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## STATE OF EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER.

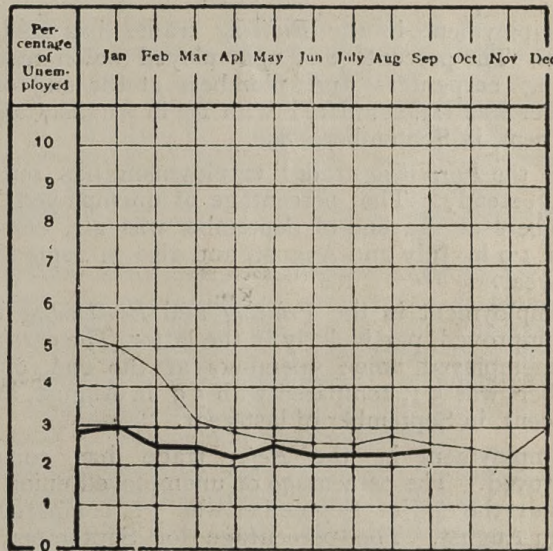
[Based on 2,457 returns, viz.: 1,715 from Employers, 582 from Trade Unions, and 160 from other sources.]

DURING September the general state of employment has continued steady and good. The percentage of unemployed members returned by trade unions was still lower than at any similar period since 1889.

In the 123 trade unions making returns, with an aggregate membership of 502,915, 12,129 (or 2.4 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of September, compared with 2.3 in June, July, and August, and with 2.6 per cent. in the 117 unions, with a membership of 467,075, from which returns were received for September, 1898.

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

Chart showing the percentage of unemployed members of the trade unions making returns at the close of each completed month of 1898 and 1899. [The thick line applies to 1899, the thin line to 1898.]



### Employment in various Industries.—Coal Mining.—

Employment generally continues good. Returns relating to collieries, at which 390,144 workpeople were employed, show that the average number of days worked per week was 5.40 in the four weeks ended September 23rd, as compared with 5.18 in August, and 5.37 in September, 1898. The increase as compared with August is largely attributable to the August holidays. The above statements do not include pits in South Wales and Monmouthshire, work not having been resumed in 1898 at the associated collieries until after the commencement of the period dealt with here. (For further details see page 299.)

**Iron Mining.**—Employment generally continues good. Returns relating to 128 iron mines and open works at which 16,874 workpeople were employed, show that the average number of days worked per week was 5.83 in the four weeks ended September 23rd, as compared with 5.74 in August, and 5.82 in September, 1898. (For further details see page 299.)

**Pig Iron Industry.**—Employment in this industry at the end of September was practically unchanged as compared with August, and continued better than a year ago. At the works of 116 ironmasters 380 furnaces were in blast at the end of September, and at the end of August, as compared with 356 a year ago. The estimated number of workpeople employed was 25,384 at the end of September, 25,443 at the end of August, and 23,620 at the end of September, 1898. (For further details see page 300.)

**Iron and Steel Manufacture.**—Employment has remained good during September, and is better than either a year ago or a month ago. At the 218 works from which returns have been received, 82,110 workpeople were employed in the week ended September 30th, 81,108 in the week ended August 26th, and 78,863 in the week ended October 1st, 1898, the average number of shifts worked in these three weeks being 5.62, 5.47, and 5.57 respectively. (For further details see page 300.)

**Timplate Trade.**—Employment in this industry continues to improve, and is much better than a year ago. At the end of September 411 mills were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of black-plates) employing an estimated number of 20,813 workpeople. These figures compare with 390 mills employing 19,683 workpeople, at the end of August, and 306 mills employing 15,585 workpeople at the end of September, 1898. (For further details see page 300.)

Employment in the **Engineering and Metal** trades has remained steady and good. The percentage of unemployed union members in this group of trades at the end of September was the same as in August, viz., 2.6, which was also the percentage in September, 1898.

In the **Shipbuilding** trades employment has remained brisk, the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of September being 1.6, compared with 1.5 in August. The percentage for September, 1898, was 4.1.

Employment in the **Building** trades has continued good. The percentage of unemployed union members among carpenters and plumbers at the end of September was 1.3, compared with 1.2 in August, and 0.9 per cent. in September, 1898.

In the **Furnishing** trades employment has remained fairly steady. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of September was 2.1, compared with 1.9 in July and August, and also in September of last year.

Employment in the **Printing and Bookbinding** trades has improved, particularly in the latter. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of September was 5.1, compared with 5.9 in August, and 4.6 per cent. in September of last year.

Employment in the **Paper** trade has somewhat improved. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of September was 3.6, compared with 4.1 in August. The percentage for September, 1898, was also 3.6.

In the **Glass** trades the percentage of unemployed union members at the end of September was 6.1, compared with 10.1 in September of last year.

Employment in the **Leather** trades is good. The percentage of unemployed union members at the end of September was 3.2, compared with 2.5 in August, and 5.4 per cent. in September, 1898.

Employment in the **Boot and Shoe** trade, although good in a few centres, is dull on the whole.

Employment in the bespoke branch of the **Tailoring** trade has improved. In the ready-made branch it has improved in most of the provincial centres, and is fairly good generally.

Employment continues very good in the **Spinning and Weaving** branches of the **Cotton** trade. Information respecting **Cotton** factories employing about 83,500 women and girls, shows that 96 per cent. of those in **Spinning** mills, and 98 per cent. of those in **Weaving** factories, were working in factories giving full employ-

ment during the month, compared with 97 per cent. in each case in August, and with 90 and 74 per cent. respectively a year ago. (For further details see page 303.)

Employment in both the **Woolen and Worsted** trades continues very good. In the **Hosiery** trade also employment continues good.

**Dock and Riverside Labour in London.**—Employment at the docks and wharves has improved during the month, and has been, on the whole, better than either a month or a year ago. During the five weeks ended September 30th an average number of 15,431 labourers were employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves, as compared with averages of 14,460 in the preceding four weeks, and 14,913 in September, 1898. (For further details see page 302.)

**Agricultural** labourers in England were generally fully employed in September. A few casual men in one or two of the South Western Counties were in irregular work at the latter part of the month, mainly owing to lack of hoeing due to the drought. (For further details see page 301.)

**Trade Disputes.**—Fifty-four fresh disputes occurred in September, 1899, involving 8,858 workpeople. The corresponding number of disputes in August was 33, involving 10,232 workpeople, and in September, 1898, 52, involving 7,644 workpeople. Of the 54 fresh disputes in September, 1899, 3 occurred in the building trade, 11 in mining and quarrying, 14 in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades, 12 in textile trades, 8 in transport trades, and 6 in other industries. Of the 65 new and old disputes, involving 45,851 workpeople, of which the termination is reported, 19, involving 2,327 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 24, involving 37,990 persons, in favour of the employers; 16, involving 4,822 persons, resulted in a compromise, while in the case of the remaining 6 disputes, involving 712 persons, work was resumed pending further negotiations. (For further details see page 316.)

**Changes in Rates of Wages.**—All the changes reported in September were increases. The total number affected was 189,033 and the average advance in the rates of wages of these workpeople amounted to 9.3d. per head. The trades most affected were coal mining (130,088), and iron and steel manufacture (47,177). Only 3,550 or 1.3 per cent. of the workpeople who obtained advances were involved in disputes causing stoppage of work; 169,899 workpeople obtained their advances by the operation of sliding scales in the coal mining and metal trades; 2,549 as the result of conciliation or arbitration without previous stoppage of work; and 13,035 by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople or otherwise. (For further details see page 312.)

#### HOME OFFICE ORDER.

##### Meal Hours in Factories and Workshops—Extension of Special Exceptions to Flax, Jute, and Hemp Factories.

An Order under Section 52 of the **Factory and Workshop Act, 1878**, issued from the Home Office on September 6th, came into force on October 1st. By this Order the special exceptions to the provisions with regard to a single time for meals for all children, young persons, and women in a factory or workshop are extended to textile factories in which the material used is flax, jute or hemp, subject to the following conditions:—(1) One set of meal hours shall be appointed for the children, young persons, and women whose sole employment in the factory is the sweeping and removal of waste from the floors ("sweepers"); another set for all other children, young persons, and women. (2) All sweepers shall have the same hours for meals, and shall not during those hours be employed in the factory. (3) All other children, young persons, and women, shall have the same hours for meals, and shall not during those hours be employed. (4) At the entrance of the factory there shall be posted a list of all sweepers employed, with a statement of the meal hours appointed for them. (5) In every room in which both sweepers and other persons are employed there shall be at least 1,000 cubic feet of air space to each person employed.

#### HARVEST WAGES IN 1899.

RETURNS have been received from 149 farmers in the Midland, Eastern, Home, and Southern and South Western Counties giving the cash earnings, exclusive of perquisites, of 2,273 men employed at harvest by them.

Generally speaking the returns show that the rates of harvest wages were about the same as last year in the majority of cases, though there was an upward tendency in some counties. Looking at the general results, the harvest was a good one for both the employers and the men who were employed. The employers, owing to the crops not being beaten down, were able to use self-binding machines, and thus save labour, and also, owing to the fine weather, were able to get the harvest in very rapidly, while the men who were paid a lump sum for the harvest and those engaged at piecework were also able to get through the work quickly and without interruption. Consequently they earned their harvest money in a short time, and were free to go on with other work at the current rate of weekly wages. An employer writes from Gloucestershire that, "A lot of the corn was fit to carry straight from the binders without stooking."

In the majority of cases in the districts for which returns have been received, the harvest was over before the beginning of September, and in some of the South Western counties in the first half of August.

In the great corn-growing counties of Cambridgeshire, Essex, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Lincolnshire the average cash earnings per man for the entire harvest are estimated, on the basis of the returns received, at £7 11s., and in the Midland, Home, Southern and South Western counties grouped together, at £4 12s.

In addition to cash payments, beer or cider is given in a number of cases, and sometimes light refreshments, such as tea, bread, butter, and cheese. Overtime is also sometimes paid for. In Norfolk and Suffolk 1s. is often given for hiring money, and also "horkey" money *i.e.*, about 2s. 6d. for a supper at harvest.

Taking the case of Norfolk and Suffolk, where the usual custom is to pay a lump sum for the harvest, the rates generally varied from £6 10s. to £7. In some cases rather lower, in others rather higher rates were paid. Sometimes a certain number of acres is allotted to each man and sometimes not. If the weather is not favourable for harvest work, employers often employ their men at other work at the ordinary rate of weekly wages. A large employer of labour in Suffolk states that he paid £7 to about 100 men on the farms he manages, this being the same amount as he paid last year. Each man was paid £7 for 13 acres and in addition was given 3 bushels of malt, and 3 lbs. of hops. Ten shillings an acre was given for cutting and carting every acre over the 13 stipulated acres. Frequently the harvest was completed in 16 to 20 working days, and in some cases in less. In most cases in these counties it was over before the end of August. A report from the Forehoe Union of Norfolk states "that the harvest of 1899 has been the lightest and quickest on record, and plenty of farmers were little over 14 days."

In the fen districts in Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire the harvest is usually done by piecework. This year the men were able to get through their work very quickly, but fewer were employed than last year, when the heavy crops were much laid, and the self-binders could not be so generally used. In other parts of Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire, in addition to the piecework system, a daily, weekly, or monthly wage is paid. Thus on a farm in the Louth Union of Lincolnshire, where about 40 men were at work at harvest, some were employed at piecework, at 5s. 6d. to 7s. per acre, each man taking 20 to 25 acres, while some were paid £7 a month, and others 5s. a day.

Turning to the Midland, Home, and Southern and South Western counties, in addition to the systems of payment already referred to, the custom is in some districts to pay the ordinary weekly wages, and in addition, to give a bonus at the end of harvest, or else to pay overtime money; or to pay double the weekly wages

during harvest; or to give extra wages for a month certain, and then pay the ordinary weekly wages. A large employer of labour in Northamptonshire writes that he paid at the following rates:—"4s. 8d. per day during harvest month, but nearly all men have piece work (cutting with machine, mowing or tying), at which they earned from 5s. 6d. to 7s. per day, so that they received from £6 to £7 6s. for the month." Extra money, in addition to the usual weekly cash wages, was paid for harvest work done before and after the month.

The Northern counties have been excluded from the returns, as the majority of the men there are hired by the year or half-year, paid an "upstanding wage," that is, in wet weather and sickness, and given no extra money for harvest, though they are often supplied with extra food and drink. Except in Northumberland, where the system of engagement closely resembles that in the Border counties and the Lothians in Scotland, the married men attached to the staff of a farm are usually paid extra money wages, and often given food and drink. Extra hands in these districts, both English and Irish, get from £4 to £6 a month, frequently with an allowance of food and drink. In some of the more Northern districts, the weather broke up before the harvest was all in, and some corn was still out early in October.

With regard to the supply of labour at harvest, a number of employers report that they had difficulty in getting a sufficient supply of men, but it is generally stated that the increased use of the self-binders, which was noticeable on small as well as large farms, and the continuous spell of fine weather, enabled farmers to do with fewer hands.

#### WAGES IN THE COTTON SPINNING TRADE.

##### PROPOSED SCHEME FOR CONCILIATION.

At the conference on March 20th, at which an advance in the wages of cotton spinners in the Federation area was agreed upon, the operatives' representatives undertook "to seriously consider any proposals which may be submitted for the purpose of trying to arrive at some agreement by which wages shall be governed by the state of trade, and to submit such proposals to our members." (See GAZETTE for April, 1899, pages 99 and 100.)

On September 14th accordingly a conference was held between representatives of the parties to consider a series of proposals drawn up by the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Associations with this end. Three proposals were put forward, of which the first was "arbitration pure and simple, with an independent chairman." The second was as follows:—

(1.) That a Conciliation Board be formed, to consist of an equal number of representatives of employers and operatives.

(2.) The present rate of wages being based upon the state of trade in 1898, it is agreed that the percentage of profit in that year shall be ascertained, in accordance with a scheme to be hereinafter mutually agreed upon, and be made the standard rate of profit on capital in the future adjustment of wages.

(3.) No increase of wages shall be made unless the profit on capital during the 12 months immediately preceding the giving of the notice mentioned in paragraph 6 hereof shall be more than 2 per cent. per annum above the standard rate of profit fixed by the last preceding paragraph; nor shall any reduction of wages be made unless the profit on capital during the period aforesaid shall have been less than 2 per cent. per annum below the standard rate of profit.

(4.) Any advance of wages shall be at the rate of 2½ per cent. for every 2 per cent. rise of profit above the said standard rate of profit and any reduction of wages shall be at the said rate of 2½ per cent. for every 2 per cent. fall of profit below the said standard rate of profit. And no advance or reduction of wages shall be made unless the rise or fall of profit, as the case may be, reaches at least 2 per cent.

(5.) There shall, however, be a limit to the advances or reductions of wages, which limit shall be 10 per cent. above or below the standard rate of profit, thus making a range of 20 per cent.

(6.) Three months' notice shall be given of any application for an advance or reduction of wages.

(7) The provisions of clause 4 of the Brooklands Agreement, and, so far as applicable, the other provisions of that agreement, shall apply to any advance or reduction of wages under this scheme.

The third proposal was for the formation of a joint committee of employers and operatives to consider whether any other scheme could be framed.

It was agreed that these proposals should be laid before the operatives, and that a further joint meeting should then be arranged.

EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS IN FRANCE IN 1898.

THE French Commission which is charged with the duty of supervising the execution of the law relating to the regulation of the labour of women and children ("Commission Supérieure du Travail"), has recently published its report on the working of the factory laws in 1898.\* The total number of factories and workshops subject to inspection under the factory laws in 1898 is reckoned to have been 299,468, employing 2,633,570 workpeople, while the number of such factories and workshops actually visited in the course of the year by the inspectors was 122,607 (40.9 per cent. of the whole), in which were employed 1,872,970 workpeople (71.1 per cent. of all the persons employed in factories and workshops liable to factory inspection). These 1,872,970 workpeople were of the age and sex shown below:—

Age.	Number Employed in Establishments Inspected.	
	Male.	Female.
12 and under 13 years (with certificates) ...	1,087	861
13 and under 16 years ...	86,899	80,580
16 and under 18 years ...	66,945	67,160
Total children and young persons ...	154,931	148,601
18 and under 21 years ...	1,109,905	105,107
21 years and over ...		354,426
Grand Total ...	1,264,836	608,131

Children of 12 and under 13 years are admitted to factories and workshops (other than workshops in which the only persons employed are parents and their children) only if furnished with certificates attesting physical fitness and the completion of primary studies; and in respect of the illegal employment of children under 13 years there took place, in 1898, 303 prosecutions (compared with 435 and 359 in the years 1896 and 1897 respectively.)

It is stated that the usual length of the working day is 11 hours, though in some cases 10 hours only are worked. So far as concerns the legal provisions regulating the length of the working day (including the law of September 9th, 1848, restricting the duration of the employment of adult males in certain classes of establishments to 12 hours in the day), the number of cases in which infractions of the law were detected by the factory inspectors fell from 3,000 in 1897 to 1,002 in 1898. The group of trades, in which by far the greatest number of contraventions of the law in regard to this point was discovered, was that comprising millinery, dress-making, and the manufacture of under-linen, etc., no less than 344 cases of infringement having been found in this group.

The law requires that women and children shall have one day's rest in seven; and the report states that this requirement is complied with in the larger establishments, though not always in smaller workplaces. The total number of infringements of the law by not allowing workpeople to cease work on one day out of seven or on legal holidays was, in 1898, 712, of which 169 took place in regard to the same group of dress trades.

The number of accidents reported under the Factory Acts has steadily increased, rising from 14,954 in 1894

\* Journal Officiel, August 16th and 17th, 1899.

to 28,954 in 1897, and 35,433 in 1898. This increase is attributed by the factory inspectors to improvement in notification; and they are convinced that accidents have in reality diminished both in number and in seriousness. Of the total number of 35,603 persons injured or killed by the accidents notified in 1898, 30,843 were adult males, and 1,270 were women above 18 years of age.

The enforcement of the factory laws in mines, open-works and quarries is entrusted to the Government mining engineers, the total number of such establishments liable to inspection in 1898 being stated as 40,331, employing in all 297,787 workpeople, of whom it is reckoned that 33,687 (11.3 per cent.) were protected persons. The number of such persons employed by the establishments visited by the mining inspectors in 1898 was 30,685 (91.1 per cent. of the total number of protected persons). It is remarked that, speaking generally, there has been of recent years a tendency to employ in mines a greater number of lads of from 16 to 18 years of age, a fact attributed to the activity of the coal trade and the difficulty of finding an adequate number of adult miners. Out of the total number of 167,765 workpeople employed in and about mines of all descriptions in 1898, 26,049 were protected persons, of whom 69 were children under 13 years, 2,486 were girls of 13 and under 18, 3,920 were women of 18 years and upwards, 10,249 were boys of 13 and under 16, and 9,325 were lads of 16 and under 18 years.

PRICES OF COAL AND IRON.

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

Product and District.	Number of work-people.	Period over which prices were ascertained at last audit.	Date from which last audit affects wages.	Average ascertained selling price per ton.		
				According to last audit.	According to previous audit.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in price per ton.
<b>Coal.</b>						
Northumberland— (Average for all classes of coal at pit's mouth)	30,000	June, July, Aug.	—	s. d. 7 4/41	s. d. 6 11/91	+ 0 4/5
South Wales and Monmouth— (Average for certain classes of coal, free on board)	125,000	July, Aug., Sept.	1st Oct.	11 1/71 to 11 3/43	10 8/57 to 10 10/29	+ *
<b>Pig Iron.</b>						
Cumberland ...	1,350	July, Aug., Sept.	1st Oct.	74 2/652	65 4/487	+ 8 10/165
Cleveland ...	5,500	July, Aug., Sept.	1st Oct.	55 2/38	47 11/70	+ 7 2/68
<b>Manufactured Iron.</b>						
North of England— (Rails, plates, bars and angles)	6,000	July, Aug., Sept.	2nd Oct.	127 0/04	120 6/25	+ 6 5/79
Midlands— (Bars, hoops, sheets, plates, and strips)	20,000	July, Aug., Sept.	9th Oct.	143 7/86	137 10/69	+ 5 5/17
West of Scotland— (Rounds, squares, flats, angles, tees, hoops and rods)	3,500	July, Aug., Sept.	2nd Oct.	129 9/91	123 11/60	+ 5 10/31

An increase in the average selling price is shown for every district, and in the case of the iron industry the increases are considerable. As a result the wages of the coal miners in South Wales and Monmouthshire have been increased 3 1/2 per cent.; the wages of the blastfurnacemen in Cumberland and Cleveland, 1 1/4 and 9 per cent. respectively, and in the North of England, the Midlands, and the West of Scotland the wages of the puddlers have been increased 3d. per ton, and those of the millmen 2 1/2 per cent.

As compared with the corresponding period in 1898 the price of pig-iron shows a large advance—in Cumberland 21s. 9d. per ton (52s. 6d. to 74s. 3d.), and in Cleveland 14s. 11d. (40s. 3d. to 55s. 2d.). The increase in the price of manufactured iron, over the same period is, in the North of England 22s. 1d. per ton (104s. 11d. to 127s.), and in the Midlands 21s. 10 (121s. 10d. to 143s. 8d.)

\* The exact amount of the difference cannot be stated.

CO-OPERATION IN GERMANY IN 1898.

THE Year-book\* for 1898 of the Federation of German Co-operative Societies on the Schulze-Delitzsch system, which has recently been issued, gives the total number of co-operative societies (on all systems) in Germany as 16,912 on March 31st, 1899, compared with 16,069 on April 30th, 1898, a net increase of 843 in the eleven months.

The following table shows the number and character of the various kinds of co-operative societies in the German Empire in each of the years 1896-9:—

	No. of Societies on			
	May 31st, 1896.	May 31st, 1897.	April 30th, 1898.	March 31st, 1899.
Credit Associations ...	8,069	9,417	10,259	10,850
Supply (Materials) Associations:				
Industrial ...	58	66	73	82
Agricultural ...	1,085	1,128	1,167	1,193
Supply (Instruments of Production) Associations:				
Industrial ...	21	23	30	34
Agricultural ...	248	377	455	482
Productive Sale Depot Associations:				
Industrial ...	56	68	70	67
Agricultural ...	19	45	83	106
Associations for Production:				
Industrial ...	129	172	179	193
Agricultural ...	1,604	1,765	1,932	2,017
Insurance, etc. Associations	184	207	233	271
Associations for Distribution (Stores) ...	1,400	1,409	1,396	1,373
Building Associations ...	132	165	192	244
Total ...	13,005	14,842	16,069	16,912

It will be seen that, as in former years, the bulk of the increase in the number of co-operative societies in 1898-99 is due to the formation of credit societies.

The aggregate membership in 1898 returned by the 962 credit societies, which made returns to the Federation was 539,443. These societies had a total paid-up share capital of £6,811,784, a loan capital of £28,174,948 and reserve funds amounting to £2,164,428. The sums advanced in 1898 amounted to £101,364,539. The trade expenses were £1,320,375 (viz., £951,370, interest payable to creditors, £346,848, expenses of administration, and £22,157, depreciation). The losses and bad debts for the year amounted to £49,916, and the profits to £553,316, from which sum £147,256 was credited to reserve funds, £371,877 to dividend on shares, and £3,485 was devoted to educational and similar purposes.

The 513 distributive (store) societies making returns show an aggregate membership of 436,873, a share capital of £491,563, a loan capital of £471,311, and reserve funds amounting to £175,695. The sales in 1898 amounted to £5,575,293 (including sales to the value of £818,797 effected through outside tradesmen). The trade expenses amounted to £326,624 (including £17,806 depreciation) and the net profit (after allowing for depreciation, but not for interest on shares) to £559,845, or 10.04 per cent. on sales. Sums amounting altogether to £1,191 were devoted to educational and similar purposes. Out of the 513 distributive (store) societies to which the foregoing figures relate, 68 carried on productive departments.

RAILWAY REGULATION ACT, 1893.

A report† has been issued as a Parliamentary Paper giving the details of the proceedings of the Board of Trade under the Railway Regulation Act, 1893, during the year ended 27th July, 1899. During the year 46 complaints of excessive hours were received, as compared with 50 in the previous year. This brings the total number of complaints for the six years during which the Act has been in operation up to 497. Of the 46 complaints, 13 affect the hours of signalmen and 11 those of drivers. The report shows a considerable shortening of hours brought about without the necessity of recourse to legal proceedings.

\* Jahrbuch des Allgemeinen Verbandes der auf Selbsthilfe beruhenden deutschen Erwerbs- und Wirtschaftsgenossenschaften für 1898. Berlin: Gutentag, 1899.

† Parliamentary Paper, No. 332. Price 2d.

THE RECENT LOCK-OUT IN DENMARK.

With respect to the recent lock-out in the building and other trades in Denmark (see GAZETTE for July, p. 202, and September, p. 267), a translation of the terms of settlement arrived at on the termination of this lock-out has been received, through the Foreign Office, from Sir E. Fane, H.M. Minister at Copenhagen, under date of September 21st, 1899.

Agreement between "Danish Employer and Master Association" and "The Co-operating Trades Unions."

All agreements concerning working hours, wages, price lists, arbitration rules, &c., which were in force, when the stoppage of work commenced, shall continue to exist subject to the modifications which result from the following decisions:—

The "Danish Employer and Master Association" and "the Co-operating Trades Unions" recognise hereby each other's right respectively to declare or approve of the stoppage of work, but nevertheless no lock-out or strike for any reason or of any extent whatever must be declared or approved of by either of the parties, until it has been decided upon by at least three-fourths of the votes of a meeting held and constituted according to the laws of the organisation in question. If it is decided at such a meeting to propose a stoppage of work, the select committee of the other head-organisation must be informed by special and registered letter at least a fortnight beforehand that it is intended, in accordance with the proposal, that the stoppage of work shall take place, and a further notice of at least seven days must be given before the decision to stop work is actually carried out. Each party pledges itself not to approve of or support any strike or lock-out, if it has been established in spite of the above decisions. It is also considered as a strike or a lock-out if workshops or working places are systematically depopulated, or are by degrees shut with the intervention of the head-organisation, or of any organisation under it, or with its expressed or tacit approbation, after notice having been called to the circumstance by the opposite party. It is further agreed that it shall be considered a breach of this agreement if workmen's—or employers'—organisations, which do not belong to the two head-organisations, or have withdrawn from them during dispute with any of these or of organisations under them, are subvented by either of the parties to this agreement.

Agreements which may be established between the two head-organisations shall be respected and obeyed by all organisations under them, the responsibility resting on the head-organisation concerned.

The right of the employers to direct and distribute the work, and, according to their own judgment, to employ at any time as many workpeople as they shall deem necessary shall be respected, and, if necessary, be supported by the workmen's head-organisations. But, in the case of workmen, one or more, who have been entrusted with a specified job at a fixed rate of payment (piece-work), and who are doing their work conscientiously, employers are not entitled to change the conditions, under which the work is being done, to the disadvantage of the workmen, without compensating the latter for whatever pecuniary loss they thereby sustain. If there is a dispute as to this, it shall be settled by experts, eventually by arbitration; also complaints from employers or workmen as to breaches of the principal rule or disrespect of it shall be dealt with in this way.

Foremen or leaders of work with fixed wages, while in such positions, shall have full liberty in the matter of not being members of workmen's organisations. By foremen and leaders of work with fixed wages are understood the persons who act as the employers' authorised representatives in directing the workmen, who do not take part in piece-work, and who are not interested in surplus profit on piece-work.

The time of notice for agreements concerning price lists and other working matters is fixed from this time forward at at least three months, while the term of notice shall be specially fixed in every agreement. Agreements already in force shall not be affected by this rule before their expiration after due notice.

After the end of the present dispute no kind of boycotting must take place on the part of any of the parties, either against employers or workmen.

At the end of the dispute all workmen commence work in the same working places, where they were employed at the beginning of the dispute. It is a matter of course that all working places will be opened simultaneously, and as far as possible to the same extent, as when work ceased. All workmen shall also, as far as possible, commence work in the same places, where they were employed before the lock-out.

Further, it is presumed as a matter of course, that the Co-operating Trades Unions are willing, together with the Employers'

Association, to work with all their power for quiet, durable and good working conditions, especially on the point, that no workman under any circumstances or by any organisation is to be hindered in using his natural right to carry out as much and as good work as his capability and education allow him. It must also be considered of special importance that the head-organisations work together to restrict excessive consumption of liquor, in such places where this occurs. It is also considered to be in the interest of both parties to have a time of notice between employers and workmen in each trade. The same is the case as regards the settlement of payment for overtime, apprentices' wages at piece-work, and the establishment of arbitration rules (for settlement of trade disputes), which should be as much as possible of the same wording in the different trades. The head-organisations therefore agree to work together to get a satisfactory solution of these matters.

If any subordinate organisation or a workman or an employer is charged with having broken the present agreement, the matter shall first be dealt with by the committees of the head-organisations (if there are no special rules in the existing agreements, or if it has not been possible to obtain a settlement on the basis of these rules). If a satisfactory settlement is not obtained thereby, either of the head-organisations can through its committee bring the question before the Court of Appeal, which has been approved of as venue, suing the other head-organisation, which is to be responsible for the party who is considered as having broken the agreement.

If one of the head organisations is charged with having broken the agreement, the question can also in the same way be brought before the same court.

The above agreement is to be signed by the committee of the Co-operating Trades Unions on behalf of all organisations belonging to the same, and the few workmen's associations not belonging to it, with binding effect for all the above mentioned organisations, and by the committee of the "Danish Employer and Master Association" for all associations and firms belonging to it, with binding effect on behalf of all those associations and firms.

The associations and unions belonging to the two head-organisations cannot—either before or after the establishment of the agreement—free themselves from the obligations contained in this agreement by ceasing to belong to the head-organisation. The obligations shall be in force until notice is given by one of the head-organisations.

PROVISIONAL REGULATIONS.

All points of dispute, which exist in the joiners' trade (including the complaint which was brought forward on the meeting on the 13th of last month by the joiner guilds section, which complaint was mentioned but not discussed), shall be treated and settled by a select committee, consisting of four members from each of the two head-organisations under the direction of an expert elected by them.

Any negotiations which shall result from this agreement shall include all workmen's unions affected by the dispute, whether they belong to the workmen's head-organisation or not.

The lock-out shall cease not later than three days after the agreement, which includes the dispute in the joiner trade, has been established.

Additional Agreement.

In addition to the above agreement, which has been signed to-day, the Joint Committee of the "Danish Employer and Master Association" and "the Co-operating Trade Unions" have further agreed to the following (with binding effect for the head-organisations mentioned):—

When practical working questions are to be settled, neither of the head-organisations shall adopt resolutions which are not in conformity with the stipulations of the above agreement.

If either of the head-organisations is of opinion that this rule has been broken, it can place the question before the Court of Appeal at Copenhagen until such time as there shall be established by law a permanent arbitration court (invested with the same authority as the ordinary courts of the country for deciding, upon evidence, causes brought before it), with power to determine finally matters of dispute between the employers and the workmen, represented by their respective head-organisations.

This arbitration court shall consist of seven members, of whom each of the parties will elect three, who are not members of the committee of the organisation in question; the chairman shall be elected by these six, and must be one of the jurists of the country.

As soon as this arbitration court has been established, it will take the place of the Court of Appeal in all matters concerning the above agreement (compare 10th and 11th parts of the agreement).

Existing written agreements between employers and workmen concerning working regulations in their respective trades will remain unaffected by the resolutions in the above agreement, part 4, and can only become void when notice has been given in a legal way. Copenhagen, September 1st, 1899.

DIVIDENDS ON PURCHASES PAID BY CO-OPERATIVE DISTRIBUTIVE SOCIETIES.

RETURNS showing the amounts and rates of dividend paid to members on purchases for the second quarter of 1899, have been received from 1,130 co-operative retail distributive societies in the United Kingdom, with a total membership of £1,472,099.

The returns from the 1,118 societies as grouped in Table I, show that 68.9 per cent. of the total members received dividends on their purchases ranging from 2s. 1d. to 3s. 6d. in the £, the average dividend for the United Kingdom being 2 7/8d. as compared with 2s. 7 6/8d., the average paid by the 956 societies which made returns for the corresponding period of 1898.

The total amount paid in dividend to members for the quarter was £1,076,628 in England and Wales, £352,170 in Scotland and £496 in Ireland, or a total for the United Kingdom of £1,429,294.

In Table II. the average dividend paid in the several districts is shown separately. From this it will be seen that in England and Wales the highest average dividend (3s. 1 3/3d.) was paid in the northern counties, the bulk of the societies being in the mining districts of Durham and Northumberland, and the lowest average dividend (1s. 4 8/5d.) in the London district, the average for the 857 societies in England and Wales being 2s. 7 2/1d., compared with 2s. 7 1/6d., the average returned by 738 societies for the corresponding period of 1898.

In Scotland the highest average dividend was also in the northern counties, being 2s. 11 6/1d., compared with 2s. 10 0/2d. in the southern counties, the average for 256 societies in Scotland being 2s. 10 6/4d., compared with 2s. 10 2/2d. returned by the 212 societies making returns for the corresponding period of 1898.

I. Dividends classified by Rate per £.

Rates of dividend per £1 of purchases.	Number of Societies.			Membership of Societies making returns for 2nd quarter of 1899.		Percentage for corresponding period of 1898.
	England and Wales.	Scotland and Ireland.	Total.	Number.	Percentage.	
No dividend ... ..	23	2	25	7,124	0.5	0.5
Stipense and under ... ..	17	1	18	7,043	0.5	0.5
Over 6d. but not exceeding 1s.	30	4	34	12,223	0.75	1.1
" 1s. od. .. .. 1s. 6d.	87	9	96	58,270	4.0	3.0
" 1 6 .. .. 2 0	157	23	180	228,085	15.5	15.7
" 2 0 .. .. 2 6	131	42	173	264,133	17.9	16.7
" 2 6 .. .. 3 0	181	72	253	337,715	23.0	20.7
" 3 0 .. .. 3 6	134	54	188	271,530	18.4	16.1
" 3 6 .. .. 4 0	78	34	112	126,924	8.6	8.7
" 4 0 .. .. 4 6	15	14	29	13,072	0.9	0.9
" 4 6 .. .. 5 0	4	2	6	3,034	0.2	0.2
" 5 0 .. .. ..	—	4	4	1,950	0.1	0.1
<b>Totals ... ..</b>	<b>897</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>1,118</b>	<b>1,472,099</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

II. Dividends classified by Districts.

Districts.	No. of Societies.	Membership.		Average Dividend.
		Number.	Percentage of total.	
<b>ENGLAND AND WALES:—</b>				
Northern Counties ... ..	113	198,320	13.5	s. d. 3 1 3/3
Lancashire and Cheshire ... ..	168	351,906	24.0	2 10 4/5
Yorkshire ... ..	194	298,015	20.2	2 9 3/1
N. and W. Midland ... ..	141	158,240	10.7	2 1 0/6
Wales and Monmouth ... ..	41	16,924	1.2	2 0 8/3
South Mid. and Eastern ... ..	99	74,461	4.9	1 10 9/1
Southern and Western ... ..	44	45,401	3.1	1 10 9/1
South-Eastern ... ..	48	40,324	2.7	1 9 0/0
London (12 mile radius) ... ..	29	35,752	2.4	1 4 8/5
<b>Totals: England and Wales ... ..</b>	<b>857</b>	<b>1,217,343</b>	<b>82.7</b>	<b>2 7 2/1</b>
<b>NORTH SCOTLAND ... ..</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>97,546</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>2 11 6/1</b>
<b>SOUTH " ... ..</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>156,060</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>2 10 0/2</b>
<b>Totals: Scotland ... ..</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>288,606</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>2 10 6/4</b>
<b>IRELAND ... ..</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1,150</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>1 1 2/7</b>
<b>Totals: United Kingdom ... ..</b>	<b>1,118</b>	<b>1,472,099</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>2 7 7/8</b>

The rates of dividend shown are those paid upon the main volume of trade. With few exceptions the societies paid a dividend to non-members at one-half the rates paid to members.

RECENT CONCILIATION & ARBITRATION CASES & COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS.

(a) CASES UNDER THE CONCILIATION ACT.

Bricklayers' and Labourers' Dispute at Leicester.

IN the last number of the GAZETTE (p. 264), it was stated that Sir W. Markby, K.C.I.E., had been appointed as arbitrator, to consider the application of the bricklayers' labourers at Leicester, for an advance in wages from 6d. per hour to 7d. Sir W. Markby heard the parties on September 19th. In the course of the inquiry a question was raised as to the reinstatement of the men on strike, and on ascertaining that the men objected to working with non-unionists, he arranged a further meeting on September 23rd. On this occasion, neither party raising an objection to his dealing with the question in his award, he announced his intention of doing so.

The award, which is dated September 23rd, fixes the standard rate of wages of bricklayers' labourers at 6 1/2d. per hour, and on the further question of the reinstatement of the men decides as follows:—

That the Master Builders shall reinstate all their old workmen at as early a date as possible and before putting on any new hands, and that the above-mentioned Labourers' Unions shall not interfere with any men at present employed except by using any legal means to induce such of them as are not members of either of the labourers' unions to become so.

(b) OTHER CASES.

Arbitration in the Mid-Lancashire Engineering Trade.

Early in the year the Amalgamated Society of Engineers and the Steam Engine Makers' Society applied for an advance of 2s. per week in Mid-Lancashire. At a conference in April the employers agreed to give an advance of 1s. per week on July 1st if trade continued as good as it then was. On the date fixed the employers refused to grant this advance, alleging that the state of trade did not warrant it. Notices to cease work were handed in to expire on August 3rd. These notices were, however, not put into effect, a conference being arranged between representatives of the Engineering Employers' Federation and the two trade societies involved. The conference was held on August 3rd and 4th, and resulted in an agreement that wages should be advanced by 1s. per week in the district in question for three months, and that in the meantime an umpire should be appointed to determine the question of the state of trade at the end of June as compared with the beginning of April. It was further agreed that if his decision were in favour of the men they should receive the arrears of the advance from July 1st, but that if it were against them no return of any increased wages should be made.

At the request of the two parties Lord James of Hereford acted as umpire, and his award is dated September 21st. He decided "that the trade in Mid-Lancashire at the end of June last was as good as at the beginning of April."

The advance of 1s. per week will therefore be continued until further notice, and arrears paid from July 1st up to the date at which the advance was provisionally granted.

The Mid-Lancashire district includes Blackburn, Bolton, Burnley, Bury, Darwen, Preston, Radcliffe, Ramsbottom, Rochdale, St. Helens, and Wigan. About 5,300 members of the two unions involved will secure the advance.

Arbitration in the Northampton Boot and Shoe Trade.

ON August 31st and September 1st 17 finishers employed at a boot and shoe factory in Northampton struck, alleging defects in the work given out to them and demanding the discharge of a foreman. The strike being a breach of the terms of settlement of the 1895 dispute, the men's names were struck off the roll of membership of the Union. On September 14th the firm's work was distributed over twelve factories in the town, but in many cases was refused by those employed at the factories. On the evening of the same day a

proposal was made by the men on strike for the resumption of work, the matters in dispute being dealt with by a special joint committee with an independent umpire. After further negotiations the following resolution was, on September 16th, signed by all the finishers on strike, and accepted by the president of the Manufacturers' Association:—

Resolved: That if the manufacturers agree to place the matter in dispute at Mr. ———'s on Monday the 18th inst. before Mr. James Manfield and a workman to be selected by the workmen themselves, who shall then, on their (the referees') part, choose an umpire not connected with the trade, we, the finishers, agree on our part to go in to work on Monday the 18th inst., at 7.30 a.m., and to loyally abide by whatever decision may be come to.

Work was accordingly resumed on September 18th. The following is the award of the arbitrators:—

We have held a long enquiry, and have arrived at the following decision, after giving the matter our best consideration:—

We find that the finishers had a just grievance in regard to the defects in the work given to them, but that they did not put their case properly before Mr. ———.

Without consulting the Union officials, or asking them to take up their grievances, they then illegally struck the shop, and, although Mr. ——— offered to have the defects remedied, they refused to return unless the foreman was removed from his post.

The whole trouble would doubtless have been avoided in its ultimately serious aspect as regards the whole trade if the men had not taken the matter out of the hands of their Union officials.

We do not exonerate the foreman from blame; he had a difficult position to occupy, but undoubtedly the strike would not have occurred had he shown more tact and consideration.

It is evident there is bad feeling between him and the finishers, and in our opinion there can be no peaceful settlement unless he is removed from his present position.

This is what we recommend.  
(Signed) JAMES MANFIELD.  
JAMES GRIBBLE.

Northampton, Sept. 19th, 1899.  
Conciliation Board for the Ironfounding Industry of the North-East Coast.

The arbitrators appointed by this Board to consider the application of the men for an advance of 2 1/2 per cent. on piece rates, and 1s. per week on time rates, issued their award on September 11th. The arbitrators decide:

"That no case has been made out by the Moulders' representatives for a general advance on piece and time rates, but we decide that 1s. per week advance be given on time rates, to level them up more nearly to other marine districts, to take effect the first full pay after the date of this award."

Yorkshire Glass Bottle Trade.

An agreement was signed on September 25th, by the representatives of the Yorkshire Glass Bottle Manufacturers' Association and the Yorkshire Glass Bottle Makers' Society providing for the procedure and rates of payment, when the "metal" out of which the bottles are to be made is found to be unfit for the purpose. The new arrangements, which supersede those agreed to in 1892, came into operation on October 9th.

CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION IN NEW ZEALAND 1898-99.

A SHORT account of the provisions of the New Zealand Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Acts, and of the working of those Acts in the year ended March 31st, 1898, was given in the GAZETTE for January, 1899, p. 7.

The following summary of the work of Conciliation Boards and the Arbitration Court in the year ended March 31st, 1899, is based on the report of the New Zealand Department of Labour for that year:—

During the year 25 fresh cases came before the local Conciliation Boards. In one of these cases the reference to the Board was withdrawn. Of the remaining 24 cases, 11 were subsequently referred to and dealt with by the Arbitration Court during the year. The Court also issued four awards during the year in connection with cases dealt with by Conciliation Boards in the previous year. These figures are exclusive of three cases of alleged breach of agreements dealt with by the Boards (one of which was referred to and dealt with by the Arbitration Court), and of one agreement between parties which was simply a renewal of a previous agreement.

The report states that an interesting point dealt with in several of the judgments is that of the preferential employment of trade-

unionists. The majority of the awards of the Arbitration Court and several of the decisions of the Conciliation Boards include clauses giving such preference. In several of the awards and recommendations the ratio of apprentices to journeymen is settled or advised upon.

A return in accordance with the provisions of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Acts shows that 132 Industrial Unions of employers and workpeople have been registered under the Act, of which 124 have a total membership of 14,882. Several of these Unions are grouped together as Industrial Associations, of which 8 have been registered.

#### WAGES OF SEAMEN.

THE recent agitation in the shipping trade originated with a circular sent to the leading shipowners throughout the country by the officials of the Seamen's and Firemen's Union. The circular asked for a conference on August 23rd, to consider four questions:—(1) A uniform rate of wages for vessels engaged in similar trades; (2) a proposal that the articles of agreement should be supplied to the men some time before they actually sign on; (3) the establishment of a manning scale; (4) the improvement in the provisioning of merchant vessels.

This circular not having produced the desired effect, a manifesto was issued by the leaders of the men, in which it was stated that mass meetings of sailors and firemen held in the chief seaports had resolved to demand on and after September 4th a uniform rate of £6 per month, or £1 15s. per week, for sailors and firemen in steamships, and £4 per month for sailors in sailing ships.

The attempt to secure such rates has not, however, been successful, though in some instances higher rates have been obtained than those previously paid. In the Changes in Wages Table, on page 314, particulars are given of the advances obtained in September in so far as they affected the predominant rates at the principal ports for certain voyages.

It will be seen from the Table that the ports most affected were those on the Tyne, Cardiff, Swansea, Leith and Glasgow as regards men on steamers; and Liverpool, Glasgow and Leith as regards men on sailing vessels.

#### LEGAL CASES AFFECTING LABOUR.

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

##### (1) Workmen's Compensation Act.

###### CONTRACTOR NOT A "WORKMAN."

In a case recently decided on appeal, a person, who had contracted with an employer to do certain work to which the Act applies (the employer being an "undertaker" within the meaning of the Act), and who had been injured while personally carrying out the contract, claimed compensation from this employer. On behalf of the defendant it was contended that the pursuer was not entitled to compensation, not being a "workman" within the meaning of the Act. The Court adopted this view, and gave decree in favour of the defendant.—*M'Gregor v. Dansken, Court of Session, reported September 1st.*

###### WHAT IS A FACTORY?

The servant of the owner of a chaff-cutting machine, worked by a steam engine, claimed compensation from his employer under the following circumstances. The defendant lets the engine and machine to anyone who desires to have hay and straw cut up together, or straw alone. On December 14th, 1898, the machine was being used on a farm for the purpose of cutting up oat straw and wheat straw mixed together, and was in the charge of the applicant, who was injured while attending to the machine. On behalf of the respondent it was objected that the employment of the applicant was not an employment to which the Act applies. By section 7 (1) "this Act shall apply only to employment by the undertakers as hereinafter defined, on or in or about a railway, factory, mine, quarry, or engineering work, and to employment . . . on, in or about any building which exceeds thirty feet in height, etc." By sub-section (2) "'Factory' has the same meaning as in the Factory and Workshop Acts, 1878 to 1891, and also includes any dock, wharf, quay, warehouse, machinery, or plant to which any provision of the Factory Acts is applied by the Factory and Workshop Act, 1895, and every laundry worked by steam, water, or other mechanical power." The County Court judge held that the applicant was not employed in an employment to which the Act applies, and gave judgment for the respondent.—*Watkinson v. Crouch, March County Court, May 8th, reported September 1st.*

##### (2) Factory and Workshop Acts:—Cotton Cloth Factories Acts.

###### FALSE READING OF THERMOMETER.

An operative, employed in a cotton weaving shed, was summoned by the factory inspector for giving a false reading of a thermometer in connection with the humidity of the atmosphere in the factory when the inspector visited it, the information being laid under sec. 85 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1878, which makes it an offence punishable by fine or imprisonment to wilfully make a false entry in any document required to be sent to a factory inspector. The defendant admitted the offence, but pleaded that he had no intention of misleading. The hygrometer was out of order, the wet bulb being dry, and he had given an average reading. The defendant was fined 10s. and costs.—*Burnley County Police Court, August 28th, reported September 1st.*

##### (3) Merchant Shipping Act.

###### ENGAGEMENT OF SEAMEN.

By Section III of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894, it is provided that, "(1) A person shall not engage or supply a seaman or apprentice to be entered on board any ship in the United Kingdom, unless that person either holds a licence from the Board of Trade for the purpose, or is the owner or master or mate of the ship, or is *bona fide* the servant and in the constant employment of the owner, or is a superintendent. (2) A person shall not employ for the purpose of engaging or supplying a seaman or apprentice to be entered on board any ship in the United Kingdom any person, unless that person either holds a licence from the Board of Trade for the purpose, or is the owner or master or mate of the ship, or is *bona fide* the servant and in the constant employment of the owner, or is a superintendent. (3) A person shall not receive or accept to be entered on board any ship any seaman or apprentice if that person knows that the seaman or apprentice has been engaged or supplied in contravention of this section." Informations were preferred against the shore manager of a steamship company for illegally engaging two men as part of the crew of a vessel. On behalf of the prosecution it was alleged that the two men in question were mere dock labourers, and had been brought from Hull to Liverpool, where the defendant met and took charge of them, and directed them on board a tender, whence they were taken on board one of the company's steamships and shipped as seamen, and it was contended that the object of the Act was, not only to protect seamen and apprentices from crimps, but also to secure that only persons qualified as seamen should be sent to sea. The two men gave evidence that they were dock labourers and not seamen. The magistrate thereupon dismissed the summons, holding that the Act did not apply to persons who were not seamen or apprentices, and allowed costs.—*Liverpool City Police Court, September 25th.*

###### PERSUADING SEAMEN NOT TO JOIN SHIP.

By Section 236 of the Act it is provided that "(1) If a person by any means whatever persuades or attempts to persuade a seaman or apprentice to neglect or refuse to join or proceed to sea in or to desert from his ship, or otherwise to absent himself from his duty, he shall for each offence in respect of each seaman or apprentice be liable to a fine not exceeding £10." An official of a seaman's trade union was summoned for an offence against this section. It was stated on behalf of the prosecution that, on the arrival of a steamship in port on September 7th, and when the crew were being paid off, the names of some who desired to sail in the ship again were kept, and they came back to the ship when the articles were to be signed. On September 13th, the day before the vessel was to sail, the superintendent of the line to which she belonged called up the men who were on board, and asked if they intended to sign articles for this voyage at the same rate of pay as the last voyage. They all replied "Yes," but they desired not to sign at the shipping office outside, as they were afraid they would be roughly handled. They agreed to sign articles on board the ship, and arrangements were made for the shipping master to attend on board the ship for that purpose. The defendant came on September 14th on board the ship, and talked to a number of men who were there, including some who had been in the "shore gang," advising them not to sign on at the old rates, but to insist on having advanced wages. The defendant, however, denied having said anything about wages, and stated that he had no intention of persuading any man not to sign. The magistrate said that the facts were very clear. The men were trying to get somewhat higher wages, and the defendant went on board as secretary of the union to back them up, to stiffen their backs in order to get what they wanted. But the more important question was whether the section meant as much as this. In his opinion it did not. The section meant that, people having agreed to go upon a voyage, it was illegal for a man to go and persuade them not to join the ship. He did not think the defendant went so far as that. He went there for the purpose of backing up his union, which it was his duty to do. He tried to persuade these men to stand out for higher wages, but he did not think he thought of intending to persuade them from doing their duty. The magistrate dismissed the case, and gave the defendant costs.—*West Ham Police-court, September 19th.*

##### (4) Miscellaneous.

###### WORKMEN'S TRAINS: WHAT IS A WORKMAN?

A licensed victualler was summoned for travelling on a railway with a workman's ticket, he not being a *bona fide* working-man. The Act under which the railway is worked provides for penalties in cases where workmen's tickets are taken by persons other than workmen. The magistrate fined the defendant 5s. and 2s. costs.—*Greenwich Police Court, September 28th.*

#### LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.

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

**Canada.**—The emigration season has now ceased, and will not be resumed till next March.

**New South Wales.**—There seems to be no demand for more hands either in Sydney or in country districts.

**Victoria.**—The report of the Chief Inspector of Factories for 1898 shows that the number of employees was 45,844. A report from Castlemaine states that there is a sufficient supply of miners and mechanics, and an over supply of general labourers. At Melbourne such improvement as there has been is not sufficient to cause any general demand for more labour. There is, however, the usual demand for female servants.

**South Australia.**—A report from Adelaide states that there is an excess of general labourers, that all mechanical trades are very slack, that there is not much demand for farm labourers, but that there is a good demand for trained female servants. The only industry, in which improvement is marked, is that of copper mining in the north of the colony.

**Western Australia.**—Owing to the decreased prices for timber some of the timber mills have been closed down in the timber districts, and considerable numbers of men have been thereby thrown out of employment.

**Tasmania.**—There has been plenty of work for carpenters and others at Strahan, on the West Coast, and there has been some scarcity of skilled labour.

**New Zealand.**—The annual report of the Department of Labour has just been issued for 1898-9. Speaking generally, there has been full employment for all classes of workmen except in the printing and boot trades. Building operations have been unusually brisk all over the colony, clothing factories and woollen mills have been working full time, and in many cases have more orders in hand than they can execute. Unskilled labour has been busier than for many previous years. In the South the extension of gold dredging has brought hundreds of men into the mining districts, and has increased the production of the engineering and kindred trades. The export trade in rabbits has also largely developed. The depression in the printing and boot trades is largely owing to the competition of improved machinery. Later reports dated last August show that trade was slacker owing to its being the winter season; as summer is now coming on work will increase. At Auckland the timber mills and building trades are very busy.

**Cape Colony.**—Persons are warned against going to Cape Colony at the present time in search of work. Reports received from various centres as Vryburg, East London, Oudtshoorn, Grahamstown, Cradock, Burgersdorp, Mafeking, Wellington, and Malmesbury, show that, though for the most part there is no want of employment among local men, there is no demand whatever for more workers. With the object of reducing expenditure, the men in the Government locomotive workshops at East London were put on short time during the first few months of this year; they have since been put on full time again.

**Natal.**—A report from Pietermaritzburg states, "Owing to the crisis in the Transvaal the labour market is overstocked here." Persons are warned against going to Natal at the present time in search of work.

##### Information for Intending Emigrants.

THE free quarterly circulars of the Emigrants' Information Office were issued on October 1st, and contain information useful to intending emigrants as to the demand for labour, rates of wages, and cost of living. Particulars are also given as to the cost of reaching the various colonies, the arrangements at each for receiving emigrants, and as to various other matters of interest to emigrants. Copies of the circulars can be obtained free on application to the Chief Clerk, Emigrants' Information Office, 31, Broadway, Westminster, S.W.

#### LABOUR ABROAD.

##### FRANCE.

*Employment in September.\**—The state of employment continued favourable in the building and accessory trades, in the mining, metal (smelting and manufacture), and engineering (machine construction and electrical engineering) trades, and also in the watch and clock making and jewellery, cotton and wool spinning and weaving, glovemaking, hatmaking, woodworking, coach-building, coopering, food, etc., preparation, and hide and skin working trades. In silk manufacture activity was resumed, but the slackness already reported still continued amongst workpeople employed in trimmings and ribbon manufacture, in the boot and shoe and garment making trades, amongst confectioners and pastry-cooks, and in the typographical trades.

The hours of labour have been reduced by about one per day in the building and accessory trades, as is usual at this period of the year.

Slightly more than 6 per cent. of the 77,000 members of 540 trade unions (exclusive of the trade unions of miners in the Nord and Pas-de-Calais coal districts) which have furnished reports as to the state of employment, were out of work on September 15th.

*Labour Disputes in September.\**—Fifty new labour disputes were reported to the French Labour Department in September, as compared with 61 in the previous month, and 35 (with 21,132 strikers) in September 1898. The number of workpeople reported to have taken part in 41 of the 50 new disputes was 18,038. Fifteen of the 50 disputes of September were in the textile trades, 11 in the metal trades, 8 in the building trades, 3 each in the boot and shoemaking and the mining trades, 2 among makers of fibrous plaster (mouldings, etc.), the remaining 8 disputes being among quarrymen, carriage-builders, unloaders of merchandise, diamond workers, cabinet-makers, tramway servants, comb-makers, and vermicelli makers. Amongst the causes or objects of disputes the most frequent were demands for increased wages (25 disputes); opposition to a reduction of wages (8 disputes), and objection to deductions from wages for purposes of insurance (6 disputes).

Twenty-eight disputes terminated in September, 10 ending in favour of the workpeople, 10 in a compromise, and 8 in favour of the employers.

*Conciliation and Arbitration in September.\**—Six cases of recourse to the conciliation and arbitration law were reported to the French Labour Department in September. The only case in which a settlement was effected as the result of the application of this law was that of the dispute at the Creusot ironworks (see below). In the remaining 5 cases the parties met at the invitation of the justice of the peace, but failed to arrive at a settlement; in 2 cases the dispute has ended by the defeat of the workpeople; in the other 3 the conflict has not yet been terminated.

*Strike at Creusot Ironworks.\**—On September 20th, in consequence of a foreman having discharged two workmen employed in the gun factory at the Creusot Ironworks, the workpeople employed in this department left their work, and the entire number of workpeople employed in these works came out soon afterwards, the total number of strikers being 9,650. Next day the miners at Montchanin also came out, bringing up the total number of strikers in the district to over 10,000. A difficulty arose in the way of negotiations, because the employer refused to receive, as a member of the deputation representing the workpeople, the secretary of the trade union—a man formerly employed at the works, but who had for some months ceased to be employed there. The demands of the workpeople, which were conveyed to the employer on September 23rd by the Sub-Prefect of Autun, included the following principal claims: recognition of the union; entire liberty of opinions for the workpeople, and more considerate attention on the part of the foremen; the fulfilment of certain pledges given in June by

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

the management; and some alterations in regard to certain branches. These demands not being acceded to, the justice of the peace, on September 29th, arranged a meeting of the parties; but no settlement was effected, and the Prefect of Mâcon and the Sub-Prefect of Autun mediated with the employer, and endeavoured to find a basis of compromise. The strikers insisted principally that no one should be discharged for having taken part in the strike. At the same time a plan for a march to Paris, in which the strikers should take part, had been formulated, and found acceptance. But on October 5th the workmen decided first to call upon the Government to decide the dispute by arbitration, and on the next day the employer agreed to this course. Accordingly, the Minister of the Interior (the French Premier) accepted the position of arbitrator.

According to newspaper reports, the Minister summoned for October 7th a meeting of representatives of the parties; and on the evening of that day he delivered his award, and the strike came to an end. The principal terms of the award are as follows:—

- (1) The advance in wages promised in June is to be granted.
  - (2) Note is officially made of the declaration of the employers that its overseers will be instructed to make no distinction between unionists and non-unionists, and that no interference shall take place with the political or religious acts or utterances of the workmen outside the works.
  - (3) One delegate shall be selected from each shop and each guild every two months, except in urgent cases, to confer with the directors.
  - (4) No workman is to be dismissed for having taken part in the strike.
  - (5) If it should become necessary to reduce the staff, a rotation shall be established between the workmen of the same class, and the proportion between union and non-union men obliged to remain idle shall be regulated according to their number, due account being taken in this rotation of those workmen who have families.
- The arbitrator refused to declare that the employer should be bound to negotiate with the agent of the union.
- Coal Mining in August.\***—The average number of days per week on which coal was hewn and wound in August was 5.84 (compared with 5.91 in the previous month, and 5.92 in August, 1898). In August, full time (6 days and over) was worked by 78 per cent., and from 5 to 6 days by 20 per cent. of the miners, the percentages in the previous month being 84 and 15 respectively. The above particulars are supplied to the French Labour Department by the Committee of Coalowners, and relate to over 100,000 workpeople (three-fourths of all employed in and about the coal mines).

GERMANY.

**Employment in September.**—According to *Der Arbeitsmarkt*, the labour market in Germany showed signs in September of a change to a less favourable state of employment. Hitherto, the proportion which applications for work bore to offers of situations at the public employment registries has been observed to fall between August and September, whereas in the present year the reverse has happened, that proportion having risen from 92.5 in August to 99.3 in September. The corresponding proportion for September, 1898, was 98.4.

**Labour Disputes in September.**—The same journal reports 52 disputes as having begun in September, as compared with 45 in August. The group in which the greatest number of disputes took place was that of the metal and engineering trades, 14 disputes (compared with 6 in August). Next came the building trades, with 8 disputes (13 in August); the woodworking and textile groups, each with 5 disputes (5 and 4 respectively in August); the glass-pottery, &c., group, with 3 disputes (6 in August); and trades not coming under any of the foregoing groups, 17 disputes (11 in August).

**Appointment of Women Factory Inspectors.**—*Soziale Praxis* of September 28th states that the estimates of the Grand Duchy of Baden for the ensuing financial year provide for the appointment of a woman factory inspector. Of the States composing the German Empire, Bavaria, Wurtemberg, Hesse, Weimar, and Rudolstadt have already created such posts.

\* Bulletin de l'Office du Travail, August and September, 1899.

AUSTRIA.

**Labour Disputes, August 31st to October 4th.**—Notices of 21 disputes, which began between August 31st and October 4th, are contained in *Die Gewerkschaft* (the organ of the Austrian Trade Union Central Committee). Eight of these disputes were in the metal and engineering trades; 4 each in the mining and textile trades; 2 each in the building and clothing trades, the remaining dispute being a strike of commercial clerks.

The disputes, in which the largest number of workpeople are reported to have taken part, were (1) a strike of 473 miners of the Reichenberg Coal Mines Company, owing to a reduction in wages, the lengthening of the shift from 11 to 12 hours, and the non-reinstatement of a dismissed workman; (2) a strike of 400 weavers in Haindorf, near Reichenberg, for a 10 hours day, increased wages and certain other concessions. The strike began on the 14th, and ended on the 18th of September, the terms of settlement including the concession of a 10 hours day.

DENMARK.

**Census of Industries and Trades.**—A Report\* containing the final results of the Census of Industries and Trades, which took place in Denmark on May 25th, 1897, has been published by the Government Statistical Bureau in Copenhagen. The volume shows that of a total of 77,256 establishments enumerated, 42,659 (55.2 per cent.) employed no workpeople, being carried on by their proprietors alone, or with the assistance only of managers, clerks, shop assistants, messengers, etc. Taking the remaining 34,597 establishments, we find that they employed altogether 176,608 persons classed as "workpeople," of whom 36,760 (20.8 per cent.) were women or girls.

In the following statement the workpeople are classified according to the groups of trades distinguished by the Danish Census Authorities.

Group of Trades.	Workpeople employed in each group of Industries or Trades.				Total Workpeople.
	Males.		Females.		
	No.	Per cent. of all employed in group.	No.	Per cent. of all employed in group.	
1. Excavating, building and furniture trades ...	42,137	99.4	252	0.6	42,389
2. Working in metal and metal goods (including machines and instruments) ...	26,196	95.9	1,106	4.1	27,302
3. Textile trades ...	4,751	37.9	7,782	62.1	12,533
4. Clothing and toilet trades ...	13,464	47.6	14,827	52.4	28,291
5. Trades pertaining to literature and art ...	4,015	74.9	1,343	25.1	5,358
6. Paper trades ...	1,031	60.1	1,026	49.9	2,057
7. Woodworking trades ...	7,651	94.0	488	6.0	8,139
8. Various technical & chemical trades ...	3,694	72.2	1,421	27.8	5,115
9. Stone, pottery and glass trades ...	12,628	92.2	1,072	7.8	13,700
10. Food, tobacco and drink trades ...	23,117	75.8	7,400	24.2	30,517
11. Leather trades ...	1,184	96.6	43	3.6	1,227
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>189,848</b>	<b>79.2</b>	<b>36,760</b>	<b>19.3</b>	<b>176,608</b>

UNITED STATES.

CHICAGO CONSULAR DISTRICT.

**Labour Disputes.**—Reporting to the Foreign Office, under date of September 28th, Mr. A. R. Getty, H.M. Acting-Consul at Chicago, states that the brickmakers' strike (see September GAZETTE, p. 268) is now at an end, the differences between the manufacturers and the brickmakers of the north and south sides of the city having been settled by arbitration, and work has been resumed in all the brickyards in Chicago.

Another serious outbreak, very similar in its main features to that which took place at Pana, Illinois, in April last, has occurred at Carterville, Illinois, one of the most active localities of the coal region. On June 30th a car load of non-Union negro miners was brought from Pana to work at Carterville. The train bearing this load was fired upon, and several men were wounded. The State troops were called out, but were only kept on duty there for a few days. Soon after their departure (September 18th) the coloured miners ventured to visit the railway station, where they encountered Union white men. A quarrel ensued, revolvers were drawn, and seven negroes were killed. The troops were immediately ordered out and quiet restored.

\* Danmarks Haandværk og Industri: ifølge Tællingen den 25. Maj, 1897, issued by the Government Statistical Bureau, and published by the Gyldendal Library. Copenhagen, 1899.

The importation of negro miners from Alabama commenced on August 1st, 1898. On September 29th, 1898, there was a fight between white men and negroes in the streets of Pana. On October 1st a train load of 200 negroes, on its way to the mines, was stopped, and the negroes sent back south. For a whole year there has been a succession of riots, and the towns of Pana and Virden have several times been placed under martial law, whilst the State troops have been constantly on duty. In all, the importation of coloured non-Union men has cost 28 lives, whilst 58 men have been wounded, and the business of the district has been almost brought to a standstill.

REPORTS ON SPECIAL INDUSTRIES.

(a) COAL MINING IN SEPTEMBER.

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

The average number of days worked at coal mines in September\* was about the same as a year ago. The increase as compared with August in the number of days worked is partly attributable to the August holidays.

Returns relating to 1,128 pits at which 390,144 workpeople were employed show that an average of 5.40 days per week was worked by these pits in the four weeks ended September 23rd, as compared with 5.18 days per week in August and 5.37 days a year ago.

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

District.	No. employed in Sept., 1899, at the collieries included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the pits in four weeks ended		
		23rd Sept., 1899.	24th Sept., 1898.	26th Aug., 1899.
England and N. Wales	351,917	5.41	5.36	5.16
Scotland	37,649	5.32	5.51	5.30
Ireland	578	5.62	4.86	5.15
<b>United Kingdom*</b>	<b>390,144</b>	<b>5.40</b>	<b>5.37</b>	<b>5.18</b>

In the following table the workpeople are grouped according to the number of days worked at the pits at which they were employed. It will be seen that 83.2 per cent. were employed at pits working 5 or more days per week as against 72.9 per cent. in August, and 84.2 per cent. a year ago.

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

Number of days on which Coal was hewn and wound in four weeks.	September, 1899.		Corresponding percentages in—	
	No. of Workpeople employed.	Percentage proportion to total.	September, 1898.	August, 1899.
24 days (full time) ...	75,887	19.4	18.9	10.2
20 and under 24 days ...	248,772	63.8	68.3	62.7
16 " " 20 " " ...	50,572	13.0	10.7	19.6
12 " " 16 " " ...	12,396	3.2	3.3	6.6
8 " " 12 " " ...	2,517	0.6	1.0	2.8
Under 8 days ...	...	...	0.8	0.1
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>390,144</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

From the following table, in which detailed particulars are given for the different mining districts, it will be seen that except in Fife the average was higher than in August in every district. As compared with a year ago the principal changes are the increases of three-quarters of a day in Ireland and a quarter of a day in Derbyshire, and the decreases of over a quarter of a day in Gloucester and Somerset, and in Fife.

Averages of 5½ days per week and over were worked during the month in Cumberland (5.83 days), the Lothians (5.73 days), Durham (5.64 days), Ireland (5.62 days), and North Wales (5.50 days). Except in Nottingham and Leicester, where the average was only 4.71 days, over 5 days per week was worked in all districts.

\* In the South Wales and Monmouthshire district, work was not resumed in 1898 at the associated collieries until after the commencement of the period dealt with in the tables, and as this fact would disturb the general comparison with September, 1899, this district has been excluded from the general remarks and tables. A separate account is, however, given at the end of the report as to employment in this district.

COMPARISON OF THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED BY COLLIERIES IN SEPTEMBER, 1899 AND 1898, AND IN AUGUST, 1899.

District.	No. employed in Sept., 1899, 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., 1899, as compared with	
		23rd Sept., 1899.	24th Sept., 1898.	26th Aug., 1899.	A year ago.	A month ago.
<b>ENGLAND &amp; N. WALES</b>		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Northumberland ...	34,290	5.30	5.48	5.20	+ .18	+ .10
Durham ...	88,977	5.64	5.59	5.58	+ .05	+ .06
Cumberland ...	6,094	5.83	5.96	5.50	+ .13	+ .33
Yorkshire ...	65,845	5.46	5.39	5.33	+ .07	+ .13
Lancashire and Cheshire	46,268	5.43	5.31	5.04	+ .12	+ .39
Derbyshire ...	36,336	5.28	5.03	4.86	+ .25	+ .42
Nottingham and Leicester	24,478	4.71	4.75	4.47	+ .04	+ .24
Staffordshire ...	23,086	5.32	5.14	4.55	+ .18	+ .77
Salop, Worcester and Warwick ...	7,596	5.41	5.24	4.89	+ .17	+ .52
Gloucester and Somerset	7,486	5.48	5.78	5.02	+ .30	+ .46
North Wales ...	11,461	5.50	5.72	5.28	+ .22	+ .22
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
West Scotland ...	21,108	5.32	5.48	5.26	+ .16	+ .06
The Lothians ...	3,572	5.73	5.73	5.30	...	+ .43
Fife ...	12,969	5.21	5.49	5.38	+ .28	+ .17
<b>IRELAND.</b>						
...	578	5.62	4.86	5.15	+ .76	+ .47
<b>Grand Total &amp; Averages*</b>	<b>890,144</b>	<b>5.40</b>	<b>5.37</b>	<b>5.18</b>	<b>+ .03</b>	<b>+ .22</b>

Returns relating to 142 pits in South Wales and Monmouthshire, at which 62,217 workpeople were employed, show that an average of 5.83 days per week was worked at these pits during the four weeks ended September 23rd, as compared with 5.57 days in August.

If this district be included with those dealt with in the preceding tables, the average for the United Kingdom in September, 1899, is raised to 5.46 days, as compared with 5.23 days in August.

The Exports of coal, coke, cinders and patent fuel during September amounted to 3,763,206 tons, as compared with 3,758,781 tons in August, and 3,506,218 tons in September, 1898.

(b) IRON MINING INDUSTRY IN SEPTEMBER.

The average number of days worked in September at iron mines and open works was about the same as a year ago, the large increase in Scotland being chiefly due to the fact that, in September, 1898, there was a dispute in progress at one of the mines included in the table. As compared with the previous month the principal change, viz., the increase in Staffordshire and Shropshire, is largely to be accounted for by the local holidays observed in that district in August.

Returns relating to 128 iron mines and open works, show that the average number of days worked during the four weeks ended September 23rd, was 5.83 per week, as compared with 5.74 in August, and 5.82 in September, 1898. The number of workpeople employed in September was 16,874, of whom 91.3 per cent. were employed in mines working 22 or more days in the four weeks, as compared with 88.7 per cent. in August, and 96.4 per cent. a year ago. The number employed in September, 1898, was 16,853.

The following table summarises the returns received:—

District.	No. employed in Sept., 1899, at the Mines included in the Table.	Average number of days worked per week by the mines in 4 weeks ended			Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in Sept., 1899, as compared with	
		23rd Sept., 1899.	24th Sept., 1898.	26th Aug., 1899.	A year ago.	A month ago.
<b>ENGLAND—</b>		Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.	Days.
Cumberland and Lancashire ...	5,935	5.89	5.95	5.82	+ .06	+ .07
Cleveland ...	6,695	5.78	5.90	5.80	+ .12	+ .02
Lincolnshire and Leicestershire ...	686	5.06	5.85	5.99	+ .11	+ .03
Northamptonshire	691	5.87	5.89	5.74	+ .02	+ .13
Staffordshire and Shropshire ...	1,256	5.64	5.71	4.98	+ .07	+
<b>Other places in England</b> ...	283	5.57	5.49	5.51	+ .08	+ .06
<b>SCOTLAND</b> ...	1,217	5.98	4.79	5.65	+ 1.19	+ .33
<b>IRELAND</b> ...	111	6.00	6.00	5.85	...	+ .15
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>16,874</b>	<b>5.83</b>	<b>5.82</b>	<b>5.74</b>	<b>+ .01</b>	<b>+ .09</b>

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—PIG IRON, TINPLATE, IRON AND STEEL AND SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRIES.

(c) PIG-IRON INDUSTRY IN SEPTEMBER.

EMPLOYMENT in this industry at the end of September was practically unchanged as compared with August, and continued better than a year ago.

At the works of 116 ironmasters 380 furnaces were in blast at the end of September, and at the end of August, as compared with 356 a year ago. The estimated number of workpeople employed was 25,384 at the end of September, 25,443 at the end of August, and 23,620 at the end of September, 1898.

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

Districts.	Present time compared with a year ago.			Present time compared with a month ago.		
	Sept. 1899.	Sept. 1898.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Sept., 1899.	Sept. 1899.	Aug. 1899.	Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Sept., 1899.
ENGLAND & WALES—						
Cleveland ...	97	94	+ 3	97	98	- 1
Cumberland & Lancs.	53	48	+ 5	53	52	+ 1
S. and S.W. Yorks...	19	19	...	19	19	...
Lincolnshire ...	16	14	+ 2	16	16	...
Midlands ...	102	94	+ 8	102	100	+ 2
Glamorgan and Mon.	22	14	+ 8	22	23	- 1
Other districts ...	8	9	- 1	8	8	...
<b>Total England and Wales...</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>+ 25</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>+ 1</b>
SCOTLAND ...	63	64	- 1	63	64	- 1
<b>Total furnaces included in returns ...</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>+ 24</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>...</b>

The shipments of pig-iron to foreign countries and British possessions from all ports of the United Kingdom during September amounted to 131,845 tons, as compared with 108,541 tons in August and 103,808 tons in September, 1898.

(d) EMPLOYMENT AT TINPLATE WORKS IN SEPTEMBER.

Employment in this industry continues to improve, and is much better than a year ago.

At the end of September, 55 works with 269 mills had all their mills at work, whilst 28 others with 200 mills were giving partial employment, 142 of these mills being at work. Thus in all, 411 mills were working, and giving employment to an estimated number of 20,813 workpeople. These figures compare with 390 mills employing 19,683 workpeople at the end of August, and 306 mills employing 15,885 workpeople a year ago.

The following table shows the number of mills and workpeople employed 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.			Estimated No. of Workpeople employed.
		Working.	Not Working.	Total.	
Works giving full employment	55	269	—	269	13,534
Works giving partial employment	28	142	58	200	7,279
<b>Total at end of Sept., 1899*</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>20,813</b>
<b>Corresponding Total for August, 1899</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>19,683</b>
<b>Corresponding Total for September, 1898*</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>15,885</b>

\* The figures in the table relate not only to the manufacture of tinplates but also to the manufacture of blackplates. It will be understood that, in addition to the works returned as giving full or partial employment, a certain number of tinplate works were wholly idle at each of the dates to which the returns relate, but the figures in the table are believed to give approximately the total number of works, mills and persons actually employed.

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

	Tinplates.			Blackplates.		
	Sept. 1899.	Aug. 1899.	Sept. 1898.	Sept. 1899.	Aug. 1899.	Sept. 1898.
To United States ...	Tons. 6,909	Tons. 5,109	Tons. 3,059	Tons. 500	Tons. 438	Tons. 10
Other Countries	15,412	17,299	13,268	5,829	6,624	1,934
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>22,321</b>	<b>22,408</b>	<b>16,327</b>	<b>6,329</b>	<b>7,162</b>	<b>1,944</b>

(e) EMPLOYMENT AT IRON AND STEEL WORKS\* IN SEPTEMBER.

EMPLOYMENT has remained good during September, the numbers employed at the 218 works covered by the returns showing an increase as compared with both a year and a month ago. These works were employing 82,110 workpeople in the week ended September 30th, being 912 more than at the end of August and 3,247 more than at the end of September, 1898. The following table gives the changes in the numbers employed in England and Wales, and in Scotland:—

District.	Numbers employed in week ending			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) in Sept., 1899, as compared with	
	Sept. 30th, 1899.	Oct. 1st, 1898.	Aug. 26th, 1899.	a year ago.	a month ago.
England and Wales ...	68,960	66,637	68,578	+ 2,323	+ 382
Scotland ...	13,150	12,226	12,620	+ 974	+ 530
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>82,110</b>	<b>78,863</b>	<b>81,198</b>	<b>+ 3,247</b>	<b>+ 912</b>

Information as to the number of shifts worked has been received relating to about 87 per cent. of these workpeople, and the particulars are summarised in the table below. The average number of shifts worked was 5.62 during the week ended September 30th, 5.47 in the week ended August 26th, and 5.57 in the week ended October 1st, 1898.

Number of Shifts worked per man.	Number employed in Sept., 1899, so far as returned.	Percentage proportion to Total.	Corresponding percentage in Sept., 1898.
Under 5 per week ...	1,384	1.9	3.0
5 " ...	24,360	34.1	30.4
5½ " ...	1,430	2.0	1.8
6 " ...	43,467	60.8	57.7
Above 6 " ...	880	1.2	1.1
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>71,521</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Assuming that the workpeople not included in this table worked the same number of shifts as those who are included, the total number of shifts worked by all the workpeople included in the first table may be estimated at 461,264 in the week ended 30th September, 444,443 in the week ended August 26th, and 439,164 in the week ended October 1st, 1898.

(f) SHIPBUILDING. Tonnage under Construction.†

ACCORDING to the quarterly returns compiled by Lloyd's Register there were 558 vessels (excluding warships) of 1,347,549 tons gross under construction in the United Kingdom at the close of the quarter ended 30th September, 1899, a decrease of about 38,000 tons compared with the tonnage building at the end of the two previous quarters, and of 16,701 tons as compared with a year ago. There were 14 warships under construction at the Royal Dockyards at the end of September, with a displacement tonnage of 125,920 tons, and 68 at

\* Including iron puddling and rolling, and steel making and rolling.  
† By "tonnage under construction" is meant the gross tonnage of the vessels completed. As at any given time the ships are at various stages of completion, the "tonnage under construction" is not an exact measure of the amount of work remaining to be done.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

private yards with 287,060 tons displacement making the total tonnage of the 82 warships building 412,980 tons. This represents a decrease of 39,095 tons, as compared with the quarter ended 30th June, but an increase of 36,545 tons as compared with a year ago. The following table summarises the above figures:—

Description of Vessels.	Tonnage under construction on			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) at end of Sept. 1899, as compared with	
	Sept. 30th, 1899.	June 30th, 1899.	Sept. 30th, 1898.	Three months ago.	A year ago.
Merchant Vessels—					
Tons gross ...	1,347,549	1,386,367	1,364,250	- 38,818	- 16,701
War Vessels—					
Tons displacement ...	412,980	452,075	376,435	- 39,095	+ 36,545

The 558 merchant vessels include 523 steam vessels of 1,342,385 tons gross and 25 sailing vessels of 5,164 tons gross, showing in the case of steamships a decrease of 39 in the number, and of 19,172 in the tonnage, as compared with a year ago. There is one sailing vessel less under construction but the tonnage has almost doubled, the tonnages in the quarters ending September 1899 and 1898 being respectively 5,164 and 2,693.

The following table shows the gross tonnage of vessels, other than warships, under construction in each of the principal shipbuilding districts. The figures include 95 per cent. of the total tonnage under construction:—

District.	At			Increase (+) or Decrease (-) as compared with	
	At Sept. 30th, 1899.	At June 30th, 1899.	At Sept. 30th, 1898.	Three months ago.	A year ago.
Clyde ...	466,656	495,424	483,256	- 28,768	- 16,600
Belfast ...	186,367	215,069	164,110	+ 28,702	+ 22,257
Wear ...	166,905	170,418	175,314	- 2,513	- 8,959
Tyne ...	242,613	245,266	255,793	- 2,653	- 13,180
Middlesbro' and Stockton	110,690	101,958	107,630	+ 8,732	+ 3,060
Hartlepool and Whitby ...	66,294	82,388	81,580	+ 13,936	+ 14,714
Barrow, Maryport and Workington	11,310	10,680	32,970	+ 630	- 21,660

As compared with three months ago a marked falling off has occurred on the Clyde and in the Belfast district. The figures for Belfast, however, show a noticeable improvement when compared with a year ago, as do also those for Hartlepool and Whitby.

(g) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN SEPTEMBER.

THE Agricultural Correspondent to the Department on the basis of 217 returns from various parts of the country reports as follows:—Generally speaking agricultural labourers were fully employed during September. Reports from some counties refer to a difficulty in getting sufficient extra men for threshing and potato lifting. In a few districts in Gloucestershire, Herefordshire and Somersetshire, a few men are reported to have had a little irregular work at the end of the month owing to the harvest being over unusually early, and to the drought having affected the root crop. The dry condition of the ground also interfered with ploughing in some localities.

A report on harvest wages in 1899 will be found on page 291.

**Northern Counties.**—Employment in Northumberland is reported as regular, and in Cumberland, in the Unions of Bootle, Carlisle, Cocker-mouth, Longtown, Whitehaven, and Wigton. In the Carlisle Union, and also in the neighbourhood of Cocker-mouth, it is stated that extra harvest hands were difficult to obtain. Writing on October 4th, a correspondent in the last-named district states that the getting in of the harvest was much delayed by bad weather, and that at that date a quantity of grain was still out in the fields in the high-lying districts. Regularity of employment is also reported in South Westmorland, and in North Lancashire, in the Unions of Fylde, Garstang, Lancaster, Lunesdale, and Ulverston, and also in Durham in the Unions of Chester-le-Street and Darlington (Durham and Yorks., N.R.). Extra men for harvest are said to

have been very difficult to obtain in Durham. A report from the Fylde Union of Lancashire states that harvest being finished earlier than usual, the potatoes were not ready for lifting immediately after, consequently many of the Irishmen returned home, and it was found very difficult to get men to do this work. In Yorkshire employment is said to be regular in the Unions of Beverley, Easingwold, Guisborough, Howden, Knaresborough, Malton, Ouseburn, Pocklington, Ripon, and Thirsk. Some difficulty in obtaining extra hands for harvest is referred to in reports from the Unions of Beverley, Guisborough, Ouseburn, and Thirsk. A report from the Pocklington Union states that fewer Irishmen and also fewer extra English hands came into the district, but that owing to the very favourable weather during harvest not much difficulty occurred.

**Midland Counties.**—In Cheshire employment is said to be regular in the Unions of Chester, Nantwich, Macclesfield, and Tarvin. In some districts extra hands are said to be very scarce. Reports of a similar character come from Derbyshire from the Hayfield Union and from the Derbyshire portions of the Worksop Union (Notts, Derby, and Yorks, W.R.), Burton-on-Trent Union (Staffs and Derby), and Mansfield Union (Notts and Derby). Favourable reports also come from Shropshire from the Unions of Bridgnorth, Drayton (Salop and Staffs), Oswestry, Wellington, and Wem. In a good many districts labour is said to be scarce. Reports from Staffordshire also state that work was regular throughout the month in the Unions of Tamworth and Leek.

Agricultural labourers in Warwickshire are said to be well employed in the Unions of Alcester, Coventry, Meriden, and Stratford-on-Avon, and in the Warwickshire portion of the Banbury Union (Oxon, Northants, and Warwick), and also in Leicestershire in the Unions of Blaby, Market Harborough, and Melton Mowbray. Regularity of employment is also reported from Nottinghamshire from the Unions of Retford, and Southwell, and from Rutland, from the Oakham Union. A good many employers in Warwickshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Rutland refer to a difficulty in getting extra harvest hands. A correspondent in the Southwell Union of Nottinghamshire writes: "Labour is more difficult to obtain in 1899 than in 1898. Should be quite unable to get the harvest in were it not for the self-binder."

In Worcestershire employment is said to be regular in the Unions of Evesham, Martley, and Tenbury. Reports from Oxfordshire from the Unions of Thame, and Witney, and from the Oxfordshire portion of the Wallingford Union (Oxon and Berks), state that agricultural labourers are all in regular work. Employment in Northamptonshire is said to be regular in the Unions of Brixworth, Hardingstone, Pottersbury and Wellingborough, and in the Northamptonshire portion of the Banbury Union (Oxon, Northants and Warwick). A scarcity of labour is reported from several districts in this county. An employer in the Wellingborough Union writes: "I should say that there are no labourers out of work, and even men 70 years of age or over expect for an odd day's threshing to get 3s. a day. Weekly wages have, in many instances, risen from 14s. to 15s. since last year, and the men leave off work at 4 p.m. on Saturdays." Agricultural labourers in Huntingdonshire are said to be well employed, and in some districts scarce, in the Unions of Huntingdon, St. Ives, and St. Neots (Hunts and Beds), and in Bedfordshire in the Unions of Bedford, Biggleswade, and Luton.

**Eastern Counties.**—Agricultural employment in Essex is said to be regular in the Unions of Billericay, Braintree, Colchester, Dunmow, Halstead, Maldon, Orsett, and Tendring, and in Suffolk in the Unions of Blything, Bosmere and Claydon, Cosford, Hartismere, Hoxne, Mildenhall, Mutford and Lotingland, Plomesgate, Risbridge, Samford, Sudbury, and Thingoe. An employer in the Cosford Union writes: "All fully employed throughout the Union. There is a scarcity of good labourers. Advertisements for horse-men and labourers are greatly on the increase, and they are difficult to find, especially skilled men."

In Norfolk employment is said to be quite regular in the Unions of Aylsham, Blofield, Depwade, Docking, Downham, East and West Flegg, Erpingham, Forehoe, Freebridge Lynn, Guiltcross, Loddon and Clavering, Mitford and Launditch, St. Faiths, Smallburgh, Swaffham, Thetford, and Walsingham. Regularity of work is also reported from Cambridgeshire from the Unions of Chesterton, Linton, Wisbech, and the Cambridgeshire portion of the Royston Union (Herts and Cambs). An employer of labour in the last-named Union writes, "Generally throughout the Union the shortness of labour is felt more now than it was during the harvest month. The long drought stopped all preparation for wheat sowing, and now when we can plough, so many men

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—AGRICULTURAL LABOUR; DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR.

are wanted for threshing. All our young men are leaving the villages for work on the railways or in London. Reports from *Lincolnshire* state that employment is quite regular in the Unions of Boston, Brigg, Caistor, Grimsby, Gainsborough, Lincoln, Louth, Sleaford, Spilsby and Stamford, and in the *Lincolnshire* portion of the Newark Union (*Notts and Lincoln*). A large employer in the Sleaford Union writes: "Every man, and also a large number of Irish, is employed throughout the whole Union."

**Home Counties.**—In *Buckinghamshire* agricultural labourers are said to be well employed in the Unions of Aylesbury, Buckingham, Newport Pagnell, and Winslow, and in *Berkshire* in the Unions of Bradfield, Wantage, and Newbury. Several employers in these counties refer to a scarcity of men. A report from the Newport Pagnell Union says: "Milkmen and horsekeepers much wanted." Reports of a similar character come from *Surrey* from the Unions of Godstone and Hambleton, and from the *Surrey* portion of the Farnham Union (*Hants and Surrey*). An employer in the last-named district writes: "Hopping employed all spare hands." Agricultural labourers in Kent are said to be well employed in the Unions of Blean, Cranbrook, Eastry, Elham, Faversham, Hollingbourne, Hoo, and Tenterden; and in *Hertfordshire* in the Unions of Buntingford, Hatfield, Hertford, Hitchin, and Watford.

**Southern and South-Western Counties.**—Reports from *Sussex* state that employment is regular in the Unions of Battle, Chaley, Cuckfield, Hailsham, Horsham, Lewes, Newhaven, Petworth, Rye, and Uckfield. Reports from the Battle and Rye districts state that all local hands were very busy picking hops in September, and in addition there were a large number of hop-pickers from London, Brighton, Hastings, Eastbourne, and other towns. A scarcity of labour is reported from several districts in the county. An employer in the Newhaven Union writes: "Carters and cowmen are not to be had. Other men can be got." Regularity of work is reported in *Hampshire* in the Unions of Basingstoke, Hartley Wintney, Havant, Kingsclere, Lymington, Petersfield, and Stockbridge, and in the *Hampshire* portion of the Farnham Union (*Hants and Surrey*); in *Dorsetshire* in the Unions of Blandford, Dorchester, Wareham and Purbeck, Wimborne and Cranborne; and in *Wiltshire* in the Unions of Bradford-on-Avon, Chippenham, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett, Devizes, Marlborough, Mere, Warminster, Wilton, and Westbury and Whorwellsdown.

Agricultural labourers are said to be well employed in *Gloucestershire* in the Unions of Barton Regis, Dursley, Gloucester, Northleach, Thornbury, Stow-on-the-Wold, and Wheatenhurst. An employer in the Barton Regis Union writes: "All hands fully employed until the last few days of the month, when, owing to stormy weather, a very small number of odd hands were only partially employed." A report from the Stow-on-the-Wold Union states that as harvest was over so early this year, a few men were possibly out of regular work at the end of the month. An employer from the Dursley Union also refers to some slight irregularity of employment at the end of the month, owing to harvest being so soon over, and also to the lack of roots. A report from the Wheatenhurst Union states that all hands were busy gathering in fruit. The following report comes from the Thornbury Union: "The excellent weather has helped the farmers wonderfully, and work is very forward, potato lifting being mostly done." In *Herefordshire* there is said to be no lack of employment in the Unions of Bromyard, Dore (*Hereford and Monmouth*), Ross, and Ledbury. A report from the Dore Union states that a few men were in irregular work at the end of the month, owing to harvest being over so early, and to the hard state of the ground, which interfered with ploughing. In the Ross Union an employer states that there was a scarcity of men for threshing. In *Somersetshire* employment is said to be generally regular in the Unions of Bridgwater, Chard, Clutton, Frome, Taunton, Wellington, Wincanton, Wells, and Yeovil. An employer in the last-named district writes: "The month of September was not good for labour, as there was no root hoeing, caused by the drought. But I should say no men were really out of employment, but they worked by the day instead of by the piece." But he adds that apple-picking, cider-making, threshing and man-gold carting will give employment to all. An employer in the Bridgwater Union says that a few men were in irregular work in the last week in the month. Reports from *Devonshire* state that agricultural labourers are well employed in the Unions of Axminster, Barnstaple, Crediton, Holsworthy, Kingsbridge, South Molton, Torrington, and Tavistock, and from *Cornwall* in the Unions of Bodmin, and Camelford.

(h) LONDON DOCK AND WHARF LABOUR IN SEPTEMBER.

EMPLOYMENT at the docks and wharves has improved during the month, and has been, on the whole, better than either a month or a year ago.

The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves during the five weeks ended September 30th was 15,431, as compared with an average of 14,460 in the preceding four weeks and with 14,913 in the corresponding period of 1898.

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

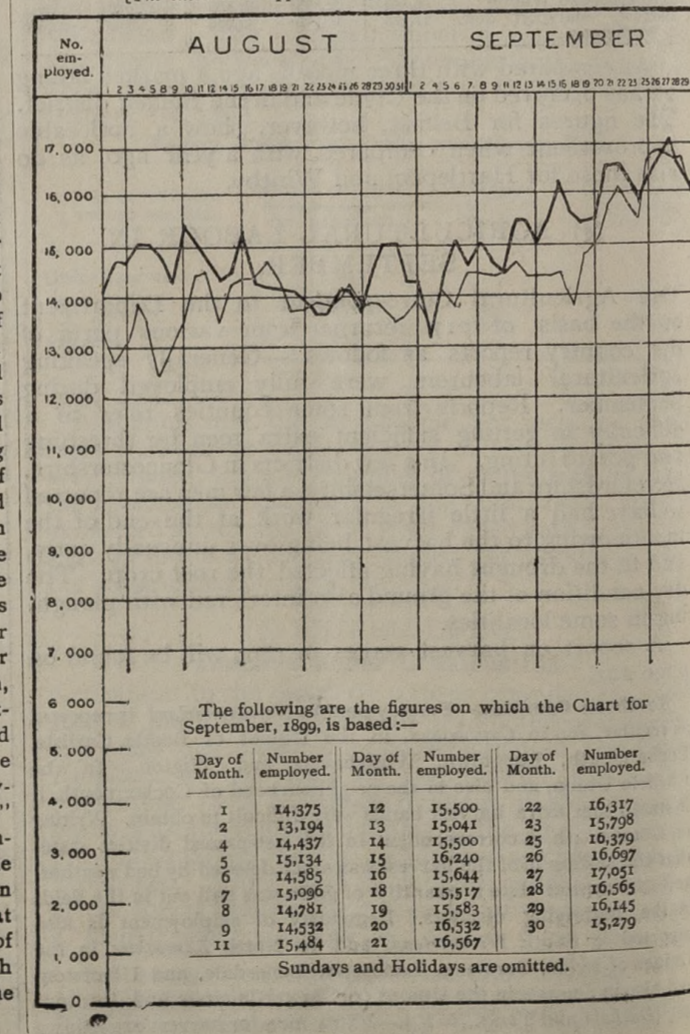
Period.	Labourers employed in Docks.			Labourers employed at 115 Wharves making Returns.	Total Dock and Wharf Labourers included in Returns.
	By Dock Companies or through Contractors	By Ship-owners, &c.	Total.		
Week ending Sept. 2	5,901	2,720	8,621	5,797	14,418
" " " 9	6,134	2,514	8,648	6,114	14,762
" " " 16	6,849	2,729	9,578	5,930	15,508
" " " 23	7,204	2,720	9,924	6,128	16,052
" " " 30	7,592	2,556	10,148	6,205	16,353
Average for 5 weeks ending Sept. 30th, 1899	6,736	2,648	9,384	6,047	15,431
Average for Sept., 1898*	6,556	2,794	9,350	6,163	14,913
Average for Aug., 1899	6,689	2,924	9,613	5,877	14,490

(2) **Daily Fluctuation.**—The daily fluctuation in the total estimated number of dock and wharf labourers employed by all the docks and principal wharves during August and September is shown on the chart below. The numbers in September ranged from 13,194 on the 2nd to 17,051 on the 27th.

During September, 1898, the total number of dock and wharf labourers employed varied from 13,262 on the 3rd to 16,102 on the 22nd.

Chart showing the total estimated number of Labourers employed by all the Docks and 115 of the principal Wharves for each day during the months of August and September, 1899. The corresponding curve for August and September, 1898, is also given for comparison.

[The thick curve applies to 1899, and the thin curve to 1898.]



\* Amended figures.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—TEXTILE TRADES; SEAMEN; LONDON.

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

(i) EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN IN THE TEXTILE TRADES IN SEPTEMBER.

ACCORDING to returns from women correspondents, employment for women during the month continued very good in the textile trades. Information has been received with regard to 598 cotton, woollen and worsted mills, employing about 103,000 women and girls, and is summarised in the following table, which also gives for comparison the corresponding figures for the previous month and for a year ago:—

Trade and Month.	Percentage ordinarily employed in Mills which were			
	Working full Time.		Working Short Time.	Closed for repairs, bad trade, disputes, or other causes.
	With Full Employment.	With Partial Employment.		
<b>Cotton Trade—Spinning—</b>				
September, 1899	96	4	—	—
August, 1899	97	1	1	1
September, 1898	90	7	—	3
<b>Cotton Trade—Weaving—</b>				
September, 1899	98	2	—	—
August, 1899	97	2	—	1
September, 1898	74	23	1	2
<b>Woollen and Worsted Trades—</b>				
September, 1899	97	3	—	—
August, 1899	96	3	—	1
September, 1898	77	18	5	—
<b>Total of above Trades—</b>				
September, 1899	97	3	—	—
August, 1899	97	2	—	1
September, 1898	79	18	1	2

**Cotton Trade.—Spinning.**—The number of women and girls usually employed in cotton spinning mills reported on is 26,600; of these 96 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 97 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in August, and with 90 per cent. in September, 1898.

**Cotton Trade.—Weaving.**—The number of women and girls usually employed in cotton weaving factories reported on is 56,900; of these 98 per cent. were employed in factories giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 97 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in August, and with 74 per cent. in September, 1898.

**Woollen and Worsted Trades.**—The number of women and girls usually employed in the woollen and worsted mills reported on is 19,500; of these 97 per cent. were employed in mills giving full employment during the whole month, to be compared with 96 per cent. among those for whom returns were received in August, and with 77 per cent. in September, 1898.

(j) EMPLOYMENT OF SEAMEN IN SEPTEMBER.

(Data supplied by the Marine Department of the Board of Trade.) The number of seamen shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels from certain selected ports (at which 80 per cent. of the total tonnage in the foreign trade is entered and cleared) was 34,789\* during September, a decrease of 627 as compared with the number shipped in September, 1898. The decrease was mainly at ports on the East Coast of England and Scotland.

For the nine completed months of the year the number shipped at the selected ports was 6,446 more than in the corresponding period of 1898, the falling-off on the North East Coast being more than balanced by the increases at Cardiff and Newport. The engagements at the South Wales ports were less than usual in 1898, owing to the dispute in the South Wales coal trade.

Of the total number of men shipped (310,528\*) during the nine months, 45,604 (or 14.7 per cent.) were foreigners, as compared with 14 per cent. in the first nine months of 1898, during which the total number

shipped was 304,082\*. Lascars who are engaged in Asia are not included in these figures.

Table showing the number\* of men, &c., shipped as the crews of foreign-going vessels at some of the principal ports of the United Kingdom in September, 1899 and 1898 respectively, together with the number\* shipped in the nine months ended September in each of these years:—

Principal Ports.	Number of Men, &c., shipped in September, 1899.*			Total in Sept., 1899.*	Total number shipped in 9 months ended September*	
	In Sailing Vessels.	In Steam Vessels.	Total in 1899.		1899.	1898.
<b>ENGLAND.</b>						
<b>East Coast.</b>						
Tyne Ports ...	65	2,190	2,255	3,764	28,184	34,964
Sunderland ...	—	524	524	678	4,870	5,941
Middlesbrough ...	24	244	268	253	3,019	3,215
Hull ...	32	1,207	1,239	1,770	11,811	13,261
Grimsby ...	—	63	63	273	813	1,453
<b>Bristol Channel.</b>						
Bristol ...	—	671	671	864	4,383	4,697
Newport, Mon. ...	11	873	884	879	9,487	5,618
Cardiff ...	426	3,973	4,399	3,750	48,878	29,768
Swansea ...	80	486	566	656	8,840	6,245
<b>Other Ports.</b>						
Liverpool ...	283	11,943	12,226	11,302	98,307	94,383
London ...	355	6,120	6,475	6,508	54,532	55,910
Southampton ...	—	1,607	1,607	1,440	13,140	13,673
<b>SCOTLAND.</b>						
Leith, Kirkcaldy, Methil and Grangemouth	48	534	582	560	5,714	8,846
Glasgow ...	144	2,480	2,624	2,439	21,853	23,201
<b>IRELAND.</b>						
Dublin ...	—	105	105	33	1,062	894
Belfast ...	15	286	301	322	2,495	2,683
<b>Total, Sept., 1899</b>	<b>1,483</b>	<b>33,306</b>	<b>34,789</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>310,528</b>	<b>—</b>
Ditto, Sept., 1898	1,960	33,466	—	35,416	—	304,082

DISTRICT REPORTS FROM LOCAL CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.

LONDON.

**Employment in various Industries.**—During September employment remained steady, and in most industries was good for the time of year. Returns from 445 branches of 110 unions, having an aggregate membership of 75,448, show that 2,707 (or 3.6 per cent.) were unemployed at the end of September, compared with 3.7 in August, and 3.5 per cent. in September, 1898.

Employment in the *Engineering, Metal and Shipbuilding* trades, though still good, was scarcely so brisk. Reports from 147 branches of 27 unions, with an aggregate membership of 21,741, show that 626 (or 2.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.7 in August, and 3.3 per cent. in September, 1898. With sailmakers employment has fallen off.

The *Building* trades still continue brisk. Returns from 178 branches of five unions paying unemployed benefit, with a membership of 12,091, show that 58 (or 0.5 per cent.) were unemployed, as in August, compared with 0.8 per cent. in September of last year. The bricklayers, carpenters and joiners, and stone-carvers describe employment as good; the stonemasons and plasterers as fair; the painters and decorators and plumbers as moderate.

Employment in the *Furnishing* trades has improved. Reports from 48 branches of 12 unions, with a membership of 6,687, show that 162 (or 2.4 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.1 in August, and 2.5 per cent. in September, 1898.

*Coopers* remain busy. Reports from two societies, with a membership of 1,000, show that only one (or 0.1 per cent.) was unemployed, compared with 0.8 per cent. in August. In September, 1898, also, only one member was unemployed.

*Coachbuilders* and *Wheelwrights* continue well employed. Returns from 12 branches of 8 unions, with a membership of 1,396, show that 9 (or 0.6 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.2 in August, and 2.0 per cent. in September, 1898.

The *Printing* trades remain slack, but the *Bookbinding* trades have somewhat improved. Returns from 22 unions, with a membership of 23,472, show that 1,389 (or 5.9 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 6.7 in August, and 4.5 per cent. in September of last year.

Employment in the *Clothing* trades has remained dull. The West End bespoke tailors have been dull, but are improving; the East End bespoke trade is slack; the contract trade also slack; the stock trade fair; the military and uniform tailors and tailoresses have been only partially employed; with ladies' tailors and mantle-

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



## EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS—LONDON; NORTHERN COUNTIES.

makers employment has been bad, though a slight improvement took place towards the end of the month. Employment with hatters has been dull; capmakers have been busy; fur skin dressers slack; silk weavers have been fairly well employed.

**Boot and Shoe Trades.**—Employment in the West-end handsewn trade has been quiet; in the East-end sewround trade good; with boot and shoe operatives it is quiet.

Employment in the *Leather* trades is fairly good. Returns from six unions, with a membership of 1,624, show that 35 (or 2.2 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 1.5 in August, and 4.7 per cent. in September, 1898.

In the *Glass and Pottery* trades, returns from eight unions, with a membership of 1,496, show that 66 (or 4.4 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 5.2 in August, and 4.6 in September of last year.

**Hair, Fibre, and Cane Workers.**—In these trades returns from 5 unions, with a membership of 907, show that 21 (or 2.3 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 3.1 in August, and 5.4 per cent. in September, 1898.

**Gold and Silver Workers** continue fairly well employed, though short time is still worked in some branches. Returns from 7 unions, with a membership of 1,113, show that 3 (or 0.3 per cent.) were unemployed, as in August. The percentage for September, 1898, was 1.8.

Employment in the *Tobacco* trades has continued to improve. Returns from 4 unions, with a membership of 2,495, show that 96 (or 3.8 per cent.) were unemployed, compared with 6.9 last month, and 3.5 per cent. in September, 1898.

**Dock and Riverside Labour.**—The average number of labourers employed daily at all the docks and principal wharves was 15,431 in the five weeks ended September 30th, as compared with averages of 14,460 in the preceding four weeks, and 14,913 in the corresponding period of 1898. Employment in mid-stream has been good and steady during the month. It has been good with deal porters and lumpers; fair with lightermen, winchmen, coal porters and stevedores; only moderate with corn porters. The fruit porters in Thames-street have been fairly well employed, the average daily number employed being 320, as against 275 in August.

## ENGLAND: NORTHERN COUNTIES.

## Tyne and Wear District.

**Coal Mining.**—*Northumberland.*—Steam coal pits have averaged 5.21 days, and pits producing house coal 5.37 days per week, as against 5.13 and 5.18 days in August. The 22,173 miners are all employed. Of the 2,264 colliery mechanics, deputies, engine and fire men 2 are idle. *Durham.*—Coking, house, and gas coal collieries have averaged 5.67, 5.53, and 5.50 days per week respectively for the four weeks ended September 23rd. At the 128 pits, employing 63,092 men and boys from which returns have been received, the average number of days worked per week was 5.56, as compared with 5.52 days in August. The miners have 129 (or 0.21 per cent.) unemployed through bad trade, as against 149 (or 0.24 per cent.) at the end of August. Colliery engine men, deputies and coke yard workers with a membership of 6,411, have only 3 off work.

**Metal Mining.**—Employment of lead miners is reported as fairly good. Iron ore miners in Wear-dale are but indifferently employed.

**Quarrying.**—All limestone quarries at Stanhope and Frosterley have worked full time. At eight quarries in Gateshead and district employment is reported as good, at Blyth as fairly steady.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—*On the Tyne.*—Platers and caulkers are moderately busy, riveters continue in good demand. Ship fitters are somewhat irregularly employed. Night shifts at some shops have been discontinued, although overtime is worked. Boiler and locomotive builders are brisk. Branches with a membership of 12,629 have 270 (or 2.1 per cent.) idle, as against 314 (or 2.5 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. *On the Wear.*—Employment of outside fitters has not been so good. Shipsmiths are steadily employed. Forges continue busy. Iron shipbuilders are exceptionally brisk. Repair work in both yards and shops has not been so busy. The 5,196 members of these trades have 78 (or 1.5 per cent.) out of work, as against 91 (or 1.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. Iron and steel moulders are well employed. Pattern-makers are fairly active. Ship joiners on both rivers report employment as irregular. Steel plate and angle-mills at Cossett, Jarrow, Elswick and Newburn have worked full time; steel smelters, and chain and anchor smiths, 5 and 6 shifts per week. Sailmakers are rather slack on the Wear; on the Tyne employment is reported as better.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—Coal porters and shippers are working full time. Employment of trimmers and teamers on the north side

of the Tyne has been especially good. The demand for sailors and firemen has been interrupted by the dispute.

**Building Trades.**—Of the 943 union plumbers (house and ship) 49 (or 5.1 per cent.) are idle. Employment with bricklayers, masons, and slaters and tilers is good.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—Letterpress printers on the Tyne report employment as quiet; at Sunderland as fair; bookbinders and machine rulers as improving. Five paper mills have worked 119 shifts out of a possible 225; three other mills have been fully employed; one has been slack.

**Woodworking Trades.**—The lathreaders are all employed. Cabinet-makers are slack. Coopers continue busy. Millsawyers and machinists are well employed.

**Other Chemical, Metal and Glass Trades.**—Night shifts prevail in copper and white lead works. Chemical workers at four factories have been well employed. Cement workers are busy. Pressed glass-makers have worked full time. Bottle-makers at Seaham Harbour, Blaydon, and on the Wear have none idle.

**Fishing.**—Very few line boats have been engaged fishing during the month. Good catches of trawl fish have been landed, prices being above the average. The supply of herring has been poor.—*J. Ratcliffe.*

## Middlesbrough, Stockton and District.

**Ironstone Mining.**—Cleveland miners report employment as good. The average number of days worked by the 21 mines reported on was 5.78 per week during the 4 weeks ended September 23rd, as compared with 5.80 days in August, and 5.90 days per week in September, 1898. The number of workpeople employed at the mines was 6,695, the corresponding number a year ago being 6,680.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—Employment continues good at the finished iron works, steel works, and bridge works. Under the sliding scale of the North of England Conciliation and Arbitration Board wages will be advanced, from October 1st, 3d. per ton on puddling, and 2½ per cent. on all other forge and mill work. Employment continues good at blast furnaces, pipe foundries, metal expansion works, and general foundries; moderate at chair foundries.

**Engineering.**—Employment with the engineers is reported as good at Stockton and Middlesbrough, moderate at Hartlepool, Darlington and South Bank, and quiet at Bishop Auckland. Ironfounders, patternmakers, and smiths and strikers report employment as good throughout the district. Branches with 3,765 members have 48 (or 1.3 per cent.) unemployed, as against 63 (or 1.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

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

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—Sailors and firemen report employment as quiet; dockers as moderate at Middlesbrough, good at Hartlepool; riverside labourers as good generally.

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

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is fairly good with printers; good with wood-cutting machinists, sawmillers, and cabinet-makers; fair with saltworkers; slack with tailors at Middlesbrough; brisk at cement works and pulp works.—*A. Main.*

## Cumberland and Barrow District.

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

**Coal Mining Industry.**—Employment in this industry continues good, although there is a falling-off in the number of days worked as compared with a year ago. As compared with August, when employment was affected by holidays, there is an increase in the number of days worked. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended September 23rd, at the 20 pits covered by the returns, was 5.83 per week, as compared with 5.50 days in August, and 5.96 days a year ago. The number of workpeople employed in September, 1899, at these pits was 6,094, the corresponding number a year ago being 6,072.

**Iron Mining Industry.**—Employment continues good at the Cumberland and North Lancashire iron mines. The average number of days worked during the four weeks ended September 23rd, at the 43 mines from which returns have been received, was 5.89 per week, as compared with 5.82 days in August, and 5.95 days a year ago. The number of workpeople employed at these mines in September, 1899, was 5,935, the corresponding number for September, 1898, being 5,986.

**Pig Iron Manufacture.**—Employment at the Cumberland and North Lancashire blast furnaces continues better as compared with

## EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—LANCASHIRE; YORKSHIRE.

both a month and a year ago. The number of furnaces in blast at the end of September was 53, as compared with 52 in August, and 48 in September, 1898. The estimated number of workpeople employed at the furnaces was 4,286, or 57 more than in August, and 349 more than a year ago.

**Shipbuilding.**—According to the returns of shipbuilding compiled by *Lloyd's Register*, there were 9 vessels other than warships under construction (see Note p. 300) in the Barrow, Maryport, and Workington district at the end of September, with a gross tonnage of 11,310 tons, as compared with 7 vessels and 10,680 tons gross at the end of June, and 15 vessels and 32,970 tons a year ago. Of warships, 4 were under construction at the end of September, with a displacement of 52,150 tons, the same as at the end of June. At the end of September, 1899, there were 6 vessels under construction, with about 36,950 tons displacement.

## LANCASHIRE AND NEIGHBOURING DISTRICTS.

## Oldham and District.

**Cotton Trade.**—*Spinning.*—Employment continues good in Oldham and the surrounding districts; in Rochdale and district, Stockport, Mossley, Stalybridge, Ashton-under-Lyne and Dukinfield, it is reported as brisk in the spinning department, and as slack in the twining branch. The cardroom operatives in the districts named are well employed. Employment with the ring-frame spinners and throstle-frame tenters is good. *Weaving.*—The power-loom overlookers and weavers report employment as moderate in velvets, as good in calicoes, and as bad in fustians. Sectional warpers and winders report employment as fair, reelers as slack, ball warpers as good.

**Woolen and Silk Trades.**—In Rochdale and Milnrow districts the woolen workers report employment as good; in Stockport as somewhat improved. Employment with the silkdressers of Rochdale is reported as bad.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—The engineers, irongrinders, and toolmakers report employment as fair; patternmakers, plate and machine moulders, tinplate workers, gasmeter makers, brass-founders and ironfounders as good. Boilermakers are busily employed.

**Building Trades.**—Painters and plumbers report employment as fair; bricklayers, plasterers, and carpenters and joiners as good.

**Coal Mining.**—The miners report employment as good, full time being worked.—*T. Ashton.*

## Bolton and District.

**Cotton Trade.**—*Spinning.*—In Bolton and immediate district employment continues brisk; in Bury, Heywood, Ramsbottom and Leigh it is reported as fairly good; in Farnworth, Tyldesley, Walkden and Chorley as good. Cardroom operatives are well employed throughout the district. *Weaving.*—In both grey and coloured goods activity prevails throughout the district.

**Engineering and Iron Trades.**—Engineers report employment as good; steam-engine makers as busy at firm's; machine fitters, roller turners, steel smelters and plate moulders as moderately good. In Wigan, Chorley, Bury, Leigh and Ramsbottom all branches report employment as fairly good.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is good at Bolton, fair at Wigan, and slack at Chorley.

**Coal Mining.**—Employment generally has improved, miners working an average of five days per week.

**Miscellaneous.**—Leather workers, printers, carters, shoemakers and tailors report employment as moderately good.—*R. Toolill.*

## Blackburn, Burnley and District.

**Cotton Trade.**—*Weaving.*—Employment in the ordinary weaving trade continues good in the Blackburn, Burnley, Preston, Darwen, Nelson and Colne districts; a slight falling off is reported in the coloured goods weaving trade in the Colne district. Winders and warpers, tapers, twisters and drawers are fully employed. *Spinning.*—Spinners report employment as still good in Blackburn, Preston, Darwen and Accrington; fair at Burnley. Cardroom workers and ring spinners report employment as good. Branches of twisters and drawers and spinners, with 3,300 members, have 88 (or 2.7 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 85 (or 2.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is good with painters and decorators; moderate with plumbers, masons and bricklayers.

**Engineering and Iron Trades.**—Employment continues good.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—Coal miners report employment as fair in the Burnley, Townley, and Accrington districts. Stone quarrymen are moderately well employed.

**Miscellaneous.**—Tailors report employment as slack; cabinet-makers as good; letterpress printers as moderate; calico printers as fair; woollen block printers as good.—*W. H. Wilkinson.*

## Manchester and District.

**General.**—Branches of societies with 21,952 members have 560 (or 2.6 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 529 (or 2.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Engineers and boilermakers report employment as moderate in Manchester and Stockport, good in Northwich. Ironfounders throughout the district are busy. Brass-founders and finishers and braziers and sheet metal workers report employment as good. In Warrington wire-drawers and wire-weavers, engineers, boilermakers, and wheelwrights and blacksmiths are fully employed; sheet metal-workers report employment as moderate. In Macclesfield employment generally is fairly good.

**Building Trades.**—In Manchester painters report employment as moderate, plumbers as bad; other branches as fair or good. Employment generally is fairly good in Stockport and Macclesfield, moderate in Northwich.

**Textile Trades.**—In Manchester spinners report employment as moderate. In Stockport the textile trades are fully employed. In Macclesfield winders and warpers are not very busy; spinners, weavers and cardroom hands are fully employed; fustian cutters moderately so; in the silk trade all branches are working full time. Employment is reported as moderate with bleachers, dressers, dyers and finishers.

**Clothing Trades.**—Bespoke tailors continue slack; the Jewish section are moderately well employed. Employment is plentiful in the wholesale tailoring factories; only moderate in the ready-made mantle trade; busy with waterproof garment makers. Felt hat makers and trimmers and boot and shoe makers report employment as moderate; cap makers, shirt makers and umbrella makers as plentiful.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Cabinet-makers report employment as good; French polishers as fair; upholsterers as quiet; coachmakers as busy in Manchester, moderate in Warrington and Stockport. Coopers are fully employed.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—Letterpress printers report employment as bad in Manchester, fair in Stockport and Macclesfield; lithographic artists and printers as moderate; bookbinders and machine rulers as dull; pattern card makers as good.—*G. D. Kelley.*

## Liverpool and District.

**Shipbuilding and Engineering.**—Boilermakers and iron-ship builders, iron and brass-founders, drillers, whitesmiths, iron and steel dressers report employment as fairly good; pattern-makers, fitters and turners, joiners, and painters as moderate.

**Transport Trades.**—Seamen and firemen report employment as fair; dock labourers as moderate at the South Docks, good at the North Docks; quay and railway carters as improving; flatmen as fair; saltheavers as moderate.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Coachmakers report employment as good; cabinet-makers, upholsterers, millersawyers and woodworking machinists, and coopers as fair.

**Clothing Trades.**—Bespoke tailors report employment as rather dull; ready-made tailoring branches as fair; boot and shoe makers as rather slack.

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

**Building Trades.**—Plumbers, painters, and carpenters report employment as rather moderate; all other branches as fair.

**Coal Mining and Quarrying.**—Coal miners report employment as fair. Employment with quarrymen continues good.

**Glass and Chemical Trades.**—All branches of glassworkers report employment as fair. Chemical workers continue only moderately employed.—*C. Rouse.*

A report from *Winsford* states that employment in the salt trade has not improved. The moulders have full employment. In the building trades employment is rather dull at Winsford; moderate at Middlewich. In the chemical trade at Middlewich it is normal. In both towns boiler smiths, shipwrights, and brassworkers are fairly well employed; fustian cutters are rather slack.

## YORKSHIRE.

## Hull and District.

**Shipbuilding, Engineering and Metal Trades.**—The engineers, steam engine makers, machine workers, brassfounders and finishers, ironfounders, iron and steel dressers report employment as good; the smiths and strikers, patternmakers, sheet metal workers,

## EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—YORKSHIRE; MIDLAND COUNTIES.

boilermakers, drillers and hole cutters, shipwrights and general labourers as moderate; the sailmakers as bad. Employment is good at Beverley and Selby; good with smiths and engineers at Grimsby and Goole, moderate with shipwrights; fair at Doncaster.

**Building Trades.**—Employment at Hull is unsettled through the dispute. Carpenters and joiners report employment as good at Grimsby, Goole and Selby, moderate at Beverley and Driffield; bricklayers as good at Grimsby and Selby, moderate at Goole.

**Transport Trades.**—The seamen and marine firemen, and the railway workers and dock labourers report employment as good.

**Fishing Industry.**—The trawl fishermen, line fishermen, and steam fishing vessel engineers and firemen at Hull and Grimsby have been fairly well employed on the whole. Pontoon and general labourers in the fishing trade report employment as moderate; curing-house workers as fair.

**Seed-crushing, Oil Paint and Colour Trades.**—Employment in seed-crushing mills is reported as improving. In the paint and colour works it continues fairly good.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—All branches at Hull report employment as moderate.

**Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.**—The coachbuilders at Hull and Doncaster report employment as good. The mill sawyers and wood machinists, cabinetmakers and coopers at Hull as moderate.

**Leather Trades.**—The tanners, leather belt and lace makers at Hull report employment as fair.

**Miscellaneous.**—The bakers and confectioners report employment as good; the tailors' machinists and pressers as quiet; the gas workers and general labourers as moderate.—*W. G. Millington.*

## Leeds and District.

**General.**—Branches of societies with 8,386 members have 172 (or 2.1 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 190 (or 2.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—The engineers continue well employed, overtime being regularly worked; iron-moulders, boiler-makers, and steel smelters are still busy; stove grate workers exceptionally brisk; brassworkers fairly busy. The end of the season has caused a cessation of overtime at the cycle factories. At Wakefield the engineers and ironfounders continue fully employed.

**Clothing Trades.**—In the ready-made clothing trade there has been a fair demand for labour; bespoke tailors are quiet. The boot and shoe factories continue busy at Leeds, and employment is also good at Heckmondwike, Bramley, and Pudsey; slipper-makers are fairly busy.

**Textile Trades.**—In Leeds woollen spinners, blanket raisers, linen workers, wileys and fettlers report employment as good. At Wakefield and Bramley the mills are working full time.

**Building Trades.**—In Leeds employment is good with bricklayers, masons and plasterers; improved with plumbers; fair with painters. At Harrogate employment is good except with painters.

**Mining.**—The pits in the Leeds district are working full time; ironstone and clay miners continue busy. At Pontefract, Castleford and Wakefield coal miners are fully employed.

**Leather Trades.**—Tanners, saddlers and harness-makers are only moderately employed; carriers are slack; leather shavers are improving.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—Printers report employment as good generally; lithographers as fair; bookbinders and machine-rulers as good. Paper millworkers are busy.

**Glass Trades.**—Glass bottle-makers in Leeds and Wakefield report employment as good, at Castleford as fair; flint glass-makers as good; decorative glass-workers as moderate.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment with brushmakers and cabinet-makers is moderate; with coachmakers good; mill-sawyers are busy.—*O. Connellan.*

## Bradford, Huddersfield and District.

**Worsted Trades.**—In Bradford employment with weavers is not quite so good; the woollsorters and woolcombers report employment as good. In Halifax, Huddersfield, Keighley and the Worth Valley, employment is fairly good.

**Woollen Trade.**—Employment in the woollen trade in and around Huddersfield has further improved. Two or three additional firms have gone on night and day, and overtime still continues at other places, especially in the Colne Valley. In the heavy woollen district employment is again reported as good all round.

**Other Textile Trades.**—Employment in the silk trade is fair at Manningham, good at Halifax and Brighouse. In the cotton trade it is good in Huddersfield and Halifax, busy at Brighouse.

**Metal Trades.**—The engineers report employment as good in Bradford, Keighley, Halifax and Dewsbury, moderate in Huddersfield. Ironfounders are well employed throughout the district.

**Building Trades.**—Building operatives are fairly busy, but the painters are rather quieter.

**Miscellaneous.**—Glassworkers, ragworkers, wireworkers and dyers report employment as fairly good; tailors and printers as still rather quiet; cabinetmakers as fair.—*A. Gee.*

## Sheffield, Barnsley, and Rotherham District.

**General.**—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 12,282 members have 100 (or 0.8 per cent.) unemployed, as against 87 (or 0.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

**Iron and Steel Industries.**—Workmen in all sections throughout the district continue busy. Branches with 6,157 members have 62 (or 1.0 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 47 (or 0.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

**Cutlery and Tools.**—Engineers, joiners, and general edge-tool makers and grinders, and makers of files, saws and wool shears report employment as good. Table and butcher knife makers, and handle and scale cutters as fair; spring knife makers as improved; haft and scale pressers as slack.

**Other Metal Trades.**—Silversmiths, electro-plate finishers, stampers, hollow ware buffers, platers and gilders, spoon and fork filers, and Britannia metal smiths report employment as moderate. At Rotherham brassworkers are busy.

**Coal Mining.**—Returns from 56 of the principal collieries show an average of 5.53 days per week worked during September. Owing to the Doncaster races several pits were idle from one to three days during the month.

**Building Trades.**—Employment at Barnsley is only moderate, otherwise it is good throughout the district.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—Letterpress and lithographic printers and bookbinders are well employed.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Cabinetmakers and coach-makers are fairly well employed; upholsterers are quiet. At Barnsley both box and bobbin-makers are busy. Railway-wagon and carriage-builders are well employed.

**Linen Trade.**—Employment is fair.

**Clothing Trades.**—Bespoke tailoring in Sheffield is fair. In Barnsley employment in the ready-made tailoring trade is moderate. In the boot and shoe trade it is good.

**Glass Trade.**—Throughout the district flint glassworkers and bottle-makers are well employed.

**Miscellaneous.**—Brickmakers, quarrymen, chemical workers, paper-makers and down quiltmakers are busy. Potters are moderately employed. Harness-makers and saddlers, railway servants, colliery surface-workers and general labourers report employment as good.—*S. Utley.*

## ENGLAND: MIDLAND COUNTIES.

## Derbyshire District.

**General.**—Branches of societies (exclusive of coal miners) with 7,355 members have 54 (or 0.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 83 (or 1.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

**Engineering and kindred Trades.**—Cycle workers in Long Eaton and Draycott report employment as bad; all other branches as good generally.

**Coal Mining.**—Returns from 72 collieries employing upwards of 33,000 men show an average of 5½ days per week worked, as against 5 days in August.

**Quarrying.**—Limestone and chert quarrymen are all well employed.

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

**Coachbuilding and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment in Derby and Long Eaton continues good with railway carriage and wagon builders; it is fair with carriage builders in private shops. Coopers at Burton-on-Trent report employment as good. Most timber yards are fairly well employed.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment continues good with cotton operatives and surgical bandage makers. Elastic web weavers report employment as improving; lace workers in Ilkeston as good, and in Long Eaton as moderate; calico printers as improving; engravers as moderate; silk and merino workers, dyers and bleachers as good; hosiery workers as moderate.

**Clothing Trades.**—Boot and shoe operatives in Chesterfield report employment as good, in Derby as slack; factory tailoring operatives are fully employed; bespoke tailors report employment as slack; dress and mantle makers as fair.

## EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—MIDLAND COUNTIES.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—Letterpress and lithographic printers, bookbinders and machine rulers report employment as fair generally.—*C. White-Deacon.*

## Nottingham and District.

**Lace Trade.**—Employment is brisk in the plain net branch; moderate in the curtain and warp lace branches; improved, but still irregular in the levers branch. Auxillary lace-workers report employment as improved; warpers and card punchers as good; designers, draughtsmen, curtain-readers, and female lace-workers as moderate; dyers as fairly good at Basford, moderate at Nottingham; bleachers at Basford and Bulwell as good. At Beeston and Stapleford employment is moderate and steady.

**Hosiery Trade.**—The wool shawl branch at Hucknall Torkard reports employment as slack; the circular hosiery branch at Nottingham as fair. Otherwise, employment is good in all branches throughout the district.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Fitters and mechanics report employment as bad; cycle-makers as only moderate; farriers as improving; iron and steel dressers as fair; lace and hosiery machine-builders, bobbin and carriage-makers, carriage-straighteners, ironfounders, boiler-makers, tool machinists, brassworkers, brassfounders, wheelwrights and blacksmiths as good. Employment at Grantham and Newark is good generally. At Beeston it is moderate with tool machinists, bad with general engineers. Branches with 3,054 members have 92 (or 3.0 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage of their membership as at the end of August.

**Coal Mining.**—Returns from 27 collieries, employing some 15,401 men, show an average of 4.65 days per week. Employment is fairly good in North Notts; improving in the Leen Valley and South Notts.

**Building Trades.**—At Nottingham employment is moderate with plumbers and painters; good in other branches. At Grantham and Newark it is good generally.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment is good with cabinetmakers, upholsterers, French polishers, shop fitters, coopers, packing-case makers and box makers. With coach-makers it is good at Nottingham, fair at Grantham, and rather quiet at Newark.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—Letterpress printers and bookbinders report employment as good; lithographic artists and printers as moderate; printers' cutters and labourers as fair.

**Clothing Trades.**—Tailors report employment as quiet; boot and shoe makers as fair at Mansfield, moderate at Nottingham, good at Hucknall Torkard.

**Railways.**—Employment is active throughout the district, and overtime is being worked by most grades.

**Miscellaneous.**—Female cigar-makers report employment as moderate; gasworkers as improved; maltsters as improving. Stationary engine-drivers, enginemen and cranimen, brickmakers and general labourers are well employed.—*W. L. Hardstaff.*

## Leicester and Northampton District.

**Boot and Shoe Trade.**—Employment continues regular with the makers of men's boots and shoes in the Kettering district, those engaged on army contracts being busy. At Leicester, Hinckley, Rushden, Northampton and Desborough employment is quieter with lasters, finishers and clickers.

**Other Clothing Trades.**—In the wholesale tailoring trade work is plentiful; it continues slack in the bespoke branch. Employment is good with corset-makers, more regular with milliners, dress-makers, and mantle makers. It is good with silk hatters and cap-makers, and quiet with felt hatters.

**Hosiery and Woolspinning.**—Employment is good in the plain and fancy hosiery departments at Leicester and Market Harborough, and in the hose and half-hose and pants branches at Loughborough. Dyers and trimmers, and operatives in the woolspinning trades are busily employed.

**Elastic Web Trade.**—In the cord and braid branches work is regular; it is slack in the gusset and narrow webbing department.

**Engineering Trades.**—General engineers are fully employed at Leicester, Northampton, and Loughborough. Employment is moderate with shoe and hosiery machine builders; good with winders and electrical machine makers, boiler-makers, ironfounders and toolmakers; slacker in the cycle trade.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—Coalminers are more fully engaged at the South Leicester coal pits. Employment is good in all branches of stone quarrying, and also with lime and cement workers.

**Printing and Bookbinding Trades.**—With letterpress printers employment is good at Loughborough and Northampton, moderate

at Leicester and Rugby; good with lithographic printers; fair with bookbinders.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is good with stonemasons, plasterers, slaters, and plumbers; moderate with bricklayers, builders' labourers, carpenters and joiners, and decorators.

**Furnishing and Coachmaking Trades.**—Cabinetmakers and upholsterers are regularly employed. Work is also good with coach-makers, road and tramcar builders, and railway wagon repairers.

**Leather Trades.**—Tanners continue fairly well employed; carriers at Northampton and Market Harborough are slacker.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment is reported as good with basket-makers, brushmakers, farriers, brick, tile and terra-cotta workers, and railwaymen; as fair with cigar makers and bakers; as slacker with boxmakers and general labourers.—*T. Smith.*

## Potteries District.

**Pottery Trades.**—Hollow-ware pressers are well employed. Sanitary pressers are busy. Flat pressers report a further improvement. Printers and transferrers continue busy. Women gilders and decorators are well employed at most factories. Men artists and throwers and turners in the general trade continue fairly employed; but in the furniture and electrical departments short time prevails. Designers, modellers and mouldmakers report a slight decline. Encaustic tilemakers, still and spurnmakers, packers, cratemakers, and oven men continue busy.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—Employment continues good throughout the district.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Engineers, boiler-makers and moulders in North Staffordshire are well employed, overtime being general. At Stafford an improvement is reported. At Crewe all branches are well employed. Copper and brassworkers at Oakenham and Froghall, and agricultural engineers at Uttoxeter and Rugeley are well employed.

**Mining and Quarrying.**—Colliers and ironstone miners in North Staffordshire continue busy, and at Cheadle a slight improvement is reported. Stone quarrymen at Alton and Hollington are fully employed.

**Textile Trades.**—At Leek employment in the silk trade continues good. At Congleton silk dressers report an improvement; fustian cutters continue fairly busy. Silk and tape workers at Cheadle and Tean are well employed.

**Clothing Trades.**—Tailors report an improvement. Boot and shoe makers at Stafford and Stone report employment as quiet. Corset-makers at Uttoxeter and Ashbourne are busy on best goods.

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

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—Letterpress printers are better employed. Lithographic artists and printers report no change. Bookbinders and machine rulers are fully employed.

**Miscellaneous.**—Railway servants are well employed. Brush-makers are moderately busy. Bakers are fairly employed. Basket-makers are working full time. Gas workers are busy.—*I. S. Harvey.*

## Wolverhampton and District.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—In South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire employment continues good in all branches. In South Shropshire the wire and rolling mills are working full time.

**Engineering and allied Trades.**—Employment with engineers, moulders, bridge, boiler, girder, tank and gasometer makers is good. The cycle-makers report employment as quiet. At Walsall employment in the malleable iron trade continues good. At Madeley and Coalbrookdale employment is fairly good.

**Hardware Trades.**—Employment is reported as good with makers of tubes, nuts and bolts, iron-fences, hurdles, spring and coach iron work, electrical and gas fittings, black castings, spring traps, gunlocks, builders' ironmongery, hinges, tips and cut nails, malleable nails and protectors, and with galvanisers, stampers and piercers; moderate with makers of horse-shoes, edge-tools, locks, keys and latches, stamped hollow-ware and with brass and tinplate workers; quiet with makers of steel toys and spectacle frames and with filesmiths. In the ironplate trade employment is slack at Wolverhampton, fairly good at Bilston, and improved at the Lye. The wrought nailmakers at Halesowen have improved. Employment with chainmakers and strikers in Old Hill and district is good. The block chainmakers at Cradley Heath are well employed. The anchor-smiths at Cradley are quiet. At Dudley the anvil and vice makers report no improvement. The iron and steel forges at Wednesbury are well employed.

**Coal Mining.**—On Cannock Chase the pits now average four days per week; in the Old Hill, Oldbury, Tipton and Dudley districts five days; in Shropshire full time. The Tamworth collieries are reported as busier.

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

**Building Trades.**—All branches are busy.

**Glass Trades.**—The flint glass-cutters, etchers, bevellers, engravers and intaglio workers at Stourbridge and Wordsley, and the glass bottle-makers at Brierley Hill report employment as good.

**Leather Trades.**—At Walsall the gig saddlers are busy, the brown saddlers are fair, and the harness-makers are a little quieter. Chain, buckle, cart gear, case hame, and spring hook makers are well employed.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment in the Kidderminster carpet trade has improved; spinners are steadily busy. The Bridgnorth carpet mills are busy; the Tamworth tape mills are working full time.

**Clothing Trades.**—Employment is steady in the ready-made tailoring department, but has fallen off in the bespoke branch. In the boot and shoe trade it is reported as fair.—C. Anthony.

**Birmingham and District.**

**General.**—Branches with 20,929 members have 408 (or 1.9 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 385 (or 1.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

**Engineering.**—In Birmingham seven branches of engineers return employment as moderate, two as good, and one as bad; toolmakers as moderate; pattern-makers as fair; ironfounders and smiths and strikers as good. In Coventry and West Bromwich employment is reported as brisk; at Redditch as moderate. The motor industry at Coventry is reported as brisk. Throughout the district employment in the cycle trade is quiet.

**Brass and Copper Trades.**—Employment is fairly good in the various sections of the brass trade. Copper tube makers continue well employed. Brass and copper wire drawers are rather quiet.

**Jewellers, Silversmiths, and Electro-platers.**—Jewellers return employment as good for the time of the year; silversmiths, electro-platers, and Britannia metal workers as moderate; plate-glass bevellers and silverers as good.

**Other Metal Trades.**—Makers of bedsteads, wrought iron and steel hinges, nuts and bolts, rivets and screw blanks, steel toys, gas, steam, and water tubes return employment as good. Makers of cut and wire nails, scale beams, weighing machines, matchettes, and edge tools are fairly employed. File cutters by hand report employment as improving; ironplate workers and tinplate workers as quiet. At West Bromwich the iron and hollow ware makers continue fully employed; springmakers report employment as fair; hame and coach axle makers as rather quiet. At Redditch the needle and fish hook makers continue busy.

**Building Trades.**—Employment in Birmingham is reported as fair; at Coventry as steady; at Redditch as moderate.

**Glass Trades.**—The flint glass makers and flint glass cutters return employment as good.

**Clothing Trades.**—Boot and shoemakers return employment as fair; tailors as improving.

**Woodworking and Coachbuilding Trades.**—Coachmakers, woodworkers and woodworking machinists, and coopers return employment as good; cabinet-makers as fair; carvers as bad. In the railway and wagon shops employment is steadily improving.

**Miscellaneous.**—Gasworkers, gasfitters, and general labourers report employment as good; letterpress printers as moderate; saddlers as quiet; other branches of the leather trade as fairly busy; gunmakers, both sporting and military, as bad; brickmakers as moderate. In Coventry employment with the watchmakers and ribbon weavers is steady. At Redditch the fancy casemakers are busy.—A. R. Jephcott.

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

**Clothing Trades.**—In the boot and shoe trade operatives on machine sewn work are slack; the turn shoe operatives are fairly busy; clickers are fairly well employed. Ready-made tailoring departments are fairly brisk; employment with bespoke tailors is good. Dressmakers, corset-makers and shirtmakers are fairly well employed.

**Building Trades.**—All branches are well employed.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—General and electrical engineers and boiler-makers are well employed in all parts of the district. Shipwrights and boatbuilders are well employed at Lowestoft. At Yarmouth shipwrights are not very busy.

**Printing and Bookbinding.**—Lithographic printers are fairly busy. Bookbinders are not very busy. Letterpress printers are slack.

**Textile Trades.**—Mat and matting weavers are well employed throughout the district. Silk and crape factories at Norwich and Yarmouth are on full time.

**Fishing Industry.**—Trawl fishing and the North Sea herring fishing are dull. Shell fishing at Lynn is fair.

**Miscellaneous.**—Steam flour, oil cake and sawmill workers, confectionery, jam and mineral water workers, electrical workers, motor car builders, horticultural builders, coachbuilders and woodworkers, navvies, timber carriers and dock and riverside workers, are well employed.—G. Cleverley.

**Suffolk, Essex and District.**

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—Employment is reported as good with engineers, boiler-makers and moulders; fair with shipwrights.

**Clothing Trades.**—The boot and shoe operatives report employment as dull. In the wholesale tailoring factories employment generally is good. Dressmakers, milliners and corsetmakers are well employed.

**Textile Trades.**—Mat weavers have been busy. Employment in the silk trade is good.

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

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—Letterpress printers, bookbinders and lithographers report employment as good.

**Miscellaneous.**—Shipping at Ipswich has declined since last month; at Harwich and Parkeston it is fairly good. Employment has been dull with riverside workers; good with brickmakers and general labourers.—R. W. Mather.

**ENGLAND: SOUTH-WESTERN COUNTIES.****Bristol and District.**

**General.**—Branches of societies (exclusive of miners and boot and shoe operatives) with 9,445 members have 89 (or 0.9 per cent.) unemployed, as against 59 (or 0.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

**Clothing Trades.**—Boot and shoe operatives are busy in the heavy nail branch, but in the light export trade employment is slack. The wholesale garment makers report employment as good in the home-trade, unsettled in the export trade; the corset makers as moderate; the silk hatters and glove makers as quiet; the bespoke tailors as brisk.

**Engineering and allied Trades.**—The ironfounders, pattern-makers, boiler-makers, tinplate workers and engineers report employment as good; the shipwrights, tool makers and farriers as fair; the wheelwrights, smiths and brassworkers as moderate.

**Coal Mining.**—Employment continues good.

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

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—The cabinetmakers, upholsterers, French polishers, coopers, mill-sawyers and machinists report employment as good; the lathrenders as fair; the railway coachmakers and carvers as moderate.

**Printing Trades.**—The letterpress printers report employment as good; the lithographic printers and bookbinders as moderate.

**Textile Trades.**—In the Trowbridge district employment is reported as good on covert coatings and ladies' costumes; fair on heavy woollens; and slack in the worsted and fancy woollen branches.

**Transport Trades.**—Dock employment is reported as brisk in grain and timber, moderate in Continental and coastwise traffic. Railroad men and carters are fully employed. There is a demand for sailors and firemen.

**Miscellaneous.**—Cocoa and chocolate and tobacco workers report employment as steady; glass bottle-makers, glass bevellers and cutters, saddle and harness makers, curriers, and brushmakers as good; brickmakers as brisk.—J. Curle.

**Plymouth and South-Western District.**

**Mining, Quarrying, and China Clay Industries.**—Employment in tin mines continues to improve. In the granite quarries work is brisk, and in limestone and slate quarries the workers are fully employed. In the china clay industry employment is good.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—Engineers are well employed in Plymouth, Devonport, Redruth, and Falmouth; moderately so in Exeter. Iron and steel shipbuilders and boiler-makers are busy; with ironfounders work is declining. Shipwrights are fully employed in Plymouth and Devonport; quiet at Falmouth, Dartmouth, and Brixham. Employment is good in the Government establishments. Branches with 2,111 members have 15 unemployed, compared with 13 at the end of August.

**Building Trades.**—Stonemasons and carpenters are well employed in Plymouth and Devonport, fairly so in Tavistock and Exeter. Bricklayers report work as good in Plymouth and Barnstaple; moderate in Exeter. Plasterers and plumbers are fully employed

## EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—S.W. COUNTIES; WALES; SCOTLAND.

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

**General.**—Branches with 16,612 members have 218 (or 1.3 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 282 (or 1.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

**Coal Mining.**—Employment continues good.

**Shale Miners and Oilworkers.**—Returns from 29 mines, employing 3,134 workpeople (as compared with 2,857 in September, 1898) show that, with the exception of a few thrown out of work by an underground fire, all were employed in mines working full time during the four weeks ended September 23rd.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Branches, with 2,256 members, have 34 (or 1.5 per cent.) idle, as against 32 (or 1.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. Branches in Falkirk, with 3,678 members, have 31 (or 0.8 per cent.) idle, as against 50 (or 1.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

**Shipbuilding.**—Branches with 600 members have 24 (or 4.0 per cent.) idle, as against 63 (or 10.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

**Textile Trades.**—Employment with woollen spinners and weavers in Selkirk, Hawick, and Galashiels continues good. Employment in the hosiery industry continues good in Hawick and Selkirk. The carpet weavers in Midlothian report employment as good.

**Building Trades.**—Branches with 5,474 members have 34 (or 0.6 per cent.) idle, as against 12 (or 0.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

**Woodworking and Furnishing Trades.**—Branches with 1,305 members have 17 (or 1.3 per cent.) idle, as against 31 (or 2.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—The seamen and firemen report employment as good. The coal porters and dock labourers are fully employed.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—Branches with 2,282 members have 55 (or 2.4 per cent.) idle, as against 61 (or 2.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

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

**Glasgow and West of Scotland.**

**Shipbuilding.**—Employment is good. Some difficulty is reported in getting sufficient plates and angles from the rolling mills. Branches with 14,558 members return 279 (or 1.9 per cent.) as idle, as against 288 (or 2.0 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—Employment is good. Branches with 29,276 members return 613 (or 2.1 per cent.) as idle, as against 653 (or 2.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

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

**Mining.**—In Stirlingshire miners have hardly been so busy; in Dumbartonshire and Renfrewshire employment is well maintained; in Ayrshire it continues good; in Lanarkshire it is also good.

**Clothing Trades.**—Bespoke tailors report employment as improving; the clothiers' operatives as busy in readymade tailoring; tailors' machinists and pressers as improved. Employment with boot and shoe operatives and knee boot and shoemakers has improved. Curriers are still well employed.

**Textile Trades.**—At Darvel and Catrine employment is rather dull; otherwise it is good throughout the district.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—Letterpress and lithographic printers are dull. Electrotypes and stereotypers are busy. Bookbinders are moderately employed.

**Glass Trades.**—Flint glass cutters and flint glass makers report employment as fair. Decorative glass workers are hardly so busy. Bottle-makers are still well employed.

**Miscellaneous.**—Calico engravers, gilders, settmakers, paviors, scale beam makers, spindle and flyer-makers, saddlers, brush-makers, and pipemakers and finishers are busy. Labourers have been well employed. Seamen are dull. Dock labourers, carters, railway men, tramway men, and hackney carriage drivers have been busy.—A. J. Hunter.

**Dundee and District.**

**Textile Trades.**—Since the settlement of the dispute employment has been good in the jute industry. In the linen trade activity still prevails.

**Coal Mining.**—Employment at the Fifeshire collieries has continued fairly steady. Returns from collieries employing 11,341

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

**Mining.**—Employment at the coal, lead and blende mines continues good.

**Quarrying.**—Employment at the slate, granite sett, freestone, limestone and roadstone quarries is good.

**Building Trades.**—The bricklayers at Oswestry and Wrexham report employment as good; the carpenters and joiners as fair generally; the plasterers at Llandudno as good; the painters at Llandudno as quiet.

**Engineering and Metal Trades.**—The engineers at Oswestry and Sandycroft report employment as moderate, at Cefn as good; steel workers, iron-workers, tinplate-workers, boiler and engine men, coachmakers and wagon-makers as good.

**Clothing and Textile Trades.**—Employment in the tweed and flannel industries has been good. The bespoke tailors at Rhyl report employment as fairly good; at Wrexham as quiet; at Carnarvon as moderate.

**Brick, Terra-cotta and Chemical Trades.**—Employment continues active throughout the district.—G. Rowley.

**South Wales District.**

**Coal Mining.**—Collieries throughout the whole of this district have been working regularly. Dowlais and Cyfarthfa collieries are again in full swing.

**Shipping and Dock Labour.**—Coal shipments have been below the average at Barry, Cardiff and Penarth, but have improved during the last week. Employment in the iron ore, pitwood, and timber trades has been good. Dock hoblers and corn porters report employment as slack; ship painters and scruffers as good. The shipment of crews has been quiet.

**Ship Repairing and Engineering.**—All branches have been slack, with a slight improvement at the end of the month, except at Newport, where employment has been up to the average. Branches of engineers and ironfounders with 2,954 members have 126 (or 4.3 per cent.) unemployed, as against 140 (or 4.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. Shipwrights report 90 per cent. and boiler-makers 60 per cent. as unemployed. Ironfounders and moulders, including the colliery and inland districts, report employment as good.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is generally reported as moderate. Branches of carpenters, and joiners, and plumbers with 1,793 members have 43 (or 2.4 per cent.) unemployed, as against 40 (or 2.2 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

**Iron and Steel Trades.**—Returns from all the larger works show that mills and furnaces are working to their fullest capacity.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment in the fuel trade has been good. With wagon-builders and repairers it is good; with metallurgical and chemical workers quiet; with lithographers, bookbinders and letter-printers moderate.—T. Davies.

**Tinplate Trade in South Wales, Monmouthshire, and Gloucestershire.**—Employment continues to improve, and is much better than a year ago. At the end of September 399 mills in the district were at work (including those engaged in the manufacture of black plates), giving employment to an estimated number of 20,250 workpeople. These figures compare with 377 mills, employing 19,128 workpeople at the end of August, and 292 mills employing 15,014 workpeople a year ago.

EMPLOYMENT IN SEPTEMBER—DISTRICT REPORTS (contd.)—SCOTLAND; IRELAND.

workpeople show an average of 5.2 days per week worked during the four weeks ending September 23rd, as compared with 5.4 days per week during August.

**Engineering and Shipbuilding.**—Employment in the engineering industry still shows slackness, but the shipyards remain busy. Branches of societies with 2,261 members return 125 (or 5.5 per cent.) unemployed, as compared with 131 (or 5.7 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

**Building and Woodworking Trades.**—Employment in the building trades continues good on the whole. The furniture and upholstery trades are fairly well employed. Societies with 1,756 members give 22 (or 1.3 per cent.) idle, as against 20 (or 1.1 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

**Dock Labour.**—Employment has been only moderate.

**Fishing Industry.**—The boats engaged in the herring fishing in the south have met with fair success. The sparling fishing has opened moderately.

**Miscellaneous.**—Employment in the printing and kindred trades remains fairly good; in the boot and shoe trade it is fair; in the tailoring trade quiet; in the bleaching and floorcloth and linoleum trades steady.—P. Reid.

**Aberdeen and District.**

**General.**—Branches of societies with 6,851 members have 87 (or 1.3 per cent.) idle, as against 94 (or 1.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

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

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

**Transport Trades.**—The railway servants, carters and dock labourers report employment as good.

**Shipbuilding and Engineering.**—Branches of societies with 1,506 members have 13 (or 0.9 per cent.) unemployed, as against 22 (or 1.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. Boiler-makers and iron and steel shipbuilders report employment as moderate; other branches as good.

**Clothing and Textile Trades.**—The tailors and mill and factory workers report employment as good; boot and shoe makers as quiet; boot and shoe operatives as moderate; carpet weavers as bad.

**Fishing.**—In September, at the port of Aberdeen, trawl and line boats landed 76,909 cwts. of fish, with a value of £49,730, an increase both in quantity and value as compared with August.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—The letterpress printers and bookbinders report employment as good; lithographic printers as moderate.

**Miscellaneous.**—The sawmillers and saddlers report employment as good; upholsterers and cabinet-makers as fair; comb makers as moderate; bakers as bad.—W. Johnston.

**IRELAND.**

**Dublin and District.**

**Building Trades.**—Employment generally has been fair.

**Metal Trades.**—Employment is reported as moderate with the engineers and iron founders, fair with the whitesmiths, brass finishers, gas fitters, silver plate workers and electrical workers; good with the boiler-makers.

**Woodworking Trades.**—The coachmakers report employment as good, the upholsterers as steady, the cart and wagon builders as fair.

**Printing and allied Trades.**—The lithographers, stereotypers, despatch assistants, and machine assistants report employment as fair; the bookbinders and machine rulers as good; the letterpress printers as dull. Branches with 1,362 members have 104 (or 7.6 per cent.) unemployed, compared with 125 (or 9.3 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August.

**Clothing Trades.**—The tailors, and and one branch of bootmakers report employment as dull; another branch of bootmakers as good.

**Miscellaneous.**—Labourers and bottlemakers report employment as good; the rope makers and paviors as fair; the grain weighers as bad.—J. P. Nannetti.

**Belfast and District.**

**Shipbuilding and Engineering Trades.**—Societies with 8,288 members have 255 (or 3.1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 296 (or 3.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The sail-makers report employment as bad; pattern-makers as dull; black-

smiths, strikers, engineers, iron turners, etc., as moderate; carpenters and joiners as quiet; furnishing trades, brassfounders, machine workers, enginemen, cranimen, and firemen as fair; shipwrights, steam engine makers, ironfounders, general labourers, and platers' helpers, steel metal workers, drillers and hole-cutters as good.

**Linen Trades.**—Societies with 4,047 members have 67 (or 1.7 per cent.) unemployed, the same percentage as at the end of August. The flaxdressers report employment as moderate; yarn bundle as fair; power-loom tenters as improving; beetling enginemen, flax roughers, linen lappers, yarn dressers, hackle and gill makers and women workers as good.

**Building Trades.**—Branches of societies with 2,037 members have 104 (or 5.1 per cent.) unemployed, as against 103 (or 4.8 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The bricklayers' labourers and painters report employment as bad; carpenters and joiners as quiet; plumbers as dull; bricklayers as fair.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Societies with 854 members have 53 (or 6.2 per cent.) unemployed, as against 31 (or 3.6 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The upholsterers, coopers and mill-sawyers report employment as dull; packing case makers as moderate; cabinet-makers and French polishers as quiet; coachbuilders as good.

**Printing and kindred Trades.**—Branches with 935 members have 91 (or 9.7 per cent.) unemployed, as against 79 (or 8.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The lithographic printers report employment as bad; lithographic artists' designers and engravers as fair; letterpress printers as dull; bookbinders and machine rulers as quiet.

**Clothing Trades.**—The boot and shoe operatives report employment as fair. The tailors are only partially employed.

**Miscellaneous.**—Branches with 1,915 members have 55 (or 2.9 per cent.) unemployed, as against 46 (or 2.4 per cent. of their membership) at the end of August. The bakers, butchers, railway servants, paviors, and municipal employees report employment as fair; carters as busy; locomotive engine drivers as good.—R. Sheldon.

**Cork and District.**

**Shipbuilding and Engineering.**—Boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders report employment as good in Haulbowline, Queenstown and Passage West, fair in Cork and Limerick; the engineers as moderate throughout the district; the shipwrights as good.

**Building Trades.**—Employment is good in Limerick; quiet in Cork, Skibbereen and Bandon.

**Textile and Clothing Trades.**—Flax and tweed operatives at Mill-field and Blarney report employment as fair; tailors as good in Limerick, quiet in Cork and Waterford; boot and shoe operatives as fair.

**Furnishing and Woodworking Trades.**—Cabinetmakers and upholsterers, mill-sawyers and woodworking machinists, packing-case makers and coachmakers continue moderately employed.

**Miscellaneous.**—The mackerel fishing has been fairly successful. Letterpress printers and gasworkers report employment as fair; quay labourers, hackney car drivers and coal porters as dull; tramway employees as good.—P. O'Shea.

**TRADE UNIONS IN VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.**

FROM the Thirteenth Annual Report on Trade Unions in the above Colony it appears that the only considerable Union belongs to the mining industry, the figures being as follows:—

	Members at end of 1898.	Income in 1898.	Exp'nditure in 1898.	Funds at end of 1898.
Amalgamated Miners ...	9,090	£ 1,713	£ 1,845	£ 459
Victoria Coal Miners ...	522	339	337	7
Five other Societies ...	166*	228	86	268
Total ...	9,778	2,280	2,268	734

Similar particulars have been collected for each year since 1886, and the records show that in 1890 the total membership was 49,613 and the funds £38,650.

**New South Wales.**

The New South Wales Statistical Register for 1898 and previous years, part vii. (manufactories and works) states that the total number of manufactories and works in the Colony in 1898 was 2,839 (as compared with 2,826 in 1897), employing 52,518 persons, of whom 44,673 were male and 7,845 female (as against 51,439, of whom 44,333 were male and 7,106 female in 1897).

\* Exclusive of one society.

**INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN SEPTEMBER.**

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

THE total number of workpeople reported as killed by accidents during September was 294, being 32 less than in August, and 6 more than in September, 1898.

In the first group of industries shown in the following summary table, including railways, mines, quarries, shipping, and factories, and employing 5,383,534 persons (according to the latest available figures), 271 were reported killed, and 7,157 injured by accidents during September, as compared with 275 reported killed and 6,812 injured in September, 1898. These figures give one death in September for every 19,865 persons employed in those industries. During the nine completed months of 1899, 3,114 persons were reported killed and 61,865 injured, as against 2,597 reported killed and 49,328 injured in the corresponding period of 1898.

In the remaining occupations included in the tables, 23 persons were reported as killed, and 1,052 injured in September, as compared with 13 reported killed and 995 injured in September of last year.

**SUMMARY TABLE.**

	Killed.		Injured.		Number Employed according to latest Returns.
	Sept., 1899.	Sept., 1898.	Sept., 1899.	Sept., 1898.	
<b>Railway Service—</b>					
Accidents connected with movement of vehicles	39	50	415	375	534,141
Other Accidents	3	4	991	799	
Total Railway Service	42	54	1,406	1,174	534,141
<b>Mines</b> ...	68	83	365	399	741,125
<b>Quarries (over 20 feet deep)</b> ...	7	5	90	145	134,478
<b>Shipping</b> ...	97	82	207	182	230,372*
<b>Factories</b> ...	57	51	5,089	4,912	3,743,418
Total of above	271	275	7,157	6,812	5,383,534
<b>Workshops</b> ...	1	...	14	17	Cannot be stated.
<b>Under Factory Act, 1895, §§ 23, 25</b> ...	10	8	802	811	
<b>Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894</b> ...	12	5	236	167	

**DETAILED TABLE.**

	Killed.		Injured.		Total.
	By Accidents connected with Movement of Vehicles.	By other accidents on the Companies' Premises.	Killed.	Injured.	
<b>Railway Service—</b>					
Brakemen and Goods	6	68	15	6	83
Guards	1	42	48	1	90
Engine Drivers	3	59	82	3	141
Firemen	1	12	12	1	24
Guards (Passenger)	...	...	...	...	...
Permanent Way Men (not including Labourers)	5	11	77	5	88
Porters	3	54	263	4	317
Shunters	3	64	14	3	78
Miscellaneous (including Contractors' Servants)	17	105	2	19	585
Total for Sept., 1899	39	415	3	991	1,406
Total for Sept., 1898	60	375	4	799	1,174
<b>Mines—</b>					
Explosions of Firedamp	...	14	...	...	14
Falls of ground	29	154	...	...	29 154
In shafts	11	13	...	...	11 13
Miscellaneous	22	146	6	38	28 184
Total for Sept., 1899	62	327	6	38	68 365
Total for Sept., 1898	75	354	8	45	83 399
<b>Quarries over 20 feet deep</b>					
Explosives or Blasting	1	8	...	...	1 8
Falls of ground	4	10	...	...	4 10
During ascent or descent	1	1	1	...	2
Miscellaneous	1	50	1	20	2 70
Total for Sept., 1899	6	69	1	21	7 90
Total for Sept., 1898	4	70	1	75	5 145

	Killed.		Injured.		Total.
	By Wreck or Casualty.	By other Accidents.	Killed.	Injured.	
<b>Shipping*</b>					
<b>On Trading Vessels—</b>					
Sailing ...	13	—	14	65	27 65
Steam ...	7	1	59†	124	66† 125
<b>On Fishing Vessels—</b>					
Sailing ...	—	4	—	2	— 6
Steam ...	1	1	3	10	4 11
Total for September, 1899	21	6	76†	201	97† 207
Total for 3 months July, 1899, to September, 1899 ...	89	11	215	680	304 691
Total for 3 months July, 1898, to September, 1898 ...	66	11	184	741	250 762

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
<b>Factories—</b>					
(a) Accidents reportable by Certifying Surgeons—					
Adults ...	46	1,019	1	138	47 1,157
Young Persons ...	10	445	—	114	10 559
Children ...	—	15	—	6	— 21
Total ...	56	1,479	1	258	57 1,737
(b) Other Accidents—					
Adults ...	—	2,827	—	56	— 2,883
Young Persons ...	—	447	—	19	— 466
Children ...	—	2	—	1	— 3
Total ...	—	3,276	—	76	— 3,352
Total Factories—					
September, 1899 ...	56	4,755	1	334	57 5,089
September, 1898 ...	51	4,633	—	279	51 4,912

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
<b>Workshops—</b>					
Adults ...	1	8	—	2	1 10
Young Persons ...	—	3	—	1	— 4
Children ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total Workshops—					
September, 1899 ...	1	10	—	3	1 14
September, 1898 ...	—	15	—	2	— 17

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
<b>Factories &amp; Workshops (classified by trades).</b>					
<b>Textiles—</b>					
Cotton ...	2	147	1	100	3 247
Wool and Worsted ...	3	76	—	55	3 131
Other Textiles ...	—	51	—	36	— 87
<b>Non-Textiles—</b>					
Extraction of Metals ...	1	31	—	—	1 31
Founding and Conversion of Metals	2	535	—	4	2 539
Machines, Engines and Engineering	13	1,465	—	1	13 1,466
Ship and Boat Building	10	770	—	—	10 770
Wood	6	173	—	1	6 174
Chemicals, &c. ...	2	118	—	2	2 120
Other Non-Textile Industries	18	1,400	—	138	18 1,538
Total September, 1899 ...	57	4,766	1	337	58 5,103
Total September, 1898 ...	51	4,648	—	281	51 4,929

	Males.		Females.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
<b>Under Factory Act, 1895, §§ 23, 25</b>					
Docks, Wharves and Quays	6	411	—	—	6 411
Warehouses ...	1	294	—	1	1 295
Buildings to which Act applies	3	65	—	3	3 68
Laundries ...	—	10	—	18	— 28
Total for September, 1899	10	780	—	22	10 802
Total for September, 1898 ...	8	799	—	12	8 811

	Construction or repair.		Use or Working.		Total.
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	
<b>Under Notice of Accidents Act, 1894—</b>					
Bridge ...	1	3	—	—	1 3
Canal ...	—	7	1	—	— 12
Railway† ...	5	80	—	5	5 85
Tramroad ...	—	—	—	—	—
Tramway ...	—	1	1	18	— 19
Tunnel ...	1	19	—	—	1 19
Other Works‡ ...	3	103	—	—	3 103
Traction Engine§ ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total for September, 1899 ...	10	213	2	23	12 236
Total for September, 1898 ...	4	129	1	38	5 167

\* The figures relate to seamen who have been reported during the month to have been killed or injured by accidents at sea, or in rivers and harbours, whilst they were members of the crews of sea-going vessels (except yachts) registered in the British Islands under Part I. of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894 (this includes all trading vessels and about a half, say 3,000, of the fishing vessels of 15 tons and upwards). Injuries to members of the crews of fishing vessels employed in and out of Scottish ports and of vessels trading exclusively between Scottish ports, or to Asiatics serving under Asiatic articles of agreement, are not included. With these exceptions, injuries, however trivial, are included. The number of persons stated to be employed is the sum of the number of persons engaged for the first crew of each vessel employed during 1898, and remaining on the Register at the end of that year.

† One of this number

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN SEPTEMBER, 1899.

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

Summary.—The changes in rates of wages reported during September affected about 189,033 workpeople. The net effect of all the changes on the weekly wages of those affected was an increase of about 9½d. per head.

Increases.—The principal increases were those granted to 130,000 miners and other colliery workpeople in South Wales and Forest of Dean, 5,500 blast furnacemen in Cleveland, 9,500 ironworkers in the North of England and West of Scotland, 20,000 iron and steel workers in the Midlands, 5,000 steel workers in South Wales, and 2,500 iron-founders in towns on the North-East coast of England. At several ports the predominant rate for various voyages was raised by advances affecting 2,247 seamen shipped in September. A number of seamen at other ports also obtained increased rates, but not in sufficient number to affect the predominant port rates.

Methods of Arrangement.—Changes affecting about 3,550 workpeople were preceded by disputes, causing stoppage of work. Changes affecting about 169,899 workpeople took effect under sliding scales—all in the mining and metal trades—and changes affecting about 2,549 workpeople were brought about by arbitration or conciliation, without stoppage of work. The remaining changes, affecting about 13,035 workpeople, were arranged by direct negotiation between employers and workpeople, or were conceded voluntarily by the employers.

Summary for First Nine Months of 1899.—For the nine months, January to September, the number of workpeople (separate individuals) reported as having received advances or sustained decreases is about 992,981. Of these, 990,345 obtained a net average increase of 1s. 4½d. per head, and 2,636 sustained a net average decrease of 1s. 5½d. per head. The general effect of all the changes was a rise of 1s. 4½d. per week in the wages of the 992,981 workpeople affected.

NOTE.—It will be understood that increments accruing under scales of pay, as in the case of policemen, some municipal employees, and many railway servants, &c., are not recorded here. The same remark applies to the changes in pay of individuals, the grant of extra pay as compensation for extra work, &c.

Main table on the left page showing changes in rates of wages for various occupations and localities. Includes sections for Building Trades, Mining and Quarrying, and Iron and Steel Manufacture.

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

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN SEPTEMBER—(continued).

Main table on the right page showing changes in rates of wages for various occupations and localities. Includes sections for Iron and Steel Manufacture, Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades, Textile Trades, and Employees of Public Authorities.

\* Exclusive of overtime. † See also under Changes in Hours of Labour. ‡ 6d. per day extra on repair work. § The arbitrator having decided that the state of trade in the Mid-Lancashire engineering trade at the end of June last was as good as at the beginning of April, the advance of 1s. per week provisionally granted (see page 281 of September GAZETTE) will be continued until further notice (see page 295).

CHANGES IN RATES OF WAGES REPORTED IN SEPTEMBER—(continued).

Table showing changes in rates of wages for seamen, categorized by port and type of work (e.g., Newcastle-on-Tyne, North Shields, etc.).

NOTE.—The advances entered in the table are those in which the port rate (i.e.—the rate at which the bulk of the men are shipped for a particular voyage) has changed, but in addition to these, there were others in which advances ranging from 5s. to 15s. per month were given to some men but not to a sufficient number to make the advanced rate the predominant one.

CHANGES IN HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN SEPTEMBER, 1899.

THE changes in hours of labour reported during September were all decreases and affected 1,304 work-people, whose hours were reduced on an average by 1'95 hours per week.

Table showing changes in hours of labour by locality and occupation, including details on date of change and approximate number of people affected.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—During September 35,329 passengers left the United Kingdom for places out of Europe, or 6,640 more than in September, 1898.

British and Irish.—Of the 35,329 passengers in September, 22,186 were of British or Irish origin, an increase of 2,088 as compared with a year ago.

Table showing emigration and immigration statistics by destination, including totals for September 1899 and 1898.

Foreign.—The remainder of the 35,329 passengers in September, viz., 13,143, were foreigners, or persons whose nationality was not distinguished, being an increase of £4,552, as compared with September 1898.

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

Alien Immigration.—During September 11,601 aliens arrived in the United Kingdom from the Continent. Of these, 5,984 were stated to be en route to America or other places out of the United Kingdom, an increase of 1,539 as compared with September, 1898.

Table showing alien immigration statistics, including total numbers for September 1899 and 1898, and total for nine months ending.

ACCIDENTS IN CONNECTION WITH STEAM WINCHES AND STEEL WIRE HAWSERS.

A notice with respect to the above subject has been issued by the Marine Department of the Board of Trade. The number of accidents of the class referred to reported to the Registrar-General of Seamen has been, in 1895, 6; in 1896, 7; in 1897, 3; in 1898, 12; and in the first six months of the current year, 2.

ACCIDENTS IN MINES.

A CIRCULAR has been issued by the Home Office calling attention to the large number of accidents caused by falls of roof and side in mines, 51'6 per cent. in 1897, and 47'4 per cent. in 1898, of all the deaths in these years from accident in coal mines having been due to falls of ground.

The figures are inclusive of sailors, to the number of 1,068 in September, 1899; 918 in September, 1898; and 9,945 and 9,233 respectively in the nine months ending September in each year.

LABOUR BUREAUX IN SEPTEMBER.

DURING September the 10 bureaux furnishing returns registered 1,889 fresh applications for work, as compared with 2,077 in September, 1898, a decrease of 188.

The number remaining on the registers at the end of September, 1899, was 1,363, as against 1,507 a year ago.

(I.) Work done in September.

Table showing work done in September by labour bureau, including statistics on fresh applications, situations offered, and workpeople found.

(II.) Employments found for Workpeople during September, 1899.

Table showing employments found for workpeople during September 1899, categorized by type of employer (e.g., Private Employers, Local Authorities).

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

Table showing usual occupations of workpeople on registers at the end of the month, categorized by occupation and gender.

\* Engaged by Salvation Army Authorities.

PAUPERISM IN SEPTEMBER.

(Data supplied by the Local Government Boards in England, Scotland, and Ireland.) THE number of paupers relieved in 35 selected urban districts of the United Kingdom on one day in the second week of September was 316,279.

Compared with August, 1899, the number of persons relieved has increased by 606, but the rate per 10,000 remains the same as it has been for the last two months, viz., 197. Of the 35 districts, 18 show slight increases, the largest, that in the Galway district, only amounting to 7 per 10,000 of the population.

Compared with September, 1898, there is a decrease of 7,535 in the number relieved and of 7 in the rate per 10,000 of population. There are decreases in 29 of the 35 districts, of which the more important are in the Stockton-on-Tees district (39 per 10,000), Bristol (34), Newcastle (20), Cork, Waterford and Limerick (19), and Cardiff and Swansea (18).

On the other hand, West Ham and Dublin show increases of 12 and 14 per 10,000 respectively.

Table showing pauperism statistics for England & Wales, including paupers on one day in the second week of September 1899, and rates per 10,000 of population.

Table showing pauperism statistics for Scotland and Ireland, including paupers on one day in the second week of September 1899.

\* Exclusive of Vagrants; of Patients in the Fever and Small Pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; and of Lunatics in Asylum, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses. † Excluding Casuals, but including persons maintained in Institutions for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb, &c., who are classified as not able-bodied.

TRADE DISPUTES.

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

**Number and Magnitude.**—Fifty-four fresh disputes were reported as having begun in September 1899, compared with 33 in August, and 52 in September, 1898. In these 54 disputes 7,196 workpeople were directly affected and 1,662 indirectly affected, a total of 8,858, compared with 10,232 in August, and 7,644 in September, 1898.

**Trades Affected.**—In the building trades 3 disputes took place, involving 207 workpeople; mining, and quarrying, 11 disputes, involving 2,949 workpeople; metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, 14 disputes, involving 2,087 workpeople; textile trades, 12 disputes, involving 2,108 workpeople; transport trades, 8 disputes, involving 1,023 workpeople; and in other industries, 6 disputes, involving 484 workpeople.

**Causes.**—Of the 54 disputes, 31 arose chiefly on wages questions, 11 on questions of the employment of particular classes or persons, 5 on questions of working arrangements, and 7 from other causes.

**Results.**—Forty new disputes, involving 7,272 workpeople, and 25 disputes, involving 38,579 workpeople, were reported as having terminated. Of the 65 new and old disputes terminated, 19, involving 2,327 persons, were decided in favour of the workpeople; 24, involving 37,990 persons, in favour of the employers; 16, involving 4,822 persons, resulted in a compromise; while in the case of the remaining 6 disputes, involving 712 persons, work was resumed pending further negotiations. At the end of September, 21 old disputes were reported to be unsettled, involving altogether about 1,250 workpeople.

**Duration of Disputes in Working Days.**—The total aggregate duration in September of all the disputes, new and old, was about 454,000 working days, compared with 120,700 in August, and 189,000 in September, 1898.

**Summary for the First Nine Months of 1899.**—For the nine completed months of 1899 the aggregate number of workpeople involved in the 574 disputes which commenced in those months was 149,367, as compared with 208,801 in the 507 reported in the corresponding period of 1898. The total aggregate duration in working days was about 2,167,000 as compared with 14,754,000 for the corresponding period of 1898, which included the South Wales coal dispute.

Locality.	Occupation.*	Number of Workpeople Affected.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
		Di-rectly.	Indi-rectly.*				

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN SEPTEMBER, 1899.

3 Disputes. BUILDING TRADES. 207 Workpeople affected.							
Bristol ...	Plasterers ...	90	...	Sept. 25	...	For advance in wages ...	Still unsettled.
Lincoln ...	Painters ...	17	...	11	...	Against employment of labourers on work alleged to belong to painters	Men found work elsewhere.
Nottingham ...	Plasterers and Other Workpeople	52	48	18	...	Against employment of bricklayers on work alleged to be that of plasterers	No settlement reported.

11 Disputes. MINING AND QUARRYING. 2,949 Workpeople affected.							
Spennymoor ...	Coal Miners ...	167	...	22	9½	Against acceptance of contract work by one man	Miners were summoned to police court and fined for leaving work without notice, but man in question left the colliery.
Stanhope ...	Quarrymen ...	100	...	9	13	For rate of wages as paid at other quarries in the district for certain work	Work resumed on previous conditions pending reference to arbitration.
Hanley ...	Pit Lads and Other Colliery Workpeople	70	350	19	4	Misunderstanding as to rates of payment for certain work	Amicable settlement arrived at, advances in wages being conceded in some cases.
Llanelli ...	Trammers and Other Colliery Workpeople	52	500	1	7½	For advance in wages of from 6d. to 9d. per day granted.	Temporary advance of 6d. per day granted.
Maesteg ...	Coal Miners, Riggers, Labourers, &c.	25	10	23	6½	Dispute as to price to be paid for tramping and allowances for narrow stalls	Tramping to be done by daymen, and allowance for narrow stalls conceded.
Penrhylweiber ...	Miners, Rippers, Hauliers, &c., and Surfacermen	833	57	8	2	Demand that men should be allowed to ascend before 5 p.m., when a full cage-load should be at pit bottom	Work resumed on previous conditions.
Porth ...	Coal Miners, Hauliers, Labourers, &c., and Screenmen, &c.	90	15	7	1	Refusal to work with four non-unionists ...	Work resumed unconditionally.
Airdrie ...	Coal Miners ...	200	...	23	...	Against reduction of 2d. per ton to meet cost of men working 5 days per week instead of 6 as formerly	Still unsettled.
Baillieston ...	Coal Miners ...	200	...	29	1	Dispute as to rate of wages to be paid to underground workmen when taking the place of surfacermen	Amicable settlement arrived at.
Newmains ...	Coal Miners and Other Colliery Workpeople	50	100	12	4	Against reduction in tonnage rates ...	Reduction withdrawn.
Rutherglen ...	Coal Miners ...	130	...	15	...	Against withdrawal of a temporary advance in tonnage rate which had been granted on account of difficult working	No settlement reported.

14 Disputes. METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES. 2,087 Workpeople affected.							
South Shields...	Smiths ...	10	...	14	—	Objection to work with member of another society	Men replaced.
Workington ...	Blastfurnacemen ...	147	...	29	1	Because of dismissal of one man without notice	Work resumed by instruction of trade union official pending conciliatory proceedings which resulted in justification of man's dismissal.
Barrow-in-Furness	Red leaders ...	70	...	26	...	For general advance in wages of 2s. per week, and for increased rates on certain work	No settlement reported.
Rotherham ...	Moulders, Fitters, &c.	189	...	4	9	Alleged infringement of trade union rules by the employment of two youths	Cause of grievance removed.
Birmingham ...	Picklers and Annealers	12	...	9	3	Against reduction of prices for certain work ...	New conditions to be given a month's trial.
Birmingham (near)	Bedstead Makers ...	62	...	29	...	Refusal to work for an employer who had resigned membership of the Trade Alliance	No settlement reported.
Birmingham ...	Nail Casters ...	44	...	21	15	For system of direct payment to men for work done instead of through a foreman	Matters in dispute settled by a compromise, modifying effect of system objected to.
Dudley ...	Fender Makers ...	6	...	4	...	Refusal to work for an employer who resigned membership of the Trade Alliance	No settlement reported.
Nottingham ...	Bobbin and carriage makers and Other Workpeople	150	75	30	...	Against introduction of female labour on certain work	No settlement reported.
Landore ...	Tube Workers...	700	...	18	3	Against alteration in system of payment ...	Amicable settlement arrived at.

\* 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.

TRADE DISPUTES—(continued.)

Locality.	Occupation.*	Number of Workpeople affected.		Date when Dispute began.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
		Di-rectly.	Indi-rectly.*				

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN SEPTEMBER, 1899—(continued).

METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES—(continued).							
Llanelli ...	Cold Roll Boys ...	40	...	Sept. 7	9	For promotion of one of their number according to seniority	Agreement arrived at that promotion should be by seniority if boys were sufficiently capable.
Morrison ...	Chargewheelers (Steel works)	12	...	3	1	For advance in tonnage rates ...	Work resumed on old conditions, pending fixing of standard rates for South Wales.
Swansea Dist.	Ironfounders, Cupola-men, Dressers, and Helpers	140	50	18	3	For advance in wages of 3s. per week ...	Advance conceded by majority of employers.
Govan ...	Shipwrights ...	380	...	14	4½	Dispute as to demarcation of work between shipwrights and caulkers	Work resumed on terms of an award recently given on this question.

12 Disputes. TEXTILE TRADES. 2,108 Workpeople affected.

Bradford ...	Dyers ...	150	...	8	1	Against introduction of system of checking at meal-times	Proposed system withdrawn pending further negotiations.
Blackburn ...	Cotton Spinners and Card and Blowing Room Operatives	52	48	4	17	Alleged bad material ...	Work resumed, and spinners fined for having left work without notice.
Blackburn ...	Cotton Spinners and Cardroom Operatives	36	45	14	3	For reinstatement of a discharged fellow-workman	Work resumed and spinners fined for having left work without notice.
Blackburn ...	Cotton Weavers ...	320	...	15	10½	Alleged bad material and fines ...	Work resumed; matters in dispute to be further inquired into. Weavers fined 1s. per loom for leaving work without notice.
Colne ...	Cotton Weavers, Warp-dressers, Overlookers, Drawers, &c.	80	50	30	1	Against reduction in price on certain work ...	Reduction withdrawn pending a joint settlement as to prices.
Dukinfield ...	Cardroom Operatives and Cotton Spinners	60	...	29	...	Dispute arising out of rearrangement of working conditions	Still unsettled.
Haslingden	Tapers ...	33	...	23	...	For advance in wages from 7½d. to 8½d. per hour	No settlement reported.
Heywood ...	Cotton Weavers and Winders	21	6	26	...	For advance in prices, and against discharge of four fellow-workpeople	Still unsettled.
Hollinwood, Oldham	Cardroom Hands and Spinners	400	...	8	...	Objection to tenters minding three speeds instead of two	No settlement reported.
Patricroft ...	Cotton Weavers, Spinners, &c.	209	248	1	11	For advance in wages on certain classes of goods	Advance of 10 per cent. granted, but certain workpeople fined for leaving work without notice.
Wigan ...	Cotton Operatives ...	300	...	18	2	For reinstatement of a manager who had been dismissed	Work resumed on employers' terms.
Renton ...	Tenters and Boys ...	50	...	8	6	For advance in wages of 1s. per week ...	Work resumed on old conditions.

8 Disputes. TRANSPORT. 1,023 Workpeople affected.

Sunderland ...	Engine Cleaners, &c...	57	...	13	9	For immediate reinstatement of a suspended fellow worker, and for discharge of a foreman	Some of the lads replaced; others allowed to resume work.
Liverpool ...	Dock Labourers ...	40	...	4	1	For advance in wages and regulation of hours ...	Work resumed on temporary arrangement.
Liverpool ...	Dock Labourers ...	40	...	5	1	Further demands as to wages and hours of labour	Men replaced.
Liverpool ...	Dock Labourers ...	40	...	7	1	In sympathy with men in employment of same firm in Dublin	Men replaced.
Bristol ...	Deal Runners ...	550	...	6	1	For alteration in daily rates of wages, and reduction in hours of labour by 4½ per week	Alteration in wages conceded and hours reduced by 2 per week.
Tondu ...	Engine Cleaners ...	44	...	2	13	For advance in wages ...	Work resumed on old conditions.
Grangemouth ...	Dock Labourers ...	200	...	3	2	For advance in wages of 1d. per hour ...	Advance of 1d. per hour granted on wood and general cargoes; all other rates to remain as before.
Dublin ...	Dock Labourers ...	52	...	7	1	In sympathy with men in same employment in Liverpool	Men replaced.

6 Disputes. MISCELLANEOUS TRADES. 484 Workpeople affected.							
Leeds ...	Cabinet-makers ...	112	...	11	...	For advance in wages from 7½d. to 8½d. per hour, and reduction in hours of labour from 54 to 52½ per week	Still unsettled.
Leicester (near)	Boot and Shoe Operatives	28	...	26	8	Against alleged objectionable foreman ...	Amicable settlement arrived at.
Dover ...	Navvies ...	200	...	13	1	For advance in wages ...	Work resumed on old conditions.
Plymouth ...	Clothiers' Cutters and Pressers and Other Workpeople	11	60	23	...	Lock-out because of workpeople having joined trade union	No settlement reported.
Newport ...	Trolley Men (Patent Fuel Works), Factory Hands and Ship-pers	59	...	9	17	For advance in wages and other changes in working conditions	Agreement arrived at as to scale of payments, &c.
Dublin ...	Dock Labourers ...	14	...	9	5	For advance in wages from 3s. to 4s. per day on certain work	Modified advance conceded.

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE SEPTEMBER, 1899, AND TERMINATED IN THAT MONTH.

7 Disputes. BUILDING TRADES. 1,923 Workpeople.							
Chester-le-Street	Carpenters and Joiners	34	...	17 July	42	For advance in wages and a code of working rules	Advance conceded from 8½d. to 9d. per hour, working rules to be submitted to arbitration.
Ashton-under-Lyne, Staly-bridge & District	Plasterers and Labourers	50	16	1 March	175	For advance in wages from 9d. to 10d. per hour	Immediate advance granted of ½d. per hour, with further advance of ½d. per hour on March 1st, 1900.
Birkenhead ...	Plumbers, Carpenters & Joiners, Bricklayers, &c., and Labourers, &c.	60	24	21 Aug.	17	Refusal of plumbers to work with non-unionists; other trades struck in sympathy	Work resumed by other trades; question as to plumbers to be referred to arbitration.
Leigh, Atherton and Tyldesley	Plasterers ...	16	...	31 May	93	On termination of general lock-out (see JUNE GAZETTE) employers demanded alteration in working rules	Work resumed on terms of the agreement arrived at in the case of the general dispute.
Manchester ...	Plasterers and Labourers	400	...	31 May	93	On termination of general lock-out (see JUNE GAZETTE) plasterers demanded advance of 1d. and labourers ½d. per hour	Immediate advances granted of ½d. per hour to plasterers and ¼d. to labourers, with further advances of ½d. and ¼d. respectively on March 1st, 1900.
Grimsby	Bricklayers ...	125	...	12 June	84	For advance in wages from 8d. to 9d. per hour ...	Advance conceded.
Leicester ...	Bricklayers' Labourers and Bricklayers	1200	...	4 April	147	For advance in wages of bricklayers' labourers from 6d. to 7d. per hour	For particulars of settlement by arbitration, see p. 225.

3 Disputes. MINING AND QUARRYING. 393 Workpeople affected.							
Wigan ...	Coal Miners ...	120	80	7 June	—	For advance in rates of payment for emptying dirt and for other work	Agreement arrived at that the day-wage men should assist the miners on certain work.
Neath ...	Coal Hewers and Daymen and Other Colliery Workpeople	140	20	8 June	—	For advance in wages in certain cases ...	An advance conceded.
Glasgow (near)	Coal Miners and Other Colliery Workpeople	28	5	28 Aug.	19	Against reduction in price of 4d. per ton owing to improved facilities for drawing	Work resumed pending further negotiations.

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

TRADE DISPUTES—(continued).

II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE SEPTEMBER, 1899, AND TERMINATED IN THAT MONTH—(continued).

Locality.	Occupation.*	Number of Workpeople affected		Date when Dispute began.	Duration of Dispute in Working Days.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Result.
		Di-rectly.	Indi-rectly.*				
<b>5 Disputes. METAL, ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES. 635 Workpeople affected.</b>							
Sheffield ...	Fitters' Labourers, &c.	22	...	12 Aug.	20	For advance in wages of 2s. per week ...	Places filled by other men at old rates of pay.
Mid Lancashire	Smiths' Strikers and Smiths	200	50	23 Aug.	33	For advance in wages of 1s. per week ...	Immediate advance of 6d. per week conceded, another 6d. to be given from 17th November.
Ammanford ...	Behinders (Tinplate)...	25	...	4 Aug.	34	For advance in wages on certain work ...	Work resumed pending settlement of the wage rate by the Conciliation Board of the trade.
Glasgow ...	Range and Ornamental Fitters, &c.	330	...	30 June	55	For advance in wages. Employers demanded in return freedom to employ unionists or non-unionists	Men returned to work without advance in wages, and agreed to work with non-unionists.
Leith ...	Brassfounders ...	8	...	3 July	53	Against reduction in piece rates on certain work	Work resumed on change in method of doing the work.
<b>4 Disputes. TEXTILE TRADES. 35,188 Workpeople affected.</b>							
Batley ...	Piecers, Cutter Lads, and Finishers	84	...	29 Aug.	12	For advance in wages of 2s. per week ...	Advance of 1s. per week granted.
Yeading ...	Woolen Weavers ...	40	...	3 July	55	Against payment at less than alleged standard prices	Employers promised to pay standard prices.
Macclesfield ...	Gimp Makers and Other Workpeople	18	46	24 July	—	For abolition of charge for use of steam power...	A few returned to work on old terms; others obtained work elsewhere.
Dundee ...	Jute Workers ...	35,000	...	28 Aug.	22	Strike at one firm for advance in wages of 5 per cent., followed by a general strike and lock-out	Work generally resumed on old conditions.
<b>6 Disputes. MISCELLANEOUS TRADES. 440 Workpeople affected.</b>							
Shields Dist. Pudsey...	Lumpers and Riggers Boot & Shoe Riveters and Other Workpeople	100	166	21 Aug. 8 July	30 68	For advance in rate of payment for nightwork Against certain readjustments of rates on introduction of machinery	Advance conceded. Employers promised to pay to the Leeds statement.
Market Drayton	Tailors ...	14	...	24 April	—	For adoption of a new time log, involving an advance in wages	A few resumed work on old terms; others obtained work elsewhere.
Northampton	Boot & Shoe Finishers	17	...	31 Aug.	15	Dispute as to bad work and for discharge of a certain foreman	Work resumed and question left to arbitration. (For arbitrators' award see p. 295).
London, E.C. ...	Cabinet Makers and Polishers	23	...	30 Aug.	3	Because of alleged introduction of cheap labour	Workpeople replaced.
London, E.C. ...	Cabinet Makers and Polishers	40	...	28 Aug.	13	Objection to work being given to a piece-master	Foreman employed in place of piece-master.

\* 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.  
† A number of workpeople were placed on short time in consequence of this dispute.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAUX IN SEPTEMBER.

DURING September 580 fresh applications for work were registered by eight bureaux (see LABOUR GAZETTE, February, 1899, p. 36) furnishing returns and 891 offers of situations were made by employers; work was found for 193 persons, of whom 108 were domestic servants (including lady nurses, working housekeepers and mothers' helps).

The returns for the London Girls' Friendly Society business agency and the Manchester, Liverpool and Edinburgh Bureaux are for the present grouped together in the following table, which shows the work done by the eight bureaux during September:—

Bureau	WORK DONE IN SEPTEMBER.		
	No. of Fresh Situations offered by Employers.	No. of Fresh Applications of Work-people seeking Situations.	No. of Workpeople engaged by Employers.
<b>Summary by Bureaux.</b>			
Central Bureau—60, Chancery-lane ...	22	62	11
Society for Promoting Training and Employment—22, Berners-street ...	27	37	18
Y. W. C. A.—26, George-street (1) ...	684	297	99
Hanover-square (2) ...	111	108	51
Other Bureaux ...	47	76	14
<b>Total of 8 Bureaux ...</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>193</b>
<b>Total in August ...</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>98</b>
<b>Summary by Occupations.</b>			
Superintendents, Forewomen, etc. ...	28	39	3
Shop Assistants ...	3	13	1
Dressmakers, Milliners, etc. ...	98	77	52
Secretaries, Clerks, Typists ...	15	58	13
Apprentices and Learners ...	25	14	8
Domestic Servants ...	626	340	108
Miscellaneous ...	97	45	8
<b>Total Number in September ...</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>193</b>
<b>Total Number in August ...</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>98</b>

The applications for domestic servants rose from 369 in August to 626 in September, the number of servants applying rising from 251 to 340, and the number engaged through the bureaux from 56 to 108. The demand for dressmakers and milliners rose from 40 to 98, the supply from 35 to 71, and the number engaged from 18 to 52,

The demand for secretaries, clerks, &c., rose from 14 to 25, but the supply rose from 26 to 58, and of the 13 engagements made some were only temporary. Although there were 28 applications for superintendents only 3 posts were filled.

DISEASES OF OCCUPATIONS.

(Compiled from returns supplied by the Home Office.)

THE following table shows the number of cases of lead poisoning (classified by industries) and of phosphorus and mercurial poisoning and anthrax reported as having occurred in factories and workshops during September. Nearly all the cases of lead poisoning reported affected males (107 out of 112). Lead works accounted for 41, and the china and earthenware industry for 13 cases in September, 1899, the figures for a year ago being 69 and 37 respectively.

Three deaths were reported in September, viz.—one male and one female from lead poisoning, and one male from anthrax. Fatal cases include all deaths reported during the month, whether included (as cases) in previous returns or not.

Disease and Industry.	Adults.		Young Persons.		Children.		Total.		Grand Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
	<b>Lead Poisoning—</b>								
China and Earthenware	8	4	1	—	—	—	9	4	13
Glass ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	7
White, Red, and Orange Lead Works	41	—	—	—	—	—	41	—	41
Paints and Colours ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	5
Smelting ...	9	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	9
File Making ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Coach Making, &c. ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Other Industries ...	36	—	1	—	—	—	36	1	37
<b>Total Lead Poisoning</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>112</b>
<i>Corresponding Total for September, 1898</i>	<i>138</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>139</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>162</i>
<b>Phosphorus Poisoning</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Mercurial Poisoning</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Anthrax</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>
<i>Dicto, September, 1898</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>3</i>

NOTE.—The case of phosphorus poisoning in September, 1899, was reported from a lucifer match works. No case of Phosphorus poisoning was reported in September 1898.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

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

The Trade Returns for the month of September last show an increase as compared with the corresponding month of 1898 in the value of the imports from foreign countries and British possessions, in the exports of British and Irish produce and manufactures, and in the exports of foreign and colonial merchandise.

The imports for September, 1899, were valued at £38,721,079, as compared with £35,557,488 for September, 1898, showing an increase of £3,163,591, or 8.9 per cent., and the exports amounted in value to £27,035,364 for September, 1899, as against £23,651,374 for September, 1898, of which British and Irish produce and manufactures alone were valued at £23,374,807 in September, 1899, and £19,945,085 in September, 1898, an increase of £2,429,722, or 12.2 per cent. This includes the value of ships new (not registered as British), viz., £319,249 not recorded before 1899. The exports of foreign and colonial merchandise for September, 1899 were valued at £4,660,557, as compared with £3,706,289 for September, 1898, an increase of £954,268, or 25.7 per cent.

Imports.—The following table shows the value of the imports for September, 1899, as compared with September, 1898, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

	Month ended Sept. 30th.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1898.	1899.		
Food, Drink and Tobacco ...	£15,993,578	£17,664,269	£1,670,691	—
Metals ...	1,568,331	2,224,837	656,506	—
Chemicals, Dyestuffs, and Tanning Substances	317,426	352,356	34,930	—
Oils ...	813,115	814,577	1,462	—
Raw Materials for Manufactures	8,323,785	8,577,580	253,795	—
Manufactured and Miscellaneous Articles	8,341,253	9,087,450	746,197	—
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>£35,557,488</b>	<b>£38,721,079</b>	<b>£3,163,591</b>	<b>—</b>

The imports of all kinds of corn show a net increase in value of £212,454 in September, 1899, as compared with September, 1898. Wheatmeal and flour have increased £193,346 and oats £105,348, but barley shows a decrease of £249,970. With regard to other articles of food and drink, and always comparing the value of the imports of September, 1899, with that of the imports for September, 1898, it is seen that bacon has increased £214,290, fresh beef, £178,884, butter, £253,338, eggs, £63,757, lard, £51,384, and sugar refined and unrefined, £131,010. On the other hand, fresh mutton shows a decrease of £144,691 and wine of £104,889. Tobacco of all kinds has increased £494,240. Under the category of metals, copper of all kinds shows an increase of £202,148, iron ore of £136,995, and tin of £230,538. There are no notable fluctuations in chemicals, etc., and oils, but as regards raw materials for textile manufactures there are increases in the imports of flax, hemp, jute, and silk of £77,381, £72,029, £39,859, and £56,681 respectively. Sheep or lambswool has increased £31,473, but mohair shows a decrease of £144,466, due to smaller imports from Turkey especially, and all other countries generally. The imports of caoutchouc, paper-making materials, and woods have also decreased, but hides, manures, gutta percha, and tallow and stearine show an improvement.

Exports.—The following table shows the value of British and Irish produce and manufactures for the month ending September 30th, 1899, as compared with a like period of 1898, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

	Month ended Sept. 30th.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1898.	1899.		
Animals living ...	£80,970	£88,516	£7,546	—
Articles of Food and Drink ...	1,293,639	1,381,136	87,497	—
Raw Materials ...	2,180,796	2,337,692	156,896	—
Articles Manufactured and Partly Manufactured, viz.—				
Yarns and Textile Fabrics ...	7,668,346	8,377,312	708,966	—
Metals, and Articles Manufactured therefrom (except Machinery and Ships) ...	2,567,238	3,601,532	1,034,294	—
Machinery and Millwork ...	1,638,236	1,550,518	—	87,718
Ships, new (not registered as British) ...	—	319,249	319,249	—
Miscellaneous ...	4,515,860	4,718,852	202,992	—
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>£19,945,085</b>	<b>£22,374,807</b>	<b>£2,429,722</b>	<b>—</b>

The exports of herrings show a decrease of 111,475 barrels, valued at £101,135, and those of coal, coke, and fuel of £128,362.

With regard to manufactured articles, cotton piece goods show an increase of 17,522,800 yards valued at £318,900, much larger shipments having been more especially made to China, Japan, Bombay, and the United States. On the other hand the exports of these goods to the chief South American countries show an aggregate decrease in value of £86,224 (£370,562 as compared with £456,786), Peru and Chili being the only two countries which have imported rather more in September, 1899, than in September, 1898. Cotton yarn has increased £30,952, and silk, woollen, and worsted yarns have also increased, but linen yarn shows a decrease of £8,159. Woollen and worsted tissues have increased by £161,351. In metals there is an increase in the value of the exports of iron, unwrought and wrought, of £775,114, and of copper of £188,565; the only decrease in this category being one of £1,828 in connection with plate and plated wares. The value of the exports of machinery is hardly so satisfactory in September, 1899, as in the corresponding month of the previous year. Steam-engines show an increase only of £2,146, and other descriptions of machinery a decrease of £89,804. This decrease is principally accounted for by smaller exports of textile machinery to Russia and the British East Indies.

Totals for First Nine Months of Year.—With regard to the trade for the nine months ended September 30th, 1899, as compared with a similar period of 1898, the imports show an increase of £11,424,473, and the exports of British and Irish produce an increase of £21,622,039. In the latter increase the value of the exports of new ships, not registered as British and not recorded prior to 1899, is included.

Tonnage of Vessels Entered and Cleared with Cargoes.—The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions during September, 1899, with cargoes, amounted to 3,014,732 tons, and the tonnage cleared in the foreign trade to 3,768,523 tons, as against 3,014,024 tons entered and 3,588,190 tons cleared in September, 1898. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered during September, 1899, with cargoes, amounted to 2,524,199 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,489,007 tons, as against 2,658,523 tons entered, and 2,655,854 tons cleared in September, 1898.

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Cotton Statistics.—The following table shows the number of bales of cotton imported, forwarded from ports to inland towns, and exported during the month of September, and the nine completed months of the year 1899, with comparative figures for 1898:—

	Month of Sept.,		Nine months ended September.	
	1899.	1898.	1899.	1898.
Imported ...	Bales. 105,628	Bales. 93,943	Bales. 2,263,574	Bales. 2,546,170
Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns	215,689	243,141	2,290,939	2,355,137
Exported ...	33,593	21,282	439,831	314,838

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 21 of the principal railways of the United Kingdom during the five weeks ended October 7th amounted to £9,039,380, an increase of £356,167 (or 4.1 per cent.) over the corresponding period of 1898. The receipts from passenger traffic were £4,246,175, an increase of £170,675, and those from goods and mineral traffic £4,793,205, an increase of £185,492.

Fishery Statistics.—The total value of the fish (including shell-fish) landed on the coasts of the United Kingdom during September was £937,407, an increase of £285,338, as compared with September, 1898. In England and Wales there was an increase of £92,420, in Scotland of £161,114, and in Ireland of £31,804.

Bankruptcies.—The bankruptcies gazetted during September numbered 298, being 46 less than in September, 1898, 8 more than in September 1897, and 27 more than in September, 1896.

EXAMINATION FOR MINING MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

Manchester District.—An examination for certificates of competency as manager or under-manager of a mine will be held on December 22nd, 1899. Intending candidates should communicate on or before December 18th with the secretary to the examination board, Mr. Thomas Ratcliffe Ellis, 18, King-street, Wigan.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION SCHEMES.

During the period August 12th to October 12th, 1899, the following schemes have been certified, under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897, by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies:—Fishley Colliery Mutual Accident Fund, Bloxwich, Staffs; Cannock Chase Colliery Mutual Accident Fund, Cannock Chase, Staffs. These schemes bring the total number now approved up to 70.



INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN SEPTEMBER.

I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office).

Nature of Offence.	Cases taken.	Con- victions	Amount of Penalties.	Amount of Costs.
<b>By Owners, Managers, &amp;c.:-</b>				
Failure to keep factory in cleanly condition	1	1	—	1 11 6
Neglecting to Fence Machinery	9	8	36 15 0	6 1 4
Employing Young Persons without necessary Certificates	22	22	12 14 6	11 8 3
Employing Women and Children in forbidden Trades	1	1	—	0 10 6
<b>Illegal Hours or Times of Employment—</b>				
Before or after the legal hour	94	87	45 18 6	29 5 10
During meal times, or without proper intervals for meals	53	53	16 12 6	34 15 11
Beyond legal hour on Saturday or day substituted	26	22	6 11 0	6 14 6
On Sundays or holidays, or children on successive Saturdays	7	6	5 0 0	2 12 0
At night	17	17	4 17 0	6 16 6
Employing children full time, otherwise than in morning and afternoon sets, &c.	4	4	0 12 6	1 11 0
<b>Neglecting Rules as to Registers, Abstracts, Notices, &amp;c.—</b>				
Not keeping Registers	29	29	14 0 6	7 15 1
Not affixing or properly filling up Notices and Abstracts	2	2	1 5 0	0 13 3
Not sending Notices required by Act	5	5	3 0 0	2 7 0
Prosecutions for Breach of (or not affixing) Special Rules	1	1	0 5 0	0 8 0
Prosecutions under Cotton Cloth Factories Act, 1889	1	1	5 0 0	0 10 0
<b>By Workmen:-</b>				
Employment during meal times, or without proper intervals for meals	1	1	0 5 0	0 18 6
Prosecutions for Breach of Special Rules	2	2	1 0 0	0 13 0
Employment at night	2	2	0 1 0	—
<b>Total for September, 1899</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>153 17 6</b>	<b>114 12 2</b>
<b>Total for September, 1898</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>206 0 0</b>	<b>131 17 0</b>

II.—Under Mines and Quarries Acts.

(Supplied by the Home Office).

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Con- victions.	Cases with- drawn.	Cases dis- missed.	Amount of Fines and Costs.
<b>UNDER THE MINES ACTS.</b>					
<b>By Owners, Managers, &amp;c.:-</b>					
Registers, Notices, Returns, Plans, &c.	3	3	—	—	2 8 6
Fencing	1	—	—	1	—
Ventilation	3	2	1	—	13 2 0
Shafts and Manholes	2	2	—	—	3 15 0
Miscellaneous	5	5	—	—	16 11 6
<b>By Workmen:-</b>					
Safety Lamps	2	2	—	—	3 0 3
Shot-firing and Explosives	13	13	—	—	10 5 7
Timbering	3	3	—	—	3 19 0
Lucifer Matches, Smoking, &c.	4	3	—	1	3 16 0
Riding on Trams	9	9	—	—	11 6 0
Miscellaneous	34	32	—	2	38 16 9
<b>Total for Sept., 1899</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>107 0 7</b>
<b>Total for Sept., 1898</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>46 4 0</b>
<b>UNDER THE QUARRIES ACT.</b>					
<b>By Owners, Managers, &amp;c.:-</b>					
Registers, Notices, Returns, &c.	2	2	—	—	1 12 0
Fencing	1	—	—	1	—
Other Special Rules	7	4	—	3	4 9 0
<b>By Workmen:-</b>					
Explosives and Blasting	4	2	—	2	0 16 0
<b>Total for Sept., 1899</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6 17 0</b>
<b>Total for Sept., 1898</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

III.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

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

Nature of Offence.	Prosecu- tions.	Con- victions.	Total Penalties.	Total Costs.
<b>By Owners or Masters of Ships:-</b>				
Carrying an excess of passengers without certificate	1	1	24 8 0	—
<b>Total for Sept., 1899</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>24 8 0</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Total for Sept., 1898</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>87 10 0</b>	<b>2 6 6</b>

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN SEPTEMBER.

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

FROM the following summary of the changes in the Register of Industrial Organisations in September, it will be seen that 4 Trade Unions, 7 Co-operative Associations for Distribution, 3 Co-operative Associations for Production, 3 Miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Societies, 1 Building Society, 15 Friendly Societies, and 27 branches of existing Friendly Societies were added to the Register of the United Kingdom during September. Three Trade Unions, 4 Industrial and Provident Societies, 11 Building Societies, and 23 Friendly Societies (including 10 branches) are reported to have ceased to exist, or to have had registration cancelled.

ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

**Trade Unions.**—*England and Wales.*—Hull Slippermakers, Riveters and Finishers' Union, Blacksmith's Arms Inn, Osborn-street, Hull; Wigan and District Labour Union, Big Lamp, 7, Wall-gate, Wigan; London French Polishers' Soc., Adam's Arms Inn, Southampton-street, Fitzroy-square, W. *Scotland.*—Amal. Slaters' Soc. of Scotland, 139, Park-street, Kinning-park, Glasgow. *Ireland.*—None.

**Industrial and Provident Societies.**—(A) *Associations for Distribution.*—*England and Wales.*—Woking, Horsell, and District Industrial Co-op. Soc., Ltd., Pinewood Cottage, Monument-road, Woking; Rotherhithe and District Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 24, Rotherhithe New-road, S.E.; Ashington Powder and Candle Store, Ltd., Miners' Hall, Ashington, Morpeth; Cheddar and District Indus. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 1, Church-street, Cheddar, R.S.O., Somerset; Ellesmere Port Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 104, Station-road, Ellesmere Port, Chester; New Cross and Deptford Indus. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 249A, Evelyn-street, Deptford, S.E. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None. *North Dublin Co-op. Soc.,* 49, Phibsborough-road, Dublin. (B) *Associations for Production.*—*England and Wales.*—Huddersfield Co-op. Brush Manufacturing Soc., Ltd., 28, Manchester-road, Huddersfield; Jewish Bakers' Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 42, Bury New Road, Manchester. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—Urney Co-op. Agriculture and Dairy Soc., Urney, co. Tyrone. (C) *Miscellaneous.*—*England and Wales.*—Outfitters' Association, Ltd., 8, Great Russell-street, W.C.; Esh and Waterhouses Workmen's Club, Ltd., Club House, Station-road, Esh Winning, Durham; Willesden Reform Institute, Ltd., 16, Cobbold-road, Willesden, N.W. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

**Friendly Societies.**—(A) *New Friendly Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—Ordinary Friendly, 3; Dividing, 4; Juvenile, 1; Specially Authorised Order, 1; Specially Authorised, 2; Working Men's Clubs, 4. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None. (B) *New Branches of Existing Societies.*—*England and Wales.*—23. *Scotland.*—3. *Ireland.*—1.

**Building Societies.**—*England and Wales.*—1. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

**Trade Unions.**—*England and Wales.*—Barnsley and District Society of Quarrymen, Griffin Inn, Sheffield-road, Barnsley; Bristol Association of Working Women, 27 Queen-square, Bristol; Brynmally Miners' Association, Royal Oak Inn, Moss, Denbigh. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

**Industrial and Provident Societies.**—*England and Wales.*—Regis-tration cancelled:—Co-operative Baking Society, Ltd., 6, Christian-street, E.; Cabinetmakers' Co-operative Society, Ltd., 6, Christian-street, E.; Tailors' Co-operative Society, Ltd., 6, Christian-street, E. Resolution to wind-up received: Blaenclwyd Ind. Co-op. Soc., Ltd., 17, Clydach-road, Blaen-clwyd, Glam. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

**Friendly Societies.**—*England and Wales.*—By instrument of disso-lution: Ordinary Friendly, 6; Dividing, 1; Juvenile, 1; Orders, 1. Registration cancelled: Ordinary Friendly, 1; Benevolent, 1; Specially authorised, 1. Dissolved otherwise: Juvenile, 1; Branches, 10. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

**Building Societies.**—*England and Wales.*—By instrument of dissolution, 2; notice of commencement of dissolution, 4; notice of termination of dissolution, 5. *Scotland.*—None. *Ireland.*—None.

**H.M. Inspectors of Factories.**—*New Appointment.*—Mr. T. Porteus, 3, Poplar-crescent, Gateshead, has been appointed an Inspector of Factories and Workshops, under the title of Inspector's Assistant.

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