ground that, under all the circumstances of the case, the employment effects that the contractions are the employment effects that the contractions are the case. the case, the employment offered to the workman was unreasonable. The employers appealed; and the Court of Appeal dismissed the appeal, holding that the County Court judge had come to the conclusion that this employment was unreasonable for a crippled boy, and this was a question of fact for the judge to decide. Hosel decision was supported by the evidence, and the Court of Appeal would not interfere with it.—Buckley v. Locke & Company, Limited, Court of Appeal, May 19th.

In another case a carpenter, who had met with an accident while at work, three of his fingers having been cut off in a circular saw, had been awarded 17s. 9d. a week as compensation. His employers

applied to the County Court judge to have the award reviewed and the payments reduced, on the ground that the carpenter was now earning wages as a caretaker. The judge refused to go into the question at all, expressing his opinion that the Act never intended that, whenever a workman obtained a job of a few shillings a week, that, whenever a workman obtained a job of a few shiftings a week, his employers should apply to have the award of compensation reviewed. The employers appealed; and the Court of Appeal allowed the appeal, with costs, holding that the judge was bound to give the matter his consideration, and the case must accordingly remitted to him .- Hewitt v. Hepburn & Co., Court of Appeal

(2) Employers' Liability Act.

DEFECT IN CONDITION OF PLANT.

An engineer was employed to attend to a mortar mill, which consisted of two rollers revolving in a pan. The tyres of the rollers having become worn and loose, this workman was directed by his employer to remedy this defect by driving wedges between the tyre and the roller. While he was doing this, some lime, which, in the ordinary use of the mortar pan had found its way in between the tyre and the roller, was forced out and struck the workman in the eye, injuring his eyesight. He brought an action against his employer under the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, to recover compensation for the injury. By Section 1, sub-section 1 of the Act it is provided that, where personal injury is caused to a workman "by reason of any defect in the condition of the ways, works, machinery, or plant connected with or used in the business. works, machinery, or plant connected with or used in the business of the employer, the workman shall have the same right of compensation and remedies against the employer as if the workman had not been a workman of nor in the service of the employer, nor engaged in his work; "while it is provided by Section 2, subsection I of the Act that a workman shall not be entitled under this Act to any right of compensation or remedy against the employer "under sub-section I of Section I, unless the defect

employer "under sub-section i of Section i, unless the defect therein mentioned arose from, or had not been discovered or remedied owing to the negligence of the employer, or of some person entrusted by him with the duty of seeing that the ways, works, machinery or plant were in proper condition."

The County Court judge left three questions to the jury: (a) was there a defect in the plant? (b) was that defect due to the negligence of the defendant? (c) was the injury caused through the defect? The jury answered all three questions in the affirmative, and gave a verdict for the plaintiff for f45; but the judge severtheless non-suited the plaintiff, holding that there was no evidence on which the jury could find that the accident was due to severtheless non-suited the plaintiff, holding that there was no evidence on which the jury could find that the accident was due to the defect in the plant. The workman appealed; and the Queen's Bench Division allowed the appeal, holding that the questions were properly left to the jury. The workman was engaged in remedying a defective machine when he was injured, and there was evidence on which the jury might find that the injury happened through the defect.—Clarkev. Nichols, Queen's Bench Division, May 17th.

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR BUREAUX IN HUNGARY.

THE following account of the system of Labour Registries, to be established by the different public authorities throughout Hungary, which was instituted by the Government in February last, is based upon details kindly supplied to the Department by Mr. M. Szántó, of the Royal Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture. The general outlines of the system may thus be described. In each district and town there is to be a local registrar, whose duty it will be to give information to employers with respect to labour available, and to workpeople with regard to vacant situations. If required so to do, the local registrar will communicate with the registrar of another district or with a specified employer, the applicant paying the cost of the communication and a fee of about 2d.

So far as concerns those cases, in which the local registrar is unable to satisfy the demands of employers for workmen or of workmen for employment, this official will communicate the facts in a weekly report to the registrar in charge of the county registry having jurisdiction in respect of the county within which his district is situated, who will also receive reports from the registrars of the neighbouring counties. The information, which is thus conveyed to the county registrar, that officer will tabulate, sending a copy of his tabulation to each of the district registrars in his own county, and also to the registrars of the neighbouring counties. In addition, the local and the county registrars are to send weekly reports to the Board of Agriculture, which will supply information to any registrar, and to private persons making inquiries Both the postal and the telegraph services will be utilised for the purpose of maintaining intercommunication between the different branches of the new organisation, and, together with the telephone, will be made use of by the local registries for supplying information to employers and workpeople seeking the

assistance of these bureaux. All office expenses in connection with this system will be defrayed out of public moneys.

LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.

(Monthly report, compiled by the Emigrants' Information Office, 31 Broadway, Westminster, S.W., from official and other reports, newspapers, etc., mostly dated April and May last.)*

Canada.—A report from New Brunswick states that here is no demand for miners, mechanics, or general labourers, but a good demand for farm labourers and female servants. A report from Montreal states that there is a good demand for good farm hands, both male and female, for the country, and for domestics for the city. A report from Calgary in the North-West lays stress on the great demand for female servants, and lady helps well trained in domestic matters. At Prince Albert (N.W.T.) there is a fair demand for all kinds of labour except miners. A report from Manitoba states that there is a good demand for farm labourers and female servants only. A report from British Columbia states that the demand for farm labourers is not permanent, but that female servants are always in great demand; the latter should know how to make bread, and do household work, or needlework. A report from Toronto states that there is a demand for farm labourers. general labourers, and female servants, and that outside the building trades good mechanics can get work.

New South Wales,-There is no special demand for more labour, but competent men can find work on fruit or dairy farms.

Victoria. - A report from Melbourne states: "Everything here is very quiet. There is practically no change in wages or time. The Factories Act is being more widely applied than hitherto, and is doubtless doing good." The Bread Baking Board, appointed under the Factories and Shops Acts, have fixed the minimum wage payable in the trade at 121d. an hour, or 50s. per week of 48 hours. A few good plumbers are wanted for the Melbourne drainage works.

South Australia.—Copper miners are very busy in he north

Queensland.—There is a good demand for farm labourers, ploughmen, and female servants, to whom free or assisted passages are now being given; there is

also a moderate demand for mechanics. Western Australia. - The supply of men in the building and other trades is sufficient; very few men are out of employment. The supply of miners s also sufficient except at Mingenew and Yilgarn. Agricultural labourers are wanted in the Blackwood. remantle, Northam, Perth, Newcastle, Dongarra and Katanning districts in the south-west division of the Colony. There is no demand for unskilled labour except at Fremantle (where over 900 hands, skilled and unskilled, are employed on the harbour works). Newcastle, Geraldton, and Dongarra. There is a demand for female servants in almost every district. Lumpers' wages have been raised, by agreement between masters and men, from 18. 11d. an hour for general cargo to 1s. 3d., and from 1s. 8d. an hour for overtime to 2s.

New Zealand. - Beside the building and engineering trades, which are almost everywhere busy, there is plenty of work to be had in the mines, saw and flax mills, clothing factories, woollen mills, flour mills. freezing works, brickyards, etc. Dairving and agricultural pursuits are generally prosperous, and occupy large numbers of persons, and unskilled labourers can, if they want to, nearly always obtain employment at rabbit-poisoning, scrub cutting, bridge-building, road repairing, fencing, or general farm work.

South Africa.—The following telegram has been received at the Colonial Office from Sir Alfred

"7th June.—Reported by telegram that large numbers of miners and others are about to start for Transvaal from Southampton on Saturday. Cannot public notification be issued warning people against premature return? They will be delayed at Cape ports, and will

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

only increase numbers supported by charity. It must be a couple of months, at least, before the bulk of those now in Colony and Natal can be allowed to return, or work generally be resumed."

LABOUR ABROAD. FRANCE.

Labour Disputes in April*.—Eighty-four fresh disputes (including three lock-outs) were reported to the French Labour Department in April, the number of workpeople known to have taken part in 78 of these disputes being 21,271. The corresponding number of disputes in March was 80, in 79 of which 11,723 workpeople were known to have taken part, while in April, 1899, there were 35 disputes, in which 6,025 workpeople took part. Of the eighty-four new disputes in April last, 27 occurred in the textile trades, 23 in the building trades, 11 in the metal and engineering trades, 5 in the transport trades, 3 in the clothing trades, 2 in chemical, glass, pottery, etc., trades, 2 in agriculture, one in the printing trade, and 10 in miscellaneous trades. The most important of the new disputes was a strike of 12,000 laundry workers at 400 establishments in the suburbs of Paris, which began on April 24th, and lasted until April 30th, ending in a compromise. This dispute was caused by the putting into operation of the new law of March 30th, 1900 (see GAZETTE, April, 1900, p. 101), which involves a reduction in the hours of labour of adult males from 12 to 11 per day whenever such persons are employed in the same factory or workshop with women, young persons and children whose hours are similarly limited In consequence of this measure, many employers, who formerly worked 12 hours per day, reduced the wages of their workpeople by one-twelfth. Ten disputes (one being a lock-out) were attributable to this cause, in addition to the strike of laundry workers referred to above. Of the 58 new and old disputes, of which the termination is reported, 7 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 17 in favour of the employers, and 34 were compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in April.*—Fourteen cases of recourse to the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported to the French Labour Department in April, the workpeople having taken the initiative in 7 cases, the justice of the peace in 5 cases, and the employers and workpeople jointly in one case. With reference to one case it is not stated by whom application for conciliation was made. Conciliation proceedings took place in 8 cases, and resulted in the termination of 5 strikes. (A sixth strike was settled by the Prefect, after unsuccessful intervention by the justice of the peace.) Offers of mediation made by the justice of the peace were rejected by the employers in 3 cases. In two cases, information was wanting as to whether the action of the justice of the peace had led to conciliation proceedings or not, while in the remaining case the dispute was settled before the formal proceedings took place. The number of workpeople involved in the 5 disputes settled by conciliation under the law was 12,415, of whom 12,000 were engaged in the strike of laundry workers referred to above.

Regulation of Hours of Labour in Factories, etc.-In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated May 18th, Sir E. Monson, H.M. Ambassador at Paris, transmits copy of a circular addressed by the Minister of Commerce to the Prefects, with regard to the interpretation of the law of March 30th, 1900, regulating the hours of labour in factories and workshops. (See GAZETTE, April, 1900, p. 101.) M. Millerand explains that the chief object of the law is to put an end to the system of "relays," by which the spirit of the law of November 2nd, 1892, was contravened, and he draws the attention of the Prefects particularly to the modification of Article 3 of that law, by which it is laid down that, except in factories working night and day and in mines, the hours of rest shall be the same for all; and to the modification of Article 11, by which, when the employment of successive shifts is necessary, the labour of each shift shall be continuous, excepting interruption for rest.

GERMANY.

Employment in May.—According to Der Arbeitsmarkt, the state of employment was rather more favourable than in May, 1899, the proportion which applications for work bore to every 100 offers of situations at public employment registries throughout the Empire being 101'2, as compared with 102'4 a year ago.

Labour Disputes in May.—The same journal reports 105 disputes as having begun in Germany in May, as compared with 84 in April. The group in which the greatest number of disputes took place, was that of the building trades, which had 33 disputes; the woodworking trades had 20 disputes; the metal and engineering trades 16; the textile trades, 9; the glass, pottery, etc., trades, 7; mining and quarrying, 3; clothing trades, 2; food preparation trades, 2 while 13 disputes occurred in trades not coming within any of the foregoing groups.

SWITZERLAND.

Referendum on Sickness and Accident Insurance of Workpeople. - In a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated May 21st, Mr. F. R. St. John, H.M. Minister at Berne, reports that the popular voting on the Referendum regarding the proposed Swiss law on compulsory insurance against sickness and accidents, which took place on the previous day, resulted in the rejection of the measure, the adverse votes amounting to 341,754, as against 146,954 in favour of the law. (See GAZETTE, December, 1899, pp. 355-6.)

BELGIUM.*

Employment in April.—The general situation in April is reported as having been marked by scarcity and dearness of labour. This was more especially the case in the coal mining industry, in quarrying, and in the various branches of the metal and engineering trades, all of which were being deprived of a part of their labourers through the commencement of the brickmaking season, which has opened favourably and promised to be a very busy one. Seasonal activity continued in the building and garment-making trades except for painters and bespoke tailors, whose employment was affected by the state of the weather, and for masons and navvies, who were adversely affected by the high prices of building materials. In the textile trades employment continued active, but commercial transactions were hampered by alterations in the prices of cotton and wool. The table-glass trade did not improve commercially, but employment became regular; the plate-glass and glass-bottle branches were well employed. The condition of the Antwerp diamondworking trade and of the lace-making trade continued In the bootmaking, printing, woodworking, chemical and tanning trades, and in the manufacture of arms employment generally was good.

Labour Disputes in April.—Sixteen new disputes were reported to the Belgian Labour Department in April, involving in all 954 workpeople. The corresponding number of fresh disputes in March was 22, involving 9,200 workpeople, and in April, 1899, 12, involving about 64,200 workpeople. Of the 16 fresh disputes in April, 1900, the most important was a strike of 176 nailmakers of Fontaine-l'Evêque (Hainaut) for increased wages, which lasted from April 17th to 26th. Of the remaining fresh disputes, 2 were in the quarrying group of trades, 4 in the textile trades, 2 in the bootmaking trade, 3 in the chemical trades, and 1 in each of the following trades: house-painting, lookingglass manufacture, metal-gilding, and dock labour.

Of 16 new and old disputes, involving 4,389 workpeople, of which the results are classified, 3, involving 1,370 workpeople, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 11, involving 2,569 workpeople, in favour of the employers; and 2, involving 450 workpeople, were compromised.

In addition, 2 disputes ended in the whole of the strikers transferring their services to other employers.

AUSTRIA.+

Employment in March.—For every 100 offers of situations at labour registries (public and private) furnishing returns of their operations to the Austrian

* Revue du Travail (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department

Labour Department there were, on an average, 132 applications for work in March—the same proportion as in February. For males seeking employment the situation was, however, more favourable in March than in February, the average number of applications for each situation offered dropping from 2.3 in February to 2 in March. The improved proportion is attributable in a far greater measure to the returns of the urban (industrial) than to those of the rural (agricultural) registries.

The total number of registries furnishing returns for March was 719, of which 570 were attached to the relief stations for unemployed wayfarers existing throughout

the country, chiefly in rural districts.

Labour Disputes in March.—Twenty-six disputes (of which one is described as a lock-out) were reported to the Austrian Labour Department in March, the number of workpeople involved being stated as exceeding 4,500. The principal disputes of the month were 2 strikes (for increased wages) in the coal mining industry, each involving 1,500 workpeople. One of these disputes began on March 1st and ended on the 3rd, the workmen obtaining a 10 per cent. increase of wages. The other began on March 22nd and ended on April 2nd, a 5 per cent. increase being granted. Of the other 24 disputes, 3 occurred in the building trades, 4 in the metal and engineering trades, 6 in the textile trades, 6 in the clothing trades, and 5 in miscellaneous trades.

SWEDEN.

Employment of Women and Children in Factories, etc. Proposed Legislation .- The Hon. Sir F. Pakenham, H.M. Minister at Stockholm, in a report to the Foreign Office dated May 12th, states that the Committee on Legislation has presented to the Chambers a Bill relating to the work of minors in factories, etc. According to the provisions of this Bill, which differ from those of the law of 1881, legislation is confined to "large industries," including sawmills and timber yards. Women are protected in certain branches of industry; the minimum age for employment is 12 years, and 10 hours of work per day are allowed to children of 13 years, whereas the present law only permits 6 hours of work per day to children under 14.

Invention of Non-poisonous Match.—A report from the same source, under date of May 5th, states that a nonpoisonous match has been invented, which can take the place of phosphorus matches and permit the prohibition of the latter. Like phosphorus matches, the new match can be lighted without a prepared surface, by simple friction on walls, floors, etc., and it is better than phosphorus matches, in not being so easily spoiled by humidity. It also resists high temperature better than phosphorus, or even safety matches.

SPAIN.

Strikes at Bilbao .- Mr. E. B. Maxse, H.M. Consul at Bilbao, reporting under date of May 29th, states that about the beginning of May the local masons struck work, nominally for higher wages, but really because they had been persuaded to refuse to work with nonunion men. Shortly afterwards, the plumbers, painters, carpenters and bricklayers struck, and refused to work with non-union men. The employers thereupon declared that they, on their side, would not allow the men to resume work, except on the employers' terms. These terms have never been explicitly stated, but are supposed to be:-no increase of wages no reduction of hours, and no acknowledgment of unions. The dock labourers commenced striking about May 15th at one or two wharves, and at the time of reporting the strike was pretty general. A certain number of dock labourers had been imported from Santander, and were engaged in discharging vessels.

On May 25th the miners of the Franco-Belge Mining Company came out on strike, asking for higher wages (5d. per day more). They were followed the next day by the men belonging to the Triano Railway Company. The mine owners and managers held a meeting on May 25th, at which they agreed, first, not to increase wages, and secondly, to stop working all mines and lock out the miners on June 5th, should the men of all the mines not have returned to their work by that date.

Strike of Rio Tinto Miners.—According to newspaper reports, a strike has broken out within the last few days in the Rio Tinto mines in Andalusia, and on the 14th instant all work was reported at a stand still.

UNITED STATES. NEW YORK CONSULAR DISTRICT.

Strike of Italian Workmen.—In a report to the Foreign Office, dated April 27th, Sir Percy Sanderson, H.M. Consul-General at New York, states that the strike of Italian workmen at the new Croton Dam was then considered to be over. (See May GAZETTE, p. 138.)

CHICAGO CONSULAR DISTRICT.

With reference to the strike in the building trades in Chicago, mentioned in the April GAZETTE (p. 107), Mr. W. Wyndham, H.M. Consul at Chicago, reporting to the Foreign Office under date of May 4th, states that on April 19th the Mayor of Chicago invited the representatives of the contractors, the manufacturers and dealers in building materials, and the trade unions, to meet him, with a view to arriving at a settlement. The suggestion was that the manufacturers and dealers in building materials (whose business was entirely stopped by the strike) should hear both sides, and then offer a suggestion for a basis of settlement. The union men attended the meeting, and stated their side of the case. The contractors refused to meet them, but issued a statement in which they said that they were not opposed to legitimate unionism, but would not recognise the Building Trades Council (a committee of all the They would allow any member of the unions). Contractors' Council to make an agreement with any individual union on terms which provided (1) that there shall be no limitation as to the amount of work a man shall perform during the working day; (2) that there shall be no restriction of the use of machinery or tools; (3) that there shall be no restriction of the use of any manufactured material, except prison-made: (4) that no person shall have the right to interfere with the workmen during working hours; (5) that the use of apprentices shall not be prohibited; (6) that the foreman shall be the agent of the employer; (7) that all workmen shall be at liberty to work for whomsoever they see fit; (8) that employers shall be at liberty to employ and discharge whomsoever they see fit; (9) that 8 hours shall constitute a day's work; (10) that the rate of daily wages shall be for bricklayers, plasterers, stonecutters, gasfitters, engineers, plumbers, steam-fitters and tile-setters, 16s.; for iron-setters, 14s. 6d.; for marble-setters, 14s.; for carpenters and sheet metal workers, 13s. 6d.; for house drainers, 13s.; for iron-workers, 12s. 9d.; for painters and gravelroofers, 12s.; for plasterers' labourers, 9s. 6d.; and for other labourers, 8s.; (II) that time and one-half shall be paid for overtime, and double time for Sundays and holidays; (12) that the agreement shall cover a period of not less than three years; (13) that an arbitration clause, to provide for the adjustment of possible difficulties in the future, be made a part of the agreement; (14) that no by-law or rule conflicting with the agreement shall be enforced or passed by the association or union during the life of the agreement; and (15) that the agreement shall become operative only when the union withdraws permanently from the Building Trades Council and agrees not to be affiliated to any organisation of a like character during the life of the agreement.

On April 24th all the journeymen plumbers were ordered out on strike, as it was believed that the contractors were taking advantage of the job-shops to get work done. On the same day the brass moulders, who were to have commenced work, re-considered the step and continued the strike. The dispute had now continued for 11 weeks, during which 40,000 men had been idle, and up till May 4th (the date of the report) no settlement had taken place.

In the first week of April the engineers, who had been

on strike for three weeks, returned to work on terms | Comparison of the Average Number of Days Worked by which conceded the wages demanded, and shorter | Collieries in May, 1900 and 1899, and in April, 1900. which conceded the wages demanded, and shorter hours. On April 16th, the journeymen tailors returned to work, having obtained their demands for increased wages, and agreed to defer the question of shops being provided for them for three years, when, if they still desired it, these should be provided. (See April GAZETTE, p. 107).

Among other strikes reported is one of 2,000 coalminers of Springfield (Ill.), due to the refusal of the enginemen to join the union.

REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES. (a) COAL MINING IN MAY.

[Note.—The following tables only profess to state the number of days (allowance being made in all the calculations for short days) on which coal was hewn and wound at the collieries included in the returns received. It is not necessarily implied that all the persons employed at these collieries worked the whole number of days.]

EMPLOYMENT in May was practically the same as a year ago. Owing to Easter holidays the returns for England and Wales for April are not comparable with those for May. In Scotland, there was a slight decline in the number of days worked during the month.

Returns relating to 1,284 pits, at which 451,117 workpeople were employed, show that an average of 5.63 days per week was worked by these pits in the four weeks ended May 26th, as compared with 5.64 days per week in May, 1899.

The following Table shows the average time worked in each division of the United Kingdom in the three periods specified

District.			No. employed in May, 1900, at the	Average i	number of dek by the pi	ts in four
eng Arij moniy	41		collieries included in the Table.	26th May, 1900.	20th May, 1899.	21st April,* 1900.
England and Wales Scotland Ireland		•••	411,036 39,485 596	5.65 5.42 5.42	5.65 5.48 5.17	5'16 5'56 5'55
United Kingdom			451,117	5.63	5.64	B·19

The number employed at the pits from which returns have been received for both periods was about 3'1 per

cent. higher than in May, 1899.

In the following table the workpeople are grouped according to the number of days worked at the pits at which they were employed. It will be seen that 92.6 per cent. were employed at pits working 5 or more days per week in May compared with 93.5 per cent. in May, 1899.

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

Number of days on	May,	1900.	Corresponding percentages in-		
which Coal was hewn and wound in four weeks.	No. of Workpeople employed.	Percentage proportion to total.	May, 1899.	April,*	
24 days (full time) 20 and under 24 days 16 20 12 16 8 1, 12 Under 8 days	151,233 266,492 32,297 678 309 108	33'5 59'1 7'2 0'1 0'1 0'0	36·7 56·8 5·2 0·7 0·2 0·4	17 88:1 14:7 1:3 0:2 0:0	
Total	451,117	100-0	100.0	100.0	

From the Table below, which gives detailed particulars for the different mining districts, it will be seen that there was an improvement of about \(\frac{1}{3} \) day per week in the Gloucester and Somerset district, and of 1 day in the small Irish district as compared with a year ago; in North Wales there was a decline of nearly day. The changes in other districts were of minor

The highest averages during the month were worked in Yorkshire and Derbyshire (5.87 days), Cumberland (5.83 days) and the Gloucester and Somerset district (5.81 days). The lowest average was worked in the Nottingham and Leicester district (5.25 days).

District.	No. employed in May, 1900, at the Collieries	per Wei	ek by the ur weeks		Increa or De (-) in 1900 a pared	May,
	included in the Table.	26th May, 1900.	20th May, 1899.	21st April, 1900.*	A year ago.	A m'nth ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland	35,270	5'52	5'51	5'07	+ '01	+ '45
Durham	88,389	5'64	5.65	5'25	- '01	+ '39
Cumberland	6,342	5'83	5.68	5'54	+ '15	+ '29
Yorkshire	64,998	5.87	5.76	5'19	+ '11	+ .68
Lancashire and Cheshire	47,925	5'47	5.60	5'25	- '13	+ '22
Derbyshire	35,148	5.87	5.77	5'07	+ .10	+ .80
Nottingham and Leicester	25,575	5'25	5'12	4'47	+ '13	+ '78
Staffordshire Salop, Worcester and	24,478	5*54	5.40	2,13	19	+ '41
Warwick	7,628	5.66	5.82	5'03	- '16	+ '63
Gloucester and Somerset	8,266	5.81	5'43	5'41	+ '38	+ '40
North Wales	10,813	5'43	5.65	5'14	- '22	+ '29
South Wales & Mon	56,204	5.78	5.83	5'25	02	+ '53
SCOTLAND. West Scotland	21,975	5'27	5'43	5'53	- '16	- '26
The Lothians	3,802	570	5'54	5.68	+ .16	1
Fife	13,708	5'57	5'56	5.20	+ .01	- '02
IRELAND	596	5'42	5'17	5.22	+ '25	- '13
Grand Total & Averages	451,117	5-63	5.64	B·19	01	+ '44

The Exports of coal, coke, cinders and patent fuel during May amounted to 4,170,220 tons, as compared with 3,448,517 tons in April, and 3,942,121 tons in May, 1899.

(b) IRON MINING IN MAY.

THE average time worked at iron mines in May showed a slight decline compared with a year ago, and a slight improvement compared with a month ago, when, however, employment was interrupted by Easter holidays. The number employed so far as shown by the returns was less by about 1.9 per cent. than in May,

Returns relating to 128 iron mines and open works show that the average number of days worked during the four weeks ended May 26th was 5.79 per week, as compared with 5.83 in May, 1899. The number of compared with 5.83 in May, 1899. The number of workpeople employed in May at these mines was 16,884, of whom 85.2 per cent. were employed in mines working 22 days or more in the four weeks, as compared with 92.2 per cent. in May, 1899.

The following table summarises the returns received:

District.	No. employed in May, 1900, at the Mines	worked	per wee 0 4 week	k by the	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in May, 1900, as compared with		
	included in the Table.	26th May, 1900.	20th May, 1899.	Apr.,	A year ago.	A month	
England-	1	5379					
Cumberland and		Days.	Days.	Days,	Days.	Days.	
Lancashire	5,861	5.80	5.87	5'72	- '07	+ .08	
Cleveland Lincolnshire and	6,798	5'74	5.78	2.61	- '04	+ '13	
Leicestershire	718	5'95	5.82	5'79	+ '13	+ '16	
Northamptonshire Staffordshire and	725	5'97	5'94	5.85	+ .03	+ '12	
Shropshire Other places in	1,607	5'70	5'79	5'32	00	+ .38	
England	146	5'51	5'80	5'16	- '29	+ '35	
SCOTLAND	913	6.00	5.88	6.00	+ '12		
IRELAND	116	5.85	5.85	5'92		- '07	
Total	16,884	5'79	5.83	5.64	- '04	+ '15	

(c) PIG-IRON INDUSTRY IN MAY.

EMPLOYMENT in May showed a slight decline as compared with the previous month, but no change as compared with a year ago.

During the month, at the works of 116 ironmasters covered by the returns, one furnace was re-lit, and three blown out in England, and one was re-lit and one blown out in Scotland. Thus at the end of May there were two furnaces fewer in blast than at the end of April. As compared with a year ago, the number of furnaces in blast was unchanged. The estimated number of workpeople employed at the 381 furnaces in EMPLOYMENT IN MAY-IRON AND STEEL AND TIMPLATE INDUSTRIES; AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

blast at the end of May was 26,000, or 65 less than at the end of the previous month.

June, 1900.

The following Table shows the number of furnaces in blast in the different districts of the United Kingdom at the three periods specified:-

	Pre	with a 3	e compared	Present time compared with a month ago.			
Districts.	May, 1900.	May, 18gg.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in May, 1900.	May,	Apr.,	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in May, 1900.	
ENGLAND & WALES-	-		1				
Cleveland	96	98	- 2	96	96		
Comberland & Lancs.	51	49	+ 2	51	52	- I	
S. and S.W. Yorks	18	19	- I	18	19	_ T	
Lincolnshire	16	16		16	16		
Midlands	103	102	+ 1	103	103		
Glamorgan and Mon.	22	23	- I	22	22		
Other districts	8	9	- r	8	8		
Total England and Wales}	314	316	- 2	314	816	- 2	
SCOTLAND	67	65	+ 2	67	67		
Total furnaces included in returns	381	881		381	383	- 2	

(d) EMPLOYMENT AT IRON AND STEEL WORKS* IN MAY.

EMPLOYMENT in these industries shows little change as compared with April, but continues better than a year

Numbers Employed.

At 209 works covered by the returns 83,122 workpeople were employed in the week ended May 26th, as compared with 82,997 in the week ended April 28th,

and 77,872 a year ago.

The following Table gives the changes in the numbers employed in England and Wales, and in Scotland:—

District.	Number	s employed ending	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in May, 1900, as compared with		
	May 26th,' 1900.	May 27th, 1899.	April 28th, 1900.	a year ago.	a month
England and Wales	70,088 13,034	65,011	69,648 13,349	+5,0 7 7 + 1 7 3	+ 440 - 315
Total	83,122	77,872	82,997	+5,250	+ 125

Weekly Number of Shifts Worked.

Information as to the number of shifts worked has been received with respect to works employing about 89 per cent. of these workpeople, and the particulars are summarised in the Table below. The average number of shifts worked was 5.53 in the week ended May 26th, as compared with 5.58 in the week ended April 28th, and 5.53 in the corresponding week a year

Number o work		3	Number employed in May, 1900, so far as returned.	Percentage proportion to Total.	Corresponding percentage in May, 1899,
Under 5 per v	rook			60	
5 per week	***	***	4,990	6.8	7.1
5 per week		•••		32'0	31.5
6 per week		***	2,449	3°3 56°8	2'3
Above 6 per v	veek	***	41,910 845		58.3
PCL .	CCA	•••	045	1,1	I.I
	Total		73,814	100.0	100,0

Assuming that the workpeople not included in this Table worked the same number of shifts as those who are included, the total number of shifts worked by all the people included in the first Table may be estimated at 460,052 in the week ended May 26th, 462,790 in the week ended April 28th, and 430,717 in the corresponding week a year ago. Thus the volume of employment at the works included in the returns was

o.6 per cent. less than in the week ended April 28th, and 6.8 per cent. greater than a year ago.

(e) EMPLOYMENT AT TINPLATE WORKS* IN MAY.

EMPLOYMENT at the end of May was slightly better than at the end of April. It continues much better than in

May, 1899.
At the end of May 55 works with 274 mills had all their mills at work, whilst 30 others, with 213 mills were giving partial employment with 142 of their mills at work. Thus in all 416 mills were working, compared with 411 mills at the end of April, and 379 mills a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at the mills in operation at the end of May, 1900, is estimated to be about 20,800.+

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

	No. of Works	No. of M	fills in su ch	Works
	open.	Working.	Not Working.	Total.
Vorks giving full employment Vorks giving partial employment	55 30	274 142	71	274 213
Total at end of May, 1900‡	85	416	71	487
Corresponding Total for April,	84	411	67	478
Corresponding Total for May,	75	379	60	439

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

		Tinplates.		В	lackplates	s
	May, 1900.	April,	May, 1899.	May, 1900.	April,	May, 1899.
To United States ,, Other Countries	Tons. 4,979 23,067	Tons. 3,594 19,908	Tons. 5,754 15,803	Tons. 5 6,892	Tons. 14 5,210	Tons. 40
Total	28,046	28,502	21.557	6,897	5,224	11,900

(f) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN MAY.

THE Agricultural Correspondent to the Department, on the basis of 217 returns from various parts of England, reports as follows: - Employment was generally quite regular during May. The greater part of the month was dry, and very favourable for outdoor work, and farm work is said to be in a forward state. Employers in a number of districts complain of a scarcity of labour, but it is generally stated that, as there was comparatively little hoeing and weeding, owing to the backward state of vegetation due to the dry weather and cold winds in May, no great inconvenience was experienced in most districts. A comparison of rates of wages paid in June, 1900, with those prevailing in June, 1899, will be given in a later issue.

Northern Counties .- In the Northern Counties employment was generally regular throughout the month. Regularity of work is reported in Northumberland and in Cumberland in the Unions of Bootle, Carlisle, Cockermouth, Longtown, Penrith, and Whitehaven. A farmer in the Carlisle Union writes that all men were fully employed during the month, and that work is in a forward state. He adds that the season has been a particularly good one for preparing the land and sowing the root crops. A report referring to South Westmorland and to the Unions of Fylde, Garstang, Lancaster, Luneside, and Ulverston in Lancashire states that "everyone is fully employed in clearing up odd work to be ready for turnip hoeing and thinning as soon as the crop

^{*} The Easter Holidays fell within this period.

^{*} Including iron puddling and rolling, and steel making and rolling.

^{*} The figures relate not only to the manufacture of tinplates but also to the manufacture of blackplates.

† In the GAZETTE for May last the estimated number of workpeople was inadvertently given as 23,900. The figure should have been 20,500.

† It will be understood that, in addition to the works returned as giving full or partial employment, a certain number of tinplate works were wholly idle at each of the dates to which the returns relate, but the figures quoted are believed to give approximately the total number of works and mills actually in operation.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY-AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

call to arms abroad, and by the Reserves being called up. Many of the Reservists were the most skilled and best-conducted work men, and the farmers have to put up with a poorer class of hands. Employment in Durham in the Unions of Chester-le-Street and Durham is described as regular, and it is stated that men are difficult to obtain. In Yorkshire agricultural labourers are said to be well employed in the Unions of Beverley, Easingwold, Guisborough, Howden, Malton, Ouseburn, Knaresborough, Pocklington, Ripon, and Thirsk. An employer in the Ripon Union writes as follows:-"The weather, though cold, has been good for agricultural operations, and swede sowing is almost, if not quite, completed under most favourable circumstances, and labourers have been kept in constant employment." Another employer in the Ripon Union writes that the supply of labour has been rather more plentiful in May, as some of the Irish migratory labourers have arrived. A number of employers state that men are difficult to get.

174

Midland Counties .- In Cheshire employment is reported as regular in the Unions of Macclesfield, Nantwich, and Tarvin, and in Derbyshire in the Unions of Ashbourne, Chesterfield, and Hayfield (Derby and Cheshire), and in the Derbyshire portions of the Worksop Union (Notts, Derby, and Yorks W.R.), of the Burton-on-Trent Union (Staffs and Derby) and of the Mansfield Union (Notts and Derby). Both in Cheshire and Derbyshire several reports state that labourers are very scarce. An employer in the Mansfield Union writes as follows: "No extra labour to be had, and if any labourer leaves it is very difficult, almost impossible, to fill his place." Reports from Shropshire state that employment is quite regular in the Unions of Bridgnorth, Drayton (Salop and Staffs), Oswestry (Salop and Denbigh), Wellington, and Wem, and from Staffordshire in the Unions of Leek, Lichfield, Tamworth (Staffs and Warwick) and Uttoxeter. Most reports from Shropshire and Staffordshire refer to a scarcity of labour. A report from the Drayton Union says: "Demand greater than the supply, mainly owing to briskness in trade and the calling up of the Reserves for South Africa." A large employer of labour in the Lichfield and Uttoxeter Unions writes that "labourers are very scarce, and it is almost impossible to secure any extra hands for threshing." In both Shropshire and Staffordshire farm work is said to be forward, though the crops are backward.

Agricultural labourers in Warwickshire are said to be well employed in the Unions of Alcester (Warwick and Worcester) Coventry, Meriden, and Stratford-on-Avon (Warwick and Gloucester) and in the Warwickshire portion of the Banbury Union (Oxon, Northants, and Warwick). Several employers state that agricultural labourers are very scarce. Regularity of employment is reported in Leicestershire in the Unions of Barrow-on-Soar, Loughborough (Leicester and Notts), Lutterworth (Leicester and Warwick), Market Harborough (Leicester and Northants), Melton Mowbray, in Nottinghamshire in the Unions of Southwell and Retford, and in Rutland in the Uppingham Union. In Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, and Rutland several employers complain of a scarcity of labour. A large employer of labour in the Market Harborough Union, who also farms in Rutland and Northamptonshire, writes as follows: "In most parishes it is nearly impossible to get a few extra hands for threshing, etc." An employer in the Lutterworth Union writes: "Demand exceeds supply, but owing to some Irishmen coming into the neighbourhood, the situation is somewhat relieved. Owing to cold weather in May crops are backward. Consequently, extra hands are not so much needed for hoeing as would have been the case.' Reports from Worcestershire state that employment is quite regular in the Unions of Evesham (Worcester and Gloucester), Martley, Tenbury (Worcester and Salop), and Upton-on-Severn. A report from the Evesham Union states that there is "abundance of employment for all classes of labour, and many more needed. Very dry month, and many crops not hoed through scarcity of hands."

In Oxfordshire employment is said to be quite regular in the Unions of Thame (Oxon and Bucks) and Witney, and in the Oxfordshire portion of the Wallingford Union (Oxon and Berks). A report from the Thame Union states, "Full employment, short supply of labour, especially milkers." Favourable reports as regards regularity of employment come from Northamptonshire from the Unions of Brixworth, Hardingstone, Kettering, Potterspury (Northants and Bucks) and Wellingborough, and from the Northamptonshire portion of the Banbury Union (Oxon, Northants, and Warwick). A large employer of labour in the Wellingborough Union writes as follows:

—"The supply of labour is very short and no men are to be got. The weather on the whole has been very favourable for farm work

is ready. The labour market has been seriously affected by the call to arms abroad, and by the Reserves being called up. Many of the Reservists were the most skilled and best-conducted workmen, and the farmers have to put up with a poorer class of hands."

Employment in Durham in the Unions of Chester-le-Street and Durham is described as regular, and it is stated that men are difficult to obtain.

In Buckinghamshire agricultural labourers are said to be well employed in the Union of Aylesbury, Buckingham, Henley (Oxon and Bucks), Newport Pagnell, and in Hertfordshire in the Unions of Hatfield, Hemel Hempstead, Hertford, Hitchin (Herts. and Beds.) Royston (Herts. and Cambs) and Watford, and in Middlesex in the Barnet Union (Middlesex and Herts.) Several employers from all these districts state that there is a difficulty in getting men. Agricultural labourers are said to be in regular work in Bedfordshire in the Unions of Ampthill, Bedford, Biggleswade, Leighton Buzzard, Luton (Beds. and Bucks). Most reports state that men are scarce.

Eastern Counties.—Reports from Essex state that employment regular in the Unions of Billericay, Braintree, Colchester, Dunmow, Epping, Halstead, Maldon, Orsett, and Tendring. Some employers complain of a scarcity of labour, but others state that there was a sufficient supply during May, as farm work was well forward, and there was not much hoeing to do owing to the dry weather. Agricultural labourers in Suffolk are said to be generally well employed in the Unions of Blything, Bosmere and Claydon, Cosford, Hartismere, Hoxne, Milden hall, Mutford and Lothingland, Plomesgate, Risbridge (Suffolk and Essex), Samford, Sudbury (Suffolk and Essex), and Thingoe. Reports as to the supply of labour vary somewhat. Reports from the Unions of Bosmere and Clayden, Blything, Hartismere, Mildenhall, Plomesgate, and Samford state that it is sufficient. One from the Thingoe Union says, "very short in some parishes." In the Hoxne Union, a report says, "rather short for good men, especially team men." In the Mutford and Lothingland Union, very scarce, no extra hands to be had near town." One correspondent in one part of the Cosford Union says that the supply of labour is sufficient and another in another district says that there is a scarcity of men. A correspondent in the Risbridge Union writes as follows: -" The weather has been cold and dry, keeping corn crops backward. It has been favourable for hoeing and killing weeds Generally there has been sufficient labour. In a few places, on smaller farms, a few extra hands are wanted for threshing work, and are not readily procured." A large employer of labour in the Bosmere and Claydon Union, near Ipswich, writes as follows;-"May and April were both of them dry months and very suitable for getting on with both manual labour and team work; consequently we have both well in hand. I see no reason why labour should be any difficulty: the scarcity has been exaggerated.'

In Norfolk agricultural labourers are said to be well employed in the Unions of Aylsham, Blofield, Depwade, Docking, Downham, East and West Flegg, Erpingham, Forehoe, Freebridge Lynn, Guilt cross, Loddon and Clavering, Mitford and Launditch, St. Faith's, Smallburgh, Swaffham, Thetford (Norfolk and Suffolk) and Walsingham. With reference to the supply of labour it is said to be "sufficient," "just sufficient," or "barely sufficient" in the following Unions:—Blofield, Forehoe, Depwade, Docking, Erpingham, East and West Flegg, Loddon and Clavering, St. Faith's, and Smallburgh. A report from the Freebridge Lynn Union says "scarce," and from the Guiltcross Union, "in some places scarce owing to the war."

Reports from Cambridgeshire state that employment was regularin the Unions of Chesterton, North Witchford, Whittlesea, and Wisbech (Cambs and Norfolk), and in the Cambridgeshire portion of the Peterborough Union (Northants, Cambs, Hunts, and Lincoln), and from Lincolnshire in the Unions of Boston, Brigg, Caistor, (Notts and Lincoln), Grimsby, Lincoln, Louth, Sleaford, and Spilsby, and in the Lincolnshire portion of the Newark Union (Notts and Lincoln). An employer in the Lincoln Union says that labourers have not been so scarce for many years.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—Agricultural labourers in Kent are reported as well employed in the Unions of Bridge, Blean, Eastry, Elham, Faversham, Hollingbourne, Hoo, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, and Tenterden, and in Surrey, in the Unions of Godstone, and Hambledon, and in the Surrey portion of the Farnham Union (Surrey and Hants). A number of employers in both Kent and Surrey state that labourers are difficult to obtain. Reports from Sussex state that employment is regular in the Unions of Battle, Chailey, Cuckfield, Hailsham, Horsham, Lewes, Newhaven, Petworth, Rye, and Uckfield. A report from the Hailsham

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY-DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR.

Union says that "all agricultural hands employed, and farmers experience much difficulty in getting extra hands when wanted." A report from the Lewes Union states that more job hands applied for work during the month than usual. In the Horsham, and Rye Unions the supply of labour is described as short. Regularity of work is reported from Hambshire in the Unions of Basingstoke. Christchurch, Droxford, Hartley Wintney, Havant, Kingsclere, Petersfield, and Stockbridge, and in the Hampshire portion of the Farnham Union (Hants and Surrey). A report from the Hartley Wintney Union states that "labour is very short. No extra hands for hoeing at any price." Reports from several other Unions refer to a scarcity of labour. A large employer of labour in the Stockbridge Usion states that the supply of labour is adequate, and in the Kingsclere Union it is said to be sufficient. Reports from Berkshire state that employment is regular in the Unions of Bradfield (Berks and Oxon.) and Wantage. In these districts men are said to be scarce.

June, 1900.

In Dorsetshire employment is reported as regular in the Unions of Blandford, Bridport, Dorchester, Wareham and Purbeck, and Wimborne and Cranborne. Several employers state that the supply of labour is very short. A report from the Dorchester Union says that "there is great difficulty in getting enough hands to do the ordinary farm work." Agricultural labourers are said to be well employed in Wiltshire in the Unions of Amesbury, Bradford-on-Avon, Chippenham, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett, Devizes, Marlborough, Mere, Pewsey, Warminster, and Westbury and Whorwellsdown. An employer in the Amesbury Union writes as follows on May 30th: "Owing to the favourable condition of the weather, the spring sowing was completed without any additional employment of labour, and work is in a forward condition. The supply of labour is not equal to the demand, many employers not being able to get sufficient. The work which is in operation on Salisbury Plain, as well as the erection of several buildings in the neighbourhood, causes an unusual demand for labour in this immediate neighbourhood.' A report from the Bradford-on-Avon Union states that "the weather has been generally favourable for outdoor work, and considerable arrears of work have been made good. We find labour, although still scarce, rather more plentiful since February.' Labour is said to be scarce in the Unions of Amesbury, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett, Chippenham, Devizes, Pewsey, Warminster, and Westbury and Whorwellsdown. In the Mere Union there is said to be just sufficient labour, and a report from the Marlborough Union says that a few hands were offering themselves for work, which has not been the case for some time.

Agricultural labourers in Gloucestershire are said to be fully employed in the Unions of Barton Regis, Dursley, Gloucester, Northleach, Stow-on-the-Wold (Gloucester and Worcester), Thornbury, and Wheatenhurst. Men are said to be scarce in the Unions of Dursley, Gloucester, and Northleach. But reports from the Unions of Barton Regis, Stow-on-the-Wold, and Thornbury state that the supply is sufficient. A correspondent in the Stow-on-the Wold Union writes: "It is rather difficult to find work for ordinary labourers, as the root crops are hardly up, and all other work is well forward owing to the dry weather and cold winds." In Herefordshire employment is reported as regular and men scarce, in the Unions of Bromyard (Hereford and Worcester), Dore, and Ledbury. A report from the Dore Union says that "there have been complaints of difficulty in obtaining labour, but so far there has not been any actual scarcity. But the shortness is an increasing one." Regularity of work is reported in Somersetshire in the Unions of Clutton, Frome, Langport, anton, Wells, Wellington (Somerset and Devon), Wincanton, and Yeovil, and in Devonshire in the Unions of Axminster, Barnstaple, Crediton, Kingsbridge, South Molton, Tavistock (Devon and Cornwall), and Torrington. A number of employers in Somerset and Devon state that labour is scarce. In Cornwall employment is said to be regular in the Unions of Bodmin, Camelford, and Stratton. In these three Unions the supply of labour is said to be

(g) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN MAY.

EMPLOYMENT at the docks and wharves shows a slight decline as compared with both a month and a year ago.

The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves during the four weeks ended May 26th was 13,943, as compared with averages of 14,176 in the preceding four weeks, and 14,280 in the corresponding period of 1899.

(1) Weekly Averages.—The following Table shows the estimated average number of dock and wharf labourers employed daily in each week of the month:—

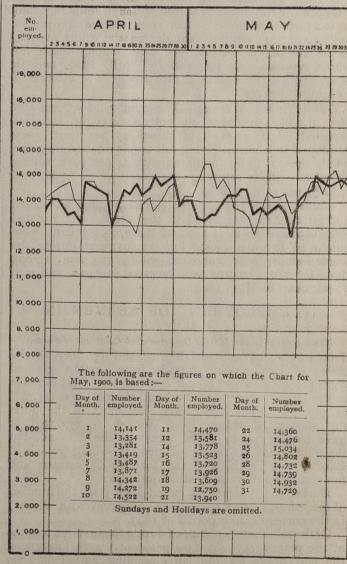
	Labourers	employed in	Docks.	Labourers	Total Dock
Period.	By Dock Companies or through Contractors	By Ship- owners, &c.	Total.	employed at 115Wharves making Returns.	and Wharf
Week ending May 5	5,339 5,985 6,3c6 6,723	2,422 2,612 1,748 2,213	7,761 8,597 8,054 8,936	5,857 5,578 5,498 5,587	13,618 14,175 13,552 14,523
Average for 4 weeks ending May 26th, 1900	} 6,061	2,250	8,311	5,632	* 13,943
Average for May, 1899*	6,092	2,478	8,570	5,710	14,280
Average for Apr., 1900	5,824	2,481	8,305	5,871	14,176

(2) Daily Fluctuation.—The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed by all the docks and principal wharves during April and May is shown on the chart below. The numbers in May ranged from 12,750 on the 19th to 15,034 on the 25th.

During May, 1899, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed varied from 15,510 on the 5th to 12,751 on the 13th.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks and 115 of the principal Wharves tor each day during the months of April and May, 1900. The corresponding curve for April and May, 1899, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1900, and the thin curve to 1899.]



Particulars respecting the employment of other classes of dock and riverside labourers will be found under "District Reports, London," on page 177.

* Revised figures.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY-Women in Textile Trades; Seamen. DISTRICT REPORTS-LONDON.

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

According to returns from women correspondents, employment for women continued good in all branches of the textile trades; but a considerable percentage of women in the spinning branch of the cotton trade were interrupted by a dispute at Wigan (see p. 189). Information has been received with regard to 570 cotton, woollen and worsted mills, employing about 100,550 women and girls, and is summarised in the following table, which also gives for comparison the corresponding figures for the previous month, and for a year ago:—

		Perce	ntage ordi	inarily em hich were	ployed in Mills			
			Working	full Time.		Closed for		
Trade and	Trade and Month.			With Full Employ- ment.	With Partial Employ- ment.	Working Short Time.	repairs, bad trade, disputes, or other causes	
Cotton Trade—81	oinnin	g_	- •	1 5	1-11-11	1 3 11 2 2	A Fair	
May, 1900				87	2	_	11	
April, 1900				97	I	2		
May. 1899		***	* ***	97	I	I	I	
Cotton Trade-V	Zeavin	ig-						
May, 1900	***			93	2	2	3	
April, 1900			***	94	4	I	I	
May, 1899				94 87	II	I	I	
Woollen and W	orsted	Tra	des-				THE PARTY OF THE PARTY OF	
May, 1900				95	3	-	2	
April, 1900				97	2	-	I	
May, 1899				92	4	4	_	
Total of above	Trada	3 -			272			
May, 1900				92	2	1	5	
April, 1900		*		96	3	I	-	
May, 1899				91	7	2	_	

Cotton Trade.—Spinning.—The number of women and girls usually employed in cotton spinning mills reported on is 27,030; of these 87 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 97 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in April, 1900, and in May, 1899. The decline is principally to be attributed to a local dispute.

Cotton Trade.—Weaving.—The number of women and girls usually employed in cotton weaving factories reported on is 52,520; of these, 93 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 94 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in April, and with 87 per cent. in May, 1899.

Woollen and Worsted Trades.—The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted mills reported on is 21,000; of these, 95 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 97 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in April, and with 92 per cent. in May, 1899.

(i) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN

(Data supplied by the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.)
The number of seamen shipped during May as the crews of foreign-going vessels from certain selected ports (at which about 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared) was 34,788, or 352 more than May, 1899. At most of the ports the supply of seamen and firemen is reported to have been equal to or in excess of the demand, but there has been a scarcity of men for sailing vessels at Cardiff and Leith, and the scarcity of seamen and firemen at Southampton still continues.

During the five months ended May 31st, the number of men shipped was 155,893, as compared with 161,007 in the corresponding period of 1899.

Of the total number shipped during the first five months of the year, 23,435 (or 15.0 per cent.) were foreigners, the percentage for the corresponding period of 1899 being 14.8. Lascars who are engaged in Asia are not included in these formers.

included in these figures.

Particulars of changes which have taken place in the rates of seamen's wages at Hull will be found in the Table on page 186.

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 May, 1900 and 1890 respectively, together with the number* shipped in the five months ended May in each of these years:—

In illing ssels.	In Steam Vessels. 2,845 476 235 1,394 35	Total in May, 1900.	May, 1899.* 3,435 292 378 1,294	1900.	1899. 14,137 2,018
28 — 14	476 235 1,394	504 235 1,408	292 378	1,904	2,018
28 — 14	476 235 1,394	504 235 1,408	292 378	1,904	2,018
28 — 14	476 235 1,394	504 235 1,408	292 378	1,904	2,018
28 — 14	476 235 1,394	235 1,408	378	1,313	
	1,394	1,408			
			7.294		1,414
42	35			5,513	5,568
		77	105	340	337
5	504	509	466	1,960	1,998
13	781	794	1,030	3,989	5,329
467	4,350	4,817	4,926	22,245	26,679
106	500	606	658	2,825	2,935
1000					O STORY
340	10,520	10,860	11.067	45,262	50.474
272	6,173	6,445	5,949	30,725	27,756
3	2,180	2,183	1,484	11,619	7,061
0		621	567	0.717	0.000
48	573	021	907	2,717	2,690
		LU BELL	1 4 W 15 18	100 200 20	A SAUGE
122	2,373	2,495	2,372	10,992	10.618
144	413/3	2,100	2,51.2	10,000	10,010
	. 300	PERSON A	A CHARLES	P. S.	NAME OF STREET
-	38				559
-	234	234	299	1,514	1,40
	33,211	34,788	19 1 - ST	155,893	-
577	39.795		34,436		161,00
	,577		— 234 234 ,577 33,211 34,788	- 234 234 299 ,577 33,211 34,788 -	— 234 234 299 1,514 ,577 33,211 34,788 — 155,893

DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL COR-RESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

LONDON.

General.—In nearly all the more important industries the state of employment during May continued good. Returns from 468 branches of 125 unions, having an aggregate membership of 79,487, show that 2,030 (or 2.6 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 2.7 in April and 2.4 per cent. in May, 1899.

Employment in the Engineering, Metal and Shipbuilding trades has remained good. Reports from 155 branches of 30 unions, with an aggregate membership of 22,837, show that 465 (or 20 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 22 in April and 21 per cent. in May of last year. Employment with sailmakers has remained good.

The Building trades continue well employed. Returns from 182 branches of 8 unions paying unemployed benefit, with a membership of 13,299, show that 188 (or 14 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 12 in April and 07 per cent. in May, 1899. The painters and decorators describe employment as good; the carpenters and joiners, plasterers, stonemisons and stonecarvers as fair; the plumbers as moderate; the bricklayers as improving.

Employment in the Furnishing trades has improved, and is now good. Reports from 47 branches of 14 unions, with a membership of 6,640, show that 99 (or 1.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.2 per cent. in April, and 0.7 per cent. in May, 1899.

The Woodworking trades are rather better employed. Reports from 3 unions, with a membership of 854, show that 13 (or 1.5 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 2.0 per cent. in April.

Coopers still remain busy. Reports from 2 societies, with a membership of 1,060, show that less than 1 per cent. were unemployed, as in April and also in May of last year.

Employment with Coachbuilders and Wheelwrights has continued good. Reports from 12 branches of 8 unions, with a membership of 1,470, show that 17 (or 1.2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.0 in April, and 0.9 per cent. in May, 1899.

The Printing and Bookbinding trades are not very well employed. Returns from 25 unions, with a membership of 24,343, show that 878 (or 3.6 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.7 in April, and 3.5 per cent. in May of last year.

Employment in the Clothing trades has remained fair, but not up to the average for the season. The West-end bespoke tailors have been fairly well employed; in the East-end bespoke and contract trades employment has been good; in the stock trade rather quiet; the East-end military and uniform tailors and tailoresses have only

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

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY-DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)-LONDON; NORTHERN COUNTIES; LANCASHIRE.

been partially employed; with ladies' tailors and mantle makers employment has been fairly good. Employment with hatters has been bad for time of year; with capmakers it has been good. Fur thin dressers have been fairly well employed.

June, 1900.

Boot and Shoe Trades.—Employment with West End hand-sewn boot and shoemakers has been busy; with the East End sewround trade, bad; with boot and shoe clickers bad; with boot and shoe chiefes quiet

Employment in the Leather trades has remained steady. Returns from 6 unions, with a membership of 1,590, show that 24 (or 1.5 per cent.) were unemployed, as in April. The percentage for May,

In the Glass and Pottery trades returns from 8 unions with a membership of 1,514, show that 49 (or 3.2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.1 in April and 6.6 per cent. in May, 1899.

Hair, Fibre, and Cane Workers.—In these trades returns from 5 majons, with a membership of 931, show that 10 (or 1.1 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 0.8 in April, and 0.9 per cent. in May of last year.

Gold and Silver Workers are better employed. Returns from 8 unions, with a membership of 1,174, show that 34 (or 2.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 4.9 per cent. in April. The percentage for May, 1899, was 1.5. Employment with diamond workers has improved.

Employment in the *Tobacco* trades has still further declined, eturns from 4 unions, with a membership of 2,370, show that 227 or 96 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 7.9 in April, and 4.6 per cent in May, 1899.

Dock and Riverside Labour. The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves was 13,943 in the four weeks ended May 26th, as compared with averages of 14,176 in April and 14,280 in May, 1899. Employment in midstream has been fair; with corn-porters it was moderate; with lightermen, coal-porters and winchmen fair; while with stevedores, deal-porters and lumpers it was dull during the first two weeks and fair to the end of the month. The fruit-porters in Thames-street have had moderate employment, the average daily number employed being 284, compared with 316 in April and 345 in May, 1890.

ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES. Tyne and Wear District.

Coal Mining.—Northumberland.—Employment continues good at both steam and house coal pits, which have averaged 5:45 and 5:50 days per week respectively. The 22,659 union miners have noneunemployed. Durham.—Collieries hewing gas, house, manufacturing and coking coal have averaged 5:40, 5:63, 5:67, and 5:82 days per week respectively. Returns relating to 133 pits employing 63,220 men and boys show that an average of 5:61 days per week has been worked. The union miners have only o'r per cent. unemployed, as in April. The 5,630 union deputies colliery mechanics, enginemen and firemen are practically all

Metal Mining.—Iron ore miners have worked less than full time.
Lead miners report employment as better.

Quarrying.—At one Whinstone quarry 40 men have been discharged. Limestone quarries are busy.

Engineering and Shipbuilding .- On the Tyne .- At all the ship yards, with one exception, the employment of rivetters, caulkers, and platers remains good. Boiler shops continue busy. Engine fitters are in good demand. Turners and machine men have been etter employed; coppersmiths not quite so well. These trades, with a membership of 12,611, have 137 (or 1'1 per cent.) unemployed, s against 126 (or 1 o per cent. of their membership) in April. On Wear.—The yards are fairly full of work. Platers have been atterrupted through want of helpers. Engine shops maintain the approvement, and forges are busier. Of the 5,033 members of these trades 61 (or 1.2 per cent.) are unemployed, as against 81 (or 1.6 per cent, of their membership) in April. Sailmakers at Sunderland are all employed; on the Tyne they are still slack. Branches of rassfinishers and iron and steel moulders, with 1,743 members, have 41 (or 2'4 per cent.) idle. Ship joiners have 3 per cent. unemployed. Drillers and hole cutters on both rivers are fairly brisk. Steel smelting shops at Newburn and Consett have worked and 6 shifts per week, plate and angle mills 5 shifts. Chain and anchor smiths have worked full time. At Blyth the vards and shops are busy.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Tugboat men report employment as good; coal porters and shippers as averaging full time; quayside labourers as only moderate. The demand for sailors and firemen, although good, has been below the supply. Trimmers and teemers, and lumpers and riggers on both rivers have been well employed.

Building Trades.—Slaters and tilers are still in good demand. Stonemasons have been better employed. Other branches are unsettled through the bricklayers' labourers' dispute.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment of bookbinders is good. Letterpress printers on the Tyne are slack. At Sunderland employment is moderate. Two paper mills have worked less than half time, four others full time.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Coopers and cabinet makers report employment as fairly good. Upholsterers and lathrenders are well employed.

Chemical and Glass Trades.—Pressed glassmakers have worked 4 and 5 shifts per week. Bottle-workers on the Wear and at Seaham Harbour have not been quite so busy. Employment in the mixing department of two chemical factories has been somewhat irregular. Copperworks are brisk, one or two ore mills continuing double shifts. White lead and cement factories maintain full activity.

Fishing.—The supply of herrings landed during the month has been considerably larger than a year ago. The catches of trawl and line fish brought to market have also been good.—7. Ratcliffe.

Middlesbrough, Stockton and District.

Ironstone Mining.—The Cleveland miners report employment as fairly good. The average number of days worked by the 21 mines furnishing returns was 5.74 per week during the weeks ending May 26th, as compared with 5.61 days per week in April, and 5.78 during the 4 weeks ending May 20th, 1899. The number of workpeople employed at the mines was 6,798, the corresponding number a year ago being 6,769.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment at the finished iron works has continued good. Under the sliding scale of the North of England Conciliation and Arbitration Board wages have been advanced to forge and mill men 5 per cent., and to puddlers 6d. per ton, taking effect from May 28th. Steel works, blast furnaces, bridge works, and general foundries report employment as good; metal expansion works and pipe foundries are busy.

Engineering.—Employment with the engineers is good at Stockton, Middlesbrough and South Bank; improving at Bishop Auckland; fairly good at Hartlepool, and moderate at Darlington. Ironfounders, pattern-makers and smiths and strikers report employment as good. Branches of these trades, with 4,415 members, have 44 (or 10 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 71 (or 16 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Shipbuilding.—Employment is reported as good at all the yards in the district.

Building Trades .- Employment generally is good.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Sailors and firemen report employment as fairly good at Middlesbrough, moderate at Hartlepool. Dock labour is moderate at Hartlepool, good at Middlesbrough. Riverside labour is good generally.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is good with pulp, cement, and concrete workers, sawyers, woodcutting machinists, and tailors; moderate with cabinet makers and saltworkers; with printers it is good at Stockton, moderate elsewhere.—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 continues good in this industry in Cumberland. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended May 26th, at the 20 pits from which returns were received was 5.83 per week, as against 5.68 in May, 1899. The number employed at these pits was 6,342, the corresponding number a year ago being 6,511.

Iron Mining.—Employment at the Cumberland and North Lancashire iron mines is good. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended May 26th at the 44 mines covered by the returns was 5.80 per week, as compared with 5.87 a year ago, the number of workpeople employed at these periods being 5,861 and 6,069 respectively.

Pig Iron Manufacture.—Employment at the Cumberland and North Lancashire blast furnaces at the end of May shows a slight decline as compared with April, but an improvement as compared with a year ago. The number of furnaces in blast at the end of May was 51, employing about 4,300 workpeople, as against 52 furnaces in April and 49 in May, 1899.

LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS. Oldham and District.

Cotton Trade—Spinning.—Employment is well maintained in Oldham and district. It is still reported as good in Rochdale,

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY-DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)- LANCASHIRE; YORKSHIRE.

Mossley, Ashton-under-Lyne, Stockport, Stalybridge, and Dukinfield. Card-room workers, ring frame spinners, and throstle frame tenters are fully employed. Twiners report employment as fairly good; reelers as slack. Winders and ball warpers are only moderately employed. Weaving.—In fustian weaving employment continues slack; on other work it is reported as moderately good-Sectional warpers, twisters and drawers report employment as good.

Woollen and Silk Trades.—A slight falling off of employment in the woollen trade is reported from Stockport district; in Rochdale and Milnrow districts it remains good. Employment with the silkworkers at Rochdale is reported as moderate.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers report employment as slack in the textile machine making trade, and as good in the engineering trade. Brassfounders, patternmakers and ironfounders are well employed. Short time is the rule with iron grinders and glazers. Plate and machine moulders, tinplate workers and toolmakers report employment as moderate. Boilermakers and spindle and flyer makers are busy.

Building Trades.—Stonemasons, painters and bricklayers report employment as good, plasterers and plumbers as moderate, carpenters and joiners as fair.

Coal Mining.—Full time continues at the pits in the district.

Bolton and District.

Cotton Trade—Spinning.—In Bolton and neighbourhood employment with spinners continues active. At Bury and Ramsbottom spinners are fairly busy; at Chorley a decline is reported. Cardroom operatives are fairly well employed in Bolton, Bury, Walkden and Farnworth; in Chorley and Wigan, some slackness is reported. Weaving.—Employment is good throughout the district.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—Employment is reported as moderate in Bolton; machine-making firms are less busy. In Wigan, Bury and Chorley iron workers are not quite so well employed.

Building Trades.—Employment generally has improved, but at Chorley some branches are reported as slack.

Coal Trade.—Employment at most collieries continues good.

Miscellaneous. — Printers, leather-workers, and tanners report employment as good; tailors as fair; cabinet makers and shoemakers as moderate.—R. Tootill.

Blackburn, Burnley and District.

Cotton Trade—Weaving.—Employment in the ordinary grey weaving industry continues fairly good in the Blackburn, Burnley, Darwen, and Preston districts; in Colne and Nelson a slight decline is shown. On coloured goods it shows no improvement, some firms working short time. Hard waste weavers are moderately employed. Warp dressers are reported as slack at several firms; twisters and drawers are not so well employed; tape sizers, overlookers, winders and warpers are fairly wellemployed. Spinning.—Employment is reported as good at Blackburn, Darwen and Preston; as fair at Burnley. Ring spinners continue fully employed. Branches of spinners, twisters and drawers, and warp dressers, with 4,049 members, have 119 (or 2'9 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 73 (or 1'8 per cent of their membership) at the end of April.

Building Trades.—Painters and decorators are fully employed. Carpenters and joiners, masons and bricklayers report employment as fairly good; plumbers as moderate.

Engineering and Iron Trades.—Employment with ironfounders is reported as good in the Blackburn district, slack at Todmorden. Engineers are moderately well employed at Colne, Todmorden and Blackburn. Employment continues fair in machine and tinplate works

Mining and Quarrying.—Coal miners continue well employed throughout the district. Stone quarrymen are brisk.

Miscellaneous.—Tailors, woollen block printers and brickmakers report employment as good; letterpress printers, calico printers and bleachers as moderate; cabinet makers as fair.—W. H. Wilkinson.

Manchester and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 22,603 members have 527 (or 2.3 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 554 (or 2.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—In Manchester engineers and boilermakers report employment as moderate; brassfounders and finishers and sheet metal braziers as fair. In Warrington, engineers, boilermakers and wire weavers are fully employed; filesmiths and wire drawers moderately so. Ironfounders and machine workers are busy throughout the district, Employment is active in Northwich and Macclesfield, fair in Stockport.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the cotton trade is moderate throughout the district. In the silk trade at Macclesfield hand and power loom weavers are moderately employed; throwsters and dressers are in full work. Fustian cutters, and dressers, dyers and finishers are moderately well employed.

June, 1900.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors in both bespoke and wholesale departments are busy. Felt hat makers and trimmers report employment as quiet; boot and shoe makers, mantle makers, shirt makers and cap makers are fairly well employed; umbrella and waterproof garment makers are rather quiet.

Building Trades.—Plasterers and decorative glass workers are slack; painters are busy; in other branches employment is moderate in Manchester, Macclesfield, Warrington and Northwich, improving at Stockport.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Coachmakers and cabinet makers are well employed; French polishers and upholsterers fairly well employed; coopers are slack; wheelwrights are fully employed.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers and stereotypers report employment as not so good; lithographic printers, bookbinders, and pattern card makers as moderate; lithographic artists as fair.—G. D. Kelley.

Liverpool and District.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—The engineers, coppersmiths, and sbipjoiners report employment as moderate; boilermakers and iron-shipbuilders as good upon new work but dull upon repairs; white-smiths, brass and ironfounders and ship painters as good; ship-wrights as fair.

Transport Trades.—Seamen and firemen and Mersey flatmen report employment as fair; dock labourers as fair at North Docks, but slack at South End; quay and railway carters as moderate.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades. — Cabinet makers, French polishers and upholsterers, coachmakers, packing case makers, dry coopers, millsawyers, and wood working machinists report employment as good; coopers as moderate.

Building Trades.—The carpenters and joiners report employment as moderate; other branches are well employed.

Clothing Trades.—Employment is good in the bespoke and ready-made tailoring trades; fair with boot and shoe makers.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress and lithographic printers and bookbinders report employment as moderate; stereotypers as unchanged.

Mining and Quarrying.—Coal miners report employment as good. Quarrymen are fully employed.

Glass and Chemical Trades.— Employment is good in the glass trades dull in the chemical trades.—C. Rouse.

A report from Winsford states that employment in the salt trade has improved on the whole, but has declined in the block salt branch. With ironmoulders it is fair. At Middlewich chemical workers are well employed. In both towns employment is good with shipwrights, boilersmiths and brassworkers, and fustian cutters, moderate in the building trade.

YORKSHIRE.

Hull and District.

Shipbuilding, Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment in the shipbuilding yards is slack; in the engineering works and boiler shops, and on general repairs, moderate. The ironfounders report employment as good; the engineers, machine workers, brass founders and finishers, smiths, and strikers, iron and steel dressers, braziers and sheet metal workers, drillers and hole cutters, sailmakers and general labourers as moderate; the patternmakers as dull; the shipwrights as slack; the boilermakers and iron and steel shipbuilders as bad. At Goole employment is reported as good; at Beverley, Doncaster and Selby as moderate; at Grimsby as good with engineers and smiths, moderate with shipwrights.

Building Trades.—The stonemasons, plasterers, slaters and tilers, painters and builders' labourers at Hull report employment as good; the bricklayers, carpenters and joiners as moderate; the plumbers as bad. At Goole, Grimsby and Selby employment is reported as good; at Beverley, Doncaster and Driffield as moderate.

Transport Trades.—The dock labourers, seamen and firemen, and railway workers at Hull, Goole, Grimsby, and Selby report employment as good.

Fishing Industry.—The steam fishing engineers and firemen at Hull and Grimsby report employment as fair; the trawl and line fishermen, curing house workers and general labourers as moderate. Prices are good.

Seed-crushing, Oil Cake, Oil Refining, Paint and Colour Trades.— Employment is good in all departments.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY-DISTRICI REPORTS (contd.)-YORKSHIRE; MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Printing and allied Trades.—The letterpress and lithographic printers, bookbinders and machine rulers report employment as

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—The coachbuilders and coopers report employment as good; the cabinetmakers and lathrenders as moderate; the millsawyers and woodworking

Miscellaneous.—Employment is fair with tanners; good with tailors, brushmakers, bakers and confectioners.—W. G. Millington.

Leeds and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 7.921 members have 183 (or 23 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 225 (or 2.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Engineers vin Leeds continue well employed, all departments of textile machinery and toolmaking being busy. Ironfounders, spindle and flyer makers, machine-workers, tinplate-workers, stove-grate workers, boiler makers, teel workers and blast furnacemen are well employed; brass-workers and wool comb, hackle and gill makers moderately so. At Wakefield engineers and ironfounders are fully employed. At Stanningley boiler makers are moderately so.

Clothing Trades.—In the Leeds tailoring factories employment has been fair; Jewish operatives report employment as moderate Bespoke tailors are busy. Employment with boot and shoe operatives in Leeds has been only moderate; at Heckmondwike and Pudsey fair.

Textile Trades.—In the Leeds mills employment has been only moderate. Blanket raisers continue busy. Employment is fair with linen workers; moderate with warp dressers and twisters. At Bramley short time has been resorted to. At Wakefield and Yeadon employment has been fair.

Building Trades.—In Leeds employment with bricklayers, masons, painters and plasterers has been good; with joiners and plumbers quiet. At Harrogate employment is fair.

Coal Mining .- All pits are working full time.

Leather Trades.—The improvement in the leather trades continues. Tanners, belt makers, and curriers are fairly employed; saddlers and harness-makers are busy.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers have been only moderately employed; lithographers are slack. Bookbinders are quiet; paper mill workers continue busy.

Glass Trades.—Glass bottle makers and flint glass makers are fairly employed; decorative glass workers moderately so.

Woodworking Trades.—Cabinet makers in the shop fitting branch are fairly employed, but in other departments employment is slack. Coachmakers are well employed.—O. Connellan.

Bradford, Huddersfield and District.

Worsted Trade.—Employment in and around Bradford and in the Worth Valley district is not quite so good, and in Huddersfield there has been a further decline. In Halifax there has not been the same falling off.

Woollen Trade.—Employment in the Colne Valley and the Huddersfield district has improved at one cr two firms; overtime continues at several firms, but others are quiet. In the heavy woollen district of Batley and Dewsbury employment continues fairly good.

Other Textile Trades.—Employment in the silk trade continues good at Manningham and at Brighouse; at Halifax it is fair. Employment with dyers at Huddersfield is bad, at Bradford good. In the cotton trade it is quieter at Brighouse, fairly good at Huddersfield.

Metal Trades.—The engineers and ironfounders report employment as good.

Building Trades.—Employment is good throughout the district.

Miscellaneous.—Employment in bespoke tailoring is good; in the

ready-made branch it is moderate. With printers and bookbinders it is fair. Miners and glass workers are fairly well employed.

A. Gee.

Sheffield, Barnsley, and Rotherham District.

General.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 15,565 members have 109 (or 0.7 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 120 (or 0.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Iron and Steel Industries.—All branches report employment as good. In many sections overtime is being made. Branches with 6,512 members have 36 (or 0.6 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of April.

Cutlery and Tools.—Workmen in the file and engineers', joiners' and edged tool trades, haft and scale pressers, and makers of miners' tools and horticultural implements are busy; pen and pocket knife blade forgers, grinders, and cutlers report employment as good; in the table and butcher knife, saw and razor trades employment is fairly good; saw handle makers are quiet.

Other Metal Trades. - Platers and gilders are fairly well employed, other branches of the silver, electroplate and Britannia metal trades are slack. Brass workers, both in Sheffield and Rotherham, are quiet.

Coal Mining.—Returns from 60 collieries employing upwards of 45,000 men show an average of 5.98 days per week worked during May.

Building Trades.—Bricklayers, plumbers, plasterers and painters are busy throughout the district; carpenters and joiners report employment as fairly good; masons are rather quieter in Sheffield, busy elsewhere.

Printing and allied Trades .- All sections continue well employed.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Coachmakers, cabinet makers, upholsterers, railway carriage and wagon builders, and box and bobbin makers, are well employed.

Linen Trade.—Employment continues moderate.

Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailoring in Sheffield is fair, in Barnsley good; in the ready-made department busy. Boot and shoe makers are quiet.

Glass Trade.—Both flint glass workers and bottle makers are busy.

Miscellaneous.—Farriers, saddlers, harness makers, wheelwrights, blacksmiths, railway servants and general labourers report employment as good; down quilt makers as slack.—S. Uttley.

ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Derbyshire District.

General.—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners), with 7,706 members have 70 (or 0.9 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 45 (or 0.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April

Coal Mining — Returns from 70 collieries employing upwards of 27,500 men show an average of $5\frac{7}{8}$ days per week worked.

Quarrying.—Limestone quarrymen continue fairly well employed.

Chert quarrymen are busy.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Employment in most branches of the engineering trades and in lace machine building is good. With cycle makers it is improving.

Building Trades.—Painters report employment as good; other branches as moderate or fair.

Clothing Trades.—Boot and shoe operatives at Derby report employment as good, at Chesterfield as quiet. Bespoke tailors are busy. Factory tailoring operatives, dress and mantle-makers and milliners are well employed.

Textile Trades.—Employment continues good with cotton weavers, surgical bandage makers, hard silk winders (with a scarcity of female workers), drawers and doublers. Elastic web weavers report employment as bad; lace and hosiery workers as not quite so good; calico printers and dyers and bleachers as moderate.

Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades.—Employment continues good with carriage and wagon builders in Derby and Long Eaton.

Most timber yards are fairly well employed.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress and lithographic printers, machine rulers and bookbinders report employment as fair.

Nottingham and District.

Lace Trade.—Employment generally has fallen off, especially in the levers and curtain branches; it continues good in the plain net branch; it is fair with warp lacemakers and with auxiliary laceworkers and warpers. Bleachers are well employed at Basford; dyers moderately so at Nottingham and Basford.

Hosiery Trade.—Employment is reported as improved and generally good throughout the district.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Branches with 3,148 members have 48 (or 1.5 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 51 (or 1.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. Employment is reported as moderate with general mechanics, fitters, smiths and steam engine makers; good with ironfounders, boilermakers, tool machinists, wheelwrights, blacksmiths, needle makers, bobbin and carriage makers, carriage straighteners, brassworkers and brassfounders; bad with electrical workers. Employment is moderate at Newark; good at Grantham and Mansfield. Blastfurnacemen at Bulwell are busy.

June, 1900.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY-DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)-MIDLAND COUNTIES.

Building Trades.—Carpenters and joiners report employment as dull at Nottingham, good in outside districts; plumbers as slack; stonemasons and painters as good.

Woodworking Trades.—Employment is reported as moderate with packing-case makers; as good with cabinet makers, coachmakers, upholsterers, coopers, millsawvers and boxmakers.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment is reported as moderate with bookbinders, lithographic artists and lithographic printers; as good with letterpress printers.

Clothing Trades. - Boot and shoe operatives report employment as fair at Nottingham, Mansfield, and Hucknall Torkard; bespoke tailors and ready-made tailoring operatives as good; mantle makers are well employed.

Coal Mining.—Returns from 27 collieries employing 15,760 men show an average of 51 days per week. Employment is exceptionally good in all parts of the district.

Miscellaneous. - Gasworkers are not so busy; colliery enginemen, engine and cranemen, stationary engine drivers, bakers, confectioners, and female cigarmakers report employment as good leather workers as fair .- W. L. Hardstaff

Leicester and Northampton District

Boot and Shoe Industry. - Employment is slackening in most branches of the shoe trade. It is fairly good at Northampton, Desborough, Wellingborough and Rushden; moderate at Leicester, Hinckley and Kettering; and slack at Rothwell and Daventry. The operatives engaged on army work at Raunds, Kingstead and other centres are well employed.

Other Clothing Trades.-In most branches of the wholesale and bespoke tailoring trades, workpeople are fully employed. Capmakers, dressmakers and corset-makers are busy; felt hatters fairly so; silk hatters are rather quiet.

Hosiery and Woolspinning Trades.—Employment in plain hosiery continues good at Leicester. It is rather slacker at Loughborough. Dyers, trimmers and scourers are busy. Woolspinners are fully employed.

Elastic Web Trade. - Employment has improved.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—General engineers, pattern-makers, turners, ironfounders, moulders, boilermakers, and needle-makers are fully employed. Work is moderate with shoe machine makers and tool makers, and slacker with winders and electrical dynamo builders. All branches of the cycle industry are busy.

Mining and Quarrying.—Employment remains good with miners and quarrymen.

Printing and allied Trades.—With letterpress printers employment is moderate at Leicester, quiet at Northampton. It is fair with lithographic printers, and good with bookbinders.

Building Trades .- Employment is quiet at Northampton; fair elsewhere.

Furnishing and Coachmaking Trades.—Coachmakers and road car builders are busy. Work is fairly good with cabinet makers; slacker with upholsterers.

Leather Trades.-Tanners and curriers are fully employed at Northampton and Market Harborough; leather dressers moderately so at Wellingborough.

Miscellaneous.—Employment continues good with railway workers, except at Northampton and Rugby. It is good with basket-makers; fair with millsawyers; quieter with cigar-makers, bakers, and brick and tile makers .- T. Smith.

Potteries District.

Pottery Trades.—The dispute in the general earthenware trade is now over, and work was resumed on May 29th. (See page 164.) In the china departments which were not affected by the dispute employment is good.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment is good in all departments.

Engineering and Metal Trades.-Employment continues good throughout North Staffordshire, except at Burslem, where short time prevails. At Crewe moulders are working overtime. Copper workers at Oakamoor and Froghall, and agricultural engineers at Uttoxeter and Rugeley are well employed.

Mining and Quarrying.—Coal and ironstone miners continue busy. Stone quarrymen at Alton and Hollington are working overtime.

Textile Trades.—At Leek employment in the silk trade continues good. At Congleton silk dressers continue busy; fustian cutters are fully employed. At Cheadle, Tean and Rocester silk and tape workers and cotton operatives are fairly busy.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors are busy throughout the district. Boot and shoe operatives at Stafford continue fairly busy, full time being well maintained. Corsetmakers at Uttoxeter and Ashbourne are busy on best goods.

Building Trades.—During the first part of the month employment was affected by the bricklayers' dispute; since its settlement all branches have been well employed.

Printing and allied Trades.-Letterpress printers in the Potteries nave 10 per cent. unemployed; at Stafford employment is fair. Lithographic artists and printers continue moderately busy. The bookbinders and machine rulers are well employed.

Miscellaneous. — Railway servants are well employed; brushmakers and gasworkers report a decline. - I. S. Harvey.

Wolverhampton and District.

Iron and Steel Trades .- In South Staffordshire and East Worcesershire employment in the steel smelting, iron bar, angle, hoop and sheet trades is good. In South Shropshire the wire mills and forges are running full time.

Engineering and allied Trades .- Engineers report employment as moderate; moulders and bridge, girder, tank and gasometer makers as busy; cycle makers as improving. At Walsall and Madeley employment is reported as good. At Coalbrookdale employment is brisk in the engineering department; slack in the foundry department.

Hardware Trades.-Employment is good with makers of tubes, nuts and bolts, iron fences, hurdles, edge tools, electrical and gas fittings, spring traps, horseshoes, black castings, builders' ironmongery, gun locks, malleable nails and protectors, and with japanners, stampers, piercers and galvanizers; moderate with makers of stamped and light hollow-ware, tacks, cut nails, and steel toys, and with filesmiths and tinplate-workers; quiet with makers of locks, keys and latches; slack with spectacle-framemakers and brass-workers; moderate with iron plate-workers at Bilston and the Lye, and fair at Wolverhampton. The chainmakers and strikers at Old Hill, and the block chain-makers at Cradley Heath report employment as good; the cable and anchor makers at Cradley as improved; wrought nail-makers at Halesowen and spike and rivet makers at Blackheath as moderate. The anvil and vice makers at Dudley continue slack. At Wednesbury the railway axle and carriage-workers and steel forgers are busy.

Coal Mining.-Employment is good, full time being worked throughout the district.

Building Trades.—Employment is good with painters; moderate with carpenters and plasterers, dull with plumbers and bricklayers. Glass Trades .- At Wordsley, Brettle Lane and Stourbridge, the glassmakers, cutters, engravers and etchers are quiet; the intaglio and bevelling departments are fairly well employed.

Leather Trades. - At Walsall employment in the leather trade is good in all branches.

Textile Trades.—At Kidderminster employment in the carpet trade is not so brisk. At Bridgnorth full time is worked, but overtime has been stopped. At Tamworth the tape mills are well

Clothing Trades .- Employment in the ready-made and bespoke tailoring departments and in the boot and shoe trade is good. C. Anthony

Birmingham and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 21,032 members have 582 (or 2.8 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 501 (or 2.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Engineering and allied Trades.—Seven branches of engineers again return employment as moderate, four as good. Toolmakers report employment as moderate; smiths and strikers, patternmakers, and ironfounders as good. At Coventry and West Bromwich engineers and machine toolmakers report employment as good, at Redditch as moderate. At Coventry and Redditch cycle makers are busy. Employment in the motor industry continues good.

Brass and Copper Trades.—Employment in the brass trade continues quiet. Brass and copper wire drawers are, moderately employed. Copper and brass tube makers (solid drawn) are fairly busy. Fender and fire brass makers are reported as quiet. At Dudley, employment in the fender trade is moderate.

Jewellers, Silversmiths and Electroplaters.—Jewellers, silversmiths, and electroplaters return employment as quiet; Britannia metal workers as moderate.

Other Metal Trades .- Edge tool makers, stove grate and kitchen range workers, tinplate workers, wrought iron and steel tube makers report employment as good; makers of heavy and light steel toys, machine-made rivets, wire nails, machinemade nuts and bolts, and ironplate workers as fairly good; general, with occasional overtime; the improvement at Stone is file cutters as improving; nail and oddside casters as falling off.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY-DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)-MIDLANDS; E. AND S.W. COUNTIES; WALES.

In some shops scale beam and weighing machine makers are slack. Redstead makers return employment as bad. At West Bromwich and Redditch employment continues good; in the Lye district in he ironplate trade it is fairly good.

Building Trades.-Employment throughout the district is reported as fair.

Glass Trades.—The flint glass makers report employment as bad; flint glass cutters as quiet; glass bevellers and silverers as

Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailors and Jewish tailors report employment as good; boot and shoe makers as quiet.

Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.—Coachmakers, millsawyers and woodworking machinists return employment as good; opers, cabinet makers and wood carvers as quiet. In the railway and wagon shops employment is good, with night work in some

Miscellaneous. Gasworkers and general labourers return employment as good; harness-makers and bridle cutters as busy; gasfitters as fairly good; letterpress printers, saddlers and brickmakers as moderate. Gunmakers report employment in the military section as good, in the sporting section as bad. At Coventry the watchmakers and weavers are fairly brisk. At Redditch the fancy case makers are quiet .- A. R. Jephcott

ENGLAND: EASTERN COUNTIES. Norfolk and neighbouring District.

 ${\it Clothing Trades.} - {\it Boot and shoe operatives}$ are fairly well employed. Bespoke tailors and ready-made tailoring operatives are busy. set-makers, dress and blouse workers are fully employed.

Textile Trades.—Crape, silk, mat and matting weavers are fairly well aployed in Norwich, Yarmouth and Diss.

Building Trades.—In Norwich employment is disturbed by a bricklayers' dispute. Elsewhere employment continues good.

Engineering and Shipbuilding .- Electrical and general engineers are fairly busy; cycle makers and repairers, shipwrights and yacht and boat builders are fully employed.

Printing and allied Trades.-Letterpress and lithographic printers and bookbinders are fully employed.

Miscellaneous.- Employment continues good with flour mill and sawmill workers. Organ builders, agricultural implement, hurdle and ladder makers, navvies, riverside and dock labourers are fully employed. Mineral water makers, cocoa workers and confectioners are on full time. Brushmakers continue fairly busy. - G. Cleverley.

Suffolk, Essex and District.

Engineering, Shipbuilding, and Metal Trades.-Engineers, boilermakers and moulders report employment as good; shipwrights

Clothing Trades.-Employment is good with boot and shoe operatives at Colchester, dull at Ipswich. Wholesale tailoring operatives, bespoke tailors, dressmakers, and milliners continue asy. Corset-makers are fairly well employed.

Textile Trades.-The mat and matting operatives report employment as good; silk and crape workers at Halstead and Braintree as good; furniture silk weavers at Braintree as quiet; silk weavers at Sudbury as good with factory workers, moderate with hand-

Building Trades.—Bricklayers, carpenters, painters and plumbers report employment as good generally; plasterers and stonemasons

Furnishing Trades.-Cabinet makers and upholsterers are well

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress printers report employment as moderate at Ipswich and Colchester, fairly good elsewhere. Employment is slack with bookbinders and lithographers Miscellaneous .- Shipping and dock labour has been good. Employment is good with general labourers, farriers, horticultural builders, organ builders and mineral water workers. Brickmakers are busy.

ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES. Bristol and District.

R. W. Mather.

General.—Branches of societies with 9,935 members have 153 (or 1 5 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 106 (or 1'1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Mining and Quarrying.—Coal miners describe employment as good throughout the district. Stone quarrymen are busy.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress and lithographic printers in Bristol report employment as moderate; bookbinders as slack. Employment is reported as good at Hereford, Bath, and Weston super-Mare, and fair at Gloucester.

Engineering and allied Trades.-Iron and brassfounders, boilermakers, pattern-makers, fitters and smiths report employment as good; tinplate workers as fair; shipwrights as bad.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is reported as moderate with plumbers, plasterers, and carpenters and joiners; it remains good with bricklayers, stonemasons, labourers and painters.

Clothing Trades.-The boot and shoe operatives report a slight improvement at most factories. Employment remains busy in the bespoke and wholesale tailoring trade, and with glovers; it is reported as moderate in the silk hat trade, good in the general hat

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades. - The cabinet-makers, woodcutting machinists and upholsterers report employment as fair; the polishers as good. Coopers and lathrenders are fairly well employed.

Textile Trades.-Employment continues good throughout the

Glass and Pottery Trades.—The glass bevellers and cutters describe employment as fair; the glass bottlemakers as good. Earthenware potters are busy.

Miscellaneous. - Employment is fair with bakers and confectioners, good with seagoing men, and steady with tobacco workers. Brushmakers are in demand. Dock work at Gloucester is reported as slack, in Bristol as moderate and improving. - J. Curle.

Plymouth and South-Western District.

Mining, Quarrying, and China Clay Industries. - In tin and copper mines work continues good; in granite quarries it is fairly brisk; in limestone and slate quarries moderate. Among china clay workers employment is good.

Engineering and Shipbuilding-Engineers report employment as moderate; boilermakers, iron and steel shipbuilders and ironfounders as good; brassworkers and timplate workers as dull; shipwrights as good in Devonport and Plymouth, moderate at Falmouth and Dartmouth. The Government yards are busy. Branches with 2,810 members have 13 unemployed, as compared with 26 at the end of April

Building Trades.—Employment is moderate at Plymouth, good at Bideford, Barnstaple, Exeter, and Tavistock, quiet at Torquay. Branches with 3,391 members have 110 (or 3.2 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of April.

Printing and allied Trades.—Employment is moderate with letterpress printers; quiet with lithographers; fair with bookbinders and paper-rulers.

Clothing Trades.—Bespoke tailors are busy. Ready-made tailoring operatives are moderately employed. Boot and shoe operatives are fairly employed. Lace-workers are busy. Furnishing and Woodworking Trades .- Millsawyers and woodwork-

ing machinists, cabinet and furniture factory operatives, French polishers and upholsterers are well employed.

Dock and Quayside Work. - Quayside work has been slack; lumping quiet. In the docks grain work is dull; the arrival of fruit boats has improved employment.

Fishing Industry.—Fishing has improved on the whole, but the trawlers' catches have been generally light. Hook and line boats have done fairly. At the Western stations there have been good catches of mackerel. Prices are good.

Miscellaneous .- Navvies, excavators, quarrymen and builders' labourers are fully employed; artificial manure workers fairly so. Brushmakers are quiet. Bakers report employment as fairly good. In market and fruit gardens workpeople are busy. - W. Hedge.

WALES.

North Wales District.

Mining.-Employment continues brisk at the lead and blende mines, and at most of the coal mines.

Quarrying. - Employment continues good at the slate, granite sett, freestone, limestone, and road-stone quarries.

Building Trades .- The bricklayers at Wrexham and Oswestry report employment as fair; the carpenters and joiners at Wrexham as moderate, at Rhyl, Colwyn Bay and Bangor, as fair; the plasterers at Llandudno as slack, at Bangor as fair.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—The engineers at Sandycroft and Cefn report employment as good, at Oswestry as moderate, at Ruabon as quiet; the ironfounders at Wrexham as declining. Employment is good with steel workers and wagon makers, good with coachmakers at Rhyl, moderate at Oswestry.

Clothing and Textile Trades .- Flannel and tweed workers and bespoke tailors have been fairly well occupied.

Printing Trades.-Letterpress printers report employment as good at Carnarvon, moderate at Oswestry.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY-DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)-WALES; SCOTLAND.

Brick and Terra Cotta and Chemical Trades.—Employment is reported as good.—G. Rowley.

South Wales District.

Coal Mining.—Collieries have been working fairly regularly; the demand for colliers has been greater than the supply. The Sliding Scale Audit awards another 5 per cent. advance upon the standard from the 1st of June.

Iron and Steel Trades.—Employment is brisk; some works are not running their full plant for want of men.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—Employment generally with dock labourers has been quiet. The shipment of crews has been dull. Ship Repairing and Engineering.—Employment in ship repairing has been moderate, with a slight decline at the end of the month. The engineers and iron founders in the inland districts report employment as brisk. Branches of the engineers and ironfounders with 3,108 members have 80 (or 2.6 per cent.) unemployed, as against 102 (or 3.3 per cent.) at the end of April.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is moderate. Branches of carpenters and joiners and plumbers with 1,737 members have 79 (or 4.5 per cent.) unemployed, as against 90 (or 5.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Miscellaneous.—Patent fuel workers are not so brisk. Wagon builders and lifters are fully employed. Lithographic and letterpress printers and bookbinders report employment as moderate. Metallurgical and chemical workers as quiet.—T. Davies.

Tinplate Trade in South Wales, Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire.— Employment shows a slight improvement, as compared with April, and is much better than a year ago. At the end of May 403 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of blackplates), compared with 398 at the end of April, and 367 at the end of May, 1899. The number of workpeople employed at the end of May, 1900, is estimated to be about 20,100.

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 13,451 members have 293 (or 2 '2 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of April.

Coal Mining.—Employment continues good.

Shale miners and Oil workers.—Returns from 28 mines employing 3,118 workpeople show that 2,999 were employed in mines working full time during the four weeks ended May 26th.

Engineering and Metal Trades,—Branches with 2,212 members have 47 (or 2'1 per cent.) idle, as against 42 (or 1'9 per cent of their membership) at the end of April. Branches in Falkirk with 3,673 members have 40 (or 1'1 per cent.) idle, as against 54 (or 1'5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Shipbuilding.—Branches of boilermakers and shipwrights with 638 members have 10 (or 1.6 per cent.) idle, as against none idle at the end of April.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the woollen industry is good in Selkirk with both spinners and weavers; in Hawick spinners are fairly busy, but weavers are slack; in Galashiels both spinners and weavers are quiet. Employment with hosiery workers is good in Selkirk and Hawick. The carpet weavers in Midlothian are not so well employed.

Building Trades.—The masons, bricklayers and plasterers report employment as quiet; the joiners as fair; the painters, glaziers and plumbers as good.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Branches with 1,177 members have 39 (or 3.3 per cent.) idle, as against 48 (or 4.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Shipping and Dock Labour.—The seamen and firemen, coal porters and dock labourers report employment as fairly good.

Printing and allied Trades.—Branches with 2,300 members have 97 (or 4.2 per cent.) idle, as against 70 (or 3.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Miscellaneous.—The tailors, shoemakers, saddlers, and sett makers report employment as good; the bakers, curriers, glass makers and glass cutters as quiet.—J. Mallinson.

Glasgow and West of Scotland.

Shipbuilding.—Employment has been fairly good. Branches with 14,555 members return 356 (or 2.4 per cent.) as idle, as against 317 (or 2.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Engineering and Metal Trades.—Employment has been fairly good.

Branches with 30,165 members return 971 (or 3'2 per cent) as idle,

as against 860 (or 2.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

June, 1000

Building Trades.—Employment has been rather quieter.

Mining.—Employment is very good in Stirlingshire, Dumbarton shire, Lanarkshire, Ayrshire and Renfrewshire.

Clothing Trades.—Employment has been good in all branches.

Textile Trades.—Employment is good throughout the district, except with dyers and calendermen, who are rather quiet.

Printing and allied Trades.—Letterpress and lithographic printers and bookbinders report employment as dull; lithographic artists as rather improved; electrotypers and stereotypers as fair.

Glass Trades.—Flint glass makers and cutters are still quiet, Employment with decorative glass workers is rather better; bottle makers continue busy.

Transport Trades. — Employment is still good with railway men and tramway men; dull with dock labourers; fair with tailors and firemen, carters and hackney carriage drivers.

Miscellaneous.—Brushmakers, spindle and flyer makers, tobacco pipe makers and finishers, paviors, scale beam makers, shop assistants, gilders, sett makers, curriers, potters, and saddlers report employment as [good; bakers as fairly good; cigarette makers as improved.—A. J. Hunter.

Dundee and District.

Textile Trades.—Employment in the jute industry remains good on the whole, although a number are still unemployed. In the linen trades machinery is still in full operation.

Coal Mining.—Reports from collieries in Fifeshire employing 12,475 workpeople show an average of 5.5 days per week worked during the four weeks ending May 26th, the same average as for the two previous months.

Engineering and Shipbuilding.—In the engineering trade employment is moderate; in the shipbuilding yards fairly good. Branches of societies with 2,246 members report 63 (or 2.8 per cent.) as unemployed, as compared with 46 (or 2.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Building and Furnishing Trades.—The masons report employment as bad. In other branches of the building trades work has been fairly plentiful. In the cabinet and furnishing trades employment is good. Branches with 1,775 members report 117 (or 6.6 per cent.) as unemployed, as compared with 90 (or 5.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Dock Labour. — Employment at the harbour has been only

Fishing Industry.—The white fishing has been prosecuted with regularity, but the takes have been poor. The summer salmon fishing shows improvement on the spring season.

Miscellaneous.—The printing and allied trades have been well employed; with tailors and boot and shoe makers employment continues good on the whole. Bleachers and floorcloth and linoleum makers are still busy.—P. Reid.

Aberdeen and District.

General.—Branches of societies with 6,130 members have 264 (or 4'3 per cent.) idle, as against 458 (or 7.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Quarrying.—The quarrymen, settmakers and masons report employment as fair; granite polishers as dull.

Building Trades.—The carpenters and joiners, painters and slaters report employment as good; masons as bad; plumbers as moderate; plasterers as dull.

Transport Trades.—The railway servants and carters report employment as good: dock labourers as fair.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Branches of societies with 1,113 members have 29 (or 2.6 per cent.) idle, as against 39 (or 3.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The engineers, ship-wrights and blacksmiths report employment as fair; ironmoulders as improving; tinplate workers, brassfinishers, patternmakers, horseshoers, drillers and hole cutters as good. The boiler-makers and iron and steel shipbuilders are affected by a dispute.

Clothing and Textile Trades.—The tailors, mill and factory workers, boot and shoe operatives, and boot and shoe makers report employment as good; carpet weavers as fair.

Printing and allied Trades.—The letterpress printers report employment as moderate; lithographic printers as fair; bookbinders and machine rulers as good.

EMPLOYMENT IN MAY-DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)-IRELAND.

Fishing.—At the Port of Aberdeen in May, trawl and line boats anded 63,200 cwts., the aggregate value being £45,336, a decrease with in quantity and value as compared with April.

Miscellaneous.—The combmakers, sawmillers, saddlers, cabinet makers, gasworkers and general labourers report employment as good; bakers as bad; hackney carriage drivers as dull; anholsterers as fair.—W. Johnston.

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

Building Trades.—Employment generally is fair.

Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.—Employment is reported as god with the coachmakers, cart and wagon builders, carpet lanners and upholsterers; fair with the cabinet makers; dull with the saw mill machinists, and bad with the lath splitters.

Iron Trades.—Work is returned as good by the engineers and boiler makers; as fair by the whitesmiths, and electrical workers; as dull by the gasfitters and brassfinishers.

Clothing Trades.—Employment in the tailoring trade is unsettled by a dispute. The bootmakers report employment as good.

Printing and allied Trades.—The letterpress printers report employment as still quiet; the lithographic printers as good; the stereotypers, and bookbinders as fair. Branches with 1,427 members have 116 (or 8.1 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 95 (or 6.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April.

Miscellaneous.—Employment is returned as good by the bottle-makers, labourers, dockers, paviors, stationary engine drivers, and tally clerks; as fair with the railway servants; as bad with the hair-dressers.—J. P. Nannetti.

Belfast and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades.—Branches of societies with 8,290 members have 110 (or 1.3 per cent.) unemployed, as against 156 (or 1.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The blacksmiths, blacksmiths' helpers and strikers, engineers and iron turners report employment as moderate; ironfounders as quiet; brassfounders, ship carpenters and joiners, furnishing trades machine-workers, enginemen and cranemen as fair; patternmakers as steady; drillers, hole cutters, boilermakers, iron shipbuilders, shipwrights, sheet metalworkers, general labourers and platers' helpers as good.

Linen Trades.—Societies with 4,038 members have 87 (or 2'2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 94 (or 2'4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The women workers report employment as dull; flax dressers, power loom tenters and yarn bundlers as fair; beetlers, yarn dressers, flax roughers, hackle and gill makers, and linen lappers as good.

Building Trades.—Branches of societies (excluding carpenters who are affected by a dispute) with 1,638 members have 77 (or 4.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 86 (or 5.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The painters and plasterers report employment as quiet; plumbers as bad; bricklayers and hodsmen as fair.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Societies with 859 members have 14 (or 1.6 per cent.) unemployed, as against 22 (or 2.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The cabinet makers, upholsterers and coopers report employment as fair; French polishers, coachbuilders and packing case makers as good; millsawyers as improving.

Printing and allied Trades.—Societies with 899 members have 63 for 7 o per cent.) unemployed, as against 52 (or 5.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of April. The lithographic printers report, employment as bad; bookbinders as quiet; letterpress printers and designers and engravers as fair.

Clothing Trades.—The tailors are fairly well employed. The boot and shoe-makers are rather quiet.

Miscellaneous.—Societies with 2,016 members have 50 (or 2.5 per cent.) unemployed, as against 47 (or 2.4 per cent. of their member ship) at the end of April. The carters report employment as dull bakers, butchers, and municipal employees as fair; locomotive engine drivers, railway servants and paviors as good.—R. Sheldon.

Cork and District.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Boilermakers and shipbuilders report employment as busy in Haulbowline and Passage West; as fair in Cork and Limerick; fitters, turners, blacksmiths, and iron-moulders as good coppersmiths, brass-moulders, shipwrights, and riggers as fair.

Building Trades.—The plumbers, painters, and stonecutters report employment as moderate; other branches as dull.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Millsawyers and woodworking machinists, cabinet makers, packing-case makers, coachmakers, coopers, and cork cutters report employment as quiet.

Printing and allied Trades,—All branches report employment as fair.

Clothing Trades.—Tailors, flax and tweed operatives and boot and shoe operatives report employment as fair in Cork, Limerick, Blarney, Millfield and Douglas.

Fishing.-Mackerel fishing has been good during the month.

Miscellaneous.—All branches of railway employees, stationary enginemen, tramway employees, and brewery workmen report employment as good; Corporation employees as fair; gas workers, dock and quay labourers, coal porters, and hackney car drivers as dull.—P. O'Shea.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The number of passengers who left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe during May was 33,667, or 8,815 more than in May, 1899. Comparing the five completed months of 1900 with the corresponding period of last year, there is an increase of 17,973, viz., from 86,247 in 1899 to 104,220 in 1900, the increase being largely due to an increase in the number of foreigners bound for North America.

British and Irish.—Of the 33,667 passengers in May, 18,311 were of British or Irish origin, being an increase of 2,750 as compared with May, 1899. The increase is most marked in the case of those proceeding to the United States.

During the five months ended May, 1900, the number of passengers of British or Irish origin was 58,474, an increase of 2,760 as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

760 as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

The following Table gives the figures for the different periods:—

Destination.	May,	May,		five months
Destination	1900.	1899.	May, 1900.	May, 1899.
United States British North America Australasia South Africa Other places	2,001 616 985	11,481 1,572 680 1,188 640	39,382 5,993 4,006 5,089 4,004	34,982 6,250 3,684 6,670 4,128
Total	. 18,311	15,561	58,474	55,714

Foreign.—The remainder of the 33,667 passengers in May, viz., 15,356, were foreigners, or persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being an increase of 6,065 as compared with a year ago. The increase is chiefly due to increased numbers bound for the United States and British North America.

The total number of foreigners, etc., who left the United Kingdom during the five completed months of the year was 45,746 in 1900, and 30,533 in 1800.

Alien Immigration.—The number of aliens that arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent during May was 19,396; of these 10,557 were stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, compared with 5,86r so stated in May, 1899. Those not stated to be on their way to America or other places out of the United Kingdom numbered 8,839 (including 1,497 sailors), the corresponding figure for May, 1899, being 6,263 (including 1,183 sailors). The figures for May, 1900 and 1899, and also for the five months ended May in each year, are as follows:—

	May,	May.	Total for five	
Property and the second	1900.	1899.	May, 1900.	May, 1899.
Aliens not stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom Aliens en route to America or	8,839*	6,263*	28,653*	23,338*
other places out of the United Kingdom	10,557	5,861	31,974	19,144
Total	19,396*	12,124*	60,627*	42,482*

^{*}These figures are inclusive of sailors, to the number of 1.497 in May, 1900; 1,183 in May, 1899; and 6,543 and 5,864 respectively for the five months ended May in each year.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN MAY, 1900. (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 changes in wages reported during May affected about 181,200 workpeople, and the net effect of all the changes on the weekly wages of those affected was an increase of 1s. 0\(\frac{3}{4}\)d. per head. About 180,900 received advances averaging 1s. 0\frac{3}{4}d. weekly per head, and about 300 sustained decreases averaging 2s. 0\frac{1}{4}d. per head.

Increases.—The principal increases were those granted to 125,000 coal miners in South Wales and Monmouthshire; to 2,540 colliery workers in Northumberland; to 29,500 ironworkers in the Midlands and North of England and in the West of Scotland; to 1,000 blastfurnacemen in South Staffordshire; and to 8,000 earthenware workers in the Potteries district.

Decreases.—The decreases affected about 300 operatives in the building trades in Scotland.

Methods of Arrangement.—Changes affecting about 9,900 workpeople were preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work. Changes affecting about 158,400 workpeople in the metal and mining trades took effect under sliding scales, and changes affecting about 800 workpeople were determined by Conciliation Boards. The remaining changes, affecting about 12,100 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or their representatives.

Summary for First Five Months of 1900 .- For the five months, January-May, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) reported as having received advances or sustained decreases is about 950,500. Of these 944,900 obtained a net average increase of 2s. 2\frac{1}{4}d. weekly per head, and 5,600 sustained a net average decrease of 2s. 1\frac{1}{2}d. weekly per head. The general effect of all the changes was a rise of 2s. 2d. weekly per head in the wages of the 950,500 workpeople affected.

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

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which change takes	Approx	simate ber of beople	[Particulars of Change.	Estimate of Wag full W	ed Rate es in a	Increa Decrea a full w	se in-
W. Calley V.		effect in 1900.	Inc.	Dec.	(Decreases in Italics.)	Before change.	After change.	In- crease.	De- crease.
	53 Increases—6,45	7 Workpe	ople.	BUI	LDING TRADES. 2 Decreases-310 Worekp				
Carlisle	Slaters and Tilers	28 May	14	1	Advance of 1d. per hour (8d. to 81d.)	s. d. 34 32	s. d.	s. d. 2 134	s. d.
Whitehaven	Painters	2 June	30		Advance of ½d. per hour (7d. to 7½d.)	29 2	31 3g	2 I	
Workington	Carpenters and Joiners ‡ Stonemasons	25 May 1 May	40		Advance of 1d. per hour (7d. to 71d.)	31 6	32 94	I 334	•••
Bradford {	Plasterers' Labourers	1 May	70		Advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \)d. per hour (8\(\frac{1}{2} \)d. to 9\(\frac{1}{2} \)d.)	34 6½ 24 0¾	37 6 26 03	2 112	
Mexborough	Carpenters and Joiners	1 May	16		Advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \text{d. per hour (8d. to 8\) \(\frac{1}{2} \text{d.} \)	33 0	35 04	2 03	***
Pudsey	Carpenters and Joiners!	17 May	40		Advance of id. per hour (7d. to 8d.)	29 2	33 0	3 10	***
Wakefield	Stonemasons Painters	1 May 3 May	75 45		Advance of 1d, per hour (81d. to 9d.)	33 74	35 72	I II3	*** 0
Burnley, Nelson)	Carpenters and Joiners	1 May	17	(Advance of 1d. per hour (7d. to 71d.) Advance of 1d. per hour (8d. to 81d.)	28 6½ 33 3	30 7 34 3½	2 0½ I 0½	
and Brieffield		ı Nov.	300	1	Further advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \text{d. per hour (8\frac{1}{2} \text{d. to 8\frac{1}{2}} \text{d.)} \)	34 51	35 4	I 01/2	
Clitheroe	Carpenters and Joiners	22 May	* 25		Advance of 3d. per hour (72d. to 8d.)	33 9	36 0	2 3	
Colne	Carpenters and Joiners {	1 May 1 Nov.	50	{	Advance of \(\frac{1}{4}d. \) per hour (8d. to 8\(\frac{1}{4}d. \) Further advance of \(\frac{1}{4}d. \) per hour (8\(\frac{1}{4}d. \) to 8\(\frac{1}{4}d. \)	32 6 33 6 1	33 61 34 61	I C4 I O1	
Darwen	Carpenters and Joiners	7 May	130		Advance of \(\frac{1}{2}d. \) per hour (8\(\frac{1}{2}d. \) to 8\(\frac{1}{2}d. \)	33 84	35 84	2 0	***
Heywood	Carpenters and Joiners	т Мау	95		Advance of \(\frac{1}{4} \)d. per hour (8\(\frac{1}{4} \)d. to 8\(\frac{2}{4} \)d.)	36 8	37 9	II	
(Bricklayers	1 May 2 June	35		Advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \text{d. per hour (7\frac{1}{2} \text{d. to 8d.)} \)	32 84	34 103	2 2	
Macclesfield	Carpenters and Joiners {	I Oct.	120		Advance of \(\frac{1}{4}d. \) per hour (7\(\frac{1}{4}d. \) to 7\(\frac{3}{4}d. \) Further advance of \(\frac{1}{4}d. \) per hour (7\(\frac{3}{4}d. \) to 8d. \)	32 7½ 33 8½	33 8½ 34 9½	III	
Macciesneid	Bricklayers' Labourers	12 May	} 80	{	Advance of ½d. per hour (4½d. to 5d.)	18 102	20 113	2 11	•••
		May, 1901	,		Further advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \)d. per hour (5d. to 5\(\frac{1}{2} \)d.)	20 113	23 I	2 11	
Middleton	Other Labourers Bricklayers	I May	200 88	•••	Advance of about 2s. per week Advance of 4d. per hour (84d. to 9d.)	35 11	58 of	2 0 2 114	•••
Nantwich	Carpenters and Joiners	May	50		Advance of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 9d.) Advance of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour (6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 7d.)	28 10	31 0	2 2	
Padiham	Carpenters and Joiners {	1 May	28	{	Advance of \d. per hour (8d. to 8\d.)	33 3	34 31	1 0	
December 1	The second	1 Nov.	,		Further advance of \(\frac{1}{4} \text{d. per hour (8\frac{1}{4} \text{d. to 8\frac{1}{2}} \text{d.)} \)	34 32	35 4	I 0	
	Bricklayers §	r May	30 250		Advance of \(\frac{1}{2}d. \) per hour (8d. to 8\(\frac{1}{2}d. \)	33 64	35 8 42 93	2 12 2 2 1	
Wigan {	Bricklayers' Labourers §	9 May	120		Advance of \(\frac{1}{2}d. \) per hour (6\(\frac{1}{2}d. \) to 7d.) in winter months	27 94	28 51	0 8	
Beeston	Carpenters and Joiners	1 May	12	***	Advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \)d. per hour (8d. to 8\(\frac{1}{2} \)d.)	34 7	36 83	2 13	
Buxton Chesterfield	Stonemasons Bricklayers	14 May May	300 60	117	Advance of \(\frac{1}{2}d \), per hour (8\(\frac{1}{2}d \), to 9d.) Advance of \(\frac{1}{2}d \), per hour (8\(\frac{1}{2}d \), to 9d.)	34 4 1 38 5 1	36 4½ 40 8⅓	2 01 2 3	
Grantham	Painters	1 May	50		Advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \text{d. per hour (8\frac{1}{2} \text{d. to 9d.)} \)	26 13	28 33	2 2	***
Hereford	Builders' Labourers	2 April	120	(Advance of \dd. per hour (4d. to 4\dd.)	18 1	19 21/2	I 11/2	
Potteries and	Bricklayers	2 July 30 May	100	[Further advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \)d. per hour (\(\frac{1}{2} \)d. to \(\frac{1}{2} \)d.)	19 2	20 4	1 1½ 2 1¾	***
Newcastle	Bricklayers	30 May	500		Advance of \(\frac{1}{2}d. \) per hour (8\(\frac{1}{2}d. \) to 8\(\frac{3}{2}d. \)	35 5	37 64	2 11	
Stone	Bricklayers	1 May	20		Advance of 1d. per hour (73d. to 81d.)	34 34	36 54	2 21/2	***
Tewkesbury	Bricklayers	May	50		Advance of ad. per hour (61d. 107d.)	29 8	31 113	2 32	
Walsall Wellington	Stonemasons Bricklayers	1 May	57 150		Advance of \(\frac{1}{2}d \), per hour (8\(\frac{1}{2}d \), to 9d.) Advance of \(\frac{1}{2}d \), per hour (7\(\frac{1}{2}d \), to 8d.)	38 31 33 10½	40 61 36 13	2 3 2 3 2	
Bury St. Edmunds	Builders' Labourers	14 May	24		Advance of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour ($\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 5d.) Advance of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour ($\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 5d.)	21 7	24 (1	2 43	
Ipswich	Painters	5 May	35		Advance of ½d. per hour (6d. to 6½d.)	26 61	28 9	2 21	410
Kettering Lowestoft	Stonemasons Carpenters and Joiners	1 May 5 May	40		Advance of 1d per hour (8d to 81d.)	36 04 38 9½	38 3 ¹ / ₄	2 3 2 3 2	164
Norwich	Plumbers	I June	30 40		Advance of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour ($\frac{8}{2}$ d. to 9d.) Advance of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per hour ($\frac{7}{2}$ d. to $\frac{7}{2}$ d.)	30 92 31 4	33 63	2 23	
Peterborough	Bricklayers' Labourers	28 May	24		Advance of \d. per hour (4\d. to 5d.)	20 74	22 103	2 32	***
Watford	Stonemasons	1 May	65		Advance of id. per hour (8½d. to 9½d.)	38 7½	43 2	4 6	
Dartford	Carpenters and Joiners Bricklayers	I May	106		Advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \)d. per hour (9d. to \$\(\frac{1}{2} \)d.) Advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \)d. per hour (8d. to 8\(\frac{1}{2} \)d.)	40 6 35 10 ¹	42 9 38 11	2 3 2 3	
Maidstone	Builders' Labourers	1 May	150		Advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \text{d. per hour (6d. to 6\frac{1}{2} \text{d.})} \)	23 6	24 73	I 11/2	***
	Bricklayerst		(350		Advance of ½d. per hour (&d. to 8½d.)	36 43	37 114	I 61	
Reading	Carpenters and Joiners;	т Мау	400		Advance of \d. per hour (&d. to 8\frac{1}{2}d.)	36 I	37 112		
	Plasterers:	16	60		Advance of \(\frac{1}{2}d. \) per hour (8\(\frac{1}{2}d. \) to 9d.)	38 4 56 I	40 2 37 111	I 10 I 104	
Bath	Carpenters and Joiners	ı July	318		Advance of \(\frac{1}{2}d. \) per hour (8d. to 8\frac{1}{2}d.)	30 73	32 10	2 24	
		I Mar.	10 10 10	(Advance of \d. per hour (7d. to 7\d.)	30 13	31 24	II	
Llandudno	Painters	ı Oct.,	65	{	Further advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \)d. per hour (7\(\frac{1}{2} \)d. to 7\(\frac{1}{2} \)d.)	31 24	32 34	II	•••
Pontypool	Carpenters and Joiners	1901)	28		Advance of 3d. per hour (7d. to 73d.)	30 10	34 13	3 34	
Swansea	Builders' Labourers	14 May 18 May	242		Advance to a rate of 51d. per hour for general and	-	-	-	***
Dunden	Classic Total		1000	1000	builders' labourers, and 6d. per hour for scaffolders,&c.	100000			2 0
Dundee	Slaters Stonemasons	9 June 1 May		280	Decrease of Ad. per hour (9d. to 8\frac{1}{2}d.) Decrease of Ad. per hour (9\frac{1}{2}d. and 9d. to 9d. and 8\frac{1}{2}d.)	35 109	33 104		2 01
*	Stonemasons	Lanay	1	200	. Decrease of man per nour (one with our to our with one.)				W. C 7

* Exclusive of overtime.

† Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade, the weekly rate given in the table is, in the absence of exact figures, the result of averaging the wages for five summer 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.

§ The advance was accompanied by a rearrangement of winter hours.

THE LABOUR GAZETTE.

	CHANGES IN	RAT	ES C	F W	AGES REPORTED IN MAY-(co	ontinue	₹).		
Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which Change takes	Num	ximate ber of people ed by	Particulars of Change.	of Wag	ted Rate ges in a reek.*		ase or ease in reek.*
		effect in 1900.	Inc.	Dec.	(Decreases in Italics.)	Before change.		In- crease.	De- crease.
	8 Increases—127,938 W	rkpeople.	1	MINING	G AND QUARRYING. Decreases-Nil.				
Northumberland -	Deputies Winding Enginemen Hauling and Pumping Enginemen	7 & 14	500	{	Advance of 5d. per day (6s. 4d. to 6s. 9d.) Advance of 5d. per day (5s. 4d. to 5s. 9d.) Advance of 5d. per day (5s. 3d. to 5s. 8d.)	s. d. 38 o 32 o 31 6	s. d. 40 6 34 6 34 0	s. d. 2 6 2 6 2 6	s. d
North	Firemen	May	200		Advance of 8 per cent., making wages 32 per cent. above standard of November, 1879	-	-	*	
Durham South Wales	Colliery Mechanics Cranemen at Quarries Coal Miners	ı May	30		Advance of 5d. per day (5s. 2d. to 5s. 7d.) Advance of 2s. per week Advance of 5 per cent. under sliding scale, making	31 0	33 6	2 6	
and Mon. Blaengarw, Glam	Tippers and Surfacemen Colliery Enginemen	2 May	43		wages 53% per cent. above standard of December, 1879 Advance of 1d. per day	-	_	-	
	ncreases—33,921 Workpeo		1RON	AND	Advance of 4d. per shift	-		-	1
North of England	Ironworkers: - Puddlers		(1,600		Advance of 6d. per ton (9s. 3d. to 9s. 9d.) under sliding	_	_	_	
Jarrow ••• •••	Millmen 5	28 May	4,400		Advance of 5 per cent. under sliding scale Advance of 5 per cent	=	_	_	
Stockton-on-Tees Stockton-on-Tees &	Cranemen, &c. Steel Sheet Workers Steel Millmen	4 June	128		Advance of 5 per cent. under sliding scale	-	-	_	
W. Hartlepool Teams (Gateshead)	Steelworkers	28 May 28 May	2,000		Advance of 5 per cent. under sliding scale Advance of 5 per cent. under sliding scale			-	
Workington	Ironworkers:— Puddlers	28 May	50		Advance of 6d. per ton (9s. 9d. to 10s. 3d.) under sliding scale	-	-	_	
	Millmen	20 May	1 200		Advance of 5 per cent. under sliding scale				
Doncaster (near)	Blastfurnacemen Bricklayers (Steel Works)	4 May	230		Advance of 5 per cent		1000	_	
Leeds Middlesbrough	Chargemen & Topmen	0 May 23 April	6 27		Advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \) d. per hour \(\text{N} \)	_	_	3 0	
Barrow-in-Furness Midlands (with parts	Steelworkers (Plate Mill) Ironworkers:—	5 May	230		Advance of 3 per cent. under sliding scale, making wages 31 per cent. above standard	-	-	_	
of Yorks., Lancs., and Cheshire)	Puddlers	4 June	20,000	{	Advance of 6d. per ton (10s. 3d. to 10s. 9d.) under sliding scale	-	-	-	
South Staffs	Millmen Blastfurnacemen	4 June	1,000		Advance of 5 per cent. under sliding scale Advance of 5 per cent. under sliding scale	_		-	
Alfreton	Steel Smelters, &c	16 May	46		Advance of 2½ per cent				
Ilkeston Blaina	Engine and Boiler men Blastfurnacemen	26 May 1 May	14 240		Advance of 10 per cent	-	-	-	
Ebbw Vale	Boiler Firemen	14 May	70		wages 25 per cent. above standard Advance of 5d. per 100 tons on all finished steel	_	_		
West of Scotland	Ironworkers:— Puddlers	28 May	3,500	(Advance of 6d. per ton (ros. 6d. to 11s.) under sliding	-		_	
10/1/20/19/19/19	Millmen			(Advance of 5 per cent. under sliding scale	_	_	_	
6 Increases—602 V				HIPBU	ILDING AND OTHER METAL TRADES	D	ecreases-	-Nil.	
Sheffield Wakefield	Spring Knife Cutlers Engineers, Pattern- makers, Machinemen and Smiths	12 May 19 May	230		Advances of id. and ind. per dozen on pocket knives Advance of is. per week	=	=	1 0	
Bolton Liverpool	Coremakers Labourers	4 June 17 and 18	300		Advance of 2s. per week	28 0	30 0	2 0	
Leek	(ship repairing) Farriers†	May 5 May	9		Advance to a rate of 32s. per week for firemen, and of				
Llanelly	Fitters, Smiths and Roll	May	20		28s. for doormen Advances of 3s. per week to fitters and smiths, and of 2s.			0 TE 10	
	Turners 7 Thereases 1	970 17-1	1		per week to roll turners			1	-
Bradford	7 Increases—1, Dyers' Labourers		eople.	TE	XTILE TRADES. Decreases—Nil. Advances of is, and 2s. per week				
Wakefield	Chain Minders	3 May	7		Advance of is, per week			1 0	
Bury Oldham	Cotton Weavers	17 May 14 May	17		Advance of \$\frac{1}{4}d. per lb	-	_	-	
Rossendale	Cotton Weavers	1 July	185		Adoption of uniform price list resulting in an increase in earnings	=	_	_	
Notts, Derby and Leicestershire	Handframework knitters (hosiery)	12 May	150		Advance of id. in the is. on hose, half hose, and open work Advance of id. in the is. on shirts, pants, and wide		_	_	
Nottingham	Threaders (laceworkers)	1	200		goods Advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \text{d.} \) per 1,000 (5\frac{1}{2} \text{d.} \) to 6d.)				
	5 Increases—401	Workpeo	ple.	CLO	THING TRADES. Decreases-Nil.		1	To a second	
Leeds London, W	m "		150		Advances of 3d. and 6d. per dozen	-	- 1	-	
Clydebank	Tailors	27 April 21 May	40 -		Advance to a minimum rate of 55s, per week Advance of \(\frac{1}{2} \text{d} \), per hour on "log" rate	_	Ξ	_	
Edinburgh Dublin	Tailors	7 May	14		Advance of 1d. per hour (5d. to 51d.) on "log" rate	-	-	-	
Dublin	Bootmakers	14 May	175		Advance in piece rates, stated to be equal to increases of from 15 to 20 per cent. on previous earnings.	-	-	-	
7 Incr	reases—638 Workpeople. Gasworkers:—	EMI	PLOYE	ES O	F PUBLIC AUTHORITIES. Decreases—	Nil.			
Leeds	Yardmen }	r3 June {	196	.,.	Advance of zs. per week	22 0	24 0	2 0	
Locas	Drain Flushers Platelayers and Plate-	11 May 8 June	46 14 36		Advance of is. gd. per week	24 3 26 0	26 o 27 o	1 0	
Oldham Rochdale	layers' Labourers Carters (Sanitary Dept.) Carters (Paving, Sewer-	4 April 3 May	51		'Advance of is, per week	-	1	10	
Newmarket London (County	ing and Gas Dept.) Roadmen and Dustmen Carpenters and Joiners	25 May	7		Advances of 1s. per week to 3 men and of 2s. to 4 others	23 0	24 0	-	
Council)	Carpeniers and joiners	I May	261		Advance of ad. per hour (red. to road.)	40 92	42 10	2 0	

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN MAY-(continued).

Locality.	Occupation.	Date from which Change takes	Number of workpeople affected by		Particulars of Change.		ed Rate ges in a veek.*	Increase or Decrease in full week,*
		effect in 1900.	Inc.	Dec.	(Decreases in Italics.)	Before change.	After change.	In- crease. De- crease.
	11 Increases—9,343	Workpeopl	le.	MISC	DELLANEOUS TRADES. Decreases—Nil.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d., s. d.
Diseas Trees	Firebrick Makers	21 May	304		Advance of 5 per cent	-	-	- s. a.
	I attornuoco Drintarel	I July	39		Advance of 2s. per week	28 0	30 0	2 0
Bolton	Milliammore and	21 May	37		Advance to a minimum rate of 36s. 6d. per week	-	-	
Chesterfield	Letterpress Printers and Bookbinderst	7 July	40		Advance of 2s, per week	28 0	30 0	2 0
Nottingham	Letterpress Printers	19 May 1May,1901	} 330	{	Advance of 1s. 6d. per week Further advance of 1s. per week	32 0 33 6	33 6 34 6	I 6'
Potteries	Pottery workers (earthenware section)	ı Oct.	8,000		Advance of 5 per cent		-	
Aberdeen	Bakerst	7 July	300		Advance of 2s. per week and adoption of a minimum rate of 28s. per week	-	-	
Alloa	Glass Bottle Makers	23 April and	108		Advances on home system of is. 6d. per week on standard weekly wages, and of 7½ per cent. on over-	-	-	
		14 May		1.000	work rates; of 4 per cent. on foreign system; and of from 123 to 20 per cent. on overwork rates on machine			
Broughty Ferry .	Bakers	. 12 May	II		system Advance to a minimum rate of 28s. per week	_	-	
	Saddlers	. 26 May	104		Adoption of minimum rate of 24s. per week, and advance of 1s. per week to those receiving 24s. and upwards			-
Greenock	Bakers	. 2 June	70	1	Advance of is. per week	-	1	1 0

* Exclusive of overtime.

† See also under Changes in Hours of Labour.

Dock Labourers, Hull.—A change in the conditions of labour of dock labourers at Hull occurred during May, but statistical particulars thereof are not yet complete.

	Increase	8—222 Workpeople.	SEA	MEN.	Decreases-Nil.		1 1 1 1 1 1		
Port.	Voyage.	Occupation.	No. shipped at new Rate during May.		Particulars of Change.	April,	May,	In- crease.	De- crease.
1011		a feet to an in the last	Increase.	Decrease.					
							Monthly	Rates.	
	Mediterranean {	Able Seamen Firemen	34		Advance of 2s. 6d. per month Advance of 2s. 6d. per month	s. d. 80 o 85 o	s. d. 82 6 87 6	s. d. 2 6 2 6	s. d.
7			4			100000000000000000000000000000000000000	Weekl	y Rates.	Ser Chris
Hull	Baltic { Running Agreements in Foreign Trades {	Able Seamen Able Seamen Firemen	51 40 28 38	::	Advance of is. per week	29 0 29 0 29 0 29 0	30 0 30 0 30 0 30 0	I 0 I 0 I 0	

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN MAY, 1900.

THE changes in hours of labour reported during May were all decreases and affected 3,390 workpeople, whose hours were reduced on the average by 3'34 per week.

		Date	Approxi-	Hours o in a full		Extent	
Locality.	Occupation.	which change takes effect in 1900.	number of work- people directly affected.	Before change.	After change.	Reduc- tion per week.	
				Hrs.	Hrs.	Hrs.	
Building Tra Workington	Carpenters and Joiners!	25 May	40	54.00	52.20	1,20	
Pudsey	Carpenters and	17 May	40	50.00	49.20	0,20	
Potteries and	Joiners; Carpenters and	1 May	500	50.2	49.85	0.67	
Newcastle	Joiners Bricklayers; Carpenters and		(350 400)	54'60	53.55	1.02	
Reading	Joinerst Plastererst Plumberst	1 Мау	60 30	-	- 4	0.28	
Other Trade	s:-			75.00 2		50884	
Doncaster		ı Jan.,	39	24.00	52.00	2,00	
Chesterfield	Letterpress Printers and	7 July	75	54.00	52.00	2.00	
Bolton		21 May	37	54.00	53.00	1,00	
Leek	Farrierst Tramway Em-	5 May 1 May	9 1,510	99.00 59.00	90.00 20.00	3.00	
Aberdeen	ployees (L.C.C.) Bakers;	7 July	300	55.00	52'00	3.0	

† Where the winter and summer hours are known to differ in any trade the weekly hours given in the table are, in the absence of exact figures, the result of averaging the hours for five summer and two winter weeks.

‡ See also under Changes in Rates of Wages.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Cotton Statistics.—The following Table shows the number of bales of cotton imported, forwarded from ports to inland towns, and exported during the month of May, and also during the five completed months of 1900, with comparative figures

	Month	of May.		nths ended
	1900.	1899.	1900.	1899-
Imported Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns Exported	Bales. 173,997 269,605 43,502	Bales. 156,884 268,167 63,837	Bales. 1,587,646 1,459,122 168,557	Bales. 1,829,921 1,358,980 262,072

Traffic Receipts.-The total receipts of 21 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the four weeks ended June 2nd, amounted to £7,005,895, an increase of £132,790 (or 1.9 per cent.), as compared with the corresponding period of 1899. The receipts from passenger traffic were £3,089,161, a decrease of £167,606, and those from goods and mineral traffic £3,916,734, and increase of £300,396.

Fishery Statistics.—The total value of the fish (including shell fish) landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom during May was £779,128, an increase of £33,796, as compared with May, 1899. England and Wales there was an increase of £49,315, in Scotland of £4,568, and in Ireland there was a decrease of £20,087.

Bankruptcies.—The bankruptcies gazetted during May nun bered 372, being 61 more than in May, 1899, 13 less than in May, 1898, and 76 more than in May, 1897.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN MAY.

June, 1900.

Based on information furnished by the Home Office and the Board of Trade.) THE total number of workpeople reported as killed by accidents during May was 440, or 2 less than in April, and 15 less than in May, 1899.

In the first group of industries shown in the following summary table, including railways, mines, quarries, shipping, and factories, and employing 5,447,140 persons (according to the latest available figures), 414 were reported killed, and 8,352 injured by accidents in May, as compared with 437 reported killed and 6,738 injured in May, 1899. These figures give one death in May, 1900, for every 13,157 persons employed in those industries. During the five completed months of 1900, 2,167 persons were reported killed and 37,688 injured, as against 1,989 reported killed and 34,083 injured in the corresponding period of 1899.

In the remaining occupations included in the tables, 6 persons were reported killed, and 1,022 injured in May, as compared with 18 killed and 967 injured in May, 1899. SHWWARV TARLE

SUM	IARI	IADLI	4.		
	Kil	led.	Inju	ired.	Number Employed
-	May, 1900.	May, 1899.	May, 1900.	May, 1899.	according to latest Returns.
Railway Service— Accidents connected with movement of vehicles Other Accidents	52	34 I	385 969	304 790	534,141
Total Railway Service	54	35	1,354	1,094	534,141
Mines	80	90	421	384	741,125
Quarries (over 20 feet deep)	11	7	84	97	134,478
Shipping	196	256	195	180	230,372*
Factories	73	49	6,298	4,983	3,807,024
Total of above	414	437	8,352	6,738	5,447,140
Workshops	I	2	22	14	
Under Factory Act, 1895, Ss. 22,	14	14	768	755	Cannot be stated.
Under Notice of Accidents Act,	11	2	232	198)

	Killed.	In- jured.	Killed.	In- jured.	Killed.	In- jured.	
-	Mover	cidents ted with nent of icles.	dents Comp	er accion the anies' nises.	Total.		
Railway Service— Brakesmen and Goods Guards	4 2 3 1 5 5 8 24	80 29 45 10 8 61 64 88		25 42 71 6 112 206 12 495	4 2 3 1 5 5 8 26	105 71 116 16 120 267 76 583	
Total for May, 1900	52	385	2	969	54	1,354	
Total for May, 1899	34	304	1	790	35	1,094	

DETAILED TABLE.

Mines—	Under	ground.	Sur	face.	То	tal.
Explosions of Firedamp Falls of ground in shafts Miscellaneous	45 6 20	19 173 13 155	= - 9		45 6 29	19 173 13 216
Total for May, 1900	71	360	9	61	80	421
Total for May, 1899	80	344	10	40	90	384
Quarries over 20 feet deep.	Inside.		Outside.		Total.	
Explosives or Blasting Falls of ground During Ascent or Descent Miscellaneous	3 1 - 5	6. 13 4 45	- - 2	- - 16	3 1 7	6 13 4 61
Total for May, 1900	9	68	2	16	II	84
Total for May, 1899	7	65	-	32	7	97

	Killed.	In- jured.	Killed.	In- jured.	Killed.	In- jured.
	By Wr Cast	eck or	By o	other lents.	To	tal.
Shipping*-						
On Trading Vessels— Sailing	32	4 -	16	56	48	56
Steam On Fishing Vessels—	96	2	45	135	141	137
Sailing Steam	3		2 2	- I	5 2	- 2
Total for May, 1900	131	3	65	192	196	
Total for 3 months March to May, 1900	588	13	212	514	1	195
Total for 3 months March	488	8			800	527
=		Her	198	638	686	646
Factories—	Ma	ales.	Fen	nales.	To	tal.
(a) Accidents reportable by Certifying Surgeons—		1899			8000	
Adults Young Persons	65	1,519	2	176	67	1,695 674
Children	_	16	-	6		22
Total	71	2,084	2	307	73	2,391
(b) Other Accidents—		11		O CONTRACTOR		
Adults Young Persons	=	3,264	=	58	1 =	3,322 578
Children	_	537	-	1	1 -	7
Total	-	3,807	-	100	-	3.907
Total Factories— May, 1900	77	F 804	51	1		60
SECOND SECOND SECOND SECOND	71	5,891	2	407	73	6,298
May, 1899	48	4,654	1	329	1 49	4,983
Workshops-		18	10		1	1
Adults Young Persons Children	ī	3	I =	1 1	1	18 4
Total Workshops—						
Мау, 1900	I	20	-	2	1	22
May, 1899	2	13	-	1	2	14
Factories & Workshops (classified by trades). Textiles— Cotton Wool and Worsted Other Textiles	3 1	214	=	138	3 1	352 148
Non-Textiles—		76	1	61	1	137
Extraction of Metals Founding and Conver-	5	980	4 -	8	5	988
sion of Metals Machines, Engines and	7	1,325	_	I	7	1,326
Engineering Ship and Boat Building		936		Marie Control		1,520
Wood	9 6	930				
Chaminala Pra		230	=	=	96	936 230
Other Non-Textile In-	6 24		= -			230 179
Chemicals, &c Other Non-Textile Industries	6	230 174	= -		966	230 179
Chemicals, &c Other Non-Textile Industries Total May, 1900	72	230 174			966	230 179
Chemicals, &c Other Non-Textile Industries	6 24	230 174 1,793		125	9 6 6 25	230 179 1,918
Chemicals, &c Other Non-Textile Industries Total May, 1900 Total May, 1899	72 50	230 174 1,793 5,911	2	409	9 6 6 25	230 179 1,918 6,320
Chemicals, &c Other Non-Textile Industries Total May, 1900 Total May, 1899 Under Factory Act, 1895, 8s. 22, 23	72 50	230 174 1,793 5,911	2	409	9 6 6 25 74 51	230 179 1,918 6,320
Chemicals, &c Other Non-Textile Industries Total May, 1900 Total May, 1899 Under Factory Act, 1895, 8s. 22, 23 Docks, Wharves and	72 50	230 174 1,793 5,911	2	409	9 6 6 25	230 179 1,918 6,320
Chemicals, &c Other Non-Textile Industries Total May, 1900 Total May, 1899 Under Factory Act, 1895, 8s. 22, 23 Docks, Wharves and Quays Warehouses	6 24 72 50	230 174 1,793 5,911 4,667	2	409 330	9 6 6 6 25 74 61	230 179 1,918 6,320 4,997
Chemicals, &c Other Non-Textile Industries Total May, 1900 Total May, 1899 Under Factory Act, 1895, 8s. 23, 23 Docks, Wharves and Quays Warehouses Buildings to which Act applies	6 24 72 50	230 174 1,793 5,911 4,667 292 299 144	2	125 409 330	9 6 6 25 74 51	230 179 1,918 6,320 4,897
Chemicals, &c Other Non-Textile Industries Total May, 1900 Total May, 1899 Under Factory Act, 1895, Bs. 23, 23 Docks, Wharves and Quays Warehouses Buildings to which Act applies Laundries	72 50 8 -6	230 174 1,793 5,911 4,667 292 299 144 5	2	409 330 2 - 3 23	9 6 6 25 74 51	230 179 1,918 6,320 4,897 294 299 147 28
Chemicals, &c Other Non-Textile Industries Total May, 1900 Total May, 1899 Under Factory Act, 1895, 8s. 22, 23 Docks, Wharves and Quays Warehouses Buildings to which Act applies Laundries Total for May, 1900	6 24 72 50 8 -6 -	230 174 1,793 5,911 4,667 292 292 144 5	2	409 330 2 3 23 28	9 6 6 25 74 8 -6	230 179 1,918 6,320 4,997 294 299 147 28
Chemicals, &c Other Non-Textile Industries Total May, 1900 Total May, 1899 Under Factory Act, 1895, Bs. 23, 23 Docks, Wharves and Quays Warehouses Buildings to which Act applies Laundries	6 24 72 50 8 -6 -	230 174 1,793 5,911 4,667 292 299 144 5	2	409 330 2 - 3 23	9 6 6 25 74 51	230 179 1,918 6,320 4,897 294 299 147 28
Chemicals, &c Other Non-Textile Industries Total May, 1900 Total May, 1899 Under Factory Act, 1895, 8s. 22, 23 Docks, Wharves and Quays Warehouses Buildings to which Act applies Laundries Total for May, 1900 Total for May, 1899 Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894—	8 -6 - 14 14 Cons or F	230 174 1,793 5,911 4,667 292 292 144 5	2 1	409 330 2 3 23 28	9 6 6 25 74 51 8 - 6 - 14,	230 179 1,918 6,320 4,997 294 299 147 28
Chemicals, &c Other Non-Textile Industries Total May, 1900 Total May, 1899 Under Factory Act, 1895, 8s. 23, 23 Docks, Wharves and Quays Warehouses Buildings to which Act applies Laundries Total for May, 1900 Total for May, 1899 Under Notice of Accidents	6 24 72 50 8 6 6 - 14 14 Const	230 174 1,793 5,911 4,667 292 292 299 144 5 740 789	2 1	2 - 3 23 28 16	9 6 6 25 74 51 8 - 6 - 14,	230 179 1,918 6,320 4,897 294 299 147 28 755
Chemicals, &c Other Non-Textile Industries Total May, 1900 Total May, 1899 Under Factory Act, 1895, 8s. 22, 23 Docks, Wharves and Quays Warehouses Buildings to which Act applies Laundries Total for May, 1900 Total for May, 1899 Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894— Bridge Canal Canal Railway†	6 24 72 50 8 6 - 14 14 Cons or F	230 174 1,793 5,911 4,667 292 299 144 5 740 789	2 1	125 409 330 2 - 3 23 28 16	9 6 6 25 74 51 8 -6 -1 14	230 179 1,918 6,320 4,897 294 299 147 28 755
Chemicals, &c Other Non-Textile Industries Total May, 1900 Total May, 1899 Under Factory Act, 1895, 8s. 22, 23 Docks, Wharves and Quays Warehouses Buildings to which Act applies Laundries Total for May, 1900 Total for May, 1899 Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894— Bridge Canal Railway† Tramroad Tramway	6 24 72 50 8 -6 - 14 14 Consor F	230 174 1,793 5,911 4,667 292 299 144 5 740 789 truction Repair.	2 1	2 409 330 23 28 76 6 6 28	9 6 6 25 74 8 -6 -14, 14	230 179 1,918 6,320 4,897 294 299 147 28 768 765
Chemicals, &c Other Non-Textile Industries Total May, 1900 Total May, 1899 Under Factory Act, 1895, 8s. 22, 23 Docks, Wharves and Quays Warehouses Bulldings to which Act applies Laundries Total for May, 1900 Total for May, 1899 Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894 Bridge Canal Railway† Tramroad Tramway Tunnel Other Works‡	6 24 72 50 8 - 6 - 14 Consor F 9 - 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	230 174 1,793 5,911 4,667 292 299 144 5 740 789 truction Repair.	2 1	2 409 330 23 28 16 corrking.	9 6 6 25 74 8 -6 -14, 14	230 179 1,918 6,320 4,997 294 299 147 28 755
Chemicals, &c Other Non-Textile Industries Total May, 1900 Total May, 1899 Under Factory Act, 1895, 8s. 22, 23 Docks, Wharves and Quays Warehouses Buildings to which Act applies Laundries Total for May, 1900 Total for May, 1899 Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894— Bridge Canal Railway† Tramvad Tramvay Tramway Trannel	6 24 72 50 8 -6 - 14 14 Consor F 9 - 1 Act d	290 174 1,793 5,911 4,667 292 299 144 5 740 789 truction Repair.	2 1	2 409 330 23 23 28 16 6 — 28 28	9 6 6 25 74 51 8 -6 -14, 14	230 179 1,918 6,320 4,897 294 299 147 28 755
Chemicals, &c Other Non-Textile Industries Total May, 1900 Total May, 1899 Under Factory Act, 1895, 8s. 22, 23 Docks, Wharves and Quays Warehouses Buildings to which Act applies Laundries Total for May, 1900 Total for May, 1899 Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894— Bridge Canal Railway† Tramroad Tramway Tunnel Other Workst	6 24 72 50 8 - 6 - 14 14 Cons or F - 1 Act d ap	230 174 1,793 5,911 4,667 292 299 144 5 740 789 truction Repair. 3 79 1 28 84 loes not ply.	2 1	2 409 390 22 3 28 16 6 Criting.	9 6 6 25 74 51 8 -6 -14, 14	230 179 1,918 6,320 4,897 294 299 147 28 768 755
Chemicals, &c Other Non-Textile Industries Total May, 1900 Total May, 1899 Under Factory Act, 1895, 8s. 22, 23 Docks, Wharves and Quays Warehouses Bulldings to which Act applies Laundries Total for May, 1900 Total for May, 1899 Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894 Bridge Canal Railway† Tramroad Tramway Tranney Other Works† Traction Engine§	6 24 72 50 8 - 6 - 14 14 Constor F - 1 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	230 174 1,793 5,911 4,667 292 299 144 5 740 789 truction Repair. 3 79 1 284 40es not	2 1	2 409 330 23 23 28 16 6 — 28 28	9 6 6 25 74 51 8 -6 -14, 14	230 179 1,918 6,320 4,897 294 299 147 28 768 765

*The figures relate to seamen who have been reported during the month to have been killed or injured by accidents at sea, or in rivers and harbours, whilst they were members of the crews of sea-going vessels (except yachts) registered in the British Islands under Part I. of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894 (this includes all trading vessels and about a half, say 3,000, of the fishing vessels of 15 tons and upwards). Injuries to members of the crews of fishing vessels employed in and out of Scottish ports and of vessels trading exclusively between Scottish ports, or to Asiatics serving under Asiatic articles of agreement, are not included. With these exceptions, injuries, however trivial, are included. The number of persons stated to be employed is the sum of the number of persons engaged for the first crew of each vessel employed during 1899, and remaining on the Register at the end of that year.

† 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.

June, 1900.

Number of Dura-

TRADE DISPUTES.

(Based on information, obtained from all available sources, verified and corrected by direct application to the Employers, Trade Unions, and other parties concerned. Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day, have been omitted, except when the aggregate duration exceeded 100 working days,

Number and Magnitude.—Forty-four fresh disputes were reported as having begun in May, 1900, compared with 52 in April, 1900, and 94 in May, 1809. In these 44 disputes 10,043 workpeople were directly and 5,888 indirectly affected, a total of 15,931, which compares with 31,181 in April, 1900, and 23,577 in May, 1899.

Trades Affected.—In the building trades 25 disputes took place, involving 3,156 workpeople; in the mining industry 4 disputes, involving 556 workpeople; in the metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades 5 disputes, involving 2,505 workpeople; in the textile trades 6 disputes, involving 6,792 workpeople; and in miscellaneous trades, 4 disputes, involving 2,922 workpeople.

Causes.—Of the 44 disputes, 30 resulted from demands for advances and 3 from objections to reductions in wage-rates. Three disputes arose on other wages questions, 4 on questions of working arrangements, and 4 on miscellaneous questions.

Results.—Twenty-four new disputes, involving 6,594 workpeople, and 12 old disputes, involving 21,722 workpeople, were reported as having terminated. Of the 36 new and old disputes terminated, 10, involving 2,294 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 8, involving 2,581 persons, in favour of the employers; and 16, involving 23,234 persons, resulted in compromise. With regard to the remaining 2 disputes, involving 207 persons, certain points were still under consideration. At the end of May 14 old disputes were reported to be still unsettled, involving altogether about 2,000 workpeople.

Duration of Disputes in Working Days.—The aggregate duration in May of all the disputes, new and old, was about 780,000 days, compared with 210,000 in April, 1900, and 350,000 in May, 1899.

Summary for the First Five Months of 1900.—For the five completed months of 1900 the aggregate number of workpeople involved in the 225 disputes which commenced in these months was 79,904, as compared with 62,783 in the 323 disputes reported in the corresponding period of 1899. The aggregate duration in working days was about 1,340,cco, as compared with 1,100,000 in the corresponding period of 1899.

	to in Acres Con	Number of Workpeople	Date	Dura- tion of Dispute	rates asmen's	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
Locality.	Occupation.*	Di- Indi-	when Dispute began.	in Work-	Alleged Cause or Object.	Resul	t.
		rectly. rectly.*		ing Days.		and the same of th	

I.-DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN MAY, 1900.

		2	5 Disput	tes.	BUI	LDING TRADES. 3,156 Work people of	peciea.
	(-11 South - 12 South - 15 South	1	1	May	12 7	X _	
Hexbam Halif,x	Excavators, and Other	40	6	5 3	6	For advance in wages from 6d. to 61d. per hour For advance in wages from 6d. to 61d. per hour	No settlement reported. Work resumed on old terms.
Pudsey	Workpeople Carpenters & Joiners	16		I	-	For advance in wages from 7d. to 8d. per hour and new code of working rules	Advance granted and rules agreed t
Wakefield	Painters	45		1	2	For advance in wages from 7d. to 7dd. per hour and code of working rules	Advance granted and rules agreed to
Olftheroe	Carpenters and Joiners Stonemasons (Wallers	20 31		5	14	For advance in wages from 71d. to 81d. per hour For advance in wages from 8d. to 91d. per hour	Advance of ½d. per hour granted. No settlement reported.
Stockport lossendale	and Banker Hands) Plumbers	28		I	17	and code of working rules For advance in wages from 8d. to 9d. per hour	Advance of 1d. per hour granted,
Garage To							unionists.
Vigan	Bricklayers' Labourers and Bricklayers	90	50	I	7	For advance in wages from 6 d. to 7d. per hour	Advance granted for winter but not summer months (see p. 166).
Cheltenham	Builders' Labourers,	200	50	12		For advance in wages from 5d. to 6d. per hour	No settlement reported.
incoln	Plaster.rs Builders' Labourers and Bricklayers	150	20	1		For advance in wages from 5d. to 6d. per hour	No sett!ement reported.
Malvern	Builders' Labourers	170	6	I		For advance in wages from 5d. to 6d. per hour	No settlement reported.
otteries and Newcastle	Bricklayers, Labourers, and Carpenters and Joiners	500	600	I	24	For advance in wages from 81d. to 9d. per hour	Advance of 1d. per hour granted.
Vellington, Salop	Bricklayers	18		1	-	For advance in wages from 73d. to 81d. per hour and new code of working rules	Advance of ld. per hour granted, a rules agreed to.
Beccles Bury St.	Bricklayers' Labourers Builders' Labourers	30 24	4	7	6	For advance in wages For advance in wages from 42d, to 5d, per hour	Work resumed on old terms. Advance granted.
Edmunds Fromer	and Bricklayers Plasterers and Labourers	20	12	14	6	Objection by plasterers to bricklayers laying concrete floors	Employer undertook not to emp bricklayers on the work in future.
eighton Buzzard	Bricklayers and Labourers	23	12	7		For advance in wages from 7d. to 8d. per hour and other alterations in working rules	No settlement reported.
arry	Carpenters and Joiners	76		1		Against proposed revised code of rules, including reduction in winter hours without advance in rate of wages per hour	No settlement reported.
landudno	Stonemasons	35		1		For a code of rules and standard rate of wages of od. per hour	No settlement reported.
ontypool	Carpenters and Joiners Slaters	28 30		I	34	For advance in wages from 7d. to 8d. per hour Against proposed reduction in wages from 9d. to	Advance of 3d. per hour granted. Work resumed on employers' terms.
	Stonemasons	60		15		81d. per hour Against proposed reduction in wages of 1d. per	No settlement reported.
Paisley	Plumbers	60		I		hour (builders, 9½d. to 9d.; hewers, 9d. to 8½d.) For advance in wages from 9d. to 9½d. per hour	No settlement reported. No settlement reported.
erth	Painters Carpenters and Joiners	62 600		4		For adoption of a code of working rules Against employment of labourers on work claimed by carpenters, for advance in wages	No settlement reported.
2						from 8d. to 9d. per hour, reduction in hours from 54 to 52½ per week, and other alterations	
			4 Dis	putes.	М	IINING. 556 Workpeople affected.	
Dalton-in- Furness	Iron Ore Miners	375		21		For advance in wages, re-arrangement of working hours, and recognition of trade union secretary	
Blaengarw, Glam.	Tippers and Surface- men	43		1	1	For advance of wages of id. per day	Advance granted.
ontypridd	Coal Miners	120		1		For adoption of a price list in lieu of fixed pay- ment per yard	No settlement reported.
icea (near)	Coal Miners	18		7	4	Dispute as to cutting price in a certain seam	A price list agreed upon.

^{*} The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly affected," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishment where the dispute occurred, but not themselves on strike or locked out. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons,

TRADE DISPUTES—(continued.)

Locality.		Occupation.*		people cted.	Date when Dispute	Dispute in Work-	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result
			Di- rectly.	Indi- rectly.*	began.	ing Days.		apiria apparation A
			I.—	DISPU	TES W	HICH	BEGAN IN MAY, 1900—(continued).	
		5 Disputes. ME	TAL,	ENGIN	EERIN	G, AN	D SHIPBUILDING TRADES. 2,500	5 Workpeople affected.
Newcastle-on Ty	ne	Engineers' Labourers	20	30	II	6	Dispute as to payment of outworking allowance on new work	Outworking allowance to be continued.
Shields	1	Chippers and Painters Dock Labourers	202 323		24 29		For advance in wages from 27s. to 33s. per week In sympathy with chippers and painters involved in above-mentioned dispute	No settlement reported. No settlement reported.
Ebbw Vale		Boiler Firemen, Steel and Iron Workers, &c.	70	1,700	7	2}	For advance in wages	Advance granted.
berdeen		Platers, Caulkers, Rivet- ters, Drillers, &c., and Labourers and Roys	101	59	25	10	For alteration of hour of payment of wages	Work resumed on previous terms.
			6	Disputes		TEXT	LE TRADES. 6,792 Workpeople affecte	
Leeds		Woollen Weavers	70		26	II	Refusal to accept revised scale of prices for box-	
Burnley		Cotton Weavers, Winders, &c.	89	26	9	71	Alleged unfair dismissal of a workman	Man reinstated, weavers paying 91. per loom for "power" lost by strike.
Oldham	1	Cotton Reelers Cardroom Operatives	400		18	6	For re employment of "helpers" to assist on certain work	Advance of 7d. in the £r granted. Demand granted temporarily pending further negotiations.
Wigan		&c and Other Workpeople	4,000	2,000	18		For advance of 10 per cent. in day wages and 5 per cent. in piece prices	No settlement reported.
Nottingham		Auxiliary Lace Workers and Lace Makers	85	100	21	17	For advance in prices for threading cotton, and establishment of minimum wage of 22s. 6d. per week for pressing	Work resumed at advanced rates pending further negotiations.
		4 Di	sputes.	М	ISCEL	LANEC	OUS TRADES. 2,922 Workpeople affect	ted.
Sunderland			163	213	18		For payment of some of their number for six hours during which they were on strike on a former occasion	
Aberdeen		Steam Trawlers' Engineers, Firemen, Deck Hands, Cooks, and other Workbeeple	1,200	1,000	5	20	Firemen refused to continue custom of assisting in deak work; deck hands and cooks demanded advance in wages	Terms offered by employers and accepted by the men.
Ardrossan		Dock Labourers	96		26		For advance in price from 23d, to 31d, per ton for discharging ore	No settlement reported.
Limerick	•••	Dock Labourers	250		15			No settlement reported.
		II.—DISPUTES	S WHI	CH BE	GAN BI	EFORE	MAY, 1900, AND TERMINATED IN TI	HAT MONTH.

	II.—DISPUTES	WHIC	H BE	GAN BE	FORE	MAY, 1900, AND TERMINATED IN TH	HAT MONTH.
		5 Disput	tes.	BUIL	DING	TRADES 249 Workpeople affected.	A PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF
Carlisle	Slaters and Tilers	17		Mar. I	75	For advance in wages from 8d. to 9ld. per hour	Advance of 2d. per hour granted, exist-
Whitehaven Workington	Painters Carpenters and Joiners and Other Workbeoole	30 35	5	Apr. 30 Apr. 2	13 45	and adoption of new code of working rules For advance in wages from 7d. to 7½d. per hour For advance in wages from 7d. to 8d. per hour, and new code of working rules	Advance of 4d, per hour granted and
Macclesfield	Bricklayers' Labourers and Bricklayers	30	12	Apr. 28	7	For advance in wages from 4½d, to 5½d, per hour	working rules mutually arranged. Immediate advance of 1d. per hour granted, another 1d. to be given in May, 1901.
Ayr	Carpenters and Joiners	120		Apr. 2	40	Against proposed reduction in wages from 9d. to 8d. per hour	Proposal withdrawn.
		7 Dispi	ites.	OTH	HER T	RADES 21,473 Workpeople affected.	
Leeds	Slipper Makers (Iewish)	163		Apr. 22	-	For payment of "statement" prices by Jewish employers	Demands granted by all employers but
Mossley	Cotton Spinners, Card- room Operatives, &c., Reelers, Makers · up, &c.	481	443	Apr. 26	27	Alleged bad material supplied to spinners	one. Compensation promised for any loss of wages proved by firm's books for 4 weeks previous to stoppage; a joint committee to deal with future complaints.
Rossendale	Cotton Weavers	200	*	Apr.25	22	Sympathy with a workman who had been discharged, resulting eventually in general lockout	Lock-out withdrawn.
Potteries (Tunstall, Burslem, Hanley, Stoke-on- Trent, &c.)	Pottery Workers, (Eartheaware Section)	20,000		Mar. 26	53	Printers and transferrers, ovenmen, and flat and hollow-ware pressers demanded advances in wages amounting to about 10 per cent., printers and transferrers also demanding "levelling of counts." Some of the workpeople	Advance of 5 per cent. granted, to date from 1st October; questions of "counts" to be dealt with by conciliation committees (see page 164.)
						principally printers, transferrers and ovenmen, struck on March 26, others on April 22; re- mainder of earthenware section were locked out on April 30	
	Cabinet Makers	13		Apr. 28	-	Against alleged attempt to introduce task and	Task and lump work not introduced
Pontardulais		32		Apr. 30	12	lump work Dissatisfaction with new list of prices arranged	but strikers replaced by non-unionists. Work resumed at list prices.
Risca (near)	Millmen and Other Tinplate Workers	64	80	Apr. 30	-	by South Wales Tinplate Conciliation Board Dispute as to weight of boxes	Settlement effected by compromise.
* The occ	unations printed in italiae			1	1 10	1. 6. 10.	

^{*} The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly affected," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the dispute occurred, but not themselves on strike or locked-out. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

Handbooks to the Colonies.

A volume containing a series of handbooks upon the most mortant British Colonies has been issued by the Emigrants' information Office. Each handbook contains a map of the colony, an account of its constitution, its climate, the cost of living, rates of wages, conditions of labour, and many other matters of interest. The volume also contains a handbook showing the necessary inalifications in the different colonies for the various professions, holders of public office, &c., and a general handbook dealing with the various statutes affecting emigration societies, &c. The price of the volume is 2s., but the handbook for each colony can be obtained separately for one penny, the professional and general handbooks being threepence each.

A further recent publication is a handbook on the Federated Malay States, containing particulars as to the population, history, government, laws, customs, etc., and as to cost of living, transport, openings for emigrants and other information of interest to intending emigrants. The price of this handbook is fourpence.

These publications can be obtained of the Chief Clerk, Emigrants Information Office, 31, Broadway, Westminster, S.W.

EXAMINATIONS FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

Yorkshire and Lincolnshire District. — An examination for Certificates of Competency as Manager or Under Manager of a mine will be held on July 16th, 1900. Intending candidates should communicate on or before June 25th next with the Secretary of the Examination Board, Mr. John R. Jeffery, 5, Piccadilly, Bradford.

South Western District.—An Examination for Certificates of Competency as Manager of a Mine will be held on September 4th, 5th and 6th next, and for Certificates as Under Manager on September 11th, 12th and 13th next. Intending candidates should communicate on or before September 1st, with the Secretary of the Examination Board, Mr. S. J. Thomas, Forest House, Coleford, Gloucestershire.

PAUPERISM IN MAY.

(Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland, and Ireland.)
THE number of paupers relieved in 35 selected Urban Districts of the United Kingdom on one day in the second week of May was 316,916, corresponding to a rate of 196 per 10,000 of the estimated population of these districts in 1900.

Compared with April, 1900, there is a decrease of 7,517 in the number relieved, and of 4 in the rate per 10,000 of the population. All the districts show decreased rates (with the exception of North Staffordshire, and Coatbridge and Airdrie where there are increases of 6 and 3 per 10,000 respectively), the following districts showing the most marked falling-off:—Cork, Waterford and Limerick (18 per 10,000), Central London (15), East London (8), and Liverpool, Wolverhampton and Dublin (7 each).

Compared with May, 1899, the number relieved has decreased by 6,148, and the rate per 10,000 of population by 6. Twenty-seven districts show decreased rates, the most important decreases being in the Stockton and Tees district (35 per 10,000), Cork, Waterford and Limerick (34), Wolverhampton (19), Leicester (17), and Leeds, Barnsley and Bristol (16 each). Eight districts show increases, including increases of 15 per 10,000 in the Coatbridge and Airdrie, and Galway districts, and one of 11 per 10,000 in Glasgow.

30.000		ers on on week of	Increase (+) or decrease (-) in rate per 19,000			
Selected Urbas Districts.	In-	Out-	TOTAL.	Rate per 10,000 of esti-	of popul	ation as ed with
	door.	door.	10141.	mated Popula- tion.	Amonth ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.*	318 3 2	E 100			O UK	0.000
Metropolis.	10,216	2,452	12,668	157	- 6	- 6
West District	13,876	7,781	21,657	201	- 6	- 3
0 101-1-1-1	6,659	2,841	9,500	427	- 15	- 10
East District	12,393	4,200	16,602	229	- 8	- 2
South District	20,029	17,822	37,851	218	- 5	- 7
Total Metropolis	63,173	35,105	98,278	215	- 6	- 5
West Ham	2,277	7,857	10,134	215	- 2	+ 8
	No. of the last	Charles and	0111111111			770717734
Other Districts.	1,600	3,891	5,491	141	- 4	- 5
Newcastle District Stockton & Tees District	1,027	3,642	4,669	212	- 5	- 35
n 1. 0111 0-	3,210	7,288	10,498	140	- I	- 9
Wigan District	1,614	6,745	8,359	207	- 4	- 11
Manchester District	7,754	7,187	14.941	169	- 6	- 2
Liverpool District	9,132	7,086	16,218	175	- 7	- 6
Bradford District	1,176	2,793	3,969	108	- 3	- 8
Halifax & Huddersfield	990	3,311	4,301	114	- I	- 6
Leeds District	1,705	5,089	6,794	184	- 5	- 16
Barnsley District	574	2,889	3,463	162	- I	- 16
Sheffield District	2,212	2,980	5,192	136	- 3	- 5
Hull District	1,219	4,879	6,098	248	- 6	- 6
North Staffordshire	1,683	6,173	7,856	228	+ 6	+ 2 - 8
Nottingham District	1,621	5,080	6,701	176 175	- 3	- 17
Leicester District	1,037	2,612	3,649	275	- I	- 19
Wolverhampton District	3,016	12,467	15,483	120	- 7	+ 1
Birmingham District	4,060	2,494	9,184	256	- 2	- 16
Bristol District	2,551	6,633	8,508	233	- 5 - 1	- 2
Cardiff & Swansea		THE RESIDENCE OF	147,928	177	CONTRACTOR OF	- 8
Total "Other Districts"	47,815	100,113	14/1920		- 3	0
SCOTLAND.*	2 25-	77.705	18,891	218	- 4	+ 11
Glasgow District	3,355	15,536	3,007	191	- 6	- II
Paisley & Greenock District Edinburgh & Leith District	1,338	5,326	6,664	. 183	- 4	+ 6
Dunden & Dunfarmilles	873	2,781	3,654	182	- 2	- 12
Aberdeen	474	2,624	3,098	224	- 4	+ 1
Coatbridge & Airdrie	297	1,321	1,618	179	+ 3	+ 15
Total for the above Scottish Districts	6,857	30,075	36,932	203	- 4	+ 5
IRELAND.	19/09/03				50 DE	
Dublin District	6,155	4,253	10,408	294	- 7	- I
Belfast District	3,264	294	3,558	106	- 4	- 15
Cork, Waterford & Limerick }	4,262	4,674	8,930	387	- 18	- 34
Galway District	350	392	742	213	- 2	+ 15
Total for the above Irish Districts	14,031	9,613	23,644	247	- 9	- 15
Total for above 35 dis-	134,153	182,763	316,916	196	- 4	- 6

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

+ Excluding Casuals, but including persons maintained in Institutions for

LABOUR BUREAUX IN MAY.

During May the 10 bureaux furnishing returns registered 1,881 fresh applications for work, as compared with 1,618 in May, 1899, an increase of 263. Work was found during the month for 1,179 persons, of whom 756 (534 males and 222 females) were engaged by private employers, 137 by Local Authorities, and 286 males by the Salvation Army.

The number remaining on the registers at the end of M ay was 1,099, as against 1,331 a year ago.

(I.) Work done in May.

	App tion Work	Fresh olica- is by people	tions by Em	tions offered		Work by Bureaux.				
Name of Labour Bureau.	during				Engaged by Private Employers.		Engaged by Local Authorities.			
	May, 1900.	May, 1899.	May, 1900.	May, 1899.	May, May, 1869.		May, Ma 1900. 1899			
London. St. Pancras Battersea Islington St. Martin Hackney	153 84 261 190 68	171 122 350 97	198 18 110 224 26	225 53 113 116 18	102 39 94 106	81 51 99 46 6	2 46 2 76	3 2 48 76		
Salvation Army Provincial.	308	53 250	28	81	19 286*	54 233*}		,,,		
Ipswich Plymouth Glasgow	37 156 199 425	33 127 135 280	43 128 3 213	35 138 8 159	22 112 248	20 90 1 130	 2 9	4		
Total of 10 Bureaux	1,881	1,618	991	946	1,042	811	137	135		

(II.) Employments found for Workpeople during May, 1900.

	No. per- manently engaged.	No. tem- porarily engaged.	Total.
Engaged by Private Employers	-		
Building Trades	33	40	73
Carmen, Stablemen, Horsemen, &c	40	17	57
Porters and Messengers	76	45	121
General Labourers	47	27	74
Other Occupations	500	55	105
Lads and Boys	9n	13	104
Total Males	337	197	534
Women and Girls:-	STATE OF THE REAL PROPERTY.		1345
Dressmakers and Sempstresses			
Domestic Servants	102	12	114
Charwomen, daily work, &c	13	64	77
Other Occupations	13	18	31
Total Females	128	94	222
Total engaged by Private Employers	465	291	756
Engaged by Local Authorities			
Men, Lads and Boys:-			••
Roadmen	2	30	32 16
Dustmen		16	16
Other Osempetlens	11	60	71
Wisman and Civia	2		2
women and Giris	-		
Total engaged by Local Authorities	15	122	137
Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities			06
Men		286	286
Grand Total for 10 Bureaux	480	699	1,179

(III.) Usual Occupations of Workpeople on Registers at end of Month.

A STATE OF THE STA		No. on Reg	ister at end of
Occupation.		May, 1900.	May, 1899.
Men. Building, Engineering and Metal Trades	1	347	71
Carmen, Stablemen, Horsemen, &c	***	91	141
Clarks and Wanshaussen		41	50
Destant and Massangers	***		123
Carrant I abanesas	***	95 218	396
Other Oceanotions	***	108	IOI
Other Occupations	***	100	
Total Men		700	882
Lads and Boys		126	185
Women and Girls.			GARAGE ME
Chamber Della Wash to	2 5	183	155
Corrente	***	27	73
Others	***		36
Others	***	63	
Total Women and Girls		273	264
Grand Total for 10 Bureaux		1,099	1,331

^{*} Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE following statement has been communicated to the LABOUR GAZETTE by the Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

Summary for May.

The trade returns for May, 1900, show an increase as compared with the corresponding period of 1899 in the value of the imports from foreign countries and British possessions, and in the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures, but a decrease in the exports of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

The Imports for May, 1900, were valued at £43,876,427, as compared with £40,876,828 for May, 1899, an increase of £2,999,599, or 7'3 per cent., and the Exports amounted in value to £30,110,392, as against £28,777,036 in May, 1899—an increase of £1,333,356. The exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures alone were valued at £24,715,930 in May, 1900, and £23,030,240 in May, 1899—an increase of £1,685,690, or 7'3 per cent. The value of foreign and colonial merchandise exported in May, 1900, shows a decrease as compared with May, 1899, of £352,334, or 6'1 per cent.

Imports.—The following table shows the value of the imports for May, 1900, as compared with May, 1899, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

	Month ende	d May 31st.		
_	1899.	1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
good, Drink and Tobacco	17,862,603	17,649,054	NEWSCHOOL STATE	213,549
detals	2,620,090	2,835,636	215,546	
hemicals, Dyestuffs, and Tanning	0			
Substances	424,822	496,625	71,803	Carlot Tolland
aw Materials for Manufactures	768,183	849,070	80,887	100000000000000000000000000000000000000
anufactured and Miscellaneous	9,972,659	11,923,408	1,950,749	-
Articles	9,228,471	10,122,634	894,163	_
Total £	40,876,828	43,876,427	2,999,599	_

There is a net increase in the value of corn imported of £646,584. Wheat alone has increased 889,700 cwts. in quantity and £270,473 in alue; wheat meal and flour 333,943 cwts. in quantity and 132,627 in value. Barley shows a decrease of 84,490 wts. in quantity, but an increase of £6,765 in value. ats have increased 471,250 cwts. in quantity and 96,679 in value; peas 1,450 cwts. and £2,687; maize or dian corn 36,190 cwts. and £94,381; oatmeal 14,120 cwts. and 4,698; maize meal or Indian corn meal 125,492 cwts. and £39,426; and other kinds of corn and meal 24,680 cwts. and £8,652. On he other hand, beans show a decrease of 23,770 cwts. in quantity and £8,804 in value. In dutiable articles of food cocoa has decreased 3,321,943 lbs. in quantity and £97,588 in value, and chicory ffee, currants, raisins, tea, and wine have also decreased both i nantity and value, the last-named article to the extent of 144,636 gallons and £140.348. Unmanufactured tobacco shows a decreas f 1,509,561 lbs. and £51,716.

With regard to the imports of raw materials, imports of raw cotton show an increase in May, 1900, as compared with May, 1899, of 199,019 cwts. in quantity and £963,135°in value, chiefly due to larger shipments from the United States and Brazil. The imports of this article from Egypt show a decrease. Sheep or lamb's wool shows a decrease of 8,597,611 lbs. in quantity, but an increase of £132,865 in value, and the imports of alpaca, vicuna, and llama and of goats' wool show decreases in both quantity and value.

Exports.—The following table shows the value of the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures for the month ended May 31st, 1900, as compared with a like period of 1899, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

	M onth end	M onth ended May 31st.		
	1899.	1900.	increase.	Decrease.
Animal see	£	£	£	£
Articles of Food and Drink	97,498	74,789		22,709
Kaw Matariala	895,989	956,465 3,659,421	60,476	75 S
Manufactured and Partly Manufactured, viz —	2,303,495	3,059,421	1,355,926	
Yarns and Textile Fabrics Metals, and Articles Manufactured therefrom (except	7,460,348	8,276,053	815,705	-
Machinery and Shine)	3,578,153	4,506,390	928,237	_
Ships, new (not registered as	1,764,824	1,706,977	-	57.847
	1,974,982	493,119	-	1,481,863
Miscellaneous	4,954,951	5,042,716	87,765	
Total £	23,030,240	24,715,930	1,685,690	-

The exports of coal, coke and fuel have increased 228,099 tons in quantity, and $f_{1,3}61,483$ in value. Wool (sheep and lambs') has also increased in both quantity and value.

The exports of cotton yarn in May, 1900, show a decrease of 3,862,800 lbs. in quantity, but an increase of £34,635 in value. Cotton piece-goods have also decreased 1,742,800 yards in quantity, but increased £452,547 in value. Jute yarn has increased in both quantity and value, but jute piece-goods have decreased 2,736,000 yards in quantity and increased £7,627 in value. Linen yarn and piece-goods, silk, thrown, twist and yarn, and woollen and worsted yarn have all decreased in quantity, but increased in value, but all kinds of woollen and worsted piece-goods have increased in both quantity and value.

Tonnage of Vessels entered and cleared with Cargoes.—The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes during May, 1900, amounted to 3,010,324 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,997,990 tons, as against 3,097,422 tons entered, and 3,893,749 tons cleared in May, 1899. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes, during May, 1900, amounted to 2,725,860 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,642,332 tons, as against 2,676,968 tons entered and 2,653,807 tons cleared in May, 1899.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN MAY. DURING May 637 fresh applications for work were registered by eight bureaux (see Labour Gazette, February, 1899, p. 36) furnishing returns, and 917 offers of situations were made by employers; work was found for 220 persons, of whom 114 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers and mothers' helps).

The returns for the London Girls' Friendly Society business agency and the Manchester, Liverpool and Edinburgh Bureaux are for the present grouped together in the following table, which shows the work done by the eight bureaux during May. A return from the Dundee Labour Bureau is appended, but not included in the summaries.

WORK DONE IN MAY.

				AND DESCRIPTION
	No. of Fresh Situations offered by	No. of Fresh Ap- plications of Work- people	Work	people ged by loyers.
	Employers.	seeking Situations.	Permanently.	Tem- poraril
	Su	mmary by	Bureaux	•
Central Bureau— 60, Chancery-lane, W.C Society for Promoting Training and Employment—	48	69	7	13
22, Berners-street, W	44	41	12	22
Y. W. C. A.— 26, George-street ((1)		380	0-	
25, George-street (1) Hanover-square, W. (2)	590 194	54	89	16
Other Bureaux	41	93	23	3
Total of 8 Bureaux	91	637	148	72
The state of the s	Sum	mary by O	ccupatio	ns.
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc	35	66	111	1
Shop Assistants	10	II	2	I
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc	162	22	13	12
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists	33	61	6	22
Apprentices and Learners Domestic Servants	20	10	4	7
Miscellaneous	597 60	356	97	ET 12
. Total Number in May, 1900	917	637	148	72
			-	
Total Number in April, 1900	853	579	132	1 49
Total Number in May, 1899	873	588	1	55
Dundee Labour Bureau	47	102	10	II

The number of fresh applications for domestic servants rose from 553 to 597, and the number of servants applying from 323 to 356, the number permanently engaged rising from 79 to 97. The demand for dressmakers, milliners, &c., continued large, the number of fresh applications from employers only falling from 170 to 162, and the number wanting situations falling from 29 to 22; 25 were engaged through the bureaux, compared with 26 in April.

Of the 47 situations offered at the Dundee Labour Bureau, 25 were for mill and factory operatives. Of the 102 wanting situations, 56 were mill and factory operatives, and 33 were charwomen. Of the 21 who obtained situations, 11 were charwomen, and 5 were mill and factory operatives.

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN MAY.

(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 May it will be seen that 4 Trade Unions, 9 Co-operative Associations for Distribution, 4 Co-operative Associations for Production, 4 Miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Societies, 16 Friendly Societies, and 28 branches of existing Friendly Societies were added to the Register of the United Kingdom during April. One Trade Union, 5 Industrial and Provident Societies, 24 Building Societies, and 37 Friendly Societies (including 15 branches) are reported as having ceased to exist, commenced to "wind-up," or had registration cancelled.

ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—Lancashire and Cheshire Enginemen's and Boilermen's Federation, 99, Rose-terrace, Haydock, St. Helens; United Soc. of Mechanical Woodworkers, 9, St. James-grove, Battersea, S.W. Scotland.—None. Ireland.— Newry Quarrymen's Union, The Mall, Newry; United Job Carriage Drivers' Protective Soc., 75, Aungierstreet, Dublin.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—(A) Associations for Distribution—England and Wales. Ringstead Unity Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Ringstead, Thrapston; Empingham and Normanton Co-op., Soc. Ltd., Empingham, Stamford,; Wigton Industrial and Provident Soc., Ltd., Wigton; Ripon Co-op. Agric. Soc., Ltd., 30, Market-place, Ripon; Rainton Co-op. Agric. Soc., Ltd., The Store, Rainton, Thirsk. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—Mullagarry Co-op. Home Industries Soc., Mullagarry, co. Mayo; Gort Industries Soc., Convent of Mercies, Gort, co. Galway; Codrum Co-op. Poultry Soc., Codrum, Macroom, co. Cork; Monasterevan Co-op. Home Industries Soc., Monasterevan, Queen's co. (B) Associations for Production.—England and Wales.—None. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—Drumshambo Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Drumshambo, co. Leitrim; Piltown Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Piltown, co. Kilkenny; Ballinamore Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Ballinamore, co. Leitrim; Tamlaght Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Ltd., Ballinamore, co. Leitrim; Tamlaght Co-op. Agric. and Dairy Soc., Tamlaght O'Crilly, co. Londonderry. (c.) Miscellaneous.—England and Wales.—Freehold Land Purchase and Development Soc., Ltd., 120 and 122, Victoriastreet, S.W.; Co-op. Homes Association, Ltd., 5, Adelaideterrace, New Bridge-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Hull Co-op. People's Bank, Ltd., 8, Albion-street, Hull; Shildon Club and Institute, Ltd., Club House, Railway-terrace, New Shildon. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Friendly Societies.—(A) New Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—
Dividing.4; Cattle Insurance, 1; Specially Authorised, 1;
Working men's Clubs, 4. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—Specially
Authorised, 6. (B) New Branches of Existing Societies.—England
and Wales.—15. Scotland.—13. Ireland.—None.

Building Societies. - England and Wales.—None. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

Trade Unions.—England and Wales.—North Wales Miners' United Association, White Hart Inn, Pentre, Broughton, Wrexham.—
Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Industrial and Provident Societies.—England and Wales.—Resolution to "wind-up" received.—Municipal Officers' Club, Limited, 158a, Dale-street. Liverpool; Nottingham Cabinet Makers' Guild Co-op. Productive Soc., Ltd., Collishaws-yard, Nottingham. Liquidators' final return received.—Solicitors' Stationery Assoc., Ltd., 79½, Gracechurch-street, E.C.; Chelsea and Fulham Ind. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 312, King's-road, Chelsea, S.W. Registry cancelled by request.—Gregory's Loan Soc., Ltd., Old Wine Vaults, Ilkeston. Scotland.—None. Ireland.—None.

Friendly Societies.—England and Wales.—By instrument of dissolution: Ordinary Friendly, 14; Dividing, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 1. Registration cancelled: Ordinary Friendly, 2; Specially authorised, 1; Working Men's Clubs, 1; Dissolved otherwise: Ordinary Friendly, 1; Branches 15. Scotland.—By instrument of dissolution: Ordinary Friendly, 1. Ireland.—

Building Societies.—England and Wales.—By instrument of dissolution, 2; notice of commencement of dissolution, 7; notice of termination of dissolution, 14. Scotland.—Notice of termination of dissolution, 1. Ireland.—None.

Massachusetts State Board of Arbitration and Conciliation.

—A copy of the report of the work of this Board during 1899 has been received by the Department. The report gives a series of accounts of the principal disputes which have enlisted the attention of the Board during the year, with the nature of the action taken by the Board in each case.

INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN MAY.

I.-Under Factory and Workshop Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Cases taken.	Con- victions	1000	of nalthe		0	ount f
By Owners, Managers, &c.:-			£	s.	d	£	-
Neglecting to Limewash	9	9	14			10000	-
Allowing Factory or Workshop to be over-						2	6 6
crowded	2	2	6	0	0	0	4 0
Neglecting to Fence Machinery	8	8	78	4	6		15 6
Allowing Children to clean Machinery in	111111111111111111111111111111111111111						-3 0
motion, &c	2	2	I	IO	C	I	10 6
Employing Young Persons without necessary							
Certificates	43	40	18	4	C	16	7 8
Illegal Hours or Times of Employment-							
Before or after the legal hour	76	76	-44	IO	0	23	17 0
During meal times, or without proper	-0	-0	The said		13		
intervals for meals	58	58	23	2	0	19	7 0
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day		-6	4				
on Sundays or holidays, or children on	17	16	5	14	6	5	12 9
augacasiwa Catuudaya		-	-				
A A SIGNAL	30	3	0		0	I	14 6
0-1	7	37				13	13 10
Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts,	,	7	2	0	0	2 1	4 6
Notices, &c.—	25 31 15	11 4 24			120		
Nat bearing Poststone	36	34	33	TO	6		
Not affixing or properly filling up Notices	30	24	22	14	0	14	7 10
and Abstracts	14	13	9	14	0		
Not sending Notices required by Act	6	5		12	6	4 2	4 9 6
Not supplying sufficient or correct particulars	5	5		15	0		8 0
Prosecutions for Breach of (or not affixing)	3	,		-3		3	0 0
Special Rules	2	2	5	0	0	0	19 2
Prosecutions under Truck Acts	4	4				1	9 4
Other offences	3	2	I	4	2	1	5 10
By Workmen:-	90 2 3 1				8		
Allowing children to clean machinery in	3 43 4	-			0		
motion, &c	2	2	I	0		I	15 0
Other offences	2	2	0	15	0	0	9 6
Total for May, 1900	329	320	283	4	2	122	12 4
Total for May, 1899	328	304	194	19	0	110	9 5

II.-Under Mines and Quarries Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu-	Con- victions.	Cases with- drawn.	Cases dis- missed.	Amount of Fines and Costs,	
on the same of the	Under the Mines Acts.					
By Owners, Managers, &c.:— Fencing Miscellaneous	6	4 1	=	2 _	£ s. d. 8 6 0 0 10 0	
By Workmen: Safety Lamps Shot-firing and Explosives Timbering Lucifer Matches, Smoking, &c. Riding on Trams Miscellaneous	4 2 6 8 8 18	4 2 6 7 8 18			4 2 6 3 19 0 4 13 6 6 14 6 3 19 0 18 1 0*	
Total for May, 1900	53	50	-	3	80 5 6	
Total for M.y, 1899	37	34	15-100	3	42 19 0	
		UNDER T	HE QUA	RRIES AC	et.	
By Owners, Managers, &c.:— Registers, Notices, Returns, &c Other Special Rules	2 21	2 2I	=	=	£ s. d. 7 0 0 15 6 6	
By Workmen - Explosives and Blasting	2	2	_	_	1 15 6	
Total for May, 1900	25	25		-	24 2 0	

III.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

Total for May, 1899

5 12 0

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

(Supplied by the Bottett	or s Depart	mont, Dou	ru 0, 1 mm.,			
Nature of Offence.	Prosecu-	Convictions.	Total Penalties.	Total Costs.		
By Owners or Masters of Ships:— Submersion of disc Carrying excessive number of	I	1	£ s. d.	£ s. d. 5 5 0		
passengers	2	2	5 12 6			
Total for May, 1900	3	3	80 12 6	5 5 0		
Total for May, 1899	2	2	14 11 0	13 5 10		

Workmen's Compensation Schemes.—Two schemes, under the Workmen's Compensation Act, relating to workpeople in Dockyards and other Government establishments, were certified by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, on April 25th and June 8th, 1900. These two schemes are revisions of a scheme which was certified on May 17th, 1899.

Printed by Veale, Chifferiel & Co., Ltd., 31 to 37 Cursitor Street, London, E.C. and Published for Her Majesty's Stationery Office by Horace Marshall & Son, Temple House, Temple Avenue, London, E.C. Sole Advertising Agents—RATCLIFFE, DUNBAR & Co., 1, Lombard Court, Lombard Street, E.C.—June, 1900.

^{*} Two offenders were each sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment