

THE Board of Trade LABOUR GAZETTE.

PREPARED AND EDITED AT THE OFFICES OF THE BOARD OF TRADE, LONDON, S.W.

Vol. XV.—No. 9.]

SEPTEMBER, 1907.

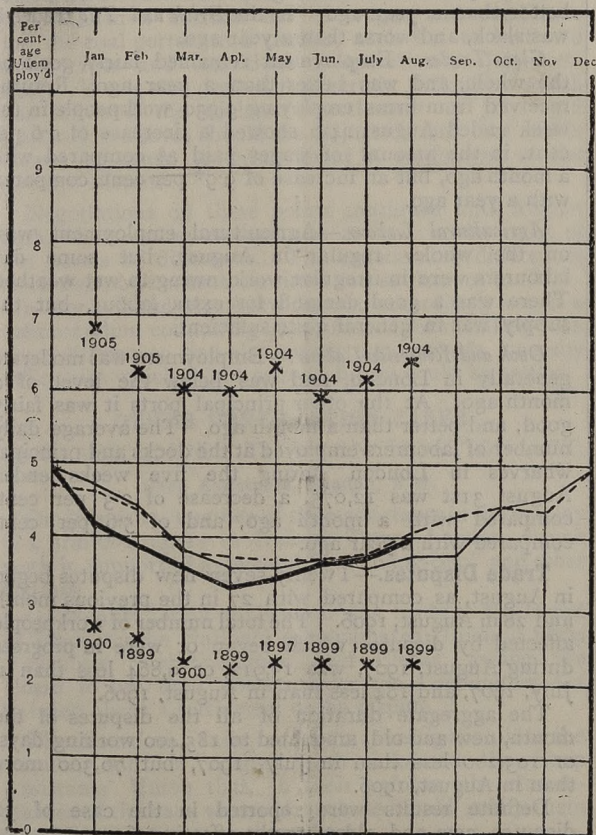
[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

EMPLOYMENT CHART

SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF
TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

—— Thick Curve—1907. ——— Thin Curve—1906.
..... Dotted Curve—Mean of 1897-1906.

× The crosses indicate the maximum and minimum percentages of unemployed during the past ten years, with the dates thereof.



NOTE TO CHART.

The above Chart is based solely on Returns furnished direct to the Labour Department by various Trade Unions which pay unemployed benefit to their members. Persons on strike or locked-out, sick or superannuated are excluded from the figures. For August, 1907, the general and branch Returns of Unions related to 632,068 members in the following trades:—

Building... .. 64,104	Printing & Bookbinding 54,989
Coal Mining 121,294	Woodworking and Fur-
Engineering 159,850	nishing 35,271
Shipbuilding 58,211	Miscellaneous 21,914
Other Metal Trades ... 30,344	Total 632,068
Textiles 86,091	

STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN AUGUST.

[In addition to the 2,841 Employment Returns from Trade Unions used for the Chart, 3,708 were received from employers relating to 1,087,969 workpeople, employed in coal and iron mining, the cotton, woollen, worsted and other textile trades, the building trades, the boot and shoe and other clothing trades, and the paper and glass trades. Besides these 6,549 statistical returns, a large number of returns of a non-statistical character were received from Employers' Associations, Trade Unions, Local Correspondents, and other sources.]

EMPLOYMENT in August showed on the whole some decline as compared with July. The decline was most marked in the case of shipbuilding, but there was also some falling off in the engineering trades and a seasonal decline in the printing trades. On the other hand there was a slight improvement in the building trades.

As compared with a year ago, there was an improvement in all the principal industries except engineering, shipbuilding, printing and bookbinding, in each of which there was some decline.

There was a net weekly rise in wages during August of £48,200 per week, which was mainly accounted for by advances to coal miners.

In the 273 Trade Unions, with an aggregate membership of 632,068 workpeople, making Returns, 25,458 (or 4.0 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of August, 1907, compared with 3.7 per cent. at the end of July, 1907, and 3.8 per cent. at the end of August, 1906.

Coal Mining.—Employment in this industry remained very good, and was better than a year ago. The average number of days worked per week at the pits during the four weeks ended August 24th was 5.22, as compared with 4.95 a year ago.

Iron Mining.—Employment continued good, and showed little change as compared with either a month ago or a year ago.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment in this industry during August continued good. It was better than a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters, employing about 25,000 workpeople, showed 346 furnaces in blast at the end of August, as compared with 347 in July, and 337 in August, 1906.

Iron and Steel Works.—Employment at iron and steel works continued brisk; it was about the same as a month ago, and considerably better than a year ago. The volume of employment (*i.e.*, number employed multiplied by the number of shifts worked) during the week ended August 24th, 1907, at the 202 works from which Returns were received, was the same as in the week ended July 20th, 1907, and 4.4 per cent. greater than a year ago.

Tinplate and Steel Sheet Manufacture.—Employment continued very good during August, and was much better than in August, 1906. At the works covered by the Returns 448 tinplate and sheet mills were working, as compared with 446 in the previous month, and 417 in August, 1906.

Engineering Trades.—Employment in August was fair on the whole, but not so good as a month ago and a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of August was 3·8, compared with 3·5 at the end of the previous month and 2·8 a year ago.

Shipbuilding Trades.—Employment was fair on the whole, but showed a decline compared with both a month ago and a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of August was 9·3, as compared with 7·2 per cent. in July, and 5·6 per cent. in August, 1906.

Cotton Trade.—Employment continued very good in the Spinning branch, and was slightly better than a year ago; in the Weaving branch it was good, but by agreement some short time was worked during the month.

Woolen Trade.—Employment continued good, and was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 26,032 workpeople in the week ended August 24th showed an increase of 0·6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 4·1 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Worsted Trade.—Employment showed a further slight decline, but was still good, and better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 49,689 workpeople in the week ended August 24th showed a decrease of 0·3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 7·0 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Flax (Linen) Trade.—Employment continued good, and showed little change compared with a month ago. It was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 47,470 workpeople in the week ended August 24th showed a decrease of 0·2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 5·4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Jute Trade.—Employment was good, but showed a slight decline compared with a month ago; it was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 18,032 workpeople in the week ended August 24th showed a decrease of 1·0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and an increase of 7·8 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Silk Trade.—Employment was fairly good generally; it was rather better than a month ago, and much better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 8,338 workpeople in the week ended August 24th, 1907, showed an increase of 0·8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago, and of 6·7 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Lace Trade.—Employment on the whole was fairly good, slightly better than a month ago and better than a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 9,042 workpeople in the week ended August 24th showed an increase of 0·6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago, and of 2·3 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Hosiery Trade.—Employment continued fairly good in England, good in Scotland; on the whole it was better than a year ago. Firms employing 16,252 workpeople in the week ended August 24th showed an increase of 1·1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 3·4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Tailoring Trade.—Employment in the bespoke branch in London showed the usual seasonal decline, but was better than a year ago; in the provinces it was moderate. In the ready-made branch it was fairly good, and showed little change compared with a year ago.

Hat Trades.—Employment during August in the Silk Hat branch was quiet; in the Felt Hat branch good; in both branches it was better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members returned as unemployed at the end of August in the Silk Hat trade was 10·1, compared with 8·8 at the end of July, and 15·1 a year ago. The corresponding percentages in the Felt Hat trade were 1·5, 2·0, and 2·3.

Boot and Shoe Trade.—Employment showed a slight improvement as compared with a month ago and

a year ago. Returns from firms employing 60,955 workpeople showed an increase of 0·3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago, and of 0·6 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Other Leather Trades.—Employment was moderate, and worse than a month ago. It was slightly better than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 3,715 had 5·0 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 4·1 per cent. in July, 1907, and 5·4 per cent. in August, 1906.

Paper Making Trades.—Employment in these trades continued good, and was better than a year ago.

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.—Employment was quiet on the whole, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. In the printing trade the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of August was 5·8, as compared with 3·6 in July, and 5·5 in August, 1906. In the bookbinding trade the percentages for the same periods were 6·3, 6·2, and 4·7 respectively.

Building Trades.—Employment in August was still dull, but better than a month ago, and rather better than a year ago.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment in the furnishing and woodworking trades was fair on the whole, but showed a slight decline as compared with a month ago. It was about the same as a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 35,271 reported 4·3 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 4·0 per cent. a month ago, and 4·2 per cent. in August, 1906.

Pottery and Brick and Tile Trades.—Employment in the Pottery trade continued good on the whole, and was better than a year ago. In the Brick and Tile trades it was slack, and worse than a year ago.

Glass Trades.—Employment remained fairly good on the whole, and was better than a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 9,930 workpeople in the week ended August 24th showed a decrease of 0·6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with a month ago, but an increase of 9·9* per cent. compared with a year ago.

Agricultural Labour.—Agricultural employment was, on the whole, regular in August, but some day labourers were in irregular work, owing to wet weather. There was a good demand for extra labour, but the supply was in general quite sufficient.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—Employment was moderate generally in London, and was below the level of a month ago. At the other principal ports it was fairly good, and better than a month ago. The average daily number of labourers employed at the docks and principal wharves in London during the five weeks ended August 31st was 12,075, a decrease of 2·3 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 5·6 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Trade Disputes.—Twenty-seven new disputes began in August, as compared with 27 in the previous month and 28 in August, 1906. The total number of workpeople affected by disputes which began or were in progress during August, 1907, was 13,912, or 9,864 less than in July, 1907, and 184 less than in August, 1906.

The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old, amounted to 185,400 working days, or 103,200 less than in July, 1907, but 76,300 more than in August, 1906.

Definite results were reported in the case of 32 disputes, new and old, directly affecting 6,172 persons. Of these 32 disputes, 13 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 12 in favour of the employers, and 7 were compromised.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The changes reported in August affected nearly 749,000 workpeople, all of whom received advances. Included in this total were 723,000 coal miners in England, Wales and Scotland. The total computed effect of all the changes reported was an advance of about £48,200 per week.

* The comparison with August, 1906, is affected to some extent by an advance in rates of wages in the glass bottle-making trade, which took effect in January-February, 1907.

CONCILIATION CASE. CARTERS AND COALMEN, BELFAST.

ON June 27th about 200 carters at Belfast struck work, refusing to cart goods for certain shipowning companies whose dock labourers were on strike, and subsequently demanding an advance in wages.

No settlement of the dispute having been arrived at, the Belfast Carriers' Association on July 4th locked out all the carters in their employment, about 1,100 men in all being laid idle. Matters were further complicated owing to a stoppage of work on the part of the coal porters, and carters of the city. Serious disturbances occurred, and soldiers were drafted into the city to preserve order.

On July 25th the dispute affecting the coal carters and porters was settled by the mediation of the Secretary and the Vice-President of the General Federation of Trade Unions.

On August 13th Mr. G. R. Askwith and Mr. I. H. Mitchell visited Belfast, under instructions from the Board of Trade, to co-operate with Sir A. MacDonnell (Permanent Under-Secretary for Ireland) in an attempt to settle the disputes still outstanding. Assisted by Mr. A. Gee, of the General Federation of Trade Unions, and Mr. Alex. McDowell, solicitor for the employers, terms of settlement dealing with the general carters' dispute were arrived at on August 15th.

Following the termination of the general carters' dispute, Sir A. MacDonnell and Messrs. Askwith, Mitchell, Gee, and McDowell were requested by both sides to proceed to establish a uniform list of wages and conditions for the coal porters and carters, such list to be based upon wages and conditions in operation on July 10th, 1907. It was also desired that certain difficulties which had followed the coalmen's settlement of July 25th (referred to above) should be adjusted, and that efforts should be made to bring about a settlement of the dockers' dispute.

Negotiations on these points continued until August 24th, when an agreement was arrived at on most of the points of difference. The outstanding differences were then, by consent, remitted for settlement to Sir A. MacDonnell and Mr. Askwith, who accordingly issued a memorandum containing recommendations dealing with these differences, and also suggesting methods whereby difficulties which might arise in future could be settled.

OTHER CONCILIATION CASES.

(a) CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

Shop Assistants, London, N.W.

On July 6th a number of shop assistants in the employ of a firm of drapers in Kentish Town, London, struck work in support of a demand for "living-out" and other matters.

On August 1st an application was made to the Board of Trade by the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen, and Clerks, asking the Board to use their powers under the Conciliation Act to bring about a settlement of the dispute.

The Board of Trade made an investigation into the dispute, and on August 14th informed the Shop Assistants' Union that, in their opinion, the circumstances of the case were not such as would justify them in taking any action in the matter.

Tramwaymen, Musselburgh.

On August 1st, 28 tramcar drivers and conductors in the employment of the Musselburgh Electric Light and Traction Co., Ltd., struck work in support of a demand for a higher scale of wages.

On August 11th an application was made to the Board of Trade on behalf of the men involved in the dispute, asking for the intervention of the Board under the Conciliation Act.

Accordingly an officer of the Board of Trade visited Musselburgh to investigate the circumstances

of the dispute, and had several interviews with the parties.

On August 27th a conference was held between representatives of the company and of the men, but no settlement was arrived at. It is understood that the men on strike have been replaced.

Music Hall Stage Hands, London.

In his final award in the Music Hall dispute (see LABOUR GAZETTE for June, p. 163), Mr. Askwith, the arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade, decided that all questions of construction or interpretation should be referred to him for settlement.

A question having been raised as to certain points in the third interim award (see LABOUR GAZETTE for March, p. 72) affecting stage hands, Mr. Askwith, on August 14th, decided that the employees for whom places were found on or before March 11th were, under the arrangement made on March 1st, and mentioned in the third interim award, to be paid the amounts laid down in the final award. On other points submitted to him Mr. Askwith ruled that no grievances had been established.

Bleachfield Workers, Dundee.

On July 1st the workpeople at one bleachfield in Dundee struck work in support of a demand for the recognition of the Scottish Mill, Factory and Bleachfield Workers' Federal Union, to which many of them belonged, and for an advance in wages of 5 per cent., and other demands.

On August 16th application was made to the Board of Trade by the above mentioned Union, on behalf of the workpeople, for intervention under the Conciliation Act, with a view to effecting a settlement of the dispute.

After inquiry into the circumstances of the case, the Board of Trade found that there were no steps which they could take at that time which would be likely to promote a settlement of the dispute.

Capmakers, Manchester.

On August 2nd certain of the workpeople (members of the Cloth Hat and Cap Makers' Union) employed by a firm of capmakers at Manchester gave notice to cease work on account of a difference with a sub-contractor. The firm referred the matter to the Hat and Cap Manufacturers' Association, to which they belonged; and the Association gave notice that their members would lock out all members of the Cap Makers' Union in their employment. The strike and lock-out took effect on August 9th.

Various efforts were made to effect a settlement of the dispute, which now turned entirely upon the question of the recognition of the trade union. The employers accepted the general principle of trade unionism, but objected to the Cap Makers' Union as at that time constituted.

On August 22nd the Union appealed to the Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill, M.P., to receive a deputation from the locked-out capmakers.

On August 29th, acting on instructions from the Board of Trade, two officers of the Labour Department of the Board proceeded to Manchester to co-operate with Mr. Churchill in effecting a settlement. After further negotiations, the following terms of settlement were agreed to:—

(i.) That the workpeople return to work as soon as possible without prejudice. (The employers state that about 90 per cent. will be employed within two weeks from to-day's date (August 30th). The others as soon as opportunity offers).

(ii.) That no question of the recognition of any Trade Union be raised before February 1st, 1908.

(iii.) That meanwhile the Board of Trade shall draft regulations under which the workpeople may submit any grievances they may have to their employers.

(iv.) That in future no stoppage of work shall take place without the question in dispute being first submitted to the Board of Trade for a settlement by Conciliation or Arbitration.

(v.) That if a reasonable proportion of the workpeople desire the recognition of any Trade Union any time after February 1st, 1908, and if such Union is constituted on well-understood British Trade Union lines, the employers will have no objection to its being recognised.

Some difficulty arose with regard to the interpretation and carrying out of this agreement, but ultimately work was resumed upon the above terms.

Boot and Shoe Trade, Wolverhampton.

A dispute having arisen as to the interpretation of the award given by Alderman T. Smith, J.P., of Leicester, on June 10th, with regard to the operation of pulling over on the "dilly jack" at Wolverhampton, an application was made to the Board of Trade on August 31st, by representatives of the employers and of the workpeople, for the appointment of an umpire to settle the question in dispute.

The Board, on September 13th, appointed Alderman T. Smith to act in that capacity.

Iron and Steel Workers, Tredegar.

A dispute as to rates of wages and conditions of labour having arisen at the Deighton Iron Works, Tredegar, joint application was made to the Board of Trade on September 13th by representatives of the employers and of the workpeople, asking for the appointment of an Arbitrator to settle the questions in dispute.

The Board, on September 16th, appointed His Honour Judge Austin to act in that capacity.

(b) OTHER CASES.

Shipbuilders, United Kingdom.

On July 22nd, 32 caulkers employed at a shipbuilding yard on the Tyne struck work owing to their employer putting apprentice platers on certain work which the caulkers claimed as their own.

On August 17th the Shipbuilding Employers' Federation posted notices in all shipyards belonging to their members, to the effect that all members of the Boilermakers' and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society (to which the caulkers belonged) would be locked out after August 24th, in consequence of the caulkers having failed to bring their grievance forward in the recognised way, or to accept the offer made by the local and central employers' organisations to discuss any grievance after resumption of work.

On August 23rd a conference between the Federation and the Boilermakers' Society was held at Edinburgh, at which an agreement was arrived at that the men on strike should resume work.

It is understood that negotiations are now proceeding between the Shipbuilding Federation and the Boilermakers' Society, with a view to the conclusion of three Agreements, under which it is proposed to settle the procedure for dealing with all future questions which may arise between the Federation and the Society.

FAIR WAGES CLAUSE IN GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

THE Treasury has appointed a Committee to consider the working of the Fair Wages Resolution passed by the House of Commons in 1891, as embodied in Government contracts, and to report whether any administrative changes are desirable in order to enable the objects of the resolution to be more effectually attained. The members of the Committee are: Sir G. H. Murray, Secretary to the Treasury (Chairman); Mr. H. D. de la Bere, Assistant Director of Army Finance, War Office; Mr. A. Wilson Fox, Comptroller-General, Commercial, Labour, and Statistical Department of the Board of Trade; Mr. A. F. King, Second Secretary, General Post Office; Mr. F. W. Black, Director of Contracts, Admiralty; Mr. R. Bailey, Controller of His Majesty's Stationery Office; and Mr. J. B. Westcott, His Majesty's Office of Works. Mr. J. J. Wills, of the Labour Department of the Board of Trade, will act as secretary.

THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS.

THE Fortieth Annual Congress of the Trade Unions of the United Kingdom was held at the Assembly Rooms, Bath, on Monday, September 2nd, and five following days. The Congress was presided over by the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee, Mr. A. H. Gill, M.P., Secretary of the Bolton Provincial Operative Cotton Spinners' Association. The standing orders of the Congress provide that it shall consist only of representatives of Trade Unions who are actually working at their trades at the time of their appointment, or are permanent paid officials of the Unions they represent. Trade Unions may send one delegate for every 2,000 members or fraction thereof, but many of the larger Unions do not send the full number of delegates to which they are entitled. Voting on important questions is by card, on the principle of one vote for every 1,000 members represented. The analysis into groups of trades given below shows the composition of the Congress, and the trade groups represented are compared with the corresponding figures for the Congress of 1906:—

Groups of Trades.	1906.			1907.		
	No. of Organisations.	No. of Delegates.	No. of Members.	No. of Organisations.	No. of Delegates.	No. of Members.
Building	9	23	133,950	9	23	133,714
Mining and Quarrying	12	100	444,431	11	111	476,279
Engineering	17	31	132,317	15	29	135,418
Shipbuilding (including Boiler-making)	4	23	70,525	4	16	73,145
Other Metal Trades	19	36	61,093	19	38	68,975
Textiles	13	93	163,508	10	101	192,121
Clothing	8	25	55,506	8	23	49,901
Transport (Land and Sea)	15	48	137,092	17	53	164,111
Chemical, Gas and General Labourers	8	23	62,371	8	25	69,707
Printing, Bookbinding, &c.	12	21	52,714	13	21	55,774
Pottery and Glass	7	8	6,335	4	5	5,659
Woodworking and Furnishing, &c.	8	11	29,324	9	12	31,743
Baking and Cigar-making	2	4	7,000	2	4	6,871
Enginemen	12	15	25,048	12	16	31,163
Post Office Employees	4	7	30,032	4	10	53,774
Miscellaneous	15	21	54,795	22	34	79,603
Total	165	489	1,484,101	173	521	1,627,958

The number of organisations accounted for in the above statement is 173, but allowing for the number of distinct societies included in Federations, and sending delegates of their own, members of about 236 separate Trade Unions attended Congress as delegates this year out of a total of 1,136 Unions in existence. The membership represented, however, comprised over 80 per cent. of the total membership of all Trade Unions. The number of organisations represented this year was 8 more than in 1906, while the total membership was greater by 143,857. Most of the groups of trades showed an increase in membership, especially the textile group, the mining group, the railway and other transport group, and the miscellaneous group (which consists largely of shop assistants and clerks). In the miscellaneous group the increase is due to some extent to the establishment of new unions of women workers and of theatrical employees; while in the other groups mentioned the change was mainly due to increased membership of previously existing unions.

Among the principal industrial subjects on which the Congress passed resolutions were: Restriction of the hours of labour to eight per day for miners and workpeople generally; old age pensions; amendment of the Mines Regulation Act, the Factory and Workshop Acts, the Shop Hours Act and the Cheap Trains Act; certificates of competency for persons in charge of steam engines and boilers; improved housing of the working classes; the wages and general conditions of labour of Government workers, and of workers employed by contractors for the Government; representation of trade unions at Board of Trade and at coroners' inquests; the establishment of a legal minimum wage in selected trades; State help for blind workpeople; abolition of the premium bonus system; abolition of night work in bakeries; and free secondary education. A resolution in favour of compulsory arbitration in trade disputes was rejected by a majority of 660,000, and a resolution in favour of the introduction of a Bill to secure the reference

of all disputes to a Conciliation Board, with power to arrange settlements subject to the consent of both parties, was rejected by a majority of 85,000.

The voting by Congress for members of the Parliamentary Committee for the ensuing year resulted in the election of representatives of the following organisations: Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders, Amalgamated Carpenters and Joiners, Cotton Spinners, National Dock Labourers, Amalgamated Engineers, Gasworkers and General Labourers, Amalgamated Brassworkers, Miners' Federation, London Compositors, Railway Servants, Northern Counties Weavers, Associated Shipwrights, Boot and Shoe Operatives, Cigarmakers, Musicians, and Patternmakers. Mr. D. J. Shackleton, M.P. (Northern Counties Weavers), was appointed by the Parliamentary Committee as its Chairman for the ensuing year. It was decided that the next Annual Congress should be held at Nottingham.

ACCIDENTS TO RAILWAY SERVANTS IN 1906.

THE Annual Report* on Railway Accidents for 1906 shows that 469 railway servants were killed, and 16,094 injured, on railways in the United Kingdom last year. In addition, 14 contractors' servants were killed, and 162 injured, during the year. The apparent increase in the number of non-fatal accidents (which compares with an average of 14,200 in the previous five years) is probably due in part to greater care on the part of some companies in furnishing returns of minor casualties this year, the Department having recently called the attention of the railway companies to discrepancies in their returns, apparently due to varying interpretations of the instructions for reporting accidents. All accidents which prevent the servant injured from being employed for five hours on any one of the three working days next after the accident should be included.

Accidents are distinguished according as they were (i.) train accidents (collisions, derailments, &c.); (ii.) other railway accidents (shunting accidents, men run over, &c.); and other accidents, not connected with the movement of trains or vehicles. The number of railway servants killed in "train accidents" was 13, and the number injured 140; in "other railway accidents": killed, 416; injured, 4,191; in other accidents: killed, 40; injured, 11,763. It will be seen that the highest proportion of fatal accidents occurred in "other railway accidents," principally to men knocked down or run over on the line; and that the highest proportion of non-fatal accidents occurred in "other accidents," i.e., accidents not connected with the movement of trains or vehicles, for example, in loading wagons, attending to engines at rest, falling off engines at rest, stumbling while walking on the line, moving goods and luggage at stations, and so on. Of the non-fatal accidents in this class, 5,183, or 44 per cent., incapacitated the injured person from duty for more than 14 days.

The total number of railway servants employed on all the railways of the United Kingdom in 1904, the last year for which the particulars are available, was 581,664; of whom 325,868 were exposed to danger from the movement of railway vehicles. Thus the number of servants killed in "other railway accidents" (shunting, men run over, &c.) represented 1 in every 783 servants exposed to danger, and the number injured in such accidents, 1 in every 78. The proportion of accidents, however, varies greatly in the different occupations included under this heading, as will be seen from the Table given below.

It will also be seen that the number of fatal accidents was absolutely greatest among permanent-way men, but greatest in proportion to the number employed among goods guards and brakemen and shunters, among whom it was 1 in every 435, and the proportion injured 1 in every 18. About half (1,717 out of 3,381) of the non-fatal accidents of this kind among the classes of railway servants especially exposed to danger incapacitated the injured persons from duty for more than 14 days. From an examination of the Returns, including an official

* Cd. 3681: price 7d.

inquiry in 753 cases, it would appear that only about 5½ per cent. of the accidents (fatal and non-fatal) occurring under this head were preventable, the great majority being due to misconduct or neglect of a rule on the part of the injured servant.

Occupations.	Number employed (in 1904).	Number killed and injured in "other railway accidents in 1906."			
		Killed.	Injured, and absent from duty for		Total Injured.
			More than 14 days.	Not more than 14 days.	
Engine Drivers	25,042	25	221	199	420
Firemen	23,242	18	29	285	324
Goods Guards and Brakemen	15,422	36	416	379	795
Labourers	55,001	47	92	55	147
Passenger Guards	7,601	6	58	57	115
Permanent Way Men	66,812	101	88	38	126
Porters	57,077	45	267	281	548
Shunters	11,856	23	336	370	706

The number of railway servants killed and injured in collisions, derailments, &c., was larger than the average.

WEIGHTS AND HEIGHTS OF CHILDREN IN GLASGOW.

THE Scotch Education Department has issued a Report* by Dr. W. L. Mackenzie and Captain Foster on a collection of statistics relating to the physical condition of children attending public schools in Glasgow, obtained during 1905-6 by the Glasgow School Board. For the purposes of the Report, it was decided to take the heights and weights of the children at the various ages, and to classify these in connection with the corresponding statistics relating to the housing conditions of the families to which the children belonged. The Returns contained many other valuable records, but these did not lend themselves so readily to precise and accurate tabulation.

Returns were made for 72,857 children, of whom 36,883 were boys and 35,974 were girls. Children mentally defective have been omitted.

Of these children 8 per cent. lived in homes with only one room, 58 per cent. in homes with two rooms, 24 per cent. in homes with three rooms, and 10 per cent. in homes with more than three rooms.

The proportion of young children in a family diminishes as the number of rooms increases, as is shown in the following Table:—

Percentage of Children.

Living in Homes with	5 years and under 9 years	9 years and under 12 years	12 years and upwards	Total
One room	45	35	29	100
Two rooms	39	35	26	100
Three rooms	31	36	33	100
More than three rooms	26	34	40	100

The average weight and height of children in a family is, of course, affected by the greater or smaller proportion of young children it includes; but the Returns show most clearly that when this factor is eliminated, and only children of the same age are compared with each other, the average weight and height steadily rise with the number of rooms in the house. This fact is illustrated by the following Table, showing the average weights and heights of boys and of girls at the ages of 5 years, 9 years, and 13 years, taken from the particulars given in the Report for each year from 5 upwards.

Number of Rooms in Home.	Average Weight at Age			Average Height at Age		
	5	9	13	5	9	13
BOYS.						
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	ins.	ins.	ins.
1	37.2	51.4	69.9	39.0	46.5	53.4
2	38.6	52.1	72.3	39.9	47.6	54.1
3	39.5	54.8	75.3	40.7	48.2	55.1
More than 3	40.1	56.3	76.8	41.4	48.9	55.8

* Cd. 3637. Price 10s. Wyman & Sons, Ltd.

Number of Rooms in House.	Average Weight at Age			Average Height at Age.		
	5	9	13	5	9	13
GIRLS.						
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	ins.	ins.	ins.
1	36.6	49.6	71.9	38.9	46.2	53.9
2	37.8	51.4	73.9	39.8	46.9	54.8
3	38.0	52.8	76.3	40.2	47.7	55.5
More than 3	39.2	54.7	79.3	41.0	48.6	56.4

The figures show that the height and weight of children increases with the number of rooms comprising the dwellings in which they live. The numbers examined are so large, and the results are so uniform, that only one conclusion is possible, viz. :—that the poorest child suffers most in nutrition and in growth.

The diagrams at the end of the Report exhibit the Glasgow heights and weights side by side with the standard averages of the Anthropometrical Committee of the British Association.* At each age from 5 to 14 the average height and weight of the children are below the standard of the Anthropometrical Committee.

AGRICULTURAL HIRINGS IN SCOTLAND.

Information respecting rates of wages agreed upon at the principal hiring fairs held in Scotland in the spring and summer months of this year has been received from a correspondent who made special inquiries on behalf of the Department.

The report shows that wages generally remained the same as in 1906, except in the more northern counties, where there was an upward tendency. There was generally a sufficient supply of all classes of men, but women remained scarce. In every market attempts were made to obtain increased wages, but they were only occasionally successful. Servants changing places very rarely obtained an increase, and in some cases such servants had to submit to small reductions.

In the Eastern Border counties of Berwick, Roxburgh, Selkirk, and Peebles men who could provide women workers were readily engaged at the highest current wages, generally from 16s. to 18s. per week with the usual perquisites, about 800 to 1,200 yards of potato drill, some getting other perquisites and less money. Young men got about 15s. per week, others from £12 to £16 per half-year with board and lodgings. Women got up to 11s. per week, with £1 extra in harvest.

In the Lothians the wages paid were, on the whole, similar to those given in the Border Counties, ploughmen in some cases getting more in money and less in kind.

In the counties of Fife and Stirling wages were well maintained. In several cases married men obtained up to 21s. per week, all paid in cash. Unmarried ploughmen got about £15 to £18 per half-year with board and lodging.

In the South-Western counties wages generally showed little change, but the continued scarcity of women caused an upward tendency in the rates for this class of labour. Near large towns the best class of men got up to 21s. or 22s. per week with a free house; the general rate, however, for average ploughmen was from 3s. to 5s. less per week. In the counties of Ayr and Dumfries ploughmen got from £12 to £17, and dairymaids from £9 to £12 per half-year, with board and lodging. In the counties of Kirkcudbright and Wigtown common rates for ploughmen were from £11 to £14 per half-year with board and lodging; for lads and women, from £7 to £10.

In the counties of Perth and Forfar hiring proceeded quietly at about the same rates as previously, ploughmen getting from £15 to £20 for the half-year. In the counties of Kincardine and Aberdeen wages were again well maintained, and there were a few increases. Ploughmen got from £13 to £18 per half-year, with board and lodging, or certain other perquisites which

* Based on observations of about 40,000 persons (mostly males) of all ages, belonging to all classes of the population, and including both town and country dwellers in various parts of the United Kingdom.

varied according to the amount of the cash wages. There was generally an upward tendency in wages in the more northern counties, particularly in the districts north of Inverness.

HOURS OF LABOUR IN AUSTRIAN FACTORIES.

An enquiry into the hours of labour usually worked in Austrian factories was undertaken in 1906 by the Department of Labour Statistics of the Austrian Ministry of Commerce. In every case the hours returned were those worked in the normal season of the trade. The whole of Austria was covered by the investigation, the information being supplied by the factory inspectors, who made special enquiries where necessary. In the schedules the workpeople of each sex were distinguished according as they were over or under 16 years of age, and the establishments were divided into two groups: (a) continuous, where work was carried on on Sundays and weekdays; and (b) non-continuous, where work was not carried on on Sundays. In the case of factories in which employment in certain departments was continuous and in other departments non-continuous, the workpeople are classed with the group to which they belonged. Inquiries were also made as to the earlier cessation of work on Saturdays, and the prolongation or curtailment of the working hours at certain seasons of the year.

According to the Austrian definition, a "factory" is an industrial establishment carried on in closed workplaces employing over 20 persons as a rule, in which machinery is used, and the work carried on by a system of division of labour. The report* recently published shows that at the time of the inquiry there were 12,594 such establishments, employing 1,037,601 workpeople, comprising 45.6 per cent. of the total number of persons engaged in industrial occupations (omitting those not carried on in factories, such as hotels and restaurants, the building trades, and itinerant trades). Of these, 728,920 were males and 308,681 females. Included in these figures were 66,252 young persons of 16 or under, of whom 39,673, or a little more than one half, were lads, and 26,579 were girls.

It was found that 106,671 workpeople were employed in the former (continuous) class of establishments, and 930,930 in the latter. In the case of the non-continuous class, which included nine-tenths of the whole, 8.8 per cent. of the workpeople had a working day of 9 hours or less, 45.9 per cent. over 9 up to 10 hours, 43.8 per cent. over 10 up to 11 hours, while the remaining 1.5 per cent. either worked over 11 hours or had no fixed hours. Thus more than half of the persons employed in non-continuous factories had a normal working day of not more than 10 hours.

The following Table† gives the proportion of workpeople employed in non-continuous factories working for the hours shown:—

Group of Trades.	Number of Workpeople Employed.	Percentage of Workpeople whose Working Hours per day were			
		9 and under	Over 9 up to and including 10	Over 10 up to and including 11	Over 11
Metal	118,494	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Engineering	94,987	9.9	59.0	31.0	...
Textile	300,828	25.1	62.9	12.0	...
Clothing	36,801	6.3	65.2	28.3	0.1
Printing	22,758	95.2	4.6	0.2	...
Woodworking	60,965	9.7	34.4	53.9	1.9
Chemical	34,139	5.3	44.4	50.1	0.2
Glass, Pottery, &c.	125,365	3.9	43.0	45.3	2.9
Food	71,989	3.4	38.7	56.5	1.4
Paper	39,531	12.0	41.5	46.5	...
Leather	15,658	4.6	69.3	26.1	...

About a quarter of the number included in the Table worked a shorter time on Saturdays to the extent of one hour or less.

* Die Arbeitszeit in den Fabriksbetrieben Oesterreichs. Dargestellt vom K.K. Arbeitsstatistischen Amte im Handelsministerium. Vienna, 1907: Alfred Holder.
† The Table does not include workpeople employed in non-continuous factories whose hours of labour were not fixed; these, however, only amount to 0.8 per cent. of the total.

The 9-hours day was thus almost universal in the printing trades, and was worked by about one-fourth of those employed in engineering establishments. In the textile trades less than one per cent. of the workpeople had a 9-hours day, while over 50 per cent. worked from 10 to 11 hours.

The legal maximum duration of work in Austrian factories is 11 hours per day. This was exceeded by 0.7 per cent. of the total number of persons employed, the majority of whom, as will be seen from the above table, were in the glass, pottery, etc. trades, where the prevailing method of remuneration is by piece-work. The woodworking trades and the food trades came next in this respect, but other trades exceeding the 11-hours limit did so to a very small extent.

With regard to the 106,671 persons employed in continuous factories, the duration of the shift was 8 hours for 2.9 per cent. of these, and 12 hours for 88.4 per cent. The remaining 8.7 per cent. had shifts of other duration, or (as in the case of certain workpeople in the glass and brewing trades) did not work in shifts. Thus only a very small and (according to the report) decreasing proportion of workpeople had 8-hour shifts, while the large majority worked in shifts of 12 hours. In the sugar factories—in which more than half the workpeople in the continuous group were employed—the 8-hour shift did not occur at all.

It should be remembered in comparing the working hours in continuous and non-continuous factories that, in the continuous class, the duration of the shift includes pauses for meal-times and other intervals, whereas the working hours in non-continuous establishments exclude them. In the case of nearly half the workpeople employed in continuous factories these intervals amounted to more than one hour per day.

TEXTILE FACTORY LABOUR IN INDIA.

The Report* of the Textile Factories Labour Committee appointed by the Government of India to inquire into the conditions of factory labour in India has been issued.

Under the Indian Factories Act the employment of children under nine years of age is prohibited, and children above that age may not be employed more than seven hours a day until the age of 14. Persons over 14 years of age are classed as adults. In India it is impossible to obtain exact proof of age of applicants for employment owing to the lack of a general system of birth registration. The Committee report that the procuring of "certificates of age of children is apparently, as the law stands, purely permissive. In some works they are procured, in others they are not. Some occupiers profess to obtain age certificates, but they are asked for at uncertain times. It having frequently come to the notice of the Committee that in mills where hundreds of children are employed, and where nominally certificates of age were procured, that there had been no visit from the certifying surgeons for periods varying from several to eighteen months, nor had the children been sent to the surgeon."

With regard to hours of working, children are employed under different systems. In some mills they are divided into two sets, one set working before noon, the other in the afternoon; and in some of these mills, but not in all, these sets are changed weekly. In other mills one set works from 6 a.m. to 9.30 a.m., and again from 1 p.m. to 3.30 p.m., and the second set from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m., and again from 3.30 to 6 p.m.; in the interval children are attending the mill school. With slight variations this latter system is found throughout India. In some mills no system of any kind is adopted, the children coming in the morning when the mill starts and leaving in the evening when the mill stops; they remain on the premises during the day, the overlookers arranging when they shall work, and professing to exercise supervision which will prevent any child from exceeding the seven hours of work allowed by law.

The Committee are of opinion that a large number of children are employed as adults long before they have attained the age of 14 years; many by being put to

work without any certificate stating that they are above 14 years, others by obtaining certificates through misrepresentation or personation.

The hours of labour for women workers are limited to 11 hours a day, and where a system of shifts, approved by the local inspector, is in force, the employment of women at night is allowed. The Committee state that "where women are employed at night, one of two things will happen: either they will take with them to the works young infants and children who should be in their homes, or the children will be left at home, generally speaking, uncared for. The atmosphere of a mill, especially at night, where artificial lighting must be used, is bad both for women and children. In the case of a woman such work will probably in the long run injure her own health and that of her future offspring. Her home will be neglected, and she will frequently be called upon to work on household duties in the day after working a whole night in the mill."

Ordinary textile factories it is quite exceptional for women to be employed at night, but in ginning mills, of which there are over 1,000 in India, women are often employed on night work. Work in these mills continues for only a few months in the year and it is contended that the supply of cotton comes at irregular times, and that delay in the manipulation may lead to serious loss. The Committee, however, believe that "although temporary inconvenience might follow the prohibition of night work by women, chiefly in ginning mills, this would not be felt were reasonable time allowed for occupiers to make other arrangements."

The employment of male adults above 14 years of age is not regulated so far as hours are concerned. Indian workers are in the habit of leaving their work at odd and uncertain periods throughout the nominal working hours; they frequently take unauthorised holidays, and in some districts it is the common custom for them to give up their mill work altogether for periods varying from one to three months, when they return to their homes, frequently situated in country districts a long distance from the works. They work in rooms in which high temperatures prevail, but temperatures which are excessive to the European are borne with comfort by the Indian worker, and the tables of temperature and humidity given in an Appendix to this Report show that in India inside and outside temperatures vary only to a very limited extent.

On the other hand, the Committee state that the introduction of the electric light in Indian mills has led to excessive hours of running, recognised by many manufacturers as a serious evil. Many meetings have been held, and many voluntary efforts have been made to bring about an understanding which would, "whilst securing the operative reasonable hours, also secure for the employer protection from undue competition." These efforts have failed. The Committee have endeavoured to ascertain the views of the adult male operatives themselves, and have come to the conclusion that they would welcome a legal limitation on their hours of work.

The Committee make the following definite suggestions, amongst others:—

That medical inspectors should be appointed under the Factories Act, whose whole time should be devoted to their duties.

That certificates of age and physical fitness for employment be required prior to half-time employment, and prior to employment as an adult.

That clear and definite laws be made, requiring that half-time children shall be employed only in sets, either on the morning and afternoon set system, or the double set system largely adopted in Indian mills.

That night work of women be prohibited. That young children should be prevented from accompanying their parents to rooms in which they incur risks from running machinery or the inhalation of dust or impure vapours.

That the period of employment in Indian factories shall be either between the hours of 5.30 a.m. and 6 p.m., or 6 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. That the engine shall cease running for half an hour between the hours of noon and

2 p.m. Provided that in factories working on the day-shift system the period may be between 5 a.m. and 8 p.m., but the actual period of employment for male adults shall never exceed 12 hours in any one day. Where from the nature of the work day and night shifts are necessary, the period of employment for adult males shall not exceed twelve hours in any twenty-four.

That the names of all persons under the age of sixteen years be entered in the prescribed register, but that certificates of age and physical fitness be only required up to the age of fourteen years.

That consideration be given to the suggestion made by many experienced witnesses that elementary teachers, to be paid by the millowners, should be appointed for instruction of half-time children in suitable places on the mill premises.

TRADE UNIONS IN AUSTRIA IN 1906.

STATISTICS relating to the membership, &c. of Trade Unions in Austria in 1906* have recently appeared in *Die Gewerkschaft*, the journal of the Central Trade Union Commission at Vienna. Similar statistics have appeared annually since 1901. As in the preceding year, the report has excluded "general unions" not confined to particular trades, and "trade clubs" (educational associations more or less resembling Trade Unions in character).

In 1906 the number of "Central" unions was 49, as compared with 47 in 1905, and the number of local unions was 4,062, as compared with 2,964 in 1905, an increase of 37 per cent. On the other hand the number of "district" unions decreased from 100 in 1905 to 89 in 1906. The total number of organisations was thus 4,200 in 1906, as compared with 3,111 in 1905 and 1,571 in 1901. The total membership at the end of December was 448,270 in 1906, as compared with 323,099 in 1905, and 119,050 in 1901.

During the year 1906, 275,690 persons joined the Trade Union organisations, while 150,519 ceased to be members, so that there was a net increase in membership of 125,171, or 38.7 per cent., in the year.

Of the 448,270 members at the end of 1906, 406,080, or 90.6 per cent., were males, and 42,190, or 9.4 per cent., were females. The corresponding percentages for the previous year were 91.2 and 8.8 respectively.

The total receipts of the Trade Unions in 1906 amounted to £290,932, and the total expenditure to £233,742. In the preceding year the corresponding totals were £193,405 and £159,573 respectively. Dispute benefit is collected and paid out by the unions, but returns are not required to be made to the central body, hence no items under these heads appear under either receipts or expenditure.

The receipts consisted chiefly of ordinary contributions of members, which amounted to £259,203. The total expenditure was made up of the following items: Unemployment benefit, £38,308; travelling benefit, £5,401; sick pay, £24,203; infirmity pay, £7,333; funeral benefit, £4,976; payments in case of special distress, £13,018; legal defence, £4,065; cost of journal, £37,788; educational objects, £8,696; propaganda and organisation, £25,246; salaries and wages, £19,241; other costs of administration, £21,133; other expenses, £24,334.

The following Table classifies the members of Trade Unions at the end of 1906 by groups of trades:—

Group of Trades.	No. of Members.	Group of Trades.	No. of Members.
Building Trades	69,500	Woodworking and Furnishing Trades	32,622
Mining and Quarrying ...	28,103	Glass, Pottery, &c. Trades	19,916
Metal and Engineering Trades	71,203	Food and Tobacco Trades	27,283
Textile Trades	44,221	Leather Trades	7,187
Clothing Trades	20,976	Shop Assistants	5,589
Transport	56,222	Clerks, Warehousemen, &c.	5,167
Agricultural Labour and Forestry	2,652	Home Workers (Females, Trades not specified)	1,876
Printing and Bookbinding Trades	23,231	Other Trades... ..	12,495
Paper and Allied Trades and Chemical Trades	20,027		
		Total	448,270

* Stärke und Leistungsfähigkeit der Gewerkschaften Oesterreichs im Jahre 1906. "Die Gewerkschaft," June 14th, 1907.

Of the total membership, 15.9 per cent. were in the metal and engineering trades, 15.5 per cent. in the building trades, 12.5 per cent. in the transport trades, and 9.9 per cent. in the textile trades.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION IN 1906.
THE Home Office has just issued its Statistics of Proceedings under the Workmen's Compensation Acts and the Employers' Liability Act during 1906.* The Acts contain no provision for the making of returns to show the working of the systems of compensation which they established, and in the majority of cases compensation is settled by agreement, no memorandum is registered, and no official information, therefore, is available. The statistics relate only to cases which came before the Courts, or which otherwise came to the knowledge of the Home Office.

The statistics respecting arbitrations in County Courts under the Workmen's Compensation Acts in England and Wales show that in 553 cases of compensation to dependants in cases of fatal injury, the average amount awarded was £191. In cases of non-fatal accident a lump sum averaging £36 was awarded in 124 cases; a weekly amount averaging 11s. 6d. was awarded in 326 cases of total incapacity, and a weekly amount averaging 9s. 10d. in 175 cases of partial incapacity.

The statistics relating to cases in which memoranda recording agreements or awards by private arbitrators under the Workmen's Compensation Acts were registered in England and Wales show that the average of the awards to dependants in cases of fatal injury was £167, the average in cases of incapacity being £42 (lump sum), or 13s. 3d. (weekly payment). For mine workers the average was £68 (lump sum) or 13s. 9d. (weekly payment); for building operatives the amounts were £47, or 14s. 5d.; for agricultural workers, £16, or 9s. 4d.

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

Canada.

There has been plenty of work in all parts of Canada during the summer for all classes of labour, and there has been a very large demand for farm hands, for men on railway construction, and for female servants on farms and in towns. But it is now too late in the season for the ordinary emigrant (other than female servants) to go, especially if he has a family, unless he has sufficient means to live on during the winter, or goes to the coast of British Columbia, where there is a good demand for carpenters, bricklayers and others in the building trades. Every person entering Canada must furnish evidence, to the satisfaction of a quarantine officer, of having been vaccinated or of having had the small pox.

Commonwealth of Australia.

Passages to suitable emigrants are granted at reduced rates by the New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australian Governments. The free passages lately offered by Queensland are stopped. There is a good demand in country districts for farm labourers, for dairymen, for men on sheep and cattle stations, and in New South Wales for miners. A new agreement as to shearers' wages has been made, by which wages in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Queensland have been raised; they are now fixed at from 22s. to 24s., without rations, per 100 sheep shorn. The demand for mechanics is not so general, but a competent man, such as a carpenter who is not too specialised, should have little difficulty in getting work. In South Australia there is a good demand for carpenters, painters, plasterers, masons, and for female hands in the boot trade. There is an excellent demand almost everywhere for female servants. In Western Australia there is a demand in some parts of the South-West for farm hands who understand machines, but not for mechanics.

* Cd. 5622. Wyman & Sons, Ltd. Price 3d.

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

New Zealand.

There is a good opening for farmers with a little capital, and a good demand for competent farm hands and dairymen. In Auckland, men in the building trades, and the boot, clothing, saddlery, timber and brick-making trades, have been busy, and the engineering trade is improving; machinists for the boot trade and girls for the clothing trade are difficult to get. In Wellington and Christchurch all skilled hands are well employed, but there is little demand for outsiders, except for females in the tailoring trade; unskilled workers are in excess of the demand. There is a good demand in all parts for female servants.

South Africa.

Cape Colony.—Persons are warned against emigrating to Cape Colony at the present time. The building and other trades continue to be in a depressed condition, and the supply of men exceeds the demand. At Kimberley there are a number of unemployed European labourers.

Natal.—The supply of labour is quite sufficient.

Transvaal and Orange River Colony.—No one is allowed to enter either of these Colonies unless he possesses £20, or has secured employment. All persons are strongly warned against going there at the present time, as a large number of those already on the spot are unable to find work. Female servants may obtain some assistance towards emigration by applying to the South African Colonisation Society, 47, Victoria Street, London, S.W.; but the demand for them is much less than it was.

LABOUR ABROAD.

[NOTE.—The following reports include an abstract of such official information as is available with regard to the state of employment in foreign countries, in order to indicate, as far as possible, the fluctuations in employment in each country from period to period. The bases of the official statistics published in these countries are, however, not the same as those for the United Kingdom, and therefore the figures quoted below cannot be properly used with those on p. 257 to compare the actual level of employment in the United Kingdom with that in foreign countries. (See also p. 104 of Cd. 2337.)]

FRANCE.*

Employment in July.—In the building and allied trades and in the metal trades employment continued good. In the textile trades it was generally satisfactory in the Nord, Vosges and Ardennes. There was some improvement in the cotton centres of the Seine-Inférieure, but in the Roanne district short time was still being worked by weavers. Employment was slack with hand weavers in the Departments of Maine-et-Loire and Deux-Sèvres, and also with silk ribbon weavers in the Loire Department. In Lyons and the surrounding district employment was good with power loom weavers, but dull in other branches. In the garment making trades the slack season had set in in most districts, including Paris. A considerable number of leather dressers were still out of work, and there was a further decline in employment among coach builders. Having regard to the season of the year employment in the printing and bookbinding trades was satisfactory, though not so good as a month ago in Paris and many provincial centres. There was very little improvement in the state of employment among vineyard workers in the south. Forest work had terminated, but woodmen had no difficulty in finding employment in the fields, except in certain places where the harvest was late. Gardeners in Paris and the surrounding district were fully employed.

Coal Mining in July.—The average number of days per week worked by persons employed underground in coal mines in France during July was 5.92, as compared with 5.98 in the previous month, and 6.01 in July, 1906. Taking surface and underground workers together, 57.77 per cent. worked full time (six days or over per week), and 42.23 per cent. from five to six days. In the previous month the corresponding percentages were 93.51 working full time, and 6.30 working from five to six days, and in July, 1906, 88.02 and 11.83 respectively.

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

Labour Disputes in July.—One hundred and eighteen disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in July, compared with 105 in the previous month, and 92 in July, 1906. In 114 of the new disputes 16,207 workpeople took part, as compared with 13,677 workpeople who took part in 100 of the disputes in June, and 11,444 who took part in 83 of the disputes in July, 1906. The groups of trades in which the largest number of disputes occurred were the building (29), textile (29), transport and warehousing (15), and metal (14). Out of 114 new and old disputes which came to an end in July, 11 resulted in favour of the workpeople, and 41 in favour of the employers, while 62 were compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in July.—Thirteen instances of recourse to the law on Conciliation and Arbitration were reported to the French Labour Department as having occurred during July.

GERMANY.*

Employment in July.—Employment continued good on the whole, though it was somewhat disturbed by disputes. With few exceptions there was a strong demand for labour. In the building trades employment varied with different localities; in some districts, Berlin especially, it was materially affected by disputes. Coal miners were fully employed, and there was an improvement in the supply of trucks. Employment in the metal, engineering, and chemical trades, and, with local exceptions, the electrical trades, continued favourable. With few exceptions employment in the textile trades continued satisfactory. Employment in breweries, hotels and restaurants, and in the clothing trades was unfavourably affected by the weather. There was a good demand for workpeople for agricultural labour.

BELGIUM.

Employment in July.†—According to returns made to the Belgian Labour Department, 1.5 per cent. of the 43,666 members of 160 Trade Unions reporting were unemployed towards the latter part of the month, as compared with 1.8 per cent. in the previous month, and 1.3 per cent. in July, 1906. (As regards these figures, which do not include particulars relating to miners, see note under "Labour Abroad.")

Labour Disputes in July.†—Nine strikes, involving approximately 1,769 workpeople (1,500 directly and 269 indirectly), were reported to the Belgian Labour Department as having begun in July. In addition to these, 14 strikes which commenced in previous months were in progress during part or the whole of the month. Of the workpeople directly affected by these 23 strikes, 1,521 were employed in the textile trades, and 1,365 at collieries. Thirteen strikes came to an end during July. Two of these, directly affecting 103 persons, terminated in favour of the workpeople, and 8, directly affecting 849 persons, terminated in favour of the employers, while 3, directly affecting 551 persons, were compromised. No lock-out began during July, but one, affecting 134 workpeople, which began in June, was still in progress at the end of the month.

Dispute of Dock Labourers at Antwerp.‡—On August 5th it was reported that the dock labourers engaged in discharging cargoes of grain and wood at Antwerp had struck work owing to the refusal of the employers to increase the rate of wages from 5 to 6 francs (4s. to 4s. 9½d.) per day. On August 20th the employers issued a notice to the effect that a written agreement to accept existing conditions was to be signed by all labourers wishing to be employed. As not only labourers employed on wood and grain cargoes, but also those employed on general cargoes refused to sign, the dispute became a lock-out of

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

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

‡ Based on despatches to the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp.

all dock-hands, 6,000 being affected. On August 28th the labourers employed on general cargoes intimated their willingness to sign, but on being ordered to commence on the wood and grain cargoes refused to do so. During the dispute in the docks the work has been carried on chiefly by imported British labour. Unsuccessful attempts at conciliation have been made by the Burgomaster, and disturbances have taken place.

AUSTRIA.

Employment of Young Persons and Children in Austrian Mines: New Order.—On June 8th, 1907, an Order was issued by the Austrian Ministries of Agriculture and of the Interior regulating the employment of young persons and children in mines. Young persons (males between 14 and 16, and females between 14 and 18) are only to do work suitable to their strength and not prejudicial to their physical development, and females are to be employed on the surface only. A list of occupations in which young persons may not be employed is given. Work between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m. is prohibited except where there are two day-shifts, when males may work till 11 p.m. Regular pauses, amounting to at least one hour longer than those of the adults, must be given during the shift. In the case of males, exceptions to the above provisions may be made in approved cases. The employment of children (persons under 14) is prohibited, except that those between 12 and 14 may be given light surface work in approved cases.

NORWAY.†

Employment in July.—Of 11,207 members of Trade Unions forwarding Returns to the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics, 119, or 1.1 per cent., were described as unemployed at the end of July. The figures for June and July, 1907, and for July, 1906, for certain Unions which made returns for each of these months, are given for comparison. (As regards these figures, see note under "Labour Abroad," on p. 265).

Group of Trades.	Membership.			Percentage Unemployed at end of month.		
	July, 1907.	June, 1907.	July, 1906.	July, 1907.	June, 1907.	July, 1906.
Metal Workers and Moulders	6,072	5,945	4,924	0.5	0.5	0.7
Carpenters, etc.	305	299	300	2.6	5.0	1.8
Cabinet Makers	326	330	290	1.2	0.9	2.8
Painters and Masons	830	838	438	5.7	4.3	2.3
Bookbinders	261	260	126	3.4	3.8	4.0
Boot and Shoe Makers	412	408	295	...	0.2	...
Total	8,206	8,183	6,513	1.2	1.2	1.0

ITALY.

Employment of Women and Children in Italy: New Law.†—The law of June 19th, 1902, regulating the employment of women and children in factories and mines in Italy (see GAZETTE, August, 1902, p. 223) has been amended in certain respects by a law dated June 7th, 1907. The following are the chief alterations: The prohibition of the employment of males under 15 and females under 21 in dangerous or unhealthy occupations is now extended to work that is too fatiguing, the occupations of this description being determined by Royal Decree. The previous law provided that after five years from the date of its promulgation no female should be employed in night work; the present law in certain circumstances extends the period to December 31st, 1907, in the case of females over 18. Moreover, the new law permits the employment of females in night work in those seasons and establishments in which raw or perishable materials are dealt with, when such work is required to prevent the loss which would otherwise occur. The prohibition of night work to males under 15 still continues. The previous law further restricted the hours of labour of women and children during the daytime, and on work not scheduled as dangerous or unhealthy; but these restrictions are now cancelled.

* *Soziale Rundschau* (Journal of the Austrian Labour Department), June, 1907.
† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics.
‡ For text see *Bollettino dell' Ufficio del Lavoro* (Journal of the Italian Labour Department), July, 1907.

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES IN AUGUST.

COAL MINING.

(Based on 502 Returns—433 from Employers, 55 from Trade Unions, and 14 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the coal mining industry continued very good during the four weeks ended August 24th, and was better than a year ago, especially in the Midland Counties, and in West Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire.

Returns relating to 1,375 pits employing 619,809 workpeople show that the average number of days* worked per week during the four weeks ended August 24th, 1907, was 5.22, as compared with 5.38 in July, and 4.95 in August, 1906. The average time lost per week by holidays amounted to 0.38 of a day in August, 1907, 0.18 of a day in July, 1907, and 0.40 of a day in August, 1906.

Of the 619,809 workpeople covered by the Returns, 504,634 (or 81.4 per cent.) were employed at pits working 20 or more days during the four weeks ended August 24th, 1907, and of these 169,425 (or 27.3 per cent. of the whole) worked 22 days or more.

The highest average number of days worked per week in August was in South Yorkshire (5.57), and the lowest was in the Nottingham and Leicester district (4.72).

Compared with a month ago, the figures show a considerable increase in the average number of days worked in Scotland, this being due to the July holidays in Scotland. Allowing for local holidays, there was a considerable improvement in the Midland Counties, and in the Gloucester and Somerset district. The decrease in South Wales as compared with July is due to holidays. The other districts showed little change.

Compared with a year ago there was an almost universal improvement, the increase in the average number of days worked per week in the Midlands and in West Yorkshire being very great.

In the following Table the average time* worked by the pits is shown for the three periods specified:—

Districts.	No. of Workpeople employed in Aug., 1907, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in Four Weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Aug., 1907, as compared with	
		Aug. 24th, 1907.†	July 20th, 1907.†	Aug. 25th, 1906.†	A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ...	44,688	5.22	5.25	5.25	- .04	- .03
Durham ...	111,385	5.32	5.56	5.35	- .24	- .03
Cumberland ...	7,807	5.28	5.72	5.13	- .44	+ .15
South Yorkshire ...	64,483	5.57	5.63	5.29	- .06	+ .28
West Yorkshire ...	21,053	5.08	5.16	4.33	- .08	+ .75
Lancashire and Cheshire	55,958	5.04	5.21	4.51	- .17	+ .53
Derbyshire ...	40,140	5.06	5.21	4.25	- .15	+ .81
Nottingham and Leicester	31,633	4.72	4.98	4.22	- .26	+ .50
Staffordshire ...	27,929	4.87	5.18	3.50	- .31	+ .97
Warwick, Worcester, and Salop ...	9,866	4.90	5.12	4.03	- .22	+ .87
Gloucester and Somerset	7,786	5.19	4.85	4.16	+ .34	+ 1.03
North Wales ...	10,936	5.42	5.64	5.00	- .22	+ .42
South Wales and Mon. ...	133,041	5.28	5.75	5.18	- .47	+ 0.10
ENGLAND AND WALES	566,705	5.21	5.44	4.92	- .23	+ .29
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland ...	26,338	5.20	4.68	5.20	+ .52	...
The Lothians ...	5,566	5.45	5.12	5.45	+ .33	...
Fife ...	20,575	5.50	4.51	5.43	+ .99	+ .07
SCOTLAND	52,479	5.38	4.66	5.33	+ .69	+ .02
IRELAND	625	5.14	5.11	5.35	+ .03	- .21
United Kingdom	619,809	5.22	5.38	4.98	- .16	+ .27

The following Table shows the numbers employed and the average number of days worked per week, according to the principal kind of coal produced at the

* The figures in this article only show the number of days (short days being counted as fractions of a day) 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.
† Each of these periods was by Holidays.

pits at which the workpeople were employed. At pits employing 198,941 workpeople it was not found possible to state which class of coal predominated, and they are entered in the Table under the term "mixed." The improvement, compared with a year ago, was most noticeable at pits producing house and gas coal.

Description of Coal.	No. of Workpeople employed in Aug., 1907, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the Collieries in Four Weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Aug., 1907, as compared with	
		August 24th, 1907.*	July 20th, 1907.*	August 25th, 1906.*	A month ago.	A year ago.
Anthracite ...	7,080	5.20	5.84	4.93	- .64	+ .27
Coking ...	30,492	5.51	5.70	5.46	- .19	+ .05
Gas ...	39,811	5.67	5.40	5.05	+ .27	+ .62
House ...	84,225	4.99	5.06	4.33	- .09	+ .66
Manufacturing and Steam	259,260	5.23	5.46	5.13	- .23	+ .10
Mixed ...	195,941	5.26	5.33	4.59	- .07	+ .67
All Descriptions	619,809	5.22	5.38	4.98	- .16	+ .27

The Exports of coal, coke, and manufactured fuel in August, 1907, amounted to 5,842,002 tons, or 486,755 tons less than in July, 1907, but 640,472 tons more than in August, 1906.

IRON, SHALE, AND OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.

(Based on 86 Returns—68 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 3 from Trade Unions, and 15 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued good at iron mines, and fairly good at shale mines, and showed little change as compared with either a month ago or a year ago.

Employment continued good at tin, copper, and lead mines. It was fair on the whole in quarries, except in slate and bath stone quarries, where it continued slack.

Mining.

Iron Mining.—During the four weeks ended August 24th the average number of days worked per week by all mines and open works included in the Returns was 5.78, as compared with 5.76 a month ago and 5.77 a year ago. Each of the three periods was slightly affected by holidays, amounting to 0.10 of a day in August, 1907, 0.17 of a day in July, 1907, and 0.15 of a day in August, 1906.

The Returns are summarised in the following Table:—

Districts.	No. employed in Aug., 1907, at the Mines included in the Returns.	Average Number of Days worked per week by Mines in 4 weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Aug., 1907, as compared with	
		Aug. 24th, 1907.*	July 20th, 1907.*	Aug. 25th, 1906.*	A month ago.	A year ago.
Cleveland...	7,053	5.94	5.72	5.99	+ 0.22	- 0.05
Cumberland and Lancashire	5,151	5.77	5.94	5.78	- 0.17	- 0.01
Scotland ...	970	5.53	5.36	5.37	+ 0.17	+ 0.16
Other Districts ...	2,631	5.50	5.68	5.33	- 0.18	+ 0.17
All Districts	15,805	5.78	5.76	5.77	+ 0.02	+ 0.01

Of the 15,805 workpeople covered by the Returns^s 14,343, or 90.7 per cent., worked 22 or more days during the four weeks ended August 24th, as compared with 90.4 per cent. in the previous month, and 88.5 per cent. in August, 1906.

Shale Mining.—At the mines respecting which Returns have been received 3,173 workpeople were employed during the four weeks ended August 24th, as compared with 3,148 in the previous month, and 3,109 a year ago. The average number of days worked per week by the mines included in the Returns in the four weeks ended August 24th was 5.64, as compared with 5.48 in July, and 5.60 a year ago. In August, 1907, 0.07 of a day per week was lost through holidays, as compared with 0.29 of a day in July, 1907, and 0.07 of a day in August, 1906.

Tin and Copper Mining.—Employment continued good in Cornwall.

* Each of these periods was affected by holidays.

Lead Mining.—Employment continued good in Weardale, Derbyshire, and North Wales.

Quarrying.

Slate.—Employment continued slack in North Wales, especially in the Festiniog district, where short time was worked.

Granite.—Employment continued good on the whole in Aberdeenshire. In Leicestershire it was fair in the macadam branch, but dull at other quarries. It continued moderate in the Penryn district, and bad on Dartmoor.

Limestone.—Employment continued good in the Wear-dale district. It was fairly good in North Wales. In the Buxton district it was good, and in the Plymouth district, fair.

Other Stone.—Employment was good, and better than a month ago, in the Cleve Hill road-material quarries. It was also good in chert quarries at Bakewell, and some overtime was worked. In the Barnsley district employment was moderate; in the Normanton district it was fair. In the Gateshead district employment was good, though interrupted by bad weather. In the North Wales sandstone quarries it was fairly good. Employment was slack, but somewhat improved, in the Bath stone quarries; it was good, and better than a month ago, in the Forest of Dean pennant stone quarries. In Forfarshire employment was bad, and worse than a month ago.

Settmaking.—Employment was fair on the whole in Aberdeenshire and in North Wales. It remained good in the Cleve Hill district and at Rowley Regis (Staffs.). It was fairly good in the Sheffield district, dull in Leicestershire, fair at Glasgow, and dull at Airdrie.

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

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

(Based on 115 Returns—108 from Employers, 4 from Trade Unions, and 3 from Local Correspondents.)

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

Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters, employing about 25,000 workpeople, showed that the total number of furnaces in blast at the end of August was 346, as compared with 347 in July, and 337 a year ago. During August, 3 furnaces were re-lit (one each in Yorkshire, Lincolnshire and Lanarkshire) while three were blown out (one each in Lincolnshire, Derbyshire and Lanarkshire) and 1 was damped down, in Lancashire.

The Returns are summarised in the following Table:—

Districts.	Number of Furnaces, included in the Returns, in Blast at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in August, 1907, as compared with	
	August, 1907.	July, 1907.	August, 1906.	A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES—					
Cleveland ...	89	89	88	...	+ 1
Cumberland & Lancs.	37	38	36	- 1	+ 1
S. and S.W. Yorks ...	16	15	15	+ 1	+ 1
Derby & Nottingham	42	43	44	- 1	...
Leicester, Lincoln, and Northampton	26	26	27	...	- 1
Stafford & Worcester	37	37	33	...	+ 4
S. Wales & Monmouth	16	16	16	...	...
Other districts ...	7	7	7	...	...
England & Wales	270	271	264	- 1	+ 6
Scotland	76	76	73	...	+ 3
Total	346	347	337	- 1	+ 9

The Imports of iron ore in August, 1907, amounted to 693,798 tons, or 128,812 tons less than in July, 1907, and 8,154 tons more than in August, 1906.

The Exports of pig iron from the United Kingdom in August, 1907, amounted to 164,094 tons, or 19,459 tons less than in July, 1907, and 12,437 tons more than in August, 1906.

month ago. It was fairly good with shipwrights, but was bad on trawler building, and moderate on marine boiler-making and ship repairs.

On the Thames employment was quiet generally. On the South Coast it was on the whole fairly good; it was good at Devonport in Government yards, but bad at Plymouth in private yards. At the Bristol Channel ports employment was very bad, and showed a considerable decline compared with both a month ago and a year ago; there was, however, a general improvement in the Bristol district towards the end of the month. On the Mersey employment was slack on the whole, and it was reported that there was not much new work in hand. The number of Trade Union members unemployed showed a large increase compared with a month ago.

On the Clyde employment was fair on the whole, but was rather worse than a month ago with steel and iron shipbuilders. At Dundee and Leith employment was dull, and much worse than a month ago and a year ago. It was fair on the whole, but worse than a month ago at Aberdeen.

At Belfast employment generally continued fair. It was fair at Cork; dull at Dublin. It continued moderate at Barrow, and good at Yarmouth and Lowestoft.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

(Based on 94 Returns—3 from Employers' Associations, 63 from Trade Unions, and 28 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT during August was fair. It was better than a month ago, but worse than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 15,644 had 491, or 3·2 per cent., out of work at the end of August, as compared with 3·7 per cent. in July and 2·6 per cent. in August, 1906.

Brasswork, Bedsteads, etc.—Employment with brassworkers was moderate at Birmingham, bad in London, quiet at Manchester, good at Bolton, Bury, and Wigan. With bedstead makers at Birmingham it was bad, and worse than a month ago.

Tubes.—Employment was good in South Wales and South Staffordshire, moderate at Birmingham.

Chains, Anchors, Springs, etc.—At Cradley Heath employment continued slack with cable chain makers and strikers; moderate with block chain-makers. At Dudley it continued good with anvil makers, but the falling off with vice makers continued. It continued fair with railway spring fitters at Sheffield, and with spring and axle makers at Birmingham and West Bromwich. With anchor smiths on the Wear it was fair.

Sheet Metal, etc.—Employment with braziers and sheet metal workers was fair at Manchester, but worse than a month ago. With sheet metal workers it was bad in London, fair in Glasgow, and good at Oldham. With iron plate workers it was quiet at Birmingham, and moderate in the Lye district. With tin-plate workers it was bad at Edinburgh, and good at Aberdeen.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, etc.—With nut and bolt makers employment was fairly good at Birmingham, and good at Darlaston and Halesowen.

Wire.—Employment continued good generally.

Locks, Keys and General Hardware.—At Wolverhampton and Willenhall employment in the lock and latch trades continued bad. In the hollow-ware trade employment was good at Wolverhampton, but rather quiet at West Bromwich.

Stoves, Grates, etc.—Employment improved slightly at Rotherham, though there was still short time. It was bad at Falkirk, fair at Glasgow.

Cutlery, Tools, etc.—In the Sheffield district employment was moderate with cutlers generally; good with sawmakers and in the file trades. At Birmingham it was fair with file cutters, fairly good in the edge tool trade. At Redditch employment in the needle and fish-hook trades continued good.

Gold, Silver, Britannia Metal, etc.—In London employment continued slack with goldsmiths and jewellers; it was fair with silver workers. At Birmingham it was quiet with jewellers; fairly good with silversmiths and electro-platers. At Sheffield it was fair with silversmiths. At Coventry it was fair with watchmakers.

Furriers.—Employment was fairly good on the whole.

Imports and Exports.—The Table below shows the value of cutlery and hardware imported and exported for the months stated:—

Description.	August, 1907.	July, 1907.	August, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in August, 1907, as compared with a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:—	£	£	£	£	£
Cutlery	9,416	16,868	7,928	− 7,442	+ 1,488
Hardware	86,133	89,494	80,623	− 3,361	+ 5,510
Exports:—	£	£	£	£	£
Cutlery	74,034	74,345	58,939	− 311	+ 15,095
Hardware	209,318	251,176	198,006	− 41,858	+ 11,312
Implements and Tools ...	191,522	210,664	167,882	− 18,744	+ 24,040

COTTON TRADE.

(Based on 475 Returns—385 received from Employers, partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 81 from Trade Unions, and 9 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued very good in the Spinning branch, and was slightly better than a year ago; in the Weaving branch it was good, and about the same as a year ago, but by agreement some short time was worked during the month.

The number of workpeople employed by the firms making Returns for the week ended August 24th was 126,117, being 0·1 per cent. more than a month ago, and 1·4 per cent. more than a year ago. The amount of wages paid showed an increase of 0·4 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 2·8 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Departments.	Workpeople.			Earnings.		
	No. paid Wages on pay day in week ended Aug. 24th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) as compared with		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay day in week ended Aug. 24th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) as compared with	
		A month ago.	A year ago.		A month ago.	A year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Preparing	14,417	+ 0·8	+ 1·5	13,610	+ 0·4	+ 5·6
Spinning	25,543	+ 0·2	+ 1·2	26,112	+ 0·2	+ 6·4
Weaving	58,597	+ 0·1	+ 0·8	54,495	+ 0·9	—
Other	10,392	—	+ 2·4	12,865	+ 2·9	+ 3·3
Departments not specified	17,168	+ 0·1	+ 2·5	17,833	− 2·3	+ 4·5
Total	126,117	+ 0·1	+ 1·4	124,915	+ 0·4	+ 2·8
Districts.						
Ashton District	8,248	− 0·1	− 0·5	8,268	− 1·2	+ 4·8
Stockport, Glossop, and Hyde	7,114	+ 1·3	+ 3·9	6,555	− 1·1	+ 2·2
Oldham District	13,163	+ 0·1	− 0·5	14,347	+ 1·0	+ 4·0
Bolton and Leigh	14,508	+ 0·4	+ 6·6	13,836	+ 2·0	+ 10·8
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden, & Todmorden	10,215	+ 0·2	+ 1·5	10,017	+ 0·5	+ 4·0
Manchester District ...	10,077	+ 0·3	+ 0·4	8,109	+ 0·5	+ 2·2
Preston and Chorley ...	11,941	− 0·1	+ 2·7	10,424	− 0·7	+ 0·3
Blackburn, Accrington, & Darwen	16,856	+ 0·9	+ 0·3	16,828	− 0·2	− 0·3
Burnley, Padiham, Colne, and Nelson	16,102	− 0·7	+ 0·4	19,973	+ 0·6	+ 0·1
Other Lancashire Towns	6,149	− 0·5	− 2·2	5,437	+ 1·0	− 0·5
Yorkshire Towns	5,471	− 0·2	+ 1·7	5,242	+ 2·4	+ 3·9
Other Districts	6,293	− 0·5	+ 1·0	5,795	+ 0·3	+ 5·1
Total	126,117	+ 0·1	+ 1·4	124,915	+ 0·4	+ 2·8

In the preparing and spinning departments employment was better than a month ago and a year ago, the considerable increase in wages compared with a year ago being mainly due to the recent advance in the rates of wages. In the weaving branch there was little change in numbers employed as compared with a month ago; there was an increase as compared with a year ago. There was an increase in the amount of wages paid as compared with July, but no change as compared with a year ago.

Short time was worked in the weaving branch in the Preston, Blackburn, Darwen and Nelson districts. Compared with a year ago, with the exception of the Blackburn district which showed on the whole no change, there was an improvement in every district, the increase in the amount of wages paid being most marked in the Bolton area.

Exports of Cotton Goods.

The following Table shows the quantity of exported cotton yarn and cotton piece goods for the months stated:—

Description.	Aug., 1907.	July, 1907.	Aug., 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in Aug., 1907, as compared with	
				A month ago.	A year ago.
Cotton Yarn and Twist—	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.
Grey	19,234	19,690	14,337	+ 456	+ 4,897
Bleached and Dyed ...	2,569	5,466	3,452	− 697	+ 883
Total	21,803	22,956	17,789	− 1,153	+ 4,014
Cotton Piece Goods—	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.	1,000 yds.
Grey or Unbleached ...	175,877	207,469	205,635	− 31,592	− 29,818
Bleached	143,539	177,280	151,739	− 33,741	− 8,200
Printed	111,881	128,397	111,995	− 16,516	− 24
Dyed or Manufactured of Dyed Yarn	107,540	121,012	104,758	− 13,472	+ 2,782
Total	538,837	634,158	574,097	− 95,321	− 35,260

Raw Cotton.

American Cotton.—During the month of August the average price of raw cotton "middling American" at Liverpool was 7·35d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 7·49d. per lb., and the lowest 7·23d. The price for July was 7·19d., and for August, 1906, 5·59d. per lb. For the period from September 1st to 10th, 1907, the average price of "middling American" was 7·47d. per lb.

Egyptian Cotton.—The price of "good fair Egyptian" during August averaged 10·31d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 10·8d., and the lowest 10·2d. per lb. The price for July was 10·34d., and for August, 1906, 9·71d. per lb. For the period from 1st to 10th September, 1907, the average price of "good fair Egyptian" was 10·4d. per lb.

The visible supply of American cotton for the United Kingdom on September 13th, 1907, was estimated by the Liverpool Cotton Association to be 588,910 bales, as compared with 292,220 bales on September 14th, 1906.

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

Description of Cotton.	Aug., 1907.	July, 1907.	Aug., 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in Aug., 1907, as compared with a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
American	179,003	217,002	196,474	− 37,999	− 17,471
Brazilian	12,032	8,502	10,185	+ 3,530	+ 1,847
East Indian	5,409	6,065	3,085	− 656	+ 2,326
Egyptian	17,207	20,470	19,040	− 3,263	+ 5,167
Miscellaneous	4,535	7,279	4,300	− 2,744	+ 235
Total	218,186	259,318	226,082	− 41,132	− 7,896

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

(Based on 408 Returns—372 received from Employers, 25 from Trade Unions, and 11 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in these trades was good, and better than a year ago.

Woolen Trade.

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

Firms employing 26,032 workpeople have stated the wages paid in the periods under review. The number of workpeople employed by these firms during the week

ended August 24th showed a decrease of 0·1 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 3·0 per cent. compared with a year ago. The amount of wages paid showed an increase of 0·6 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 4·1 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Employment in the Huddersfield and Colne Valley district continued good, and was decidedly better than a year ago; nightwork and overtime were still prevalent. In the heavy woollen district and the Leeds district employment continued good. Employment was reported as good at Selkirk, fairly good at Hawick and Galashiels.

Departments.	Workpeople covered by returns.			Earnings.		
	No. employed on pay-day in week ended Aug. 24th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−), as compared with a		Aggregate amount of Wages paid on pay-day in week ended Aug. 24th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−), as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Wool Sorting	779	+ 1·3	+ 5·0	762	+ 1·1	+ 3·8
Spinning	5,072	+ 1·1	+ 1·4	4,464	− 0·5	+ 3·6
Weaving	10,766	− 0·2	+ 3·7	9,184	+ 2·0	+ 4·4
Other Departments ...	7,434	− 0·7	+ 3·9	7,330	− 0·7	+ 4·8
Unspecified	1,981	− 0·9	− 0·6	1,866	+ 1·6	+ 0·5
Total	26,032	− 0·1	+ 3·0	23,546	+ 0·6	+ 4·1
Districts.						
Huddersfield District ...	3,554	+ 0·2	+ 8·5	4,040	+ 2·1	+ 8·6
Leeds District	4,033	− 0·0	+ 1·9	3,650	+ 0·2	+ 5·3
Dewsbury & Batley District...	3,488	− 0·4	+ 1·3	3,465	− 0·6	+ 1·1
Other Parts of West Riding...	1,726	+ 0·2	+ 2·3	1,569	− 1·8	+ 0·6
Total, West Riding ...	12,801	− 0·0	+ 3·5	12,724	+ 0·4	+ 4·6
Scotland	7,198	− 0·4	+ 1·0	6,049	+ 1·3	+ 2·5
Other Districts	6,033	+ 0·1	+ 4·2	4,773	+ 0·3	+ 4·7
Total, Woollen	26,032	− 0·1	+ 3·0	23,546	+ 0·6	+ 4·1

Worsted Trade.

Employment showed a further slight decline, but was still good, and better than a year ago.

Firms employing 49,689 workpeople have stated the wages paid in the periods under review. The number of workpeople employed by these firms in the week ended August 24th showed a decrease of 0·4 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 3·2 per cent. compared with a year ago. The amount of wages paid showed a decrease of 0·3 per cent. compared with a month ago, and an increase of 7·0 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Employment in Bradford and Halifax showed a slight decline compared with last month. In Huddersfield a slight improvement was reported; in the Keighley district employment was good, and much better than a year ago.

Departments.	Workpeople covered by returns.			Earnings.		
	No. employed on pay-day in week ended Aug. 24th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−), as compared with a		Aggregate amount of Wages paid on pay-day in week ended Aug. 24th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−), as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	£	Per cent.	Per cent.
Wool Sorting & Combing...	5,023	− 0·1	+ 9·2	5,002	− 0·9	+ 13·4
Spinning	25,922	− 0·3	+ 1·9	14,287	+ 0·0	+ 4·4
Weaving	10,916	− 0·8	+ 4·1	9,588	− 0·0	+ 8·1
Other Departments ...	5,781	− 0·2	+ 2·7	5,689	− 0·3	+ 3·8
Unspecified	2,047	− 0·3	+ 3·1	1,618	− 3·1	+ 17·7
Total	49,689	− 0·4	+ 3·2	36,184	− 0·3	+ 7·0
Districts.						
Bradford District	24,757	− 0·7	+ 4·1	17,672	− 0·6	+ 7·4
Keighley District	6,403	+ 0·7	+ 0·6	4,894	− 0·3	+ 14·5
Halifax District	5,646	− 1·0	− 4·2	3,575	+ 1·5	− 0·9
Huddersfield District ...	6,975	− 0·3	− 0·0	6,506	+ 0·4	+ 3·0
Other Parts of West Riding...	3,311	− 0·1	+ 5·5	2,017	+ 0·4	+ 9·0
Total, West Riding ...	47,092	− 0·4	+ 2·8	34,664	− 0·4	+ 6·7
Other Districts	2,597	+ 1·0	+ 11·2	1,520	+ 2·2	+ 14·4
Total, Worsted	49,689	− 0·4	+ 3·2	36,184	− 0·3	+ 7·0

Prices of Raw Material.

The prices of wool and tops in Bradford are shown below for the three months specified:—

	Aug., 1907.	July, 1907.	Aug., 1906.
Average Prices:	Pence per lb.	Pence per lb.	Pence per lb.
Lincoln Hoggs	12½	12½	14½
40's Crossbred tops ...	16½	16½	17½
50's Super Botany tops ...	28	27½	26½
Course of Prices:	12½-12½	12½-12½	14½-14½
Lincoln Hoggs	16½	16½-16½	18-17½
40's Crossbred tops ...	27½-28	27½	27-26½

Imports and Exports.—The Table below shows the quantities of raw wool imported and exported, and of British and Irish exports of woollen and worsted yarn and piece goods for the months stated:—

Description.	August, 1907.		July, 1907.		August, 1906.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-), in August, 1907, as compared with a	
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports and Exports of Raw Wool (SHEEP OR LAMBS')								
Imports 1,000 lbs.	22,712	33,235	26,693	— 10,523	— 3,982			
British Exports ..	4,036	2,092	2,646	+ 4,944	+ 1,390			
Re-Exports of Imported Wool ..	24,968	13,994	21,003	+ 13,984	+ 3,965			
British and Irish Manufactures Exported.								
Yarn:								
Woolen ... 1,000 lbs.	220	231	208	— 11	+ 12			
Worsted	4,888	5,447	4,284	— 559	+ 604			
Alpaca & Mohair ..	1,519	1,590	1,483	— 71	+ 36			
Total, Yarn ..	6,627	7,268	5,975	— 641	+ 652			
Piece Goods:								
Woolen ... 1,000 yds	9,420	10,257	9,166	— 837	+ 254			
Worsted	10,149	11,125	9,046	— 976	+ 1,103			
Total, Piece Goods ..	19,569	21,382	18,212	— 1,813	+ 1,357			

FLAX (LINEN) TRADE.

(Based on 117 Returns—108 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 5 from Trade Unions, and 4 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued good, and showed little change compared with a month ago. It was better than a year ago.

Returns received from firms employing 47,470 workpeople in the week ended August 24th showed an increase of 0.1 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and a decrease of 0.2 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 1.7 per cent. in the number employed, and of 5.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Departments.	Workpeople covered by Returns.		Earnings.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with	
	Number paid wages on pay-day in week ended Aug. 24th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with a month ago.	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay-day in week ended Aug. 24th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with a month ago.	A month ago.	A year ago.
Preparing ...	6,300	+ 0.2	3,401	- 0.2	+ 7.6	
Spinning ...	11,589	+ 1.0	5,848	- 0.2	+ 16.2	
Weaving ...	16,169	- 0.9	9,825	+ 1.4	- 1.1	
Other ...	6,534	- 0.8	5,270	- 1.5	+ 2.5	
Not specified ...	6,878	+ 2.2	4,143	+ 1.6	+ 10.0	
Total ...	47,470	+ 0.1	28,487	- 0.2	+ 5.4	
Districts.						
Belfast ...	17,076	+ 0.9	10,514	- 1.7	+ 7.1*	
Other Places in Ireland	14,824	- 0.6	8,076	+ 2.3	+ 5.5	
Total, Ireland...	31,900	+ 0.2	18,590	- 0.0	+ 6.4	
Fifeshire ...	6,960	- 0.4	4,462	- 0.5	- 0.2	
Other Places in Scotland	6,740	+ 0.1	4,278	+ 0.1	+ 5.7	
Total, Scotland	13,700	- 0.1	8,740	- 0.2	+ 2.6	
England ...	1,870	+ 0.3	1,157	- 1.5	+ 12.0	
United Kingdom	47,470	+ 0.1	28,487	- 0.2	+ 5.4	

*The comparison with August, 1905, is affected by an advance in rates of wages which took place early in 1907.

Compared with a month ago, the weaving department showed an increase in the amount of wages paid, but the other departments showed a decrease. Compared with a year ago the weaving department showed a decrease, but all the other departments showed an increase, that in the spinning department being the most marked. In Belfast, Fifeshire, and England the amount of wages paid showed a decline compared with a month ago, but every district, except Fifeshire (where there was a slight decrease), showed a decided increase compared with a year ago.

Imports and Exports.—The Table below shows the quantities of imported flax, and of British and Irish exports of linen yarn and manufactured goods, for the months stated:—

Description.	August, 1907.		July, 1907.		August, 1906.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Aug., 1907, as compared with a	
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:								
Flax (Dressed and Undressed, Tow or Codilla) Tons	7,041	9,564	2,844	- 2,523	+ 4,197			
Exports:								
Linen Yarn ... 100 Lbs.	12,791	14,377	13,346	- 1,586	- 555			
Linen Piece Goods 100 Yds.	139,674	162,991	151,141	- 23,317	- 11,467			

JUTE TRADE.

(Based on 34 Returns—32 from Employers and Employers' Associations, and 2 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was good, but showed a slight decline compared with a month ago; it was better than a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 18,032 workpeople in the week ended August 24th showed a decrease of 0.1 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and of 1.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago; compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 1.3 per cent. in the number employed, and of 7.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Of the 18,032 workpeople covered by the Returns, 15,601, or 87 per cent., were employed in the Dundee district.

The returns are summarised in the following Table:—

Departments.	Workpeople covered by Returns.		Earnings.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with	
	Number paid wages on pay-day in week ended Aug. 24th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with a month ago.	Aggregate amount of Wages paid on pay-day in week ended Aug. 24th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-), as compared with a month ago.	A month ago.	A year ago.
Preparing ...	4,286	+ 0.5	2,840	- 1.2	+ 10.9	
Spinning ...	4,924	+ 0.2	3,046	- 0.3	+ 9.5	
Weaving ...	6,260	- 0.2	4,740	- 0.9	+ 5.0	
Other ...	1,878	- 1.6	1,974	- 2.5	+ 8.4	
Not specified ...	684	- 0.1	527	+ 0.2	+ 5.4	
Total ...	18,032	- 0.1	13,127	- 1.0	+ 7.8	

Compared with a month ago, every department showed a decrease in the amount of wages paid; compared with a year ago every department showed an increase.

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

Description.	August, 1907.		July, 1907.		August, 1906.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Aug., 1907, as compared with a	
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:								
Jute Tons	5,692	6,210	2,130	- 518	+ 3,562			
Exports:								
Jute Yarn ... 100 Lbs.	44,104	56,197	41,129	- 12,093	+ 2,975			
Jute Piece Goods 100 Yds.	166,671	193,295	112,047	- 26,624	+ 54,624			

SILK TRADE.

(Based on 53 Returns—50 from Employers and 3 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT was fairly good generally; it was rather better than a month ago, and much better than a year ago. Returns received from firms employing 8,338 workpeople and paying £5,710 in wages on pay-day in the week ended August 24th, 1907, show that, compared with a month ago, there was an increase of 0.7 per cent. in the number of workpeople employed, and of 0.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 4.3 per cent. in the number employed, and of 6.7 per cent. in the amount of wages paid. Several of the returns report a deficiency of labour.

The returns are summarised in the following Table:—

Districts.	Workpeople covered by Returns.		Earnings.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Aug., 1907, as compared with a	
	Number paid wages on pay-day in week ended Aug. 24th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a month ago.	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay-day in week ended Aug. 24th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a month ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Throwing ...	1,010	+ 1.4	£ 50	+ 2.3	+ 8.4	
Spinning ...	2,646	+ 0.4	1,980	+ 0.8	+ 9.5	
Weaving ...	3,584	- 0.0	2,420	- 0.1	+ 6.4	
Other ...	867	+ 4.0	710	+ 1.9	+ 2.3	
Not Specified ...	231	- 0.4	150	+ 2.7	- 2.0	
Total ...	8,338	+ 0.7	5,710	+ 0.8	+ 6.7	
Districts.						
Lancashire and W. Riding of Yorkshire	3,470	+ 0.8	2,598	+ 0.9	+ 4.9	
Macclesfield, Congleton and District	812	- 1.1	588	+ 1.7	+ 6.5	
Eastern Counties ...	2,152	+ 0.9	1,285	+ 1.2	+ 8.1	
Other Districts, including Scotland	1,904	+ 1.0	1,239	- 0.3	+ 9.4	
Total ...	8,338	+ 0.7	5,710	+ 0.8	+ 6.7	

At Macclesfield employment was good with spinners and inside hand-loom weavers, but bad with outside hand-loom weavers; it was moderate with power-loom weavers. At Leek employment was fair generally. At Congleton employment continued good with throwsters and spinners, moderate with trimming weavers. In the Bradford district employment continued fairly good, and in the Eastern Counties it continued fair.

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

Description.	August, 1907.		July, 1907.		August, 1906.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Aug., 1907, as compared with a	
	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Imports:—								
Raw Silk ... Lbs	158,811	65,294	61,948	+ 93,517	+ 96,863			
Thrown Silk ...	56,213	48,877	44,826	+ 7,336	+ 11,387			
Spun Silk Yarn ...	22,784	26,491	23,936	- 3,617	- 1,152			
Silk Broad-Stuffs yards	5,270,925	5,042,568	5,652,245	+ 228,357	- 381,320			
Exports:—								
Thrown Silk ... Lbs	3,551	4,537	357	- 986	+ 3,194			
Spun Silk Yarn ...	74,445	93,825	84,263	- 19,380	- 9,818			
Silk Broad-Stuffs yards	498,668	661,760	695,810	- 163,152	- 197,202			

HOSIERY TRADE.

(Based on 94 Returns—90 from Employers, 1 from a Trade Union, and 3 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good in England, good in Scotland. On the whole it was better than a year ago. Firms employing 16,252 workpeople, and paying £12,985 in wages in the week ended August 24th, have made Returns. From these it appears that there was an increase of 0.6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 1.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 3.5 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

At Leicester employment was fairly good in most departments. At Hinckley employment was fair; at Loughborough it was good in the seamless hose branch, slack on cashmere underwear. At Nottingham employment was reported as moderate with power framework knitters; with hand frame-workers on better class goods in the Nottingham country districts there was a further slight improvement. In Derbyshire employment on the whole was fair. In Scotland it was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago.

District.	Workpeople covered by Returns.		Earnings.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
	No. paid wages on pay-day in week ended Aug. 24th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a month ago.	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid in week ended Aug. 24th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a month ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Leicester ...	9,144	+ 0.9	£ 7,566	+ 1.5	+ 5.3	
Leicester Country District ...	2,364	+ 0.5	1,848	- 0.1	- 3.4	
Notts. and Derbyshire ...	2,860	- 1.1	2,238	+ 0.8	+ 0.7	
Scotland ...	1,627	+ 2.3	1,111	+ 0.8	+ 9.1	
Other Districts ...	257	- 3.0	152	...	+ 2.7	
Total, United Kingdom	16,252	+ 0.6	12,985	+ 1.1	+ 3.4	

The Imports of woollen and cotton hosiery in August, 1907, amounted to £43,133 and £129,103 respectively, as compared with £31,939 and £126,262 in July, 1907, and £46,424 and £111,161 in August, 1906.

The Exports of woollen and cotton hosiery in August, 1907, amounted to £147,358 and £50,117 respectively, as compared with £177,135 and £57,399 in July, 1907, and £111,471 and £52,847 in August, 1906.

LACE TRADE.

(Based on 89 Returns—84 from Employers, 1 from an Employers' Association, 1 from a Trade Union, and 3 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good in England, and was better than a year ago. In Scotland it was dull, slightly worse than a month ago and worse than a year ago.

Returns from firms employing 9,042 workpeople in the week ended August 24th, and paying £9,152 in wages, showed an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 3.2 per cent. in the number employed, and of 2.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

At Nottingham employment was good in the levers and plain net branches, fair in the curtain branch. In the Long Eaton district it was fair; in the West of England it was good, and better than a year ago. In Scotland employment was dull in the curtain branch, and worse than a year ago.

Districts.	Workpeople covered by Returns.		Earnings.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
	No. paid wages on pay-day in week ended Aug. 24th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a month ago.	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay-day in week ended Aug. 24th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a month ago.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Branches.						
Levers ...	2,555	- 1.2	3,675	+ 4.0	+ 1.1	
Curtain ...	2,713	+ 0.6	2,570	- 2.6	- 2.1	
Plain Net ...	2,794	+ 1.3	2,219	- 2.2	+ 10.9	
Others ...	980	+ 0.4	688	- 1.6	+ 0.7	
Total ...	9,042	+ 0.3	9,152	+ 0.6	+ 2.3	
Districts.						
Nottingham City ...	2,040	+ 0.3	1,945	- 2.0	+ 5.1	
Long Eaton and other outlying districts	1,926	- 1.2	2,736	+ 6.3	+ 1.9	
Other English districts ...	3,158	+ 0.3	2,758	- 0.9	+ 6.7	
Scotland ...	1,918	+ 1.6	1,713	- 2.3	- 6.0	
Total ...	9,042	+ 0.3	9,152	+ 0.6	+ 2.3	

	Number of Workpeople paid Wages in last week of August, 1907, by firms making Returns.	Percentage Increase in No. of Workpeople as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
Machine-made Paper and Milled Boards:			
Northern Counties	6,018	+ 1'0	+ 2'9
Midlands, Wales, and Ireland...	1,947	+ 0'6	+ 2'4
Southern Counties	6,109	+ 0'9	+ 4'4
Scotland	5,706	+ 0'1	+ 1'5
Total, Machine-made Paper, &c.	19,780	+ 0'7	+ 2'9
Hand-made Paper	869	+ 0'1	+ 0'8
Total	20,649	+ 0'6	+ 2'8

Trade Unions in the machine-made paper trade with 1,914 members had 2'1 per cent. unemployed at the end of August, compared with 2'2 per cent. in July, and 3'0 per cent. in August, 1906. In the hand-made paper trade, Trade Unions with 611 members had 5'4 per cent. unemployed, compared with 6'4 per cent. a month ago, and 4'6 per cent. a year ago.

The imports of paper in August, 1907, amounted to £441,978, as compared with £481,992 in July, 1907, and £471,462 in August, 1906, and the exports for the same periods to £196,509, £204,448 and £166,710.

PRINTING TRADES.

Employment in these trades showed the usual seasonal decline in August. With letterpress printers employment was quiet on the whole; with lithographic printers it was moderate. Trade Unions with a membership of 48,000 had 5'8 per cent. unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 3'6 in July, and 5'5 a year ago.

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Aug., 1907, included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		Aug., 1907.	July, 1907.	Aug., 1906.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	19,699	7'1	4'2	6'4	+ 2'9	+ 0'7
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	5,253	5'6	3'0	6'3	+ 2'6	- 0'7
Lancashire and Cheshire	6,480	5'6	3'4	4'8	+ 2'2	+ 0'8
East Midland and Eastern Counties	2,366	4'3	3'6	4'4	+ 0'7	- 0'1
West Midlands	2,452	6'8	3'4	6'0	+ 3'4	+ 0'8
S. & S. W. Counties and Wales	3,898	3'1	2'0	3'6	+ 1'1	- 1'0
Scotland	5,399	2'6	2'9	3'6	- 0'3	- 0'5
Ireland	2,444	6'4	5'4	6'4	+ 1'0	...
United Kingdom	48,000	5'8	3'6	5'5	+ 2'2	+ 0'3

London.—Employment was very quiet with letterpress printers, with whom it was much worse than a month ago, and rather worse than a year ago. With lithographic printers employment was moderate on the whole; with electrotypers and stereotypers it was good. At the end of the month 7'1 per cent. of Trade Union members were unemployed, as compared with 4'2 per cent. at the end of July, 1907, and 6'4 per cent. at the end of August, 1906.

Other Centres.—Employment with letterpress printers was quiet generally, and worse than a month ago; it showed little change compared with a year ago. In Scotland, however, employment was fairly good, and better than in July. At Bolton it was reported as good, at Oxford as fairly good, and at Leicester as rather better than a month ago. With lithographic printers employment was moderate generally.

BOOKBINDING TRADES.

Employment was quiet, and worse than a year ago. At Leeds, however, it continued good.

The following Table shows the percentages unemployed in Trade Unions in the Bookbinding Trades:—

	No. of Members of Unions at end of Aug., 1907, included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		Aug., 1907.	July, 1907.	Aug., 1906.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London	3,613	7'4	7'4	5'2	...	+ 2'2
Other Districts	3,376	5'0	4'9	4'2	+ 0'1	+ 0'8
United Kingdom	6,989	6'3	6'2	4'7	+ 0'1.	+ 1'6

BUILDING TRADES.

(Based on 1,872 Returns—754 from Employers and Employers' Associations, received partly direct and partly through the Trade Correspondent, 1,078 from Trade Unions and their branches, and 40 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in August, though still dull, was better than a month ago, and rather better than a year ago.

Returns from 691 firms employing 46,062 workpeople at the end of August, are summarised below. In the London district there was an increase of 978, or 10'1 per cent., in the number of skilled tradesmen, and of 176, or 2'5 per cent., in the number of labourers employed. In the Northern Counties and Lancashire and Cheshire, there was a total decrease of 568, or 4'5 per cent.; and in the remaining districts there was a total increase of 472, or 3'1 per cent.

District.	Number of Workpeople paid Wages on the last pay-day of the month.							
	Skilled Tradesmen.		Labourers.		Lads and Boys.		Total.	
	Aug., 1907.	July, 1907.	Aug., 1907.	July, 1907.	Aug., 1907.	July, 1907.	Aug., 1907.	July, 1907.
London	10,670	9,692	7,170	6,994	563	563	18,403	17,219
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	2,551	2,719	2,188	2,333	519	534	5,258	5,386
Lancashire and Cheshire	3,672	3,826	2,412	2,505	851	844	6,935	7,175
Midland and Eastern Counties	2,321	2,287	1,732	1,717	334	338	4,387	4,342
S.S.W. Counties and Wales	2,897	2,899	1,946	1,742	436	442	5,279	5,083
England & Wales	22,111	21,423	15,448	15,291	2,703	2,721	40,262	39,433
Scotland	2,557	2,577	1,617	1,473	760	721	4,934	4,770
Ireland	402	364	403	387	56	48	866	793
United Kingdom	25,070	24,364	17,473	17,150	3,519	3,490	46,062	45,004

Employment was dull with most branches of the building trades, but better than a month ago and a year ago, except with painters, who reported a decline in employment. Slaters were moderately well employed.

The percentage of Trade Union carpenters and joiners unemployed at the end of August was 4'6, as compared with 5'0 a month ago and 5'1 a year ago; and for plumbers, for the same dates, 7'3, 8'8, and 7'5 respectively.

London.—Employment was dull generally, but decidedly better than a month ago, except with masons, who reported a slight decline. Painters were well employed. Trade Union returns relating to carpenters and joiners in the London district showed that 5'1 per cent. were unemployed at the end of the month, against 9'7 a month ago and 5'5 in August, 1906. The percentages for plumbers were 7'3, 14'4, and 7'5 respectively.

Northern Counties and Yorkshire.—At Leeds and Sheffield employment was fairly good, and at Hull an improvement was reported. On the Tyne and Wear employment was dull generally, but fair with slaters and labourers.

Lancashire and Cheshire.—Employment was fair with bricklayers and carpenters, but slack with plumbers and painters. At Manchester bricklayers reported an improvement, and painters a decline in employment.

Midland and Eastern Counties.—Employment continued dull generally. At Nottingham it was reported as moderate with carpenters and labourers, and fair with plasterers. At Leicester employment was worse than a month ago. At Coventry and Redditch employment was fair, and at Walsall an improvement was reported. At Norwich and Ipswich employment with labourers was exceptionally slack.

Southern and Western Counties and Wales.—Employment continued slack on the whole. At the smaller towns in the West of England it was fair, though bricklayers reported a decline in some places. Masons and painters at Cardiff were reported as fairly well employed.

Scotland.—Employment was dull with masons, plumbers and plasterers. With carpenters and oiners at Glasgow and Edinburgh it was moderate. At

GLASS TRADES.

(Based on 90 Returns—57 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 22 from Trade Unions, and 11 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT remained fairly good on the whole, and was better than a year ago.

Returns received from firms employing 9,930 workpeople in the week ended August 24th, and paying £11,903 in wages, showed a decrease of 0'1 per cent. in numbers employed, and of 0'6 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, as compared with a month ago.

Compared with a year ago there was an increase of 5'8 per cent. in numbers employed, and of 0'9* per cent. in the amount of wages paid, the increases being shared by all the principal districts with the exception of Worcester and Warwick, which showed a slight decline both in numbers employed and in the amount of wages paid.

Branches.	Workpeople covered by Returns.			Earnings.*		
	Number paid Wages on pay-day in week ended Aug. 24th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on pay-day in week ended Aug. 24th, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with	
		A Month ago.	A Year ago.		A Month ago.	A Year ago.
Glass Bottle	6,872	- 0'2	+ 8'6	8,590	- 0'5	+ 14'0
Plate Glass	851	+ 0'4	- 1'2	980	+ 0'9	+ 1'3
Flint Glass Ware (not Bottles)	1,802	+ 0'1	+ 1'6	1,891	- 1'5	+ 0'6
Other Branches	405	- 1'2	- 4'0	442	- 1'1	- 1'6
Total	9,930	- 0'1	+ 5'8	11,903	- 0'6	+ 9'9
Districts.						
North of England	996	+ 2'4	+ 6'4	1,208	+ 4'6	+ 20'0
Yorkshire	4,706	+ 0'2	+ 8'7	5,767	- 1'7	+ 11'5
Lancashire	1,905	- 1'8	+ 2'5	2,293	+ 1'5	+ 9'0
Worcester and Warwick	1,265	- 0'4	- 1'6	1,487	- 0'1	- 0'5
Scotland	729	- 1'0	+ 12'0	823	- 5'8	+ 12'4
Other parts of United Kingdom	329	...	+ 0'3	325	- 1'2	+ 1'6
Total	9,930	- 0'1	+ 5'8	11,903	- 0'6	+ 9'9

Employment with glass bottle makers was good at Bristol and Dublin, and in the North of England and in Scotland; moderate at Castleford and Mexborough, and in Lancashire; quiet at Leeds; some improvement was shown at Wakefield. It continued moderate with medical glass bottle makers at Leeds. With flint glass makers employment was generally fairly good; with cutters it was moderate, short time still being worked; in Wordsley and district, however, it was fairly good. Employment with plate glass bevellers at Birmingham was fair. It continued good with sheet glass makers and flatteners at St. Helens. It was fairly good with London glass blowers. Employment with pressed glass makers on the Tyne and Wear was moderate, and a considerable amount of short time was worked.

Imports and Exports.

Description.	Aug., 1907.	July, 1907.	Aug., 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Aug., 1907, as compared with	
				A Month ago.	A Year ago.
Imports:					
Window & German Sheet Glass, including Shades, &c.	cwts. 102,950	cwts. 110,512	cwts. 103,736	cwts. - 7,562	- 786
Plate	25,991	34,532	39,073	- 8,541	- 13,082
Flint, plain, cut or ornamental, &c.	67,469	71,630	76,150	- 4,161	- 8,681
Manufactures, other sorts...	849	580	3,329	+ 269	- 2,480
Bottles	gross 108,077	gross 119,899	gross 120,044	- 11,822	- 11,967
Exports:					
Plate	cwts. 9,577	cwts. 14,293	cwts. 9,703	- 4,716	- 126
Flint	6,233	7,333	6,467	- 1,100	- 234
Manufactures, other sorts	35,087	42,736	31,350	- 7,649	+ 3,737
Bottles	gross 72,220	gross 76,780	gross 65,622	- 4,560	+ 6,598

* The comparison with August, 1906, is affected to some extent by an advance in rates of wages in the glass bottle-making trade, which took effect in January-February, 1907.

Aberdeen employment was dull generally. At Dundee it was moderate on the whole.

Ireland.—Employment was dull generally, except in the Cork district, where it continued fair.

FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

(Based on 171 Returns—6 from Employers' Associations, 135 from Trade Unions, and 30 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the woodworking and furnishing trades was fair on the whole, but showed a slight decline as compared with a month ago. It was about the same as a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 53,271 reported 4'3 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 4'0 per cent. a month ago, and 4'2 per cent. in August, 1906.

Furnishing Trades.

Employment in the furnishing trades continued fair. Trade Unions reported 5'6 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 5'3 per cent. a month ago, and 5'4 per cent. in August, 1906. Employment with cabinet-makers was moderate in London. It was bad at Newcastle and Manchester. It was fairly good with french-polishers, and quiet with upholsterers.

The imports of furniture and cabinet ware in August, 1907, were valued at £34,097, as compared with £68,431 in July, 1907, and £54,307 in August, 1906; and the exports for the same periods were valued at £72,306, £58,696, and £69,045 respectively.

Millsawyers and Woodcutting Machinists.

Employment with millsawyers and woodcutting machinists continued fair. Trade Unions reported 4'3 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 4'1 per cent. a month ago, and 4'6 per cent. in August, 1906. Employment was moderate, on the whole, in London and at Birmingham; it was bad at Hull and Newcastle; at Glasgow it showed some improvement.

Imports of Timber, House Frames, &c.

Description.	August, 1907.	July, 1907.	August, 1906.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in August, 1907, as compared with a	
				Month ago.	Year ago.
Timber, hewn	Loads. 119,579	Loads. 102,086	Loads. 113,698	+ 17,493	+ 5,881
" sawn	823,703	892,857	1,084,462	- 69,154	- 260,759
House Frames, Fittings and Joiners' Work (value)	£ 17,402	£ 17,446	£ 25,542	- £ 44	- £ 6,140

Coopers.

Employment with coopers was fair generally, and showed an improvement as compared with both a month ago and a year ago. It was dull at Bristol and bad at Belfast. Short time was reported from Burton.

Coachbuilding.

Employment with coachmakers was fair generally, but showed a decline as compared with both a month ago and a year ago. At Liverpool it was moderate; at Manchester, good; at Dublin, bad. At Glasgow there was a decline as compared with a month ago. Trade Unions reported 3'5 per cent. of their members unemployed at the end of August, as compared with 2'9 per cent. a month ago, and 2'7 per cent. in August, 1906.

Miscellaneous.

Brushmakers.—Employment with brushmakers was quiet on the whole, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Trade Unions reported 5'0 per cent. of their members unemployed, as compared with 3'4 per cent. a month ago, and 4'2 per cent. in August, 1906.

Other Trades.—With packing-case makers employment was fair; at Bristol some short time was worked. Employment with basket-makers continued good.

The imports of brushes and brooms in August, 1907, were valued at £31,516, as compared with £29,274 in July, 1907, and £33,714 in August, 1906; and the exports for the same periods were valued at £16,864, £18,155, and £15,347 respectively.

POTTERY AND BRICK AND TILE TRADES.

(Based on 29 Returns—7 from Employers and Employers' Associations, 8 from Trade Unions, and 14 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the Pottery trade continued good on the whole, and was better than a year ago. In the Brick and Tile trades it was slack, and worse than a year ago.

Pottery Trade.—Employment continued good at Bristol and at Swadlincote. In Staffordshire it was fairly good on the whole, but affected to some extent by holidays; it was also fairly good in Devonshire; it continued fair at Newcastle-on-Tyne, and moderate in Scotland. With earthenware makers it was moderate in the South Yorkshire and River Aire district, and slack at Longton. Employment with insulator turners and throwers in the Potteries was fair. With clay tobacco-pipe makers it was good at Manchester, fair at Waterford, and dull at Glasgow.

Brick and Tile Trades.—Employment was slack at Peterborough, Ruabon, Wrexham, and Glasgow, and in Shropshire and the Tees and Hartlepool district. It was also dull at Exeter and Nottingham. It was moderate at Birmingham and fair in South Staffordshire. In South Wales and Monmouthshire it was good.

The Imports of chinaware or porcelain and earthenware in August, 1907, were valued at £85,734, as compared with £94,240 in July, 1907, and £76,439 in August, 1906; and the Exports for the same periods were valued at £243,184, £243,160, and £226,571 respectively.

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN ENGLAND.

(Based on 164 Returns from Correspondents in various districts.)

AGRICULTURAL employment was generally regular throughout August, though day labourers lost a few days in a number of districts through wet weather. This class of labour was in good demand on account of the prolonged hay harvest and, during the latter part of the month, the corn harvest, for which more hand labour than usual was required; the supply, however, was generally quite sufficient for requirements.

Northern Counties.—Correspondents in Cumberland and Westmorland state that, notwithstanding the unsettled weather, employment was fairly regular during August. Haymaking in the higher districts was backward, and the corn harvest commenced under unfavourable conditions. The supply of day labourers was about equal to the demand. In Lancashire outdoor work was somewhat hindered by rain. Turnips and other crops were backward through want of sunshine, and little harvest work was done till the last week of the month. Day labourers were in fairly good demand in Yorkshire owing to the late haymaking, as well as for hoeing roots and trimming hedges, and the corn harvest provided plentiful employment at the end of the month.

Midland Counties.—In Cheshire and Derbyshire some day labourers lost time through wet weather. The supply of such labour was generally sufficient. A correspondent in the Hayfield (Derbyshire) Union writes that fewer Irish haymakers than usual have come this year. Showery weather delayed the haymaking in Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire, but the regularity of employment was not much affected. The supply of day labour was in some districts in Nottinghamshire scarcely equal to the demand, while a scarcity of men for permanent situations was reported in the Uppingham Union in Leicestershire. Outdoor work was somewhat interfered with by rain in Staffordshire and Shropshire, and some day labourers were irregularly employed. Similar reports come from Worcestershire and Warwickshire. Owing to showery weather, the haymaking in Northamptonshire was prolonged, and roots required more hoeing than usual. There was consequently a fair demand for extra labour, although a few day labourers lost time. The demand for such labour

was somewhat above the ordinary, but the supply was generally quite sufficient. A correspondent in the Towcester Union states that more men now appear willing to take permanent situations. In Oxfordshire little interruption to outdoor work is reported. Some hindrance to employment from rain is mentioned in the reports from Buckinghamshire; there was a good demand for extra labour, but the supply was sufficient. In Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire, owing to the wet and stormy weather, much of the corn had to be cut by hand, and a good deal of hoeing was required on the root crops. Day labourers were consequently in good demand.

Eastern Counties.—Good progress on the corn harvest, digging potatoes, &c., is reported from Huntingdonshire, and agricultural labourers were well employed generally. Employment was somewhat irregular in Cambridgeshire, owing to the lateness of the harvest. Wet weather caused some loss of time to casual labourers in Lincolnshire in the early part of August, but employment afterwards became regular, and the corn harvest provided abundant work. The supply of extra labour was generally sufficient. According to reports from Norfolk, the harvest only commenced towards the end of the month, and work was then plentiful. A correspondent in the Smallburgh Union states that owing to the harvest being late and other farm-work being forward, some men were obliged to stand off for a day or two. Employment was fairly regular in Suffolk, and few day labourers were out of work. In certain districts, however, it is stated that owing to the increased use of machines some men failed to obtain an engagement for harvest. A scarcity of men for permanent situations is mentioned in one or two Unions. Although rain caused some interruption to employment in the early part of August in Essex, there was plenty of work in haymaking and cleaning roots. A few day labourers were in irregular work in the early part of the month. When the harvest became general, however, extra labour was in demand.

Southern and South-Western Counties.—Agricultural labourers in Kent were, generally speaking, fully employed at haymaking and hoeing until the corn harvest commenced. There was a good demand for day labourers, but the supply was adequate, and in some districts in excess. Unsettled weather in the early part of the month caused some irregularity of employment in Surrey, but not to any great extent. In Sussex work was plentiful in finishing the haymaking, hoeing turnips, mangels and cabbages, and latterly in harvesting. There was, however, no scarcity of casual labour. In Hampshire and Berkshire the corn harvest was delayed by cold and dull weather, and some men employed on piecework lost time through rain. Wet weather caused some irregularity of employment in Wiltshire, and delayed the haymaking. Day labourers were in some demand for hoeing roots and for cutting the corn, the crop requiring more labour than usual. The supply of such men was generally sufficient. A scarcity of men for milking is mentioned in the Highworth and Swindon Union. Employment was generally regular in Dorset and Somerset. Regularity of employment is reported from Herefordshire, where, owing to the corn being very much laid by storms, it could only be partially cut by machine, and extra labour was consequently in demand. The hay and corn harvests generally provided full employment in Gloucestershire. In Devon and Cornwall the harvest was very late, and through the showery weather the root crops required extra weeding. Employment was plentiful, and the supply of casual labour was generally sufficient.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

(Based on 141 Returns—116 from Employers' Associations, 12 from Trade Unions, and 13 from Local Correspondents.)

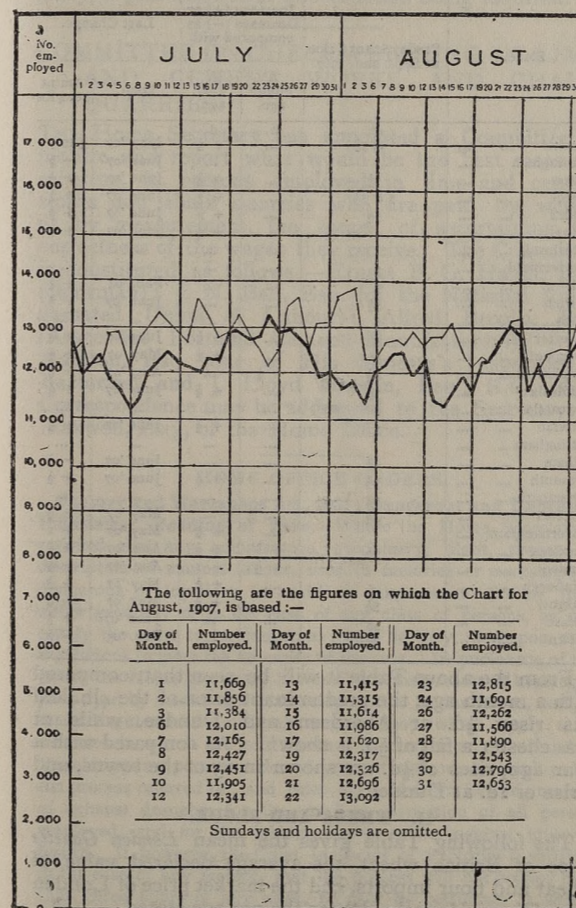
EMPLOYMENT was moderate generally in London, and was not quite so good as a month ago. At the other principal ports it was fairly good, and better than a month ago.

London.*—Employment generally was moderate, and not so good as a month ago and a year ago. There were no wool sales during the month. The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves in the five weeks ended August 31st was 12,075, a decrease of 2.3 per cent. as compared with the previous month, and of 5.6 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves in London.				
	In Docks*			At 111 Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended Aug. 3rd	3,088	2,247	6,234	5,545	11,779
" " 10th	3,815	2,546	6,361	5,751	12,112
" " 17th	3,951	2,384	6,335	5,380	11,715
" " 24th	4,054	2,885	6,938	5,551	12,489
" " 31st	3,712	2,918	6,630	5,655	12,285
Average for 5 weeks ended Aug. 31st, 1907	3,907	2,598	6,505	5,570	12,075
Average for July, 1907	4,288	2,640	6,928	5,436	12,364
Average for Aug. 1906	4,437†	2,634†	7,071†	5,724†	12,794†

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 111 of the principal Wharves, for each day during the months of July, 1907, and August, 1907. The corresponding curve for July, 1906, and August, 1906, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1907, and the thin curve to 1906.]



The following are the figures on which the Chart for August, 1907, is based:—

Day of Month.	Number employed.	Day of Month.	Number employed.	Day of Month.	Number employed.
1	11,669	13	11,445	25	12,815
2	11,816	14	11,315	26	11,691
3	11,384	15	11,614	27	12,262
4	12,010	16	11,986	28	11,566
5	12,165	17	11,620	29	11,890
6	12,427	18	12,317	30	12,543
7	12,451	19	12,326	31	12,796
8	11,995	20	12,696		
9	12,341	21	13,092		
10		22			
11					
12					

Sundays and holidays are omitted.

The daily numbers in August ranged from 11,315 on the 14th to 13,092 on the 22nd. During the corresponding month of 1906 the numbers ranged from 11,992 on the 25th to 13,820 on the 3rd.

The mean daily number employed at Tilbury Dock was 1,104 in August, 1907, as compared with 1,173 in the previous month, and 1,101 in August, 1906.

At Liverpool employment with dock labourers was fair, and showed some improvement compared with a month

* Exclusive of Tilbury. † Revised figures.

ago. With quay and railway carters it was also fair, but there was a falling off in the cartage of cotton.

Other Ports.—Employment was generally good, and better than a month ago, on the Tyne and Wear. It continued good at Middlesbrough, and fair at the Hartlepoons. There was a decline at Hull, Grimsby and Goole, where employment was moderate; it continued good, however, with coal workers. Dockers were fully employed at Yarmouth; at Ipswich employment was fair. At Southampton employment was reported as good. Employment was moderate at Plymouth. An improvement was reported at Bristol, where employment generally was fair. Dockers were well employed on the whole in the South Wales ports, but the decline reported last month continued at Swansea. At Leith and Glasgow, dockers were fairly well employed, and a slight improvement took place at Dundee. At Dublin and Belfast employment was good generally; at the latter port much overtime was worked.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

(Based on 19 Returns—2 from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, 10 from the Collectors of Fishery Statistics for England and Wales and the Fishery Board for Scotland, 1 from the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, and 6 from Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT at the principal ports on the whole was good, and better than a month ago. At Yarmouth employment continued good with fishermen, and was fair, and better than a month ago, with fish dock labourers and curers. At Lowestoft it was generally fair, and better than a month ago, though still moderate with fish curers. Employment was also moderate with fish curers at Hull, with fishermen and fish dock labourers it was reported as good. It was good, and better than a month ago, at Grimsby. Employment was good at Aberdeen, Peterhead, and Fraserburgh. It was moderate at Macduff. At Brixham and Plymouth employment was generally fair, and better than a month ago. Employment was generally good off the south-west coast of Ireland.

The following Table gives the quantities and values of the fish landed in August, 1907 and 1906, respectively:—

	Quantity.		Value.	
	Aug., 1907.	Aug., 1906.	Aug., 1907.	Aug., 1906.
Fish (other than Shell):				
England and Wales	Cwts. 1,310,488	Cwts. 1,208,861	£ 670,082	£ 611,875
Scotland	2,282,062	1,885,950	698,515	741,219
Ireland	47,411	43,530	17,765	17,537
Total	3,640,861	3,138,321	1,395,362	1,370,631
Shell Fish	—	—	32,514	32,571
Total Value	—	—	1,427,876	1,403,202

The Exports of herrings, cured or salted, in August, 1907, were valued at £692,891, as compared with £561,170 in July, 1907, and £529,522 in August, 1906.

SEAMEN SHIPPED IN AUGUST.

(Based on 27 Returns received through the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.)

RETURNS received from certain selected ports (at which 83 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared) show that during August 45,594* seamen, of whom 4,905 (or 10.8 per cent.) were foreigners, were shipped on foreign-going vessels. In ten cases there were increases, and in seven cases there were decreases, as compared with August, 1906. The largest increase was at Southampton, and the most marked decreases were at Glasgow and Sunderland.

For the eight months ended August, 1907, the total number of seamen shipped was 328,553,* or 14,923 more than during the corresponding period of 1906, chiefly accounted for by large increases at Southampton, Liverpool, Cardiff, Glasgow, and Middlesbrough. There was a considerable decrease at the Tyne Ports.

Lascars are not included in these figures.

* The figures relate to engagements, and not to individual seamen.

The following Table shows the number of persons* shipped as crews of foreign-going vessels at the selected ports during the periods mentioned:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Seamen* shipped in					
	August,			Eight months ended August,		
	1906.	1907.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1907.	1906.	1907.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1907.
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
East Coast.						
Tyne Ports ...	3,062	3,037	- 25	22,908	21,382	- 1,526
Sunderland ...	573	418	- 155	3,496	3,170	- 326
Middlesbrough ...	338	413	+ 75	2,254	3,340	+ 1,086
Hull ...	1,235	1,375	+ 140	10,348	10,416	+ 68
Grimsby ...	123	84	- 39	1,193	1,092	- 101
Bristol Channel.						
Bristol ...	614	685	+ 71	5,212	5,032	- 180
Newport, Mon. ...	1,045	1,025	- 20	7,680	7,393	- 287
Cardiff ...	4,692	4,918	+ 226	38,869	41,402	+ 2,533
Swansea ...	555	703	+ 148	3,574	4,223	+ 649
Other Ports.						
Liverpool ...	17,549	18,134	+ 585	116,892	121,436	+ 4,544
London ...	5,908	5,692	- 216	48,336	48,197	- 139
Southampton ...	2,104	4,052	+ 1,948	16,660	24,772	+ 8,112
SCOTLAND.						
Leith ...	327	496	+ 169	3,980	3,806	- 174
Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth ...	293	298	+ 5	1,974	1,878	- 96
Glasgow ...	4,324	4,013	- 311	27,664	28,767	+ 1,103
IRELAND.						
Dublin ...	82	58	- 24	851	446	- 405
Belfast ...	165	193	+ 28	1,739	1,801	+ 62
Total ...	42,989	45,594	+ 2,605	313,630	323,553	+ 9,923

PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.

I.—BREAD.

RETURNS have been received from the principal Co-operative Societies and Master Bakers' Associations in Great Britain, and from Local Correspondents, showing the price of ordinary household bread per 4 lbs. on September 2nd, 1907.

Returns from Co-operative Societies.

The figures in the following Table are based on 234 Returns from Co-operative Societies in England and Wales, and 132 from Scotland:—

District.	Price on (2nd Sept., 1907.)			Price last quarter. (1st June, 1907.)			Price a year ago. (1st Sept., 1906.)		
	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.
ENGLAND AND WALES.									
N. Counties and } Yorkshire									
	7	4½	5-07	7	4½	5-06	7	4½	5-04
Lancs. & Cheshire									
	6	4	5-34	6	4	5-26	6	4½	5-23
N. Mid. Counties...									
	5½	4	5-01	5½	4	5-06	5½	4	5-04
W. do. do. ...									
	6	4½	5-23	5½	4½	5-06	5½	4½	5-04
S. do. do. ...									
	5½	4	5-00	5½	4	5-00	5½	4	5-05
Eastern Counties...									
	6	5	5-30	6	4½	5-30	6	4½	5-25
London ...									
	5½	5	5-45	5½	5	5-14	5½	5	5-33
S.E. Counties ...									
	6	5	5-61	6	5	5-39	6	5	5-32
S.W. Counties, } Wales & Mon. }									
	6	4½	5-30	5½	4½	5-09	5½	4½	5-02
England and Wales ...									
	7	4	5-30	7	4	5-14	7	4	5-14
SCOTLAND.									
N. Counties ...									
	6	5	5-60	6	5	5-43	6	5	5-39
Eastern Counties									
	7	4	5-76	6½	4	5-52	6	4	5-33
Lanarkshire ...									
	6	5	5-60	6	5	5-57	5½	5	5-12
Other Southern Counties ...									
	6½	5½	5-91	6	5½	5-87	6	5	5-63
Scotland ...									
	7	4	5-75	6½	4	5-61	6	4	5-41
Great Britain ...									
	7	4	5-47	7	4	5-31	7	4	5-23

It will be seen that the mean of the prices for September 2nd is 16d. higher per 4 lbs. than that for June 1st, 1907. As compared with a year ago an increase of 16d. is shown in England, and of 34d in Scotland.

The figures in the following Tables are based on

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

Returns received from Master Bakers' Associations and from other sources:—

	2nd Sept., 1907.			1st August, 1907.			1st Sept., 1906.		
	Predominant Prices.			Predominant Prices.			Predominant Prices.		
	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.	High-est.	Low-est.	Mean.
London:—	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
N. & N.W. ...	5½	5	5-2	5½	5	5-2	5	4	4-9
E. & N.E. ...	5½	4	4-9	5½	4	4-9	5	4	4-6
S.E. ...	5½	5	5-1	5½	5	5-1	5½	4	4-9
S.W. ...	5½	5	5-3	5½	5	5-1	5½	4½	5-1
W. & W.C. ...	5½	5	5-3	5½	5	5-3	5½	5	5-3
N. Counties & Yorks, Lancs. & Cheshire									
Midlands ...	6	5	5-3	6	5	5-2	6	4½	5-0
Eastern Counties ...	5½	4½	5-1	5½	4½	5-0	5½	4	4-9
Southern Counties ...	6	4½	5-2	6	4½	5-2	5½	4½	4-9
S. Western Counties and Wales	6½	5	5-7	6½	5	5-7	6	5	5-5
Scotland ...	6	4½	5-3	6	4½	5-3	6	4½	5-0
Great Britain ...	6½	4	5-3	6½	4	5-2	6	4	5-0

As compared with a month ago the prices show but little change. Compared with a year ago an increase of 0-3d. has occurred. It may be added that, since September 2nd there has been an increase in the price of bread in a number of districts.

PRICE OF BREAD IN 29 LARGE TOWNS.

Place.	Predominant Price at Sept. 2nd, 1907.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		Last Change.
		A Month ago.	A Year ago.	
London ...	d. & 5½	...	+	May '07 ½ to ½
Birmingham ...	5	...	+	June '07 - ½
Bolton ...	5½	...	+	June '07 + ½
Bristol ...	5 & 5½	...	+	June '07 + ½
Cardiff ...	5½	...	+	June '07 + ½
Derby ...	5	...	+	June '07 + ½
Gateshead ...	5	...	...	...
Huddersfield ...	5	...	...	...
Hull ...	5	...	...	Feb. '04 + ½
Ipswich ...	5	...	...	June '07 + ½
Leeds ...	5	...	...	...
Leicester ...	5	...	+	June '07 + ½
Liverpool ...	5	...	+	May '07 + ½
Manchester ...	4½	...	...	Aug. '07 - ½
Middlesbro' ...	5	...	+	June '07 + ½
Newcastle ...	5	...	...	...
Norwich ...	5	...	+	June '07 + ½
Nottingham ...	5	...	...	...
Oldham ...	4½	...	...	June '07 - ½
Plymouth ...	5½	...	+	June '07 + ½
Portsmouth ...	5½	...	...	...
Potteries ...	4½	...	...	May '07 + ½
Wolverhampton ...	5	...	+	May '07 + ½
Aberdeen ...	5½	...	+	Aug. '07 + ½
Dundee ...	5	...	+	Aug. '07 + ½
Edinburgh ...	5	...	...	May '07 + ½
Glasgow ...	5½	...	+	May '07 + ½
Belfast ...	5½	...	...	June '07 + ½
Dublin ...	5½	...	...	Dec. '05 - ½

From the above Table it will be seen that, compared with a month ago, the predominant price of the 4lb. loaf has risen ½d. at Aberdeen and Dundee, while at Manchester a fall of ½d. is shown. As compared with a year ago, rises of ½d. are shown in 13 of the towns, and a rise of 1d. at Dundee.

II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

The following Table gives the mean London Gazette price of British wheat, the average declared value of wheat and flour imports, and the market price of London flour (Town Households) for the periods stated.

Month.	British Wheat.		Imports.		Average Monthly Price of Flour (Town Households) per Mill for cash.
	Mean London Gazette Price (England and Wales).	Average Declared Value.	Wheat.	Wheat-meal and Flour.	
1906.	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	Per cwt. s. d.	
August ...	6 10	6 11½	9 5½	9 2½	
1907.					
July ...	7 6	7 7½	9 6	10 4½	
August ...	7 10	7 9½	9 8½	10 5½	

The imports of wheat from September 1st, 1906, to August 31st, 1907, amounted to 94,736,500 cwts., or 178,278 cwts. more than in the corresponding period of 1905-6. The imports of wheat-meal and flour during the same period amounted to 13,220,717 cwts., or 1,212,183 cwts. less than in September-August, 1905-6.

WORKMEN'S ACCIDENTS. Franco-Italian Agreement.

THE text of an Agreement between the French and Italian Governments relating to the treatment of workpeople in case of labour accidents is given in a recent despatch to the Foreign Office.* According to this Agreement, which was signed by the representatives of the two Governments on June 9th, 1906, and ratified on June 4th, 1907, Italian workpeople who meet with accidents arising out of and in the course of their employment while working upon French territory (or the representatives of such workpeople) are enabled to claim compensation under the laws of the country in which they are employed, as if they were French subjects, and vice versa. Provision is likewise made for the claims of dependents not residing, or who have ceased to reside, in the country in which the accidents occur.

This Agreement is to hold good for five years, and thereafter to continue in force until denounced by either party, a year's notice of denunciation being required.

COMMITTEE ON CHECKWEIGHING IN LIME AND CEMENT WORKS AND CHALK QUARRIES.

THE Home Secretary has appointed a Committee to inquire and report what would be the best means of securing, to persons employed in lime and cement works and chalk quarries who are paid by weight or by measurement, the means of ascertaining the correctness of the wages they receive. The Committee is constituted as follows:—Ernest F. G. Hatch, Esq. (chairman); J. N. Bell, Esq. (of the National Amalgamated Union of Labour); Alfred Brooks, Esq. (Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers); J. E. Harston, Esq. (one of His Majesty's Inspectors of Factories), and J. Lloyd Morgan, Esq., K.C., M.P. Correspondence may be addressed to the Secretary, A. Maxwell, Esq., of the Home Office.

HOME OFFICE ORDERS.

Factory and Workshops Act, 1901; Dangerous and Unhealthy Industries: Heading of Yarn.—Where the Home Secretary is satisfied that any manufacture, machinery, plant, process or description of manual labour, used in factories or workshops, is dangerous or injurious to health or dangerous to life or limb, either generally or in the case of any class of persons, he may certify the same to be dangerous; and he may thereupon make regulations to meet the necessity of the case. In pursuance of this power the Home Secretary has certified the process of heading of yarn dyed by means of a lead compound to be dangerous, and has made Regulations† dated 6th August, 1907, which apply to all factories in which the said process is carried on. Under these Regulations no person under 16 years of age may be employed in the process referred to; and rules are laid down for the provision of exhaust draught, for the medical inspection of all persons employed, and for the taking of precautions against injury to health. If, however, the Chief Inspector of Factories is satisfied, in the case of any factory, that the process will not occupy more than three hours in any week, he may by certificate in writing suspend the rules as to persons under 16, Health Register, and medical inspection; but such certificate is revocable at any time.

Spinning and Weaving Hemp and Jute.—The Home Secretary has also certified the processes of spinning and weaving hemp or jute, or hemp or jute tow, and the processes incidental thereto, to be dangerous, and has made Regulations‡ dated August 28th 1907, which apply to all factories, except scutch mills, in which any of the said processes are carried on, and which come into operation on January 1st, 1908. By these Regulations rules are made as to the amount of carbonic acid which may be present

* From H.M. Representative at Rome, dated August 1st.
† Statutory Rules and Orders, 1907. No. 616. Wyman & Sons, Ltd.: Price, 1d.
‡ Statutory Rules and Orders, 1907. No. 660. Wyman & Sons, Ltd.: Price, 1d.

in the air of any room during working hours, as to the temperature and humidity of the rooms, and as to the protection of persons employed from inhaling injurious dust.

Accidents on Premises of Railway and Dock Companies.—Railway Companies are obliged by various Railway Acts to give notice to the Board of Trade of accidents occurring on their premises; and under the Factory and Workshop Acts, and the Notice of Accidents Act, 1906, they are obliged to give notice of accidents to the Inspectors of Factories. The provisions as to such notices in many cases overlap, and to avoid the inconvenience of such overlapping an arrangement was made in 1897 between the Home Office and the Board of Trade by which one report was in many cases accepted on behalf of both Departments. This arrangement was set out in a circular letter from the Home Office to the railway companies dated July 21st, 1897. In the case of docks, whether belonging to railway or dock companies, many accidents happen to seamen not engaged in dock work, and to members of the public, which accidents are not connected with the processes carried on at the docks. Doubts have arisen as to the duty of the companies in reporting such accidents; and also as to reporting accidents in goods yards and sheds, it being uncertain whether such places are "warehouses." To remove such doubts the Home Office has sent circular letters, dated August 30th, 1907, to the railway and dock companies, amending the arrangement of 1897, and making provisions relieving the companies of the making of unnecessary reports, and defining their duties as to the notices required. These letters are accompanied by a new Form* to be used in giving notice of an accident; and also by a copy of the Order† of December 22nd, 1906, made by the Home Secretary under the Notice of Accidents Act, 1906, requiring notice to be given to the Inspector of certain dangerous occurrences, whether causing personal injury or not.

HOME OFFICE MEMORANDUM.—DANGEROUS PROPERTIES OF FERRO-SILICON.

THE Board of Trade have received from the Home Office the following Memorandum relative to the dangerous properties of ferro-silicon:—

"Professor Cronquist, of Stockholm, who was instructed to investigate the causes of the death of four of the passengers on board the Swedish steamship "Olaf Wijk," confirms the view that their death must be attributed to gases given off by ferro-silicon contained in the hold under the cabins.

"High grade ferro-silicon, although it has been known to chemists for many years, has only recently been prepared on a large scale for technical purposes, i.e., for adding to steel to increase the proportion of silicon; in steel rails about 0.5 per cent. of silicon is required in the finished steel, and in high silicon castings about 0.25 per cent.

"It is made by heating together iron ore, quartz, coke and lime (as a flux) to an enormously high temperature in the electrical furnace; the coke reduces the quartz and ore to silicon and metal, with the production of ferro-silicon containing up to 80 per cent. silicon. It is generally packed in iron drums or casks for export.

"Certain kinds of ferro-silicon seem to be decomposed, or rather disintegrated into powder, by the action of moist air; this apparently is not dependent on the proportion of silicon present, as specimens containing up to 80 per cent. silicon have been found to remain unchanged for weeks.

"Its poisonous properties can be simply explained by the fact that it is liable to evolve phosphoretted and arseniuretted hydrogen in contact with moisture. The iron ore and quartz often contain phosphates, which in presence of carbon, and at the high temperature of the electrical furnace, would no doubt be converted into phosphides, combining with the lime to form calcium phosphide, in the same way any arsenic present would yield calcium arsenide. These would be decomposed in presence of water and evolve phosphoretted and arseniuretted hydrogen, both of which possess powerful poisoning properties.

"The explosions that have occasionally occurred are more difficult to explain, and various theories have been put forward to explain them.

"These properties of ferro-silicon indicate that considerable danger is connected with its transport, not only to persons on the ship, but to dock labourers engaged in unloading it at docks.

"Prima facie, it seems that the presence of moisture is the cause of the accidents, and every effort should be made to ensure that the material is in a dry condition when packed, and that there is no possibility of moisture gaining access to the receptacles containing it."

* Form 43. Wyman & Sons, Ltd. Price 2 for 1d., or 25 for 4d., or in books of 150 for 2s.
† Statutory Rules and Order, 1906. No. 933. Wyman & Sons, Ltd. Price 1d.

TRADE DISPUTES IN AUGUST.*

Number and Magnitude.—Twenty-seven new disputes began in August, 1907, as compared with 27 in July, 1907, and 28 in August, 1906. By the 27 disputes, 4,829 workpeople were directly and 3,587 indirectly affected, and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople affected by old disputes which began before August and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 13,912 workpeople involved in trade disputes during August, 1907, compared with 23,776 in July, 1907, and 14,096 in August, 1906.

New Disputes in August, 1907.—In the following Table the new disputes in August are summarised by trades affected:—

Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople affected.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Coal Mining and Quarrying ...	10	3,640	348	3,988
Metal, Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	6	295	41	336
Textile ...	6	453	144	597
Boot and Shoe Manufacture ...	1	44	354	398
Cap Manufacture ...	1	300	2,700	3,000
Other Trades ...	3	97	...	97
Total, August, 1907 ...	27	4,829	3,587	8,416
Total, July, 1907 ...	27	9,959	7,100	17,059
Total, August, 1906 ...	28	6,271	2,580	8,791

Causes.—Of the 27 new disputes, 11 arose on demands for increased wages, 3 on objections to reductions in wages, and 2 on other wages questions, 5 on questions of the employment of particular classes or persons, 4 on questions of Trade Union principle, and 2 on details of working arrangements.

Results.—Definite results were reported in the case of 18 new disputes, directly affecting 2,658 persons, and 14 old disputes, directly affecting 3,514 persons. Of these 32 new and old disputes, 13, directly involving 2,223 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 12, directly involving 2,038 persons, were decided in

favour of the employers; and 7, directly involving 1,911 persons, were compromised. In the case of 4 other disputes, directly involving 1,824 persons, work has been resumed pending further negotiations.

Aggregate Duration.—The aggregate duration in August of disputes that started or were settled in that month was 138,600 working days. In addition, 46,800 working days were lost during August owing to disputes which began before that month, and were still in progress at the end of the month. Thus the total duration in August of all disputes, new and old, was 185,400 working days, as compared with 288,600 in the previous month, and 109,100 in the corresponding month of 1906.

Summary for the First Eight Months of 1906 and 1907.—Summarised by trades, the number of disputes, the workpeople affected, and the aggregate duration in working days for the eight months, January to August, 1906 and 1907 respectively, were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January—August, 1906.			January—August, 1907.		
	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople affected.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.	No. of Disputes.	Number of Workpeople affected.	Aggregate Duration in Working Days.
Building ...	11	767	38,300	17	947	22,700
Mining and Quarrying...	61	39,845	615,000	71	39,061	402,600
Metal, Engineering, and Shipbuilding	73	15,921	227,900	69	13,077	369,800
Textile ...	79	61,393	667,700	110	28,456	440,000
Clothing ...	30	7,013	85,100	32	6,570	96,800
Transport ...	10	891	6,000	21	6,761	87,700
Other Trades ...	35	2,740	29,300	49	3,780	66,200
Total ...	299	128,573	1,670,300	369	98,652	1,485,800

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

Principal Trade Disputes.

Occupations.†	Locality.	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began in 1907.	Duration in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.‡	Result.‡
		Directly.	Indirectly.‡				
Coal Mining—Miners, &c. ...	Durham (near)	1,081	...	8 May	58	Dispute as to granting of free colliery houses	Work resumed on old conditions.
Cotton Weaving—Weavers, Winders, Loomers, Warehousemen, &c. ...	Preston ...	290	60	1 July	42	For reinstatement of discharged workpeople	Workpeople not reinstated.
Weavers, Overlookers, &c. ...	Burnley ...	327	50	28 Mar.	131	Alleged bad material ...	10s. d. per loom compensation paid.
Boot and Shoe Manufacture—Finishers, Lasters, Clickers, Pressmen, &c. ...	Leicester ...	44	354	27 Aug.	5	Objection to conduct of a foreman...	Work resumed on understanding that grievance should be inquired into.
Cap Manufacture—Cap Makers ...	Manchester ...	300	2,700	6 Aug.	22	For recognition of Trade Union ...	For terms of settlement see p. 259.
Transport—Carters, Labourers and Stablemen ...	Belfast ...	1,000	100	27 June	42	Strike of about 200 men on 27th June for advance in wages and recognition of Trade Union, followed by lock-out of other men on 4th July	Advance in wages granted: men not to object to employment of non-unionists.

* Disputes involving less than 10 workpeople, and those which lasted less than one day have, as usual, been omitted from the statistics, except when the aggregate duration exceeded 100 days.
 † In making up the totals for the several months of the year, the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information.
 ‡ The occupations printed in italics are those of workpeople "indirectly affected," i.e., thrown out of work at the establishments where the disputes occurred, but not themselves on strike or locked out. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

UNDERFERD CHILDREN IN LONDON.

The London County Council has published the Report* of the Joint Committee on underferd children for the season 1906-7.

During the season 1906-7, meals were provided for children in 263 schools, the average weekly number of children fed being 26,821, and the average weekly number of meals provided being 66,436, or 2.47 meals per child, a decrease of .21 as compared with the previous year. Meals were provided in 102 schools during 10 weeks or less, in 104 schools from 11 to 15 weeks, in 41 from 16 to 20 weeks, and in 16 for more than 20 weeks.

* No. 1071. Price 6d. P. S. King & Son.

The Joint Committee are of opinion that the relief required by necessitous children can be met from voluntary contributions, provided that the organization for inquiry into want, for collecting subscriptions and for distributing food, is rendered effective; and they have made recommendations as to this organization, which they believe will effect the object desired.

The Joint Committee have found however that attention has been too much concentrated on the winter, and that sufficient measures have not been taken to meet the occasional claims that arise in the summer and early autumn.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.*

Wages.

Changes reported in August.—The net effect of all the changes reported in August was an increase of £48,180 per week, as compared with an increase of £12,460 per week in July, 1907, and one of £10,363 per week in August, 1906. The number of workpeople affected was 748,996, all of whom received advances. The total number affected by changes in the preceding month was 199,938, and in August, 1906, 295,607.

Two changes, affecting 630 workpeople, were settled by arbitration; eight changes, affecting 643,397 workpeople, were arranged by Conciliation Boards; and fifteen changes, affecting 11,644 workpeople, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting 93,325 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives; three of these, affecting 548 workpeople, being preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

Summary for the Eight completed Months of 1907.—The total number of workpeople (separate individuals) whose wages were changed, so far as reported, during the eight months ended August 31st, 1907, was 1,170,287, as compared with 887,525 for the corresponding period of 1906. The changes arranged gave 1,169,724 workpeople a net increase of £169,044 per week, and 563 workpeople a net decrease of £75 per week. The net effect of the changes was thus an increase of £168,969 per week, as compared with an increase of £40,062 per week in the corresponding period of 1906.

Summarised by trades, the number of workpeople

affected by these reported changes, and the net result on their weekly wages, were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January-August.			
	1906.		1907.	
Building ...	No. 2,982	£ - 160	No. 2,463	£ + 165
Coal Mining ...	314,488	+ 16,530	779,998	+ 146,351
Iron, &c., Mining ...	8,311	+ 688	15,540	+ 1,723
Quarrying ...	4,090	- 59	2,751	+ 104
Pig Iron Manufacture ...	16,299	+ 938	16,297	+ 1,628
Iron and Steel Manufacture ...	52,465	+ 4,176	52,324	+ 4,509
Engineering and Shipbuilding...	94,562	+ 5,343	33,899	+ 1,745
Other Metal Trades ...	147	+ 36	673	+ 41
Textile Trades ...	385,459	+ 12,133	244,432	+ 11,244
Printing, &c., Trades ...	590	+ 46	7,689	+ 374
Glass, &c., Trades ...	760	+ 66	3,895	+ 371
Other Trades ...	1,611	+ 169	6,333	+ 266
Employees of Local Authorities ...	5,160	+ 196	9,935	+ 238
Total ...	887,525	+ 40,062	1,170,287	+ 168,969

Hours.

The changes in hours of labour reported during August, 1907, affected 3,436 workpeople, whose aggregate working time was reduced by 1,529 hours per week. The total number of workpeople reported as affected by changes in hours of labour in the eight months ended August 31st, 1907, was 12,369, the net decrease in their working hours being 20,002 per week.

Principal Changes in Wages and Hours in August.

Particulars of the principal changes in rates of wages and hours of labour reported in August are given below. The details of the other changes reported are not separately stated in the Table, but they are included in the preceding statistics.

PRINCIPAL CHANGES REPORTED IN AUGUST.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change takes effect in 1907.	Occupation.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by	Particulars of Change. (Decreases in italics)	
					Increase.	Decrease.
I.—RATES OF WAGES.						
Coal Mining	Northumberland	5 & 12 Aug.	Deputies ...	1,100	...	Advance of 5d. per day (6s. 4d. to 6s. 9d.).
			Mechanics ...	1,600	...	Advance of 5d. per day (5s. 2d. to 5s. 7d.).
			Enginemmen ...	700	...	Advance of 5d. per day. Wages after change: Winding Enginemmen, 5s. 10d.; Hauling and Pumping Enginemmen, 5s. 9d.
Coal Mining	Durham ...	5 & 12 Aug.	Firemen ...	250	...	Advance of 7 per cent., making wages 31 per cent. above the standard of 1899.
			Underground Workers, Banksmen, Cokemen, Enginemmen and Mechanics	110,000	...	Advance of 7½ per cent., making wages 47½ per cent. above the standard of 1899.
Coal Mining	Cumberland ...	{ 1 Sep. 1 Oct. }	Hewers and other Underground Workers	6,000	...	Advance of 2½ per cent.
			Federated Districts†	13 Sept.	Underground Workers ...	275,000	...	Further advance of 2½ per cent., making wages of Hewers 55 per cent., and of other Underground Workers 45 per cent., above the standard of November, 1899.
Coal Mining	South Staffs. and East Worcester (parts of)	13 Sept.	Surface Workers ...	60,000	...	Advance of 5 per cent., making wages of Hewers 55 per cent. above the standard of 1888.
			Hewers and other Underground and Surface Workers	12,000	...	Advance of 5 per cent., to those engaged on the pit banks and screens in manipulating coal.
Coal Mining	South Wales and Monmouthshire	1 Sept.	Miners, &c. ...	150,000	...	Advance of 5 per cent., making wages 57½ per cent. above the standard of 1879.
			Underground Workers ...	90,000	...	Advance of 12½ per cent., making wages 81½ per cent. above the standard of 1888.
Pig Iron Manufacture	Scotland ...	21 Aug.	Surface Workers and Mechanics ...	18,000	...	Advance of 2d. per shift.
			Enginemmen and Firemen ...	2,000	...	Advance of 3d. per shift.
Pig Iron Manufacture	Scotland ...	1 Aug.	Blastfurnacemen and Labourers ...	3,500	...	Advance, under sliding scale, of 2½ per cent., making wages 32½ per cent. above the standard of 1st January, 1899.
			Steel Melters and Pitmen ...	2,620	...	Advance, under sliding scale, of 1½ per cent.
Iron & Steel Manufacture	Great Britain England & Wales	4 Aug.	Gas Produccermen and Charge Wheelers	630	...	Advance of 8 per cent.
			Iron Puddlers, Iron and Steel Millmen, Enginemmen, &c.	1,718	...	Advance, under sliding scale, of 2½ per cent.
Engineering ...	South Wales and Monmouthshire	1 July	Labourers in Engineering Shops ...	2,500	...	Advance of 1s. per week.

II.—HOURS OF LABOUR.

Building ...	Glasgow ...	1 July	Carpenters and Joiners ...	3,000	Decrease of 1 hour per week (51 to 50) during June, July and August.
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NOTE.—Coal Mining.—Early in September it was arranged that Forest of Dean miners' wages should be advanced by 4 per cent., making their wages 40 per cent. above the standard of 1888, and it has been reported that an advance has been arranged for miners in Somerset (Radstock District) of 5 per cent., making wages 42½ per cent. above the standard of 1899. Full particulars will appear in the October GAZETTE.

* Based on information obtained from all available sources, verified and corrected by direct application to the Employers, Trade Unions, and other parties concerned. In making up the totals for the several months of the year, the figures previously published are amended in accordance with the most recent information. The following kinds of changes are not included in the statistics:—(1) Changes in wages affecting agricultural labourers, seamen, and railway servants; (2) Increments accruing under scales of pay, as in the case of policemen, some municipal employees, and many railway servants, &c.; (3) Changes in pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c.

† Including Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cheshire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Warwickshire, North Staffordshire, Cannock Chase and North Wales.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN AUGUST.

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

EXCLUSIVE of seamen, the number of workpeople reported as killed in the course of their employment during August, 1907, was 246, an increase of 19 as compared with the previous month, and of 7 as compared with August, 1906.

The mean number for August in the years 1902-1906 was 253, the maximum year being 1902 with 355 deaths, and the minimum 1905, with 214 deaths.

The number of fatal accidents to seamen reported during August, 1907, was 158, as compared with 90 in July, 1907, and 53 in August, 1906. The mean for the five years 1902-1906 was 108, the highest number being 160 in 1902, and the lowest 53 in 1906.

In the following Table the fatal accidents reported in August, 1907, are classified by the trades in which they occurred, and comparative figures are given for the preceding month and for the corresponding month of last year:—

Trade.	Number of Workpeople killed during			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in August, 1907, as compared with	
	August, 1907.	July, 1907.	August, 1906.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Railway Service—					
Brakemen and Goods Guards	4	6	3	- 2	+ 1
Engine Drivers...	3	1	1	+ 2	+ 2
Firemen ...	5	...	4	+ 5	+ 1
Guards (Passenger) ...	1	1	...	...	+ 1
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	8	4	11	+ 4	- 3
Porters ...	5	4	2	+ 1	+ 3
Shunters ...	5	3	...	+ 2	+ 5
Miscellaneous ...	14	14	20	...	- 6
Contractors' Servants ...	...	1	1	- 1	- 1
Total, Railway Service	45	34	42	+ 11	+ 3
Mines—					
Underground ...	76	82	95	- 6	- 19
Surface ...	9	12	18	- 3	- 9
Total, Mines	85	94	113	- 9	- 28
Quarries over 20 feet deep	1	6	4	- 5	- 3
Factories (including Workshops)					
Textile—					
Cotton ...	2	3	1	- 1	+ 1
Wool and Worsted ...	5	...	1	+ 5	+ 4
Other Textiles ...	1	...	1	+ 1	...
Non-Textile—					
Extraction of Metals ...	3	3	2	...	+ 1
Founding and Conversion of Metals	17	10	5	+ 7	+ 12
Marine and Locomotive Engineering	5	1	2	+ 4	+ 3
Ship and Boat Building ...	9	8	7	+ 1	+ 2
Wood ...	3	2	2	+ 1	+ 1
Chemicals ...	7	2	2	+ 5	+ 5
Other Non-Textile Industries	30	38	35	- 8	- 5
Total, Factories ...	82	67	58	+ 15	+ 24
Accidents reported under Factory Act, Ss. 108-5—					
Docks, Wharves and Quays...	15	7	12	+ 8	+ 3
Warehouses ...	2	2	1	...	+ 1
Buildings to which Act applies	14	13	9	+ 1	+ 5
Laundries ...	...	...	...	...	...
Total under Factory Act, Ss. 108-5—	31	22	22	+ 9	+ 9
Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	2	4	...	- 2	+ 2
Total, exclusive of Seamen	246	227	239	+ 19	+ 7
Seamen—					
On Trading Vessels—					
Sailing ...	21	8	8	+ 13	+ 13
Steam ...	124	79	40	+ 45	+ 84
On Fishing Vessels—					
Sailing ...	2	...	3	+ 2	- 1
Steam ...	11	3	2	+ 8	+ 9
Total, Seamen	158	90	53	+ 67	+ 105
Total, including Seamen	404	317	292	+ 88	+ 112

Return of Deaths of Seamen.—A Return of Deaths of Seamen reported to the Board of Trade is issued by the Registrar-General of Seamen each month, and copies may be seen at all Free Libraries, Mercantile Marine Offices, and Sailors' Homes throughout the country.

The Return shows the name of every seaman whose death has been reported during the month, together with his age, nationality, and last place of abode; the cause, date, and place of death; and the name, official number, and port of registry of the ship on which he was serving.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

THE total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax reported to the Home Office under the Factory and Workshops Act during August was 58, there being 48 cases of lead poisoning, 2 of mercurial poisoning and 8 of anthrax. In addition to the above, 17 cases of lead poisoning were reported among house painters and plumbers.

During the eight months ended August, 1907, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax was 376, as compared with 484 in 1906. The number of deaths during the same period was 28, as against 36 in 1906. In addition there were 104 cases of lead poisoning (including 26 deaths) among house painters and plumbers in the first eight months of 1907, as compared with 111 (including 26 deaths) in the first eight months of 1906.

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

Industry.	Analysis by Industries.				
	CASES.		DEATHS.		
	Month of Aug., 1907.	Eight Months ended August, 1907.	Month of Aug., 1907.	Eight Months ended August, 1907.	
	1907.	1906.	1907.	1906.	
	Lead Poisoning.				
Smelting of Metals ...	2	14	22	1	1
Brass Works ...	1	3	10	1	1
Sheet Lead and Lead Piping ...	1	2	4	1	1
Plumbing and Soldering ...	2	10	9	2	2
Printing ...	3	15	11	1	1
File Cutting ...	1	3	10	...	...
Tinning and Enamelling of Iron	3	16	14	...	1
Hollow-ware	...	...	...	...	...
White Lead Works ...	11	45	70	...	4
Red and Yellow Lead Works	1	2	4	...	...
China and Earthenware* ...	3	53	76	...	7
Litho-Transfer Works ...	...	...	...	...	...
Glass Cutting and Polishing	...	...	...	...	...
Enamelling of Iron Plates	...	...	...	...	...
Electrical Accumulator Works	1	9	20	...	...
Paint and Colour Works ...	...	15	26	...	1
Coach Making ...	7	45	53	...	5
Shipbuilding ...	1	15	19	...	1
Paint used in other Industries	4	29	26	...	1
Other Industries ...	6	34	48	...	2
Total in Factories and Workshops	48	320	433	1	18
House Painting and Plumbing ...	17	104	111	4	26
	Other Forms of Poisoning.				
Mercurial Poisoning—					
Barometer and Thermometer Making	...	...	...	...	...
Furriers' Processes ...	2	4	...	...	...
Other Industries ...	...	...	3	...	...
Total ...	2	4	3	...	...
Phosphorus Poisoning—					
Lucifer Match Works ...	...	1	...	...	1
Other Industries ...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	...	1	...	...	1
Arsenic Poisoning—					
Paints, Colours, and Extraction of Arsenic	...	4	2	...	...
Other Industries ...	...	1	...	...	1
Total ...	...	5	2	...	1
Total, "Other Forms of Poisoning"	2	10	5	...	2
	Anthrax.				
Wool ...	3	18	15	3	6
Handling of Horsehair ...	4	14	5	1	3
Handling and Sorting of Hides and Skins (Tanners, Fellmongers, &c.)	1	9	17	...	4
Other Industries ...	...	5	9	1	1
Total, Anthrax ...	8	46	46	1	14

* Of the 3 persons affected during August in the china and earthenware industry 2 were females.
† Including 2 dock labourers.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Summary for August.

IMPORTS OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL MERCHANDISE.

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

	Month ended August 31st,			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1907, as compared with	
	1905.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1905.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco	20,641,891	21,384,641	21,778,062	+ 393,421	+ 1,136,171
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured†	13,894,175	14,038,456	14,733,598	+ 695,142	+ 839,423
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured‡	12,163,476	13,235,866	12,597,365	- 638,501	+ 433,899
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	157,187	230,174	187,560	- 42,614	+ 30,373
Total value of Imports	46,866,729	48,889,137	49,296,885	+ 407,448	+ 2,439,856

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

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

	Month ended Aug. 31st,			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1907, as compared with	
	1905.	1906.	1907.	1906.	1905.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco	1,928,059	1,961,309	2,340,336	+ 379,027	+ 412,277
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured†	3,112,947	3,773,935	4,860,553	+ 1,086,618	+ 1,747,606
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured‡	24,047,305	27,493,644	29,500,636	+ 2,006,992	+ 5,453,331
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post)	429,525	463,726	653,519	+ 189,793	+ 223,994
Total value of Exports of British produce	29,517,836	33,492,614	37,355,044	+ 3,862,430	+ 7,837,208

The re-exports of foreign and colonial produce amounted to £6,427,636 in August, 1905; £6,924,140 in August, 1906; and £7,367,201 in August, 1907.

RAILWAY GOODS AND MINERAL TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

THE goods and mineral traffic receipts of twenty of the principal railways during the five weeks ended August 31st amounted to £5,259,725, an increase of £262,569 (or 5.3 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1906.

During the 35 weeks ended August 31st, 1907, the amount was £37,147,047, an increase of £1,487,473 (or 4.2 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period in 1906.

	5 weeks ended August 31st, 1907.		35 weeks ended August 31st, 1907.	
	Amount.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 1906.	Amount.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 1906.
English Lines:—				
L. & N. W., Midland, Gt. Central, N. London and N. Staffs.	1,927,182	+ 117,556	14,027,716	+ 668,085
Gt. Northern, Gt. Eastern, and London & Tilbury	560,420	+ 31,554	3,948,893	+ 152,974
Lanes. and Yorks., and N. Eastern	994,403	+ 72,903	6,999,054	+ 359,624
L. & S. W., and Gt. Western	757,700	+ 31,000	5,423,400	+ 191,700
L. B. & S. C., and S. E. & C.	192,549	- 2,385	1,303,705	- 21,095
Scottish Lines:—				
Glasgow & S. Western, N. British, and Caledonian	682,381	+ 7,252	4,441,865	+ 81,966
Irish Lines:—				
Gt. Southern and Western, Midland G.W., and Gt. Northern	145,090	+ 4,689	1,002,414	+ 34,219
Total ...	5,259,725	+ 262,569	37,147,047	+ 1,487,473

* Raw cotton, wool, wood and timber, metallic ores, oils and oil-seeds, hides and skins, &c.
† Yarns and textile fabrics, manufactures of metal and leather, chemicals, &c.
‡ Coal, wood, oil seeds, hides and skins.
§ Yarns, textile fabrics, and apparel, metal manufactures, chemicals, &c.

PAUPERISM IN AUGUST.

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

THE number of paupers relieved on one day in August, 1907, in the 35 selected urban districts named below, corresponded to a rate of 208 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Compared with July, 1907, the total number of paupers relieved decreased by 893 (0.2 per cent.), the rate per 10,000 remaining unchanged. The number of indoor paupers showed an increase of 422 (0.3 per cent.), and the outdoor paupers a decrease of 1,315 (0.6 per cent.). In eighteen districts there were decreases, in ten districts increases, while in the other districts there was no change.

Compared with August, 1906, the rate per 10,000 shows a decrease of 2. There was an increase of 2,398 (1.5 per cent.) in the number of indoor paupers, while the outdoor paupers decreased by 3,250 (1.6 per cent.). Decreases occurred in 25 districts, and increases in 10. The most marked decreases were shown in Leicester district (28 per 10,000), North Staffordshire district (17 per 10,000), and Leeds district (16 per 10,000).

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of August, 1907.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.	Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	
				A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.*					
Metropolis.					
West District ...	11,108	3,417	14,525	172	- 4
North District ...	15,457	9,487	24,944	231	+ 2
Central District ...	6,805	2,615	9,420	499	+ 7
East District ...	14,933	7,124	22,056	306	+ 10
South District ...	24,793	18,275	43,068	898	- 1
Total, Metropolis	73,095	40,918	114,013	241	+ 4
West Ham ...	3,747	11,549	15,296	216	- 1
Other Districts.					
Newcastle District...	2,301	5,600	7,901	177	- 2
Stockton & Tees District...	1,175	4,097	5,272	240	- 2
Bolton, Oldham, &c.	3,833	5,985	9,818	127	- 2
Wigan District ...	2,047	6,130	8,177	302	+ 1
Manchester District ...	9,322	8,278	17,600	163	- 1
Liverpool District ...	11,303	10,486	21,789	208	+ 1
Bradford District ...	1,765	2,590	4,355	118	+ 2
Hull District ...	1,188	3,978	5,166	141	- 1
Leeds District ...	4,625	5,252	9,877	161	- 4
Barnsley District ...	712	2,965	3,677	147	- 1
Sheffield District ...	3,023	3,462	6,485	144	...
Hull District ...	1,453	5,265	6,718	239	- 4
North Staffordshire ...	2,203	7,679	9,882	289	+ 1
Nottingham District ...	2,060	6,007			

LABOUR BUREAUX IN AUGUST.

RETURNS were received relating to the work of 49 Labour Bureaux during August* ; of these Bureaux 28 were in London (including West Ham) and 21 in the provinces. Of the 28 London Bureaux, 25 are affiliated to the Central Employment Exchange, and are under the control of the Central (Unemployed) Body for London.

The total number of applications for work during the month was 13,331, of which 11,227 were in London, and 2,104 in the provinces. The number of situations offered by employers was 3,782, and the number of situations filled through the Bureaux was 2,820, or 21 per cent. of the applications received, and 89 per cent. of the situations offered. The London Bureaux affiliated to the Central Exchange do not distinguish between permanent and temporary situations found ; but the remaining 25 Bureaux give 508 (or 38 per cent.) permanent to 835 (or 62 per cent.) temporary situations. The majority of the situations found were in unskilled occupations. The persons for whom situations were found through the London Bureaux affiliated to the Central Exchange were divided by trades as follows:

building trades (artisans and labourers) 197 ; wood-working trades, 55 ; metal and engineering trades, 70 ; other skilled trades, 57 ; "transport and general," 440 ; other trades, men and boys, 299 ; women and girls, 359. The figures for the non-affiliated Bureaux are as follows: building trades, 89 ; metal and engineering trades, 55 ; carters and stablemen, clerks and warehousemen, porters and messengers, 453 ; general labourers, 24 ; bill distributors, 106 ; employees of local authorities, 122 ; charwomen and domestic servants, 233 ; other occupations, 99. In addition, the Salvation Army authorities found work for 162 men.

The number of applicants registered at the 14 Bureaux for which figures for both 1907 and 1906 can be given was 2,783 in August, 1907, as compared with 2,824 in August, 1906. Employers offered 1,621 situations during August, 1907, of which 1,137 were filled. In August, 1906, 1,476 situations were offered, and 1,228 were filled. The number of workpeople on the Registers at the end of August, 1907, was 3,962, as compared with 4,248 in August, 1906.

TABLE SHOWING WORK DONE BY EACH BUREAU DURING AUGUST, 1907.*

Name of Bureau.	New Appli- cants.	Situ- ations offered.	Situations Filled.						Applicants Remaining on the Registers.								
			Build- ing Trades.	Metal and En- gineer- ing Trades.	Trans- port and General.	Other Occu- pations. Men & Boys.	Women and Girls. †	All Situations. Perma- nent.	Tempo- rary.	Total.	Build- ing Trades.	Metal and En- gineer- ing Trades.	Trans- port and General.	Other Occu- pations. Men & Boys.	Women and Girls.	Total.	
																	Information not available.
London Bureaux affiliated to the Central Exchange.																	
Battersea (32, Park Rd., S.W.)	319	26	3	1	2	12	7	25	5	9	44	35	20	113			
Bermondsey (3, Fort Buildings, Southwark Park Rd.)	326	34	...	...	...	...	...	34	14	17	65	39	30	165
Bethnal Green (11, Green St., E.)	882	73	...	...	3	19	25	47	21	19	105	167	65	377	
Camberwell (13, Peckham Rd., S.E.)	305	47	5	6	2	11	8	32	64	39	129	75	10	317			
Chelsea (9, Church St., S.W.)	223	65	6	...	...	...	...	45	14	11	34	24	27	110
Deptford (13, Deptford Bridge)	237	69	29	1	12	18	3	63	18	42	56	29	26	171			
Finsbury and Holborn (48, Myddelton St.)	776	336	3	13	20	46	105	187	21	32	116	93	75	337			
Fulham (Effe Rd., Walham Green)	482	64	19	...	...	...	...	62	43	33	118	86	47	327
Greenwich (12, Stockwell Rd.)	169	97	18	1	78	1	1	99	30	23	59	35	28	175			
Hackney & Stoke Newington (24, Amhurst Rd.)	638	74	3	7	3	22	21	56	45	14	118	122	51	350			
Hammersmith (20, Queen St., W.)	173	50	16	7	4	12	4	43	41	5	37	35	18	156			
Hampstead (210, West End Lane)	109	26	5	1	1	7	6	20	25	3	35	13	20	96			
Islington (93, St. Paul's Rd., N.)	660	109	19	2	49	8	9	87	105	38	172	89	39	443			
Kensington (155, Clarendon Rd.)	365	64	1	...	...	...	...	39	19	8	51	40	25	143
Lambeth (1204, Lambeth Rd.)	358	43	2	4	15	10	1	32	9	17	93	60	29	208			
Lewisham (17, Brownhill Rd.)	418	93	14	5	6	24	4	41	53	6	63	45	18	185			
Paddington (303, Harrow Rd., W.)	451	184	...	...	150	14	10	174	26	6	88	54	75	249	
Poplar (1, Pollett St., E.)	516	52	30	5	2	4	9	50	65	55	110	46	36	312			
St. Pancras (19, Crowndale Rd.)	541	25	1	...	...	...	...	43	33	15	136	81	49	314
St. Marylebone (25, Paddington St., W.)	223	29	2	...	...	...	...	37	3	1	33	17	25	79
Shoreditch (134F, Kingsland Rd.)	286	149	1	4	2	42	25	74	19	22	89	128	31	289			
Southwark (23, New Kent Rd.)	512	82	1	2	11	31	33	78	13	18	79	51	36	197			
Stepney (41, White Horse St., E.)	324	58	1	2	13	12	6	34	15	15	129	38	26	223			
Wandsworth (123, Garratt Lane)	199	40	1	6	...	...	...	27	12	8	23	41	13	97
Woolwich (20, Albion Rd.)	172	38	17	3	8	2	2	30	13	55	71	18	12	169			
Central Exchange	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total of above	9,684	1,930	197	70	440	411	359	1,477	726	511	2,053	1,461	831	5,582			
Other London Bureaux.																	
Salvation Army (20-22, White- chapel Rd., E.)	1,401	585	4	581	...	176	409	585	28	25	134	176	363		
West Ham (29, Broadway, Strat- ford)	19	6	1	1	1	2	1	3	109	59	14	316		
Westminster (Caxton Hall, S.W.)	123	72	37	11	20	25	43	68	21	19	156	300	167	663	
Total, "Other London"	1,543	663	1	1	41	592	21	203	453	656	158	103	304	519	1,342		
Provincial Bureaux.																	
Birkenhead (6, Duncan St.)	32	2	...	...	...	2	2	2	55	91	312	120	89	667
Birmingham (144, Gt. Charles St.)	164	5	...	...	2	...	...	5	16	127	114	81	3	341
Covertry (3, Market Hall Arcade)	138	48	4	22	3	12	...	41	...	41	11	272	29	379			
Croydon (Town Hall)	93	90	8	2	1	76	3	27	63	90	201	22	122	152	23	610	
Dudley (Stone St.)	5	6	1	5	...	5	1	6	20	59	111	40	230		
Hull (1, Regent Place)	5	1	11	6	121	36	179		
Hull (St. Mary's Chambers, Lowgate)	8	19	3	16	...	2	17	19	86	18	940	48	1,092		
Ipswich (135, Fore St.)	33	7	4	...	...	1	1	6	6	12	2	8	6	33	
Leicester (7, Belgrave Gate)	58	19	19	...	6	13	19	86	23	319	416	844		
Manchester (King St., West Deansgate)	491	192	12	12	13	30	66	80	53	133	37	59	128	57	133	414	
Newcastle-on-Tyne (22, Royal Arcade)	86	46	3	...	3	6	18	10	20	30	6	20	169	17	31	243	
Nottingham (Shakespeare Villas)	36	20	1	2	10	8	5	13	20	61	25	4	111
Reading (Abattoirs Rd.)	13	4	3	...	1	3	...	10	...	2	27	4	...	41
Salford (Town Hall)	30	2	1	1	2	2	21	6	61
Sunderland (1, Fawcett St.)	111	67	9	1	31	6	16	9	54	63	20	28	232	39	94	413	
Warrington (Bank House, San- key St.)	118	46	8	12	17	13	30	1	46	23	55	63	188
Aberdeen (41A, Castle St.)	57	7	7	2	5	7	15	5	51	1	12	85	
Edinburgh (25, North Bridge St.)	186	21	9	1	4	7	11	10	21	151	205	248	62	880	
Glasgow (15-17, Duke St.)	457	545	7	2	5	14	128	77	79	156	23	16	67	93	142	311	
Govan (Town Hall)	3	1	9	11	
Dundee (Dudhope Park or Town Hall)	180	41	40	1	1	40	41	97	...	17	4	21	139
Total, Provincial Bureaux	2,104	1,189	88	54	87	204	254	305	382	687	1,014	969	3,087	1,476	717	7,463	
Grand Total	13,331	3,782	286	128	527	1,207	613	...	2,820	1,898	1,583	5,444	3,456	1,806	14,187		

* The figures for the Central Employment Exchange and the 25 affiliated London Bureaux relate to the five weeks ended August 30th ; the other figures relate to the calendar month.
† For Bureaux exclusively concerned with women, see next page.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN AUGUST.

DURING August 643 fresh applications (310 from domestic servants, &c.) for work were registered by 8 Bureaux furnishing returns, and 443 situations were offered by employers ; work was found for 135 persons, of whom 82 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 135 situations found for applicants, 89 were of a more or less permanent character, while 46 were temporary only.

The work done by the Bureaux during August is shown in the following Table :—

	Applications by Work- people during		Situations offered by Employers during		Number of Workpeople engaged by Employers.			
	Aug., 1907.	Aug., 1906.	Aug., 1907.	Aug., 1906.	Perma- nently.		Tempo- rarily.	
					Aug., 1907.	Aug., 1906.	Aug., 1907.	Aug., 1906.
Summary by Bureaux.								
Central Bureau ...	95	71	52	44	16	10	5	4
9, Southampton St., W.C.								
Y.W.C.A. :—								
25, George Street (1) ...	281	320	231	277	30	24	17	17
Hanover Sq., W. (2) ...	63	74	23	48	6	15	8	9
Other Bureaux (Liverpool, Manchester, Watford, Edinburgh and Dublin)	204	143	137	135	37	33	16	8
Total of 8 Bureaux	643	608	443	504	89	82	46	38
Summary by Occupations.								
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc.	53	56	12	27	4	5	—	1
Shop Assistants ...	7	11	5	2	...	...	...	...
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc.	45	43	17	36	2	14	8	11
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists	42	45	22	19	8	2	9	3
Apprentices and Learners	4	4	6	9	4	2	—	—
Domestic Servants, &c.	310	320	302	343	58	52	24	19
Miscellaneous ...	182	129	79	68	13	7	5	4
Total	643	608	443	504	89	82	46	38

Burial Aid Soc., Priestfield, Staffs. ; Bradford City Tramways Employees' Friendly Soc., Bradford ; Dunston Excelsior Working Men's Club and Inst., Dunston, Durham ; Ellsmere Working Men's Club, Nelson, Lancs. ; Bolton Road Working Men's Inst., Darwen ; Woolwich Catholic Working Men's Club, Woolwich ; Cradley Heath Town Prize Band, Cradley Heath, Staffs. ; Gomersal Working Men's Club and Inst., Gomersal, Yorks. ; Kirkheaton Liberal Working Men's Club, Kirkheaton, Yorks. ; Garforth Working Men's Club and Inst., Garforth, Yorks. ; Westboro' Ratepayers Working Men's Club and Inst., Dewsbury, Yorks. ; East Bowling Independent Labour Club and Inst., Bradford ; Oulton-with-Woodlesford Working Men's Club and Inst., Woodlesford, Yorks. Scotland.—Nil. Ireland.—1, viz., Ballinskelligs Credit Soc., Ballinskelligs, Kerne.

(2) SOCIETIES AND UNIONS CEASING TO EXIST.

	Notices Received in August of		Registry Cancelled.
	Commence- ment of Dissolution or Winding-up.	Termination of Dissolution or Winding-up.	
Trade Unions
Industrial and Provident Societies	...	9	...
Friendly Societies	10	14
Building " Branches	7	...
Building " " " ...	1	12	...

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

PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING AUGUST.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Final Report of the Departmental Committee appointed to inquire into the probable Economic Effect of a limit of Eight Hours to the working day of Coal Miners. Part II. Minutes of Evidence and Appendices thereto taken on the twelfth to twenty-seventh days inclusive, and Index to the whole of the Evidence. [Cd. 3506: pp. ix. + 390: price 4s. 7d.]

General Report to the Board of Trade upon the Accidents that have occurred on the Railways of the United Kingdom during the year 1906. [Cd. 3681: pp. 69: price 7d.]

Statistics of Proceedings under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, 1

Forty-third Detailed Annual Report of the Registrar-General for Ireland, containing a General Abstract of the numbers of Marriages, Births and Deaths registered in Ireland during the year 1906. [Cd. 3663: pp. xxxix. + 179: price 2s. 7½d.]

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction (Ireland). Appendix to Report of the Departmental Committee of Inquiry. [Cd. 3573: pp. iv. + 137: price 1s. 2d.]

Royal Commission on Congestion in Ireland. Fifth Report. [Cd. 3629: pp. 3; price ½d.] *Appendix to the Fifth Report.* Minutes of Evidence taken in London, March 12th to 28th, 1907, and Documents relating thereto. [Cd. 3630: pp. xxxvii. + 303: price 2s. 9d.]

All the above mentioned Reports may be obtained direct from Wyman & Sons Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C., or through any bookseller.)

BRITISH COLONIES.

Canada. The Labour Gazette, July, 1907. Proceedings under the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act, 1907, during the month of June; the manufacturing industry in Canada—capital employed and value of products, 1900-1905.

New South Wales. The Industrial Arbitration Reports and Records, 1907. Vol. VI., Part I. Reports of 14 cases. [Sydney: W. A. Gullick, Government Printer: price 5s.]

Victoria: 28th Annual Report on Friendly Societies, 1905. Report of the Actuary, with valuations, numerical and financial summaries of the Returns furnished by the secretaries, &c. [Melbourne: J. Kemp, Acting Government Printer: pp. 65: price 2s.]

Report of the Chief Inspector of Factories, Workrooms and Shops for the year ended December 31st, 1906. Number of factories and workers registered, statistics of special boards, wage earners, &c. [Melbourne: J. Kemp, Acting Government Printer: pp. 101: price 2s. 9d.]

New Zealand. Journal of the Department of Labour, June 12th, 1907. Disputes and awards under the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act; permits to under-rate workmen, &c.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

United States.

Strikes and Lock-Outs in Massachusetts, 1906. Part I. of the Annual Report for 1907 of the Massachusetts Bureau of Labour. [Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Co., State Printers: pp. 48.]

Thirty-seventh Annual Report of the Bureau of Statistics of Labour of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the Year 1906. The apprenticeship system; trained and supplemental employees for domestic service; statistics of manufactures, 1904-1905; labour laws of Massachusetts, &c. [Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Co., State Printers: pp. xxx. + 664.]

Tenth Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labour of the State of Minnesota, 1905-1906. Factory inspection; child labour in Minnesota; employment bureaux; statistics of manufactures, &c. [Minneapolis: Howard & Smith Co.: pp. 534.]

Thirteenth Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics of the State of Illinois, 1904. Statistics of manufactures of Illinois; working time, earnings, general conditions of coal miners and other employees. [Springfield: Phillips Bros., State Printers: pp. 665.]

Fifth Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics and Factory Inspection of the State of Washington, 1905-1906. First year of the Factory Inspection Law; eight hour law for public works; ten hour law for females; child labour law; cost of living; statistics of manufactures; disputes, accidents, &c. [Olympia: C. W. Gorham, Public Printer: pp. 355 + 75.]

France.

Journal of the French Labour Department, July, 1907. Contains statistics of accidents in 1906, and grants to unemployed funds. [Paris: Berger-Levrault et Cie: price 2d.]

Report of the Municipal Pawnshop of Paris for the year ending March 31st, 1907. [Paris: Imprimerie Chaix: pp. xlix. + 30, with charts.]

Germany.

Journal of the German Labour Department, August, 1907. Contains statistics of co-operation in 1906. [Berlin: Carl Heymanns Verlag: price 1d.]

Strikes and Lock-outs in Germany in 1906. Imperial Statistical Office. [Berlin: Puttkammer & Mühlbrecht: pp. 306: price 2s.]

Statistical Yearbook of Germany, 1907. Contains statistics of population, employment, insurance, prices, &c., in 1906. Imperial Statistical Office. [Berlin: Puttkammer & Mühlbrecht: pp. xxvi. + 442: price 2s.]

Quarterly Journal of Statistics of the German Empire. Part II., 1907. Contains statistics of prices 1900-7, disputes in 1906, and sickness insurance 1901-5. Imperial Statistical Office. [Berlin: Puttkammer & Mühlbrecht.]

Proceedings of the Council of Labour Statistics, June 24th, 25th and 26th, 1907. Evidence of witnesses relating to the hours of labour in ironing works and laundries other than factories or workshops employing motor power. [Berlin: Julius Sittenfeld: pp. 45.]

Statistical Yearbook of German Towns, 1907. Contains statistics of employment, insurance, savings banks, &c. Edited by Dr. M. Neefe. [Breslau: Wilhelm Gottlieb Korn: pp. xii. + 456.]

Report for 1906 of the Miners' Insurance Association. [Berlin: "Der Kompass," Berlin, N.W., 23: pp. 83.]

Austria.

Journal of the Austrian Labour Department, July, 1907. Contains statistics of wages, &c., in the Pola Arsenal, and trade unions in 1906. [Vienna: Alfred Hölder, K.K. Hof-und Universitäts-Buchhändler: price 2d.]

Hungary.

Statistical Yearbook of Hungary, 1905. Contains statistics of employment, wages in mining industry, etc. Ministry of Commerce. [Budapest, 1906: pp. xvi. + 523.]

Italy.

Journal of the Italian Labour Department, July, 1907. Contains text of Italian Law of July 7th, 1907, amending the Law of June 19th, 1902, on the employment of women and children. [Rome: Officina Poligrafica Italiana: price 3d.]

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