

THE

# Labour Gazette

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PRICE ONE PENNY.

GENERAL ADVANTAGES OF THE ARMY.

On first joining the Army, Soldiers are supplied with Clothing and a Free Kit, and while in performance of their duty, receive a daily Free Ration of 1 lb. of Bread and 1 lb. of Meat. Vegetables and Groceries are provided for by a daily stoppage of pay. Soldiers are also provided with Lodging, Bedding, Fuel, Light and Education without payment.

AGE for the REGULAR ARMY, 18 to 25 Years.

TERMS OF SERVICE.

Table with 3 columns: Regiment, With the Colors, In the Reserve. Includes Household Cavalry, Cavalry of the Line, Royal Artillery, etc.

After 8 years' service a soldier of good character may be specially allowed, under certain conditions, to join the Reserve, if the requirements of the Service admit.

GENERAL ADVANTAGES OF THE MILITIA.

Rations and Lodgings.—During Drill, or the Annual Training, Militiamen are entitled to accommodation in barracks, lodgings, billets, or camp, at the public expense.

AGE for the MILITIA, 18 to 35 Years (also Growing Lads, 17 to 18 years).

TERMS OF SERVICE.

Original enlistment 6 years. Militiamen may re-engage during their last training, or re-enlist within 3 years of discharge, for a further period of 4 years.

DRILL AND TRAINING.

Table showing drills and training required from Militiamen as follows: During 1st year, Following Years, etc.

EMPLOYMENT ON RETURN TO CIVIL LIFE.

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT.—With the view of affording Government Employment to deserving Soldiers, the Postmaster-General has decided that vacancies among the rural and provincial town postmen, and also among the auxiliary postmen in London, are in future to be offered, in the first instance, to Discharged Soldiers and Army Reserve men.

EMPLOYMENT BY RAILWAY COMPANIES.—Employment for deserving Soldiers is likewise afforded by many of the Railway Companies and in the Corps of Commissionaires.

A REGISTER FOR CIVIL EMPLOYMENT is also kept at the Headquarters of all Regimental Districts, with the view of assisting men of good character to obtain employment in civil life when discharged from the Army, or transferred to the Army Reserve, on the expiration of their engagement.

A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION for the employment of Reserve and Discharged Soldiers has also been established for the purpose of introducing Soldiers of reliable character, on their discharge, or transfer to the Reserve, to employers of labour.

CENTRAL OFFICE: 12 Buckingham Street, Strand, London.

Detailed information as to the conditions of Service in the Army and Militia, and the advantages of the Army and Militia, will be supplied free on application at any Post Office or Barrack, or from any Sergeant-Instructor of Volunteers, or other Recruiter.

PAY AND DEFERRED PAY.

Table showing pay for Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Gunners, Privates, &c.

GOOD CONDUCT PAY.—Additional pay is granted to Soldiers for good conduct, according to the length of service.

DISCHARGE AND PENSION.—Should a Soldier, during the first three months of his service desire to leave the Army, he may claim his discharge on a payment of £10; after that period he may be permitted to leave on payment of £18.

ARMY RESERVE.—Soldiers transferred to the Reserve receive pay at 6d. a day until the expiration of their term of service.

Enlistments in the Supplemental Reserve are suspended until further orders.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT, BOARD OF TRADE, 43, PARLIAMENT STREET, S.W., 15th August 1894.

The Report of the Labour Department of the Board of Trade on Profit Sharing, prepared by Mr. Schloss, has just been issued.

The account of the progress of the Scottish Coal Dispute given in the last number of the GAZETTE is continued up to August 11th on page 238.

A brief notice of the prolonged dispute among the Iron-moulders on the north-east coast appears on page 239.

Attention was drawn in a previous number of the GAZETTE to a system of Labour Registration carried on through the machinery of the post office in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

A Report is given on page 244 of the proceedings of the International Textile Workers' Congress, held in Manchester on July 24th, 25th and 27th.

On page 247 a summary is given of the principal operative clauses of the Notice of Accidents Act, which became law on July 20th 1894.

An account is given on page 239 of the agreement arrived at on July 19th by the Board of Conciliation for the Coal Trade of the English Federated Districts, for the regulation of miners' wages during the next two years.

In the course of the Report, which appears on page 236, on the condition of Agricultural Labour in July, information is given as to the volume of migration of Irish labourers from Connaught during the present year, as compared with 1893 and 1892.

STATE OF EMPLOYMENT IN JULY.\*

I.—GENERAL SUMMARY.

General Statistics of Employment.—The labour market during July continued on the whole to show a downward tendency.

Though no fresh important disputes have arisen during the month, the long-continued iron-moulders' dispute on the north-east coast, and the Scottish coal dispute have had a detrimental effect on the labour market in those districts.

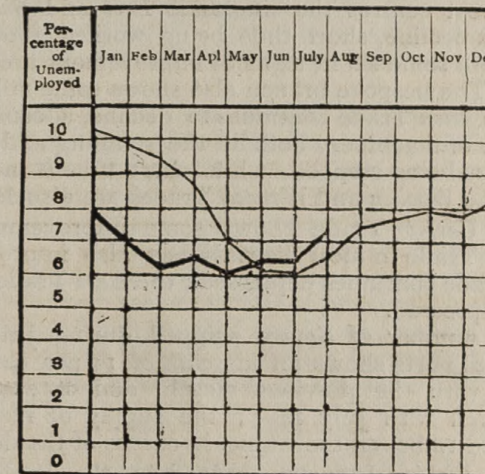
Fifty-two trade unions, with an aggregate membership of 358,565, have made returns to the Department, showing the total number of unemployed members at the end of July to be 26,576, or 7·4 per cent. compared with 6·3 per cent. for June and 6·2 per cent. in societies making returns for July 1893.

\* The Reports on the state of employment refer strictly to the month of July, and do not cover changes which have occurred since the end of that month.

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

Chart showing the percentage of unemployed members of the trade unions making returns at the close of each month of 1893, and of each month yet completed of 1894. [The comparison of the two curves is slightly affected by the increase of the number of societies making returns since the beginning of 1893.]

The thick line applies to 1894, the thin line to 1893.



Employment in Various Industries.—Coal Mining.—According to the returns received from 838 collieries, employing 233,612 workpeople, the average number of days per week on which coal was hewn and wound at these collieries was 4·69 in July, compared with 4·76 in June and 4·71 in May.†

A large number of Scottish collieries which have been idle owing to the coal dispute are not included in the above calculation.

Iron Ore Mining.—The average weekly number of days worked during July by the 32 iron-ore mines in Cumberland and Lancashire furnishing returns, at which 5,528 workpeople were employed, was 5·85, compared with 5·94 in June and 5·70 in May.

The Pig Iron Trade continues depressed, and the Scottish coal miners' dispute has led to a further reduction in the number of furnaces in blast. Returns furnished by over three-fourths of the ironmasters of the United Kingdom, relating to 17,335 workpeople, give the number of furnaces in blast at the end of July, owned by the ironmasters making returns, as 246, compared with 259 at the end of June.

In most districts the heavier branches of the Steel Trade remain quiet, but other branches are more regularly employed. In Scotland the industry continues to be seriously affected by the dispute in the Coal Trade.

The Engineering and Metal Trades continue to show a decline, which is largely due to the moulders' dispute on the north-east coast. The percentage of unemployed members of unions in these trades has risen from 9·0 to 9·7.

The Shipbuilding Trades show a considerable falling off, attributable partly to the above dispute, the percentage of unemployed in the unions concerned having

† These figures indicate the number of days on which coal was hewn and wound at the collieries, and do not necessarily imply that all the workpeople worked the full number of days.









Aberdeen and District.

Shipbuilding, Engineering and Metal Trades.—Trade in the shipyards continues moderate. Iron shipbuilders are fully employed.

Building Trades.—The carpenters and joiners are fully employed. The painters, plumbers and slaters report trade as good.

Quarrying.—In granite quarries trade is good. The sett makers report trade as good, but there is not much improvement in monumental work.

Fishing.—In July both trawl and line boats show increases in the quantities and value of white fish caught. The quantity of herring landed was 36,822 crans only, as compared with 65,955 crans for July 1893.

Miscellaneous.—The letterpress printers show an improvement and report 5 per cent. unemployed. The Tailoring Trade is getting dull. Rope and twine spinning and hemp dressing show no improvement.

IRELAND.

Dublin and District.

Building, Woodwork and Iron Trades.—Work has been fair with the stone-cutters, brick and stone-layers, carpenters, joiners, painters and plasterers, but dull among the plumbers and slaters.

Clothing and Provision Trades.—The Tailoring Industry is dull, and the boot and shoe-workers are still depressed. Employment among the dress and mantle-makers is slack.

Printing and allied Trades.—The letterpress printers have been very slack, 157 claiming the out-of-work allowance. The lithographic printers are still slack.

Miscellaneous.—The brush-makers and cork-cutters are slack; trade with the bottle-makers, hotel and club assistants, mineral water operatives, hairdressers and basket-makers is fairly good.

Belfast and District.

General.—The reports from 53 societies, with a membership of 20,069, show 1,115, or 5.5 per cent., to be unemployed, as against 1,014, or 5 per cent. of the membership, in June.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—Of the 8,955 members of the various trades in these industries, 548, or 6.1 per cent., are said to be unemployed, as against 544, or 6.1 per cent. of the membership, in June.

Linen Trades.—Of the 4,255 members of the different trades furnishing reports, 342, or 8.0 per cent., are said to be out of employment, as against 187, or 4.4 per cent. of the membership, in June.

Building Trades.—There is a slight decrease in the number of members reported to be unemployed in these trades during July, as out of 2,305 members, only 46, or 2 per cent., are in want of employment, as against 56, or 2.4 per cent. of the membership, in June.

Miscellaneous Trades.—In this group of 22 societies there is also a small decrease in the number of unemployed, there being only 185, or 4 per cent., out of 4,554 members unemployed, as against 227, or 4.4 per cent. of the membership, in June.

Cork and District.

Building Trades.—Trade is reported as good by the masons, stone-cutters, plasterers, stucco-workers, carpenters, mill sawyers, wood-cutting machinists, and builders' labourers; and by the painters, plumbers, and gas workers as improving.

Shipbuilding and Engineering.—The boiler-makers and iron shipbuilders report trade as fair, but the engineers, moulders and copper-smiths in Limerick, Cork, and Waterford report it as bad.

Food and Clothing.—The pork and beef butchers report a great improvement; the bakers and tailors report employment as bad; the boot-riveters and boot-makers continue fairly busy; the flax and tweed operatives report a great improvement.

Fishing.—The Fishing Industry on the south and south-west coast is depressed; but the salmon fishing in the Shannon is reported as the best on record for several years past.

Miscellaneous.—The letterpress printers and bookbinders report trade as good. The coach-makers and coopers continue steadily employed. The brewery workmen and corporation men report trade as fair, while the agricultural labourers are busy.

IV.—REPORTS ON CERTAIN INDUSTRIES IN JULY.

(a) THE STATE OF THE COAL MINING INDUSTRY IN JULY.

NOTE.—The following tables only profess to state the number of days on which coal was hewn and wound at the collieries at which a certain number of persons were employed at the end of July.

Returns for the month have been received from the owners of 1,020 collieries, of which, however, owing to the Scottish strike, 182 were idle.

From a summary of the returns received from the owners of the remaining 838 collieries, employing 233,612 workpeople on the last pay day in July, it appears that the average number of days worked by these collieries during the month was 4.69\* per week, as compared with 4.76\* days in June and 4.71\* in May.

Excluding the collieries in Scotland at which no coal was got, it appears from the returns that 10.4 per cent. of the workpeople were employed at pits which worked less than 14 days in July, 36.5 per cent. at pits which worked 14 and under 22 days, and 53.1 per cent. at pits which worked 22 days or more.

Table showing Number of days on which Coal was hewn and wound in July, Number of Work-people employed at the collieries, and Percentage proportion employed at collieries working the number of days stated in Column 1.

\* These figures are obtained by dividing the number of days worked in the month in the proportion of 31 to 7. By eliminating Sundays and taking the proportion according to the number of weekdays in the month, the results would be 4.75 days in July, 4.71 in June, and 4.61 in May.

The districts in which the number of days worked by the collieries per week in July exceeded the number of days worked in June are distinguished in the table which follows, from those in which there was a falling-off. It will be seen from this table that there was an improvement in six districts, with 96,498 workpeople; that in one district there has been no change; and that in eight districts, with 106,317 workpeople, there has been a fall.

COMPARISON OF THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED PER WEEK BY COLLIERIES IN JUNE AND JULY.

Table showing District, No. employed in July at the Collieries included in Table, and Days per Week for July and June. Includes sub-sections (a) Districts in which July exceeds June, (b) District in which July is the same as June, and (c) Districts in which July is less than June.

Arranging the districts in descending order according to the number of days worked by the collieries, we find that they fall into the following groups working (a) more than 5 days, and (b) less than 5 days per week, respectively:—

Table showing District, No. employed at the collieries included in table, and No. of days on which coal was hewn and wound. Includes sub-sections (a) 5 Days and upwards per week, and (b) Less than 5 days per week.

\* These figures are exclusive of returns received from collieries in Scotland at which no coal was hewn and wound.

(b) THE IRON MINING INDUSTRY IN JULY. (CUMBERLAND AND LANCASHIRE.)

According to the returns furnished by the owners of 32 iron ore mines in Cumberland and Lancashire, at which 5,528 workpeople were employed at the end of July, there has been a very slight falling-off in the number of days worked by the mines as compared with the previous month, the average number of days per week on which the mines were worked having dropped from

5.94 in June to 5.85 in July. The table below gives the number of workpeople employed, grouped according to the number of days on which the mines were worked.

Table showing Month of 1894, No. of workpeople employed at the Mines that worked the under-mentioned days (9 and under 12, Above 12 and under 15, 15, 20, 24, 25, 26), and Average number of days worked by Mines per week.

(c) EMPLOYMENT IN THE PIG IRON TRADE IN JULY.

Returns received from over three-fourths of the iron-masters of the United Kingdom show that the number of furnaces in blast at the end of July was 246, as compared with 259 in the previous month and 251 in July 1893. The net decrease of 13 in the number of furnaces in blast at the end of last month as compared with June is accounted for by 12 furnaces having been damped down and two blown out, as against one re-lit. Ten of the furnaces damped down were in Lanarkshire and two in Ayrshire, the strike of coal miners in these counties having so adversely affected the Pig Iron Industry that out of the 28 furnaces in blast in Scotland at the end of May, owned by the eight employers making returns, 19 remained in blast at the end of June and only seven at the end of July.

The following additional particulars respecting the Pig Iron Industry in Cleveland are taken from the monthly return issued by the Cleveland Ironmasters' Association:—

Production.—The total production in Cleveland during July was 252,631 tons, an increase of 1,405 tons as compared with the previous month, and of 21,434 tons as compared with July 1893.

Stocks.—On the last day of the month these amounted to 173,411 tons in July, 163,666 in June, and 206,010 in July 1893.

Shipments.—During July 86,568 tons of pig iron were shipped from Middlesbrough, as compared with 82,052 tons in the previous month, and 75,140 tons in July 1893.

(d) AGRICULTURAL LABOUR IN JULY. GENERAL SUMMARY.\*

MR. WILSON FOX, the Agricultural Correspondent of the Department, reports that agricultural labourers have generally been well employed in England and Scotland during July, at mowing, haymaking, hoeing turnips, weeding, and picking fruit in the fruit districts. The reports generally go to show that less than the usual number of Irish labourers have so far arrived in the English and Scotch agricultural districts to assist in the harvesting of the crops.

In the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and Cambridgeshire, where employment has been irregular this year in certain districts up to June, the men are reported, with few exceptions, to have had regular work throughout July. Where this has not been so, it has usually been due to the loss of time from wet weather. Irregular work, due to the weather, is said to have been experienced in Suffolk, in the districts of Ipswich, Bury St. Edmunds, Stowmarket, Halesworth, and Lavenham, and in Norfolk at Swaffham. It is, however, said in some districts, that the effect of the wet weather has been to increase the demand for labour at the latter end of July, as it threw back the haymaking operations and also caused the weeds to grow very quickly.

\* Based on information received from 100 districts in the United Kingdom, including reports from the Farmers' Federation, and from one Agricultural Labourers' Union.





four days for the local fair. In Darwen and Oswaldtwistle trade has been good. In Nelson the mills are running full time, not quite 3 per cent. of the looms throughout the district being stopped for warps. One mill at Barrowford is closed owing to a dispute. Trade is bad at Bury; one large weaving shed has been closed altogether, and short time and irregular work prevail. Trade has been good at Ramsbottom. In the Bolton district, including Horwich, Farnworth, West Houghton, Lostock and Chew Moor the mills are generally running full time, but the women weavers and winders are slack. At Middleton there is little change; hat band weaving, which employs women principally, is busier, but trade generally is not good, and in one firm 50 looms have been stopped altogether, and others are frequently standing.

**Woolen Trade.**—In one firm in Huddersfield in which the men are making fairly good time the girl menders are on short time; in another the girl reelers are on half time; in two, where the men are on short time, the women are working even shorter hours. At four large firms in Dewsbury the men are on full time, but many of the women, especially twistors, are only working alternate days; trade is depressed, but better than in June. At Ravensthorpe and Bingley full time is being worked. At Wortley, mills are running full time, but there is some waiting for work. The women in the worsted mills in Keighley are fairly busy.

**Linen Trade.**—At Leeds four flax mills have been stopped, and the Linen Trade seems to be depressed.

#### FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS IN THE GLASGOW BUILDING TRADE.

DURING the month an association has been formed in Glasgow under the title of the Glasgow and Suburbs Building Trades' Industries Federation. The objects of the Federation are—

"To maintain the right of combination of labour by trade unionism, by mutually supporting any of the societies within the Federation if individually attacked by employer or body of employers; to promote conciliation in trade disputes, and to advance and elevate the cause of labour generally."

The following societies have affiliated themselves to the Federation: Scottish National Operative Plasterers, Operative Bricklayers' Trade and Friendly Society, National Labourers' Union, Operative Plumbers of Great Britain and Ireland, Scottish Tinsmiths and Sheet Metal Workers, Scottish National Federation of House and Ship Painters, Operative Glaziers, Amalgamated Carpenters and Joiners, Glasgow United Operative Mosaic and Encaustic Tile Layers and Glasgow Lathers.

#### THE AGRICULTURAL LABOURER.\*

A FURTHER volume on the Agricultural Labourer which has been issued by the Labour Commission, contains certain memoranda prepared by Mr. W. C. Little, Senior Assistant Commissioner, and submitted as an appendix to his final report. These memoranda include summaries of the reports and proceedings of the Children's Employment Commission, 1862, and of the Commission on the Employment of Children, Young Persons and Women in Agriculture, 1867, which investigated the condition of the agricultural labourers of England and Wales between the years 1865 and 1869, and of Scotland in 1870. These summaries are followed by similar digests of the reports and proceedings of the Royal Commission on Agricultural Interests, commonly known as the Richmond Commission, which sat from 1879 to 1882, and investigated conditions in Ireland as well as in England, Wales and Scotland. Other memoranda deal with the reports from the Poor Law Inspectors on the wages of agricultural labourers in Ireland in 1870, of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into the Working of the Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Act, 1870, appointed in 1880, and of the Royal Commission on the Land Acts (Ireland) appointed in 1886. The volume also contains analyses of the Census returns for 1871, 1881 and 1891, and of the agricultural returns for 1891 for the United Kingdom.

\* The Agricultural Labourer, Vol. V., Part II. Miscellaneous Memoranda, Abstracts, and Statistical Tables. (C.—6894.—XXIV.) Price 4s.

#### THE DISPUTE IN THE SCOTCH COAL TRADE.

DURING the past month the stoppage of production in the Scotch Coal Trade has continued. About 70,000 miners are still on strike, and little material change has taken place in the situation.

In the concluding paragraph of the account of the dispute published in the July number of the GAZETTE, it was suggested that in the probable event of an understanding on the wages question being arrived at between the English Federated Coalowners and the Miners' Federation, such a settlement might have an important bearing on the arrangement of the dispute in Scotland. So far this expectation has not been realised. A copy of the agreement entered into in respect of certain districts in England will be found on page 239, and under this agreement wages will be regulated for two years. Up to the present, however, the Scotch associated coalowners have not seen their way to recognize any principle which fixes wages for any considerable period irrespective of the price of coal.

During the first three or four weeks of the stoppage its effects upon general trade were little felt, owing to the general dulness and the prevalence of the holiday season, but during the last three weeks there has been a gradual exhaustion of stocks and a revival of public interest in the dispute. The support of so large a body of men, the majority of whom in many districts were quite unorganised and without funds of their own, has, naturally, been a matter of considerable difficulty, and the necessary funds have been almost entirely subscribed by English Miners' Associations. At a miners' conference, held under the auspices of the Federation in Newcastle on July 12th, a resolution was adopted calling upon the mining districts of England and Wales to render all help possible to the Scottish miners, and also recommending miners outside the Federation to subscribe to the same amount as those in the organisation. It was also decided that the funds raised by levy should be divided among the Scottish districts in proportion to their membership in the Federation, allowing the local committees to deal with the funds as they might deem best. On July 13th a meeting of the Scottish Miners' Federation, held at Glasgow, allocated funds to the amount of £14,125, stated to have been received from England. The first strike payment was made in the third week of the dispute. In most of the districts the amount paid was 3s. 8d. per man, but in the better organised district of Fife, where it was divided solely among the members of the union, the contribution from England, amounting to about 9s. per head, was added to the local union funds from which payments were made at the rate of 8s. per week per man, and 1s. for each child. At each distribution of strike pay in Fife £500 has been voted by the Fife Miners' Association, for the support of non-union men. The members of the Lothians' Federation received 6s. per fortnight in the case of single men, and 8s. per fortnight in that of married men. During the following fortnight the subscriptions of the Miners' Federation to the strike fund amounted to £16,750, which enabled the committees to make payments, varying from 4s. 2d. per head in the least organised districts. In Fife the amount was equal to 10s. 6d. per head for the fortnight, and the men continued to receive strike pay at the same rate as before. At the third fortnightly distribution of strike pay the English levies were reported to amount to £12,000, which yielded about 3s. 3d. per man in the least organised districts, and about 7s. in Fife. The Northumberland and Durham miners, although not members of the Federation of Great Britain, have subscribed respectively £1,000 and £1,500 to the strike funds.

During the past few weeks several attempts have been made to bring about a conference between the parties to the dispute. At a meeting of the executive of the Miners' Federation, held at Westminster on July 20th, it was resolved that efforts should be made to arrange a meeting with the Scottish coalowners with a view to a settlement; but on July 25th the general committee of Scottish coalowners decided that such a meeting would serve no good purpose, but that, as hitherto, they

were quite willing to meet their own workmen in their respective districts.

Regarding the dispute as an exclusively Scottish question, the Associated Coalowners have declined to recognise the right of the executive of the Miners' Federation to a voice in the matter. The leading coalowners, however, state that they are not averse to a general settlement for the whole of Scotland, provided it can be arrived at by negotiations between themselves and representative miners in their own employ. It was, at least at first, the policy of the Scottish Miners' Federation to object to anything in the nature of partial or local attempts at settlement, either for particular districts or collieries, but during the past few weeks there have been some indications of a change of attitude on this point. Thus, certain proposals for settlement having been put forward by some of the non-associated employers suggesting that the dispute should be settled on the basis of a guarantee of a fixed rate of wages for a fixed period, as in the English Federated districts, the Scottish Federation on July 30th, while declining the proposal on the ground that it proceeded only from a small number of coal owners, expressed their willingness to consider it if made by employers of a large number of men.

The Executive of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain, sitting at York on August 7th, passed the following resolution:—

"That in any case where the men on strike in Scotland can settle at any collieries so as to resume work on the lines of the settlement made by the Conciliation Board and the British Federation, they be recommended to do so, and we earnestly request the leaders of the men in Scotland to advocate this policy and make arrangements when opportunity affords."

Since the commencement of the dispute the Board of Trade has kept itself fully informed as to its progress, and also, so far as possible, as to the relation between the parties, and steps have been taken to ascertain whether mediatory action was likely to be acceptable to both sides. The Lord Provost of Glasgow (who has throughout been in communication with the President of the Board of Trade) has been acting as an intermediary between the coalowners and the representatives of the miners, but the associated coalowners have hitherto declined to enter into a conference with the leaders of the men. On the 7th August, the Lord Provost succeeded in arranging a meeting between seven representatives of the miners and seven non-associated employers. At this meeting various proposals were discussed, and some approach was made towards a compromise, but no definite result has as yet been arrived at. The two main questions at issue at present are (1) the rate of wages at which work shall be resumed; (2) the period of time, if any, during which this rate shall not be reduced.

The representatives of the non-associated employers offered to re-open the pits at the old rate of wages, this rate not to be reduced for a year. The representatives of the men offered to recommend their constituents to accept a rise of 6d. a day, no reduction to be made for 18 months. Subsequently the latter offer has been endorsed by a conference of delegates of the miners from various parts of Scotland.

At one colliery where no reduction took place, and where the men were allowed to continue at work, a rise of 7½ per cent. in wages has been conceded.

The effect of the prolonged dispute on other industries, especially those dependent on coal supply, has been very marked, and many blast furnaces in the districts affected were damped down during the past month. At the end of July only 11 remained in blast in the whole of Scotland.

#### WAGES IN THE COAL TRADE IN THE FEDERATED DISTRICTS.

At a meeting of the Conciliation Board on July 19th the representatives of the coalowners and miners of the federated districts agreed to a settlement of the wages question for two years from August 1st, on the following terms:—

"1st.—(1) That the present rate of wages be reduced as from August 1st 1894, by taking off the last two advances of 5 per cent.

each, and that the wages remain at that rate until January 1st 1896; (2) that for a period of two years from August 1st 1894, the rate of wages shall not be lower than 30 per cent. above the rate of wages of 1888, nor more than 45 per cent. above the rate of wages of 1888; (3) that from January 1st 1896 to August 1st 1896, the rate of wages shall be determined by the Conciliation Board within the above-named limits; (4) that the Conciliation Board shall be continued for this purpose for two years from August 1st 1894.

"2nd.—That the above terms shall apply to the collieries whose names, firms or companies shall be handed to Mr. Thomas Ashton by Mr. T. Ratcliffe Ellis on or before July 31st 1893.

"3rd.—That the new rate of wages shall be paid on the Friday or Saturday, August 10th or 11th next."

The date (31st July) mentioned in clause 2 was afterwards extended by agreement to 6th August, and the following is an analysis by districts of the firms or companies that have agreed to abide by the terms of the settlement:—

District.	No. of Firms or Companies.	District.	No. of Firms or Companies.
Lancashire ...	100	Leicestershire ...	10
Yorkshire: South ...	45	Cannock Chase ...	13
West ...	53	Warwickshire:	
North Wales ...	19	Nuneaton District ...	9
North Staffordshire ...	29	Tamworth District ...	6
Derbyshire ...	45	Cheshire ...	4
Nottinghamshire ...	18	Shropshire ...	1

These numbers do not represent in all cases the total number of colliery owners in the districts referred to. The terms appear to have been pretty generally accepted throughout Yorkshire (except round about Halifax, Holmfirth and Huddersfield), Lancashire, Denbighshire, Derbyshire, Leicester, Notts., Warwickshire, and by many proprietors in North Staffs. In Cheshire, Salop and South Staffs. there are adherents to the settlement, but not a majority of the total. It must be remembered, however, that in South Staffs. there is already a wages board in operation, and that a number of colliery owners in the other districts have never formally joined the Coalowners' Federation. Some of these non-associated collieries have now given in their adhesion to the settlement. No exact figure can be stated at present as regards the number of miners affected, but it is believed that the total is somewhere about 200,000 to 250,000. It is possible that this number may be increased by a further number of coalowners agreeing to the settlement.

It should be noted that the question whether the full 10 per cent. should be taken off the advances of 40 pence and others who have not received the full 40 per cent. advance in their rates of wages since 1888 is under discussion in many districts. It is reported that as a rule the reduction made from the wages of these classes of men amounts to one-quarter of the advance received since 1888.

#### THE DEADLOCK IN THE SHIPBUILDING AND ENGINEERING TRADES ON THE NORTH-EAST COAST.

THE gradual curtailment of employment in the shipbuilding and engineering centres of the North-east Coast lying between the Tees and the Tyne affords a striking example of the effect on the employment of large bodies of operatives caused by disputes in auxiliary branches of trade over which they have no direct control. So far back as March last the ironfounders demanded an advance of 3s. 6d. per week, being an equivalent to the amount of reductions made during 1892-3. This demand being refused, a strike began on March 19th. On April 4th the pattern-makers of the district also came out on strike for an advance of 3s. per week. Some time after the outbreak of the strike the ironfounders' demand was reduced to 2s. a week. Probably not more than 2,000 workmen were affected at the outset, and, at first, little inconvenience was caused to kindred branches of trades. As, however, the work in hand in the engine shops reached completion the absence of castings for further work put a stop to engine building, and large numbers of engineers were gradually thrown out of work.

At the time of the first demand there seemed to be some signs of improvement visible in the shipbuilding and engineering trades in some parts of the district. The proportion of unemployed engineers in the districts

afterwards affected by the strike, which had been 22 per cent. at the beginning of the year, fell at the end of February to 13.7 per cent. At the end of March, however, the proportion had slightly risen to 14 per cent., and since then there has been a gradual increase in the number of unemployed engineers in the localities affected, until at the end of July the proportion had reached 23 per cent. The effects of the strike on the employment of shipbuilders, though showing themselves more gradually, have been even more marked, as may be seen from the fact that while in the month of March the proportion of unemployed members of the Boiler-makers' and Iron Shipbuilders' Society in the localities concerned was 12.9 per cent., it had risen to 17.2 per cent. by the end of June, and by the end of July to the high figure of 43 per cent. While it cannot, of course, be said with absolute certainty that the increase in the number of unemployed engineers and shipbuilders has been entirely due to the strike of iron-founders, there is no doubt that this has been one of the principal causes at work. The figures quoted above apply to two well organised trade unions, and are given because they can be precisely ascertained, but all the lesser branches of these trades, and the unskilled labourers therein employed are also suffering to at least as great an extent, so that a strike at first directly affecting little more than 2,000 workers is probably now keeping out of work seven times that number.

Repeated efforts have been made to arrange a settlement of the dispute, but both sides have been very firm. The employers, strongly organised, assert that the state of trade permits of no advance at present. The men on strike, also well organised, claim that they only want the return of some of the amounts taken off wages when the depression was at its lowest, and also that in the North-east district wages are too low relatively to other localities. During the past month efforts at mediation and conciliation have been made—notably by the Bishop of Newcastle, who endeavoured to arrange a conference of employers and employed, but failed, the men declining to accept the preliminary conditions required by the employers, including the absolute withdrawal by the men of the demand for an advance. Since then delegates appointed by a general labour conference have had two meetings with the employers (8th and 9th inst.), and a nearer approach to a settlement has been reached than at any previous stage of the dispute. Up to the present, however, no final agreement has been arrived at.

PROFIT-SHARING.\*

THE Labour Department has issued a report, by Mr. Schloss, on profit-sharing. It contains a complete history of profit-sharing in this country, in the form of a concise account of every case of profit-sharing of which particulars could be obtained, and of the nature of the results obtained by the application of this method. The results have been presented in such a way that it will be possible to continue the history periodically without making another special report. The Department expresses a hope that those who possess information as to cases not mentioned in the report will kindly communicate the same to the Department, which also desires to receive the names and addresses of any employers by whom any system of profit-sharing may hereafter be adopted. Communications will be treated as private if so desired. In the few cases where this desire has been expressed every care has been taken in the present report to guard against identification of the firm.

Profit-sharing, as the word is used in the report, comprehends a variety of forms of industrial remuneration, all covered by the definition of the system as "a voluntary agreement, by virtue of which an employee receives a share, fixed beforehand, in the profits of an undertaking." The share in profits received by an employee under a scheme of profit-sharing is always a share received by him as employee, i.e., received as an additional remuneration (over and above his ordinary

\* Profit-sharing C.—9,458 of Session 1894. Price 10d.

wages) for the work he performs. Mere shareholding by employees is not profit-sharing. Moreover, the bonus which is received by an employee under a scheme of profit-sharing must be contingent upon the profits realised, and not simply a premium paid for work done in excess of a specified standard irrespective of the rate of profit realised. Nor are gifts by employers to employees included in the category of profit-sharing, unless the sums given constitute a pre-determined part of the profits; and it is participation in profits of this determinate character which alone forms the subject of investigation in the present report. Cases in which the only persons who are allowed to share in profits are a few leading employees (e.g., managers of departments, foremen, etc.) are also treated as outside the purview of this report. Before the consideration of the main subject is entered upon, two forms of industrial remuneration closely allied to ordinary profit-sharing are noticed—(1) the share system prevalent among a certain number of our barge sailors, and still more extensively in vogue in our sea fisheries; (2) the various types of co-operation in which "bonus on labour" is received by the employees. The account of the share system in the sea fisheries is based upon information supplied by Mr. Malan, Inspector of Fisheries.

Of the 114 co-operative "productive" undertakings reported on, particulars as to the ratio of "bonus on labour" to wages are given in 59 cases. Of these, there were 12 in which the ratio was over 5 per cent., while in 41 cases either no bonus was paid or the ratio was less than 3 per cent. An average of the rates in all the 59 cases gives a mean rate of 2.4 per cent. on wages.

Of the 152 cases in which profit-sharing proper is known to have been or to be practised, 51 are cases in which profit-sharing was formerly in operation but no longer exists, and 101 are cases in which some scheme of profit-sharing is now in force. The first case recorded was in 1829. In 1865 a movement in favour of the system made itself felt, but wore itself out by 1867; a re-appearance of the tendency took place in 1872, followed, however, by seven years in which only eight cases occurred. In 1880, the introduction of profit-sharing arrangements recommenced, continuing slowly but steadily, until in 1889 and 1890, two years of remarkable activity, profit-sharing was adopted in 19 and 32 cases respectively. The less favourable condition of industry was probably responsible for the diminution in 1891 and 1892 (15 and 13 cases respectively), and for the insignificant total of 4 reached in 1893. But the first six weeks of 1894 witnessed the introduction of profit-sharing in four cases, and preparations are being made by at least seven British employers for the adoption of similar schemes.

Of the 101 existing cases, 18 are in the Printing Trades, 13 in the Provision Trade, 11 in various branches of metal manufacture, 8 in agriculture, 5 in the textile manufactures, 3 in baking, 2 each in clothing, house-building, leather, tobacco and chemical firms, and in gasworks, and the remainder in various miscellaneous industries.

The average duration of profit-sharing in 44 cases of past experiments, in which the facts are known, was about five years; more than one-fourth of them came to an end before the second year, and considerably more than one-half before the fourth year of the experiment. Of the present experiments, 3 date back upwards of twenty years, 9 more than ten years; 21 belong to the period 1884-1888 inclusive, 60 to the years 1889-1892 inclusive, 8 having been started since the beginning of 1893.

In 83 cases of existing experiments, in which particulars have been given of the ratio of bonus to wages, there were 31 in which the ratio was 5 per cent. or upwards, while in 38 cases, either no bonus was paid, or the ratio was less than 3 per cent. An average of all the 83 ratios gives a mean rate of 4.4 per cent. on wages.

The 101 profit-sharing firms employ among them 2 number of employees varying from a minimum of over 27,000, to a maximum, in busy seasons, exceeding 29,000.

CHANGES IN WAGES AND HOURS OF LABOUR REPORTED IN JULY.

(Based on information obtained from Local Correspondents, Superintendents of Mercantile Marine, and from Newspapers and other sources, with corrections and additions supplied by many of the principal Employers' Associations and Trade Unions, and in some cases by the Employers concerned.)

THE changes in rates of wages and hours of labour reported during July are not quite so numerous as in the previous month, but the numbers affected in some cases are very large. By far the most important changes are the reductions which have taken place in coal miners' wages in most of the English districts. In the districts covered by the Miners' Federation a very large number of coal miners, probably not less than 200,000 or 250,000, are affected from August 1st by the reduction of 10 per cent. from the standard rates of 1888; in South Wales and Monmouth 90,000 miners have had a decrease from the same date of 3 1/2 per cent. under the sliding scale, while the Northumberland miners, numbering 27,000, have suffered a reduction of 5 per cent. for underground and 4 per cent. for surface workers, from July 30th and August 6th.

Employment.	Locality.	Approximate number of workpeople directly affected.	Particulars of Change.
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INCREASES IN RATES OF WAGES.			
<b>Building Trades.</b>			
Bricklayers ...	Yarmouth, Norfolk	50	3d. per hour (6d. to 6 1/2d.) from June 1st.
Bricklayers and Masons	Ryde, Isle of Wight	60	1s. 3d. per week (27s. to 28s. 3d.) from July 1st.
	N. and S. Shields and Tynemouth	500	3d. per hour (8 1/2d. to 9d.) from August 1st.
	The Hartle-pools	300	3d. per hour (8d. to 8 1/2d.) from July 30th.
	Spun Valley	9	1d. per hour (6d. to 7d.) from July 23rd.
Carpenters and Joiners	Halifax ...	300	3d. per hour (7d. to 7 1/2d.) from August 2nd.
	Mansfield ...	42	3d. per hour (7d. to 7 1/2d.) from July 9th.
	Coalville and Hugglescote	30	1d. per hour (6 1/2d. to 7d.) from July 9th.
	Ryde, Isle of Wight	60	1s. 3d. per week (27s. to 28s. 3d.) from July 1st.
Plumbers ...	Ditto ...	18	1s. per week (32s. 6d. to 33s. 6d.) from July 1st.
Plasterers ...	Edinburgh...	250	3d. per hour (8d. to 8 1/2d.) from Jan. 1st, 1895.
Painters ...	Ryde, Isle of Wight	40	2s. 9d. per week (25s. 6d. to 28s. 3d.) from July 1st.
	Ditto ...	100	10d. per week (18s. to 18s. 10d.) from July 1st.
Labourers ...	Swansea ...	210	3d. per hour (5d. to 5 1/2d.) from July 3rd.
	Dundee ...	6	3d. per hour (6 1/2d. to 7d.) from June 14th.
Setmakers ...	Glasgow ...	30	About 7 1/2 per cent. from July 19th. Present rate 2s. 6d. per 110 setts.
<b>Mining.</b>			
Smiths and Fitters ...	Merthyr Tydfil	16	Advance varied from 1s. to 4s. 6d. per week, average about 2s. 6d. Rates before change 21s. to 26s. per week. From July 21st.
		7	1s. per week (17s. 6d. to 18s. 6d.) from July 21st.
Strikers ...	Ditto ...	6	1s. per week (14s. to 15s.) from July 21st.
<b>Metal Trades.</b>			
Plate Lock Makers ...	Wolver-hampton and District	200	5s. 6d. per dozen. Rates before change ranged from 12s. 6d. to 17s. 6d. per dozen. From July 21st.
<b>Engineering.</b>			
Labourers ...	Chepstow ...	106	1s. per week (19s. to 20s.) from Aug. 1st.
<b>Shipbuilding.</b>			
Joiners ...	Stockton, Thornaby, the Hartle-pools and Middlesbro'	350	1s. per week (33s. 6d. to 34s. 6d.) from August 6th.
	Ditto ...	30	1s. per week (32s. to 33s.) from August 6th and 13th.
Sawyers and Machinists	Middlesbro'	90	1s. per week (33s. 6d. to 34s. 6d.) from August 13th.
Joiners ...	Belfast ...	About 70	1s. 9d. per week (32s. to 33s. 9d.) from July 5th.
Painters ...	Ditto ...	30	1s. 6d. per week (30s. to 31s. 6d.) from July 16th.
French Polishers ...	Ditto ...	30	
<b>Textile Trades.</b>			
Worsted Spinners	Oakworth, Haworth & Oxenhope	300	6d. per week (8s. 6d. to 9s.) from June 12th.
Men employed in Size Houses	Bradford ...	60	5 per cent. from July 7th.
Sheeting Weavers ...	Heywood ...	30	Adoption of a "standard list" which increases average wages about 2s. per week. From July 6th.

\* In all cases the accuracy of Newspaper reports is inquired into before the information is used here.  
† The system of working has been changed from day to hour employment. The rates of wages quoted are those for a full week. See also "Decreases in Hours."  
‡ For full terms of settlement see p. 239.

Employment.	Locality.	Number.	Particulars of Change.
INCREASES IN RATES OF WAGES—(continued).			
<b>Textile Trades - contd.</b>			
Strippers and Grinders	Shaw ...	11	2s. 2d. per week (23s. 5d. to 25s. 7d.) from July 20th.
	Oldham ...	3	3s. 2d. per week (26s. 5d. to 29s. 7d.) from July 20th.
Spinners ...	Royton ...	3	Revision of piece-rates, giving an increase of about 5s. per week. From July 13th.
Rag Pickers ...	Birstall ...	12	3s. per week (9s. to 12s.).
<b>Clothing Trades.</b>			
Boot & Shoe Makers (Hand Workers)	Birmingham London (West End)	One firm One firm	8 per cent. from July 2nd. 10 to 14 per cent. on two classes of work, from July 2nd.
Boot and Shoe Operatives:			
	Rushden District	170	Adoption of minimum weekly wage of 27s. Wages before change 24s. From July 16th.
Lasters & Finishers (Machine)	Northampton	200	Adoption of minimum weekly wage of 28s. Wages before change averaged 25s. From July 1st.
Clickers ...	Rushden District	180	Adoption of minimum weekly wage of 25s. until January 1st 1895, after that date 26s. per week. Wages before change 23s. From July 16th.
Pressmen ...	Ditto ...	50	Adoption of minimum weekly wage of 22s. Wages before change 21s. From July 16th.
<b>Printing Trades.</b>			
Newspaper Compositors	London ...	About 1,100	Morning Papers:—Guaranteed minimum wages increased 50 per cent. (3s. 10d. to 5s. 9d. per night). Minimum time rates increased 33d. per hour (11 1/2d. to 1s. 3d.). From June 11th. Evening Papers:—Minimum time rates increased 2d. per hour (11d. to 1s. 1d.). From June 11th.
<b>Wood Working Trades.</b>			
Joiners in Sawmills	The Hartle-pools	94	2s. per week (34s. to 36s.) from July 30th.
Cabinet Makers ...	Ryde, Isle of Wight	20	2s. 6d. per week (21s. to 23s. 6d.) from July 1st.
<b>Corporation Employees.</b>			
Resident Park Keepers	Birmingham	7	2s. per week from July 1st. Wages before change 24s. to 28s., after, 25s. to 30s.
Assistant Uniform Men	Ditto ...	30	1s. per week (22s. to 23s.) from July 1st.
Foremen Paviers	Edinburgh...	6	2s. per week (28s. to 30s.) from June 26th.
Paviers ...	Ditto ...	16	1s. per week (26s. to 27s.) from July 23rd.
Beaters ...	Ditto ...	13	1s. per week (23s. to 24s.) from July 23rd.
District Foremen (Cleansing Dept.)	Paisley ...	6	1s. per week (21s. to 22s.) from July 18th.
Ashbin Carriers ...	Ditto ...	10	1s. per week (18s. to 19s.) from July 18th.
<b>Miscellaneous.</b>			
Drivers ...	Preston ...	39	1s. per week (14s. to 15s.) from July 26th.
Horsekeepers, Washers and Harness Cleaners	Ditto ...	33	Special allowance granted for livery, attending marriages, funerals, &c.
Tram Guards...	Ditto ...	Not stated	Adoption of minimum weekly wage of 10s. Wages before change 13s. to 20s. From July 26th.
Mail Cart Drivers ...	Dublin ...	40	2s. per week (14s. to 16s.) from about July 1st.
INCREASES IN HOURS OF LABOUR.			
<b>Miscellaneous.</b>			
Pottery Workers	Llanely ...	Not stated	Reversion from 8 1/2 hours/day to former hours of labour (10 1/2 per day) in branches in which usual day's work could not be done in shortened hours.
DECREASES IN RATES OF WAGES.			
<b>Mining.</b>			
	Northum-berland	27,000	5 per cent. underground men and 4 per cent. surface men, from July 30th and Aug. 6th.
	Lancashire, Cheshire, Yorkshire, Mid-lands, Salop and North Wales	†	10 per cent. from August 1st, making wages 30 per cent. above the standard of 1888.
Coal Miners ...	South Wales and Monmouth	90,000	3 1/2 per cent. from August 1st, making wages 23 1/2 per cent. above standard of December 1879.
<b>Metal Trades.</b>			
	West Cum-berland	840	Sliding scale. 1 1/2 per cent. from July 7th.
	North Lancashire	700	Sliding scale. 1 per cent. from July 7th.
Blast Furnacemen	Middlesbro'	143	6 1/2 per cent. from August 3rd. (See also under "Decreases in Hours.")

† No final figure can yet be given as to the number affected by this change but it probably is between 200,000 and 250,000.  
‡ For full terms of settlement see p. 239.

Employment.	Locality.	Number.	Particulars of Change.
<b>DECREASES IN RATES OF WAGES—(continued).</b>			
<b>Metal Trades—contd.</b>			
Ironplate Workers ...	The Lye ...	300	5 per cent. off piece rates from about June 20th.
Safe Makers ...	Liverpool ...	About 50	1s. per week (22s. to 21s.) from August 1st. (See also under "Decreases in Hours of Labour.")
<b>Seamen, &amp;c.</b>			
Able Seamen (Sailing Ships)	Sunderland	16½	5s. per month (60s. to 55s.).
<b>Textile Trades.</b>			
Weavers ...	Apperley Bridge, Huddersfield	120	1s. 2d. per week (18s. to 16s. 10d.) early in July.
Jute & Linen Workers (all Classes)	Carnoustie...	410	1s. 6d. per week (23s. to 21s. 6d.) from July 14th.
Spinners, Preparers and Reelers ...	Coalisland...	200	5 per cent. from July 10th.
<b>Miscellaneous.</b>			
Pottery Workers ...	Rutherglen	270	Good attendance bonus of 6d. per week forfeited in lieu of reduction of wages.
			10 per cent., during Scottish coal dispute.
<b>DECREASES IN HOURS OF LABOUR.</b>			
<b>Building Trades.</b>			
Bricklayers ...	Yarmouth, Norfolk	50	3¼ hours per week (60 to 56½) from June 1st.
	Ryde, Isle of Wight	60	2 hours per week (58½ to 56½) from July 1st.
	Mansfield ...	42	2 hours per week for winter months (50½ to 48½) from July 9th.
Carpenters and Joiners	Ryde, Isle of Wight	60	2 hours per week (58½ to 56½) from July 1st.
Plumbers ...	Ditto	18	2 hours per week (58½ to 56½) from July 1st.
Painters ...	Ditto	40	2 hours per week (58½ to 56½) from July 1st.
Labourers ...	Ditto	100	2 hours per week (58½ to 56½) from July 1st.
<b>Metal Trades.</b>			
Blast Furnacemen ...	Middlesbro'	143	28 hours per week (8s. to 6s) from August 3rd. (See also under "Decreases in Rates of Wages.")
Safe Makers ...	Liverpool ...	About 50	6¼ hours per week (54½ to 48) from August 1st. (See also under "Decreases in Rates of Wages.")
<b>Textile Trades.</b>			
Finishers and Dyers (Worsted Coatings and Serges)	Huddersfield	10	2 hours per week (56 to 54) from July 13th.
<b>Clothing Trades.</b>			
Boot and Shoe Operatives (all Branches)	Leicester ...	260	4½ hours per week (54½ to 50) from July 16th.
<b>Printing Trades.</b>			
Compositors ...	Wolverhampton	6	5 hours per week (55 to 50) from June 25th.
<b>Wood Working Trades.</b>			
Cabinet Makers ...	Ryde, Isle of Wight	20	2 hours per week (58½ to 56½) from July 1st.
Stick Makers...	Stroud, Glos.	200	6 hours per week (60 to 54) from August 3rd.
<b>Corporation Employees.</b>			
Resident Park Keepers	Birmingham	7	7 hours per week (82 to 75) from July 1st.
Assistant Uniform Men	Ditto	30	7 hours per week (65 to 58) from July 1st.
Park Labourers ...	Ditto	15	2 hours per week (58 to 56) from July 1st.
<b>Miscellaneous.</b>			
Co-operative Store Assistants	Jarrow-on-Tyne, Doncaster ...	100	6 hours per week (54 to 48) from August 23rd.
Railway Shunters	Derby ...	About 45	1 hour per day (10 to 9) from July 1st.
Drivers ...	Preston ...	39	6 hours per week (60 to 54) from July 1st.
Tram Drivers and Conductors	Ditto	30	Grant of alternate Sundays and one night per week, without loss of pay. 7 days annual leave granted without loss of pay.

§ Number affected during July.

ERRATUM.—The change in the rate of wages of Slaters at Edinburgh and Leith reported on p. 208 of last month's GAZETTE, as from 7½d. to 8d., should have been from 8d. to 8½d.

### LONDON CAB TRADE.

**New Scale of Charges for Privileged First-Class Hansoms.**—At a joint conference of representatives of the cab proprietors and cabdrivers held on 10th August at the House of Commons, Mr. Asquith stated that—

"After hearing the representations made, on both sides at a joint conference attended this day by masters and men, I recommend to the parties that the prices to be paid by drivers of privileged first-class hansoms should be as follows, viz.: August 13 to September 30, seven weeks, at 12s. per day; October 1 to October 31, three weeks, at 11s., in addition in all cases to the privilege money. This is in lieu of the scale laid down by me on the 4th inst."

### THE LUXEMBURG SYSTEM OF LABOUR REGISTRY.

BRIEF reference to this system was made on page 176 of the LABOUR GAZETTE of December 1893. The following account is based on the report of an officer of the Labour Department, who visited the Grand Duchy during the past month in order to examine the working and effects of the scheme.

The duty of registering and publishing the names, addresses and requirements of applicants for work, or for workpeople, was imposed on the postal department by the Grand Ducal Government in December 1892, the cost being borne by the State, and no charge being made on employers or workers registering their wants.

Persons in search of employment, or wanting workers may either (a) state their requirements verbally at the nearest post-office, (b) inform the postman of their wants, or (c) fill in the necessary particulars on post-cards specially provided for the purpose, and supplied gratis on application at any post-office, or to any postman. The ordinary post-card rate of five centimes (½d.) is charged for their transmission. The particulars filled in on these cards include name, address, occupation, number of workpeople, and wages required or offered.

The functions of the post-office do not include enquiries respecting the character or efficiency of applicants whose names it registers and publishes.

Applicants who have succeeded in their quest, or who wish to withdraw their applications, notify the post office, two kinds of card, on which no postage is charged, being in use for the purpose. One of these is single, while the other has a reply half attached. The second of these is sent by the post-office to applicants living in districts having no postal conveniences, to inform them of any vacancies, &c. likely to meet their wants. The reply half is returned by the recipient when suited, with the name of the employer, or of the person or persons engaged. The single card merely notifies the post-office that the applicant's wants have been met, and gives no particulars as to the employer or the person employed. To ensure the removal of applications from the register as soon as they have been met or withdrawn, the postmen of each district have instructions to inquire each day of applicants residing in their rounds whether they have been suited or not.

Every rural post-office despatches a list of the applications and withdrawals received during the day (Sundays excepted) to the central post-office in the town of Luxemburg, so as to arrive before 7 p.m. Applications from employers and workers are there entered in separate registers; from these entries a weekly statement of applications for work and for work-people is drawn up and despatched to every post-office, railway-station, public-house, and large employer of labour in the Grand Duchy on Saturday evenings. In each post-office the list is hung in a prominent place, marked "Labour Exchange."

A daily sheet is also compiled at the central office in Luxemburg. It includes the fresh applications registered throughout the Grand Duchy during the day, together with those of previous days since the issue of the last weekly list, not reported as withdrawn or settled. This list, which is completed at 7 o'clock each evening, is lithographed and sent to each post-office and large employer of labour. In this way the weekly list is amended from day to day at the post-offices by having the latest daily sheet fastened to it.

Statistics supplied by the Postmaster-General in Luxemburg show that, between December 1st 1892 and June 30th 1894, 1,484 applications from workpeople were registered, of which 1,419 are stated to have been successfully met. During the same eighteen months, 2,922 applications were received from employers, the number of workpeople sought being 4,159. Of these applications, 2,548 were met, involving the employment of 3,533 persons. With regard to the high percentage of successful applications, allowance must be made for cases in which the applicants may have been suited independently of the post-office, as the notifications of withdrawal or of settlement sent to the post-office do

not always give particulars of service accepted or of the person or persons engaged.

Though all the large employers of labour are supplied with the weekly and daily lists, they prefer, as a rule, to resort to other methods of obtaining workers when in need of them. The managers or owners of iron mines at Düdelingen and Esch stated that they seldom made use of the post-office when about to engage new men. The owner of a number of cloth factories in Schleifmühle, Pulvermühle and elsewhere, employing about 800 operatives, gave similar evidence. In some cases, factory owners are unwilling to resort to the post-office if they want any considerable number of fresh hands, from fear that the information thus reaching their employees may be used by them as a lever to extort higher wages. The system is held to be more suited for persons wanting domestic servants, or for master craftsmen wanting journeymen, than for large employers of labour. A glance through any of the weekly sheets confirms this opinion.

Owners of inns and public-houses do not make much use of the weekly sheet supplied to them. Even the classes by whom it is most used, domestic servants and craftsmen, continue to a considerable extent to resort to the older methods of finding work, such as newspaper advertising, private registries (of which three have been started since December 1892), personal visits to employers, and inquiries among friends. The old-established custom of hiring domestic servants in the market-place still prevails. Several thousands from all parts of the Grand Duchy assemble on December 27th in the market-place of Luxemburg, where employers make a personal selection.

With the Luxemburgers, most of whom are peasant proprietors, labour, except on their own land, is a secondary consideration. The foreigners, of whom a considerable number, for various reasons, seek refuge in the country, gladly accept work, chiefly in the mining centres, at any wages, to avoid expulsion as vagrants.\* Labour disputes are unknown, nor are there any organisations of workmen. Under conditions such as these it appears doubtful if any urgent necessity existed for introducing the new system of gratuitous labour registry in the Grand Duchy. It is, therefore, difficult to judge what its effects would have been under different circumstances.

### FINAL REPORT OF THE LABOUR COMMISSION.†

In addition to the general recommendations of the Labour Commission, summarised in the LABOUR GAZETTE for July, a summary of certain special recommendations with regard to seamen and agricultural labourers is here given.

#### SEAMEN.

(1.) That the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act should be so amended as to make it expressly legal for any *bona fide* organisation, whether of employers or employed, certified as such by the Board of Trade, to act as general agents in supplying seamen to ships.

(2.) That in view of the increased size of modern ships, and the fewer hands required in proportion to tonnage, the accommodation appropriated to the use of each seaman or apprentice might be increased in the case of new ships from the present legal space of not less than 72 cubic feet to 120 cubic feet.

(3.) That allotment notes might be made payable fortnightly instead of only once a month.

(4.) That medicines put on board ship should be certified by the chemist who supplies them. Also that some qualification should be required from ships' cooks.

(5.) That as the shipowners are already represented by elected members on local marine boards, the nominees of the Board of Trade on these boards should be, as far as possible, persons not similarly interested in shipping property.

\* Out of 8,032 persons employed in iron mining 3,076 are foreigners. † "Fifth and Final Report of the Royal Commission on Labour," Paris I. and II. (C-7, 421, of 1894, prices 28s. and 5s. 9d.).

No recommendation is made as to the insufficient manning of a certain class of ships, on the understanding that a departmental committee of inquiry will be appointed to investigate the subject.

#### AGRICULTURAL LABOUR.

(1.) That the owners of all houses let at a rental of less than £10 a year should be obliged to make an annual return to the Sanitary Authority, stating the number of persons in each cottage, their sex, and age; whether the house is provided with a proper water-supply and a closet, and whether the premises are in good repair.

(2.) That the medical officer of health in each district should give up his whole time to the duties of his office, and should not be removable without the consent of the Local Government Board. To meet the difficulty of paying a salary sufficient for a properly qualified man in small sanitary districts, two or more such districts should be combined. That in order to increase the independence of the medical officer he should be appointed by the County Council, subject to the approval of the Local Government Board.

(3.) That under legislation applying both to England and Wales and to Scotland, loans should be advanced to landowners through the agency of a Government Department for the purpose of building cottages at the lowest rate of interest which would secure the State from loss, such loans to be made repayable by fixed instalments within a certain number of years, and granted subject to conditions as to the character of the cottages, etc.

(4.) That for the more effective carrying out of the intention of the Labourers (Ireland) Acts the method of procedure under these Acts should be re-considered.

### COTTON OPERATIVES IN BOMBAY.\*

THE Reports on the working of the Indian Factories Act in the Provinces of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, Punjab and Burma, and the North-Western Provinces and Oudh and the Central Provinces in 1892, show that in that year there were only 653 factories (including seasonal factories) in all the Provinces. They employed on an average 317,000 daily, of whom 137 per cent. were women, and 6 per cent. were children under 14.

Of these factories, 253 were in the Bombay Presidency, of which nearly half (119) were situated in the town and island of Bombay. Of these, 157 worked all the year round, while 96, comprising the cotton gins and presses, were seasonal, beginning work in November and continuing to run till March or June, according to the state of the market and the yield of the cotton harvest.

By far the most important industry is that which deals with raw or manufactured cotton, which employs in 194 factories 91,107 persons. As many of the factories are closed for several months in the year, and all the unskilled workers disbanded, working in a factory is an incidental, but not the main business of their lives. Even in the more skilled branches of cotton manufacture, a very large percentage (in Bombay quite 75 per cent.) of the mill operatives are cultivators, who frequently take holidays to revisit their homes. It follows that their work is not nearly so severe and continuous as in European countries. The general low average of age among the operatives in the cotton mills is not due to the employment of large numbers of children, but to the fact that the operatives retire to their villages as soon as they have made a little money. Ahmedabad appears to be the only great centre that possesses what may be called a separate mill population. In Bombay the workers are seldom over 40 years old.

Of the 91,000 persons employed in the Cotton Industry, 18,335 were women employed in cotton spinning and weaving, and 3,435 were women employed in cotton pressing and cleaning; 5,205 were children, of whom

\* East India (Factory Inspection). (P.P. 108 of 1894.) Price 1s. 9d.

nearly four-fifths were boys. Women neither spin nor weave. Those in the cotton mills work in the reeling and winding departments only, many of them on hand machines. Women were formerly employed in the Gujrat Mills as frame-minders, but when the period of their work was limited to 11 hours their places were taken by men, and they were gradually transferred to the reeling and winding departments. The hours of work for women vary in Bombay from 9½ in winter to 11 in summer. In parts of the Province the children work seven hours, the maximum time allowed; in Kaira and Dharwar the average is 6½ hours, in Bombay and Khandesh 6 hours, and in Broach and Surat 5½.

In the Bombay cotton mills full time male operatives earn from 7 rupees a month as carding room hands to 20 rupees as spinners; women as reelers and winders earn from 7 to 8 rupees a month, and children as doffers and piecers from 6 to 7 rupees. Wages are usually paid by the piece, so that earnings are higher in summer than in winter.

INTERNATIONAL TEXTILE CONFERENCE.

ON July 24th, 25th and 27th, the first International Congress of delegates representing the Textile Trades was held at the Memorial Hall, Manchester, at which 54 delegates were present, representing 27 textile workers' organisations.

The Congress was convened by the Legislative Council of the United Textile Factory Workers of Great Britain, a body formed to initiate and watch legislation affecting textile operatives, but taking no cognisance of disputes to as wages and general conditions of work.

The Congress was the outcome of a resolution passed at the annual Congress of French textile workers, held at Roubaix in the autumn of last year, and its object was to endeavour to bring about a greater uniformity in the hours, wages and general conditions of labour of textile operatives in various countries. For several years past efforts have been made to hold conferences, on a small scale, of workers in allied trades in connection with the various International Trades' Congresses, such as that held last summer at Zürich, but these conferences have necessarily been of an informal character.

At the Manchester Congress the following countries were represented:—

	No. of Delegates.	No. of Organisations Represented.	No. of Members of Organisations Represented.
Great Britain	41	14	150,000
America	2	2	15,000
Austria	4	4	7,500
France	1	1	3,000
Belgium	4	4	2,500
Denmark	1	1	500
Holland	1	1	500
Total	54	27	179,000

The Congress was opened by the President of the Legislative Council, by which the Congress was convened, and at his suggestion a foreign delegate was each day elected as President of the Congress, the three countries so represented being France, America and Holland.

Reports by the respective delegates upon the condition of the Textile Industry in the various countries were submitted and discussed, and resolutions were adopted (a) in favour of a legal eight hours day in all countries; (b) affirming that the best method of improving the condition of the workers is by means of strong trade unions, supplemented by labour representation on all governing bodies, and protesting against the laws of those countries in which trades unions are forbidden to take political action; (c) establishing an International Federation of Textile Industries, the constitution of which is to be settled at next year's Congress, to be held at Ghent, in accordance with suggestions made in the meantime by the corresponding secretaries appointed by each nationality.

PAUPERISM IN JULY.

(Based on information supplied by the Local Government Boards in England and Ireland, and by the Board of Supervision in Scotland.)

(1.) The number of persons relieved in the 35 selected urban districts on one day in the middle of July was 308,671, or 211 per 10,000 of population, a decrease of 3,066 persons, or 2 per 10,000, as compared with June. Decreases have been general in most of the districts, the most marked being at Bristol, where the decrease was 11 per 10,000 of population, and in the Galway district, where it was 16 per 10,000. In both districts, however, there was an increase in June as compared with May.

Vagrants in London numbered 992 on one day in the middle of July, as compared with 1,028 in the previous month, and 976 in July 1893.

(2.) As compared with July 1893, 10,643 more persons were in receipt of relief in the selected urban districts this year than last, an increase of 7 per 10,000 of population. This increase amounted to 7 per 10,000 in the Metropolitan districts; 18 each in West Ham, Bradford and Galway; 20 in Barnsley; 21 in Hull; and 22 in Aberdeen. The only important decrease was in the Stockton and Tees district, where the rate was 53 below the unusually high rate of July 1893.

Selected Urban Districts.	Paupers on one day in second week of July 1894.			Rate per 10,000 of Population.*	Paupers on corresponding date in 1893.	
	In-door.	Out-door.	TOTAL.		Total Number.	Rate per 10,000 of Population.*
<b>ENGLAND &amp; WALES.—</b>						
<b>Metropolis.</b>						
West District ...	9,563	1,890	11,453	150	10,884	147
North District ...	12,782	8,522	21,304	214	20,722	208
Central District ...	6,737	3,323	10,060	406	10,015	405
East District ...	12,135	4,197	16,332	322	15,846	225
South District ...	18,770	15,949	34,719	228	33,467	220
Total Metropolis ...	59,987	33,881	93,868	223	90,934	216
<b>West Ham</b> ...	1,520	6,425	7,945	218	7,307	200
<b>Other Districts.</b>						
Newcastle District ...	1,441	4,593	6,034	183	5,691	172
Stockton & Tees District ...	961	4,560	5,521	302	6,485	355
Bolton, Oldham, &c. ...	2,779	7,484	10,263	149	9,746	141
Wigan District ...	1,314	6,706	8,020	229	7,750	227
Manchester District ...	6,872	8,502	15,374	156	15,789	160
Liverpool District ...	8,693	8,448	17,141	199	16,681	194
Bradford District ...	975	3,843	4,818	141	4,790	123
Barnsley District ...	981	4,611	5,592	138	5,292	150
Leeds District ...	1,564	5,621	7,185	186	6,754	175
Barnsley District ...	527	2,477	3,004	219	3,718	190
Sheffield District ...	2,048	3,699	5,747	168	5,428	158
Hull District ...	1,055	4,967	6,022	223	5,579	227
North Staffordshire ...	1,592	6,218	7,810	254	7,289	237
Nottingham District ...	1,351	5,256	6,607	199	6,021	182
Leicester District ...	945	2,273	3,218	134	3,090	117
Wolverhampton District ...	2,989	14,755	17,741	330	17,837	337
Birmingham District ...	3,884	2,204	6,088	121	6,458	108
Bristol District ...	2,183	3,106	5,289	315	10,244	314
Cardiff & Swansea ...	1,466	5,388	6,854	238	6,692	232
Total "Other Districts" ...	43,717	107,811	151,528	202	146,508	196
<b>SCOTLAND.—</b>						
Glasgow District ...	3,244	12,598	15,842	203	16,425	200
Paisley & Greenock Dist. ...	634	2,163	2,797	180	2,713	187
Edinburgh & Leith Dist. 1 ...	1,133	5,094	6,227	187	5,546	187
Dundee & Dunfermline ...	976	2,617	3,593	193	3,356	180
Aberdeen ...	403	2,269	2,672	217	2,410	195
Coatbridge & Airdrie ...	224	970	1,194	152	1,123	143
Total for the above Scotch Districts ...	6,618	25,711	32,329	197	30,573	196
<b>IRELAND.—</b>						
Dublin District ...	5,478	2,761	8,239	236	7,905	226
Belfast District ...	3,011	312	3,323	115	3,214	111
Cork, Waterford, & Limerick Districts ...	4,374	6,317	10,691	424	10,908	433
Galway District ...	373	375	748	193	679	175
Total for the above Irish Districts ...	13,236	9,765	23,001	247	22,708	244
<b>Total for above 35 districts in July</b> ...	<b>123,078</b>	<b>183,563</b>	<b>306,641</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>298,028</b>	
Total in June ...	127,199	184,538	311,737	213	296,686	203

\* Based on the populations in 1891, revised in accordance with subsequent changes in Poor Law areas. No allowance has been made for any change in population which may have since taken place.

† Exclusive of Vagrants; of patients in the Fever and Small-pox Hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Boards; and of Lunatics in Asylums, Registered Hospitals and Licensed Houses.

‡ The apparent increase of Pauperism in the Edinburgh and Leith District this month is due chiefly to an alteration made by one of the parishes in the principle of making the Return—a number of children boarded out in other parishes having been included for the first time.

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

WORK OF LABOUR BUREAUX IN JULY.

NOTE.—In order to make the figures for June comparable with those for July, the June return for the Egham Bureau, which was received too late for insertion in the July GAZETTE, has been included in the totals given below for June.

THE number of new applicants for work registered during July by the nine bureaux included in the tables below was 1,792, showing an increase of 110 when compared with 1,682 registered in June.

The total number of old and new applicants on the registers of the nine bureaux in July was 3,919 (as against 3,918 in June), and of these, 412 were found work by the bureaux, a decrease of 108 on the number for June. Of the 2,204 persons remaining on the registers at the end of July, 1,732 were men, 217 lads and boys, and 255 women and girls. Of the men, 510 were general labourers, 379 belonged to the Building, Engineering and Metal Trades, 262 were carmen, stablemen, &c., 195 porters and messengers, and 116 clerks and warehousemen, while 270 belonged to other occupations. Of the women, 151 were classed as charwomen, &c., 76 were servants, and 28 in other occupations.

(1) Work Done in July.

Name of Labour Bureau.	No. of Workpeople on Register.		No. of Applicants during July.			No. of Workpeople found Work by Bureaux.	
	At end of 1894.	At end of June 1894.	Workpeople.		During July 1894.	During June 1894.	
			Fresh Applicants.	Re-nouveaux.			
<b>London.</b>							
Chelsea ...	128	114	287	262	84	65	
St. Pancras ...	343	315	271	44	34	54	
Battersea ...	62	52	147	102	22	34	
Islington ...	597	495	374	954	80	133	
<b>Provincial.</b>							
Salford ...	318	363	52	...	10	14	
Ipswich ...	135	133	48	...	35	25	
Egham ...	43	47	13	...	20	23	
Plymouth ...	247	230	227	794	36	53	
Liverpool ...	334	378	371	...	6	11	
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>2,204</b>	<b>2,127</b>	<b>1,792</b>	<b>2,156</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>412</b>	

\* The figures in this column do not show the number of individual persons.

(2) Occupations of Applicants on Registers at End of July.

Name of Labour Bureau.	Men.						Total Men.
	Build- ing, En- gineer- ing and Metal Trades.	Carmen and Stable- men, Hor- se- men, &c.	Clerks and Ware- house- men.	Porters and Mes- sen- gers.	General Labour- ers.	Other Occu- pations.	
<b>London.</b>							
Chelsea ...	5	5	6	11	6	9	43
St. Pancras ...	69	23	6	51	23	43	215
Battersea ...	4	5	3	6	16	11	45
Islington ...	95	26	18	71	142	56	458
<b>Provincial.</b>							
Salford ...	77	49	22	9	103	49	309
Ipswich ...	3	26	2	19	22	28	100
Egham ...	5	9	2	5	13	...	34
Plymouth ...	81	40	22	22	47	27	329
Liverpool ...	40	29	35	1	138	47	290
<b>Total Number</b> ...	<b>879</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>1,732</b>

Name of Labour Bureau.	Lads and Boys.	Women and Girls.*			Total Women and Girls.	July.	June.
		Char- women, Daily Work, &c.	Ser- vants.	Others.			
<b>London.</b>							
Chelsea ...	22	36	16	12	64	114	
St. Pancras ...	86	17	16	9	42	345	
Battersea ...	8	8	3	...	11	82	
Islington ...	37	74	25	3	102	597	
<b>Provincial.</b>							
Salford ...	9	...	...	...	...	318	
Ipswich ...	15	10	10	...	20	133	
Egham ...	8	...	...	...	1	43	
Plymouth ...	8	...	...	...	...	247	
Liverpool ...	26	6	6	3	18	331	
<b>Total Number</b> ...	<b>217</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>2,172</b>	

\* Women and Girls are not at present registered at Salford and Plymouth.

PROGRAMME OF THE FORTHCOMING TRADE UNION CONGRESS.

THE programme of business for the forthcoming Trade Union Congress has been issued. The twenty-seventh Congress will meet in St. Andrew's Hall, Norwich, on September 3rd, and five following days. The agenda paper includes 119 resolutions, many of which, however, deal with the same subjects. Sixteen of the resolutions relate to amendments of the standing orders of the Congress, 11 to the extension or amend- ment of the Factory Acts, 11 to the conditions of Government contracts, 8 to the federation and mutual relations of trade unions and trade councils, 5 to factory inspection, 4 to the limitation of hours of labour, 4 to mines regulation, 3 to the relations between trade unionism and co-operation, 2 to employers' liability, 2 to alien immigration, 2 to prison-made goods, 2 to the Truck Acts, 2 to the housing of agricultural labourers, and the remainder to various miscellaneous subjects.

COAL DUST IN MINES.\*

THE Royal Commission on Explosions from coal dust in mines has presented its final report. The Commissioners unanimously arrive at the following conclusions:—

1. The danger of explosion in a mine in which gas exists, even in very small quantities, is greatly increased by the presence of coal dust.

2. A gas explosion in a fiery mine may be intensified and carried on indefinitely by coal dust raised by the explosion itself.

3. Coal dust alone, without the presence of any gas at all, may cause a dangerous explosion if ignited by a blown-out shot or other violent inflammation. To produce such a result, however, the conditions must be exceptional, and are only likely to be produced on rare occasions.

4. Different dusts are inflammable, and consequently dangerous, in varying degrees; but it cannot be said with absolute certainty that any dust is entirely free from risk.

5. There appears to be no probability that a dangerous explosion of coal dust alone could ever be produced in a mine by a naked light or ordinary flame.

The Commissioners are of opinion that the general employment of high explosives would greatly limit the risk of explosion in dry and dusty and in fiery mines. They recommend that power should be given to the Secretary of State to prohibit the use of gunpowder in the case of every mine which is either fiery, or dry and dusty, unless sufficient and effectual means of watering are carried out. As it is not possible at present to lay down a stereotyped definition of what constitutes a fiery mine or a dry and dusty mine, the Commissioners recommend that the Secretary of State when thus empowered, should prefer a list of mines to which the provision should apply, and that notice should immediately be given to all the owners of such mines, and that they should be required within 12 months to carry out the requisition. Mine owners objecting that they are improperly placed on the list should have power to appeal to a temporary commission, to be appointed under the proposed Act, in order to deal with such appeals. The Secretary of State should have power to add to the list whenever necessary.

The practice of using bituminous shale, or other material containing volatile inflammable matter, or of clay mixed with coal dust, is condemned.

The Commissioners are of opinion that in any case in which the inspectors think it desirable, in order to insure the safety of life, they should use the powers given by Section 42 of the Act of 1887 to declare that the provision for watering the dust in a mine is insufficient, and to require such further arrangements to be made for this purpose as they may prescribe. They also recom- mend that certain specified precautions, already partly provided for in the existing Mines Acts, should receive the special attention of those responsible for the manage- ment of coal mines.

\* Second Report of the Royal Commission on Explosions from Coal Dust in Mines. (C.—7401.) Price 3d.

INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS REPORTED IN JULY.

THE number of fatal accidents to the undermentioned classes of workpeople reported in July was 237, which compares with 553 in June, distributed as follows:—

Table with columns: July 1894, June 1894, Railway Servants, Miners, Factory and Workshop Operatives, Seamen, Total. Values: July 1894 (36, 60, 26, 115, 237), June 1894 (36, 349, 29, 139, 553).

On the total of the four classes there was a decrease of 316 as compared with June, and of 48 as compared with May. This decrease was almost entirely due to the smaller number of fatal accidents in mines.

Of the 1,278 non-fatal accidents reported, 207 were to railway servants, 293 in mines, and 778 in factories and workshops, as compared with 207, 319 and 728 respectively in June. Accidents of a non-fatal character at sea are not reported.

NOTE.—The exact percentage which the number killed in each of these classes of employment bears to the total number employed cannot be stated, the figures, where given, being either for the number employed at a previous date, or for a portion only of those liable to accident, but the following particulars may be useful in forming some idea of the proportion that the numbers employed bear to the persons injured or killed:—

Railways.—A Parliamentary Paper (402 of 1890) gives the number of persons employed on 31st December 1889 by railway companies in the United Kingdom as 381,626.

Mines.—The number employed in and about mines can be given more closely, being 718,747 in 1893, including persons employed on private branch railways and in washing and coking coal.

Factories and Workshops.—From a Parliamentary Paper (402 of 1890) it appears that the number of persons actually at work in factories when the returns were furnished to the Home Office was 3,270,835, but there are no figures available as to the number of persons employed in workshops, although the number is very large.

Seamen.—The returns of the number of seamen employed in British registered vessels in 1893 give 240,974 persons, all grades being included.

I.—Railway Servants.

(Supplied by the Railway Department of the Board of Trade.)

Tables showing the number of railway servants reported as killed or injured on the premises of the railway companies during the month of July 1894.

A.—Distinguishing the various classes of persons and nature of injuries.

Table with columns: Class of Service, Killed, Amputations, Fractures, Crushes, Dislocations, Cuts, Sprains, Bruises, Burns, &c., Unspecified and Miscellaneous Injuries, Total of Injuries. Rows include Brakemen and Goods Guards, Engine Drivers, Firemen, Guards, Permanent Way Men, Porters, Shunters, Miscellaneous.

B.—Distinguishing England, Scotland and Ireland; and accidents in connection with public traffic from other accidents.

Table with columns: England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland, United Kingdom, Killed, Injured. Rows include From Accidents to Trains, Rolling Stock, Permanent Way, &c., and By Accidents from other causes.

\* Including Accidents from their own want of caution or misconduct.

II.—Miners.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Table showing the number of persons reported as killed or injured in or about mines, during the month of July 1894.

Table with columns: Cause of Accident, England and Wales, Scotland, Ireland, Total, Killed, Injured. Rows include Underground (Explosions of Fire-damp, Falls of ground, Miscellaneous in shafts, Miscellaneous underground) and Surface (Miscellaneous).

III.—Factory and Workshop Operatives.\*

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

Table showing the number of persons reported to H.M. Chief Inspector by Certifying Surgeons as killed or injured during the month of July 1894.

Table with columns: Nature or effect of injury, Adults (over 18), Young Persons, Children, TOTAL. Rows include Killed, Injured (Amputations, Fractures, Injuries to head or face, Loss of sight, Lacerations, contusions, or other injuries not enumerated above), Total Injured, Grand Total for July 1894, Grand Total for July 1893.

\* The classes of accidents reported are those specified in the LABOUR GAZETTE for July 1893, p. 65.

IV.—Seamen.

(Supplied by the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen.)

Table showing the number of masters, seamen, and other persons forming the crews of vessels belonging to the United Kingdom, reported to the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen during the month of July 1894 as having lost their lives at sea, or in rivers or harbours, from the undermentioned causes.

(Deaths on yachts and on vessels employed exclusively in rivers and inland navigation are not included.)

Table with columns: Class of Vessels, By Wreck and Casualty, By Accidents other than Wreck and Casualty, Total. Rows include Vessels registered under Merchant Shipping Act (Trading, Fishing) and Vessels not so registered (Trading, Fishing), Total for July 1894, Total for July 1893.

† Exclusive of deaths from disease, homicide, suicide and unknown causes.

NOTICE OF ACCIDENTS ACT, 1894.\*

AN Act of Parliament has recently been passed requiring that written notice should be sent to the Board of Trade of accidents occurring to persons engaged in the following employments:—

1. Construction, use, working or repair of any railway, tramroad, tramway, gaswork, canal, bridge, tunnel, harbour, dock, port, pier, quay or other work authorised by any local or personal Act of Parliament.

2. Construction or repair by means of a scaffolding of any building which exceeds 30 feet in height, or use or working of any such building in which more than 20 persons, not being domestic servants, are employed for wages.

3. Use or working of any traction engine or other engine or machine worked by steam in the open air.

The principal operative clauses of the Act are as follows:—

1.—(1) Where there occurs in any employment to which this section applies any accident which causes to any person employed therein either loss of life or such bodily injury as to prevent him on any one of the three working days next after the occurrence of the accident from being employed for five hours on his ordinary work, his employer shall, as soon as possible, and in case of an accident not resulting in death, not later than six days after the occurrence of the accident, send to the Board of Trade notice in writing of the accident, specifying the time and place of its occurrence, its probable cause, the name and residence of any person killed or injured, the work on which any such person was employed at the time of the accident, and, in the case of an injury, the nature of the injury.

(2) If any person wilfully makes default in complying with the requirements of this section he shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding forty shillings.

2.—(2) If the Board of Trade are of opinion that any other employment in which twenty persons or more, not being domestic servants, are employed by the same employer, is specially dangerous to life or limb, the Board may, by order, direct that Section one of this Act shall apply to that employment, and thereupon, while the order is in force, that section shall apply accordingly.

3. Where it appears to the Board of Trade that any accident involving loss of life or bodily injury is of sufficient importance to require a formal investigation of the accident, and of its causes and circumstances, the Board may by order direct such investigation to be held.

It is prescribed that investigation shall take place in open court, and cases will be conducted by competent persons, who may be assisted by assessors possessing legal, medical, or special knowledge. Under the Act the Court has full power to obtain information.

THE SETTLEMENT OF WAGES AND DISPUTES IN THE SHIPBUILDING TRADE.

AGREEMENT ON THE NORTH-EAST COAST.

AN important agreement has recently been entered into between the Tyne, Wear, Tees and Hartlepool shipbuilders, and the Boiler-makers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders' Society, under which no general alteration in wages can be made until after six months have elapsed from the date of last alteration, no single alteration to be more than 5 per cent. Four weeks' notice is to be given in writing of any proposed alteration, previous to which a request for a meeting between the two parties must be made by the party intending to give notice, and this meeting is to be held within 14 days. Failing agreement during the month the notice may be extended to any time not exceeding another month if acceptable to both parties, but whatever the settlement, the advance or reduction (if any) is to begin from the expiration of the first month's notice. Failing a settlement, power is reserved to refer any dispute to arbitration or to deal with it as may be considered best. Sectional or individual disputes are in the first instance to be referred to the society's officials and the employer or his representative, and, failing a settlement, terms are to be adjusted by a committee of employers and workmen within 14 days. A like committee is also to deal with revisions of rates arising out of labour-saving appliances; improved arrangements; rates to be paid where work is easier; where new

\* The full Act (Ch. 28, 57 & 58 Vict.) may be obtained through any bookseller for 1d.

conditions are introduced; or where there are structural or other alterations. In all cases, however, work is to be proceeded with without interruption pending the settlement of any dispute. A standing committee of three on each side is to be appointed for each river to consider local disputes, and in the event of any dispute involving more than one river, a joint committee is to be convened. The scheme is to be tried for a period of five years, and is to be afterwards terminable by six months' notice on either side. The agreement is signed by the heads of each association. It will directly bind about 12,000 members of the Iron Shipbuilders' Society, and indirectly a large number of auxiliary labourers.

INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS

REGISTERED OR DISSOLVED IN JULY.

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

FROM the following summary of the changes in the Register of English and Welsh Industrial Organizations in July it will be seen that 10 Trade Unions, 1 Co-operative Associations of Consumers, 1 Co-operative Association of Producers, 3 miscellaneous Industrial and Provident Societies, 32 new Friendly Societies, 45 new branches of existing Friendly Societies, and 6 Building Societies have been added to the Register during the past month. 17 Building Societies and 3 Trade Unions are reported as having ceased to exist.

NEW ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED.

I.—Trade Unions.

Tailors' Machiners and Pressers, 153 Brownlow Hill, Liverpool. Calico Printers' Labourers, Washfold, Woolfold, Bury. Journeymen Pork Butchers, Butchers' Arms Inn, Union St., Leigh. Plasterers' Labourers, Commercial Hotel, Hardman St., Manchester. Prudential Assurance Agents, 96 Hollingreave Road, Burnley. Floor Cloth, Linoleum and Table Cover Printers, Mechanics' Arms, Hooley Street, Manchester. Hairdressers' (Ashton, Stalybridge, Hyde and District) Union, 4, 181 Railway Hotel, Guidebridge. Rhosdu Miners' Association, Walnut Tree Hotel, Stansty. Builders' Labourers' Society, Neptune Inn, New Street, Barnsley. Independent Carpenters and Joiners, Hope Inn, Holly Street, N.

II.—Industrial and Provident Societies.

Associations of Consumers.

Cynlais Ind. Co-op. S., Pelican Street, Ystradgynlais. Bryn Gates Co-op. S., Lily Lane, Bamfurlong, Wigan. Railway Workmen's Mutual Co-op. Coal S., 45 Oxendon Street, Highfields, Leicester. Grantham Mutual Coal S., 12 Bridge End Road, Grantham. People's Co-op. S., 99 Leman Street, Whitechapel, E. Workers' Coal Co-op. S., 471 Seven Sisters' Road, Tottenham. Bath P.S.A. Co-op. S., 5 Cleveland Terrace, Bath. Portishead Co-op. S., Essex House, High Street, Portishead. Eastbourne Ind. & Prov. S., 58 Susan's Road, Eastbourne. Coal and General Dealing S., Callis Bridge End, Charlestown, Hebden Bridge.

Association of Producers.

Co-op. Baking S., 6 Christian Street, E.

Miscellaneous.

Shrub End Small Holdings S., Colchester. Nat. Sailors' and Firemen's C. Bank, 163 Noel Street, Nottingham. Co-op. Farmers' S., Cockrup Farm, Coln St. Aldwyns, Glos.

III.—Friendly Societies.

New Societies.

Ordinary Friendly ... 16 | Dividing ... 5 | Workmen's lubs ... 5 | Specially authorised ... 5 | Benevolent ... 1

New Branches of Existing Societies.

I.O. Rechabites ... 17 | Sons of Temperance ... 3 | I.O. Oddfellows, M.U. ... 4 | G.U.O. Oddfellows ... 2 | N.U.O. Free Gardeners ... 4 | L.O. Anc. Shepherds, A.U. ... 2 | A.O. Foresters ... 3 | Various others ... 10

IV.—Building Societies.

Six new Building Societies were registered.

OLD ORGANISATIONS DISSOLVED.

I.—Trade Unions.

China and Earthenware Guilders. Printers' Joiners and Wood Type Cutters. Baxenden and Accrington Miners' Assoc. (Pull Together Lodge).

II.—Building Societies.

Seventeen Building Societies have been dissolved.

CO-OPERATION IN JULY.

DURING July ten new associations of consumers for distribution, one new baking society and one new farming association have been registered.

A distributive society in Lancashire has decided to expend £10,000 in building cottages for its members...

In Nottinghamshire a co-operative brewery has been formed by a number of farmers with a view to providing a market for their crops of barley.

Reports for the half-year ended in June of ten manufacturing societies show total sales amounting to £113,796...

Reports for the quarter ended in June issued by 31 distributive associations show total sales amounting to £506,447...

FOREIGN TRADE IN JULY.

Imports.—The improvement shown in the June import returns has not been maintained, the total value of the imports during the past month...

On the whole, for the first seven months of 1894 the accounts show an increase from £230,930,000 to £242,843,520...

British and Irish Exports.—The value of the exports of British and Irish produce and manufacture last month amounted to £8,398,536...

For the first seven months of the year, the aggregate value of the exports is given as £125,282,011, or 1.7 per cent. less than in the corresponding period of 1893.

Re-exports of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise.—The total value of the re-exports amounted to £4,289,764, compared with £4,812,492 for July 1893...

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION.

Total Emigration.—The total number of British and Foreign passengers who left this country during July for places out of Europe was 16,063...

British.—The number of passengers of British nationality for places out of Europe in July was 10,445, showing a decrease of 6,109 when compared with the total for July 1893...

\* The English coal dispute broke out on July 28th 1893.

Table showing passenger statistics for July 1894: United States, British North America, Australasia, South Africa, Other Places, Total.

The number of persons who return to this country is not published monthly.

Foreign.—Besides the above British passengers, there were 5,618 foreigners and others whose nationality was not stated...

Alien Immigration.—The number of aliens who arrived from the Continent at certain ports of the United Kingdom last month was 7,125. This is a little less than two-thirds the number for the corresponding month of last year...

MISCELLANEOUS TRADE NOTES.

Cotton Statistics.—The imports of raw cotton in July amounted to 91,015 bales, a decrease of 46,402 bales, compared with the corresponding month of 1893.

Table showing cotton statistics: July, Imports, Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns, Exports.

Bankruptcies.—During July, 386 bankruptcies were gazetted, against 380 in July 1893, an increase of 6.

British Corn.—The average prices of British corn per quarter for the week ended July 28th 1894 were below the prices at the corresponding date in 1893...

Table showing British corn prices: Wheat, Barley, Oats for July 1894 and July 1893.

Traffic Receipts.—The total receipts of 21 of the principal railways in the United Kingdom amounted to £5,962,361 for the four weeks ended July 28th, a decrease of £93,566 compared with the corresponding period of last year.

Hay Imports.—The total quantity imported in July last was 14,917 tons, or 3,719 tons less than in July 1893, about which time the imports of hay began to increase...

LAUNDRIES.\*

A SUMMARY of reports of H.M. Inspectors of Factories as to hours of work, dangerous machinery and sanitary conditions in laundries has been issued by the Home Office...

\* Laundries. Reports of H.M. Inspectors of Factories as to hours of work, dangerous machinery and sanitary condition. (C.—7418.) Price 3d.

INDUSTRIAL PROSECUTIONS IN JULY.

DURING the month the number of industrial prosecutions as shown in the tables below was 230, as compared with 363 in June. Of these 230 prosecutions, 155 were under the Factory and Workshop Acts...

I.—Under Factory and Workshop Acts.\*

Table showing industrial prosecutions under Factory and Workshop Acts, categorized by nature of offence.

\* Supplied by the Home Office.

II.—Under the Mines Acts.\*

Table showing industrial prosecutions under the Mines Acts, categorized by nature of offence.

\* Supplied by the Home Office.

III.—Under Merchant Shipping Acts.

Table showing industrial prosecutions under Merchant Shipping Acts, categorized by nature of offence.

LABOUR CASES IN JULY.

THE following are among the legal cases of the month under various Statutes specially affecting labour, of which the Department has received information.

(1) EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ACT.

Liverpool County Court, July 2nd.—Warehouseman sued warehouse owners for damages for injuries sustained by the fall of bales of cotton upon him.

Glamorgan Assizes, Swansea, July 5th.—Collier's widow sued colliery company for loss of her husband, killed in accident attributed to negligence of defendants' managers...

Kilmainham County Sessions, July 6th.—Servant sued late employer for £10 for bite of a dog, received when showing a visitor into drawing-room.

Olney County Court, July 9th.—Labourer sued contractor for £176 16s. for injuries received through defendant's negligence.

Queen's Bench Division, July 24th.—Ship's carpenter had been awarded £350 from dock proprietors at City of London Court...

City of London Court, July 25th.—Firemen sued steamship owners for £50, for injuries due to defendants' negligence...

(2) EMPLOYERS AND WORKMEN ACT.

Dundee Small Debt Court, July 4th.—Harbour labourers sued stevedore for £108 6d., balance of sum due to pursuers for trimming 360 tons of coal.

Dundee Sheriff Court, July 19th.—Journeyman tailor sued clothier for 14s. 7d. for four days' work done by him.

Birmingham Police Court, July 20th.—Brassworker was summoned by his employer for damages for leaving his work unfinished.

TRADE DISPUTES.

(Based on information obtained from Local Correspondents, Trade Union periodical returns, and newspaper reports. Application for particulars is made to the Employers and Trade Unions affected in each dispute, and the information so obtained up to the latest moment is used.)

SIXTY-SIX new disputes occurred in July, as compared with 85 in the previous month, and 55 in July 1893. In the Building Trades 16 disputes took place, 7 of which were due to demands for increased wages and for improved working rules, 3 to demarcation of work, and the remaining 6 to questions of unionism and working arrangements. In the Clothing Trades 7 disputes took place, of which 5 arose in respect of wages disagreements, and 2 were due to questions of unionism and working arrangements. Of the 7 disputes in the Metal Trades, 2 may be classed as sympathetic strikes, and 5 were due to various questions of wages and unionism. In Mining and Quarrying 11 disputes occurred, of which 6 were due to wages questions, 3 to working arrangements, and 2 to unionism or defence of fellow workers. The 4 disputes in connection with Seafaring and Dock Labour were more or less in respect of general working arrangements, as was also the only dispute in the Shipbuilding Trade. Thirteen disputes occurred in the Textile Trades, of which 2 arose in respect of questions of unionism, 5 may be classed as sympathetic, and 4 were due to wages disagreements. Of the 7 disputes in Miscellaneous Industries, 4 were directly due to wages disagreements, and 3 to unionism and working arrangements. The geographical distribution of the 66 disputes was as follows:—Six Northern Counties 33, Midland Counties 7, Western Counties and Wales 12, Eastern Counties 1, London 6, Scotland 5, Ireland 2. Sixteen old disputes were brought to settlement in July, and at the end of the month it was known that 18 new and 38 old disputes were still unsettled.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN JULY 1894.

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Alleged Cause or Object, Estab-lish-ments, Persons, Com-mence-ment, Termi-nation, Result. Includes entries for Building Trades (Joiners, Bricklayers, etc.), Clothing Trades (Hosiery, Tailors), Metal Trades (Tinsmiths, Engineers), Mining and Quarrying (Shale Miners, Coal Miners), and various other trades.

I.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN IN JULY 1894—(Continued).

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Alleged Cause or Object, Es-tab-lish-ments, Persons, Com-mence-ment, Termi-nation, Result. Includes entries for Coal Miners, Shipbuilding (Shipjoiners), Textile Trades (Cardroom Hands, Cotton Spinners), and Miscellaneous Trades (Fruit Pickers, Cab Drivers).

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

Table with columns: Trade, Locality, Alleged Cause or Object, Es-tab-lish-ments, Persons, Com-mence-ment, Termi-nation, Result. Includes entries for Shawl Weavers, Fitters, Smiths and Strikers (Colliery), Sett Dressers (Road Construction), and various other trades.

## II.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN BEFORE JULY, AND WERE SETTLED IN THAT MONTH—(Continued).

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Es-tablish-ments.	Persons	Com-mence-ment.	Termi-nation.	Result.
Spinners, Preparers and Reelers	Coalsland, Dunganon	Against proposed reduction in wages of 6d. per week to female operatives	1	330 dir. 130 indir.	28 June	July 5	Reduction of 5 per cent., averaging 6d. per week, accepted. (Information from another source states that the amount taken off was "good conduct" money). Advance of 1s. 6d. per week accepted.
French Polishers (Shipbuilding)	Belfast	For advance in wages of 2s. per week	1	30	28 June	Not stated	13
Stonemasons	Huddersfield	Dispute in one firm having a Doncaster contract, with reference to infringement of a local rule with respect to worked stone. The other associated employers locked their men out	...	150	29 June	Not stated	Firm consented to work the remainder of the stone on the job at Doncaster.
Joiners	Halifax	For advance in wages of 4d. per hour, and alteration of certain working rules	50	300	30 June	Not stated	Advance of 4d. per hour accepted, and rule made that six months' notice should be given of any alteration in rates of wages.

## III.—DISPUTES WHICH BEGAN PREVIOUS TO JULY, AND WERE STILL UNSETTLED AT THE END OF THAT MONTH.

The following disputes reported in last month's issue as occurring in June were still unsettled:—Coal miners, Scotland; coal miners, Sunderland (since brought to a settlement—August); woollen finishers, Heywood; silk dressers, Brighouse; cotton weavers, Barrowford; cotton weavers, Blackburn; stereotypers and electrotypers, Glasgow; coal miners, Tredegar; female operatives (toilet requisites), London. The following, which commenced before July, were still unsettled:—Iron-moulders, &c., North East Coast; builders' labourers, Hartlepool; steel dressers, Newton, Glasgow; carpenters, Wolverhampton; wool-shear grinders, Sheffield; wool-sorters, Saltaire; wherry-men, Newcastle-on-Tyne; cotton weavers, Stacksteads, Manchester; packing-case makers, Belfast; cotton weavers, Whittlefield, Burnley; cotton weavers, Cliviger, Burnley; cardroom operatives, Stockport; railway spring forgers and fitters, Sheffield; lock makers, Willenhall; coal miners, Maesteg; tinsplate workers, South Wales (two of the three works resumed without "concessions" in July); hosier workers, Radford; shirt collar and apron cutters, Belfast.

In addition to the above, the following disputes commencing in previous months, of which information has only recently been received, were also still unsettled:—

Trade.	Locality.	Alleged Cause or Object.	Estab-lish-ments.	Persons	Com-mence-ment.
Coal Miners	Glanamman	Refusal to work under present officials	1	110	May 19 June 2
Brass Finishers	Glasgow and District	For advance in wages to a minimum rate of 7d. per hour. Four firms on strike, 14 locked out in consequence.	18	200	2
File Makers	Willenhall	Against proposed reduction in wages of 15 per cent.	1	6	25
Tailors	York	For payment of an increased rate of wages, which had been granted by other employers.	2	21	11

## MERCHANT SHIPPING.\*

THE tables showing the progress of British Merchant Shipping in 1893, published by the Board of Trade, show the tonnage of sailing and steam vessels of different nationalities entered and cleared at ports in the United Kingdom in each of the years 1840, 1850, 1860, 1870, 1875, 1880, and 1885-93; also the tonnage of vessels entered and cleared in the United Kingdom, the other principal maritime countries of Europe and the United States, the tonnage of vessels in the United Kingdom in each year from 1858 to 1893, and the tonnage of vessels built in the United States and France and sold to foreigners. In addition to other tables showing the tonnage entered and cleared in the trade with other countries, tables are given showing the number of apprentices, wages of mates, petty officers, engineers, firemen and sailors, the numbers of persons employed. Statistics are given as to the relief of distressed seamen abroad, seamen's savings banks, seamen's money orders and the transmission of seamen's wages.

## NOTICE TO SEAMEN.

## EXTENSION OF THE TRANSMISSION OF WAGES SCHEME TO DUNKIRK.

SEAMEN discharged from British ships at Dunkirk with sufficient wages due can now arrange to draw the balance of their wages at any mercantile marine office in the United Kingdom, thus enabling them to proceed direct to their homes in Great Britain or Ireland as soon as the vessel is securely moored and their services are no longer required.

A Board of Trade officer from the British Consulate will board the ship on her arrival at Dunkirk, and will give each seaman who avails himself of the system, steamboat and railway tickets, and cash for the journey.

A commission, at the same rate as that for seamen's foreign money orders (3d. in the £), will be deducted for every £1 transmitted, in order to meet expenses.

INGRAM B. WALKER,  
Assistant Secretary, Marine Department.  
Board of Trade, August 1894.

\* Tables showing the progress of British Merchant Shipping in 1893. (P.P. 135.) Price .

## NEW MINES AND MINES ABANDONED.

(Supplied by the Home Office.)

THE number of mines reported as opened or re-opened during July was 23, and as abandoned, 11, the numbers in the previous month being 34 and 9 respectively. Of these 23 new mines, 16 were collieries, while of the 11 abandoned mines, 8 were collieries. Three of the new collieries were in Yorkshire, 3 in Lanarkshire, and 2 each in Staffordshire and Glamorganshire.

## New Mines.

COAL:—  
Northumberland.—Whetstone (Firestone Seam), Coleclough, Allenheads.  
Yorkshire.—Tyburn Lane (Old Hards Seam), Huddersfield; Jordan (Silkstone Seam), Rotherham; Primrose Hill (Cannel Seam), Liversedge. (3)  
Staffordshire.—Ashmore Park, Wednesfield; Himley (Brooch Coal), Dudley. (2)  
Shropshire.—Lightmoor (Two Feet Coal and Fireclay), Coalbrookdale.  
Gloucestershire.—Quidchurch, Newnham.  
Flintshire.—Caeblyddyn Level, near Mold.  
Glamorganshire.—Graig-yr-allt (searching for Coal), Nantgarw; Wainycoed (Graigola Seam), Pontardawe. (2)  
Lanarkshire.—Blantyre Farme, Uddingston; Newton, Newton; Nailslaid (Ell, Pyotshaw, Main and Splint Seams), Hamilton. (3)  
Ayrshire.—Ashieburn Mine, Muirkirk.  
Fifehire.—Lathallan, No. 1 Pit (Soft Splint Seam), St. Andrew's.  
FIRECLAY.—Derbyshire.—Boothorpe (Small Mine), Woodville, near Burton-on-Trent.  
IRON ORE.—Cumberland.—Crossgill Mine, Frizington.  
Yorkshire.—Kilton, Cleveland.  
OIL SHALE.—Linlithgow.—Champfleurie Oil Shale Mine (Dunneth Oil Shale), Linlithgow.  
GOLD ORE.—Merionethshire.—Moel Ispri (work recommenced).  
SLATE.—Carnarvonshire.—Prince Llewelyn (work recommenced).  
Merionethshire.—Conglog (Small Working).

## Mines Abandoned.

COAL:—  
Dunham.—The West Hunwick Colliery, Bishop Auckland.  
Yorkshire.—Hepshaw (Halifax Hard Bed), near Huddersfield.  
Lancashire.—Foulcough (Mountain Mine Seam), Walsden.  
Derbyshire.—Common Side (Silkstone Seam), Barlow, near Chesterfield.  
Staffordshire.—Hope (Four Yard Coal), Pelsall.  
Shropshire.—Brandlea (Yard Seam), Dawley.  
Flintshire.—Four Feet Level (Coed Talon), near Mold.  
Midlothian.—Gilmerton Colliery, Gilmerton.  
FIRECLAY.—Worcestershire.—Lunt's Colliery (Fireclay), Lye; Lye Colliery (Fireclay), Lye. (2)  
Lanarkshire.—Greenfoot Mine (Fireclay), Airdrie.

## LABOUR IN THE COLONIES.

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

**Canada.**—A report from Montreal dated the 25th of July states that the demand for mechanics and labourers has so far been dull this season, owing to the general depression in all branches of business, and that wages taken all round are about 20 per cent. lower than they were at the same time last year.

The recent report for 1893 of the Ontario Department of Immigration draws attention to the difficulties of finding work in the Province for clerks and mechanics, to the evils of the farm pupil system, to the steady demand for experienced agricultural labourers, and to the great paucity of such labourers—as well as of domestic servants—amongst the emigrants who have arrived in the Province. An Act has just been passed in the Province for facilitating the settlement of industrial disputes by councils of conciliation and arbitration. In Manitoba there appears to be a sufficiency of agricultural as well as other labour except at harvest time, and in New Brunswick there is no demand for labour, except for cooks and a few farm hands. Taking the Dominion as a whole, no ordinary emigrant without means or friends should go to Canada at this season of the year.

An unofficial report from Victoria, British Columbia, dated the 26th of July, states that business there is much depressed, that there are complaints of want of employment in nearly every trade, and that there are a number of good carpenters and other men in the Building Trades looking for work. The weather, however, has lately been good, and the crops are promising.

**New South Wales.**—Disputes have arisen in the Baking Trade at Sydney owing to the employment of non-union labour at certain bakeries. The scarcity of work in the southern collieries continues, and many men have left the district to seek employment elsewhere. The Superintendent of the Labour Bureau at Sydney states that there is a great decrease in the number of homeless people in the city.

**Victoria.**—An official report dated the 30th May last, states: "The approach of winter, which has been the cause of anxiety to many, in view of the supposed numbers out of work, who, it was feared, might give trouble, has been unmarked by any of those demonstrations of the unemployed which have usually taken place at the same season in former years. The persistent efforts of the Government to place men and families on village settlements, to assist others to commence operations on the gold-fields, and to provide occupation for a certain number in the construction of necessary lines of railway, have materially reduced the number of the workless, and it is believed that there are now few bona fide labourers out of employment. Discharged clerks and shopmen, and the families of those who have gone to Western Australia or South Africa, may feel the pressure of the times, but local effort is quite equal to dealing with these cases." The report adds that the Gold-Mining Industry shows considerable improvement on former years, that local coal is gradually being substituted for New South Wales coal on the Victorian Railways and in private establishments, and that the revival of the Brick-making Industry, which was mentioned last month, is still extending. Owing to the falling-off in the receipts of the Melbourne Tramway Company a reduction of 5 per cent. has been made in all wages above 30s. a week, and has been agreed to by the employees. The second progress report of the Sweating Commission treats mainly of the influence of Chinese cheap labour on the Furniture Trade, and finds that it badly affects the prospects of European workmen.

An unofficial report from Melbourne dated the 2nd of July last states that there is no demand whatever in that city for labour in the Building and Metal Trades.

**South Australia.**—The Government propose to grant subsidies for the erection of freezing works, co-operative wineries, and beet sugar factories, and to introduce bills

to facilitate the settlement of industrial disputes, and to provide for state life insurance. There is no demand for more labour than is to be obtained on the spot.

**Queensland.**—Recent reports state that there is no demand for tailors at Brisbane, that the Building Trades in that city are still very depressed, and that at Bundaberg, nearly 300 miles north of Brisbane, there is no demand for any kind of labour.

**Western Australia.**—A report from the South Western Division of the Colony states that there is a good demand for farm labourers, mowers, ploughmen, and female servants, but not for miners or mechanics.

**Tasmania.**—The Government are continuing the Labour Bureaux at Hobart and Launceston, and have been passing a bill through the House, the object of which is to spend £10,800 on public works, and thereby give immediate work to the unemployed.

The municipal bodies and charitable societies are also providing work as far as possible, the ordinary wages are 4s. to 5s. a day.

**New Zealand.**—A report from Auckland states that there is no demand for miners or mechanics, trade being slack, the Gum Industry is also depressed; there is, however, a good opening for men who can take up land. The men in the railway workshops are now employed only five days a week.

The following is summarised from the monthly report in the Journal of the New Zealand Department of Labour, dated the 21st May last. The Building and Iron Trades are busy at Nelson, very dull at Wellington, dull at Christchurch, they are quieter at Invercargill than they were during the previous month. At Dunedin the Engineering Trade is busy, but the Building Trade is slackening off. At Auckland, some of the boot and clothing factories are increasing the number of their employees, but the Gum Trade is quite stagnant. The Boot Trade is fairly brisk at Wellington, but shows little or no improvement at Dunedin and Christchurch. Trade is tolerably good at Napier and Wanganui, but there is no demand for more hands. The Fishing Industry at Invercargill is very busy at present, a large number of men being employed in it.

There is plenty of unskilled labour all over the Colony, and a considerable number of men are out of work, many of the unemployed at Christchurch and Wellington have been placed on government or local works, and work is also being provided for those who are out of employment at Dunedin and Auckland.

**Cape Colony.**—A report from Oudtshoorn, in the South-West, states that there is no demand for English labourers, except, perhaps, for a few country blacksmiths and carpenters at 7s. to 8s. a day. Coloured people are mainly employed under conditions which would not be acceptable to Englishmen. Clerks, warehousemen, and persons without a manual trade and with no money are again warned against emigrating to the Cape; there is now a considerable number of such emigrants in Cape Town, who have become quite destitute.

**Natal.**—The Immigration Act 1894, which took effect last month, abolishes the Land and Immigration Board, and authorises the Governor in Council to issue regulations for the introduction of European emigrants.

**Mashonaland and Matabeleland.**—There is no demand at Buluwayo for emigrants without capital. Many prospectors are doing well throughout the country. The cost of living is high at Salisbury and elsewhere.

**Shop Hours Act.**—A return to the House of Commons\* gives the names of local authorities by whom inspectors have been appointed since February 7th 1893, under Section 8 of the Shop Hours Act 1892, and the number of such inspectors. It appears that in England and Wales 66 inspectors have been appointed by 8 county councils and 64 by 42 town councils, or 130 in all. In Scotland 11 inspectors have been appointed by 2 county councils, 20 by 20 town councils, and 4 by the police commissioners of four districts, making a total of 44. In Ireland 6 have been appointed, 3 by two corporations, and 3 by the commissioners of three towns. The total number of inspectors appointed in the United Kingdom is 180.

\* Shop Hours Act, 1892. (Inspectors appointed.) Price 4d.



## LABOUR ABROAD.

## FRANCE.\*

*Labour Disputes in July.*—There were 29 fresh strikes in July, compared with 25 in June, while 13 old strikes remained unsettled at the beginning of the month. There were 1,850 persons engaged in 23 out of the 29 fresh disputes, for which particulars are stated. Nine of these strikes occurred in the Building and cognate Trades, 4 in the Metal Trades, 4 in the Clothing Trades, 3 among miners and quarrymen, 2 in the Textile Trades, and the remainder in various miscellaneous industries. None of these strikes were of a serious character, but in two of the old disputes remaining unsettled at the end of July, over 2,500 persons were engaged; viz., 1,061 glass-workers at Rive-de-Gier (out since March 16th), and 1,500 miners at Graissessac, since May 6th. (See previous reports.) Out of 25 strikes terminated during the month, 10 were compromised, 8 succeeded and 7 failed.

*State of Employment.*—In 635 workmen's unions with 146,680 members, reporting to the *Office du Travail*, 11 per cent. of the members were reported to be out of work on the 15th July. Unions representing 70 per cent. of the above membership described trade as being about the same as in the previous month. *Agricultural Labour.*—Matters are improving for the agricultural labourers in the midland districts, but in Hérault their condition is unsatisfactory owing to the drought. *Textile Trades.*—No improvement has taken place in hand weaving, the state of which, particularly in the Cholet district, is most unsatisfactory. Even power-looms have scarcely enough work to afford regular employment, and short time has frequently to be worked. Workers in the Clothing Trade in towns have little to do at this time of year. *Metal Trades.*—Business continues dull in the Loire, Ardennes and Nord districts, staffs are being reduced and wages are declining. *Workers in Stone.*—Business is very slack. In the Nord district many works are closing, and the men have to abandon their trade. *Mines and Quarries.*—No change has taken place since the previous month, when 8 per cent of miners and 1½ per cent. of quarrymen were idle. *Wood-working.*—On the whole matters were the same as in the previous month, a large proportion of carpenters and cabinet-makers being unemployed. *Pottery and Glass.*—Trade is depressed, particularly in the glass bottle branch.

*Conciliation and Arbitration.*—Nine cases of recourse to the Law on Conciliation and Arbitration were recorded in July, in 5 of which the initiative was taken by the *juges de paix*, in the remaining 4 by the workpeople. The proceedings resulted in the settlement of strikes in 4 cases, while in one case the employers refused the invitation of the *juges de paix*. The most important dispute settled by mediation was that of 380 spinning operatives of Arques, in the Pas de Calais, against a proposed reduction of wages, following a shortening of the working day from 12 to 10 hours. The employer eventually agreed to a working day of 11 hours at the old pay, under certain conditions as to punctuality in beginning and leaving off work.

## GERMANY.

The following is a summary of notes forwarded by Mr. T. R. Mulvany, H.M. Consul at Düsseldorf, under date of August 3rd, supplemented by information published in the *Reichsanzeiger*:—

*State of Trade.*—Trade generally is depressed. The weavers in Crefeld are suffering great destitution, owing to depression in prices of silk and velvet. The Coal Trade continues dull, with, however, a prospect of improving towards winter. Slight improvements in demand are reported in the Iron Trade, but hardly at remunerative prices. Large stocks of pig iron and raw materials appear to have accumulated, and in some works, to be increasing.

\* From information supplied by the *Office du Travail*.

*Labour Disputes.*—Twenty fresh strikes were reported during July; they were all, however, of a purely local character, the general depression being too great to encourage important labour movements. The Building Trades were involved in 4 strikes, iron-workers in 3, tanners in 2, the remaining 11 being among boot and shoe-makers, glove-makers, rope-makers, basket-weavers, carpet-makers, lithographic printers, cigar-makers, trunk-makers, furniture-makers, gold-beaters, and cab-drivers. Of 5 old disputes reported unsettled at the beginning of July, 2 were in the Brewing Industry and require special mention.

*The Beer Boycotts.*—At the suggestion of the President of the Industrial Court in Berlin, negotiations took place on the 5th July between representatives of the United Brewery Owners and the Social Democratic Party. The latter declared they would for the present be content if the dismissed brewers were re-instated, but the United Brewers refused to entertain proposals for a settlement unless the men absolutely waived their demands for recognition of the Brewery Workers' Labour Registry and for a holiday on May 1st. On July 11th it was resolved to extend the boycott to all the so-called "ring" breweries of Berlin and neighbourhood, the number of boycotted breweries being now 30. A union of all the brewery owners of North Germany was in course of formation to resist the beer boycott. They state that the decrease in consumption of boycotted beer is hardly noticeable. On the 20th the owners of inns and beershops met and resolved to side against the brewery owners, by whom their proposals for promoting an amicable settlement had been ignored.

A similar dispute to that in Berlin has been in progress in Brunswick since May, the brewery owners having united and locked out over 300 men for boycotting one brewery. The owners have refused the men's demand for 40 per cent. increase of wages and re-instatement of those dismissed, and decline to attend any meeting open to men of other trades. At a meeting attended by about 3,000 persons, it was resolved to boycott, from the 21st July, all the Brunswick breweries, in order that foreign beer might be introduced in place of the home brewed. The number of men locked out at the beginning of the month was 343, of whom 133 were receiving assistance.

*Working Hours of Bakers.*—As a sequel to the inquiry recently made by the German Government into the working hours of bakers and confectioners, the Commission for Labour Statistics has recommended the fixing of a 12-hours nett working day for journeymen bakers, a 10-hours day for apprentices in their first year, and an 11-hours day in their second year of apprenticeship. It is further recommended that the interval between two periods of work should consist of at least 8 consecutive hours, and that there should be 16 hours of rest on Sundays.—*Sozialpol. Centralblatt.*

*Dock Labourers' Congress.*—A Congress of dock labourers, attended by 18 delegates from different German ports, was held at Lübeck on the 22nd and 23rd of July. The reports of the delegates stated that the membership of the Dock Labourers' Federation had fallen from 6,300 in 1892 to 1,600 at the end of 1893, that great distress had resulted to dockers from the Russo-German tariff war, and that only a very small proportion of dock labourers were organised. Among the resolutions passed was one for bringing dock labour within the jurisdiction of the factory inspectorate.—*Korrespondenzblatt der General-Commission der Gewerkschaften Deutschlands.*

*Municipal Labour Bureaux.*—During the first month of its existence the Municipal Labour Bureau of Esslingen, which was opened on the 1st of April last, was applied to by 123 employers and 169 workpeople.

The Town Council of Frankfurt-on-Main decided on May 8th in favour of a municipal labour registry, the committee of which will be nominated by the assessors of the Industrial Court. Proposals for the establishment of municipal labour registries have also been approved by the town councils of Halle and Nürnberg.—*Blätter für Soziale Praxis.*

## SWITZERLAND.

The following is based on notes supplied by Herr Greulich, the workmen's secretary, supplemented by Mr. Angst, H.M. Consul at Zürich, and forwarded under date of August 2nd:—

*Labour Disputes.*—In Geneva the founders and diamond

cutters have struck. The proprietors of foundries have decided to dismiss all their workmen on the 4th of August, and to close their establishments. The strike of Zürich house painters and joiners for a 9-hours day, of which progress has been reported in previous numbers of the GAZETTE, has ended in the entire defeat of the men. Those who had signed the engagement to strike were black-listed by the masters, who bound themselves under a penalty not to re-engage any of them for a year. A large number of the defeated workmen, mostly foreigners, have had to leave Switzerland, as they could not find work, and many families have been reduced to destitution.

*Insurance against want of Work.*—The town of Bâle proposes following the example set by St. Gall (see last month's GAZETTE), and introducing insurance against want of employment. It is to be made compulsory for male and female factory hands, navvies and workmen in the Building Trades, who have resided in the town for at least a year, and who do not earn more than £80 a year. Those who have paid their premiums for at least six months will receive, when out of work, from 8d. to 1s. 8d. a day, according to the rate of their premiums, but want of work resulting from illness will not count.

*Shortening of Working Hours.*—The 10-hours day has been introduced in a silk weaving mill and a dyeing establishment in Winterthur, though the Factory Act allows 11 hours. The smiths and wheelwrights of Montreux have obtained an 11-hours day; the masters in Vevey are, however, opposed to reducing the working day from 12 to 11 hours.

*Application of Factory Act.*—The workmen of St. Gall, following the example set in other places, have appointed a commission to see that the Factory Act is duly carried out. They have appealed to workmen to report any infringement of the law.

## BELGIUM.

The following is a summary of a report from Sir F. B. Plunkett, H.M. Minister at Brussels, dated August 1st, and referring to the months of June and July:—

*Labour Disputes.*—The report gives particulars of 11 fresh disputes, which broke out during the period referred to, and of two old ones which remained unsettled in the beginning of June. Quarrymen and colliers were each concerned in three of the fresh disputes, weavers in two, while the remaining three were among brick-makers, phosphate workers and fullers. The most serious were those among the brickmakers and quarrymen. In the brickmakers' strike, which broke out on June 7th at Rupelmonde and Steendorp, 800 workmen took part, demanding higher wages and asking the Government to intervene. Although a meeting at which the *juges de paix* presided on June 10th failed in effecting a settlement, four sets of workmen returned to the brickyards on the following day. On June 4th the quarrymen of Feluy-Arquennes struck for 25 per cent. increase in wages for certain classes of work; 400 men were out on June 14th, and a new table of wages was drawn up by those on strike, together with the quarrymen of Ecaussines and Soignies. On the 28th, the men of Feluy-Arquennes were reported as having obtained all their demands. The strike was supported by various co-operative societies. In the week ended June 14th, the quarrymen of Vierset struck owing to the dismissal of seven men (who were unionists) on the grounds of insufficiency of work to occupy them. A strike of quarrymen for increased wages began at les Avins, near Liège, on June 5th. The men invited the mediation of the Burgomaster, but the employers refused to treat. The men had meanwhile started a co-operative quarry.

*Prosecutions for Truck.*—Several prosecutions of employers for practising the truck system, or paying their workmen in their stores or shops, took place at Liège in June. In one case two employers were sentenced to fines of £2 or eight days' imprisonment. At Turnhout also, an employer was sentenced to 26 fines of 2 francs (1s. 8d.) for unlawful retention of part of his workmen's wages, and to the same penalties for 26 payments of wages in a room adjacent to a public-house kept by him.

*Congresses.*—A number of Congresses, at which labour questions were discussed, took place during June and July. These included the International Congress on Customs Legislation and Labour Organisation, held at Antwerp on July 16th, and the Workmen's Dwellings and Provident Institution Congress, held in the same city in the beginning of July. About 300 members attended the former, and discussions took place on the influence of arbitration and conciliation boards upon the relations between employers and employed, the regulation of wages and hours of labour in public works, compulsory insurance, free trade, and the currency question.

## AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

*Labour Disputes.*—The *Arbeiter Zeitung* recorded five fresh disputes during July, and reported the progress of three disputes continued from previous months. The new strikes were among builders, weaving operatives, hat-makers, female labourers in a beet plantation, and tanners. The most important was that of the workmen engaged in the Building Trade in Reichenberg, of whom 17,000 are said to have gone out on July 10th, demanding the abolition of piecework, and a small increase per hour in wages. The demands were agreed to, and work was resumed on the 16th of the month. A wage of 13½ kreutzer (2 7/10d.) per hour is said to be the minimum now fixed for journeymen masons, with 9 kreutzer (about 2d.) for hodmen. The remaining strikes were confined to single establishments.

The strike of Vienna sculptors and wood carvers for an 8-hours day referred to in previous reports, which began on the 5th of April, ended on July 9th. The 8-hours day was obtained in 66 wood carving, 45 stone cutting, and 8 joiners' shops, also at one furniture factory. A 9-hours day was obtained at 15 wood carving, 13 stone cutting, and 4 joiners' shops. Altogether 70 per cent. of the journeymen wood carvers and stone cutters of Vienna are said to have obtained the 8-hours day, for which the strike was undertaken. A strike of 600 silk operatives at a factory in Kóniginhof against a reduction of wages, begun on June 28th, ended in failure on July 12th, many of the strikers being dismissed. A strike of 63 silk dyers at a Vienna factory, begun on April 2nd, also ended in failure early in July, half of the strikers being replaced by foreigners.

## RUSSIA.

*State of the Labour Market.*—The correspondents of the Russian Ministry of Finance in the southern districts reported during the first week of July that labourers were getting unusually high wages where grain cutting had begun. Food prices were very low. Labourers in Berdiansk were getting 3 roubles (rouble = about 2s. 10d.) a day, and if hiring themselves with a pair of horses, 6½ roubles. At this rate land owners reckoned that the cutting and threshing of corn would cost about 15s. an acre. No noticeable rise in wages is reported from Tsarytsin, where the demand for labour was being readily met. Machinery was being extensively used in the district of Petrovsk and Gorodishtë. In the governments of Rostov and Yaroslavl wages had fallen, as haymaking was over and autumn field work had not begun.

The migration of workers continued, and in some parts attained considerable proportions. From Skvira, in the government of Kiev, the correspondent reports that numbers have gone to Kherson in search of work, owing to the condition of indebtedness into which a succession of crop failures has brought them.

Many of those then migrating had contracted for work in the Lumber Trade. Over 3,000 men have in this way left the district of Kosmodemiansk (Riazan) to shove timber to ports lower down the Volga, according to contracts made in the end of May.

Wharf labourers' wages in Tsarytsin had not varied since May, the increased demand for workers at the salt and timber wharves being counter-balanced by a very slack demand at the fish wharves. The peasantry about here find a source of income in carting timber wares from Doubovka to the station of Kazalinskaia on the Don. From 2s. to 4s. 6d. is paid for conveying a heavy load a distance of 40 miles.—*Vjeshnik Finantsoff*, 22 (10) July 1894.

## UNITED STATES.

## PHILADELPHIA CONSULAR DISTRICT.

*Condition of Labour.*—Reporting under date of July 31st, Capt. R. C. Clipperton, H.M. Consul at Philadelphia, describes the condition of labour throughout the States of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan and Indiana as satisfactory. In spite of general financial depression business is being resumed in several localities, the only disquieting element being rumours of a future strike in the Iron Trade.

*The Railway Strike.*—Most of the workers in this

Consular district did not join in the strike which affected the greater portion of the Western States, arising out of the trouble in the Pullman Works. The men of the Pennsylvania Railroad, in particular, refused to strike, and managed to run almost all trains from Chicago and elsewhere on schedule time, with regular car service.

**The Coke Strike.**—The strike in the Coke Trade which began four months ago (see previous reports), has practically ended. Considering the condition of that industry it could hardly have been expected to succeed. The product of the Pennsylvania ovens in 1892 was valued at a little over £3,000,000, and in 1893 fell to about £1,800,000; the quantity decreasing from 8,327,612 to 6,229,051 short tons (of 2,000 lbs.), and the price being about 5d. a ton less in 1893 than in 1892, with no prospect of an advance.

**The American Railway Strike.**—A sketch of the chief features of the strike up to July 12th, as reported in the English press, was given on p. 224 of last month's GAZETTE.

According to subsequent information published in the English press, the President of the American Railway Union (Mr. Debs), on July 13th, announced the withdrawal of his Union from the dispute, his action in doing so being, on the same evening, endorsed at a conference of the labour leaders in Chicago. The same conference decided against a general strike. During the day proposals for arbitration and for the re-instatement of strikers not guilty of rioting were submitted by the Railway Union through the Mayor of Chicago, but were rejected by the Railway Managers' Association, who stated that no communication from the parties signing the proposals could be received or considered. A statement by Mr. Pullman, explaining his Company's attitude with regard to the strike, urged that it might be unbusiness-like to consent to an arbitration which might decide that the works should be conducted at a loss.

The rejection of the proposals for arbitration was followed by an attempt on the part of the labour leaders to organise a resumption of the strike.

On the 16th, isolated disturbances were reported from various places in the West. The strike had, however, virtually collapsed, and two-thirds of the Pullman employees were said to be prepared to resume work. In California trains were running according to advertised times, and on July 17th, the whole of the Northern Pacific Line was declared by the Company to be open. On the same day Mr. Debs and other labour leaders were imprisoned for contempt of court.

On the 18th, 150 men belonging to the Pullman Works returned to work. On the 22nd, it was reported that the full service of trains had been resumed on the Southern Pacific Railway, the strike on that system having collapsed. On the 24th, a manifesto was issued by Mr. Debs and other labour leaders from prison announcing that the Railway Union would assume no further authority during the strike. The Union had for some time been in a state of disorganisation.

On the 27th, the imprisoned leaders were released on bail. On the following day the President of the United States appointed a commission in accordance with the Act of October 1888, which provides for the appointment of two arbitrators to assist the United States Labour Commissioner in the settlement of disputes between railway corporations and their employees.

The Pullman works were re-opened on August 2nd. On the 5th, the strike was unanimously declared at an end by the officers the Railway Workers' Union.

**LABOUR IN THE UNITED STATES IN 1893.**

In the last number of the GAZETTE some particulars were given with regard to labour in the United States in 1893, especially in the Consular districts of New York and Philadelphia. The following is extracted from a report\* by Col. Hayes-Sadler, H.M. Consul at Chicago, dealing particularly with the effect on labour of the recent commercial panic.

The panic . . . which cast so depressing an influence over trade in this district during the latter half of 1893, was not a local panic, but part of a storm wave which travelled rapidly from east to west, and swept over the whole of the United States. Even if its origin cannot be traced so far back as the Baring failure . . . it was probably accelerated by the great Australian bank failures, which caused a certain feeling of insecurity among communities here, judging from those disasters, as to the stability of their own banks. . .

Altogether, in the central and western States, no less than 367 National and State banks suspended payment, with aggregate assets

\* Foreign Office Report, No. 1438. Annual Series, 1894.

of about £20,000,000 sterling, and liabilities of £16,000,000 sterling; about half of these resumed operations before the close of the year.

Exchange fell to an unusually low point during the summer months, and securities were greatly depreciated in value, a condition from which there was considerable recovery towards the close of the year.

As a natural consequence of this general depression the labour market has been in a very distressful condition. A very large number of workmen were thrown out of employment, and were unable to obtain means of subsistence; no provision existing in this part of the United States to meet such a state of affairs, many wandered about the country in the hopeless search for work or food. In this city a multitude of people, who came on exhibition or for the purpose of starting some enterprise with a view of profiting by the crowds who visited the exhibition, were left stranded when the World's Fair was over, thus adding to the prevailing distress which had never been so pronounced since the great fire of 1871. Ever since the exhibition was proposed, numbers of working men from different countries, far in excess of the demand, had been attracted by the flourishing condition of Chicago, and by reports of the high rate of wages, forgetting that the cost of living was also far higher than at home, or not troubling to enquire or inform themselves on that point. Many of these soon found themselves in a pitiable position with nothing to fall back upon, and starvation staring them in the face.

As long as the Exposition lasted, the surplus of labour was not so noticeable, many having been able to get some sort of temporary work, but when others were thrown out of work by the shutting down of mills and other establishments or their temporary suspension from the panic, and when work at the exhibition was completed, employment of any kind was practically impossible to obtain. No adequate means were available here to meet a parallel condition; the resources of charitable institutions were soon exhausted; as winter came on hospitals and poor-houses were crowded, and thousands found themselves without shelter or food, and dependent on charity. The Jews set the example in the distribution of food to alleviate the suffering; much assistance was given by private charity and by collections from employees; relief associations were established and food given as wages for work in cleaning the streets, but much distress remained and exists even at the present time. Warning was given in previous reports of this almost certain reaction after the close of the World's Fair, but the accentuation caused by the commercial depression could not have been anticipated. Wages, which had for some time been unusually high from the great demand for skilled labour, especially in the Building Trades, were for a time cut down to a former scale, and workmen often gladly consented to reductions, but at the commencement of the present year, and now when business shows signs of improvement and industries are recovering, a wave of discontent seems to pervade the labour market, disturbing its general condition and restricting confidence in the employment of capital. Strikes are of constant occurrence; trades unions are endeavouring to maintain the former high rates of pay by combined enforcement. . . . Wages may be thus kept up, but less money is made by the workmen than formerly for the reasons of enforced idleness and shorter hours. The foreign immigrant, unless from a country where the rate of remuneration is extremely low, should entertain no certainty of improving his condition. . . . Though wages may continue to appear high in these parts, the view expressed two years ago in a special report on labour is confirmed, that the chance of a labouring man to gain much more than sufficient to make both ends meet is small. . . .

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