

THE Board of Trade LABOUR GAZETTE.

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[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

EMPLOYMENT CHART.

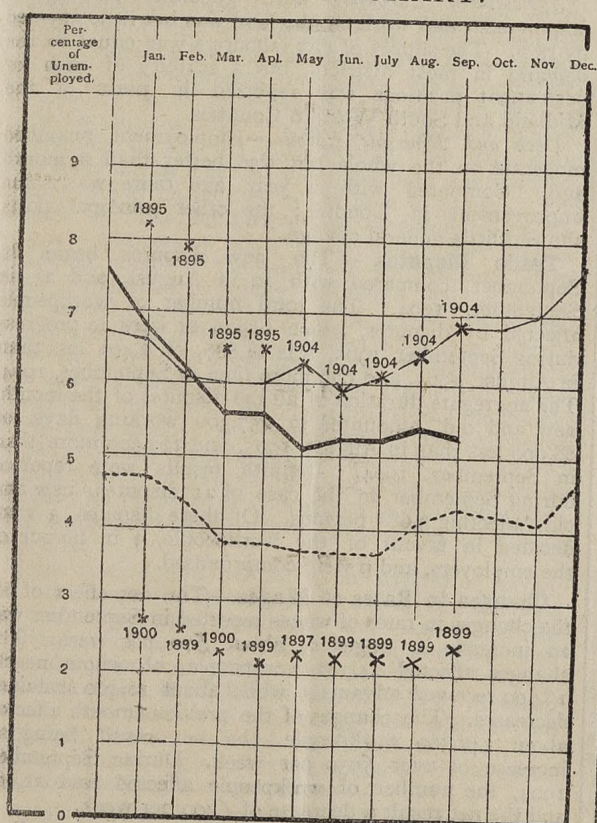


CHART SHOWING PERCENTAGE UNEMPLOYED OF MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS MAKING RETURNS.

Thick Curve=1905.
Thin Curve=1904.
Dotted Curve=Mean of 1895-1904.

X The crosses indicate the maxima and minima percentages of unemployed during the past ten years, with the dates thereof.

STATE OF THE LABOUR MARKET IN SEPTEMBER

Based on 4,782 returns, viz.: 3,434 from Employers or their Associations; 1,253 from Trade Unions, and 95 from other sources.]

EMPLOYMENT in September was better than in August. The pig iron, iron and steel and tinplate industries all showed a marked improvement; coal mining, engineering, woollen, worsted, linen, hosiery, leather, printing and bookbinding also showed some improvement. The cotton trade continued busy, but the building trades were still dull. There was a slight decline in the boot and shoe, jute and silk industries.

As compared with the same period a year ago, there was a notable improvement in the metal, engineering, shipbuilding, and textile industries. Building and coal mining remained much about the same as in 1904.

In the 270 Trade Unions, with an aggregate membership of 578,542, making returns, 30,696 (or 5.3 per cent.)

were reported as unemployed at the end of September, as compared with 5.4 per cent. at the end of August, 1905, and 6.8 per cent. at the end of September, 1904.

Employment in various Industries.—*Building Trades.*—Employment in the building trades continued dull. It was on the whole about the same as a month ago, but slightly worse than a year ago.

Coal Mining.—Employment in this industry in September showed an improvement as compared with the previous month but was slightly worse than a year ago. The average number of days worked per week during the four weeks ended 23rd September was 5.13, compared with 4.76 days in August, 1905*, and 5.17 in September, 1904.

Iron Mining.—Employment was good, and taking into account the effect of holidays on the respective periods, showed little change compared with a month and a year ago. At the 117 mines and open works covered by the returns received from employers, the average weekly number of days worked during the four weeks ended September 23rd was 5.87, as compared with 5.73† a month ago, and 5.89‡ a year ago.

Pig Iron Industry.—Employment in this industry during September continued good, being rather better than in August and considerably better than a year ago. Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters show that 327 furnaces, employing nearly 23,300 workpeople, were in blast at the end of September—one furnace more than in August 1905, and 25 more than in September, 1904.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.—Employment at iron and steel works continued good; it was better than a month ago, and showed a great improvement as compared with a year ago, the number employed in 189 works from which returns have been received having risen from 83,872 to 91,124, an increase of 7,252, or nearly 9 per cent. The returns show that the volume of employment (shifts worked multiplied by numbers employed) in the week ended September 23rd, 1905, was 2.0 per cent. greater than a month ago, and 10.9 per cent. greater than a year ago.

Tinplate Manufacture.—Employment in this industry was better than in August and much better than a year ago. The number of mills at work at the end of September, 1905, showed an increase of 18 (or 4.5 per cent.) as compared with August, and of 40 (or 10.5 per cent.) as compared with September, 1904.

Engineering Trades.—Employment on the whole showed an improvement on a month ago; it was much better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of September was 4.6, as compared with 4.9 in August 1905, and 7.4 in September, 1904.

Shipbuilding Trades.—Employment was, on the whole, at about the same level as in August and was better generally than a year ago. From most districts a scarcity of repairing work was reported.

Cotton Trade.—Employment continued very brisk, and

*The number of days worked in August was affected by holidays to the extent of about a quarter of a day per week.
†The average number of days worked was affected by holidays.
‡Revised figures.

was much better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 124,509 workpeople in the last week in September showed an increase of 0.1 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last full week in August, and of 12.2 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Woolen Trade.—Employment continued good, and was better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 17,453 workpeople during the last week in September showed an increase of 2.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last week in August, and an increase of 4.6 per cent. compared with the corresponding week a year ago.

Worsted Trade.—Employment showed an improvement in all branches compared with a month ago and a year ago, but was still only moderate. Returns from firms employing 36,991 workpeople during the last week in September showed an increase of 3.5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last week in August, and an increase of 5.5 per cent. compared with the corresponding week a year ago.

Flax (Linen) Trade.—Employment was, on the whole, rather better than a month ago and considerably better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 44,338 workpeople in the last full week in September showed an increase of 1.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid as compared with the last full week in August, 1905, and of 3.4 per cent. compared with September, 1904.

Jute Trade.—Employment in this industry remained moderate, and was worse than a month ago and a year ago. Returns from firms employing 20,443 workpeople in the last full week in September showed a decrease of 2.3 per cent. in the total wages paid as compared with the last full week in August, and of 3.4 per cent. compared with September, 1904.

Silk Trade.—Employment in the silk industry showed a decline as compared with August, but was a little better than a year ago. Returns from firms employing 10,911 workpeople showed a decrease of 1.6 per cent. in the number of throwing and spinning spindles working compared with August and of 5.1 per cent. compared with a year ago; the number of looms working showed an increase of 1.2 per cent. as compared with a month ago and of 2.0 per cent. compared with September, 1904.

Hosiery Trade.—Employment was slightly better than a month ago, and considerably better than a year ago. Firms employing 19,153 workpeople in the last full week in September showed an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last full week in August, and of 5.9 per cent. compared with the corresponding week a year ago.

Tailoring Trade.—Employment in the *bespoke* branch showed the usual seasonal improvement in London and was decidedly better than a year ago; in the provinces it continued bad. In the *ready-made* branch it was better than a month ago and a year ago, but was still only moderate.

Hat Trade.—Employment in the *Silk* and *Felt* hat trade was somewhat better than a month ago, but was still worse than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members returned as unemployed in September was 4.0, compared with 4.9 at the end of August, and 3.1 a year ago.

Boot and Shoe Trade.—Employment continued quiet, but was better than a year ago. Returns from 475 firms, employing 61,567 workpeople, and paying £57,544 in wages on the last pay-day in September, showed a decrease of 1.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last pay-day in August, and an increase of 3.4 per cent. compared with the last pay-day in September, 1904.

Other Leather Trades.—Employment during September was still quiet, but was rather better than a month ago and considerably better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members returned as unemployed at the end of September was 6.0, as compared with 6.8 per cent. in August, and 9.8 per cent. a year ago.

Papermaking Trade.—Employment remained fairly good in machine mills, and quiet in the hand-made trade,

showing little change compared with a month ago and a year ago.

Printing and Bookbinding Trades.—Employment in September was quiet generally, but better than a month ago and a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of the month was 5.4, as compared with 6.2 in August, 1905, and 6.3 in September, 1904.

Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.—Employment continued fair on the whole and about the same as a month ago, but was better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of September was 5.1, as compared with 5.0 at the end of August, 1905, and with 6.1 at the end of September, 1904.

Glass and Pottery Trades.—Employment in the *Glass* trades was bad; it was worse than a month ago, and considerably worse than a year ago. In the *Pottery* trades it was fair and better than a month ago. It continued moderate in the *Brick and Tile* trades.

Agricultural Labourers were generally in regular employment and work on the land was but little affected by rain. The supply of day labourers was equal to the demand in most districts, but a scarcity of men for permanent positions was reported in parts of the Midland and South Western Counties.

Dock and Riverside Labour.—Employment remained moderate on the whole but was better than a month ago. Compared with a year ago there was some improvement in London; the other principal ports showed little general change.

Trade Disputes.—Ten new disputes began in September, compared with 12 in August, and 21 in September, 1904. The total number of workpeople affected by disputes, which began or were in progress during September, 1905, was 14,886, or 2,401 less than in August, 1905, and 970 more than in September, 1904. The aggregate duration of all the disputes of the month, new and old, amounted to 257,300 working days, or 88,900 less than in August, 1905, and 127,300 more than in September, 1904. Definite results were reported during September in the case of 21 disputes, new and old, affecting 9,685 persons. Of these disputes, 3 were decided in favour of the workpeople, 9 in favour of the employers, and 9 were compromised.

Changes in Rates of Wages.—The net effect of all the changes in rates of wages reported in September was an increase in wages of about £70 per week. The changes affected 24,300 workpeople, of whom nearly 13,900 received advances, while about 10,400 sustained decreases. The changes of the previous month affected about 247,500 workpeople, the net result being an increase of over £950 per week. During September, 1904, the number of workpeople affected was 21,000 and the net result a decrease of £200 per week.

The principal changes reported were increases affecting 1,350 blastfurnacemen in West Cumberland, 5,000 iron and steel workers in South Wales and Monmouth, and 3,500 steel millmen in the West of Scotland, and decreases affecting 5,500 blastfurnacemen in Cleveland and Durham, and 3,300 carpenters and joiners at Glasgow.

One change, affecting the 3,500 steel millmen referred to above, was arranged by a Conciliation Board, and five changes affecting 13,200 workpeople engaged in pig iron and iron and steel manufacture took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes affecting 7,600 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, five of these changes, affecting 4,900 workpeople, being preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

Alteration in Wages Scale in Steel Trade.

Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Manufactured Steel Trade of the West of Scotland.—At a Special Meeting of this Board, which was held at Glasgow on the 15th September, it was agreed that, in future, wages shall be advanced or reduced by 2½ per cent. for every 5s. of rise or fall in the market selling price of ship plates delivered in the Clyde district. Hitherto wages have risen or fallen 5 per cent. with every change of 10s.

NOTTINGHAM LACE TRADE.

AWARD OF ARBITRATOR.

Mr. G. R. Askwith, the arbitrator appointed by the Board of Trade under the Conciliation Act to settle the questions in dispute between the Nottingham Lace Manufacturers' Association and the Amalgamated Society of Operative Lace Makers, issued his award relating to the Levers Branch, on 27th September, two interim awards, dealing with the Plain Net and Curtain Sections and other matters having been issued on August 30th and September 5th respectively (see LABOUR GAZETTE for September, p. 260).

The old price lists for the Levers Section, or Fancy Lace trade, were the gradual product of many years of lace manufacture, and the employers were stated to have experienced considerable difficulty in making any new lace under the conditions imposed, the various restrictions raising the price so high that they could not compete with other districts or countries.

A person wishing to calculate wages and cost of manufacture had to know the class of machine, its gauge, width and number of bars, whether top or top and bottom bars. For each variation in gauge, width and bars a different price was paid. At the present time many bars are generally employed. The old price list sent the price up by rapid stages for any lace maker who could not evade using bars. In addition to the difficulties arising from bars, some laces could not be made on wider machines if introduced, as they would be blocked by the price of gauges. The increase in price by progression of amounts for the gauges or quarters or both, and the complicated process of adding points to the width of the machines (now entirely abolished), virtually prohibited their manufacture. Simplification in the use of all extras and latitude in such processes as flossing, gimping and using threads traversing gaits, and simplification by the establishment of a wider standard machine on a single rack basis, instead of as on some cards, by estimate on the double rack of 3,840 motions (this complication is now abolished and the standard width raised and made uniform) as well as simplification of gauges and bars, were alleged to be necessary for purposes of competition even with places in the immediate neighbourhood, close to the boundaries of the city.

In the Award now published, the Arbitrator having heard the respective parties and considered the price lists and statements produced, and having visited factories in Nottingham and Long Eaton, and examined books and compared prices, declares that all existing price lists relating to the Levers Branch shall be cancelled from and after the date of the coming into effect of the award, and that in place of the former 21 cards, the following 15 price lists, which are embodied in detail in the award, shall become operative:—

- (1) Plain Bobbin Fining Goods and Banded Valenciennes.
- (2) Thick Threaded Bobbin Fining Goods.
- (3) Cotton Loop Laces.
- (4) Valenciennes made with all independent beams.
- (5) Gimped Valenciennes.
- (6) Torchons, Guipures, Maltese and Clunys.
- (7) Silk Spanish.
- (8) Blonde Laces and Streamers and Masque Falls.
- (9) Large Silk Sprig or Striped Nets.
- (10) Spot or Sprig Nets.
- (11) Silk Veiling and Fancy Nets.
- (12) Hamburgs and Russian Points.
- (13) Trimmings.
- (14) Bagley's.
- (15) Wool Yak Laces.

General instructions and rules to apply to all price lists are given, of which the most important, revised or new, are the following:—

Changing or racking cards, 1d. per rack up to 2 packs; beyond 2 packs 1½d. per rack.

When marking cross bands, ½d. per rack per line up to 4 lines. No advance beyond 4 lines.

When two colours or shaded threads are worked in the bobbins, ½d. per rack to be paid. When more than two colours or shaded threads are worked in the bobbins, ¾d. per rack to be paid. When working brown or white with any colour or shaded thread in the bobbins, these clauses to apply. The above to apply to all cards.

Meal Times.—Lace makers working shifts to stop not less than 20 minutes for breakfast, tea, and supper. Single-handed men and

lace makers on day work to stop 30 minutes for breakfast and tea, 1 hour for dinner. The exact hour of stoppage to be arranged by the employer and shop committee.

Stoppages.—No stoppage shall be made for places caused by the fault of the machine—whether it be jacquard, cards, or other portions of the machinery. Where neglect of the workman causes extra mending, places across or spoiled work, and where a workman fails to carry out written instructions in a workmanlike manner, a claim for stoppage may be made by the employer, but all claims must be supplied in writing with particulars to the shop committee. Unless the shop committee receive such particulars and consent to the stoppage, no stoppage shall be made, and the employer shall be left to such other remedy as may be open to him.

The rule as to learners remains the same, but the following very important rules as to alterations have been made, viz.:—

Alterations.—All work when lace makers are not making racks shall be called "day work" (except tying in warps or re-entering instead of tying-in), and shall be paid for at the rate of five shillings per day of ten hours.

Short Alterations.—(1.) When five consecutive hours are made in any alteration the time to be paid for as half-a-day.

(2.) Saturday shall be paid for as a full day when two other full days have been worked in the same week. When less than two full days have been worked, Saturday shall be paid for as half-a-day.

(3.) The lace maker may stay one hour after the ordinary time for changing shifts.

(4.) In case of necessity, as getting a piece off which is urgently needed or to make samples, men working single-handed may stay one hour later than the usual time, such time to be taken off the following day.

(5.) The above rules are to be generally recognized as shop rules for the whole trade. Any other shop rules in any particular shop must be such as are agreed to by the employer and employees.

The 15 cards are set out in the award at full length. For the purpose of illustrating the system as now remodelled and simplified, and the amalgamation of cards, the following two cards, of great importance to the Nottingham lace trade, may be quoted:—

THICK THREADED BOBBIN FINING GOODS MADE WITH TOP OR TOP AND BOTTOM BARS.

Standards.—Rack, 1,920 motions; gauge, 10 points; width of machine, above 18 and below 20 quarters. Quality, up to 20 inches inclusive. Bars, including all top net bars traversing up to five gaits inclusive. Price: 6d. for double warp, single warp ½d. less, treble warp ¾d. more.

Bars.—(1) For every 10 or portion of 10 top net bars traversing more than five gaits, ¼d. per rack. (2) For every 10 or portion of 10 bars other than net bars, ¼d. per rack. (3) For every 50 or portion of 50 bottom bars up to 600, ¼d. per rack. No advance beyond 600. (4) For every 5, or portion of 5 bars flossing more than four gaits, ¼d. per rack. Bars flossing four gaits or less to come under Clause 2.

Fluctuations.—(1) Gauges above 10 points, ¼d. per half-gauge to be added. Gauges below 10 points, ¼d. per gauge to be deducted. No reduction below 8 points. (2) Quality above 20 inches, ¼d. for every 5 or portion of 5 inches. (3) For 16 quarters and above 16 quarters up to 18 quarters inclusive, ¼d. per rack to be deducted. Below 16 quarters a further ¼d. to be deducted. For 20 quarters and below 22 quarters, ¼d. per rack to be added. For 22 quarters and above a further ¼d. to be added.

Extras.—(1) Black, pearl white, or colours worked on warps or independent beams, ¼d. per rack for every 100 or portion of 100 threads up to 400. No advance beyond 400. (2) Silk, tussah, wool, China grass, metal, corded or cotton threads 16-3 fold or coarser, or their equivalent, worked on warps or independent beams ¼d. per rack for every 100 or portion of 100 threads up to 400. No advance beyond 400. When any of the materials or colours named in this or the preceding clause are confined to the bobbins, half the above price only to be added. (3) When in making cotton goods silk is used in lacers and drawthreads only, ¼d. per rack to be added. (4) When two threads are threaded in one hole in a bar, ¼d. extra shall be paid for every 10 or portion of 10 bars up to and including 10 points; finer gauges to be paid as two ars.

TORCHONS, GUIPURES, MALTESE, AND CLUNYS.

Standards.—Rack, 1,920 motions; gauge, 10 points; width of machine, above 18 and below 20 quarters; quality, from 10 to 30 inches inclusive; bars, up to 30 inclusive; price, 5d. per rack; all silk 1d. extra.

Bars.—(1.) For every 10 or portion of 10 bars over 30 up to 80 inclusive, ½d. per rack.

(2.) For every 15 or portion of 15 bars over 80, ½d. per rack.

Fluctuations.—(1.) Gauges above 10 points up to and including 12 points, ½d. per half-gauge to be added. Beyond 12 points, ¾d. per half-gauge to be added. Gauges below 10 points, ¾d. per gauge to be deducted. No reduction below 7 points. Broken gauges same price as full gauge. Half-gauge, 1d. less.

(2.) Quality above or below the standard to rise and fall ½d. for every 5 or portion of 5 inches.

(3.)—For 16 quarters and above 16 quarters up to 18 quarters inclusive, ½d. per rack to be deducted. Below 16 quarters a further ¾d. to be deducted. For 20 quarters and below 22 quarters, ¾d. per rack to be added. For 22 quarters and above, a further ½d. to be added.

(4.) Minimum price for any width or gauge, 4½d. per rack.

Extras.—(1.) Black, pearl white, or colours worked on independent beams, ½d. per rack for every 100 or portion of 100 threads up to 400. No advance beyond 400.

(2.) Silk, tussah, wool, China grass, metal, corded or cotton thread 16-3 fold or coarser, or their equivalent worked on independent beams, ½d. per rack for every 100 threads up to 400. No advance beyond 400. When any of the materials or colours named in this or the preceding clause are confined to the bobbins, half the above price only to be added.

(3.) When in making cotton goods silk is used in lacers and draw-threads only, ½d. per rack to be added.

Among the other cards a new card for Silk Veiling and Fancy Nets made with Warps or Warps and Spotting Beams is also deemed to be very important as tending to enlarge fresh branches of trade within the boundaries, which up to the present have practically been unavailable.

It is provided that if matters of dispute upon omitted details, clerical errors, anomalies or questions of construction should arise before 1st December, and are not settled by agreement between the parties, then such questions shall be referred to the arbitrator by both or one of the parties on or before 4th December, in order that he may hear and determine the same at a time and place to be fixed by him.

The award is to come into force and payment is to be made under it for the preceding week on the first pay-day after 23rd October, 1905. In order, however, to give opportunity for the security and improvement of the trade and the development of lace-making in goods which have ceased to be made within the boundaries of the city of Nottingham, or could not be made under the old price lists, and in order to give opportunity, inducement, security and time for the introduction of capital in and for planning, ordering, getting made, fixing, and developing new or larger machines in factories within the said boundaries, or for developing and making new and improved varieties of goods, whether upon old or new machines, under the new conditions of the price lists and rules now awarded, and for obtaining and establishing business capable of affording more continuous work and increased and larger employment, it was necessary that a reasonable time should be fixed for the duration of the award, and the Arbitrator, to whom it was left to decide such time, declared that the award should continue in force up to and including the first pay-day after October 23rd, 1910.

Either party is, however, at liberty to give two months' notice of any alterations within six months of the latter date, and to have the said alterations, in the event of disagreement, settled by arbitration, or in such manner as the parties may think fit. But such time shall not be taken to prevent the employers, in the event of improvement in trade, from granting or consenting to a bonus being given to the employees during such time, or to prevent the parties making such alterations in detail by mutual agreement as both parties, owing to changes in trade from time to time, may deem to be necessary in the said price lists, provided always that the question of such bonus or objection to such alteration shall not entitle either party to make the bonus or the alteration a matter of dispute, and that in the event of disagreement the price list and rules as settled by the award are to prevail.

HARVEST EARNINGS IN 1905.

ACCORDING to the returns furnished to the Department, this year's corn harvest was, like that of 1904, a good and early harvest, and was gathered in with little interruption, on the whole, from bad weather. Except in the case of oats, of which the yield was generally light, the crops on farms in many districts, were heavier than in 1904, and the average earnings on some of these farms were somewhat higher than a year ago. The corn standing well in most districts, self-binding machines were extensively used, which lessened the demand for extra labourers. This class of labour was generally plentiful, and the supply was better than in 1904. The rate of harvest wages to men on time-work was generally about the same as in 1904.

The following Table shows the average cash earnings, exclusive of the value of any food and drink which may have been provided in addition, of men employed on certain farms in the Eastern, Midland, and Southern and South-Western Counties of England for the corn harvest of 1905:—

	No. of Men employed at Harvest on Farms included in Table.	Average Duration of Harvest.	Average Cash Earnings for Harvest per Man.		
			Working Days.	£ s. d.	
Eastern Counties	567	25	7	10	7
Midland Counties	193	28	5	16	7
Southern and South Western Counties	301	26	5	3	2

It will be seen that the earnings were highest in the Eastern Counties, which comprise the great corn-growing counties of Huntingdon, Cambridge, Lincoln, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex. The payments in these counties ranged from about £6 15s. to £8, though more was earned by some men on piece work in the Fen districts. In parts of Norfolk and in Suffolk and Essex the usual system of payment is for the labourer to contract with the farmer to perform the harvest work for a fixed sum, irrespective of the number of days occupied. A short harvest, as in 1904 and this year, is thus a profitable one for the labourer, as he gets back to ordinary farm work at weekly wages sooner than in years such as 1902 and 1903, when the harvest was lengthened by unfavourable weather.

In the Midland and Southern and South-Western counties the systems of payment are frequently on a time-work basis, so that harvest earnings fluctuate from year to year according to the duration of the harvest, and the longer harvests of 1902 and 1903 would be more favourable to the labourer than the shorter harvests of 1904 and 1905.

The various methods of payment are as follows (apart from that already described for certain Eastern counties):—To give the work in separate portions as piecework; to give the ordinary weekly wages and, in addition, a bonus of a pound or two at the end of harvest; to give extra time wages for a month certain, and then to pay the ordinary weekly wages; to pay double the ordinary weekly wages during harvest; to pay a certain rate per day as long as harvest lasts. Occasionally the ordinary weekly wage is paid and overtime money given.

In addition to cash payments, beer or cider is frequently given, and in some cases, light refreshments such as tea, bread, butter, and cheese.

The Northern Counties have been excluded from the above Table, as the majority of the farm servants in the North are hired by the year or half-year, and paid a regular wage with free board and lodging during the whole of the period for which they are hired, and are given no extra money for harvest, though they are often given extra food and drink. Except in Northumberland and Durham, where the system of engagement closely resembles that in the Border Counties of Scotland, the married men attached to the staff of a farm generally get from about £4 to £6 for a month at harvest, some food and drink being frequently given in addition. Extra hands, both English and Irish, in these districts sometimes get rather higher payments than the regular men, and often more food. The Irishmen are usually provided with lodging in barns or outhouses on the farms.

UNEMPLOYED WORKMEN ACT, 1905.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

THE Unemployed Workmen Act, 1905 (of which a full account was given in the LABOUR GAZETTE, August, 1905, p. 227), provides for the establishment by Order of the Local Government Board of a local Distress Committee in each Metropolitan Borough, and also of a Central Body for the Administrative County of London, and for the establishment by like Order in each Municipal Borough and Urban District with a population of 50,000 and over of a Distress Committee of the Council, with duties and powers, so far as applicable, similar to those of the Distress Committees and Central Body in London.

Orders establishing in London, and in populous Boroughs and Urban Districts the organisations above referred to were on September 20th, 1905, made by the Local Government Board viz., "The Organisation (Unemployed Workmen) Establishment Order, 1905," relating to London, and "The Urban Distress Committees (Unemployed Workmen) Order, 1905," relating to the Municipal Boroughs and Urban Districts named in that Order.

In each case copies of the Order have been forwarded by the Board to the Local Authorities concerned, together with a Circular (of even date) in which the attention of these Authorities is drawn to the Act, and the constitution, powers and duties of the organisations established under the Act are explained.

The Act provides that the Local Government Board may make Regulations for carrying the Act into effect; and on October 10th, 1905, Regulations with respect to these matters were made by the Board, which at the same time forwarded copies of the same to the Local Authorities concerned, together with explanatory Circulars.

Among the subjects to which attention is drawn in these Circulars, is that of Labour Exchanges. It is pointed out that organisations established under the Act will have the power by agreement to assist or take over any Local Exchange already established within their area, if they think fit to do so. But the Board would not suggest that these organisations should immediately proceed themselves to establish local labour exchanges without further information to guide them. The Board have instructed one of their inspectors to make inquiry as to the working of existing Labour Bureaux and to report to them.

Among the other matters dealt with are Emigration and Removal, Temporary Work and Farm Colonies.

At the same time a Circular was sent by the Board to Councils of Counties, and of County Boroughs under 50,000 population, drawing their attention to the Act and in particular to those of its provisions, which affect such Authorities.

The Regulations and Circulars will be placed on sale, and copies of them can then be purchased, either directly or through any bookseller, from Wyman & Sons, Limited, 109, Fetter Lane, Fleet Street, E.C. The Orders made and Circulars issued on September 20th (above referred to) are already similarly obtainable.

SCOTLAND.

The Local Government Board for Scotland has sent to Burghs with population of 50,000 and over a Circular, dated October 5th, 1905, in which attention is drawn to the Act, and the duties of Distress Committees, and the financial arrangements for defraying the expenses of such Committees are explained, and it is stated that "the Board will shortly issue Orders constituting Distress Committees for all Burghs in Scotland having a population of not less than 50,000," and that they are at present considering the form of the Regulations which the Board have power to make for carrying the Act into effect.

IRELAND.

The Local Government Board for Ireland have invited Boroughs and Urban Districts in that country with a population over 10,000 (this being the limit fixed in the application of the Act in Ireland in place of 50,000) to

furnish observations upon the Act and upon a draft of an Order constituting Distress Committees, but pending the receipt of replies from these Bodies, no Instructions have yet been issued.

LABOUR DISPUTES IN GERMANY.

BEGINNING with 1901 there has been, each year, an increase in the number of industrial disputes which have occurred in the German Empire, and also in the number of workpeople affected by them. In 1904, as shown by the Report* recently issued by the Imperial Statistical Office, there was not only again an increase in these particulars, but the numbers, both of disputes and of workpeople affected, were greater than in any of the years for which official statistics have been published. The figures for each of the years 1899-1904 are given in the following Table:—

Year.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople affected.
1899	1,311	116,486
1900	1,468	141,121
1901	1,091	68,191
1902	1,106	70,696
1903	1,444	135,522
1904	1,990	145,480

It will be seen that compared with 1903, the number of disputes (strikes and lock-outs combined) increased by 54.6, or nearly 38 per cent., and the number of workpeople affected (both directly and indirectly) by 9,958, or over 7 per cent.

Some indication of the extent to which each group of trades was affected may be gathered from the next Table:—

Group of Trades.	No. of Workpeople affected in					
	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
Building	47,461	40,044	22,319	37,026	52,129	66,583
Mining and Smelting	10,469	15,366	2,680	2,826	2,054	5,477
Metal Working, Engineering and Implements Manufacture	14,416	14,459	8,806	7,019	39,239	16,110
Textiles	13,244	8,450	6,568	10,767	7,779	10,681
Clothing and Cleaning	5,158	8,387	6,726	2,689	9,915	13,320
Transport	2,047	9,842	373	703	2,643	4,471
Wood, etc., Trades	8,972	23,431	2,671	3,731	8,389	14,013
Stones and Earth Trades	6,978	6,468	10,622	2,918	4,276	9,657
Other Trades	7,841	14,874	7,426	3,011	9,958	14,668
Total	116,486	141,121	68,191	70,696	135,522	145,480

As in 1903 so also in 1904 the two groups of trades affected by disputes to the greatest extent were the building, and the metal and engineering trades. In the latter year it will be seen that 46 per cent., or nearly half the total number of workpeople affected by disputes, were engaged in the building trades. The metal and engineering trades were affected to a much smaller extent than in 1903.

The extent to which the disputes of the six years 1899-1904 were settled in favour of the workpeople, in favour of the employers, or were compromised is shown in the next Table. These percentages are based on the number of disputes and not on the number of workpeople affected.

Result.	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904
In favour of Workpeople	25.9	19.1	19.3	21.4	22.1	24.7
In favour of Employers	40.7	45.4	53.8	56.7	46.1	39.1
Compromised	33.4	35.5	26.9	21.9	31.8	36.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Of the disputes in 1904, 739 were settled by direct negotiation between the parties, as compared with 556 in 1903, and 413 in 1902; 2,024 disputes were settled by the intervention of trade organisations, or by mediation, as compared with 338 in 1903 and 186 in 1902; while, 86 disputes were settled by Industrial Courts acting as Boards of Conciliation, as compared with 55 in 1903 and 43 in 1902.

* *Streiks und Aussperrungen im Jahre 1904 (Statistik des Deutschen Reichs Band 171). Berlin: Puttkammer und Mühlbrecht. Price 2s.*

ACCIDENTS IN MINES* IN 1873-1904.

FROM a Report recently issued by the Home Office dealing with Labour in Mines and Quarries in the United Kingdom it appears that while the numbers of workpeople employed in and about Mines have increased enormously in the period 1873-1904, the number of fatal accidents has shown an actual decrease. This is brought out in the first Chart below.

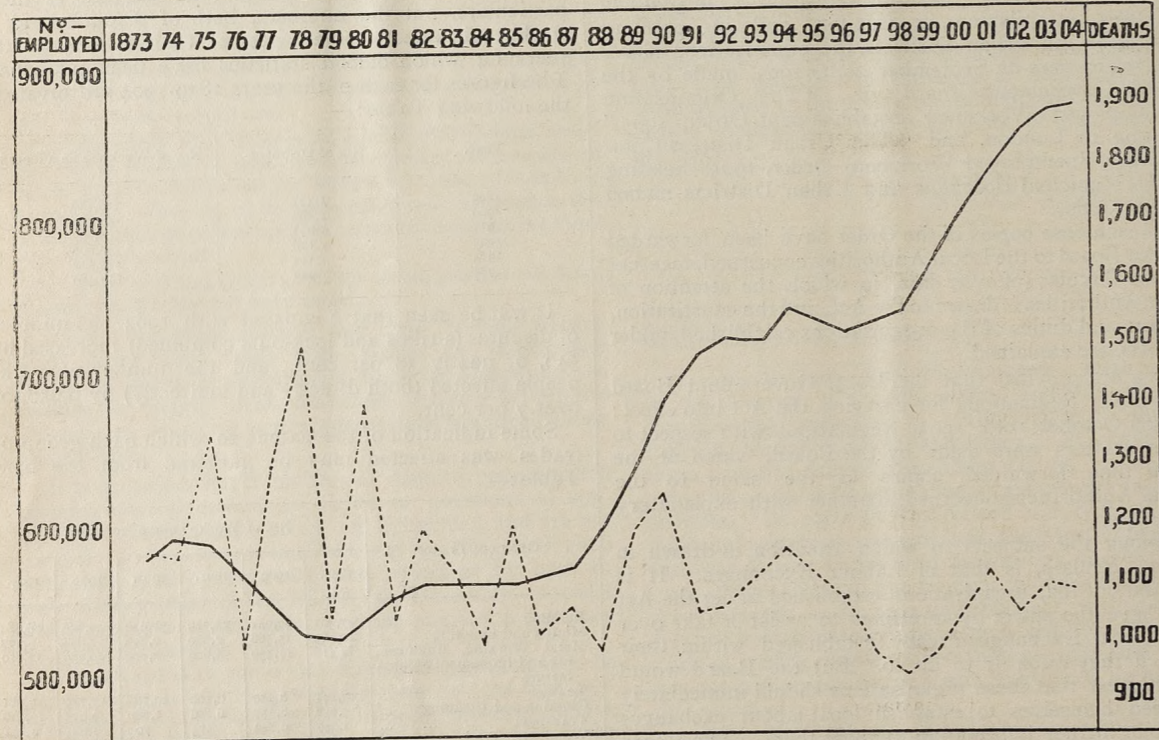
Here we see that while the curve representing the number employed rises from about 580,000 in 1873 to

nearly 880,000 in 1904, the number of deaths from accidents fell from 1,160 to under 1,100.

If the death rate per 1,000 employed is worked out for the underground workers—the class most affected by accidents—we obtain the second Chart in which coal and metalliferous mines are separately distinguished.

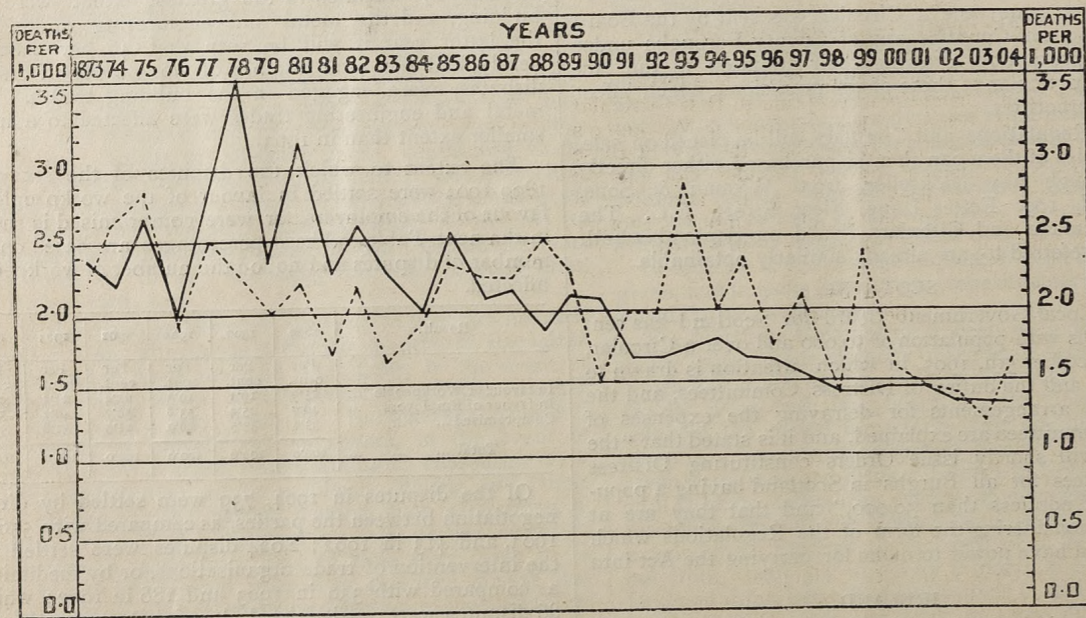
The decline shown here is of course more marked than in the first Chart in which the total number of deaths was affected by the rapid growth in the total numbers employed.

Total number of persons employed and total number of deaths from accidents at all Mines.



PERSONS EMPLOYED. (To be read from left hand Scale.)
DEATHS FROM ACCIDENTS. (To be read from right hand Scale.)

Death rates from Accidents underground per 1,000 persons employed.



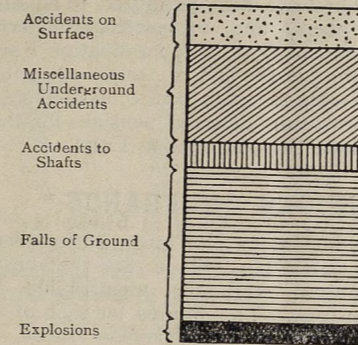
— Mines under the Coal Mines Regulations Acts.
- - - Mines under the Metalliferous Mines Regulations Acts.

* Mines and Quarries—General Report and Statistics for 1904. Part II.—Labour [Cd. 2734, price 11d.].

† These charts and others appear in the Report.

It will be interesting to show from what causes the accidents arose in 1904. This is done in the annexed diagram.

Diagram showing proportion of Deaths from different classes of Accidents at all Mines under the Coal and Metalliferous Mines Regulation Acts.



From this it is seen that in 1904 the great cause of fatal accidents to miners was falls of ground. However carefully the roof is shored up by timber, accidents of this description are constantly occurring and, in the aggregate, accounted for nearly half of all the accidents of the year. Explosions, on the other hand, although terribly destructive in particular instances, as in the recent Welsh disaster,* do not in a year like 1904 account for more than 2 per cent. of the total deaths. This year was, indeed, one of the lowest years on record in this respect.

WORKMEN'S LEGAL ADVICE AGENCIES IN GERMANY.

As a direct consequence of the complex body of labour legislation enacted in Germany during the last twenty-five years, and especially of the laws obliging the working classes to be insured against sickness, accident, old age and invalidity, cases are constantly arising in which workpeople find it necessary to obtain legal advice. In supplying this want the initiative has come from the working classes themselves, and more especially from the Social Democratic Trade Unions, or *Gewerkschaften*, which comprise the bulk of organised labour in Germany. The agencies established for this purpose have come to be most generally known by the term "Workmen's Secretariate" (*Arbeitersecretariat*).

The first workmen's Secretariate was established by the Social Democratic Trade Unions in 1889, in Berlin. In 1904 there were no fewer than 50 of these institutions in existence, all owing their inception to that particular group of Trade Unions. Reports from 48 Workmen's Secretariates for the year 1904 show that 22 of these offices are administered by the Trades Councils of their respective localities, while 24 are administered by special committees on which members of other bodies besides the Trade Unions are represented.

The bulk of the funds required to meet the expenses of the offices are obtained by fixed rates of yearly contributions per member of the affiliated Unions. These rates vary from 1d. per member in Berlin to 2s. 7d. in Göppingen, the average rate, based on returns from 36 Secretariates in 1904, being 9½d. One Secretariate (that of Gotha) receives an annual subsidy of £100 from the State. Forty of the 48 Secretariates reporting for 1904 make no charge whatever for their services, while 6 of the remaining 8 charge small fees, but only to non-members of the affiliated Unions.

Some idea of the maximum cost entailed by the maintenance of a Workmen's Secretariate may be obtained from the accounts of the four institutions of this kind whose expenditure in 1904 was greatest, viz., those of Hamburg, Nuremberg, Frankfurt-on-the-Main, and

* This occurred in 1905 and is not included in these statistics.
† Based on the statistics of the Social Democratic Workmen's Secretariates for the year 1904, published in the *Korrespondenzblatt der General-Kommission der Gewerkschaften Deutschlands*, and upon information supplied to the Department by a correspondent.

Stuttgart respectively. The receipts and expenses of these four Secretariates in 1904 are set out below:—

	Hamburg	Nurem- burg.	Frankfort on-the- Main.	Stuttgart.
Receipts:—				
Contributions from affiliated Unions	£ 823	£ 657	£ 475	£ 277
Contributions from other Working Class Institutions	—	10	74	50
Fees for Advice, etc. ...	—	—	79	85
Other Receipts...	—	79	70	122
Total ...	823	746	619	534
Expenses:—				
Salaries ...	484	308	361	291
Rent of Offices...	50	38	36	24
Other Expenses ...	108	238	110	195
Total ...	642	584	507	510

Of the above four Secretariates, that of Stuttgart alone charged fees (to non-members) the total amount received under this head in 1904 being £85. The number of non-members who applied at that Secretariate for advice during the same year was 5,490, so that the average charge made to each such applicant was less than fourpence.

The varied nature of the questions on which the Secretariates are asked to advise will be seen from the following statement, which classifies according to subjects, the answers furnished during 1904 by 48 of these institutions.

Subject of Inquiry.	Inquiries Answered.	
	Number.	Percentage of Total.
Workmen's Insurance against Accidents, Sickness, Old Age and Infirmity	71,487	29.9
General Law (including Claims and Actions, Questions of Marriage, Guardianship, Maintenance, Succession, Tenancy and Debt)	68,539	28.7
Labour Contract (including Labour Disputes, Apprenticeship, Domestic Service and Factory Acts)	38,760	16.2
Criminal Law	15,526	6.5
Miscellaneous (including Domicile, Naturalization, Franchise, Poor Relief, Military Service, Rates and Taxes)	44,850	18.7
Grand Total ...	239,162	100.0

A large proportion of the questions dealt with have reference to Workmen's Insurance Legislation, and it is claimed that, but for the help of the Secretariates, large sums in the way of compensation and pensions would be lost to the working classes every year. A further branch of the duties of the Workmen's Secretariate is to prepare "opinions" on points of industrial law and custom which may be submitted to it, while a more important function still is the representation of the working classes before the insurance and other tribunals which admit the presence of lay advocates. Some of the Secretariates have also conducted valuable investigations into the condition (wages, hours of labour, housing, etc.) of the working classes.

The officials who conduct the Secretariates have in most cases been workmen, and, in the capacity of Trade Union officers or party leaders, have qualified themselves by a study of Labour Law to become its recognised exponents. As the work of the Secretariates increases in importance, however, the standard of qualifications required in their conductors is becoming higher. Applicants for office have now to undergo examination, which includes the preparation of a thesis on some pertinent phase of labour law, and to pass a period of probation in the practical work of the Secretariates. It is even proposed that in future definite legal training shall also be required.

Workpeople form everywhere the bulk of the clients of the Secretariates. Of a total of 164,223 applicants for advice at 37 Secretariates in 1904, 141,803 or 86 per cent., are described as belonging to this class.

Denominational.*

In Germany a considerable number of Workmen's Societies have been fostered by the Roman Catholic and Protestant churches, and the example set by the Social Democratic Trade Unions was soon followed by the

* Based on information contained in the *Reichs-Arbeitsblatt* (the journal of the German Labour Department).

Societies of this kind. The first Roman Catholic Legal Advice Agency for workpeople was founded at St. Johann, Saarbrücken, in 1892, and was called a "People's Bureau." In 1904, 62 such offices were reported to be in existence under different names,* their object as set out in their rules, being "to provide legal advice and protection to all persons seeking the same, without regard to their religious or political convictions." No fewer than 25 of these offices were established in the year 1904. To persons without means no charge is made for advice. A small yearly subscription procures membership of the organisation maintaining the office, together with the right to obtain free advice at any time. Non-members pay a fee of from 2½d. to 6d. for verbal, and 3d. to 1s. for written answers. The receipts from fees, however, form only a small part of the amount required for the maintenance of the office. Of the 62 Roman Catholic offices, 53 reported a total of 182,981 applications for advice in 1904. The subjects of the enquiries and the percentages of the total falling to each subject were approximately the same as in the case of the Social Democratic Workmen's Secretariats. The Central Workmen's Secretariat of the Catholic Trade Unions undertook the representation of 526 claims before the Imperial Insurance Office in 1904. In 59.76 per cent. of these cases the decisions were in favour of the claimants.

In 1904, there were 8 "People's Bureaux" or "Legal Advice Offices," maintained by Protestant organisations. The objects and policy of these offices are practically the same as those of the corresponding institutions carried on by the Roman Catholic organisations. Four of these Protestant offices reported a total of 2,794 enquiries during 1904. During the same period the "Christian People's Bureau" in Berlin also represented 114 claims before different tribunals.

Municipal.† There were in 1904 seven institutions maintained by municipal authorities for the purpose of supplying legal advice free or for a trifling charge. The first was founded in 1896 by the municipality of Hamm in Westphalia. The municipalities of three more towns, Cologne, Magdeburg, and Flensburg have made preparations to establish similar institutions during the present year. Three municipal offices reported for 1904 a total of 34,165 enquiries, of which 32,090 were at Mülhausen alone.

At the office in Hamm a charge of 3d. was made for verbal replies, and for replies in writing a fee of 2½d. per folio was required. However, in a large number of cases information was given gratis.

GROWTH OF FRIENDLY SOCIETIES IN BELGIUM.‡

THE remarkable growth in the number and membership of Friendly Societies in Belgium in the last ten years is to be seen from a volume, recently published, dealing with the industrial and commercial progress of Belgium during the period 1830-1905, prepared by the Belgian Government for the Liège International Exhibition.

At the end of 1895 the number of recognised Friendly Societies in Belgium was 759, with an approximate membership of 104,300. At the end of 1904 there were 6,760 recognised Societies, with an approximate total membership of 700,000, the growth both in numbers and membership having been continuous from year to year, as shown by the following Table:—

Year (en c)	Number of Friendly Societies.	Approximate number of Members.
1895	759	104,300
1896	948	120,700
1897	1,257	151,300
1898	1,927	219,800
1899	2,915	304,000
1900	4,996	425,100
1901	5,806	529,700
1902	6,166	603,900
1903	6,447	649,600
1904	6,760	700,000

* Thirty-five were known as "People's Bureaux," 23 as "Workmen's Secretariats," and 4 as "People's Bureaux and Workmen's Secretariats." † Based on information contained in the *Reichs-Arbeitsblatt* (the Journal of the German Labour Department). ‡ *La Belgique—Institutions, Industrie, Commerce*, printed under the direction of M. Jean Mommaert, Director of the Department of Industry and Labour, Brussels, 1905.

This progress has been the direct result of the Law of June 23rd, 1894, by which recognised Friendly Societies are permitted to undertake many classes of business which were previously prohibited to them, including insurance against sickness, accident, loss or disease of cattle, and damage to crops. They are also permitted to advance loans to their members, and to purchase deferred pensions for them from the State Superannuation Fund. Of the Societies existing at the end of 1904, no less than 4,408, with a membership of over 500,000, existed solely for the purpose of procuring deferred pensions for their members from the State Superannuation Fund.

TRADE UNIONS IN FRANCE.*

THE growth of Trade Unions in France during recent years has been very noticeable. Since 1898 the number of Unions has doubled, and the membership has increased by 78 per cent. The figures for each of the years from 1898 to 1905 are given below:—

Year (Jan. 1st).	Number of Trade Unions.	Membership of Trade Unions.
1898	2,324	417,793
1899	2,361	419,701
1900	2,885	491,647
1901	3,487	538,832
1902	3,679	614,173
1903	3,934	643,757
1904	4,227	715,576
1905	4,625	781,344

Among the 781,344 members of Trade Unions in 1905 were included 69,405 women, or 8.9 per cent. of the total, as compared with 59,708, or 8.3 per cent in 1904.

The next Table shows how the Unions were distributed by Trades at the beginning of 1898 and 1905, respectively. In the last column is shown the proportion of Trade Unionists to the total occupied population in each group of trades on January 1st, 1905.

Group of Trades.	Number of Trade Unions on Jan. 1st.		Membership of Trade Unions on Jan. 1st.		Proportion of Membership on Jan. 1st, 1905, to occupied population, according to the 1901 census of occupations
	1898.	1905.	1898.	1905.	
Building Trades	450	713	33,795	52,480	10.06
Mining	63	71	41,760	79,277	50.95
Quarrying	47	47	7,889	14,118	14.18
Metal Trades	286	558	38,316	90,358	15.53
Textile Trades	169	379	35,432	79,676	12.50
Clothing and Cleaning Trades (excluding Boot and Shoemaking and Glovemaking)	129	224	8,092	21,572	4.93
Trades, Warehousing and Commercial Employment	243	689	160,205	221,683	14.33
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	69	374	8,002	45,014	1.32
Printing, Paper and Allied Trades	197	296	13,944	23,857	19.76
Woodworking and Furnishing Trades	199	324	13,588	24,620	10.91
Chemical Trades	76	109	27,967	28,175	25.54
Glass, Pottery, &c. Trades and Stonecutting and Polishing	70	155	9,150	14,302	9.81
Food Preparation Trades	146	273	18,552	40,720	6.77
Skins and Leather Trades (including Boot and Shoemaking and Glovemaking)	167	243	20,262	27,259	16.12
Domestic Service	60	81	8,725	11,042	1.34
Other Trades	60	89	13,420	13,420	8.14
Total	2,324	4,625	437,793	781,344	8.05

From this Table it is seen that the membership in every group of trades showed some increase in 1905 as compared with 1898. In the chemical trades the increase was very slight, but in all other groups it was large, varying from about 34 per cent. in the skins and leather trades to nearly 167 per cent. in the clothing and cleaning trades, and to over 460 per cent. in agriculture, forestry, and fishing. It will be noticed, however, that these high percentage increases are due to the comparatively small membership in 1898, and that the greatest absolute increases in membership took place in the transport, warehousing and commercial employment group (61,475, or 38 per cent.), and in the metal trades group (52,042

* *Annuaire des Syndicats Professionnels, Industriels, Commerciaux et Agricoles* 15e Année, 1904-1905. Paris: Imprimerie Nationale, 1905.

or 136 per cent.). These two groups account for 312,041 out of the total membership of 781,344 in 1905.

As in this country, many of the Unions are federated, and it may be of interest to give some particulars as to such federations.

Year (1st January).	Number of Federations.	Number of Trade Unions Federated.	Membership of Federated Trade Unions.
1898	94	1302	327,638
1899	76	1132	312,185
1900	73	1199	432,950
1901	95	1533	533,575
1902	120	2010	672,422
1903	138	2226	683,366
1904	156	2519	590,223
1905	158	3176	681,863

With regard to these figures it should be observed that some Unions are affiliated to more than one Federation, their membership being therefore counted more than once in the totals.

LABOUR DISPUTES IN HOLLAND.*

ACCORDING to the number of disputes and the number of workpeople directly affected, the year 1904 in Holland was freer from industrial disturbance than either of the two preceding years. The figures are as under:—

Year.	Number of Disputes.	Workpeople directly affected.
1902	133	15,033
1903	150	34,508
1904	100	11,186

The best measure of disputes is, however, the aggregate number of working days lost, and unfortunately this information is available for 1904 only, so that no comparison can be made with preceding years. In 1904 a very prolonged dispute occurred affecting diamond workers, in which the number of days lost was no less than 484,571. As in all the other disputes of the year 92,295 working days were lost, it will readily be seen that this was the great labour dispute of 1904.

The details for each group of trades are given below:—

Groups of Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople directly affected.	No. of Days lost by Workpeople directly affected.
Diamonds and Precious Stones	1	6,301	484,571
Building Trades and Construction of Public Works (including Cleaning)	24	1,391	5,603
Textile Trades	12	946	9,014
Transport	6	215	259
Agriculture	7	368	2,219
Printing and Allied Trades	6	100	1,825
Woodworking, Cork and Straw Trades	8	154	2,594
Chemical, Glass and Pottery Trades	4	836	61,793
Food Preparation Trades	28	292	6,501
Other Trades	6	493	2,487
Total	102	11,186	576,861

Of the above 102 disputes, 24 terminated in favour of the workpeople, 43 in favour of the employers, and 31 (including the lock-out in the diamond trade) were settled by compromise, while in 4 cases the results were either indeterminate or unknown.

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.

It is too late in the year for the ordinary emigrant to go to Canada in search of work, unless he has means of his own to keep him through the winter. The last monthly report of the Dominion Department of Labour states: "Harvesting operations were general during the latter half of the month, employing many thousands of men; the fishing season on the Fraser River (B.C.) was at its height; the demand for men for the winter lumber camps in Eastern Canada was keen; mining was very active in both the coal and metalliferous branches; and building operations were on a more extensive scale than

* *Werkstakingen en Uitsluitingen in Nederland gedurende 1904 (Bijdragen tot de Statistiek van Nederland, L. 11)*. Central Bureau of Statistics. The Hague: Gebr. Belinfante, 1905. † In addition 81,011 days were lost by workpeople indirectly affected. ‡ Handbooks with maps on the different Colonies may be obtained from the Emigrants' Information Office, at a penny each, post free.

previously recorded. Civic improvement works also provided employment for large numbers. In addition, railway construction operations were actively under way, and with the turning of the first sod in the construction of the National Trans-Continental Line, and the projection of additional branch lines by operating companies, a period of unprecedented activity was inaugurated, the effect of which was immediately felt upon general industrial and trade conditions, more particularly in the manufacturing industry and among retailers in Western Canada. The opening of the fall fair season also stimulated trade and employment in many localities. The above conditions were general in their effect throughout the Dominion, the cities of Halifax (Nova Scotia) and Nanaimo (B.C.) alone reporting conditions approximating to dullness."

Commonwealth of Australia.

New South Wales.—The coal industry has improved, but full time is not being worked at all the mines, and at Bulli some miners are out of employment. At Sydney there is no demand, except for female servants; at Young there is a fair demand for miners, farm and general labourers, station hands, smiths and flour-mill hands and a good demand for female servants; at Jerilderie and Wilcannia there is no demand for labour; at Orange there is no demand except for female servants; at Cooma the supply of labour greatly exceeds the demand; at Grafton there is a limited demand for all classes of labour.

Victoria.—At Melbourne there is no demand for more labour; at Bendigo there is very little demand for labour; at Portland there is no demand for labour, except occasionally for female servants; at Daylesford there is no demand, except for farm labourers in the season. The Special Board appointed under the Factories and Shops Acts has fixed the minimum wages to be paid to adult males in the leather portmanteau trade at 45s. per week of not more than 48 hours.

South Australia.—The local supply of farm and general labourers is ample, except at harvest time, in December and January, when work is plentiful for a few weeks only. There is no demand for mechanics, but there is always a strong demand for female servants.

Queensland.—No particular demand exists for anyone at present, except female servants; but emigrants may obtain cheap nominated passages through friends or relations in the State. A report from the central pastoral districts states that there is an ample supply of labour, except for a few weeks at shearing time.

Western Australia.—Assisted passages at £9 are granted to emigrants with about £100 capital; and reduced passages at £13 to those without such capital if they are otherwise suitable. Persons having friends in the State can obtain nominated passages at £8. The demand for labour is not very large except for competent farm labourers in certain districts of the South West; a few skilled mechanics also could obtain work. Employment among miners at the Collie Coalfields has been very unsettled owing to disputes as to wages. The disputes as to gold miners' wages at Kalgoorlie have been settled, and existing rates, with one or two small exceptions, are to be renewed.

New Zealand.

The Annual report of the Government Labour Department for 1904 states that the position of labour during that year was "highly satisfactory." The building trades (in the North Island), the boot and shoe trades, agricultural implement makers, saw-milling and timber trades, flax-milling, and unskilled labourers were all busy; the engineering trades generally, and the woollen mills, except the hosiery branches, were slacker. In August last all trades at Auckland were reported dull and there was no demand for skilled or unskilled labour; in country districts of the Province, however, there was a demand for milkers and farm labourers. From September to April is the busy season in New Zealand, and emigrants arriving then have a much better chance of securing work than in the dull months of winter.

Considerable numbers have been arriving lately, some of whom were quite unsuitable for hard up-country life. There is plenty of work in the building and other trades, but the local supply of men is now generally sufficient. There is no room for clerks, shop assistants and the like, unless they have exceptional qualifications.

South Africa.

Cape Colony.—No one can land in Cape Colony, unless he possesses £20, or has secured employment beforehand. All trades in the various towns and districts of the Colony are depressed, and the supply of labour is ample. No one should go out there on the chance of getting work, unless he can keep himself for several weeks.

Natal.—Labour is plentiful, and no one is recommended to go out, unless he has obtained a nominated passage, or has sufficient means to take up land of his own after a time.

Transvaal.—No one is allowed to enter the Transvaal without a permit. No permit is granted to any immigrant, unless he possesses £20, or has obtained bona-fide employment in the Transvaal. Labour is plentiful both at Johannesburg and Pretoria, and many workmen and clerks of all kinds are out of employment: the ordinary emigrant should therefore avoid the Transvaal at the present time. The arbitrator's award on the carpenters' strike in Pretoria was given in the masters' favour, and wages are now 2s. 6d. an hour. The cost of living is two or three times as high as in England. There is some demand for female servants, who may obtain reduced passages through the South African Colonisation Society, 47, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

Orange River Colony.—No one may enter the Colony without a permit, and no immigrant can obtain such permit unless he possesses £20, or has obtained bona-fide employment in the Colony. There is no opening for more labour at the present time, except for a limited number of female servants, who may obtain assisted passages through the South African Colonisation Society, mentioned above.

LABOUR ABROAD.

FRANCE.*

Employment in August.—The building trades were fully employed during August. In the metal trades the situation was on the whole almost as favourable as in the preceding months, but there was still much unemployment among the makers of tin-boxes (for fish preserving) on the Atlantic coast. Employment in the textile trades was indifferent in the Nord Department and especially in Normandy, where, in a number of districts engaged in cotton manufacture, short time (50 hours per week) continued to be worked. In the cotton districts of Roanne and the Ardennes the situation was equally unsatisfactory. In the Vosges and at Rheims employment continued normal. There was considerable scarcity of employment in the silk manufacture at St. Etienne. Weaving sheds in and about Lyons were somewhat busier than in July. The slack season was in progress in the garment trades. Hatmakers reported a slight revival. The decline usually reported in the printing and bookbinding trades during the holiday season was less marked this year. Coachbuilders continued actively employed, and an improvement was reported among leather tanners and dressers, furriers and glove makers. Employment was less plentiful for agricultural labourers in the central and northern districts, harvest operations having been almost everywhere completed before the end of the first fortnight in August. In the south, as usual before the vintage commences, work in the vineyards was at a standstill. Gardeners in and near Paris continued well employed.

Of 165,429 members of 961 Trade Unions (exclusive of Unions of miners in the Pas-de-Calais and Nord Departments) which made reports to the French Labour Department as to employment among their members, 14,166, or 8.6 per cent., were out of work on August 15th, as compared with 9.6 per cent. in the previous month and 11.1 per cent. in August, 1904.

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

Coal Mining in August.—The average number of days worked per week by miners employed underground during August was 5.83, as compared with 5.79 in the previous month and 5.77 in August, 1904. Taking surface and underground workers together, 51.20 per cent. worked full time (6 days and over per week) and 48.60 from 5 to 6 days per week, the corresponding percentages in the previous month being 56.35 and 37.60 respectively, while in August, 1904, they were 56 and 41 respectively. The above figures were supplied to the French Labour Department by the Committee of Coal Owners, and relate to nearly 160,000 workpeople, or more than three-fourths of all employed in and about the mines.

Labour Disputes in August.—Forty-five disputes were reported to the French Labour Department as having begun in August, as compared with 56 in the previous month and with 87 in August, 1904. The number of workpeople taking part in 44 of the new disputes was 7,538, as compared with 5,961 who took part in 51 disputes in the previous month, and with 39,854 who took part in the disputes of August, 1904. Information as to the trade or trades affected is given in the source with regard to 43 of the disputes. Three were in the building trades, 4 in mining, 4 in the metal trades, 15 in the textile trades, 7 in the transport and warehousing trades, 3 in the food preparation trades, 3 in salt works, and 1 each among chemical workers, diamond workers and gardeners. The remaining dispute affected several industries. Out of 48 disputes which came to an end in August, 8 terminated in favour of the workpeople, 13 in favour of the employers, and 27 were compromised.

Conciliation and Arbitration in August.—Sixteen instances of recourse to the Conciliation and Arbitration Law were reported to the French Labour Department during August, the initiative being taken by the workpeople in 3 and by the Justice of the Peace in 13 cases. In 12 cases committees of conciliation were formed, and were directly or indirectly instrumental in settling 9 disputes, including 2 which were settled by arbitration. As to the 4 cases in which conciliation committees could not be formed, this was due to the proffered mediation being declined by the employers in 3 cases, and by the workpeople in 1 case.

GERMANY.

Employment in August.*—The general trend of the industrial labour market during August may, on the whole, be described as distinctly favourable. Among the larger industries which contributed to this result may be especially noticed the metal and engineering trades. In coalmining also the state of employment was on the whole not unsatisfactory, although not above the average for the time of year. The textile trades were still fully employed on old orders; while the persistent fluctuations in the prices of the raw materials of those trades had a disturbing effect on business, they cannot be said to have reacted adversely upon employment. The situation was favourable also in the chemical trades and particularly so in the building trades. In the latter industry brisk activity was reported in most towns, but at Munich and in Rhenish Westphalia extensive lock-outs had a disturbing influence on labour conditions (see last month's GAZETTE, p. 266). Towards the end of the month a slight revival of activity was observed in the printing trades, and to some extent the labour market was influenced by the termination of the holiday season and the partial completion of harvest operations.

Dispute in Electrical Industry in Berlin.†—Towards the end of September certain of the workpeople employed by two of the chief electrical companies in Berlin struck for an increase of 15 per cent. in wages, refusing to accept an increase of 5 per cent. offered by the employers. The men were supported by sympathetic strikes on the part of a proportion of other workmen. On September 30th the firms in question closed six of their works in Berlin, thereby locking out about 33,000 workpeople.

* Reichs-Arbeitsblatt (Journal of the German Labour Department).
† Based on a despatch to the Foreign Office from H.M. Ambassador at Berlin, dated October 6th, 1905, and on newspaper reports.

This example was followed by several smaller establishments, and altogether about 45,000 workpeople had, by October 6th, been thrown out of work by the dispute.

In order to support the electrical firms in their resistance to the strikers, the Association of Berlin Metal Manufacturers announced a lock-out of about 20,000 men for the 14th October, unless some settlement should have been arrived at by that date.

AUSTRIA.*

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

		Aug., 1905.	July, 1905.	Aug., 1904.
No. of Applications per 100 Situations offered	Male	150	166	173
	Female	98	110	99
	Total	127	143	141

Disputes in August.—Thirty-nine disputes (1 described as a lock-out) were reported to the Austrian Labour Department, in addition to those which may have occurred in mining, the returns for which are quarterly. The number of workpeople taking part in 37 of these was 3,722. Eleven of the disputes took place in the building trades, 11 in the metal and engineering trades, 2 in the textile trades, 2 in the clothing and cleaning trades, 2 in the glass and pottery trades, 5 in the wood-working trades, 2 in the food trades, and 4 in trades not included in these groups. The results were reported in the case of 27 disputes. Of these, 7 terminated in favour of the workpeople and 7 in favour of the employers, while 13 were compromised.

BELGIUM.†

Employment: June-August.—Returns made to the Belgian Labour Department by Trade Unions for each of the months June, July and August, show the number and percentage of the members unemployed towards the middle of the respective months to have been as below:—

	Unions reporting.		Members unemployed.	
	Number.	Membership.	Number.	Per cent.
June	137	29,064	525	1.8
July	133	27,501	595	2.2
August	145	28,481	632	2.2

The returns made by the Belgian Trade Unions do not include any figures as to miners, home-workers, or agricultural labourers.

Labour Disputes: June-August.—Twenty-eight disputes affecting 7,619 workpeople (6,626 directly and 993 indirectly) were reported to the Belgian Labour Department as having begun in the period June-August. Of these, 2 were in the building trades, 4 in mining and quarrying, 4 in the metal and engineering trades, 14 in the textile trades, 2 in the chemical and glass trades and 2 in trades not included in any of these groups. In the case of 30 disputes, which came to an end in the same period, the results were reported. Six (affecting 1,663 workpeople) terminated in favour of the workpeople, 15 (affecting 5,489 workpeople) in favour of the employers, and 8 (affecting 581 workpeople) in a compromise, while one dispute came to an end by the establishment concerned being definitely closed.

HOLLAND.‡

Strike in Building Trades at Amsterdam.†—A strike occurred in August among pile-drivers, who demanded that the number of men in each gang should be increased from 5 to 6. Bricklayers and hodmen refused to work on foundations constructed by a few workmen who

* Information supplied through the courtesy of the Austrian Labour Department.
† Revue du Travail (Journal of the Belgian Labour Department).
‡ Based on despatches to the Foreign Office by H.M. Minister at the Hague, dated October 1st and 13th, 1905.

continued work after the strike had been declared, this resulting in an extensive strike, followed by a lock-out of 2,500 bricklayers and hodmen which affected all branches of the building trades. No agreement had been arrived at up to the 13th October.

DENMARK.

Strike of Textile Operatives.*—Failure to establish a new agreement between employers and workpeople in the wool and cotton weaving industry in Denmark resulted in a strike on 1st July last, in which about 4,000 workpeople were involved. The workpeople demanded the reduction of the working time from 10 to 9 hours per day, and an increase of wages by from 10 to 20 per cent. The employers were opposed to a permanent reduction of the working day to 9 hours, but were not disinclined to increase the wages in some cases. Negotiations were carried on without result until October 12th. Fresh negotiations were to begin on October 16th.

NORWAY.†

Employment: June-July.—The proportion of members unemployed in the Trade Unions forwarding returns to the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics was as follows at the end of June and July in 1904 and 1905:—

	Total Membership of Unions Reporting.		Percentage of unemployed at end of month	
	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.
All Unions ... { June	10,097	13,020	2.0	1.5
... { July	11,034	12,056	2.6	1.7
Metal Workers { June	4,387	4,660	1.1	1.4
... { July	4,575	4,564	1.6	1.3
Printers ... { June	1,014	1,073	6.4	3.8
... { July	992	1,065	7.8	3.7

ITALY.‡

Labour Disputes in August.—Sixty disputes (including one lock-out) were reported to the Italian Labour Department as having begun in August, compared with 90 in the previous month. The number of workpeople taking part in 50 of these was 11,129, as compared with 18,592 who took part in 79 of the July disputes. Ten occurred in the building trades, 7 in mining and quarrying, 3 in the metal and engineering trades, 13 in the textile trades, 2 each in the clothing and printing trades, 9 in agriculture, 12 in food preparation, 1 in the woodworking trades, and 1 among employees of public authorities.

Of 33 disputes, of which the results were fully reported in August, 10 (with 2,660 participants in 9 of these) ended in favour of the workpeople, 8 (with 2,419 participants) in favour of the employers, and 15 were compromised.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

LABOUR IN THE UNITED STATES GENERALLY.§

The conditions existing on September 4th, 1905, in the United States, between employers and workmen compared favourably with those at the corresponding date of 1904. Labour conditions in the States of Ohio, Illinois, Massachusetts, New England, Pennsylvania and Missouri were all stated to be harmonious, and the demand for labour in practically every trade was in excess of the supply. Both skilled and unskilled labour were able to find employment at wages somewhat above the normal rates.

NEW YORK CONSULAR DISTRICT.§

The building industry was very busy at the beginning of September in New York and adjacent cities. A strike was begun about that time by the Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers in New York, for an increase of pay from 16s. 8d. to 18s. 9d. per day. The employers offered to increase their wages to 17s. 8½d. per day; this was declined by the men, who, however, returned to work on September 14th, pending arbitration.

* Based on information contained in despatches to the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Copenhagen, dated September 21st, and October 12th, 1905.
† Information supplied through the courtesy of the Norwegian Central Bureau of Statistics.
‡ Bollettino dell' Ufficio del Lavoro (Journal of the Italian Labour Department).
§ Based on despatches to the Foreign Office, dated September 5th to October 13th, from H.M. Consulate-General at New York.

REPORTS ON EMPLOYMENT
IN THE PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES
IN SEPTEMBER.

BUILDING TRADES.

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

EMPLOYMENT in the building trades continued dull during September, and on the whole was much the same as a month ago. Bricklayers report a slight improvement, but with masons, carpenters and joiners and painters employment was rather worse.

Compared with a year ago employment was slightly worse. With carpenters and joiners, however, it was about the same, and with bricklayers and plumbers, and masons and slaters in Scotland, there was a slight improvement.

The percentage of Trade Union carpenters and joiners unemployed at the end of September was 7.1, as compared with 6.5 per cent. a month ago, and 7.0 per cent. in September, 1904. The percentage of Trade Union plumbers unemployed at the end of September was 8.9, the same as a month ago. In September, 1904, the percentage was 9.8. The figures for the principal districts are given in the following Table:—

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Sept., 1905.*	Percentage of Members of Unions returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Percentage for Sept., 1905, as compared with	
		Sept., 1905.	August, 1905.	Sept., 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.						
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
London	6,498	7.1	5.5	6.2	+ 1.6	+ 0.9
Northern Counties†	5,955	8.5	9.7	9.8	- 1.2	- 1.3
Lancashire and Cheshire	9,763	6.4	7.0	6.4	+ 1.4	...
Yorkshire	4,970	9.1	8.8	6.9	+ 0.3	+ 2.2
East Midlands ...	2,900	5.3	5.9	6.2	- 0.6	- 0.9
West Midlands ...	4,467	4.8	4.5	4.6	+ 0.3	+ 0.2
Eastern Counties	1,100	7.5	8.5	6.6	- 1.1	+ 0.9
S. and S.W. Counties	5,671	6.4	6.4	4.8	...	+ 1.6
Wales and Monmouth	1,896	5.3	5.3	3.4	...	+ 1.9
Other Districts ...	635	4.9	3.7	2.6	+ 1.2	+ 2.3
SCOTLAND	5,055	7.6	10.1	9.6	- 2.5	- 2.0
IRELAND	4,466	9.4	4.6	10.4	+ 4.8	- 1.0
UNITED KINGDOM ...	53,375	7.1	6.8	7.0	+ 0.6	+ 0.1
PLUMBERS.†						
ENGLAND AND WALES.						
London	1,085	9.9	8.7	11.9	+ 1.2	- 2.0
Northern Counties†	1,564	7.0	8.4	8.8	- 1.4	- 1.8
Lancashire and Cheshire	2,538	8.3	7.8	9.5	+ 0.5	- 1.2
Yorkshire	1,686	8.5	9.4	6.8	- 0.9	+ 1.7
East Midlands ...	666	5.9	7.7	6.7	- 1.8	- 0.8
West Midlands ...	430	6.7	9.3	7.9	- 2.6	- 1.2
Eastern Counties	111	4.5	6.3	4.5	...	...
S. and S.W. Counties	463	9.8	7.5	3.4	+ 0.3	+ 4.4
Wales and Monmouth	893	10.6	12.0	5.5	- 1.4	+ 5.1
Other Districts ...	38	10.5	9.1	7.7	+ 1.4	+ 2.8
SCOTLAND	1,025	14.0	12.7	13.0	+ 1.3	+ 1.0
IRELAND	622	12.4	9.4	17.1	+ 3.0	- 4.7
UNITED KINGDOM ...	9,881	8.0	8.0	9.8	...	- 0.9

Returns received through the Trade Correspondent from 66 London employers show that in the last week of September they paid wages to 14,891 workpeople of all classes, as compared with 15,177 in August, and 17,243 in September, 1904. Employment was about the same as a month ago, but considerably worse than a year ago.

According to returns received from Employers' Associations for 75 districts in the provinces and in Scotland and Ireland, employment showed some improvement as compared with the previous month in Blackpool, Burnley, Northampton, Birmingham, Coventry, Ipswich, Southend, Maidstone, Portsmouth and Gloucester, while in Dublin and Belfast, and in certain of the smaller towns in Lancashire and Yorkshire, the Midlands, and the South-Western Counties there was a falling off. In the remaining districts there was little change. Compared with a year ago employment was reported to be worse in 39 out of the 75 districts, while

* Exclusive of superannuated members. † Including Middlesbrough. ‡ Revised figures for September, 1904.

in 29 districts it was stated to be the same. Only seven districts reported an improvement, viz., Teeside, Oldham, Lancaster, Burnley, Leigh, Coventry, and Gloucester.

COAL MINING.

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

EMPLOYMENT in the coal mining industry in September showed an improvement as compared with the previous month but was slightly worse than a year ago.

Returns relating to 1,331 pits, employing 546,935 workpeople, show that the average number of days worked per week during the four weeks ended September 23rd, 1905, was 5.13, as compared with 4.76 in the four weeks ended August 26th, and 5.17 in September, 1904. The average weekly number of days worked was affected by holidays to the extent of over a quarter of a day in August, 1905. Disputes also affected employment to some extent in Lancashire and South Wales in August and September, 1905.

Of the 546,935 workpeople covered by the returns, 375,350 (or 68.6 per cent.) were employed at pits working 20 or more days during the four weeks ended September 23rd, and of these 255,213 (or 46.7 per cent. of the whole) worked 22 days or more.

As compared with a month ago, nearly every district showed an improvement, which was most marked in the Midland districts, Gloucester and Somerset, and South and West Yorkshire. The North Wales and Fifeshire districts showed a slight decline in employment.

As compared with a year ago, a decline was shown in most districts and was greatest in the Lothians of Scotland, Lancashire and Cheshire, and North Wales.

The following Table shows the average weekly time worked by the pits for the three periods specified:—

Districts.	No. of Workpeople employed in Sept., 1905, at the Collieries included in the Table.	Average No. of Days worked per week by the Collieries in Four Weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Sept., 1905, as compared with	
		Sept., 23rd, 1905.	August†, 26th, 1905.	Sept., 24th, 1904.	A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.						
Northumberland ...	36,711	5.24	5.13	5.33	+ 1.1	- 1.9
Durham	102,759	5.44	5.22	5.41	+ 2.2	+ 0.3
Cumberland	6,997	4.68	4.50	4.59	+ 1.8	+ 0.9
South Yorkshire ...	58,959	5.34	4.91	5.22	+ 4.3	+ 1.2
West Yorkshire ...	19,088	4.45	4.01	4.19	+ 4.4	+ 0.4
Lancashire and Cheshire...	50,559	4.22	4.22	4.56	...	- 1.4
Derbyshire	39,570	4.58	3.97	4.71	+ 6.1	- 1.3
Nottingham and Leicester	28,393	4.42	3.71	4.49	+ 7.1	- 2.7
Staffordshire	24,475	4.53	3.82	4.82	+ 7.1	- 0.9
Warwick, Worcester, and Salop	9,109	5.13	4.26	5.36	+ 8.7	- 2.3
Gloucester and Somerset	7,618	4.71	4.02	4.89	+ 6.9	- 1.8
North Wales	11,641	4.76	4.79	5.09	- 0.3	- 1.3
South Wales and Mon. ...	110,953	5.58	5.19	5.64	+ 3.9	- 0.6
ENGLAND & WALES...	806,842	5.12	4.72	5.15	+ 4.0	- 1.2
SCOTLAND.						
West Scotland	19,700	5.14	5.08	5.30	+ 0.6	- 1.6
The Lothians	4,925	5.36	5.33	5.73	+ 0.3	- 3.7
Fife	14,968	5.27	5.38	5.47	- 1.1	- 2.0
SCOTLAND	39,593	5.22	5.21	5.42	+ 0.1	- 2.0
IRELAND	500	5.20	5.10	4.76	+ 1.0	+ 4.4
United Kingdom ...	846,935	5.13	4.76	5.17	+ 3.7	- 1.4

Employment in Northumberland was good in the steam coal industry and fair in the house coal industry; in Durham employment was good, especially among miners hewing manufacturing and coking coal. In Cumberland it was moderate, though a little better than in August.

In Yorkshire employment improved considerably during the month and was fairly good on the whole. In Lancashire it was fair and improving.

In the Midland Counties employment was much better than in August, but was still only moderate. In Cannock Chase about 4½ days per week were worked.

Full time continued to be worked in steam coal pits in the Forest of Dean. There was an improvement in employment in the house coal trade in Somersetshire and Gloucestershire.

* The average number of days was affected by holidays.

PIG IRON INDUSTRY.

(Based on Returns from Employers and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continued good and was considerably better than a year ago.

Returns relating to the works of 108 ironmasters show that three furnaces—one in Cleveland, one in Northamptonshire and one in North Wales—were re-lit, while one in Lancashire and one in Lincolnshire were blown out. The number of furnaces in blast at the end of September was 327, or 1 more than in August, and 25 more than in September, 1904. The number of workpeople employed at the works included in the returns which are summarised below is estimated at nearly 23,300.

Districts.	Number of Furnaces, included in the returns, in Blast at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Sept., 1905, as compared with	
	Sept., 1905.	Aug., 1905.	Sept., 1904.	A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES—					
Cleveland	85	84	78	+ 1	+ 7
Cumberland & Lancs.	34	35	30	- 1	+ 4
S. and S.W. Yorks.	16	16	13	...	+ 3
Derby & Nottingham	38	38	37	...	+ 1
Leicester, Lincoln, and Northampton	27	27	25	...	+ 2
Stafford & Worcester	33	33	28	...	+ 5
S. Wales & Monmouth	15	15	15	...	...
Other districts	7	6	6	+ 1	+ 1
Returned from England & Wales ...	255	254	232	+ 1	+ 23
Returned from Scotland ...	72	72	70	...	+ 2
Total furnaces included in returns ...	327	326	302	+ 1	+ 25

IRON AND STEEL WORKS.

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

EMPLOYMENT in this industry continued good. The improvement as compared with a year ago was very marked, 7.252 (or nearly 9 per cent.) more workers being employed at the works covered by the returns received.

The total volume of employment (*i.e.*, numbers employed multiplied by the number of shifts worked) at 189 iron and steel works from which returns were received was 2.0 per cent. greater during the week ended September 23rd, 1905, than during the week ended August 26th, and 10.9 per cent. greater than a year ago.

The aggregate number of shifts worked during the week by all the workpeople included in the returns was approximately 505,200, as compared with 495,500 last month, and 455,800 a year ago.

Departments.	Number of Workpeople employed by firms making returns		Average Number of Shifts worked per man		
	In week ended Sept. 23rd, 1905.	In week ended Sept. 23rd, 1904.	In week ended Sept. 23rd, 1905.	In week ended Sept. 23rd, 1904.	
Open-Hearth Melting Furnaces ...	7,695	+ 200	+ 780	5.90	+ 0.03
Crucible Furnaces ...	562	+ 36	+ 132	5.55	- 0.06
Bessemer Converters ...	2,001	+ 65	+ 63	5.11	- 0.15
Puddling Forges	9,649	- 121	- 109	4.99	+ 0.07
Rolling Mills	29,877	+ 318	+ 2,022	5.29	- 0.01
Forging and Pressing ...	3,699	+ 143	+ 299	5.54	- 0.07
Other Departments ...	12,063	+ 130	+ 1,243	5.83	...
Mechanics, Labourers ...	8,447	+ 271	+ 1,273	5.85	+ 0.04
Total	91,124	+ 1,394	+ 7,252	5.54	+ 0.02
Districts.					
Northumberland & Durham	11,718	+ 43	+ 613	5.57	+ 0.04
Cleveland	7,120	+ 212	+ 690	5.68	+ 0.22
Sheffield and Rotherham	17,284	+ 493	+ 2,175	5.69	- 0.01
Leeds, Hull and other Yorkshire Towns	4,431	+ 316	+ 483	5.63	+ 0.19
Cumberland, Lancs. & Ches.	11,506	- 256	+ 362	5.38	+ 0.04
Staffordshire	9,914	+ 125	+ 419	5.45	- 0.02
Other Midland Counties	5,143	+ 16	+ 432	5.28	+ 0.06
Wales and Monmouth	8,662	+ 119	+ 1,041	5.62	- 0.06
England and Wales ...	75,778	+ 1,108	+ 6,215	5.55	+ 0.04
Scotland	15,346	+ 286	+ 1,037	5.52	- 0.07
Total	91,124	+ 1,394	+ 7,252	5.54	+ 0.02

Employment in Scotland was fair generally, but slackness was reported in the Lothians.

The Exports of coal, coke, and patent fuel in September, 1905, amounted to 4,308,304 tons, as compared with 4,306,857 tons in August, 1905, and 4,190,681 tons in September, 1904.

IRON, SHALE, AND OTHER MINING AND QUARRYING.

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

EMPLOYMENT in September was good in iron and shale mines, and taking into account the effect of holidays on the respective periods, showed little change compared with a month and a year ago. Employment continued good in tin and copper mines (Devonshire and Cornwall), and it was also good in lead mines (Flintshire, Denbighshire, and Weardale). In quarries generally employment was fair, but it was bad in slate quarries.

Mining.

Iron Mining.—During the four weeks ended September 23rd, the average weekly number of days worked by the 117 mines and open works covered by the returns received from employers was 5.87, as compared with 5.73* a month ago and 5.89† a year ago.

The following Table summarises the returns received:—

Districts.	No. employed in Sept., 1905, at the 117 Mines included in the Table.	Average Number of Days worked per week by Mines in 4 weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Sept., 1905, as compared with	
		Sept. 23rd, 1905.	Aug. 26th, 1905.*	Sept. 24th, 1904.†	A month ago.	A year ago.
Cleveland	7,185	5.91	5.94	6.00	- 0.03	- 0.09
Cumberland and Lancashire	4,796	5.89	5.69	5.92	+ 0.20	- 0.03
Scotland	971	5.55	5.32	5.46	+ 0.19	+ 0.09
Other Districts ...	2,365	5.80	5.36	5.67	+ 0.48	+ 0.13
Total and Averages ...	15,317	5.87	5.73	5.89	+ 0.14	- 0.02

Of the 15,317 workpeople covered by the returns 14,154, or 92.4 per cent. were employed in mines working twenty-two or more days during the four weeks ended September 23rd, as compared with 83.9 per cent. a month ago, and 91.9† a year ago.

Shale Mining.—At 27 mines respecting which returns have been received 2,900 men were employed in September, as compared with 2,871 a month ago, and 2,793 a year ago. The average weekly number of days worked by the mines in the four weeks ended September 23rd was 5.81*, as compared with 5.79* a month ago and 5.70*† a year ago.

Quarrying.

Slate.—Employment was slack and showed a further decline in North Wales, some quarries working only four days a week.

Granite.—Employment was fair on the whole in Aberdeenshire, North Wales, and Leicestershire. It continued bad generally in Devonshire and Cornwall.

Limestone.—Employment continued good in North Wales and the Plymouth district. It was fair in Weardale.

Other Stone.—Employment was good in the North Wales sandstone quarries and with chert quarries in Derbyshire. It was fair in the Clee Hill road-material quarries and in the Normanton district. At Barnsley and in the grindstone and building stone quarries in the Rowsley district employment was moderate. It was unsettled in the Gateshead district and in Forfarshire it continued bad.

Settling.—Employment was good in the Airdrie district and fair in Aberdeenshire, North Wales, Leicestershire, and the Clee Hill district. It was moderate in the Sheffield district; at Rowley Regis (Staffs.) and Belfast employment was bad.

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

* The average number of days worked was affected by holidays. † Revised figures.

Compared with both a month ago and a year ago puddling forges showed the only decrease in the number of workpeople employed.

The average number of shifts worked per man per week remained about the same as a month ago, the greatest variation being a decrease of 0.15 of a shift in the Bessemer Converting Departments, and these were the only departments in which the average number of shifts worked was less than a year ago.

Compared with a month ago all districts showed an increase in the number of workpeople employed, except Cumberland, Lancashire and Cheshire in which district there was a decrease of 256, or 2.2 per cent. The most considerable increase was 316, or 7.7 per cent., in Leeds, Hull and other Yorkshire Towns, excluding Sheffield and Rotherham. Compared with a year ago all districts showed an increase, the greatest being 2,175, or 14.4 per cent. in the Sheffield and Rotherham district.

Compared with a month ago, the greatest increases in the average number of shifts worked per man per week were 0.22 of a shift in Cleveland, and 0.19 of a shift in "Leeds, Hull and other Yorkshire Towns." The greatest decrease compared with a month ago (0.07 of a shift), and the only decrease compared with a year ago (0.01 of a shift) took place in Scotland. The greatest increase on last year was 0.24 of a shift in Cumberland, Lancashire, and Cheshire.

TINPLATE WORKS.

(Based on Returns from Employers and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in the tinplate industry during September was better than in the previous month and much better than a year ago. The demand for and supply of labour remained about equal.

At the end of September 422 mills were working, an increase of 18 (or 4.5 per cent.) as compared with August, and of 40 (or 10.5 per cent.) as compared with September, 1904. The number of workpeople employed at the 422 mills at work was about 21,100.

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

	No. of Works open.	No. of Mills in such Works.		
		Working.	Not Working.	Total.
Works giving full employment ...	68	378	...	378
Works giving partial employment ...	10	44	21	65
Total at end of September, 1905* ..	78	422	21	443
Corresponding Total for Aug., 1905*	76	404	20	424
Corresponding Total for Sept., 1904*	76	382	33	415

The Exports of tinplates and tinned sheets, and black-plates for tinning were as under:—

	Month ended 30th Sept., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with September, 1904.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in 1904.	
		1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.
Tinned Plates and Tinned Sheets.					
To United States ...	Tons. 5,231	Tons. - 1,516	Tons. + 3,798	Tons. 51,862	Tons. - 3,676
" Other Countries	22,168	+ 645	+ 4,216	222,726	+ 23,269
Total ...	27,399	- 871	+ 8,014	274,588	+ 16,593
Black Plates for Tinning.					
To United States ...	...	- 15	- 46	84	+ 41
" Other Countries	5,752	+ 735	+ 831	48,930	+ 553
Total ...	5,752	+ 720	+ 785	48,930	+ 594

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

SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

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

EMPLOYMENT in September showed little general change compared with August, but was better than a year ago. From nearly every district a scarcity of repairing work was reported, and this accounts to some extent for the continued high percentage unemployed in September. As regards new work the reports were better than the figures would indicate.

Branches of Trade Unions with 54,810 members had 7,504 (or 13.7 per cent.) unemployed at the end of September, as compared with 13.2 per cent. at the end of August and 15.3 per cent. a year ago.

The percentages for the various districts are shown below:—

District.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Sept., 1905 included in the returns.*	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage for Sept., 1905, as compared with a	
		Sept., 1905.	Aug., 1905.	Sept., 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Tyne and Blyth ...	8,631	11.1	9.9	13.8	+ 1.2	- 2.7
Wear ...	4,906	8.1	5.5	10.2	+ 2.6	- 2.1
Tees and Hartlepool ...	5,006	10.8	11.3	19.7	- 0.5	- 8.9
Humber ...	2,469	8.0	6.8	15.6	+ 1.2	- 7.6
Thames and Medway ...	3,769	14.8	11.6	9.9	+ 3.2	+ 4.9
South Coast ...	3,777	10.6	10.3	6.9	+ 0.3	+ 3.7
Bristol Channel Ports ...	2,618	34.0	39.9	23.5	- 5.9	+ 10.5
Mersey ...	3,917	30.2	24.2	19.3	+ 6.0	+ 10.9
Clyde ...	11,934	11.7	12.5	16.9	- 0.8	- 5.2
Dundee, Leith, and Aberdeen ...	2,012	20.2	22.5	20.1	- 2.3	- 8.9
Belfast ...	2,242	10.7	11.2	19.0	- 0.5	- 8.3
Other Districts ...	2,830	9.5	10.0	7.3	- 0.5	+ 2.2
United Kingdom (Including certain Unions for which district figures are not available)	54,810	13.7	13.2	15.3	+ 0.5	- 1.6

Employment was reported as fair in most of the above districts, and on the Clyde, Tees, Humber and at Belfast the figures show considerable improvement compared with a year ago. At Cardiff, however, employment had not yet recovered from the painters and labourers' dispute (which terminated on September 13th, see p. 315), and on the Mersey employment was bad and worse than a month ago and a year ago. Employment was slack on the Thames and South Coast, and bad at Leith.

TONNAGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

According to Lloyd's quarterly return for September, 1905, there is an increase in the tonnage of merchant vessels under construction of 23,871, or 1.8 per cent. as compared with June, and of 279,020, or 26.7 per cent. as compared with a year ago. Against these increases has to be set some falling off in the tonnage of war vessels under construction.

The district figures are given below:—

District.	Merchant Vessels.			War Vessels.		
	Sept. 30th, 1905.	June 30th, 1905.	Sept. 30th, 1904.	Sept. 30th, 1905.	June 30th, 1905.	Sept. 30th, 1904.
	Tons Gross.	Tons Gross.	Tons Gross.	Tons Displacement.	Tons Displacement.	Tons Displacement.
Clyde ...	486,970	468,817	361,281	30,050	43,840	79,180
Belfast ...	213,530	208,525	163,010	...	...	...
Tyne ...	253,915	259,918	212,779	46,450	63,552	53,567
Wear ...	169,835	160,386	155,158	...	...	...
Hartlepool and Whitby ...	65,579	63,350	43,047	...	...	...
Middlesbro' and Stockton ...	84,220	88,817	58,510	...	...	...
Barrow, Maryport and Workington ...	2,560	2,580	15,842	51,550	33,150	55,080
Other Districts ...	48,728	49,054	33,681	16,310	17,728	29,503
Royal Dockyards ...	...	...	...	119,950	119,950	125,500
Total ...	1,325,328	1,301,457	1,046,308	264,310	278,220	342,930

Merchant Vessels.—Compared with the June quarter, the September figures show increases in the Clyde, Belfast, Wear, and Hartlepool and Whitby districts, but in the Tyne, Middlesbro' and Stockton districts there were decreases. The Barrow, Maryport and Workington district shows practically no change.

*Exclusive of Superannuated Members.

As compared with September, 1904, increases are shown in all the principal districts, except in the Barrow, Maryport and Workington district where there is a decrease of 13,282 tons.

War Vessels.—As compared with end of June, 1905, decreases are shown on the Clyde and Tyne. In the Barrow district there is an increase. Compared with the September, 1904, quarter the decrease is general, and is most marked on the Clyde. The tonnage under construction at the Royal Dockyards is the same as at the end of June, but has decreased 4.4 per cent. as compared with a year ago.

ENGINEERING TRADES.

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

EMPLOYMENT on the whole showed an improvement on a month ago; it was much better than a year ago.

As compared with a month ago, there was an improvement on the North East Coast, in the West of Scotland, Lancashire, the Midlands, London district, the South Coast, and the Bristol and South Wales districts. The proportion of unemployed showed an increase in the West Riding of Yorkshire, the Hull and Lincolnshire district, the East of Scotland, and Belfast and Dublin.

As compared with a year ago the South Coast alone showed a decline, the greatest improvement being shown in Lancashire, the West Riding of Yorkshire, and the Nottingham, Derby and Leicester district.

Returns relating to 145,408 members of Trade Unions show that 6,705 (or 4.6 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of September, as compared with 4.9 in August, 1905, and 7.4 in September, 1904. [These figures include 19 Unions with a membership in September of 26,692, of whom 900, or 3.4 per cent., were unemployed, for which district figures of membership and unemployment are not available.]

The percentages for the various districts so far as they are available are shown below:—

District.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Sept., 1905, included in the returns.*	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed for Sept., 1905, as compared with a	
		Sept., 1905.	Aug., 1905.	Sept., 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
North-East Coast ...	14,716	5.7	7.3	7.6	- 1.6	- 1.9
Manchester and Liverpool District	17,991	4.2	4.5	8.4	- 0.3	- 4.2
Oldham, Bolton, and Blackburn District	11,898	3.2	3.7	11.1	- 0.5	- 7.9
West Riding Towns ...	12,001	4.7	4.6	9.7	+ 0.1	- 5.0
Hull and Lincolnshire District	3,490	3.9	3.3	7.1	+ 0.6	- 3.2
Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Coventry District	6,579	3.9	4.1	5.6	- 0.2	- 1.7
Nottingham, Derby, and Leicester District	3,883	5.4	7.5	10.5	- 2.1	- 5.1
London and Neighbouring District	12,444	4.4	4.5	5.2	- 0.1	- 0.8
South Coast ...	3,915	4.6	6.1	2.9	- 1.5	+ 1.7
South Wales and Bristol District	6,611	5.0	5.6	5.3	- 0.6	- 0.3
Glasgow and District ...	12,487	7.2	7.9	8.9	- 0.7	- 1.7
East of Scotland ...	3,726	8.2	6.4	11.5	+ 1.8	- 3.3
Belfast and Dublin ...	3,469	6.9	5.3	9.9	+ 1.6	- 3.0
Other Districts ...	5,506	2.9	2.8	6.1	+ 0.1	- 3.2
United Kingdom (Including certain Unions — see note above — for which district figures are not available)	145,408	4.6	4.9	7.4	- 0.3	- 2.8

On the North East Coast employment with engineers generally showed improvement, and might be described as fairly good. Ironfounders were mostly well employed, except at Darlington. Smiths reported employment as slightly worse than last month, but much better than a year ago; brassfinishers as fair, except at Jarrow; enginemen, cranemen and firemen as improving.

In the Manchester district employment continued to improve, some overtime being worked; with coremakers it was good. In Liverpool and Birkenhead it was generally dull. At Crewe and Horwich it was bad. At Blackburn, Burnley, Oldham, and Preston it was good. At Barrow-in-Furness it was moderate, slightly better than in August, and about the same as a year ago. Spindle and flyer makers reported employment as good. Iron grinders and glazers were busy, and overtime was

*Exclusive of Superannuated Members.

worked in most towns to the extent of two hours per day. Employment with ironfounders was generally good all over the Lancashire district.

Employment was good with core makers, ironfounders, and iron and steel dressers at Sheffield, and other branches of the engineering trade were fairly busy. The improvement reported last month at Leeds was maintained; textile machinery manufacturers were busy. At Bradford employment was good; at Huddersfield moderate; at Halifax and Keighley bad.

In the Hull and Lincolnshire district employment was on the whole good, not quite so good as in August, but much better than a year ago. At Doncaster it was bad. At Leicester general engineering and shoe machine building improved; electrical engineering at Loughborough showed a falling off. At Derby and Nottingham employment was bad in general engineering, but in the latter district it was fair with hosiery machine builders, and good in the lace machine and motor industries. Employment was only moderate in the general engineering trade at Birmingham, and showed a declining tendency except with tool makers and electrical engineers; the cycle trade was better than usual for the time of year. In Wolverhampton, motor builders and moulders were busy.

In the London district employment was moderate on the whole, and slightly better than in August, but at Erith it was good; with brassfounders and finishers it was good.

In the dockyard towns of Chatham, Plymouth and Portsmouth employment was bad; at Pembroke Dock it was slack. At Southampton it was moderate, a little better than a month ago, and about the same as a year ago; in Cardiff and South Wales moderate, the effects of a recent dispute being still felt. At Bristol it was dull; at Swindon fair; and at Gloucester improving.

In the Edinburgh and Falkirk districts employment generally was bad, about two-thirds of the moulders in the latter working short time, four to five days per week, but engineers in Edinburgh were fairly employed. At Dundee it continued fairly good, with overtime still general. At Aberdeen it was fair. In the Glasgow district employment for engineers was good, overtime being worked. The outlook for the Clyde district engineering trade is stated to be good in consequence of considerable orders for new shipbuilding placed during the past month. At Belfast employment generally had declined; at Cork it was dull; at Dublin it was bad, the brassfounding section working short time.

MISCELLANEOUS METAL TRADES.

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

EMPLOYMENT was fair in most of these trades, and much better than a month ago and a year ago. Many of the subsidiary iron and steel trades have improved concurrently with the larger branches. Examples of this are to be found in the reports as to the file trade, the wire, brass, nut and bolt, vice and anvil, and tube trades.

Brasswork, Bedsteads, etc.—With brassworkers employment was fair on the whole, rather better than a month ago, and much better than a year ago. There was, however, still a good deal of short time, and in London and Manchester employment was reported as slack. Bedstead makers at Birmingham remained fairly well employed; fender and fire brass makers reported employment as bad, with most of the workpeople upon short time.

Nuts, Bolts, Nails, etc.—Employment with nut and bolt makers at Winlaton was good; at Dudley it was reported as fair and improving; at Birmingham and Smethwick moderate. Wire nail, shoe rivet, and nail makers at the last-mentioned places reported employment as fair.

Tubes.—Employment in the South Staffordshire tube trade was reported as better than a month and a year ago, some overtime being worked. At Birmingham cased tube workers reported it as good, with some overtime; makers of tubes for bedsteads as fair; iron tube makers as moderate. In South Wales it was good.

Chains, Anchors, etc.—At Cradley employment was fair and better than a year ago in all branches of the chain trade; with anchor smiths however it was reported as bad. At Gateshead employment with chain makers and strikers was fairly good. With anvil and vice makers at Dudley employment continued fair and was much better than a year ago. Axle and spring makers at Birmingham and West Bromwich reported employment as fairly good, full time being worked. At Sheffield railway spring makers reported it as moderate; at Rotherham and Ickles as good.

Locks, Keys, and General Hardware.—In the lock and latch trade at Wolverhampton and Willenhall employment remained bad, with much short time. With makers of iron fences and hurdles at Wolverhampton it continued fair.

Cutlery, Tools, etc.—Employment in the cutlery trade at Sheffield remained slack generally. In the file trade it was fair on the whole. At Birmingham the file cutters reported employment as bad; the edge tool makers as moderate.

Stoves, Grates, etc.—At Falkirk employment remained fair, and was better than a year ago. At Glasgow it was better than a month ago, five days a week being worked. At Rotherham employment was reported as slack; at Birmingham as moderate.

Sheet Metal, etc.—In London employment remained dull, with short time in several shops. It was reported as worse than a month ago, but better than a year ago. Employment remained moderate at Birmingham and quiet at Wolverhampton, the Lye and Glasgow. At Edinburgh it was fair.

Gold, Silver, Britannia Metal, etc.—Employment in the silver and electro plate trades in Sheffield was slack generally, but moderate with finishers, and good with platers and gilders. In London goldsmiths and jewellers reported employment as fair, and better than a month and a year ago; silver workers as quiet. In Birmingham silversmiths and electro-platers reported it as moderate; britannia metal workers as fairly good; jewellers as better than a month ago, with prospect of further improvement. At Coventry the watch trade continued rather quiet.

Wire.—Employment in this industry remained good, and better than a month and a year ago.

Ferriers.—Employment was quiet on the whole.

COTTON TRADE.

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

EMPLOYMENT continued very brisk and was considerably better than a year ago although organised short time amongst spinners of American cotton had then ceased and employment had much improved. Amongst spinners of Egyptian cotton short time was still being worked a year ago.

The average price of "middling American" raw cotton in September was 5'66d. per lb., compared with 5'85d. in August, and 6'58d. in September, 1904. "Good fair Egyptian" quotations remained at 7'9d. per lb. throughout September, being 0'5d. less than the average for August, and 1'7d. more than in September, 1904.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making returns for the last week in September was 158,130, an increase of 0'2 per cent. compared with the last full week in August and of 3'2 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Firms employing 124,509 of these operatives have stated the amount of wages paid in the periods under review. Compared with a month ago the number employed by these firms showed an increase of 0'2 per cent., and the amount of wages paid an increase of 0'1 per cent.

Compared with a year ago, the number employed showed an increase of 3'1 per cent., and the amount of wages paid an increase of 12'2 per cent.

Analysis by Departments and Districts.

Compared with a month ago there was a slight improvement in the *Preparing and Spinning* departments; in the *Weaving* department there was no change.

Compared with a year ago the general increase in numbers employed was most marked in the *Spinning* department; in the amount of wages paid it was greatest in the weaving department.

The following Table relates only to those firms who furnished information as to wages paid as well as numbers employed in the three periods mentioned:—

Departments.	Workpeople covered by returns.		Earnings.			
	No. employed in last week of Sept., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week of Sept., 1905.	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid in last week of Sept., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week of Sept., 1904.		Per cent.
				Aug., 1905.	Sept., 1904.	
Total	124,509	+ 0'2	118,711	+ 0'1	+ 12'2	
Departments.						
Preparing	13,592	+ 0'3	17,803	+ 0'7	+ 10'0	
Spinning	24,012	+ 0'3	22,793	+ 0'4	+ 12'9	
Weaving	60,312	+ 0'2	55,077	+ 0'0	+ 13'6	
Other	10,881	+ 0'4	12,434	+ 0'0	+ 9'3	
Departments not specified	15,702	+ 0'1	16,604	+ 0'5	+ 11'6	
Districts.						
Ashton District	6,943	+ 0'2	6,838	- 1'7	+ 7'8	
Stockport, Glossop, and Hyde	7,385	+ 0'3	6,718	- 3'7	+ 7'9	
Oldham District	14,738	+ 0'1	14,493	- 2'3	+ 11'1	
Bolton and Leigh	14,071	- 0'1	12,256	- 0'2	+ 13'4	
Bury, Rochdale, Heywood, Walsden, & Todmorden	8,667	+ 0'4	8,255	+ 1'0	+ 12'4	
Manchester District ...	9,566	+ 0'5	7,525	- 2'2	+ 27'4	
Preston and Chorley ...	8,947	- 0'1	8,019	+ 0'3	+ 13'1	
Blackburn, Accrington, & Darwen	19,278	+ 0'2	19,589	+ 3'0	+ 8'5	
Burnley, Padiham, Colne, and Nelson	18,864	- 0'6	21,371	+ 0'9	+ 11'2	
Other Lancs. Towns ...	6,461	- 0'3	5,329	+ 0'3	+ 16'2	
Yorkshire Towns	5,523	+ 1'9	5,446	+ 1'7	+ 12'7	
Other Districts	4,666	+ 1'3	4,852	+ 1'0	+ 20'8	
Total	124,509	+ 0'2	118,711	+ 0'1	+ 12'2	

Compared with a month ago, there was a decrease in the amount of wages paid by the firms making returns in five districts, being greatest in Stockport, Glossop, and Hyde (3'7 per cent.); there was an increase in seven groups, being greatest in the Blackburn and Darwen group. Compared with a year ago there was an increase in every district, which was especially noticeable in the case of Manchester.

Raw Cotton.

American Cotton.—During the month of September the average price of raw cotton "middling American" at Liverpool was 5'66d. per lb., the highest price on any one day being 5'83d., and the lowest, 5'49d. The price for August, was 5'83d., and for September 1904, 6'58d. For the period from 1st to 11th October the average price of "middling American" was 5'42d. per lb.

Egyptian Cotton.—The price of "good fair Egyptian" in September was 7'56d. per lb., quotations remaining unchanged at 7'9d. throughout the month. The price for August was 7'61d., and for September, 1904, 7'39d. For the period from 1st to 11th October the average price of "good fair Egyptian" was 7'47d. per lb.

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

Description of Cotton.	Month ended Sept. 30th, 1905.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with September		Nine months ended Sept. 30th, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in	
	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.		1904.	1905.
American	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Brazilian	121,678	+ 17,607	+ 76,654	2,221,869	+ 6,974	+ 445,909	
East Indian	12,634	+ 3,494	+ 2,234	48,096	- 9,737	- 53,971	
Egyptian	2,214	- 4,595	- 1,168	23,658	- 51,538	- 17,321	
Miscellaneous	17,139	- 1,562	- 5,957	234,326	+ 14,932	+ 51,275	
Total	158,130	+ 15,004	+ 84,805	2,560,996	+ 571,030	+ 414,180	

The visible supply of American cotton for the United Kingdom on October 6th, 1905, was estimated by the Liverpool Cotton Association to be 749,570 bales, compared with 475,240 bales at October 7th, 1904.

Exports of Cotton Goods.

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

Description.	Month ended Sept. 30th, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with September,		Nine Months ended Sept. 30th, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in	
		1904.	1903.		1904.	1903.
Cotton Yarn and Twist—						
Grey	1000's lbs. 12,772	+ 1,573	+ 5,410	118,183	+ 23,108	+ 34,421
Bleached and Dyed	3,267	+ 646	+ 1,099	29,971	+ 8,498	+ 4,284
Total	16,039	+ 2,219	+ 6,509	148,154	+ 31,606	+ 38,705
Cotton Piece Goods—						
Grey or Unbleached	1000's yds. 196,021	+ 15,510	+ 76,593	1,733,607	+ 284,915	+ 242,312
Bleached	138,472	+ 16,675	+ 45,573	1,266,371	+ 150,447	+ 263,305
Printed	94,226	+ 8,639	+ 10,198	782,659	+ 5,826	+ 8,110
Dyed or Manufactured Dyed Yarn of	98,198	+ 14,745	+ 22,123	820,509	+ 91,456	+ 128,679
Total	526,917	+ 55,569	+ 154,487	4,603,146	+ 532,644	+ 612,406

Worsted Trade.

Employment in the Worsted Trade showed an improvement in all branches compared with a month ago and a year ago, but was still only moderate. In Bradford employment was quiet; in Huddersfield it continued good, several working overtime; in Keighley employment was reported as fair in the weaving branch, bad in the spinning branch; in Halifax there was an improvement in the spinning branch.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making returns for the last week in September was 50,890, an increase of 0'6 per cent. upon the number employed by these firms in August, and of 1'5 per cent. on the number employed a year ago.

In addition to supplying particulars of numbers employed, firms employing 36,991 workpeople furnished information as to wages paid. From these returns—see next table—it appears that at the end of September there was an increase of 0'6 per cent. in the number employed, and of 3'5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 1'1 per cent. in the number employed, and of 5'5 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

WOOLLEN AND WORSTED TRADES.

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

EMPLOYMENT in the Woollen and Worsted trades during September showed an improvement compared with a month ago and a year ago; it was good in the Woollen trade, moderate in the Worsted trade. The prices of raw material continued very high and rose slightly.

Woollen Trade.

Employment in the Woollen trade continued good and was better than a year ago. Overtime was the rule and night work was frequent in and around Huddersfield; towards the end of the month several firms were advertising for night workers in all departments. In the heavy woollen district, although a slight decline was apparent, employment was fairly good and overtime was reported. In the Leeds district employment was fairly good, and decidedly better than a year ago. Employment in Selkirk, Galashiels and Hawick continued good, and was better than a year ago.

Departments.	Workpeople covered by returns.		Earnings.			
	Number employed at end of Sept., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week in Sept., 1905.	Aggregate amount of Wages paid on last pay-day in Sept., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week in Sept., 1904.		Per cent.
				Aug., 1905.	Sept., 1904.	
Departments—						
Wool Sorting	500	+ 0'8	494	- 2'6	- 0'8	
Spinning	2,628	+ 0'1	2,329	+ 3'4	+ 2'2	
Weaving	6,734	+ 0'7	6,214	+ 4'1	+ 3'7	
Other Departments	5,414	+ 1'5	5,529	+ 1'9	+ 3'4	
Unspecified	2,177	- 1'4	1,875	- 2'1	+ 8'8	
Total	17,453	+ 0'6	16,441	+ 2'3	+ 4'6	
Districts—						
Huddersfield District ...	3,006	+ 0'1	3,242	+ 1'1	+ 0'2	
Leeds District	1,591	+ 3'4	1,383	+ 0'2	+ 8'5	
Dewsbury & Batley District	3,039	- 2'4	2,954	- 0'9	+ 2'8	
Other Parts of West Riding	938	+ 0'3	862	+ 5'1	- 0'3	
Total West Riding	8,574	+ 0'2	8,441	+ 0'6	+ 2'3	
Scotland	6,434	+ 1'9	5,833	+ 5'8	+ 8'1	
Other Districts	2,445	- 2'9	2,167	- 0'1	+ 4'4	
To all Woollen	17,453	+ 0'6	16,441	+ 2'3	+ 4'6	

Prices of Raw Material.

The course of prices at Bradford for the three periods, September, 1905, August, 1905, and September, 1904, is shown in the Table below. Compared with August there was an advance in all these classes of wool, and the prices were considerably higher than during recent years.

	Sept., 1905.	August, 1905.	Sept., 1904.
Lincoln Hogs	134 to 14	13 to 13	11 to 12
40's Crossbred tops	16 to 17	16	14 to 14
60's Super Botany tops	26 to 26	25 to 26	24 to 24

Imports and Exports.

The following Table shows the quantities of imported and exported raw wool, and of British and Irish exports of woollen, worsted, and alpaca and mohair yarn, and of woollen and worsted piece goods for the periods stated:—

Description.	Month ended Sept. 30th, 1905.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with September, 1904.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in 1903.	
	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.
Raw Wool (SHEEP OR LAMBS')						
Imports (less Re-Exports)	17,124	717	+ 1,662	266,140	+ 10,309	- 17,722
British Wool Exported	3,659	+ 185	- 1,958	25,189	+ 1,903	- 2,522
British and Irish Manufactures Exported.						
Yarn:—						
Woollen ...	160	- 55	- 28	4,579	- 16	+ 124
Worsted ...	4,225	- 121	- 659	34,474	- 5,126	- 7,435
Alpaca and Mohair	1,268	+ 137	+ 293	10,546	+ 962	+ 6,012
Total ...	5,653	- 39	- 404	46,699	- 4,180	- 6,300
Piece Goods:						
Woollen ...	6,400	+ 523	+ 1,995	51,921	+ 5,124	+ 16,946
Worsted ...	8,331	+ 222	+ 685	81,222	+ 2,052	- 1,344
Total ...	14,731	+ 745	+ 2,680	133,143	+ 7,176	+ 15,602

FLAX (LINEN) TRADE.

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

EMPLOYMENT was, on the whole, rather better than a month ago. It was distinctly better than a year ago.

The number of workpeople employed by firms making returns in the last full week in September, 1905, was 52,698, an increase of 0.8 per cent. in the number employed compared with the last full week in August, and of 1.3 per cent. compared with September, 1904.

In addition to supplying particulars of numbers employed, firms employing 44,338 operatives have stated the amount of wages paid in the periods under review. From these returns it appears that, compared with August, there was an increase of 0.7 per cent. in the number employed and of 1.4 per cent. in the wages paid. Compared with a year ago there were increases of 0.9 per cent. in the number employed, and 3.4 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

Departments.	Workpeople covered by Returns.			Earnings.		
	Number employed in last full week of Sept., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week of August, 1905.	Sept., 1904.	Aggregate Amount of Wages paid in last full week of Sept., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week of August, 1905.	Sept., 1904.
Preparing ...	5,756	+ 0.2	+ 1.9	2,994	+ 0.8	+ 3.9
Spinning ...	9,933	+ 0.7	- 1.2	4,344	- 0.1	- 0.8
Weaving ...	15,629	+ 0.9	+ 1.7	9,317	+ 1.2	+ 2.7
Other ...	6,416	+ 1.1	+ 0.4	4,831	+ 1.7	+ 4.9
Departments not specified	6,604	+ 0.5	+ 1.9	3,731	+ 3.6	+ 8.3
Total ...	44,338	+ 0.7	+ 0.9	25,215	+ 1.4	+ 3.4
Districts.						
Belfast ...	16,916	+ 0.8	+ 0.9	9,431	+ 0.9	+ 3.4
Other Places in Ireland	13,686	+ 1.4	+ 1.4	7,371	+ 4.0	+ 4.8
Ireland ...	30,602	+ 1.1	+ 1.1	16,802	+ 2.2	+ 4.0
Fifeshire ...	6,382	+ 0.2	- 1.4	3,922	+ 1.3	- 0.9
Other Places in Scotland	6,171	- 0.3	+ 1.1	3,776	- 1.6	+ 3.5
Scotland ...	12,553	- 0.0	- 0.2	7,698	- 0.1	+ 1.2
United Kingdom*	44,338	+ 0.7	+ 0.9	25,215	+ 1.4	+ 3.4

Compared with a month ago a slight improvement was shown in Ireland and Fifeshire and a slight decline in other parts of Scotland. In Belfast and Ulster employment was reported as fair generally.

* Including 6 returns from Yorkshire.

Compared with a year ago there was considerable improvement except in the Spinning departments. All districts showed some improvement except Fifeshire.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following Table shows the quantities of imported flax, and of British and Irish exports of linen yarn and manufactured goods for the periods stated:—

Description.	Month ended Sept. 30th, 1905.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with September, 1904.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in 1903.	
	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.
Imports:						
Flax (Dressed and Undressed, Tow or Codilla) Tons	2,991	+ 23	- 1,230	77,059	+ 18,084	- 1,434
Exports:						
Linen Yarn 100 Lbs.	11,713	- 1,953	+ 56	107,195	- 2,118	+ 3,267
Linen Piece Goods ,, Yds.	143,108	+ 19,945	+ 13,718	1,362,512	+ 152,749	+ 191,604

JUTE TRADE.

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

EMPLOYMENT in this industry remained moderate, on the whole, and was worse than a month ago and year ago. The number of workpeople employed in the last full week in September, by firms making returns, was 26,428, a decrease of 1.4 per cent. on the number employed in the last full week in August, and of 2.1 per cent. as compared with a year ago. Of the total number covered by the returns, 22,510 were employed in Dundee, a decrease of 1.8 per cent. as compared with the number employed by the same firms in August, and of 2.6 per cent. as compared with September, 1904.

Firms employing 20,443 workpeople supplied particulars of the wages paid in the last week of September, 1905, compared with a month ago and a year ago. The following Table summarises these returns:—

Departments.	Workpeople covered by Returns.			Earnings.		
	Number employed in last full week of Sept., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week of August, 1905.	Sept., 1904.	Aggregate amount of Wages paid in last full week of Sept., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week of August, 1905.	Sept., 1904.
Preparing ...	4,628	- 2.5	- 2.1	2,850	- 3.6	- 0.4
Spinning ...	5,542	- 3.0	- 3.5	3,192	- 2.5	- 3.1
Weaving ...	6,761	- 1.3	- 2.4	4,648	- 2.5	- 6.3
Other ...	2,111	- 1.3	- 4.3	2,130	- 0.8	- 3.0
Undefined...	1,401	+ 1.1	+ 0.4	1,601	- 0.2	+ 0.6
Total ...	20,443	- 1.9	- 2.6	13,821	- 2.3	- 3.4

The quantities of imported jute and of British and Irish exports of jute yarn and manufactured goods for the periods stated were as under:—

Description.	Month ended Sept. 30th, 1905.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with September, 1904.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in 1903.	
	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.
Imports:						
Jute, ... Tons	9,114	+ 3,467	- 2,297	153,474	- 7,248	+ 55,053
Exports:						
Jute Yarn 100 Lbs.	33,925	- 11,057	- 1,563	322,522	- 22,001	- 26,908
Jute Piece Goods ,, Yds.	161,636	- 4,390	- 38,044	1,435,393	- 246,565	- 266,854

SILK TRADE.

(Based on Returns from Employers and Local Correspondents.)

EMPLOYMENT in this industry in September was dull, and showed a slight decline as compared with August, but was a little better than a year ago.

Number of Workpeople.

The number of workpeople employed at the end of September by firms making returns was 10,911, or 0.7

HOSIERY TRADE.

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

Employment was slightly better than a month ago, and considerably better than a year ago.

Firms employing 19,153 workpeople, and paying £13,958 in wages during the last full week in September made returns, which are summarised in the Table below. From these it appears that there was an increase of 1.9 per cent. in the number employed, and of 0.8 per cent. in the amount of wages paid, compared with a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was an increase of 4.0 per cent. in the number employed, and of 5.9 per cent. in the amount of wages paid.

At Leicester employment, though slightly improved, was still only moderate. It was good at Hinckley, and fairly good at Loughborough. In the Nottingham district there was a slight decline in the amount of wages paid compared with last month, but a great increase compared with a year ago. In the Derbyshire district employment was considerably better than a year ago. In Hawick and Selkirk employment was good.

Districts.	Number employed in Sept., 1905, by firms making returns.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
Lancashire and W. Riding of York	3,292	- 1.3	+ 0.9
Macclesfield, Congleton and District	3,025	+ 0.8	+ 0.7
Leak	735	- 0.3	- 1.2
Eastern Counties	1,915	- 1.0	- 2.5
Other Districts, including Scotland	1,944	+ 1.7	+ 7.3
Total ...	10,911	- 0.7	+ 1.1

Number of Spindles and Looms.

The next Table, which gives the numbers of spindles and looms returned as working in the three periods specified, shows that there was a decrease in the number of throwing spindles compared with both a month ago and a year ago. The number of spinning spindles increased slightly compared with August and decreased compared with a year ago. There was a small increase as compared with both periods in the number of looms.

Spindles and Looms.	Number of Spindles and Looms working in last week of			Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with		
	Sept., 1905.	August, 1905.	Sept., 1904.	August, 1905.	Sept., 1904.	Sept., 1904.
Throwing Spindles ...	88,935	94,142	92,822	- 5.5	- 4.2	- 4.2
Spinning Spindles ...	131,182	129,532	139,227	+ 1.3	- 5.8	- 5.8
Looms ...	4,598	4,544	4,506	+ 1.2	+ 2.0	+ 2.0

OTHER TEXTILE TRADES.

Lace Trade.

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

EMPLOYMENT showed a further slight improvement compared with a month ago, and was rather better than a year ago. In Nottingham it was reported as still bad in the levers and curtain branches, but as slightly better than last month; it was about the same as a year ago; in the plain net branch it was good, and slightly better than a year ago. Employment was reported as bad at Ilkeston, but better than a month ago. At Glasgow and Newmilns it was good, and some overtime was reported.

Printing, Dyeing, Bleaching, and Finishing.

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

Woollen and Worsted Dyers.—Employment in the West Riding showed no change compared with a month ago, but was better than a year ago. About two-fifths of the Trade Union members worked overtime, and about three-fifths worked short time.

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

Hosiery and Lace Dyers, Trimmers, etc.—At Leicester employment showed a slight improvement, but a considerable amount of short time was reported. Employment was moderate with dyers on lace goods at Nottingham and Basford, but good with those engaged on silk and best class goods. With bleachers at Basford it remained quiet; with hosiery trimmers at Basford and Bulwell a further decline was reported. Employment generally was better than a year ago.

Imports and Exports.

The imports of raw and thrown silk, of spun silk yarn, and the exports of thrown silk and yarn and of silk broadstuffs are shown in the Table below for the periods specified:—

Description.	Month ended Sept. 30th, 1905.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with September, 1904.		Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in 1903.	
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Imports:—						
Raw Silk ...	159,792	+ 81,600	+ 29,615	959,782	+ 65,452	+ 117,641
Thrown Silk ...	42,443	+ 1,701	- 3,691	412,745	+ 5,644	+ 7,903
Spun Silk Yarn	15,222	- 12,867	+ 7,354	256,090	+ 101,727	+ 168,825
Exports:—						
Thrown Silk, Twist & Yarn	62,939	+ 9,426	+ 18,333	608,317	+ 182,001	+ 41,598
Silk Broad-stuffs	483,766	+ 45,318	+ 556	5,050,039	+ 1,690,288	+ 1,397,017

Calenderers, etc.—In Glasgow employment remained ... it was better than a year ago. In Dundee employment was reported as fair in the finishing departments, and about the same as a month ago and a year ago; the Trade Union bleachfield workers reported it as moderate; the Trade Union calenderers as fair.

TAILORING TRADE.

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

EMPLOYMENT in the *bespoke* branch showed the usual seasonal improvement in London, and was decidedly better than a year ago; in the provinces it continued bad. In the *ready-made* branch employment although still only moderate, was better than a month ago and a year ago.

Bespoke Branch.

London.—Employment showed the usual seasonal improvement and was decidedly better than a year ago.

Firms paying £12,667 to their workpeople during the four weeks ended September 30th, showed an increase of 26.4 per cent. in the amount paid compared with the four weeks ended August 26th, and of 9.2 per cent. on the corresponding period a year ago.

Other Centres.—Employment was bad in Liverpool, Glasgow, Dublin and Belfast; in Edinburgh it was quiet but better than a year ago.

Ready-made Branch.

London.—Employment on the whole was better than a month ago, but was worse with cutters, and was generally only moderate; it was about the same as a year ago.

Leeds.—Employment during the month was better than a month ago and a year ago. According to returns received from firms employing about 9,000 workpeople in their factories, in addition to persons employed on work for them in workshops, employment during September was good with firms employing 48 per cent. of the workpeople covered by the returns, and moderate with firms employing 52 per cent. Compared with a month ago, firms employing 59 per cent. reported employment as improved, firms employing 23 per cent. as unchanged, firms employing 18 per cent. as worse. Compared with a year ago, firms employing 72 per cent. reported employment as improved, firms employing 24 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 4 per cent. as worse. The Trade Union operatives reported employment as quiet, several factories working short time; a year ago employment was reported as bad.

Other Centres.—In Manchester employment although still only moderate was better than a month ago and a year ago. In Bristol employment was still only moderate although better than a year ago; the Trade Union cutters reported much short time; at Stroud employment was good. At Leicester it was dull. At Norwich and Colchester it was fair and better than a year ago. In Glasgow employment on the whole was good and better than a month ago and a year ago.

BOOT AND SHOE TRADE.

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

EMPLOYMENT continued quiet, but was a little better than a year ago.

The number employed in the last week in September by the 578 firms making returns was 73,300, an increase of 0.9 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 1.6 per cent. compared with a year ago.

In addition to supplying particulars of numbers employed, 475 firms, employing 61,567 workpeople stated the amount of wages paid in the periods under review. These returns showed a decrease of 1.0 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with the last full week in August, and an increase of 3.4 per cent. compared with a year ago.

In Leicester the amount of wages paid showed a considerable decline, but was greater than a year ago, and the Trade Unions reported a slight improvement at the end of the month. Employment at Hinckley was good. In London the Trade Union hand-sewn boot and shoe makers working on high-class bespoke work and the sew-round workers in the East End were fairly well employed and reported employment as much better than a year ago. Employment was fair in Northampton. At Stafford and Stone a great deal of short time was reported. Employment continued fairly good at Norwich. In the Bristol and Kingswood districts there was a decided improvement. In Leeds employment was bad but was a little better than a month ago. The Trade Union lasters and finishers reported employment as very slack at Glasgow; as much improved at Maybole; as good at Edinburgh and Kilmarnock.

District.	Workpeople covered by the Returns.			Earnings.				
	No. employed during last week in Sept., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week in		Aggregate Amount of Wages paid on last pay-day in Sept., 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with last week in		Per cent.	Per cent.
		August, 1905.	Sept., 1904.		August, 1905.	Sept., 1904.		
ENGLAND & WALES.								
London	2,688	+ 1.6	+ 2.9	3,139	+ 1.5	- 2.4		
Leicester	12,524	- 0.1	+ 2.9	11,165	- 8.4	+ 5.1		
Leicester Country District	2,584	+ 0.5	+ 0.9	2,356	+ 4.6	+ 7.2		
Northampton	8,414	- 0.7	+ 7.7	7,982	- 2.9	+ 6.4		
Northampton Country District	8,397	+ 1.7	+ 1.2	7,678	- 0.3	+ 5.3		
Kettering	3,236	- 0.2	+ 3.5	3,286	- 2.5	+ 3.9		
Stafford and District	2,415	- 0.7	+ 1.9	2,000	- 2.0	+ 4.2		
Norwich & District	3,726	+ 1.3	+ 5.1	3,069	+ 1.5	+ 4.2		
Bristol & District	2,524	+ 3.3	- 0.2	2,447	+ 6.9	+ 7.9		
Kingswood	2,592	+ 4.2	- 0.4	2,833	+ 8.3	+ 4.5		
Leeds and District	3,089	+ 3.2	- 5.8	2,945	+ 2.9	- 4.4		
Manchester & District	1,875	+ 0.4	- 2.5	1,803	+ 2.2	+ 0.3		
Birmingham & District	899	+ 0.3	- 4.6	814	+ 0.4	- 7.3		
Other parts of England and Wales	2,704	+ 1.5	+ 0.2	2,245	+ 6.0	- 5.1		
England and Wales	57,667	+ 0.8	+ 2.1	53,787	- 1.1	+ 3.7		
SCOTLAND	3,361	- 0.1	- 4.3	3,357	+ 1.1	- 0.4		
IRELAND	539	+ 1.5	+ 1.9	400	- 2.0	+ 1.5		
UNITED KINGDOM	61,567	+ 0.8	+ 1.8	57,544	- 1.0	+ 3.4		

Imports and Exports.—The following Table gives the quantities and values of the boots and shoes imported, exported, and re-exported during September, 1905, and the nine months ended September, 1905, together with the increases or decreases as compared with the corresponding periods of 1904 and 1903.

	Month ended Sept., 30th, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with September,		Nine months ended Sept., 30th, 1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with corresponding period in	
		1904.	1903.		1904.	1903.
		Imports				
Dozen pairs	16,645	- 132	- 3,192	164,191	+ 4,034	- 16,676
Value	£ 58,096	- 7,686	- 17,846	£ 634,592	+ 42,745	- 86,397
Re-Exports						
Dozen pairs	1,193	- 59	- 704	10,822	- 3,021	- 5,406
Value	£ 3,718	- 635	- 1,747	£ 29,166	- 8,994	- 14,827
Exports (British and Irish)						
Dozen pairs	70,399	+ 4,750	+ 8,162	562,686	+ 83,054	- 35,856
Value	£ 177,995	+ 25,571	+ 30,597	£ 1,361,491	+ 235,610	- 65,573

HAT TRADE.

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

In the *Silk* hat trade the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of September was 13.8, compared with 14.2 at the end of August and 13.1 a year ago. In London employment though still slack, showed signs of improvement and was better than a year ago. In Denton it was quiet with much short time. In the *Felt* hat trade the percentage of Trade Union members unemployed at the end of September was 2.5, compared with 3.4 at the end of August, and 1.5 a year ago. In Denton employment was fairly good and about the same as a year ago. In the remaining districts employment generally was good.

OTHER CLOTHING TRADES.

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

EMPLOYMENT in London showed the usual seasonal improvement, and was better than a year ago; firms employing 7,399 workpeople in the dressmaking, blouse, and millinery trades in the last week in September employed 1,917 more than a month ago, and 312 more than a year ago. Employment in the shirt and collar trade was moderate, but better than a year ago. In the corset trade it was moderate.

Dress, Millinery, and Mantle Trades.—In London returns from retail firms, chiefly in the West-end district, employing 1,469 dressmakers in the last week in September, showed an increase of 55.4 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 2.3 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment during the month was moderate. Court dressmakers, employing 1,490 workpeople, showed an increase of 147.5 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 9.1 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment was fair. In the wholesale mantle, costume and blouse trades, firms employing 3,007 workpeople on their premises (in addition to outworkers) during the last week in September showed an increase of 8.4 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 2.1 per cent. compared with a year ago; employment generally was good. Firms employing 1,433 milliners showed an increase of 23.3 per cent. compared with a month ago, and of 7.0 per cent. compared with a year ago.

Returns from two Employment Bureaux showed a slight increase in the demand for dressmakers and milliners compared with a year ago, and a considerable decrease in the supply.

In Manchester employment with mantle makers was good, and better than a month ago and a year ago. In the costume and skirt trade employment continued moderate, and was better than a year ago; firms employing 1,860 workpeople in the last week in September showed an increase of 0.6 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and of 2.3 per cent. compared with a year ago.

In Glasgow employment with mantle makers continued fair, and was about the same as a year ago.

Shirt and Collar Trade.—Returns received from shirt and collar manufacturers in England, Scotland and Ireland, employing 6,068 workpeople in their factories (in addition to outworkers) and paying £4,076 in wages during the last week in September, showed an increase of 0.3 per cent. in the amount of wages paid compared with a month ago, and of 6.5 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment was moderate in London, good in Manchester, fair in Glasgow, moderate in Belfast and Londonderry.

Corset Trade.—Returns received from corset manufacturers employing 3,739 workpeople in their factories at the end of September showed a further decrease of 0.8 per cent. in the number employed compared with a month ago, and an increase of 0.6 per cent. compared with a year ago. Employment generally was again reported as moderate during the month. Compared with a year ago, firms employing 37 per cent. reported employment as improved, firms employing 34 per cent. as unchanged, and firms employing 29 per cent. as worse.

OTHER LEATHER TRADES.

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

EMPLOYMENT during September was still quiet, but was rather better than a month ago, and considerably better than a year ago, Trade Unions with a membership of 4,728 having 6.0 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, as compared with 6.8 per cent. in August and 9.8 per cent. in September, 1904.

Skinner, Tanners, Curriers, Dressers, etc.—Employment, though still quiet, was better than a month ago, and much better than a year ago.

Saddle and Harness Makers, etc.—Employment remained quiet, but was considerably better than a year ago. Short time was still worked at Walsall by saddlers. In London employment improved with saddlers, but was

bad with harness makers. With horse-collar makers it was fair generally.

Miscellaneous Leather Workers.—Employment with portmanteau and trunk makers was fair, but not so good as a month ago. With fancy leather workers it was quiet and rather worse than in August, but much better than a year ago.

PAPER, PRINTING AND BOOK-BINDING TRADES.

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

EMPLOYMENT continued fairly good in the paper trade. In the printing and bookbinding trades it was quiet, but better than a month ago and a year ago.

PAPER TRADES.

Employment remained fairly good generally in the machine trade in both England and Scotland, and showed little change as compared with a month and a year ago. In Scotland it was reported as better on the whole than a month ago and a year ago. In the hand-made trade employment was quiet. Returns received from firms employing 20,891 workpeople at the end of September showed a decrease of 1.5 per cent. in the numbers employed as compared with August, and of 1.4 per cent. as compared with September, 1904. This decline is largely due to the closing of one mill in the South of England.

	Number of Workpeople paid Wages in last week of Sept., 1905, by firms making Returns.	Percentage Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in No. of Workpeople as compared with a	
		Month ago.	Year ago.
		Machine-made Paper and Milled Boards:	
Northern Counties	6,544	+ 0.1	- 0.9
Midlands, Wales and Ireland	2,057	...	+ 2.1
Southern Counties	6,350	- 4.6	- 3.8
Scotland	5,233	- 0.4	...
Total Machine-made Paper, &c.	20,184	- 1.6	- 1.3
Hand-made Paper	707	+ 0.7	- 4.2
Total	20,891	- 1.5	- 1.4

Trade Unions in the machine trade with 1,734 members had 2.4 per cent. unemployed at the end of September, against 3.0 a month ago and 1.7 per cent. a year ago. In the hand-made trade, Trade Unions with 620 members had 7.1 per cent. unemployed, against 7.6 in August, 1905, and 6.9 in September, 1904.

PRINTING TRADES.

Employment was quiet on the whole. In *letterpress printing* it was better than a month ago and a year ago, notwithstanding a decline in London. Trade Unions of letterpress printers with 39,660 members had 5.5 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 6.3 per cent. in August, 1905, and September, 1904. In *lithographic printing* the figures show a slight decline compared with August, and an improvement compared with a year ago. Trade Unions of lithographic printers and artists with 6,541 members had 5.0 per cent. unemployed at the end of the month, compared with 4.7 in August, and 6.4 in September, 1904.

The following Table shows by districts the percentage unemployed in certain Trade Unions in the *Printing Trades*:

Districts.	No. of Members of Unions at end of Sept., 1905 included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		Sept., 1905.	Aug., 1905.	Sept., 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
		London	18,719	7.4	6.6	6.7	+ 0.8	+ 0.7
Northern Counties and Yorkshire	5,169	5.1	6.3	5.1	- 1.2	...
Lancs. and Cheshire	6,140	3.9	7.4	7.5	- 3.5	- 3.6
East Midland and Eastern Counties	2,484	2.0	6.0	5.1	- 4.0	- 3.1
West Midlands	2,339	5.6	7.0	7.6	- 1.4	- 2.0
S. & S. W. Counties and Wales	3,609	2.7	4.4	3.7	- 1.7	- 1.0
Scotland	5,514	3.0	2.9	3.2	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Ireland	2,427	7.3	7.4	11.9	- 0.1	- 4.6
United Kingdom	46,201	5.4	6.1	6.2	- 0.7	- 0.8

London.—Employment declined somewhat, and at the end of the month was slack generally, and worse than a year ago. Trade Unions of letterpress printers with 16,704 members had 7.5 per cent. unemployed compared with 6.8 in August and 6.6 in September, 1904. Electrotypers and stereotypers, however, continued fairly well employed. In the lithographic trade employment was slack with printers and fair with artists.

Other Centres.—In Edinburgh the letterpress branches continued busy, with overtime in most of the larger offices; lithographic printers were not so well employed; typefounders reported employment as bad, but improving. At Glasgow letterpress printers were well employed, with a good deal of overtime; but some short time was worked by lithographic printers. At Manchester there was a considerable reduction in the number of letterpress printers out of work; employment was good with lithographic artists and fair with lithographic printers. At Liverpool letterpress printers reported employment as fair, but with some short time. At Leeds and Plymouth employment was bad till the end of the month, when work on the voting lists commenced. At Newcastle there was an improvement. At Derby employment was good, most of the men working some overtime during the month. At Oxford employment was reported as having improved with compositors, but many machine minders lost one day per week. At Dublin employment was bad, with a great deal of short time.

BOOKBINDING TRADES.

Employment was much better in London than a month ago and a year ago, though there was still some short time. In the provinces little general change was shown.

The following Table shows the percentage unemployed in certain Trade Unions:—

	No. of Members of Unions at end of Sept., 1905 included in the Returns.	Percentage returned as Unemployed at end of			Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in percentage unemployed as compared with a	
		Sept., 1905.	Aug., 1905.	Sept., 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
London ...	3,681	4.0	7.2	6.3	— 3.2	— 2.3
Other Districts ...	3,320	6.3	6.5	6.6	— 0.2	— 0.3
United Kingdom ...	7,001	5.1	6.9	6.4	— 1.8	— 1.3

In Edinburgh employment remained good, with some overtime in the stationery branch. At Glasgow it was reported as showing less than the usual signs of seasonal improvement. At Manchester, Liverpool, and Dublin it was bad.

FURNISHING AND WOODWORKING TRADES.

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

EMPLOYMENT during September continued fair on the whole, and about the same as a month ago, but was better than a year ago. The percentage of Trade Union members in the furnishing and woodworking trades unemployed at the end of September was 5.1, as compared with 5.0 at the end of August, 1905, and with 6.1 at the end of September, 1904.

Millsawyers and Woodcutting Machinists.

Employment with millsawyers and woodcutting machinists continued slack, but showed improvement compared with a month ago. It was better than a year ago. Trade Unions with a membership of 4,938 showed 23.5 (or 4.8 per cent.) unemployed at the end of September, as compared with 5.2 per cent. at the end of August, 1905, and 6.4 per cent. at the end of September, 1905.

Furnishing Trades.

In the furnishing trades employment was slack on the whole, and about the same as a month ago; it, however, showed improvement compared with a year ago. Sixteen Trade Unions, with a membership of 13,904, showed 9.3 (or 6.5 per cent.) unemployed at the end of September, as compared with the same percentage at the end of

August, 1905, and 8.3 per cent. at the end of September, 1904.

Coopers.

Employment with coopers was not so good as a month ago, but was about the same as a year ago. It continued good, however, at Fraserburgh and Peterhead, and was fair at Hull, Edinburgh, Dublin and Cork.

Coachbuilding.

Employment in the coachbuilding industry continued moderate. It was not quite so good as a month ago, but was better than a year ago. Trade Unions of coachmakers, wheelwrights, smiths, &c., with a membership of 8,228, reported 27.3 (or 3.3 per cent.) unemployed at the end of September, as compared with 2.8 per cent. at the end of August, 1905, and 4.9 per cent. at the end of September, 1904.

Miscellaneous.

Brushmakers.—Employment with brushmakers was quiet, but rather better than a month ago.

Other Trades.—With packing-case makers employment was moderate generally, but was good at Bolton, Bury and Glasgow; with basket makers it was good at Leicester and Glasgow, overtime being worked at the latter place.

GLASS, POTTERY, AND BRICK AND TILE TRADES.

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

EMPLOYMENT in the Glass trades was bad and worse than a month ago, and considerably worse than a year ago. In the Pottery trades it was fair and better than a month ago. It continued moderate in the Brick and Tile trades.

Glass Trades.—Employment with glass bottle-makers was bad and worse than a month ago and a year ago. It was, however, fair at Glasgow.

Employment with flint-glass makers was bad on the whole, and worse than a month ago and a year ago. An improvement, however, was shown at Wolverhampton, and employment was fair at Birmingham, and good at Glasgow. With flint-glass cutters employment was moderate generally, and rather better than a month ago and a year ago. It continued bad, however, at Birmingham, Glasgow, and Edinburgh. Employment with sheet glass makers and flatteners at St. Helens continued good. With pressed-glass makers in the Tyne and Wear district it continued slack, with much short time. It was also slack, with much short time, with plate-glass bevellers at Birmingham. Employment with glass blowers in London continued fairly good, and was much better than a year ago.

Pottery Trades.—In Staffordshire employment on the whole was fair, and better than a month ago. Some improvement was also shown at Swadlincote (Derbyshire). At Newcastle-on-Tyne employment continued fair. In the South Yorkshire district it was moderate and better than a year ago. In the Woodville district it continued good with conduit pipe makers, and quiet with sanitary ware makers; with drain pipe makers it was fair. Employment generally was quiet in the North Devon district, and dull in the South Devon district.

In Scotland employment generally continued fair. At Glasgow it continued dull with tobacco-pipe makers, and bad with white hollow-ware potters; with stoneware throwers it was good.

Brick and Tile Trades.—Employment in the Peterborough district showed little change. It was not so good in the Market Harborough and Sibley districts, or in North Wales. It was good in the Oldham district; fairly good in the Woodville district; steady at Norwich, Wroxham and Cambridge; fair at Chelmsford, and in South Staffordshire and South Wales; quiet at Calstock and Gunnislake; slack in the Plymouth, Sheffield and Barnsley districts, and at Ipswich and Sudbury; moderate at Exeter and in the Tees and Hartlepool district; and bad in the Birmingham, Nottingham and Glasgow districts.

AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

(Based on Reports from Correspondents in various parts of England.)
THE corn harvest was finished this year earlier than usual, but at its conclusion such work as threshing, ploughing, potato-lifting, and hoeing generally gave regular employment to day labourers during September. Work on the land was but little affected by rain. The supply of day labourers was equal to the demand in most districts, but a scarcity of men for permanent positions was reported in parts of the Midland and South Western Counties.

Northern Counties.—There was some irregularity of employment for day labourers in Cumberland and Westmorland. In Lancashire employment was fairly regular. A correspondent states that in consequence of the advanced state of farm work in this county some Irish migratory labourers were returning home at the end of the month. Harvesting operations were somewhat interrupted by rain at the beginning of the month in Yorkshire, but otherwise day labourers were regularly employed. This class of labour, however, was in excess of the demand in many districts. A scarcity of horsemen was reported from the Bridlington Union.

Midland Counties.—Employment was regular in Cheshire and Derbyshire. Day labourers in Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire lost a little time through rain. There was generally full employment in Staffordshire, Shropshire and Worcestershire, and the supply of day labourers was sufficient for the demand in these counties. A scarcity of horsemen was, however, reported in the Oswestry Union and of carters, stockmen, and shepherds in the Shipston-on-Stour Union. Rain caused some irregularity of employment in Warwickshire. Employment was fairly regular in Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire. There was some scarcity of men for milking in these two counties. A few day labourers lost time in Buckinghamshire, where the supply of this class of labour was more than equal to the demand, though men for permanent situations were scarce. Employment was regular in Hertfordshire. In Bedfordshire employment was somewhat irregular, owing to rain and to the early completion of the harvest.

Eastern Counties.—Employment was generally regular in Huntingdonshire, Cambridgeshire, and Lincolnshire, and there was a plentiful supply of casual labour. Work was well forward in Norfolk and Suffolk, and a few day labourers lost time in consequence. In Essex employment was regular.

Southern and South Western Counties.—Employment was generally regular in Kent and Surrey, but rain caused some interruption to hop-picking in Kent. Regularity of employment is reported in Sussex, Hampshire and Berkshire; the supply of labour was sufficient. Rain caused a few day labourers to lose time in Wiltshire. There was some scarcity of men for permanent situations in this county. Employment was regular in Dorset, Somerset, and Herefordshire, but in several districts in these counties the demand for day labourers was in excess of the supply. Employment was also regular in Gloucestershire, Devonshire, and Cornwall.

DOCK AND RIVERSIDE LABOUR.

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

EMPLOYMENT in September remained moderate on the whole, but was better than a month ago. Compared with a year ago, there was some improvement in London; the other principal ports showed little general change.

London.—Employment was moderate on the whole. The last three weeks showed an improvement on the early part of the month, partly owing to wool imports. Employment was reported as fair with lightermen, stevedores, lumpers, and deal porters.

The average number of labourers employed daily at the docks and principal wharves during the five weeks ended September 30th was 12,702, an increase of 5.1 per cent. on last month and of 2.5 per cent. on September, 1904.

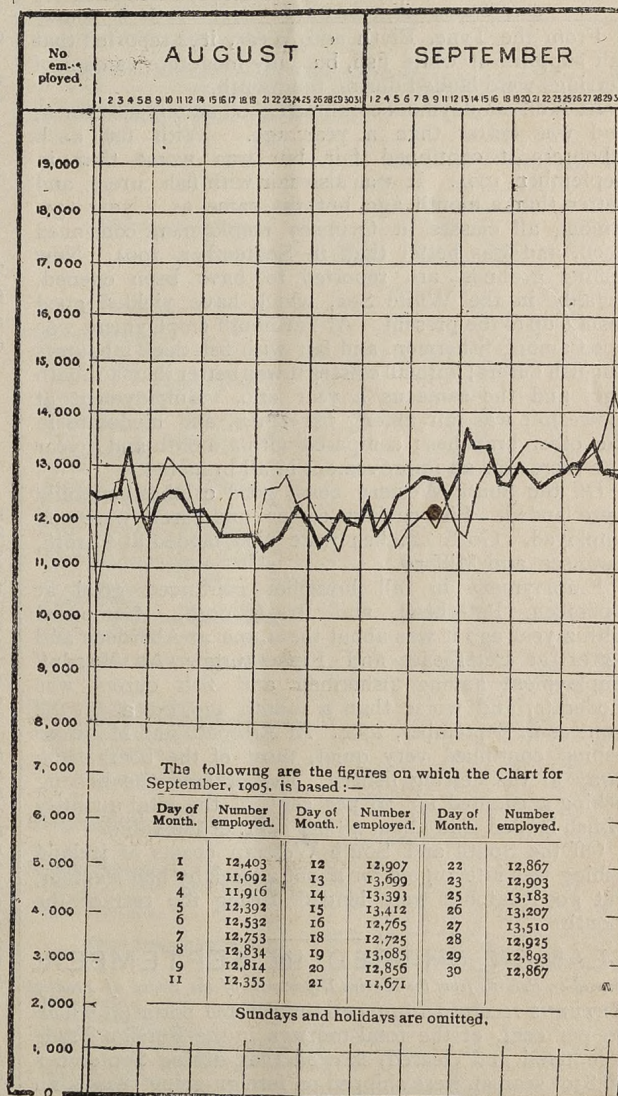
* Exclusive of Tilbury

The daily numbers in September ranged from 11,692 on the 2nd to 13,699 on the 13th. During September, 1904, the numbers ranged from 11,594* on the 6th to 14,426* on the 30th.

Period.	Average Daily Number of Labourers employed in Docks and at Principal Wharves.			At 108 Wharves making Returns.	Total Docks and Principal Wharves.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors.	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ended Sept 2nd	4,816	1,664	6,480	5,452	11,932
" " " 9th	5,273	1,769	7,042	5,498	12,540
" " " 16th	5,449	1,856	7,305	5,783	13,088
" " " 23rd	5,493	1,959	7,452	5,599	13,051
" " " 30th	5,259	1,950	7,209	5,889	13,098
Average for 5 weeks ended Sept. 30th	5,218	1,840	7,058	5,644	12,702
Average for Aug., 1905	5,096	1,748	6,844	5,287	12,031
Average for Sept., 1904	4,998	1,766*	6,764*	5,634*	12,398*

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks, and at 108 of the principal Wharves, for each day during the months of August and September, 1905. The corresponding curve for August and September 1904, is also given for comparison.

thick curve applies to 1905, and the thin curve to 1904.]



In Liverpool employment continued dull with dock labourers and quay and railway carters. Employment with Mersey flatmen was reported as fair, but many men were out of work.

In South Wales coal trimmers were fairly well employed, but coal tippers were slack. At Cardiff and Newport employment was reported as good in the discharging of

* Revised figures.

iron ore and fair with deal carriers, though at the latter port many deal carriers were only partially employed.

Other Ports.—Employment was fair generally, and rather better than a month ago.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

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

The fish landed during September showed a considerable increase both in quantity and in value as compared with a year ago.

The following Table gives the quantities and values of fish landed in September, 1905, and September, 1904, respectively:—

Table with columns for Quantity (Sept. 1905, Sept. 1904) and Value (Sept. 1905, Sept. 1904). Rows include Fish (other than Shell), England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland, and Shell Fish, with sub-totals for each region and a grand total.

From the Tyne, Blyth and Wear, it is reported that fair supplies of white fish, but only moderate catches of herrings were landed during the month.

At Hull employment continued good among fishermen, and was better than a year ago. With fish dock labourers it continued fair, but was worse than in September, 1904. It was also fair with fish curers, and better than a month ago, but the same as a year ago.

Off the South-Western coast good catches generally were landed. Fish packers, carters and curers were well employed. Good catches were also landed at Cardiff, Swansea and Milford.

Employment in all branches continued good at Aberdeen, Peterhead, and Fraserburgh. Compared with a year ago it was about the same at Aberdeen and better at Peterhead and Fraserburgh.

Off the South and South-Western coasts of Ireland fishing was interrupted for about a week by bad weather, but good catches were landed during the rest of the month.

SEAMEN SHIPPED IN SEPTEMBER.

(Based on Returns from the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.) RETURNS received from certain selected ports (at which 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the Foreign Trade is entered and cleared) showed that, during September 38,859 seamen were shipped on foreign-going vessels, an increase of 34 on the number shipped in September, 1904.

During the nine completed months of 1905, 335,507 seamen were shipped, of whom 48,026 (or 14.3 per cent.) were foreigners. Compared with the corresponding period of 1904, this shows an increase of 4,166: the

* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, not of separate individuals.

principal increases were at Liverpool and Glasgow, and the greatest decreases at Southampton and the Tyne Ports.

Table showing the number* of persons shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom during the periods mentioned:—

Table showing Number of Seamen* shipped in Principal Ports. Columns include Principal Ports, September 1904, 1905, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905, and Nine months ended September 1904, 1905, Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905. Rows list England and Wales (East Coast, Other Ports), Scotland, and Ireland.

PRICES OF BREAD, WHEAT, AND FLOUR.

I.—BREAD.†

THE Returns as to the price of bread per 4 lbs., as furnished by the Local Correspondents of the Department, relate to London and 25 large provincial towns at the beginning of October.

Table showing Prices of Bread, Wheat, and Flour. Columns include Place, Present Price (Oct. 2nd, 1905), Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with a month ago, and Last Change (Date, Am't. per 4 lbs.). Rows list various towns like London, Birmingham, Bolton, Bristol, etc.

During September no change was recorded in the prevailing price compared with the previous month at any of the towns given in the Table. As compared with a year ago, the price has increased 1/2d. at Bristol; it has decreased 1/2d. in London and 1/2d. at four towns, viz., Plymouth, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Belfast. At all the other towns the price shows no change.

* It will be understood that the numbers given are the numbers of separate engagements, not of separate individuals.

† Including Barry and Penarth. ‡ Though it is not possible to state that the quality of bread referred to is in all cases the same, the prices for each place are believed to be, generally speaking, comparable with those for a month and a year ago.

II.—WHEAT AND FLOUR.

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

Table showing Wheat and Flour prices. Columns include Month, British Wheat (Mean London Gazette Price), Imports (Wheat, Wheat-meal and Flour), and Average Monthly Price of London Flour (Town Households). Rows list 1904 and 1905 for September and August.

The imports of wheat from foreign countries and the Colonies during September, 1905, amounted to 9,402,000 cwts., or 880,300 cwts. more than in the corresponding month of 1904.

PRICES OF COAL AND IRON.

THE results of the last ascertainment of the selling prices of coal and iron are given in the Table below:—

Table showing Prices of Coal and Iron. Columns include Product and District, Price according to last Audit, Increase (+) or Decrease (-) of last Audit as compared with, and A Year ago. Rows list Coal (Northumberland, Cleveland, Cumberland) and Pig Iron (Cleveland, Cumberland, North of England, West of Scotland).

It will be seen from the above Table that, as compared with the previous audit, Cleveland pig iron has fallen in price, Northumberland coal has been practically stationary, and pig iron in Cumberland and manufactured iron in the North of England and West of Scotland have advanced.

Coal.—The average price of Northumberland coal for the three months June-August, 1905, was 6s. 1 2/3d., which showed little change as compared with the previous audit, and with that for a year ago.

Pig Iron.—The net average invoice price of No. 3 Cleveland pig iron for the three months July-September, 1905, was 46s., being 1s. 0 3/4d. lower than in the previous three months, but 3s. 5 1/2d. higher than a year ago.

Manufactured Iron.—In the North of England the ascertained selling price of specified classes of manufactured iron in July and August was 118s. 11 1/2d.,

which was 1s. 4 1/2d. higher than for the previous audit, but 4d. lower than a year ago. In Scotland for the same period this year the price was 116s. 3 1/3d., or 3s. 3 1/4d. higher than for the previous audit, and 11 1/2d. higher than a year ago.

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 Workshop Act during September was 54, consisting of 48 cases of lead poisoning, 2 of mercurial poisoning, 1 of arsenic poisoning, and 3 cases of anthrax.

During the nine months ended September, 1905, the total number of cases of poisoning and of anthrax was 487, as compared with 459 during the corresponding period of 1904.

[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.]

Table showing Diseases of Occupations in Factories and Workshops. Columns include Disease and Industry, Cases (Sept. 1905, 1904), and Deaths (Sept. 1905, 1904). Rows list Lead Poisoning, Mercurial Poisoning, Phosphorus Poisoning, Arsenic Poisoning, and Anthrax, with sub-categories for each.

NOTE.—During September, 1905, there were included in the Table 2 cases affecting females, as compared with 14 for September, 1904.

* House Painters and Plumbers.—In addition to the cases included in the Table, 17 cases of lead poisoning (including 4 deaths) were reported during September, 1905, among house painters and plumbers.

FATAL INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN SEPTEMBER.

(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 September, 1905, was 254, being 40 more than in August, 1905, and 38 more than in September, 1904. The mean number for September in the years 1900-1904 was 230, the maximum year in this period being 1902, with 253 deaths, and the minimum year 1903, with 202 deaths.

The number of fatal accidents to seamen reported in September, 1905, was 116. The number reported in September of the years 1900-1904 varied from 71 to 123, the mean for the five years being 93.

In the classes of industries in which the number of persons employed is approximately known, viz., Railway Service (exclusive of contractors' servants), Mines, Quarries, Shipping, Factories, and Laundries, the number of workpeople reported as killed was 339, as compared with 264 in the corresponding period of 1904. The approximate number of workpeople employed in these industries according to the latest returns was about 5,800,000.

In the following Table the accidents reported in September, 1905, 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 Sept., 1905, as compared with a	
	Sept., 1905.	Aug., 1905.	Sept., 1904.	Month ago.	Year ago.
Railway Service—					
Brakemen and Goods Guards	3	4	2	- 1	+ 1
Engine Drivers	1	5	1	- 4	...
Firemen	1	1	1	...	...
Guards (Passenger)	1	1	1	...	...
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	14	12	8	+ 2	+ 6
Porters	7	5	3	+ 2	+ 4
Shunters	1	1	1	...	...
Miscellaneous	16	20	12	- 4	+ 4
Contractors' Servants	2	2	3	...	- 1
Total Railway Service	46	84	32	- 8	+ 14
Mines—					
Underground	75	70	70	+ 5	- 4
Surface	10	10	8	...	+ 2
Total Mines	85	80	78	+ 5	- 2
Quarries over 20 feet deep	6	3	7	+ 3	- 1
Factories—					
Textile—					
Cotton	8	5	2	+ 3	+ 6
Wool and Worsted	5	1	1	+ 4	+ 4
Other Textiles	1	2	...	- 1	+ 1
Non Textile—					
Extraction of Metals	8	3	5	+ 5	+ 3
Founding and Conversion of Metals	12	2	7	+ 10	+ 5
Marine and Locomotive Engineering	2	5	4	- 3	- 2
Ship and Boat Building	10	9	5	+ 1	+ 5
Wood	3	1	...	+ 2	+ 3
Chemicals, &c.	4	1	1	+ 3	+ 3
Other Non-Textile Industries	34	20	34	+ 14	...
Total Factories	87	49	59	+ 28	+ 28
Workshops	...	...	...	...	...
Accidents reported under Factory Act, 1901-5—					
Docks, Wharves, and Quays	13	11	10	+ 2	+ 3
Warehouses	1	1	5	...	- 4
Buildings to which Act applies	11	12	11	- 1	...
Laundries	1	...	...	+ 1	+ 1
Total under Factory Act, 1901-5	26	24	26	+ 2	...
Accidents reported under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894	4	4	5	...	- 1
Total, exclusive of Seamen	254	214	216	+ 40	+ 38
Seamen—					
On Trading Vessels—					
Sailing	45	18	18	+ 27	+ 27
Steam	65	49	48	+ 16	+ 17
On Fishing Vessels—					
Sailing	3	1	6	+ 2	- 3
Steam	3	3	10	...	- 7
Total Seamen	116	71	82	+ 45	+ 34
Total, including Seamen	370	285	298	+ 85	+ 72

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Summary for September. IMPORTS.*

	Month ended 30th Sept.			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1905 as compared with	
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1903.
I.—Food, Drink and Tobacco.	£ 21,853,454	£ 19,235,015	£ 20,736,703	+ 1,500,688	- 1,116,751
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured.	11,876,410	12,285,391	12,869,754	+ 584,360	+ 993,344
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured.	11,579,769	11,357,387	11,920,359	+ 562,972	+ 340,600
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post).	14,155,1	195,210	205,822	+ 10,612	+ 64,271
Total value of imports	£ 43,481,184	£ 43,074,006	£ 45,732,648	+ 2,658,642	+ 281,464

EXPORTS OF BRITISH PRODUCE.†

	Month ended 30th Sept.,			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in 1905 as compared with	
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1903.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco.	£ 1,673,216	£ 1,821,953	£ 2,132,675	+ 310,722	+ 459,459
II.—Raw Materials and Articles mainly Unmanufactured.	2,978,337	3,025,404	3,082,050	+ 55,646	+ 103,713
III.—Articles wholly or mainly Manufactured.	18,281,617	20,699,007	23,691,716	+ 2,992,709	+ 5,410,089
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post).	382,571	381,293	444,019	+ 62,726	+ 61,448
Total value of Exports of British produce	£ 23,315,751	£ 23,928,659	£ 29,350,460	+ 3,421,801	+ 6,034,709

The re-exports of foreign and colonial merchandise amounted to £4,981,573 in September, 1903; £4,771,996 in September, 1904, and £5,521,237 in September, 1905.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON WORKMEN'S INSURANCE AT VIENNA.

THE Seventh International Congress on Workmen's Insurance was held at Vienna, on September 18th-22nd, and was attended by more than 600 delegates, including official representatives of Austria-Hungary, Belgium, Denmark, France, the German Empire, Holland, Italy, Luxemburg, Russia, Sweden, and Switzerland, in addition to Mr. Schloss, as representative of the Board of Trade, Sir John Cockburn, K.C.M.G., representing the Commonwealth of Australia, and Hon. W. P. Reeves, on behalf of New Zealand.

The subjects brought before the Congress included the following:—the development of Workmen's Insurance since the first Congress met in 1889; certain general questions concerning such insurance (including international arrangements as to the insurance of workmen of one country employed in another); the unification and simplification of workmen's insurance; insurance against old age and invalidity; the compilation of international statistics of accidents; accident insurance; and the prevention of accidents.

The Congress passed a resolution in relation to the question of International Statistics of Accidents to the effect that note was taken of the resolutions with respect to this matter adopted by the International Statistical Institute (which at its meeting in London in August last appointed a Committee to deal with this question), and itself named a Committee, to which it entrusted the task of continuing the study of this subject, in agreement with the Committee appointed by the International Statistical Institute.

The Congress decided that its next meeting shall be held in 1908 at Rome.

* 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.
† Yarns and textile fabrics, manufactures of metal and leather, chemicals, &c.
‡ The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.
§ Coal, wool, oil seeds, hides and skins, &c.
¶ Yarns, textile fabrics and apparel, metal manufactures, machinery, chemicals, &c.

TRADE DISPUTES IN SEPTEMBER.*

Number and Magnitude.—Ten new disputes began in September, 1905, compared with 12 in August, and 21 in September, 1904. By the 10 disputes, 1,388 workpeople were directly and 121 indirectly affected, and these figures, when added to the number of workpeople affected by old disputes which began before September, and were still in progress at the beginning of the month, give a total of 14,886 workpeople involved in trade disputes during September, 1905, compared with 17,287 in August, 1905, and 13,916 in September, 1904.

New Disputes in September, 1905.—In the following Table the new disputes in September are summarised by trades affected:—

Trades.	No. of Disputes.	No. of Workpeople affected.		
		Directly.	Indirectly.	Total.
Coal Mining	2	510	75	585
Engineering and Shipbuilding	2	700	46	746
Textile	4	624	—	624
Other Trades	2	154	—	154
Total, September, 1905	10	1,388	121	1,509
Total, August, 1905	12	4,089	3,505	7,594
Total, September, 1904	21	3,981	4,160	8,141

Causes.—Of the ten new disputes, two arose on demands for increased wages, two on objections to reductions, four on other wages questions, and two on questions of employment of particular classes or persons.

Results.—Definite results were reported in September in the case of five new disputes, affecting 750 workpeople, and sixteen old disputes, affecting 8,935 workpeople. Of these twenty-one new and old disputes, three, involving 262 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; nine, involving 5,302 persons, in favour of the employers; and nine involving 4,121 persons, were compromised.

Aggregate Duration.—The aggregate duration in September of disputes that started or were settled in that month was 83,700 working days. In addition, 173,600 working days were lost during September owing to disputes that began before that month, and at the end of the month were still unsettled. Thus the total duration in September of all disputes, new and old, was 257,300 working days, as compared with 346,200 in the previous month, and 130,000 in the corresponding month of 1904.

Summary for the Nine completed Months of 1904 and 1905.—The number of disputes, the number of workpeople affected, and the aggregate duration in working days for the nine months January-September, 1904 and 1905, respectively, were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January to September.					
	1904.		1905.			
	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	32	8,528	343,500	21	6,243	390,900
Mining and Quarrying	78	36,241	509,000	76	39,039	743,700
Metal, Engineering, and Shipbuilding	48	9,825	141,800	50	16,640	435,600
Textile	35	9,160	103,100	43	11,829	108,700
Clothing	18	896	9,550	26	2,925	71,000
Transport	4	1,010	22,650	7	1,359	49,400
Other Trades	30	3,247	71,600	24	3,821	48,000
Total	245	69,197	1,201,200	247	75,856	1,817,300

Principal Disputes.—Particulars of the principal disputes which began or were settled during September are given below. The details of the other disputes in progress during September 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 1905.	Duration in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.‡	Result.‡
		Di-rectly.	Indi-rectly.‡				
Building—							
Labourers	Newcastle and District	500	...	1 May	108	Against proposed reduction in wages of 1d. per hour and other alterations in working rules	Reduction of 1d. per hour accepted. Men to work in accordance with general building trade rules.
Bricklayers and Labourers	Sunderland	500	...	29 May	86	Against proposed reduction in wages and other alterations in working rules	Bricklayers' wages reduced from 10s. 4d. and labourers' from 6s. 4d. to 6s. per hour.
Joiners	Glasgow	1,600	...	22 Apl.	112	Against proposed reduction in wages and other alterations in working rules	Reduction of 1d. per hour accepted; working rules to date from 1st July; future working rules to be settled by a Conciliation Board.
Ship Repairing—							
Ship Painters, General Labourers, and various Trades connected with Ship Repairing	Cardiff, Penarth and Barry	1,500	1,800	1 Aug.	37	Strike on 1st August for increase of wages and reduction of hours, followed by general lock-out on 12th August	Work resumed on employers' terms.
Metal—							
Steel Workers	Middlesbrough	200	900	10 July	71	Dissatisfaction with revised rates of wages offered on introduction of new machinery	Direct negotiation resulted in an amicable agreement as to revised rates.
Dock Labour—							
Dock Labourers	Liverpool	800	...	28 June	63	Refusal to work with foremen who were not members of the Union	Work resumed unconditionally.

* 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 dispute occurred but not themselves on strike or locked out. The statements of cause and result do not apply to these persons.

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.

H.M. INSPECTORS OF FACTORIES.

Change in Address.—The Office of H.M. Inspector of Factories for the Southampton District (which comprises Wiltshire south of the northern boundary of the Warmminster and Amesbury Unions, and the counties of Dorset and Hants) is now 23, Portland Terrace, Southampton.

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR.*

Wages.

Changes reported in September.—The net effect of all the changes reported in September was an increase of £69 per week, as compared with a decrease of £966 per week in August, 1905, and a decrease of £245 per week in September, 1904. The number of workpeople affected was 24,328, of whom 13,893 received advances amounting to £593 per week, and 10,435 sustained decreases amounting to £524 per week. The total number affected in August was 247,473, and in September, 1904, 21,032.

One change, affecting 3,500 steel millmen in the West of Scotland, was arranged by a Conciliation Board, and five changes, affecting 13,200 workpeople engaged in pig iron and iron and steel manufacture, took effect under sliding scales. The remaining changes, affecting 7,628 workpeople, were arranged directly between employers and workpeople, or their representatives, five of these changes, affecting 4,935 workpeople, being preceded by disputes causing stoppage of work.

Summary for the Nine completed Months of 1905.—For the nine months, January-September, 1905, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) respecting whom wages-changes were reported was 541,656, as compared with 638,356 for the corresponding period of 1904. The changes arranged gave 259,400 workpeople a net increase amounting to £11,935 per week, and 252,427 a net decrease amounting to £17,884 per week, while the remaining 29,829 had upward and downward changes which left their wages at the same level as at the beginning of the year. The net effect of all the changes reported was a decrease of £5,949 per week, as compared with a decrease of £31,148 per week in the corresponding period of 1904.

Summarised by trades, the number of workpeople affected by the changes reported during the nine months

January-September, 1904 and 1905 respectively, and the net result of the changes on their weekly wages, were as follows:—

Groups of Trades.	January-September.			
	1904.		1905.	
	No.	£.	No.	£.
Building ...	7,813	621	9,441	886
Coal Mining ...	505,899	23,353	198,246	13,566
Iron Mining ...	2,690	87	7,092	202
Quarrying ...	10,813	531	8,557	531
Pig Iron Manufacture ...	11,235	2,809	37,590	477
Iron and Steel Manufacture ...	52,031	2,619	36,144	2,386
Engineering and Shipbuilding ...	31,023	14	719	39
Other Metal Trades ...	553	59	220,031	9,967
Textile Trades ...	2,679	691	1,544	137
Glass, Chemical, &c., Trades ...	4,879	73	3,767	233
Other Trades ...	4,259	334	4,031	338
Employees of Local Authorities ...	4,481	334	4,031	338
Total ...	638,356	-31,148	541,656	-5,949

Hours.

The changes in hours of labour reported during September, 1905, affected 4,400 workpeople, of whom 1,100 had their working time increased by 108 hours per week, and 3,300 had their working time decreased by 857 hours per week. During the nine months, January-September, the total number of workpeople reported as affected by changes in hours of labour was 11,504, the net reduction in their working time being 16,150 hours per week.

Principal Changes in Wages and Hours in September.

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

PRINCIPAL CHANGES REPORTED IN SEPTEMBER.

Trade.	Locality.	Date from which change takes effect in 1905.	Occupation.	Approximate Number of Workpeople affected by		Particulars of Change. (Decreases in Italics.)
				Increase.	Decrease.	

I.—RATES OF WAGES.

Building	Sunderland	5 Sept.	Bricklayers ...	400	Decrease of 3d. per hour (10d. to 9½d.).
		7 Sept.	Builders' Labourers ...	700	Decrease of 1d. per hour (6½d. to 5½d.).
	Glasgow ...	4 Sept.	Carpenters and Joiners ...	3,300	Decrease of 3d. per hour (10d. to 9½d.).
		1 Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ...	5,500	Decrease of 1½ per cent. under sliding scale, leaving wages 17½ per cent. above the standard of 1899.
Pig Iron	West Cumberland	7 Oct.	Blastfurnacemen ...	1,350	Advance of 1 per cent. under sliding scale, making wages 19½ per cent. above the standard of 1899.
		3 Sept.	Steel Millmen ...	1,450	Advance of 2 per cent. under sliding scale, making wages 15½ per cent. above the standard.
Iron and Steel	South Wales and Mon.	1 Oct.	Iron and Steel Workers ...	5,000	Advance of 2½ per cent. under sliding scale, making wages 2½ per cent. above the standard of 1895.
Steel	West of Scotland	18 Sept.	Steel Millmen ...	3,500	Advance of 2½ per cent. on wages above 27s. per week, and of 1½ per cent. on wages of 27s. per week and under.
Shipbuilding	Liverpool	16 Nov.	Ship Painters ...	900	Advance of 4d. per day on 5 days in the week during the winter months (5s. 8d. to 6s.).

II.—HOURS OF LABOUR.

Building	Sunderland	5 Sept.	Bricklayers ...	400	Re-arrangement of winter working hours, and extension of winter period. Average before change, 43½ hours for 13 weeks; after change, 45 hours for 15 weeks. Re-arrangement of winter working hours. Hours before change, 45 for 11 weeks; after change, 45 for 6½ weeks, and 47 for 4½ weeks.
		7 Sept.	Builders' Labourers ...	700	
	Glasgow ...	4 Sept.	Carpenters and Joiners ...	3,300	

Note.—Cotton Weaving (Coloured Goods):—It has been arranged that under the Colne Coloured Goods List, striped goods are to be calculated from a 70 yards of warp basis, as in checks, instead of 74 yards as heretofore, the alteration to take effect on the pay-days, 1st and 2nd September, respectively.
Lace Trade:—During August and September, new or revised piece price lists have been arranged for the regulation of lacemakers' wages in Nottingham. For particulars see p. 260 of LABOUR GAZETTE for September, 1905, and p. 291 of current GAZETTE. It is not possible at present to state the effect of the new lists on wages. For the Plain Net and Curtain sections of the trade the awards date from September, and for the Levers section from the preceding week on the first pay-day after 23rd October.

* 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.

EMIGRATION FROM UNITED KINGDOM.

DURING September 59,271 passengers left this country for places out of Europe. Of this number 33,793 were of British or Irish origin, and 25,478 were foreigners or other persons whose nationality was not stated. As compared with September, 1904, there was a decrease of 9,638 in the number of British or Irish emigrants, and an increase of 2,605 in the number of foreign passengers or those whose nationality was not stated. The net result was a decrease of 7,033 in the total number of emigrants.

During the nine months ended September, 1905, the total number of passengers was 373,275, an increase of 27,336 on the figure for the corresponding period of 1904. There was a decrease of 502 British and Irish passengers, and an increase of 27,838 foreigners, &c.

The following Table shows the destination of the passengers:—

Destination. (Country in which passenger contracted to land.)	September,		Nine months ended Sept.,	
	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.
	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905.	
British and Irish Passengers.				
British Colonies and Possessions:				
British North America ...	7,341	7,590	- 249	73,834
Australia and New Zealand ...	1,880	2,220	- 340	9,769
British South Africa ...	3,840	3,259	+ 581	18,996
India (including Ceylon) ...	797	772	+ 25	2,418
Other British Colonies and Possessions ...	563	553	+ 10	2,885
Total ...	14,421	14,394	+ 27	107,900
Foreign Countries:				
United States ...	18,512	28,374	- 9,862	100,142
Other Foreign Countries ...	860	663	+ 197	4,534
Total ...	19,372	29,037	- 9,665	104,676
Total, British and Irish ...	33,793	43,431	- 9,638	212,576
Foreigners and Nationality not stated.				
British Colonies and Possessions:				
British North America ...	2,143	1,995	+ 148	21,405
British South Africa ...	585	416	+ 169	3,585
Other British Colonies and Possessions ...	827	635	+ 192	3,547
Total ...	3,555	3,046	+ 509	28,537
Foreign Countries:				
United States ...	21,269	19,395	+ 1,874	126,953
Other Foreign Countries ...	654	432	+ 222	5,439
Total ...	21,923	19,827	+ 2,096	132,392
Total, Foreigners, &c. ...	25,478	22,873	+ 2,605	160,699
Grand Total, all Passengers ...	59,271	66,304	- 7,033	373,275

It will be noticed that the total increase (27,336) in emigration during the nine months of 1905 is almost entirely accounted for by the increased numbers of passengers going to British North America (15,700), and the United States (8,787). Among British and Irish passengers there was an increase of 12,293 going to British North America: against this has to be set a decrease of 13,557 passengers going to the United States. Among foreigners, &c., there was an increase of 22,344 passengers to the United States, and of 3,407 going to British North America.

ALIEN IMMIGRATION FROM CONTINENT.

During September 19,734 aliens arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent, of whom 10,976 were stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to places out of the United Kingdom, a decrease of 231 as compared with September, 1904. Those not stated to be en route to places out of the United Kingdom numbered 7,717 (exclusive of seamen), being 653 more than in September, 1904. In the following Table the figures for September, 1905 and 1904, and for the nine months ended September, 1905 and 1904, are compared.

	Month of Sept.,		Nine months ended Sept.,	
	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.
	Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905.		Inc. (+) or Dec. (-) in 1905.	
Aliens not stated in the Alien Lists to be en route to other countries	1,041	1,044	- 3	10,546
Seamen	7,717	7,064	+ 653	60,887
Other passengers	10,976	11,207	- 231	88,298
Total ...	19,734	19,315	+ 419	159,731

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

THE total receipts of twenty of the principal railways during the four weeks ended September 30th, 1905, amounted to £8,079,414, an increase of £117,857 (or 1.5 per cent.) as compared with the corresponding period of 1904. The passenger receipts showed an increase of £38,384 (or 1.0 per cent.), and the goods and mineral receipts an increase of £79,473 (or 1.9 per cent.).

During the thirty-nine weeks ended September 30th, 1905, the total receipts amounted to £72,018,793, of which £33,869,863 were derived from passenger traffic, and £38,148,930 from goods and mineral traffic. As compared with the same period of 1904, a total decrease of £38,131 is shown, the passenger traffic having declined £36,118, and the goods and mineral traffic £2,013. In the passenger receipts the decline was on those lines serving the Northern, Midland and Eastern Counties, and on the Irish lines. The lines serving the Southern and South-Western counties, and the Scottish lines showed an increase. In the goods and mineral receipts there were increases on the West Midland and Northern lines, but decreases on the other English lines and on the Scottish and Irish railways.

	4 weeks ended Sept. 30th, 1905.		39 weeks ended Sept. 30th, 1905.	
	Amount.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 1904.	Amount.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with 1904.
Passenger Traffic.	£	£	£	£
English Lines:—				
L. & N. W., Midland, Gt. Central, and N. London.	976,705	+ 13,415	8,743,156	- 16,323
Gt. Northern, Gt. Eastern, and London & Tilbury.	518,086	+ 107	4,556,557	- 36,972
Lanes. & Yorks., N. Eastern, and N. Staffs.	486,384	- 2,760	4,434,408	- 19,956
L. & S. W., and Gt. Western.	800,850	+ 16,700	7,049,800	+ 21,500
L. B. & S. C., and S. E. & C.	556,073	+ 16,374	4,645,593	+ 18,486
Scottish Lines:—				
Glasgow & S. Western, N. British, and Caledonian.	389,921	+ 990	3,338,020	+ 10,424
Irish Lines:—				
Gt. Southern & Western, Midland G.W., & Gt. Northern	128,760	- 6,640	1,104,329	- 13,267
Total ...	3,856,729	+ 38,384	33,869,863	- 36,118
Goods and Mineral Traffic.	£	£	£	£
English Lines:—				
L. & N. W., Midland, Gt. Central, and N. London.	1,520,234	+ 52,603	13,559,218	+ 160,857
Gt. Northern, Gt. Eastern, and London & Tilbury.	470,288	+ 502	4,115,386	- 159,067
Lanes. & Yorks., N. Eastern, and N. Staffs.	795,112	+ 19,800	7,397,361	+ 60,464
L. & S. W., and Gt. Western.	636,900	+ 12,100	5,723,700	- 3,600
L. B. & S. C., and S. E. & C.	161,765	+ 408	1,447,386	- 20,323
Scottish Lines:—				
Glasgow & S. Western, N. British, and Caledonian.	522,442	- 2,912	4,841,430	- 8,110
Irish Lines:—				
Gt. Southern & Western, Midland G.W., & Gt. Northern	115,914	- 3,028	1,064,448	- 32,234
Total ...	4,222,683	+ 79,473	38,148,930	- 2,013
Grand Total ...	8,079,414	+ 117,857	72,018,793	- 38,131

NEW ZEALAND.

REPORT OF DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR.

THE Fourteenth Annual Report of the New Zealand Department of Labour (covering the period April 1st, 1904, to March 31st, 1905) has been issued and contains information respecting (amongst other things) the operation of the Factories Act and the Shops and Offices Act, the Housing of the Working Classes, and the working of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, the Servants' Registry Offices Act, and the Shearers' Accommodation Act.

The Report states that the position of the working-classes generally, during the period under review, "appears to be highly satisfactory. Though there has been inequality of employment in some trades if compared with the preceding three or four years, on the whole the advance has been great and well sustained. The amounts deposited in the savings-banks have in ten years risen from £3,966,849 to £8,432,958.

The Report adds, that "the factories of New Zealand maintain the steady ratio of increase, which has been the rule of late years. The value of buildings, plant, machinery, etc., was materially added to, and the numbers of those employed were also steadily augmented," having been 67,713 in 1904-05, as against 63,968, 59,047, and 55,395 in each of the three preceding years respectively. There were few breaches of the Factories Act. In some factories difficulty was experienced in obtaining young workers.

Bankruptcies.—The bankruptcies gazetted during September numbered 367, an increase of 1 as compared with September, 1904. For the nine months ended September, 1905, the number was 3,569, as compared with 3,395 during the corresponding period of 1904.

PAUPERISM IN SEPTEMBER.

(Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland, and Ireland).
THE number of paupers relieved in the 35 selected Urban Districts named below on one day in September corresponded to a rate of 221 per 10,000 of the estimated population.

Compared with August, 1905, the total number of persons relieved increased by 3,588 (0.9 per cent.) and the rate per 10,000 by 2. There was an increase of 681 (0.4 per cent.) in the total number of indoor paupers, and of 2,907 (1.3 per cent.) in the total number of outdoor paupers. Increases occurred in 24 districts, decreases in 9, and 2 districts showed no change. The most marked increase (39 per 10,000) occurred in the Leicester district.

Compared with September, 1904, the total number of persons relieved increased by 13,968 (3.8 per cent.) and the rate per 10,000 by 6. There was an increase of 3,781 (2.4 per cent.) in the total number of indoor paupers, and of 10,187 (4.8 per cent.) in the total number of outdoor paupers. Increases occurred in 25 districts, decreases in 6, and 4 districts showed no change. The most marked increases were shown in the East London (52 per 10,000), and Leicester (50) districts. The most marked decrease was in the Bolton and Oldham district.

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of Sept., 1905.			Rate per 10,000 of Estimated Population.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in rate per 10,000 of Population as compared with	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.		A month ago.	A year ago.
ENGLAND & WALES.*						
Metropolita.						
West District	11,155	3,808	14,963	180	+ 1	+ 7
North District	15,736	9,466	25,202	235	+ 5	- 7
Central District	6,832	2,867	9,699	495	+ 3	+ 14
East District	14,847	9,424	24,271	337	- 6	+ 52
South District	23,845	19,187	43,032	234	...	...
Total Metropolita	72,415	44,752	117,167	251	...	+ 13
West Ham	3,551	12,528	16,079	241	+ 12	+ 22
Other Districts.						
Newcastle District	2,115	5,305	7,420	172	+ 2	+ 11
Stockton & Tees District	1,253	4,329	5,582	259	+ 10	+ 10
Bolton, Oldham, & Co.	3,994	7,817	11,811	185	+ 2	- 24
Wigan District	2,015	6,497	8,512	214	- 2	+ 2
Manchester District	9,576	9,521	19,097	203	+ 10	+ 4
Liverpool District	11,563	9,584	21,147	206	+ 1	+ 1
Bradford District	1,817	3,107	4,924	135	+ 3	+ 7
Halifax & Huddersfield	1,309	3,962	5,271	145	+ 3	+ 2
Leeds District	2,520	6,181	8,701	183	+ 2	- 7
Barnsley District	821	2,934	3,755	156	...	...
Sheffield District	3,176	4,993	8,169	167	+ 3	+ 1
Hull District	1,474	5,365	6,839	251	+ 2	+ 3
North Staffordshire	2,350	8,477	10,827	290	+ 6	+ 7
Nottingham District	2,088	5,907	7,995	198	+ 1	+ 5
Leicester District	1,571	5,897	7,468	328	+ 39	+ 50
Wolverhampton District	13,047	16,556	29,603	146	- 2	...
Birmingham District	4,892	3,584	8,476	256	+ 2	...
Bristol District	2,728	7,007	9,735	251	+ 5	- 5
Cardiff & Swansea	2,005	7,346	9,351	251	+ 5	- 5
Total "Other Districts"	60,733	119,950	180,683	203	+ 3	+ 1
SCOTLAND.*						
Glasgow District	5,052	17,598	22,650	224	+ 1	+ 2
Paisley & Greenock District	740	2,476	3,216	184	- 2	...
Edinburgh & Leith District	1,680	5,686	7,366	183	- 4	- 4
Dundee & Dunfermline	1,041	2,949	3,990	200	+ 1	+ 1
Aberdeen	655	3,091	3,746	226	- 3	+ 8
Coatbridge & Airdrie	359	1,382	1,741	184	- 2	- 5
Total for the above Scottish Districts	9,527	33,182	42,709	213	- 1	+ 1
IRELAND.†						
Dublin District	6,955	5,568	12,523	320	+ 7	+ 14
Belfast District	3,502	344	3,846	96	+ 1	+ 3
Cork, Waterford, & Limerick District	4,243	5,009	9,252	377	+ 7	+ 19
Galway District	364	341	705	198	- 5	+ 17
Total for the above Irish Districts	15,064	11,262	26,326	246	+ 4	+ 10
Total for above 35 Districts in Sept., 1905.	161,290	221,684	382,974	221	+ 2	+ 6

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

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

LABOUR BUREAUX IN SEPTEMBER.

TWENTY Bureaux furnished Returns, of which thirteen can be compared with similar returns for a year ago. The figures of the remaining seven are not available for September, 1904.

(I.) Work done in September.

Name of Labour Bureau.	Applications by Workpeople during		Situations offered by Employers during		Workpeople found Work during	
	Sept., 1905.	Sept., 1904.	Sept., 1905.	Sept., 1904.	Sept., 1905.	Sept., 1904.
London.						
Battersea (Lavender Hill, S.W.) ...	153	189	7	23	7	23
Salvation Army (Whitechapel Rd., E.) ...	1,359	1,233	464	427	527	519
St. Pancras (Crownale Rd., N.W.) ...	279	232	37	66	24	74
Southwark (Borough Road, S.E.) ...	19	24	4	3	4	3
Hammersmith (Brook Green Rd., W.) ...	97	27	13	9	12	7
Finsbury (Rosebery Avenue, E.C.) ...	333	264	286	146	137	111
Westminster (Caxton Hall, Caxton Street, S.W.) ...	168	216	63	95	38	6
Kensington (Lancaster Road, W.) ...	183	132	18	6	28	24
Provincial.						
Ipswich (Fore Street) ...	67	54	31	16	22	11
Plymouth (Basket Street) ...	130	150	67	68	64	65
Liverpool (Dale Street) ...	319	206	4	6	4	5
Glasgow (158, George Street) ...	573	611	492	543	154	148
Wigan (Library Street) ...	88	168	16	10	16	10
Total of 13 Bureaux ...	3,768	3,486	1,502	1,418	1,037	1,066
London.						
Hampstead (Finchley Road, N.W.) ...	110	...	20	...	17	...
Islington (93, St. Paul's Rd., High-bury, N.) ...	1,409	...	31	...	304	...
Provincial.						
Newcastle-upon-Tyne (Pilgrim St.) ...	267	...	35	...	31	...
Coventry (3, Market Hall Arcade) ...	210	...	59	...	55	...
Eastbourne (Public Library) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dudley ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Manchester (Albert St., Deansgate) ...	286	...	8	...	22	...
Total of 20 Bureaux ...	6,060	...	1,684	...	1,474	...

(II.) Employment found for Workpeople during September, 1905.

Capacity in which employed.	No. per- manently engaged.	No. tem- porarily engaged.	Total.
Engaged by Private Employers.			
Men:—			
Building Trades ...	28	73	101
Carmen, Stablers, &c. ...	16	12	28
Porters and Messengers ...	38	13	51
Bill Distributors ...	...	8	8
General Labourers ...	2	8	10
Other Occupations ...	110	35	145
Lads and Boys ...	28	10	38
Women and Girls:—			
Domestic Servants ...	51	15	66
Charwomen, daily work, &c. ...	13	92	105
Other Occupations ...	59	2	61
Total engaged by Private Employers ...	404	260	664
Engaged by Local Authorities:—			
Men, Lads and Boys ...	3	726	729
Women and Girls ...	...	...	...
Engaged by Salvation Army ...			
...	...	81	81
Total of 20 Bureaux ...	407	1,067	1,474

(III.) Occupations of Workpeople on the Registers of 20 Bureaux at the end of September, 1905.

Name of Bureau.	Men.					Lads and Boys.	Women and Girls.
	Build- ing Trades.	Engin- eering Trades.	General Labour- ers.	Porters, Messen- gers, &c.	Other Occu- pations.		
London.							
Battersea ...	1	2	57	7	70	—	13
Salvation Army ...	60	23	128	38	310	—	—
St. Pancras ...	86	31	175	99	142	108	48
Southwark ...	6	5	—	2	1	4	4
Hammersmith ...	19	1	44	1	8	—	2
Finsbury ...	62	6	37	60	61	28	55
Westminster ...	15	26	171	276	367	74	371
Kensington ...	115	25	71	15	64	16	58
Hampstead ...	93	8	9	9	75	10	6
Islington ...	328	50	1,190	80	129	44	28
Provincial.							
Ipswich ...	2	2	21	4	10	13	15
Plymouth ...	39	4	36	23	62	4	—
Liverpool ...	5	5	100	1	60	14	26
Glasgow ...	59	50	90	38	85	26	175
Wigan ...	67	8	202	27	87	22	—
Newcastle-upon-Tyne ...	16	18	139	5	43	2	73
Manchester ...	137	117	359	43	275	46	—
Coventry ...	5	159	34	13	58	33	—
Eastbourne ...	74	10	80	7	50	—	—
Dudley ...	33	66	47	4	18	27	—
Total ...	1,222	618	3,020	782	1,975	471	874

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN SEPTEMBER.

DURING September 819 fresh applications (448 from domestic servants, &c.) for work were registered by eight bureaux furnishing returns, and 735 situations were offered by employers; work was found for 180 persons, of whom 106 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers, and mothers' helps). Of the 180 situations found for applicants, 134 were of a more or less permanent character, while 46 were temporary only.

The work done by the Bureaux during September is shown by the following Table. It will be noticed that as compared with a year ago there were fewer applicants, but more situations offered.

WORK DONE IN SEPTEMBER.

Name of Bureau.	Applications by Work- people during		Situations offered by Employers during		Number of Workpeople engaged by Employers.			
	Sept., 1905.	Sept., 1904.	Sept., 1905.	Sept., 1904.	Perma- nently.	Tempo- rarily.	Sept., 1905.	Sept., 1904.
Summary by Bureaux.								
Central Bureau ...	76	87	61	51	20	24	4	2
9, Southampton St., W.C. Y.W.C.A.—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
26, George Street, (11)...	434	517	462	413	58	60	10	18
Hanover Sq., W. (12)...	119	175	88	76	16	28	21	5
Other Bureaux (Liverpool, Manchester, Watford, Edinburgh and Dublin) ...	190	132	122	101	40	30	11	7
Total of 8 Bureaux ...	819	911	735	641	134	142	46	32
Summary by Occupations.								
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc. ...	59	40	19	17	6	7	1	—
Shop Assistants ...	18	28	3	2	—	—	—	—
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc. ...	66	118	53	47	15	22	15	5
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists ...	60	51	26	10	7	5	11	4
Apprentices and Learners ...	3	5	22	21	2	4	—	—
Domestic Servants, etc. ...	448	489	553	460	89	85	17	21
Miscellaneous ...	165	171	59	84	15	19	2	2
Total ...	819	911	735	641	134	142	46	32

LONDON CENTRAL EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE.

THE Central Employment Exchange is intended to act as a "clearing house" for the local labour bureaux, its purpose being, in cases where applications cannot be met at one bureau, to endeavour to meet them by making use of the remaining affiliated bureaux.

In September six* of the London Municipal Labour Bureaux made daily reports to the Central Exchange of the whole number of fresh applications for employment, and of such situations offered by employers as they were unable to fill from among their own registered applicants. This information was at once circulated by post to all the bureaux, so that each bureau became aware of the requirements of the rest. In addition, the vacancies reported were at once notified by telephone to the particular bureaux at which applicants have recently registered under the occupations concerned.

The results week by week in September are shown in the following Table:—

Period.	Total number of Fresh Applications by Work- people at Six Bureaux.	Total number of Situations offered which Local Bureaux were unable to fill.	Situations reported filled through Central Labour Exchange.
Week ended Sept. 2nd ...	327	10	—
" " 9th ...	215	12	1
" " 16th ...	183	21	6
" " 23rd ...	161	50	9
" " 30th ...	209	8	29

From the above figures it will be seen that of the 101 situations in the five weeks ended September 30th, 1905, which individual bureaux were unable to fill, the Central Exchange filled 45 with the aid of other bureaux.

* Westminster, Chelsea, Kensington, Hampstead, Islington, St. Pancras.

STATE LABOUR REGISTRIES IN CONNECTICUT.

Ten States of the American Union laws providing for the establishment of free public employment bureaux have been passed. With one exception offices established in conformity with such laws are under the jurisdiction or supervision of the Commissioner of Labour for the particular State.

The law establishing such registries in Connecticut was passed on May 29th, 1901, and offices were accordingly opened in each of the five towns of Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven, Norwich, and Waterbury. An account of the operations of these registries during the year ended November 30th, 1904, is to be found in the twentieth annual report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics of Connecticut, which has recently appeared.

The total number of applicants for employment during these twelve months was 12,724 (5,350 males and 7,374 females), a decrease of 484 as compared with the previous year. There were, in the same period, 9,283 situations offered by employers (2,667 for males, 6,616 for females), or 1,445 less than in 1903. The total number of situations secured was 7,875 (2,506 for males and 5,369 for females), a decrease of 305 compared with 1903. Situations were secured for 47 per cent. of the male, and 73 per cent. of the female applicants, or 62 per cent. of both sexes combined.

It is to be noted that a large proportion of the successful applicants obtained employment as farm hands (1,086 out of 2,506), while 493 obtained situations as "labourers," "general workers," "boys," or in "miscellaneous occupations." Out of 5,369 female applicants placed in situations 2,453 obtained employment in "general housework," the next largest groups being those of waitresses, cooks and laundresses.

INDUSTRIAL UNIONS AND SOCIETIES REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN SEPTEMBER.

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO LABOUR RECEIVED DURING SEPTEMBER.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Mines and Quarries, 1904. Part II. Labour. Persons employed at Mines and Quarries; accidents; prosecutions; employment of boys at Mines; health and safety, &c. [Cd. 2734: pp. 89: price 11d.]

Statistics of Proceedings under the Workmen's Compensation Acts, 1897 and 1900, and the Employers' Liability Act, 1880, during the year 1904. [Cd. 2727: pp. 43: price 4½d.]

Merchant Shipping (Loss of Life). Return showing the lives lost by Wreck, Drowning or Other Accident in British Seagoing Merchant Ships registered in the United Kingdom, during the years 1891 to 1904 inclusive. [Cd. 2639: pp. 2: price ½d.]

Tables showing the progress of Merchant Shipping in the United Kingdom and the Principal Maritime Countries, 1904. Contain information as to wages, numbers employed, and conditions of employment of seamen in the United Kingdom, &c. [H.C. 297: pp. 87: price 8½d.]

Seamen's Wages. Report of Committee appointed by the Board of Trade to consider the operation of the existing provisions of the law—Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, and Merchant Shipping (Mercantile Marine Fund) Act, 1898—relating to various matters. [H.C. 334: pp. 8: price 1½d.]

Railway Accidents. Returns of Accidents and Casualties during the three months ended 31st March, 1905, together with Reports of the Inspecting Officers upon certain Accidents which were inquired into. [Cd. 2721: pp. 197: price 1s. 9d.]

Railway Returns. Returns of the Capital, Traffic, Receipts and Working Expenditure of the Railway Companies of the United Kingdom for the year 1904. Contains Table showing the total wages paid by each company in the years 1899-1904 upon maintenance and renewal of permanent way, traffic service, repairs and renewal of rolling stock. [Cd. 2623: pp. liii. + 98: price 1s. 3d.]

Board of Education. Reports on Children under five years of age in Public Elementary Schools by Women Inspectors of the Board of Education. Wages, occupation, &c., of parents are given in some cases. [Cd. 2726: pp. iii. + 155: price 8½d.]

Departmental Committee on Fruit Culture in Great Britain. Minutes of Evidence with Appendices and Index. [Cd. 2719: pp. 511: price 4s. 2d.]

Annual Report of Proceedings under the Sale of Food and Drugs, Merchandise Marks, Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs and Board of Agriculture Acts for 1904 (Board of Agriculture and Fisheries). Cost of cultivation of certain products, wages compared, &c. [Cd. 2637: pp. 126: price 6d.]

Report of the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis for the year 1904. Authorised strength of Force, service, &c. [Cd. 2725: pp. 85: price 9d.]

Thirty-third Annual Report of the Local Government Board, 1903-04. Supplement containing the Report of the Medical Officer. [Cd. 2611: pp. xlvi + 622: price 4s. 9d.]

The Annual Local Taxation Returns, Scotland, for 1902-1903. Parish, School Board, County Council, Burgh, &c. Returns; rates per £ in each rating area. [H.C. 341: pp. liv.: price 3s.]

Report to the Local Government Board for Scotland on the Sanitary Condition of the Lews. [Cd. 2616: pp. 14, with photographs: price 5d.]

Irish Land Commission. Report for year ended 31st March, 1905. Includes Proceedings under the Labourers' Acts:—number of applications, rents fixed, average rent payable. [Cd. 2648: pp. 144: price 1s. 3d.]

Return of Proceedings under the "Land Law Acts," "Labourers' (Ireland) Acts, 1883-1891," "Land Purchase Acts" during the months of March, April, May and June, 1905. [Cd. 2672: pp. 54: price 5½d.]

Local Government Board, Ireland. Annual Report for the year ended March, 1905. Statistics of loans under the Housing of the Working Classes (Ireland) Act, 1890 to 1896, Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1899, and the Labourers' (Ireland) Acts; direct labour schemes; supply of seed potatoes, &c. [Cd. 2655: pp. 16 + 1. + 899: price 4s.]

BRITISH INDIA AND BRITISH COLONIES.

East India (Railways). Administration Report for 1904. Capital, mileage, accidents, numbers employed, provident funds, coal mined, &c. [Cd. 2649: pp. 271 and map: price 3s.]

British East Africa Protectorate. Report on Working of the Uganda Railway and the Steamboat Service on Lake Victoria, 1904-05. Supply of native labour, wages paid, &c. [Cd. 2716: pp. 40: price 4d.]

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

Industrial Arbitration Reports and Records of New South Wales, 1905. Vol. IV. Part 2. Reports of 10 cases. [Sydney: W. A. Gullick, Government Printer: pp. vii. + 52 + xxv: price 5s.]

Commonwealth of Australia.—Provisional Regulations under the Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1904. Dated 5th April, 1905.

Western Australia.—Statistical Register for 1902 and previous years. Contains tables of wages paid; statistics of Savings Banks, Friendly and Building Societies; industrial establishments, numbers employed, &c. [Perth, W. A. Watson, Government Printer, 1904.]

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

United States.

Eleventh Special Report of the Commissioner of Labour, Washington, 1904. Regulation and Restriction of Output in the United States and in Great Britain. [Washington, Government Printing Office: pp. 932.]

Connecticut.—Twentieth Annual Report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics for the year ended 30th November, 1904. Municipal statistics—hours of labour and wages of municipal employees; statistics of manufactures: strikes and lock-outs; statistics of labour organisations: free employment offices; labour laws of Connecticut. [Meriden, Conn.: Journal Publishing Co.: pp. 567.]

Colorado.—Ninth Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics, 1903-1904. Women and children's eight-hour law; wages statistics; cost of living; strikes and lock-outs; trade union statistics, &c. [Denver; Smith-Brooks Printing Co., State Printers: pp. 299.]

Illinois.—Twelfth Biennial Report of the Bureau of Labour Statistics, 1902 (issued in 1904). Trade and labour unions of Illinois; strikes and lock-outs for 20 years; wages and hours of labour, &c. [Springfield, Ill.: Phillips Bros., State Printers: pp. viii. + 609.]

Indiana Bulletin on (1) Banks and Trust Companies, (2) Cities and Towns. Issued by the Bureau of Statistics, September 1st, 1905. [pp. 24.]

France.

Proceedings of Session of Higher Council of Labour, June, 1905. Subject under discussion, "Delai-Congé" (notice to be given of termination of contract between employer and workpeople). [Paris: Imprimerie Nationale, 1905: pp. xviii. + 135.]

Report on French Trade Unions for 1904-5. [Paris: Imprimerie Nationale, 1905: pp. xviii. + 804.]

Germany.

Statistics of Sickness Insurance in Germany in 1900-1904. [Berlin: A. Asher & Co., 1905: pp. 147.]

Belgium.

Belgium, 1830-1905. An account of the industrial and commercial development of Belgium. Ministry of Industry and Labour. Contains articles upon trade unions, employment registries, workmen's insurance, friendly societies, &c. [Brussels: J. Goemaere, 1905: pp. xx. + 870.]

Holland.

Report on Railways of Holland for 1904. [The Hague: Gebr. van Cleef, 1905: pp. 373 and Tables.]

Italy.

Reports on Colonies of Italian Emigrants in Germany, Belgium, Holland, Scandinavia, Russia, &c. Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Emigration Department. [Rome, 1905: pp. 382.]

Switzerland.

Documents in preparation for the Swiss Federal Census of August 9th, 1905. Instructions for enumerators, copies of schedules, &c. (Berne, 1905).

Denmark.

Report on Factory Inspection in Denmark, 1903-1904. [Copenhagen, 1905: pp. 60.]

Russia.

Second and Final Volume of Report of First Census of the Russian Empire (taken January 28th, 1897). Statistical Department. [St. Petersburg, 1905: pp. lix. + 417.]

Spain.

Report on Industrial Accidents in Spain during 1904. Spanish Labour Department. [Madrid: Succesora de M. Minuesa de los Rios, 1905: pp. 73.]

Sweden.

Report on Regulation of Superannuation Allowances on State Railways in Sweden. [Stockholm, 1905: pp. x. + 388.]

Consular Reports. Annual Series. No. 3496. *Trade of South Italy, 1904. Supplementary.* Emigration statistics, number and destination of emigrants in 1904; growth of cotton, &c. [Cd. 2632-21: pp. 28: price 2d.]

_____ No. 3501. *Trade of Belgium, 1904.* Miners' disease in the Liège district; coal output, &c. [Cd. 2682-26: pp. 53: price 3d.]

_____ Miscellaneous Series. No. 638. *The Chemical, Metal and other Industries of Lyons.* Statistics of production, and numbers employed in certain industries. [Cd. 2683-2: pp. 8: price ½d.]

_____ No. 640. *Scheme for the Extension of the Port of Antwerp.* [Cd. 2683-4: pp. 11 with map: price 7d.]

(The Consular Reports may be obtained direct from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C., or through any Bookseller.)

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

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